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IMPACT BOOK

THE TRUST CELEBRATES 5 YEARS OF COMMUNITY LED GRANT MAKING, SERVICE AND SOLUTIONS





I am writing to you today with a heart full of pride and gratitude as we reflect upon the remarkable journey we have embarked on over the past five years. As the Chair of the Stadium Neighborhoods Community Trust Fund (The Trust), I am honored to share the incredible accomplishments and positive transformations we have collectively achieved across the five communities we serve.

Since our inception, our core mission has been to uplift and empower our communities through strategic distribution of funds and grants, ensuring that essential services and opportunities are made accessible to all. As I glance through the pages of this Impact Report, I am reminded of the countless hours, unwavering dedication, and boundless passion that each member of our council, every community leader, and all our partners have invested in making our vision a reality.

This Impact Report not only celebrates our accomplishments but also pays homage to the remarkable leaders within our communities who have been instrumental in driving change. To all of you who have dedicated your time, expertise, and energy to these initiatives, I want to express my deepest appreciation. Your commitment to creating lasting positive impacts serves as an inspiration to us all.

It has been an honor and pleasure to contribute to the work you'll see within the pages of this impact book. The projects we have supported, the lives we have touched, and the progress we have witnessed are a testament to the strength of collaboration and the potential that lies within a united community.

From enhancing educational resources to fostering a sense of belonging, from boosting economic development to nurturing cultural enrichment, together we have made a difference that will resonate for generations to come.

As we reach the culmination of this chapter, I am confident that our collective determination will have a lasting legacy. This Impact Report not only stands as a testament to our shared achievements but also as a blueprint for future endeavors. While this may mark the conclusion of a remarkable initiative and the allocation of funding, it signifies the beginning of a new phase of growth and progress for our communities.

Thank you, once again, for your unwavering commitment and dedication. Together, we have proven that positive change is not just a possibility, but a reality that we can sustain through our shared efforts.

With profound pride and gratitude,

David Holder
Chair
The Trust Fund Committee

DAVID HOLDER



I am honored to present this Impact Report as the President and CEO of CommunityBuild Ventures. We have served as the program management team for the Stadium Neighborhoods Community Trust Fund since 2019. This report highlights the incredible journey of the fund from its genesis from the Turner Field Community Benefit Coalition to the present as a community-led grantmaking initiative. It stands as unparalleled dedication of community residents who have answered the call to serve since 2017.

The Stadium Neighborhoods Community Trust Fund stands as a shining example of community-led grantmaking and an exemplary initiative for the City of Atlanta. The Trust Fund Committee, composed of community residents who have committed themselves to ensuring equitable distribution of funding, is a testament to the strength and resilience of our neighborhoods in Peoplestown, Mechanicsville, Pittsburgh, Summerhill, and Grant Park.

Under the leadership of The Trust Fund Committee, close to \$5 million has been granted out to support affordable housing, job training, and community development. This includes \$450,000 for emergency housing and utility assistance during and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

As we move forward, I am confident that this unique initiative will serve as an example for the entire city. It showcases what is possible when communities come together, residents answer the call to serve, and trust is built through collaborative efforts.

I extend my deepest gratitude to every member of The Trust Fund Committee, community residents, grantees and partners who have supported this initiative. Your dedication has made a difference in the lives of community residents and serves as an inspiration for all of us.

It has been an honor and privilege to be part of this remarkable journey. I look forward to continuing our collective efforts to make our neighborhoods even more vibrant, equitable, and thriving places to live, work, and grow.

Sincerely,

Natasha A. Harrison
President and CEO
CommunityBuild Ventures

NATASHA A. HARRISON



ATLANTA CITY COUNCIL

JASON WINSTON
COUNCILMEMBER
DISTRICT ONE

55 TRINITY AVENUE, SW
SUITE 2900
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303
(404) 330-6039

Dear Stadium Neighborhoods Community Trust Fund Committee,

I deeply appreciate the exceptional work of the Stadium Neighborhoods Community Trust Fund and the pivotal role our vibrant communities in Peoplestown, Mechanicsville, Pittsburgh, Summerhill, and Grant Park have played here in Atlanta.

Our neighborhoods are a testament to the enduring power of community. They thrive not just as physical spaces, but as living, breathing entities shaped by the dreams, aspirations, and unwavering commitment of the people who call them home. The Stadium Neighborhoods Community Trust Fund has demonstrated what is possible when a community unites around a common vision, reflecting the essence of grassroots empowerment.

The impact of community-led grantmaking in Atlanta, especially within our neighborhoods, has been profound. Through the dedication and hard work of our residents, we have seen remarkable transformations that have improved the quality of life for all who reside here. The fund's ability to empower residents to activate funding for projects that address our neighborhoods' unique needs and aspirations has been nothing short of remarkable. From revitalizing local parks to supporting youth development and promoting economic development, these efforts have made a tangible difference.

I want to extend my sincere gratitude to the individuals who have served on the Trust Committee and all those who have actively participated in this endeavor. Your unwavering commitment to transparency, inclusivity, and accountability has been instrumental in our collective success.

As a City Council member, I am proud that our government has heeded the call of our community members. We recognize the importance of collaboration between local government and community organizations like the Stadium Neighborhoods Community Trust Fund. Our partnership highlights the potential for positive change when government agencies collaborate with constituents and local organizations to build a brighter future.

In conclusion, I commend the incredible work we have accomplished together. It exemplifies the power of the people and the strength of our community. I look forward to our ongoing collaboration as we strive to make our neighborhoods even more vibrant, equitable, and thriving places to live, work, and grow.

Sincerely,

Jason Winston
Atlanta City Councilman
District 1



Dear Members of the Stadium Neighborhoods Community Trust Fund,

I trust this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. As the Executive Director of the Atlanta and Fulton County Recreation Authority, I wanted to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude for the invaluable support provided by the Stadium Neighborhood Trust Fund to the neighborhoods surrounding Turner Field, namely Mechanicsville, Pittsburgh, Peoplestown, Summerhill and Grant Park.

The impact of the \$5 million in funding generously allocated from the bond issuance related to the renovation of State Farm Arena has been transformative for these vibrant communities. These funds have enabled us to undertake numerous projects and initiatives that have significantly improved the quality of life for our residents and enhanced the overall appeal of our neighborhoods.

I would like to highlight some of the key accomplishments and the tangible outcomes that have been achieved through this partnership:

1. Community Development: The funding allowed us to initiate critical community development projects, including the construction of affordable housing units, the revitalization of public spaces, and the enhancement of local infrastructure. As a result, our neighborhoods have become more attractive, welcoming, and functional for residents and visitors alike.

2. Youth and Education Programs: A substantial portion of the funding has been channeled into youth and education programs, offering young minds in our neighborhoods access to high-quality educational resources, mentorship opportunities, and extracurricular activities. This has played a pivotal role in empowering our youth and equipping them for a brighter future.

3. Economic Empowerment: Through various entrepreneurship and job training initiatives, we have witnessed a noticeable increase in economic opportunities for our residents. Small businesses have thrived, and local employment rates have risen, leading to greater financial stability for our communities.

4. Community Health and Well-being: Investments in healthcare facilities and programs have had a direct impact on the health and well-being of our residents. Access to affordable healthcare services has improved, resulting in healthier lives for our community members.

5. Cultural and Recreational Enrichment: We've been able to foster a sense of community and cultural enrichment by supporting local arts, cultural events, and recreational activities. These initiatives have not only celebrated our diverse heritage but have also strengthened community bonds.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the diligent work of the Stadium Neighborhood Trust Fund Committee, the City Council, and all the stakeholders involved in the grant approval process. Your dedication and commitment to the betterment of our neighborhoods have been truly commendable.

As the fund draws to a close, I want to assure you that every dollar will be disbursed judiciously to maximize its impact on our communities. We remain steadfast in our commitment to transparent and accountable fund allocation, ensuring that these final resources contribute meaningfully to the continued growth and prosperity of Turner Field's surrounding neighborhoods.

Once again, thank you for your unwavering support and partnership in helping to improve these historically significant communities. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you require any further information or would like to discuss our ongoing projects. We are eager to keep you updated on our progress.

With gratitude and warm regards,

Kerry Stewart
Executive Director
Atlanta Fulton County Recreation Authority

KERRY STEWART



"THE COALITION BEGAN ORGANIZING SIT-INS, EMPHASIZING A COMMUNITY-LED AND COMMUNITY-DRIVEN APPROACH, INFORMED BY SURVEY DATA AND RESEARCH." - SHERISE BROWN - MEMBER, COMMUNITY BENEFITS COALITION AND MEMBER, THE TRUST FUND COMMITTEE

TURNER FIELD COMMUNITY BENEFITS COALITION // STADIUM NEIGHBORHOODS TRUST FUND

THE BACKGROUND STORY

2013

The story of the Stadium Neighborhoods Community Trust Fund is one of grassroots activism, community empowerment, and successful advocacy. It all began with a pivotal moment in 2013 when the Atlanta Braves announced their departure from Turner Field, setting the stage for a remarkable journey that would reshape the future of the surrounding

2015

Formation of the Turner Field Community Benefits Coalition

In 2015, the Turner Field Community Benefits Coalition was established, thanks to the support of The Annie E. Casey Foundation-Atlanta Civic Site. This coalition brought together an impressive coalition of over 40 community-based organizations and engaged residents. Their mission was clear: to ensure that the impending changes in the neighborhood would prioritize community well-being and equity.

The initial focus of the coalition was on Peoplestown, a neighborhood deeply affected by the potential consequences of the Turner Field sale. They were resolute in their commitment not to displace residents and instead aimed to define community agreements that would safeguard the interests of the people living there.

The coalition established committees and embarked on field trips to study community benefit agreements in Los Angeles, particularly those related to the development of the Staples Center. These experiences provided valuable insights into effective community organizing and advocacy.

A significant milestone in the coalition's work was the initiation of the LCI study, a comprehensive assessment of the potential impacts of development in the area. The coalition passionately advocated with Atlanta City Council and Fulton County officials, urging them not to proceed with the sale before the LCI study was completed.

Undaunted by the lack of response, the coalition began organizing sit-ins, emphasizing a community-led and community-driven approach, informed by survey data and research. They disrupted council meetings and even staged protests at Georgia State University (GSU) to secure a community benefits agreement, focusing on GSU's role as a responsible neighbor to the community.

Throughout their journey, the coalition remained deeply rooted in history, research, and data. They received support from students at Atlanta University Center, Georgia Tech, and GSU, bolstering their cause with solid research and analysis.

2016

From Turner Field Community Benefits Coalition to Community Benefits Coalition

In 2016, Georgia State University and the Atlanta-Fulton County Recreation Authority reached a tentative purchase agreement for Turner Field. The Turner Field Community Benefits Coalition dissolved with some of the members forming the Community Benefits Coalition.

The Birth of Tent City

One of the most impactful actions taken by the coalition was the establishment of Tent City. This symbolic and tangible expression of community solidarity involved a parade and campout, serving as a powerful statement of their determination to occupy the space until their demands were met. They formed partnerships with various organizations to amplify their message. Moreover, this community organizing effort attracted local, national and international media coverage.

Creating Community Benefits Standards

In their quest for equitable policy and practices, the coalition created a set of community benefits standards, initially intended as advisory letters to developers. These standards were successfully developed and passed in the communities in Neighborhood Planning Unit V (NPU-V), although they were not ultimately passed as legislation by the city council. Nevertheless, NPU-V communities continue to use these standards when making development decisions in their neighborhoods.

2017

Achieving Attention and Concessions

Through actions like Tent City and strategic advocacy efforts, the coalition garnered significant local, national, and even international attention. Influential figures, including Rep. John Lewis, Rep. Park Cannon, Atlanta City Council members Mary Norwood, and Kwanza Hall, visited Tent City to listen to the community's voice. In 2017, this focus on the proceeds from the sale of Turner Field led to a significant concession—a \$5 million commitment to benefit the community which established the Stadium Neighborhoods Community Trust Fund.

REFLECTING ON COMMUNITY AND CHANGE

The journey, which began in 2015, highlights the value of community participation and the invaluable partnerships forged with various organizations. For two years, community engagement resulted in the negotiation of \$5 million for the community—an accomplishment unparalleled in other communities. The entire endeavor was characterized by being community-driven and community-led, a testament to the power of collective action and self-determination.



KEY INSIGHTS

RESIDENT-LED IMPACT ACROSS 5 YEARS AND IN 5 NEIGHBORHOODS

THE IMPACT



AFFORDABLE HOUSING
\$1,006,530



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
\$2,932,880

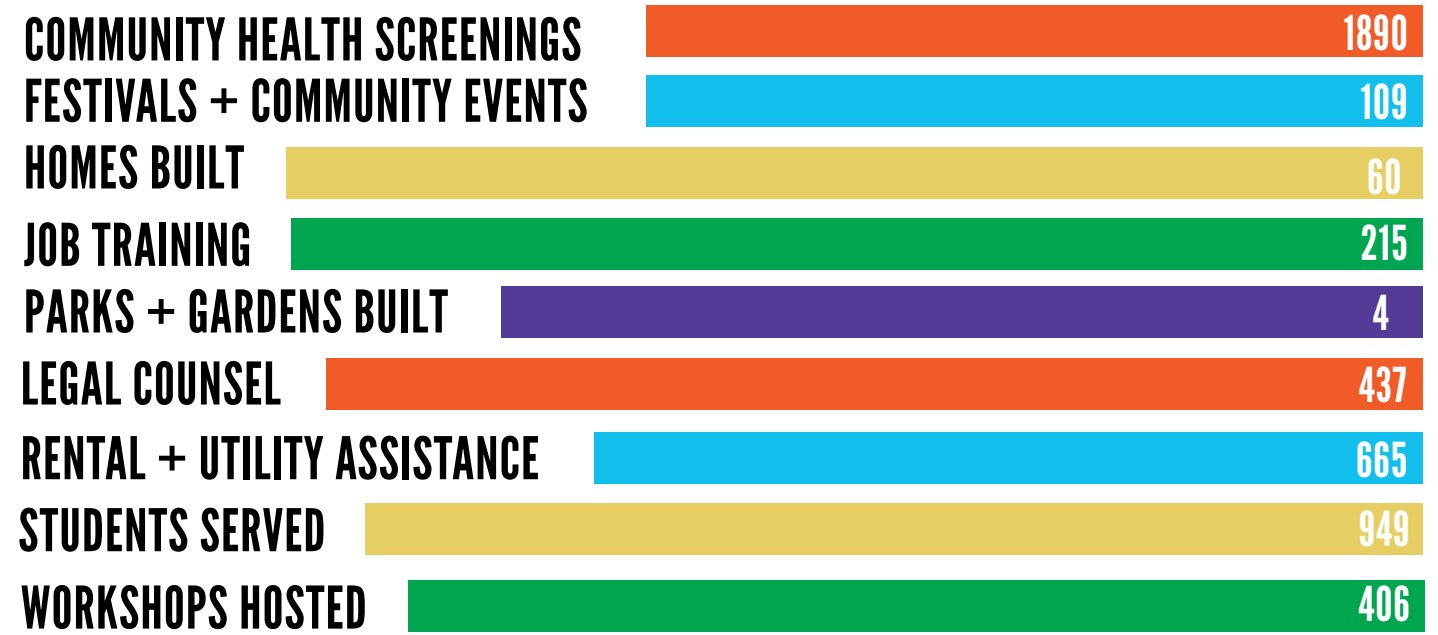


JOB TRAINING
\$350,694



EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE GRANTS
\$450,000

3 ORGANIZATIONS / 4 GRANTS FOR RENTAL AND UTILITY ASSISTANCE



NEIGHBORHOODS SERVED



ALL NEIGHBORHOODS
50.7%

ONE NEIGHBORHOOD
35.6%

MORE THAN ONE NEIGHBORHOOD
13.7%

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT: A FEW AMONG MANY INSPIRING INITIATIVES

GEORGIA JUSTICE PROJECT

Georgia Justice Project (GJP)

Organizational Impact - The financial support of the Stadium Neighborhoods Community Trust Fund enabled us to maintain our capacity to serve members of the community with a criminal record who were seeking employment to meet these increased financial strains and offer advancement - opportunities that are present in our City but often blocked for those with a record in some of our most disadvantaged neighborhoods.

Community Impact - The impact of the Stadium Neighborhoods Community Trust Fund was most felt through its ability to maintain an optimistic vision for the neighborhoods surrounding the stadium and to fund programs that provided practical solutions for the betterment of the entire Atlanta community during these trying times. Whether through yoga programs, community gardens, small business development or direct legal services for justice impacted individuals.



Global Foundation for Dental & Mental Healthcare and Awareness, Inc.

Organizational Impact - The grant from The Stadium Neighborhood Community Trust Fund helped GFDHA acquire the necessary dental supplies, dental equipment, dental professionals and other operating expenses to provide FREE DENTAL CARE to the members of The Stadium Neighborhoods Community.

Community Impact - Access to Care: underserved children and adults have been able to gain access to oral healthcare.

Education: the community received oral health education, knowledge on disease prevention and risk assessments which will help improve negative oral health behaviors.



Pittsburgh Community Market

Organizational Impact - Our organization benefitted from the increased foot traffic. We were able to bring more awareness to our mission to the community, and connect with other organizations with a similar mission as ours.

Community Impact - Community members were able to participate in the organization and development of a festival that brought neighbors together, taught STEM, financial literacy, The festival also inspired other organizations in the community to host similar events and bring even more resources to the neighborhood.

Atlanta Land Trust

Organizational Impact - This grant provided ALT with the necessary resources to subsidize the sale of five homes in the Pittsburgh neighborhood, allowing us to price homes to be affordable to families below 80% AMI.

Community Impact - This grant allowed for the Atlanta Land Trust to provide affordable homeownership opportunities in the Pittsburgh neighborhood.



Pittsburgh Collaborative, Inc.

Organizational Impact - The Pittsburgh Collaborative successfully raised enough funds to pay for the build-out and installation of an actual grocery store inside of a City of Atlanta public school. Funding from the Stadium Neighborhood Community Grant Fund has financially legitimized the Collaborative, paving the way for additional funding avenues.

Community Impact - The Collaborative has utilized this asset to assist with improving the financial stability of families who have students who attend Gideons by providing fresh meats, vegetarian options, fruits, vegetables, dairy products, bread, pantry items and drinks, free of charge, to students, their parents, and their teachers. The savings can be diverted to child care, housing, or health care.



Nicholas House, Inc.

Organizational Impact - The Stadium Neighborhoods Community Trust Funds grant impacted Nicholas House's ability to transition families by decreasing the time it took for these families to secure housing from an average of 8-12 months to 2-6 months. The families were given a quick pathway towards housing security and sustainability.

Community Impact - SNCTF support positively impacted Nicholas House's service to 23 families, allowing those families to maintain permanent housing in the service area.



Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation

Organizational Impact - Because of SNCTF, we were able to support a Community Advocate and provide emergency assistance to residents. Residents received legal advice and representation while having the funds to catch up on rent or pay a utility bill.

Community Impact - SNCTF's approach to focusing on neighborhoods and providing the resources that those neighborhoods need is a refreshing approach. Also, allowing residents to have a voice in what those resources should be along with a decision making role in funding, ensures that the right resources are going to the right place.



STADIUM NEIGHBORHOODS COMMUNITY TRUST FUND

"IT HAS BEEN AN HONOR AND PRIVILEGE TO HAVE TAKEN PART IN SUCH A VENTURE THAT HAS HELPED A LOT OF PEOPLE. SO, I FEEL REWARDED..." - ELISE LEE SULLIVAN, MEMBER, THE TRUST FUND COMMITTEE

ORGANIZING TEAM

THE TRUST FUND COMMITTEE



DAVID HOLDER
CHAIR



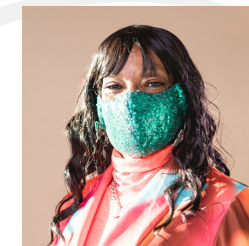
ELSIE LEE SULLIVAN
MEMBER



MARY GAYE
MEMBER



BEN SIAN
MEMBER



SHERISE BROWN



NICHOLAS MCKENNEY
MEMBER

THE TRUST FUND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT TEAM - COMMUNITYBUILD VENTURES



NATASHA A. HARRISON
PRESIDENT AND CEO



SHERONDE GLOVER
PROJECT LEAD CONSULTANT



ASILE PATIN
ASSOCIATE PROJECT CONSULTANT



"I HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO FULFILL MY PURPOSE..." - KEVIN MCGEE, URBAN OAK INITIATIVE

KEY TAKEAWAYS & IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Over the past five years, we have seen the power of community led grant-making and its significant impact in the stadium neighborhood communities. Here are some key takeaways and implications that have both shaped this journey and can set a stage for future opportunities.

First and foremost, bringing in outside facilitators to support the work was invaluable. The expertise and guidance that was provided helped The Trust committee navigate uncharted territories and expand capacity.

Defining the vision and mission was instrumental in providing clarity and has served as a guiding light, ensuring that efforts remained focused and purpose-driven.

Hosting Listening Circles were a vital element of the process. These forums allowed The Trust to engage with community members and truly hear their voices and align project initiatives with the needs of residents.

Emphasis on community building efforts early on within the committee allowed members to forge unbreakable bonds of trust and collaboration.

The decision to invite the community into the review process, ensured alignment between community reviewers and council members, enhanced the transparency and inclusivity of the grant-making process.

Looking forward, we recognize several implications for the future. Establishing a fiscal partner for the community empowers them to manage financial resources efficiently, ensuring the sustainable growth of community initiatives. Investing in infrastructure is crucial, which allows a foundation for continued progress.

But perhaps the most profound implication is the commitment to building and supporting community leadership and sharing power. This shift represents a transformative approach, empowering every community member to be a part of shaping their collective future. With these key takeaways and implications as a guide, the journey of empowerment, inclusivity, and growth can manifest for years to come.



THANK YOU!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE RESIDENTS OF PEOPLESTOWN, MECHANICSVILLE, SUMMERHILL, PITTSBURGH, AND GRANT PARK AND TO THE ORGANIZATIONS AND LEADERS THAT MADE THIS HAPPEN



Moki Macias

Former Consultant, Turner Field Community Benefits Coalition

Turner Field Community Benefits Coalition

Carla Smith

Former Atlanta City Councilmember

Michael Julian Bond

Atlanta City Councilmember

Jason Winston

Atlanta City Councilmember

Jason Dozier

Atlanta City Councilmember

Dunbar Recreation Center

PAST COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dr. Jane H. Ridley
Mechanicsville

Kenyatta Mitchell
Summerhill

Rick Hudson
Grant Park

Ann Marie Shields
Pittsburgh

John Helton, Chair
Summerhill

Greg Burson
Peoplestown

Semaj Blaine
Summerhill

Travis Parks, Chair
Peoplestown

Mika Smith
Peoplestown

Johnny Floyd
Pittsburgh