

Healthy Communities Delaware

Network Progress Report 2020 - 2022



Healthy Communities Delaware
alignment. investment. impact.

The Healthy Communities Delaware Network

Working together to improve health, well-being and equity

Healthy Communities Delaware is a network of community and investment partners working together to advance health, well-being and equity across our state. Health and well-being is primarily driven by the communities in which we live, learn, work and play, and only a little by the healthcare that we receive. For this reason, we focus on improving the community conditions that support holistic well-being.

Our vision is **healthy, safe and vibrant communities where all people are thriving, no exceptions**. Our work is equity-focused, place-based, community-driven and improves the Vital Conditions that all people and places need to thrive. Vital signs, like heart rate, temperature, and weight tell us what is going on in our bodies. Vital Conditions tell us what is going on in our communities and the world around us. **Vital Conditions** are the properties of our communities that we all need, all the time, to thrive and reach our full potential.

Healthy Communities Delaware works in partnership with communities experiencing health and social inequities, often as a result of structural racism--communities that have the most to gain. We invest in communities to improve the **Vital Conditions** that are prioritized by residents, giving voice and power to those who know their community best. The community-based work is carried out by local organizational partners that provide the infrastructure to facilitate community transformation.



Vital Conditions for Well-Being & Equity



Sustainable resources, contact with nature, freedom from hazards

Clean air, water, soil; healthy ecosystems able to sustainably provide necessary resources; accessible natural spaces; freedom from extreme heat, flooding, wind, radiation, earthquakes, pathogens



Reliable, safe, and accessible transportation

Close to work, school, food, leisure; safe transport; active transport; efficient energy use; few environmental hazards



Rewarding work, careers, and standards of living

Job training/retraining; good-paying and fulfilling jobs; family and community wealth; savings and limited debt



Continuous learning, education, and literacy

Continuous development of cognitive, social, emotional abilities; early childhood experiences; elementary, high school, and higher education; career and adult education



Humane, consistent housing

Adequate space per person; safe structures; affordable costs; diverse neighborhoods (without gentrification, segregation, concentrated poverty); close to work, school, food, recreation and nature



Basic requirements for health and safety

Nutritious food, safe drinking water; fresh air; sufficient sleep; routine physical activity; safe, satisfying sexuality and reproduction; freedom from trauma, violence, addiction, and crime; routine care for physical and mental health



Sense of belonging and power to shape a common world

Social support; civic associations; freedom from stigma, discrimination, oppression; support for civil rights, human rights; civic agency; collective efficacy; vibrant arts, culture, and spiritual life; equitable access to information; many opportunities for civic engagement (voting, volunteer, public work)

Community Investment

From April 2020 through July 2022, over \$3 million has been invested through Healthy Communities Delaware to our partnering communities statewide. Each investment helps to advance the Vital Conditions. We thank the investment partners who have and continue to contribute to this collaborative effort as shared stewards of health, well-being and equity.

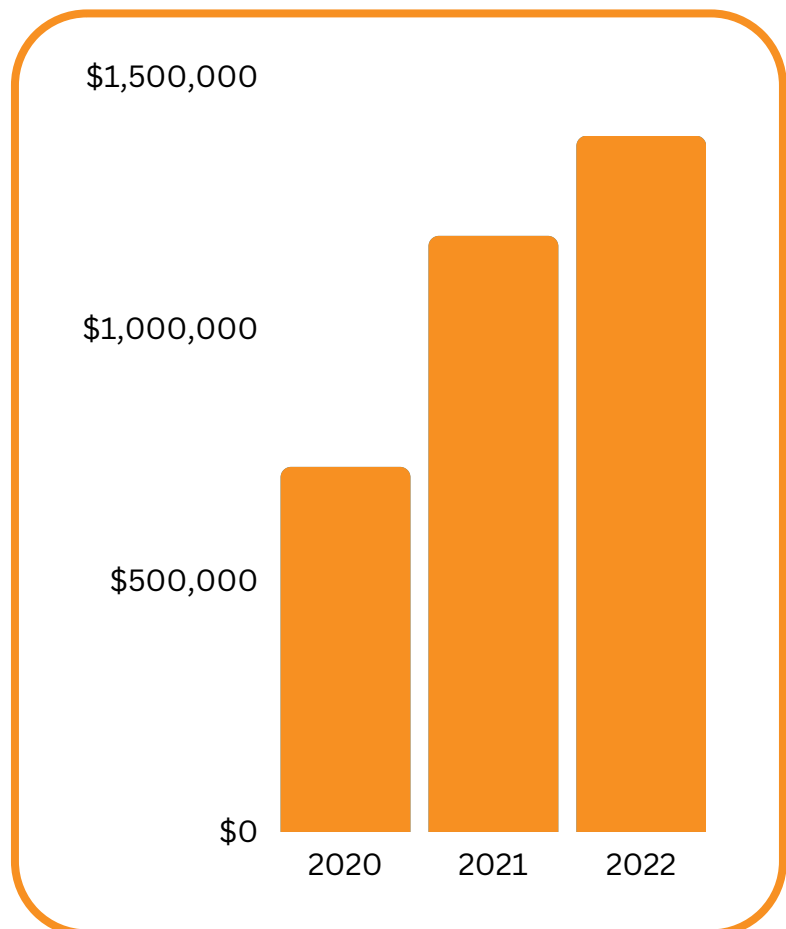
INVESTMENT PARTNERS

State of Delaware
Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield Delaware
AstraZeneca
Discover Bank
DuPont
Nemours Children's Health

Over \$3.2 million invested

Healthy Communities Delaware investment enabled communities to acquire over \$5 million in additional funding to advance their work.

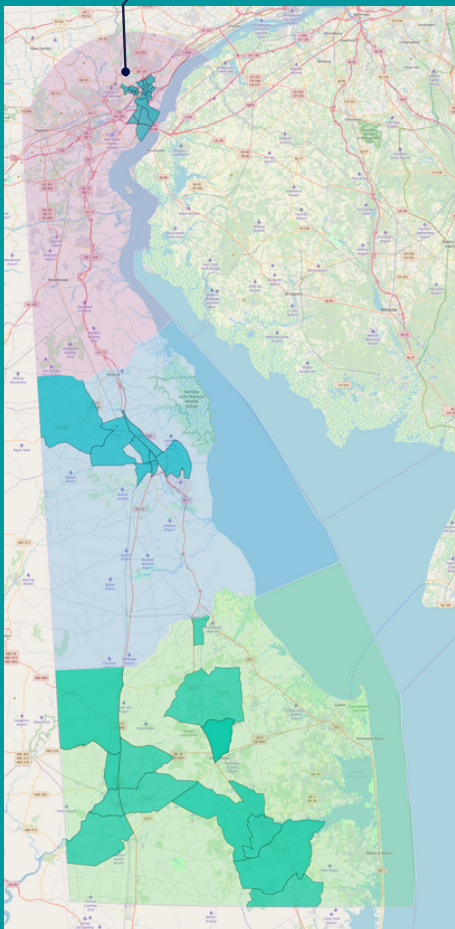
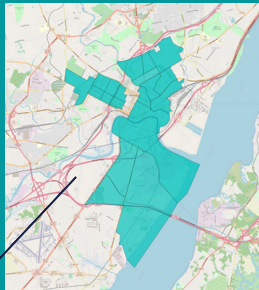
Over \$5 million in additional investment acquired by communities



Investments through Healthy Communities Delaware

Community Partners

The statewide Healthy Communities Delaware network includes 14 geographic communities and 21 community-based organization/coalition partners. Each receives investment and support to advance the Vital Conditions goals that their neighborhoods have prioritized.



NEW CASTLE COUNTY

West Side, Wilmington

Be Ready Community Development Corp.
Cornerstone West Community Development Corp.
Latin American Community Center

Eastside, Wilmington

Central Baptist Community Development Corp.
Habitat for Humanity of New Castle County

Northeast, Wilmington

Collaborate Northeast
Habitat for Humanity of New Castle County

West Center City, Wilmington

Wilmington Alliance

Southbridge, Wilmington

Southbridge Community Development Corp.
South Wilmington Planning Network

Northwest, Wilmington

Jefferson Street Center

Rt. 9 Corridor, New Castle

Rt. 9 Master Plan Monitoring Committee
New Castle Prevention Coalition

KENT COUNTY

Cheswold/Lenape Census District

Greenbridge Community Development Corp.

Central Dover

NeighborGood Partners
Central Delaware Habitat for Humanity

Eastern Dover

NeighborGood Partners

SUSSEX COUNTY

Ellendale/New Hope Rd.

Southeast Regional Community Assistance
Program (SERCAP)

Georgetown

The Springboard Collaborative

Seaford

Seaford Community of Hope

Bridgeville

Town of Bridgeville
Cornerstone Community Center

Georgetown, Bridgeville, Seaford, Milford

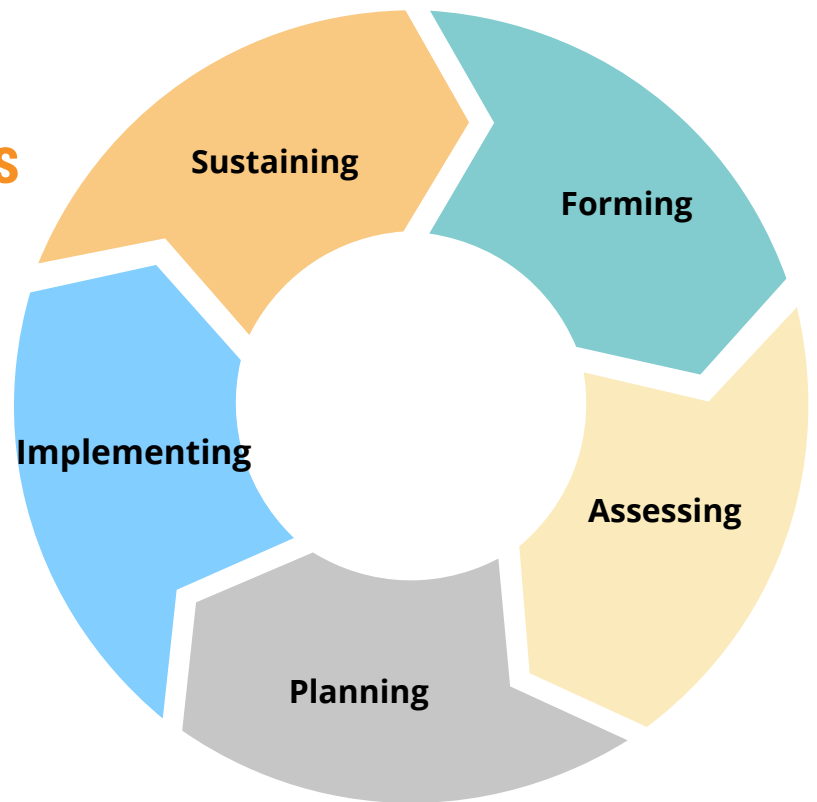
La Esperanza

Collective Progress

The Community Transformation Process

Healthy Communities Delaware invests in communities wherever they may be in the Community Transformation Process (right), and supports their journey with communications, evaluation and grant-writing assistance.

The Healthy Communities Delaware Network began in 2020 with investments in 9 communities and 14 community based organizations. From June 2020 to June 2022, they made the below progress.



Collective Community Transformation Progress

Assessments & Action Plans
















































- 3 comprehensive community assessments and action plans
- 6 COVID assessments and action plans
- 2 housing assessments and plans
- 1 healthy food access assessment and plan
- 1 park/playground assessment and plan
- 1 vacant lot assessment and plan

Implementation Activities

- 5 community gardens maintained
- 1 new farmers market
- 6 units of affordable housing created
- 531 home revitalization services
- 3 parks/playgrounds revitalized
- 1 community art project created, 5 maintained
- 1 vacant lot revitalized

Collective Progress

Vital Conditions Being Addressed by Each Community Partner

Northwest Wilmington, Jefferson Street Center							
West Side Wilmington, Cornerstone West CDC							
West Side Wilmington, Latin American Community Center							
West Side Wilmington, Be Ready Community Development Corporation							
East Side Wilmington, Central Baptist Community Development Corporation							
East Side Wilmington, Northeast Wilmington Price's Run Habitat For Humanity New Castle County							
Northeast Wilmington N. Market St. Commercial Corridor Collaborate Northeast							
West Center City Wilmington Wilmington Alliance							
Southbridge Wilmington Southbridge Community Development Corporation							
Rt. 9 Corridor, New Castle New Castle Prevention Coalition							
Eastern + Central Dover, NeighborGood Partners							
Central Dover, Central Delaware Habitat For Humanity							

Collective Progress

Cheswold/Lenape Tribal Census District Greenbridge Community Development Corporation	☐	+	Q	○			▮
Ellendale/New Hope Road Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project (SERCAP)						^	
Georgetown, Seaford, Laurel, Milford La Esperanza	☐	+	Q	○		^	
Georgetown, The Springboard Collaborative		+				^	
Seaford Seaford Community of Hope	☐						
Bridgeville, Cornerstone Community Center	☐	+	Q	○	☐	^	▮

Our zip codes have a greater impact on our health than our genetic codes, so we are investing in growing healthy communities to support healthy people. Community-based organizations are a key component of our public health infrastructure, and play a critical role in helping to address inequities and build resilience. Together, we are shared stewards for health, well-being and equity, working together in an integrated way that improves our communities' vital conditions and ensures that Delaware communities are healthy places to live, learn, work, and play.



Community Progress

Community: Northwest Wilmington

Jefferson Street Center, Inc.

Website: www.jeffersonstreetcenter.org

Contact: Amanda August, Executive Director, aaugust@jeffersonstreetcenter.org

Jefferson Street Center, Inc. (JSC) is building organizational capacity to engage community and residents and implement the **Washington Heights Blueprint Plan**. In 2020/2021, JSC completed indoor and outdoor renovations to the Gathering Place community hub and hired its first staff person, an Executive Director. In 2021/2022, JSC focused on reopening its doors to the community to facilitate and provide spaces for connection, shared stewardship, and community-driven problem-solving. For example, JSC developed and piloted shared-use policies and procedures to expand the number of community programs that offer activities and services in the community hub (e.g., Food Bank, Zumba, Clothing Closet, Youth Programming). JSC also engaged multiple partners (UD Living Labs, City of Wilmington, WILMAPCO, DelDOT) and began facilitating a community-driven planning process to increase safety on Baynard Blvd. In 2022/2023, JSC will create a mechanism for sustained community engagement; establish public-private partnerships to support community development goals; and continue to build organizational capacity (e.g., adopt HR policies, redesign the website, develop a fundraising plan, hire additional staff, finalize policies and procedures, fine-tune financial management strategies, etc.).

Intended Outcomes: Increased organizational capacity to improve community vital conditions; Increased resident engagement/leadership, civic muscle, and sense of belonging; Increase pedestrian/road safety (related to Baynard Blvd. project); Increased sustainability and responsiveness of the Gathering Place community hub.

Vital Conditions Addressed:

- Belonging & Civic Muscle
- Basic Needs for Health & Safety
- Lifelong Learning
- Meaningful Work & Wealth
- Reliable Transportation



Community Progress

Community: West Side Wilmington

Cornerstone West Community Development Corporation

Website: www.westsidegrows.org

Contact: Sarah Lester, President & CEO, slester@westsidegrows.org

Cornerstone West Community Development Corporation uses a holistic approach to address vital conditions through the Healthy Neighborhood Initiative, which advances components of the **West Side Grows Together Revitalization Plan**. Since 2020, Cornerstone West CDC has maintained community gardens, launched and managed a farmers market, completed various public safety projects (e.g., small business repairs, lighting and camera installations, etc.), beautified the streets with trees and art installations, engaged residents in park stewardship through six Friends of Parks groups, and hosted thousands of residents in community events (e.g., community cleanups, movie nights, Open Streets events, etc.). In 2020/2021, Cornerstone West CDC and residents developed stormwater management plans for Tilton Park and raised funds for Tilton and Cool Springs Parks renovations. In 2021/2022, Cornerstone West CDC oversaw the completion of renovations to the Cool Springs Park playground and started renovations in Tilton and Judy Johnson Parks. In 2022/2023, Cornerstone West CDC will continue to implement many of the Healthy Neighborhood Initiative projects listed above, as well as continue to facilitate renovations at Judy Johnson Park, engage residents in planning renovations for Woodlawn Park, and complete home repairs for senior residents. It will also work with residents and the West Side Grows Together Coalition to update the 10-Year West Side Revitalization Plan.

Intended Outcomes: Increased organizational capacity to improve community vital conditions; Increased resident engagement/leadership, civic muscle, and sense of belonging; Increased access to healthy foods; Increased access to parks and gardens; Increase community safety

Vital Conditions Addressed:

- Belonging & Civic Muscle
- Basic Needs for Health & Safety
- Thriving Natural World
- Humane Housing



Community Progress

Community: West Side Wilmington

Latin American Community Center

Website: www.thelatincenter.org

Contact: Kelly Scanlan, Director of Development & Communications,
kscanlan@thelatincenter.org

The Latin American Community Center (LACC) launched the ConeXiones program in September 2020 to address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Latinos in Delaware through education, testing, and mitigation measures. When the COVID-19 vaccine became available in early 2021, the LACC began offering vaccine clinics which led to a dramatic increase in demand for the ConeXiones program. Although HCD investment was used to establish ConeXiones, the LACC was able to secure over \$750,000 from other funders to expand and fully support this highly successful program. The LACC is now working to advance elements of the **West Side Grows Together Revitalization Plan** through three projects. The first is the development of a new Infant and Toddler Center, opening in spring 2023, which will provide 78 new childcare spots. The second is a new playground for children attending LACC programs. This playground will provide a much-needed option for safe, outdoor play space in the community. Finally, the LACC community garden will serve youth, adults, and seniors, providing opportunities to increase physical activity, improve mental health and well-being, increase a sense of belonging and social connections, learn a new hobby, engage in family fun, and increase healthy food consumption.

Intended Outcomes: Increased organizational capacity to improve community vital conditions; Increased COVID testing and vaccination; Increased access to high-quality child care and education; Increased opportunities for safe outdoor play; Increased access to nature for mental and physical health benefits

Vital Conditions Addressed:

- Basic Needs for Health & Safety
- Thriving Natural World
- Lifelong Learning



Community Progress

Community: West Side Wilmington

Be Ready Community Development Corporation

Website: www.bereadycdc.org

Contact: Margaret Moon-Taylor, Executive Director,
MargaretMoonTaylor@BeReadyCDC.org

Be Ready Community Development Corporation (CDC) is creating affordable housing, accelerating economic development, and engaging residents to address needs in the Hilltop neighborhood of Wilmington in alignment with the **West Side Grows Together Revitalization Plan**. In 2020/2021, Be Ready CDC broke ground on Solomon's Court Phase I, a mixed-use development with 6 units of affordable housing and 16,000 sq. ft. of commercial space to support small businesses. In 2021/2022, Be Ready CDC continued the development of Solomon's Court Phase I, began repairs to Be Ready transitional housing units, and initiated pre-development activities for Solomon's Court Phase II, which will create an additional 12 affordable and accessible rental units and 4,250 sq. ft. of commercial space. In 2022/2023, Be Ready CDC will complete Phase 1 construction and lease and manage the property; continue Phase II pre-development activities; complete renovations to Be Ready CDC transitional housing units, and build organizational capacity to engage residents and collaboratively address community needs.

Intended Outcomes: Increased organizational capacity to improve community vital conditions; Increased affordable and humane housing; Increased resident engagement/leadership, civic muscle, and sense of belonging

Vital Conditions Addressed:

- Belonging & Civic Muscle
- Basic Needs for Health & Safety
- Lifelong Learning
- Meaningful Work & Wealth
- Reliable Transportation



Community Progress

Community: Eastside Wilmington

Central Baptist Community Development Corporation

Website: www.centralbaptistcdc.org

Contact: Rev. Dr. Terrence Keeling, President & CEO, tkeeling@centralbaptistcdc.org

Central Baptist Community Development Corporation (CBCDC) has focused on implementing various components of the **Eastside Rising BluePrint Revitalization Plan** (2013). In 2020/2021, CBCDC completed a housing market analysis and architectural plans to redevelop a former church into community center and affordable housing. Additionally, it developed a business plan for a food access initiative and delivered over 8,000 home deliveries of fresh produce during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021/2022, CBCDC hired a Housing Director to accelerate its affordable housing development efforts and established a sustainable source of income to support this position; secured funding for and continued pre-development activities for the Lombard St. Church redevelopment project; engaged residents and the Eastside Housing Coalition in the development of an Eastside Housing Development Strategy; and established two new community support groups to address needs identified by residents. In 2022/2023, CBCDC is hiring a Learning Director, becoming a state-certified trade school, and expanding its workforce development program.

Intended Outcomes: Increased organizational capacity to improve community vital conditions; Increased affordable and humane housing; Increased resident engagement/leadership, civic muscle, and sense of belonging; Increased access to healthy foods; Increased access to meaningful work and wealth-building opportunities; Increased access to lifelong learning opportunities (workforce development and youth programming)

Vital Conditions Addressed:

- Belonging & Civic Muscle
- Humane Housing
- Basic Needs for Health & Safety
- Lifelong Learning
- Meaningful Work & Wealth



Community Progress

Community: Eastside Wilmington

Habitat for Humanity of New Castle County

Website: www.habitatncc.org

Contact: Beverly Ward, Director of Programs, bward@habitatncc.org

Habitat for Humanity of New Castle County (HFHNCC) is focused on engaging residents to improve the community. In 2020/2021, HFHNCC engaged residents to identify and address concerns related to housing repairs and safety. Using its Rock the Block model, HFHNCC delivered home repair services (e.g., gutter cleaning, AC/furnace tune-ups, trash can covers, etc.) and installed video doorbells. In 2021/2022, HFHNCC delivered resident leadership training and supported residents in leading their own community improvement projects. They also collaborated with the Help Initiative to install lighting and video doorbells throughout the community. In 2022/2023, HFHNCC will provide additional resident leadership training and host two Rock the Block events to improve the community.

Intended Outcomes: Increased organizational capacity to improve community vital conditions; Increased quality of housing; Increased resident engagement/leadership, civic muscle, and sense of belonging; Increased public safety

Vital Conditions Addressed:

- Belonging & Civic Muscle
- Humane Housing
- Basic Needs for Health & Safety



Community Progress

Community: Northeast Wilmington / Price's Run

Habitat for Humanity of New Castle County

Website: www.habitatncc.org

Contact: Beverly Ward, Director of Programs, bward@habitatncc.org

Habitat for Humanity of New Castle County is engaging volunteers and residents in Northeast Wilmington to undertake greening, cleaning, and enhancement of community lots within the neighborhood. A Landscape Architect will be engaged to assist the community in creating a vision for the identified lots. Throughout the initiative, Habitat's Neighborhood Revitalization Program Manager, in partnership with Collaborate Northeast, will be recruiting, coordinating, and facilitating dialogue with residents and stakeholders to ensure that impact is an authentic reflection of residents' vision for their community. Collaboratively, residents and partners will identify vacant lots and create a plan to revitalize the lots into green spaces, such as community gardens, or park-like recreational areas.

Intended Outcomes: Increased organizational capacity to improve community vital conditions; Increased resident engagement/leadership, civic muscle, and sense of belonging Increased public safety, and increased access to green spaces.

Vital Conditions Addressed:

- Belonging & Civic Muscle
- Basic Needs for Health and Safety
- Thriving Natural World



Community Progress

Community: Northeast Wilmington / N. Market St. Commercial Corridor

Collaborate Northeast

Website: www.northeastwilmington.com

Contact: Bobbi Britton, Board Member & Co-Chair, bobbibritton99@gmail.com

Collaborate Northeast (CNE) serves as the backbone organization for a place-based community revitalization effort guided by the **2019 Northeast Wilmington Revitalization Implementation Plan**. CNE employs a collective impact strategy, meaning that its primary focus is to coordinate activities among existing community organizations, instead of creating its own programs and services. By coordinating activities among existing community organizations, CNE creates efficiencies that move existing plans toward implementation and avoids competing with its partners for the same funding opportunities and resources. CNE leverages its partner network to improve the vital conditions/SDOH in Northeast Wilmington. CNE engages residents, resource partners, and community partners to guide and carry-out activities through workgroups, allowing partners to work in the areas of greatest impact and residents to participate in projects that they help design. Workgroups focusing on resilience, economic development, and transportation will be enhanced through a sustained community engagement and communications strategy. Having joined HCD in 2022, CNE is increasing its capacity to serve as a backbone organization, lead the implementation of the community revitalization plans, and secure additional funding for revitalization efforts.

Intended Outcomes: Increased organizational capacity to improve community vital conditions; Increased capacity to access and sustain funding for community transformation; Increased resident and business awareness and participation in community transformation work; Increased resident and business feedback, input, and leadership in community transformation work; Increased social capital/social cohesion; Increased collaboration among local organizations; Increased capacity to identify and address environmental, transportation and local business needs

Vital Conditions Addressed:

- Belonging & Civic Muscle
- Basic Needs for Health & Safety
- Meaningful Work & Wealth
- Reliable Transportation
- Thriving Natural World



Community Progress

Community: West Center City Wilmington

Wilmington Alliance

Website: www.wilmingtonalliance.org

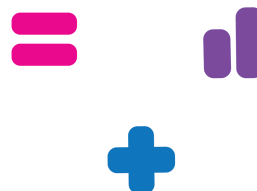
Contact: Renee Bennett, Funding & Business Development Manager,
renee@wilmingtonalliance.org

Wilmington Alliance (WA) builds community and civic muscle in West Center City Wilmington using a creative place-making approach that reclaims and reactivates existing public spaces, highlights the community's cultural assets, and uses them together to create new resident-driven community assets. They execute this approach via three projects which will finalize implementation of the **Creative District** and **Vacant to Vibrant** community plans: 1) Community Parks Programming: WA has reclaimed and greened two spaces: the Rock Lot at 305 West 8th Street and the Community Park at 7th & West 8th Streets. In both spaces, WA has continued to showcase local artists via drumming circles, spoken word events, and other gatherings. By connecting local artists and businesses with vending opportunities at its art markets, WA is helping to create new commercial opportunities in West Center City. 2) Community Garden: The WA Farmer in Residence continues oversight of the Community Garden at 7th & West Streets and guidance of novice local gardeners in tending 11 garden plots, and producing nutritious food for local households. 3) Art O Mat: WA is repurposing an existing laundromat at 7th & Washington Streets into a multi-use neighborhood center to support community engagement and programming. Once construction is completed in December 2022, WA will have transformed this derelict building and its adjacent vacant lot into a community asset that will provide indoor and outdoor space to host year-round programming for all ages – workshops, meetings, local art exhibits, vendor markets, entrepreneurial support, etc. The site will also host an Artist-in-Residence who will co-create programming. HCD investment is supporting artist-in-residence stipends, community engagement and programming staff, the farmer-in-residence, and maintenance of the reclaimed park and green spaces.

Intended Outcomes: Increased organizational capacity to improve community vital conditions; Increased social cohesion/social capital; Increased access to nutritious food; Increased access to open space

Vital Conditions Addressed:

- Basic Needs for Health & Safety
- Belonging & Civic Muscle
- Thriving Natural World



Community Progress

Community: Southbridge Wilmington

Southbridge Community Development Corporation

Website: www.southbridgecdc.org

Contact: Hanifa Shabazz, Interim Executive Director, hshabazz@southbridgecdc.org

South Wilmington Planning Network

Website: www.swpn.org

Contact: Britt Salen, Co-Chair, southwilmingtonplanningnetwork@gmail.com

In 2020, the South Wilmington Planning Network hired a consultant to facilitate a community assessment and neighborhood plan. The Southbridge Neighborhood Action Plan (SNAP) was created in 2021 through collaboration with the Southbridge Civic Association and community residents. In 2022/23, the SWPN, Civic Association and Southbridge Community Development Corporation (SBCDC) are working together to implement the priority actions of the Action Plan. The SBCDC is receiving investment to increase its capacity to implement the humane housing elements of the SNAP. This year's specific goals are to build five units of affordable housing and to improve housing conditions and reduce blight through facade improvements. The three entities are also collaboratively supporting the implementation of other projects to advance the SNAP. These include improving mobility through the implementation of a streetscape project, a bridge replacement, traffic signal retiming, and the creation of a Transportation Action Plan; and reducing flooding through the support of the Southbridge Wilmington Wetland Park project and sewer/stormwater separation.

Intended Outcomes: Increased organizational capacity to improve community vital conditions; Increased affordable housing units; Decreased blight; Increased safe and healthy housing units; Support active and safe mobility; Address chronic flooding; Increased social cohesion/social capital; Increased access to nature & open spaces; Increased opportunities for youth.

Vital Conditions Addressed:

- Belonging & Civic Muscle
- Humane Housing
- Reliable Transportation
- Thriving Natural World



Community Progress

Community: Rt. 9 Corridor, New Castle

New Castle Prevention Coalition

Website: www.newcastlepreventioncoalition.org

Contact: Sandra Smithers, Executive Director, ssmithers@ncpcdel.org

Rt. 9 Master Plan Monitoring Committee

Website: www.wilmapco.org/route9

Contact: Bill Swiatek, Chair, bswiatek@wilmapco.org

From 2020-21, the Rt. 9 Master Plan Monitoring Committee conducted a feasibility study on creating a backbone Community Development Corporation (CDC) to advance vital conditions priorities outlined in the **Rt. 9 Master Plan**. Instead of creating a new organization, the New Castle Prevention Coalition (NCPC) agreed to act in this role. During 2022, NCPC continues to increase its capacity to implement initiatives that advance the Route 9 Master Plan. Increased staff capacity is allowing for the planning of, acquisition of funding for, and implementation of a home repair service, green space maintenance project, and business development initiative. The first of these efforts, green space maintenance, entails the creation of a maintenance agreement with New Castle County and DelDOT for the landscaping that is to accompany a significant transportation improvement project in the corridor. NCPC will hire local landscapers for this work, increasing job opportunities for residents while beautifying the area.

Intended Outcomes: Increased organizational capacity to improve community vital conditions; Community beautification; Increased local hiring

Vital Conditions Addressed:

- Belonging & Civic Muscle
- Thriving Natural World
- Meaningful Work & Wealth
- Reliable Transportation



Community Progress

Community: Eastern Dover

NeighborGood Partners

Website: www.neighborgoodpartners.org

Contact: Patricia Kelleher, Community Development Director,
pkelleher@neighborgoodpartners.org

In 2020, NeighborGood Partners (formerly NCALL) engaged residents in the Dover Housing Authority neighborhoods of Manchester Square, Derby Estates, and Willis Road to identify priority needs of the community. Since that time, NeighborGood Partners has been building community relationships through meetings, events, and celebrations with the goal of establishing active resident groups they can collaborate with to plan programs and services to address the identified needs. To combat concerns of drug addiction and mental health, Narcan education and distribution events are held and mental health resources and referrals are provided. To build trust, decrease community violence, and increase pro-social activities for youth, events are held with the Community Police Force of Dover Police Department and with Project Safe Neighborhoods. Healthy Home Assessments, as well as resources to help with energy efficiency and home repairs, will be offered to residents to address concerns with housing conditions.

Intended Outcomes: Community-driven priorities identified, Establish community trust and engagement, Increased access to mental health/addiction resources; Increased access to safe and healthy homes.

Vital Conditions Addressed:

- Basic Needs for Health & Safety
- Belonging & Civic Muscle
- Humane Housing



Community Progress

Community: Central Dover

NeighborGood Partners

Website: www.neighborgoodpartners.org

Contact: Patricia Kelleher, Community Development Director,
pkelleher@neighborgoodpartners.org

NeighborGood Partners serves as the backbone agency for the **Restoring Central Dover Initiative**, a place-based, comprehensive community revitalization effort that began in 2013. Restoring Central Dover joined the HCD network in 2022 and is implementing three projects that further the goals outlined in the Restoring Central Dover Phase II, 2020-25 plan. The first project is launching a new social enterprise, The Scoop. This ice cream shop will provide opportunities for youth to learn job skills in the food industry. A co-located Service Center will help residents connect with support for various needs. NeighborGood Partners is also continuing the implementation of Project Safe Neighborhoods, a strategy to reduce violent crime in the community. Lastly, a community park is being expanded and revitalized to provide a safe and attractive destination for socializing and physical activity.

Intended Outcomes: Increased organizational capacity to improve community vital conditions; Increased opportunities for youth; Increased access to community services; Increased neighborhood safety; Increased access to parks for physical activity

Vital Conditions Addressed:

- Belonging & Civic Muscle
- Basic Needs for Health & Safety
- Meaningful Work & Wealth
- Humane Housing



Community Progress

Community: Central Dover

Central Delaware Habitat For Humanity

Website: www.centraldelawarehabitat.org

Contact: Tim Bailey, Executive Director, tbailey@centraldelawarehabitat.org

Central Delaware Habitat for Humanity (CDHFH) is working on neighborhood restoration aligned with the **Restoring Central Dover Initiative**. Central Delaware Habitat for Humanity is collaborating with NeighborGood Partners on various community events and assisting with implementing housing goals outlined in the initiative. They are coordinating two Rock the Block events, with volunteers completing various repairs and beautification projects to improve the safety and curb appeal of the community and strengthen community cohesion. One of these events will focus on the installation of video doorbell cameras on 50 homes in the community, with the goal of deterring crime and improving perceptions of safety. CDHFH is also partnering with five income-eligible households, 80% or below area median income, to complete repairs that will keep their homes healthy and safe.

Intended Outcomes:

- Increased organizational capacity to improve community vital conditions; Increased access to safe and healthy homes; Improved perceptions of community safety; Improved sense of belonging and civic muscle

Vital Conditions Addressed:

- Basic Needs for Health & Safety
- Belonging & Civic Muscle
- Humane Housing



Community Progress

Community: Cheswold/Lenape Tribal Census District

GreenBridge Community Development Corporation

Website: www.GreenBridgecdc.org

Contact: RuthAnn Purchase, President, GreenBridgeCDC@gmail.com

Partnering with HCD in 2022, GreenBridge CDC is expanding its organizational capacity by funding three staff positions, 7 professional consultants, and the basic operating expenses required to begin: (1) Strengthening relations between local Tribes, churches, businesses, and governments in and around Cheswold's Lenape Indian Tribe of Delaware Census District toward a more resilient community; (2) Establishing the Lenape Union Land Trust to protect culturally relevant sites beginning with local cemeteries; (3) Preparing for green job training programs where diplomacy and civics education naturally intertwine with regenerative land management and water stewardship; (4) Developing a robust benefits package based on localization principles.

Intended Outcomes: Increased organizational capacity to improve vital conditions in the Lenape Indian Tribe of Delaware Census District; Increased civic engagement in this traditionally close-knit community; Enhanced stewardship of local community assets through increased access to nature, arts, and culture; Improved quality of water, land, and lifeways through more meaningful career paths and more egalitarian governance

Vital Conditions Addressed:

- Belonging & Civic Muscle
- Thriving Natural World
- Basic Needs for Health & Safety
- Lifelong Learning
- Meaningful Work & Wealth



Community Progress

Community: Ellendale/New Hope Road

Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project (SERCAP)

Website: www.sercap.org

Contact: Vikki Prettyman, Delaware State Manager, vprettyman@sercap.org

Building on a long-standing partnership with the Ellendale Civic and Community Improvement Association (ECCIA), SERCAP completed a survey of residents of New Hope Road in 2020 that identified a need for improvements in housing conditions. SERCAP initiated a loan program to assess, repair, and rehabilitate up to 10 homes in the New Hope Road community. This program is filling a critical gap, providing an opportunity for rental units to be brought up to the standards defined in the HUD Basic Livability Checklist, thereby improving the quality of housing stock available to low-income renters in this rural community.

Intended Outcomes: Increased organizational capacity to improve community vital conditions; Identification of priority community needs; Increased access to safe and healthy homes

Vital Conditions Addressed: Humane Housing



We are able to thrive when we have secure, consistent places to live; when our homes and neighborhoods are safe from hazards; and when our neighborhoods provide what we need for our lives and livelihoods.

Community Progress

Community: Georgetown, Seaford, Laurel, Milford

La Esperanza

Website: www.laesperanzacenter.org

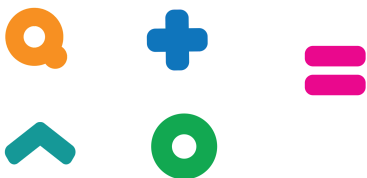
Contact: Jennifer Fuqua, Executive Director, jfuqua@laesperanza.org

La Esperanza works to empower and improve the health and wellness of the Latino and immigrant communities in Sussex County. Their bilingual guides have offered place-based resource navigation and family coaching to clients at their center in Georgetown since 2019. La Esperanza started offering those same services in the Georgetown Library in January 2020 and in the Seaford, Bridgeville, Laurel, and Milford Libraries in 2022, all locations that serve a significant number of immigrants. Three additional bilingual guides have been hired to offer coaching and navigation at these locations. The partnerships with libraries have also allowed La Esperanza to connect communities across Sussex County with its other services and its partners from the La Colectiva de Delaware, a collaborative network initiative. In 2022, La Esperanza conducted a needs assessment that identified priority community needs, which will be addressed through the expansion of the library-based service infrastructure they have built.

Intended Outcomes: Increased organizational capacity to improve community vital conditions; Increased capacity for community connectedness and change; Increased family stability through improved access to vital conditions; Identification of priority community needs

Vital Conditions Addressed:

- Basic Needs for Health & Safety
- Belonging & Civic Muscle
- Lifelong Learning
- Meaningful Work & Wealth
- Humane Housing



Community Progress

Community: Georgetown

The Springboard Collaborative

Website: www.the-springboard.org

Contact: Judson Malone, Director of Operations, judson@the-springboard.org

The Springboard Collaborative (Springboard) will provide shelter and supportive services to a rising population of 40-60 chronically homeless men and women living in encampments on an acre site near the Kimmeytown neighborhood within the town of Georgetown. Springboard will create a village of approximately 40 sleeping cabins that will provide a safe and private personal space with heat, air conditioning, windows, up to two beds, and a lockable door for each individual or willing set of partners. Despite being only the second pallet shelter village on the East Coast, the village will follow a proven model that exists in 63 communities nationally by utilizing personal shelters from Pallet, a social purpose company. Pallet shelter villages are designed to rapidly provide unsheltered populations with stability by adding wraparound on-site social services, along with food, showers, and laundry to housing that helps each individual transition to permanent housing. Residents will be empowered to participate in the governance of the village and the creation of a cooperative village culture. Springboard anticipates that 90% of village participants who obtain permanent housing will retain that housing after 12 months and that 86% of those participants will maintain housing after 24 months.

Intended Outcomes: Increased organizational capacity to improve community vital conditions; Increased access to humane housing/improved housing conditions; Decreased exposure to traumatic stress, crime, and/or addiction; Increased access to food and health care; Increased social cohesion

Vital Conditions Addressed:

- Basic Needs for Health & Safety
- Humane Housing



Community Progress

Community: Seaford

Seaford Community Of Hope

Website: www.cffde.org/seafordcommofhope

Contact: Andrea Miller, andrea.miller@cffde.org

Children & Families First, Sussex County Health Coalition, and First State Community Action Agency are collaborative partners in the Seaford Community of Hope (SCOH) Initiative. Joining the HCD Network in 2022, together they are engaging families living in Chandler Heights Apartments and Chandler Heights II, seeking their input to complete a neighborhood strengths and needs assessment, and identifying one or more physical projects that improve community conditions and support healthy behavior. The completed assessment will lay the groundwork for community-led planning and project implementation in 2023. The requested funding will support staff time and supplies for community outreach and needs assessment activities.

Intended Outcomes: Increased organizational capacity to improve community vital conditions; Increased social cohesion/social capital; Increased rates of civic engagement; Increased opportunities for active civic engagement; Increased community assets; Increased community safety

Vital Conditions Addressed: Belonging & Civic Muscle



Belonging and Civic Muscle is about having fulfilling relationships and social support that people need to thrive. It's about being part of a community and contributing to its vibrancy.

Community Progress

Community: Bridgeville

Cornerstone Community Center

Website: www.cornerstone-bridgeville.com

Contact: Latoya Harris, Executive Director, cornerstoneccllc21@gmail.com

Town of Bridgeville

Website: www.bridgeville.delaware.gov

Contact: Bethany DeBussy, Town Manager, bdebussy@townofbridgevillede.us

The Cornerstone Community Center and the Town of Bridgeville are working together to create and execute community outreach infrastructure that will ensure the equitable inclusion of all of Bridgeville's residents in the town's next comprehensive planning process. The 2018 Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Bridgeville represents the interests of a limited portion of residents. Due to the limited capacity of the certified planning agent that created the plan, and small staffing in the Town, the plan was established based on survey data from just 178 respondents; 74% of whom resided within Heritage Shores, an affluent retirement community. The limited survey data resulted in a plan with goals that fail to address the needs of the entire community. Cornerstone Community Center & the Town of Bridgeville are supporting a community outreach worker, the creation of outreach materials, and covering the town of Bridgeville dedicated staff hours (including professional expertise from the town Land Use Planner and Engineer).

Intended Outcomes: Increased organizational capacity to improve community vital conditions; Increased understanding of resident desires and perceptions; Increased ability to preserve, create, expand or restore community assets and services; Increased capacity to establish resident-driven, long-term comprehensive plan goals

Vital Conditions Addressed:

- Belonging & Civic Muscle
- Basic Needs for Health & Safety
- Meaningful Work & Wealth
- Reliable Transportation
- Humane Housing
- Thriving Natural World
- Lifelong Learning



Testimonials



"As you know, our community faces a complexity of issues, including access to affordable housing, youth programming, and recovery resources. Rooted here, and loving this community, Be Ready CDC is committed to being part of the solution. HCD's model of offering community-based organizations more than just financial support, but also ongoing technical assistance and leadership development, has helped us build our capacity in so many ways. Thank you for believing in us and for supporting this neighborhood and communities like ours across the state."

"We've appreciated the ongoing engagement and support that HCD provides. That is a far better approach than providing grants and then waiting for a final report to come in. The partnership approach is invaluable."



"HCD's emphasis on supporting multi-faceted collaborations that often include unconventional organizations that may not be given the opportunity to thrive is made clear in the work on the West Side of Wilmington -- whether it be art, murals, gardens, parks, community planning development, technological aid, event planning, housing development, or business evolution."

"HCD offers professional, thoughtful and useful technical assistance that is extremely valuable. I said the following in a report and it still holds true - We deeply appreciate HCD's flexibility and understanding of the need to revise certain elements of the agreement. HCD is fulfilling its pledge to learn with the grantees to create the most effective programs for the communities we serve. Thank you! Updates and outreach are frequent, the newsletters useful and the meetings are always quick, fun and informative."



"The monthly partner meetings are very effective as they able us to see what other organizations are doing, how they did it, and where there are possible partnerships. HCD's numerous support has helped address hurdles, that would have cost extreme time and hindered the progress our organization has made. The technical support helped kick off the SB CDC's presence on social media. The HCD staff provided hands-on support and provided skill sets at that time were not available from the community."

Thank You

Management Team

Healthy Communities Delaware is managed as a collaboration among three organizations, represented by:

Lisa Henry, Delaware Division of Public Health
Stuart Comstock-Gay, Delaware Community Foundation
Rita Landgraf, University of Delaware Partnership for Healthy Communities

Many thanks to Dr. Karyl Rattay for her leadership in founding Healthy Communities Delaware, guided by her belief that "all impactful results occur through partnerships and collaboration."

Leadership Council

Our Leadership Council advises on, connects and guides the work of Healthy Communities Delaware.

Carrie Casey, New Castle County	Matt Parks, Discover Bank
Dorothy Dillard, Delaware State University	Steven Peuquet, Univ. of DE Center for Comm. Research (retired)
David Edgell, Delaware Office of State Planning Coordination	Tynetta Brown, Philanthropy Delaware
Bernice Edwards, First State Community Action Agency	Rosa Rivera, La Red Health Center
Susan Frank, Cinnaire	Wayne Smith, Delaware Healthcare Association
Peggy Geisler, PMG Consulting, LLC	Karen Speakman, NeighborGood Partners
Dorrell Green, Delaware Department of Education	Matt Swanson, Delaware Center for Health Innovation
Terrence Keeling, Central Baptist Community Development Corp.	Dan Cruce, United Way of Delaware
Sarah Long, Delaware Bankers Association	Jane Vincent, University of Delaware
Paul Morris, Delaware Technical Community College	Don Fulton, Delaware Health Fund Advisory Committee
Maggie Norris-Bent, Westside Healthcare	Brian Rahmer, University of Delaware

Operations Team

Kate Dupont Phillips, Executive Director
Ebony Mapp, Program Officer
Patrick McDevitt, Communications & Programs
Linda Tholstrup, Kent & Sussex County Partnerships
Monica Castellano, New Castle County Partnerships

Collectively, the Healthy Communities DE Network is delivering meaningful, measurable impact to ensure Delaware residents and communities are thriving together, statewide - one neighborhood at a time.



Land Acknowledgement

Honoring Lenape Land

We honor Lenapehokink, traditional homeland of the Lenape people. Sometimes translated as "Original People," the Lenape are called "The Grandfathers" by the entire Agonquian Family Tree of languages. Encompassing the Delaware River Basin, Lenapehokink was home to 20,000 Lenape in three clans: the Wolf Clan in the mountains speaking Musnee dialect, Turtle Clan along the Rivers speaking Unami, and Turkey Clan by the Big Waters speaking Unilatchigo.

Many Lenape were forced westward and northward to Oklahoma, Wisconsin, and Ontario, and their descendants live today under the name of a British General, Thomas West, Lord De La Warr, now pronounced Delaware.

But some Lenape never left. Hiding in plain sight as "Keepers of the Land" the Lenape Indian Tribe of Delaware based in Cheswold, Delaware; Nanticoke-Lenni Lenape Tribal Nation in Bridgeton, NJ; Ramapough Lenape Nation in Mahwah, NJ are three of the thriving Lenape communities today.

We honor the historical and ongoing presence of the Lenape and the Nanticoke on this land where we now live, work and celebrate "All Our Relations."

Written with Chief Dennis Coker

Cheswold, Delaware

Nov. 1, 2019

Invest in **communities.**

Invest in **equity.**

Join us as a steward for health, well-being and equity. To invest in any of the work represented in this report, reach out to the community contact listed or Kate@HealthyCommunitiesDE.org.

TALK WITH US

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