NORTHSIDE VOICE

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UPDATES TO THE NORTHSIDE'S NEW HOUSING AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Homes for sale in the Northside

The Northside Development Group, in partnership with Homes of Hope, has built three new homes in the Northside. These for sale homes are three bedrooms, 2+ bathrooms. Construction is complete. Homes are priced at \$155,000. NDG is offering down payment assistance up to \$10,000 for qualifying buyers. Please call the NDG office at **864-598-0097** for details.

Down Payment Assistance

Beginning in November 2019, NDG now offers a Down Payment Assistance Program to home buyers wishing to purchase a home in the Northside Community. This program is offered to first-time home buyer as well as local heroes, including teachers, first responders, police officers, firefighters, and non-profit employees.

Qualifying buyers could be eligible for up to \$10,000 in assistance towards down payment or closing costs for a home purchase in the Northside Neighborhood. Buyers must have an income at or below 100% of AMI (\$62,125 per year for a family of four). This program can be used in conjunction with other down payment programs and may be used to purchase existing homes or newly built homes in the Northside. Please call the NDG office at **864-598-0097** for details.

Tammie Hoy Hawkins: Next CEO of Community Works

On November 15th, NDG and the Northside Community celebrated the wonderful work of our leader, and head "cat-herder" Tammie Hoy-Hawkins as she departs for her next adventure as the CEO of Community Works in Greenville. On our journey to "transcend, transform, and triumph" in the re-development of the Northside community, no one has been more instrumental than our beloved Tammie Hoy-Hawkins.

When asked to share some of his thoughts, Bill Barnet, the CEO of NDG said it best: "Over the past six years, Tammie Hoy-Hawkins has contributed mightily to the rebirth of the Northside. Her intellectual capacity, practical experience, remarkable energy, and proven skills have made a mark on every project we have touched. Everyone involved senses her "heart" for people, her financial acumen, and dogged determination to do the right thing and ensure the quality of each piece of this journey. The Northside community, both those living here now, and those who will choose to live here in the future, owe this dedicated professional a huge debt of gratitude. She has made this place better and, with it, each of us!"

Tammie will be leaving The Northside Development Group in January of 2020 to become the CEO of Community Works in Greenville, S.C. Community Works is a state-wide community development financial institution that focuses on consumer, small business and community facility financing. Community Works is already a partner with NDG. Tammie will be greatly missed by the staff and community alike.

Congratulations Tammie!





Start:Me: Pop-Up Event, Class of 2020, and IDA Savings!

On November 23rd, NDG hosted a Holiday Pop-Up event in support of Start:ME Alumni. Past graduates were invited to set up booths at the Hub City Co-Op to display merchandise for sale for the Christmas Season, and display their services available to the community. Vendors included everyone from local boutique Fly Girlz and Guyz, to live music by Mad Music, who offer lessons as well as music for events.

The Start:Me program, an entrepreneurship accelerator program, will also begin it's 4th year of instruction on January 14th, 2020 for the 15 individuals chosen through an extensive interviewing process. Along with entrepreneurship classes, each participant will be paired with 2 mentors who will provide them with tools and connections necessary to build and grow successful businesses.

Thanks to support from the Spartanburg County Foundation, participants will have the opportunity to participate in an Individual Development Account (IDA) matched savings program! The program will match savings from entrepreneurs to better prepare business owners for initial opening expenses such as business licenses, insurances and start-up costs.

Start:Me Spartanburg is a 14 week business training program that is for entrepreneurs who live, work, worship, or plan a business that will positively impact residents of the Northside Community.











Northside's Mixed Income Housing and Mixed-Use Commercial Development

NDG's Phase One project is nearing completion! Phase One will consist of two distinct developments, a total of three buildings, and will be a new gateway into the Northside. On the eastern corner of Howard and College Street, you can see the Mixed-Use Development that began construction in 2018. The single-story building will house the VCOM clinic, scheduled to open in early 2020. The larger building will house offices for Access Health, NDG, and Birth Matters on the first floor, with apartments on the second and third floors. Wofford College will have a section for housing and community engagement for their Community Sustainability Program. Construction will be complete March 2020.

The second development, on the western corner of Howard and College Street, adjacent to the Butterfly Creek Park, will be 90 units of mixed-income housing. Apartments will be 1-3 bedrooms, and 80 of the apartments will be dedicated as affordable. In August, Creative Builders began site work for the 90 units, to establish utility connections for both sides of the street. Piping has been completed, fill-in dirt moved in, and construction of the foundation and building has begun! Howard and College streets will be closed on and off throughout the process.

Completion is expected early 2021.

Harvest Park Fall Fun!

The Hub City Farmers Market had an exciting fall season, with fun events, frequent visitors, and a brand new mural! The Market offers free yoga classes the first Saturday of every month, hosted an apple pie bake off, ballroom dancing, and plenty of wonderful vendors wares. The Urban Farm had close to 50 kids per month participate in the Seed to Table healthy eating and sustainable agriculture workshops, and the Mobile Market made about 60 stops per month. And check out that new mural by Maggie MacDonald!

The winter market will be held on **January 18th**, **February 15th**, **and March 21st** from **9am-12pm** at the Ciclops Cidery, with fresh winter produce, live music, and kids activities.



Maggie MacDonald & Family

YMCA Swimming Lessons

The Thomas Hannah YMCA Free Swimming Lessons Program has drastically evolved from the previous year of engagement. In 2019, NDG submitted almost 200 active applicants in this program compared to 24 in 2018. Participants include students from the Cleveland Academy Of Leadership and The Franklin School. Although this program includes ALL nationalities, the YMCA reports that African-American children drown at a rate three times that of the National average. Many thanks to the Thomas Hannah YMCA for helping to change the statistic!

If you are interested in signing your children up for free swimming lessons, please call **864-598-0097**.



The new Dr. T.K. Gregg Community Center, located at the corner of Howard and Preston Streets, is well under way. A groundbreaking ceremony was held on November 30th, 2018, and construction has moved quickly. Construction is scheduled to be completed by May 2020, and will include a recreational pool, a lap pool, a fitness room, as well as recreation and community space. The old PCA Building is also being demolished so that the site may serve as parking for the facility.

The center is named for Dr. Theodore K. Gregg, who was an active advocate for holistic community health in the Northside Community during his career. His memory will be honored by utilizing the new center to provide services to promote the physical, mental, and financial health of the community.

VOYAGER SPOTLIGHT:

Monique Watson



Mrs. Monique Watson is in the Voyager Spotlight for the January 2020 newsletter. Monique has worked as a volunteer at the Northwest Community Center assisting with senior bingo, gifts-in-kind, and a variety of children's programming and activities. Growing up in a single parent household, Monique is acutely aware of the struggles that many in our community face on

a daily basis. She recognizes the importance of "community" and the need for those who "stand in the gap" for the less fortunate. As a Voyager, Monique strives to be the voice for those without the ability to share their own. Mrs. Watson completed her Voyager training in May of 2019. She is currently a Licensed Professional Counselor in private practice.

Congratulations Monique!

START:ME BUSINESS OWNER SPOTLIGHT:

Tameika Alston-Gibson



Tameika Alston-Gibson, Family Nurse Practitioner of Visions Medical Healthcare held her ribbon cutting ceremony on December 11th, 2019 at 169 Hall St. Mrs. Alston-Gibson was the 1st place winner of the 2019 Start:Me entrepreneurial business accelerator program small business loan. Her business focuses on individuals and families that are under-insured or uninsured by

providing high quality healthcare. When asked for a comment, Alston-Gibson quoted Theodore Roosevelt: "People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care' Quality care is what Visions Healthcare provides to ALL people, whether insured or uninsured."

To learn more about Visions Medical Healthcare, go to vmhmed.com.

Yard of the Month Contest

Congratulations are in order for the McHam family at 802 N. Vernon St. as the recipients of The Donald L. Wray Memorial Yard of The Month contest. The McHams have been residents of the Northside for over 30 years. As a family, they all share in the duties of keeping their yard immaculate. When asked to share his feelings about our community and receiving this award, Elder McHam stated, "there is nowhere else I'd rather live". It was evident that he not only loves his community, but also enjoys beautifying it.

Change in Board Members

As of October 2019, two NDG board members ended their terms and three new members joined. Richard Dillard, retired Director of Corporate Affairs for Milliken, served on the NDG Board for 6 years of service. Richard was a valued member of the team, and dedicated to the success of the Northside Initiative.

Mrs. Deborah Moore also rolled off the Board having served for the past 6 years providing guidance and leadership on the needs and concerns of her neighbors and friends in the Northside community. Mrs. Moore, affectionately known as Mrs. Debby, has served as a Resident Board Member as well as a Voyager since 2013.

NDG's new Resident Board Member is Wanda Cheeks-Holmes, a Northside Voyager, a long time resident of the Northside Neighborhood, and the director of the Northwest Community Center. She is joined by Laura Henthorn of Mark III Properties and Alex Powell of Johnson Development Associates, two volunteers that will bring valuable experience to the NDG team.

Welcome new NDG Board Members!







Laura Henthorn



Wanda Cheeks-Holmes

New Spartanburg Housing Authority Leader

Congratulations to Shaunte Evans, the new CEO of the Spartanburg Housing Authority! Evans joined SHA in September from the Charlotte Housing Authority, where she served as the Executive Vice President of Administrative Operations. **Welcome Shante Evans!**









Supportive Services

NDG is honored to provide supportive services to the residents of the Northside Community to assist with community needs and provide opportunities to grow.

If you would like to participate in any of the services listed below, you can print and fill out the form below and bring or mail it to the NDG office. You can also fill out the form on NDG's website by visiting spartanburgndg.com/supportive-services

One of our staff members will schedule an appointment with you in a timely manner.

698 Howard Street Spartanburg, SC 29303



NAME:	I need to rent a home
PHONE NUMBER:	I would like to purchase or build a home
ADDRESS:	I am seeking employment
EMAIL:	I would like Financial Counseling
NOTES:	O I own/would like to open a small business
	O I own a home and need repairs
	I need help doing my taxes
	I need help applying for SNAP, WIC, or other benefits
	I would like to go back to school

Don't Forget!

Monarch Café Open Daily

Open Tuesday-Thursday for lunch buffet style! Located at 498 Howard Street, they also have groceries and accept SNAP benefits! Anyone that receives SNAP can spend their benefits locally on fresh, healthy foods! So stop by the Monarch Café today to see their wonderful programs, have a snack in the café, and take home some fresh produce for dinner!

Be sure to stay up-to-date on events sponsored by The Butterfly Foundation. Check their website for more information on upcoming events: www.butterfly-sc.com/events.html

The HUB City Farmers Market

498 Howard Street

The HUB City Farmers Market: The Farmers Market at Harvest park is open for the season! Come visit on Saturdays from 8am-12pm at 498 Howard Street for fresh produce and other vendors!

Northside Neighborhood Association

If you are interested in participating in the monthly Neighborhood Association meeting, please contact one of your neighbors listed above, or call **864-598-0097**. Your participation is vital to giving a voice to the community! Please visit meetings on the second Monday of every month, 6pm, at the Cleveland Academy media center, 151 Franklin Street.