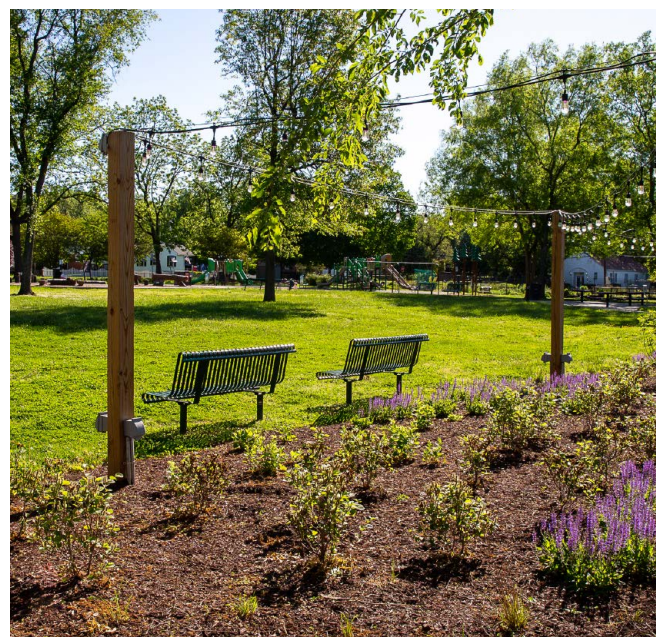




**FY
2021**

**the
Neighborhood
DesignCenter**

Annual Report





FY21 started amid the global COVID crisis, and it impacted every aspect of the organization.

Technology and organizational capacity, staff's personal and professional needs, the funding landscape, organizational culture, partner needs, and more all changed overnight.

Concurrently, the country grappled with reckoning of racial inequity that became highly acute as communities rallied and responded to the murder of George Floyd, and the continuing discourse around police brutality, racialized inequity, and abolition.

NDC's staff dug in deep with partners to learn, respond, and organize around the pressing and painful issues of the time. FY21 was a time of trauma, significant challenge, and seismic change within and beyond NDC.

Staff worked remotely for the majority of the year, relying on remote conferencing and online tools to collaborate inside the organization and with partners. During this time, all programs remained operational, shifting individual project timelines as the requirements of communities changed and the extent of the pandemic became known.

In spring of 2021, we partially returned to our offices. Returning to in-office operations allowed us to begin to rebuild practices, culture, and collaboration after an extended time of isolation.

Throughout, NDC leadership kept a keen eye on financial and staff strength and stability, desiring to emerge from this period strong, so that we are here for our communities during the recovery period and beyond.

NDC's leadership ensured government recovery funds such as Paycheck Protection Program and CARES act were fully tapped to safeguard NDC in the short and long term. Alongside that, we invested significant time and attention to assessment and building capacity and strength to support a healthy workplace centered on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice.

This work will continue for years to come and is now an integral and ongoing Strategic Initiative of NDC. Looking ahead to FY22, NDC identified the need for impact analysis, to learn about where investment of time and talent has resulted in positive, mission-driven outcomes that benefit our community partners and strengthen our organization, which will starting off in FY23.

Even as we were struggling, these partnerships exemplify the successes of NDC. Staff excelled in identifying connections, areas of key impact, and securing high-visibility and highly strategic projects.

NOTABLE NEW PARTNERSHIPS THIS YEAR INCLUDE:

- **Baltimore Development Corporation on the Design for Distancing program,**
- **Selection by AIA National to produce the 'Resource on Building Equitable Communities'**
- **Two successful National Endowment of the Arts awards for projects with longstanding partners in Baltimore City**
- **MNCPPC (Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning Commission) as an on-call consultant for community design services**





A linchpin of our Strategic Plan is sharing the work of NDC and our partners to attract the resources that are core to our Mission.

Aligned with this, NDC completed a Marketing Plan with our marketing consultant Harp & Spice. This plan moved into implementation in FY22 to: establish NDC as a national leader in the field of community led design while cultivating future professionals in the community design space, advocate and lead the conversation around the intersection of social justice and the built environment, increase awareness of NDC as a resource for community design, demonstrate the unique value of the community-led process, and expand the reach of the organization.

The intensity and upheaval of 2020 and 2021 should not be understated.

We are completing this Annual report over a year after the conclusion of FY21, because only now are we finding the needed distance to put the experience in perspective. That perspective, however, makes it clear that NDC is an invaluable resource to our partners and places during the most difficult times and that NDC has what it takes to stand by and hold strong with those people and communities when the going gets really tough.

Thank you for standing alongside us.

Jennifer Goold, Briony Hynson, and Dana Puzey
NDC Executive team

Board of Directors

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Lauren Wilson

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Dana Puzey
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Khayla Trowell

Funding Partners

Fulton Bank	Community Development	Total Town of Cheverly
BGE	Ann Arundel County	Town of North Brentwood
Abell Foundation	Watershed Stewards	Town of Riverdale Park
Goldseker Foundation	American Institute of Architects	Total Town of Riverdale Park
National Endowment For the Arts	AIA Potomac Valley chapter	University of Baltimore
Gwendolyn and Morris Cafritz Foundation	Anacostia Watershed Society	Washington University- St Louis
Chesapeake Charities- Wills Group	Baltimore Development Corporations	AIA Potomac Valley
Goldseker Foundation	Blue Water Baltimore	Bolton Hill Community Association
Lockhart Vaughan Foundation, Inc	BUILD	Casa De Maryland
State of Maryland DHCD	Casa De Maryland	Cedonia Gateway
Bloomberg Philanthropies	CKAR	Central Baltimore Partnership
Prince George's Council Member - Taveras District 2	Dannielle Glaros, Council Member- District 3	Cesar Chavez SIL School
Prince George's Council Member- Ivy District 5	Prince George's County Department of the Environment	City of Hyattsville
Prince George's Council Member- Turner District 4	Global Health and Education Projects	City of Mount Rainier
Prince George's Council Member - Glaros District 3	Institute for Conservation Leadership	College Park University City Partnership
The Jim & Patti Rouse Foundation	Jubilee- E Baltimore Midway Historic District Designation	Creative Suitland
France-Merrick Foundation	Kaiser Permanente	Eleanor Roosevelt HS STEM Expansion
Town of Brentwood	Kelley Okleson	Joe's Movement Emporium
Town of North Brentwood	NEHI	Overlook Full Spanish Immersion School
City of Baltimore Department of Housing and Community Development	Public Mechanics	Prince George's African American Museum and Culture
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	ReBuild Metro	The Ivy Community Charities of Prince George's County, Inc.
Prince George's County Executive	Sheladia Associates, Inc.	Town of North Brentwood
Prince George's County Department of Housing and	Prince George's County Department of Public Works and Transportation	Upper Fells Point Improvement Association
	South Baltimore Gateway Partnership	York Road Initiative
	Southeast CDC	
	Town of Cheverly	

Partners — Community Design Works (CDW) Pro Bono Clients

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

The Training Source, Inc.
Takoma Branch Civic Association
Central Kenilworth Ave Revitalization CDC
River of Community Kindess, Inc
Dupont Village Neighborhood Watch
Aman Trust
Peppermill Village Civic Association
Prince George's Africa American Museum and Cultural Center
Town of North Brentwood
Cesar Chavez PTO
ERHS PTO
Buck Lodge MS Teachers
CASA
College Park City-University Partnership
Town of Mount Rainier
Hyattsville MS PTO
Joe's Movement Emporium
Town of North Brentwood
Ivy Community Charities
City of Hyattsville
Leadership Prince George's
Potomac Valley AIA
Overlook Full Spanish Immersion PTA
Cottage City Community Garden
Joe's Movement Emporium
Creative Suitland
Windom Road Artists
CASA
William Schmidt Outdoor
Baltimore Green Space

BALTIMORE CITY

Greater Greenmount Community Association
Harwood Community Association
Hamilton Lauraville Main Street
Westport CEDC
Breathe4Sure Foundation
St. Johns in the Village
Baltimore Main Streets
Charles Johnson Park Development Co.
VOLAR
St. Johns in the Village
Cham City Care Connection
United Workers
Mt Winans Community Association
Bolton Hill Community Association
Charles Village Community Benefits Districts
Mission Fit
Juice Works/KEYS Empowers
Abbottston Elementary School
Joe Squared
Cedonia Community Association Inc.
Upper Fell's Point Improvement Assoc.
Oyin Handmade
United Urban Roots Foundation & United Workers
Rebuild Johnston Square
Plantation Park Heights Urban Farm, Park Heights Renaissance
North Avenue Mission, Smalltimore Homes
Pleasant Hope CDC
Arch Social Community Network

Laurel Cemetery Memorial Project
Central Baltimore Partnership
Tuscany Canterbury Neighborhood Association
York Road Initiative
Pimlico Community Association
Parity Baltimore Incorporated
Chesapeake Bay Trust, Blue Water Baltimore, Interfaith Partners of the Chesapeake
Baltimore Green Space
Johnson Square, Midway, Broadway East
Livable Streets Coalition (including CARE, Dunbar-Broadway, Ellwood Park/Monument, and McElderry Park neighborhoods)
Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District
Forest Park Alliance
Area 405
Compound
2558DHA
Current Space
Farley Art Gallery (FAG)
Bell Foundry
100 E. North Ave.
Seventh Metro Baptist Church
Waller Gallery
Arch Social Club
Stillpointe Theater
Harlem Park Theater
Blue Light Junction
Arch Social Club Renderings
Our Time Kitchen

How We're Supported

\$1,374,855.87

Program Income

\$48,471.25

Other Income

\$172,490.00

PPP Loan Forgiveness

\$1,595,817.12

Total Operating Revenue

\$1,327,914.69

Personnel (Salaries, Compensation, Benefits, Consultants)

\$63,237.19

General Administrative

\$1,361,714

Other (Mileage, Facilities, Marketing)

\$1,546,503.91

Total Expenses

(\$49,313.21)

Revenue Less Expenses

Community Development Block Grants

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



582

VOLUNTEER HOURS

\$62K

IN ADDED VALUE

This year our team led **29 projects** across the county. It was another challenging year with the impacts of the pandemic, the fight for racial justice and political divisions being felt in our communities.



CASA Placemaking

NDC and CASA engaged the Langley Park community around public art and placemaking as enhancements to streetscapes and in order to increase public safety.

CASA Housing Strategy

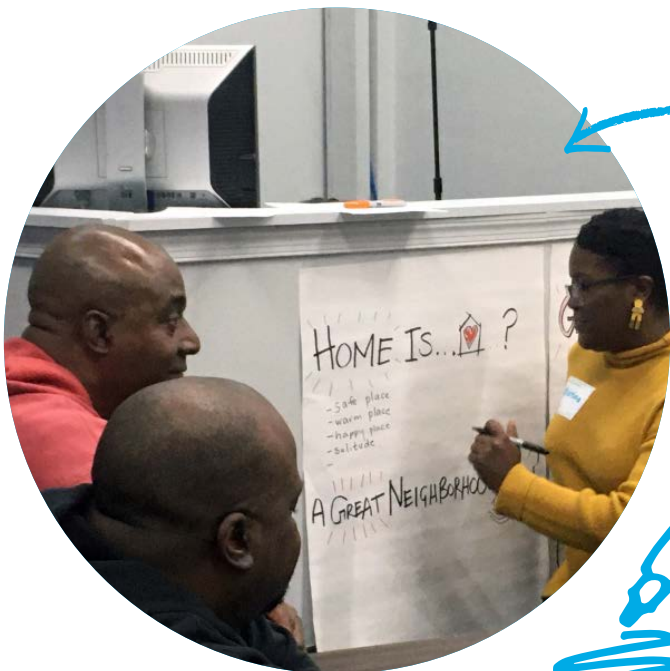
The NDC team worked with CASA and a core stakeholder group working to understand and improve conditions in affordable housing in Langley Park and the County.



PGAAMCC Facility Extension

NDC staff and volunteers provided a conceptual design showing the possibilities for expanding museum facilities on the site, with some options including artist housing and community spaces.

We were excited to hear that our plans for Prince George's African American Museum and Cultural Center enabled them to **secure a \$500,000 bond bill to support the next phase of the project- pre-development.**



Riverdale Community-Approved Community-Created Action Plan

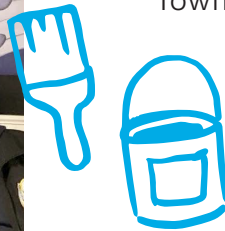
NDC facilitated a community engagement process bringing many neighbors together to co-create an action plan to drive investment in the Greater Riverdale area for several years.

The leadership group convened by NDC has continued to meet under the moniker, "Greater Riverdale Thrives" and is working to bring about the changes they want to see locally.



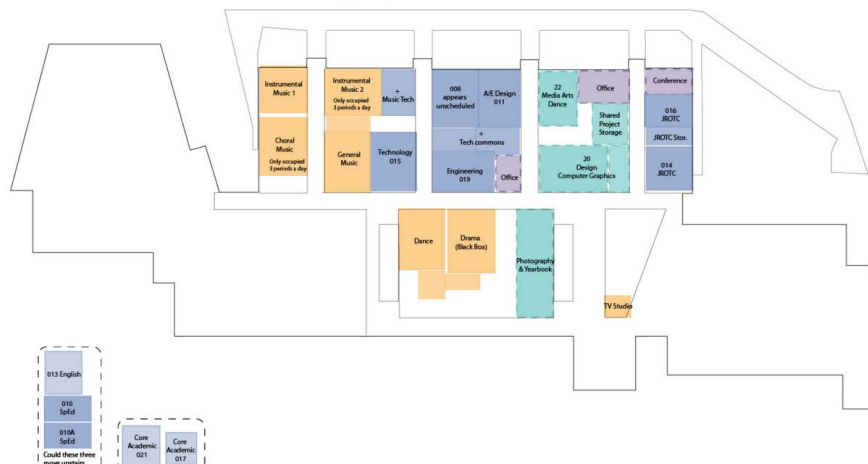
Sis' Tavern Interior Design

NDC volunteers completed interior designs for a community music and gathering space that holds great historic significance for African American History in Prince George's County and the Town of North Brentwood.



Eleanor Roosevelt HS STEM Expansion

NDC volunteers from the firm Perkins Eastman worked closely with teachers at Eleanor Roosevelt High School to design for a new STEM wing extension at the school. They engaged students and teacher through digital whiteboard software and provided a design responsive to the school's needs and wants.



Cesar Chavez Spanish Immersion School Campus Master Plan

NDC volunteers (including volunteer of the year Cherisse Otis) engaged the Cesar Chavez PTO to co-create a sustainable master plan for the campus, which balances environmental stewardship, aesthetics, and maintenance while infusing the space with educational opportunities.



Overlook Full Spanish Immersion School Outdoor Learning

Volunteers from Moody Graham and UMD worked with Overlook PTO, students, and teachers to design an expansion to learning spaces. Included in the final designs are spaces for experiments (the school has a STEM focus), growing beds for hands-on learning, a nature path, places to sit in small groups.

Adaptive Reuse Master Plan

NDC staff worked closely with a group of invested stakeholders from the Bladensburg community to generate a vision for the historic house and grounds. To accomplish the primary goal of preserving the Bostwick House and making it an asset valued and supported by the entire Bladensburg community, the following needs were identified:

- > A supportive coalition including the Town, local nonprofits and business owners, residents, and local experts
- > A plan, rooted in community needs and wants must be made for adaptive reuse.
- > A dedicated position funded immediately to continue the efforts outlined by the coalition

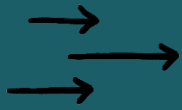
The group continues to meet bi-monthly to concretize ideas for the property.

“If left without significant investment, the condition of the Bostwick House will continue to **deteriorate** and a historically significant building may be lost.”



Ivy Wellness Landscaping

NDC volunteers engaged teens in the Ivy Community Charities programs to provide design inspiration for a new wellness space. The project was installed in December of 2020 and dedicated in a ceremony of Spring of 2022.



PROJECT NO. 3694

The Design For Distancing Implementation

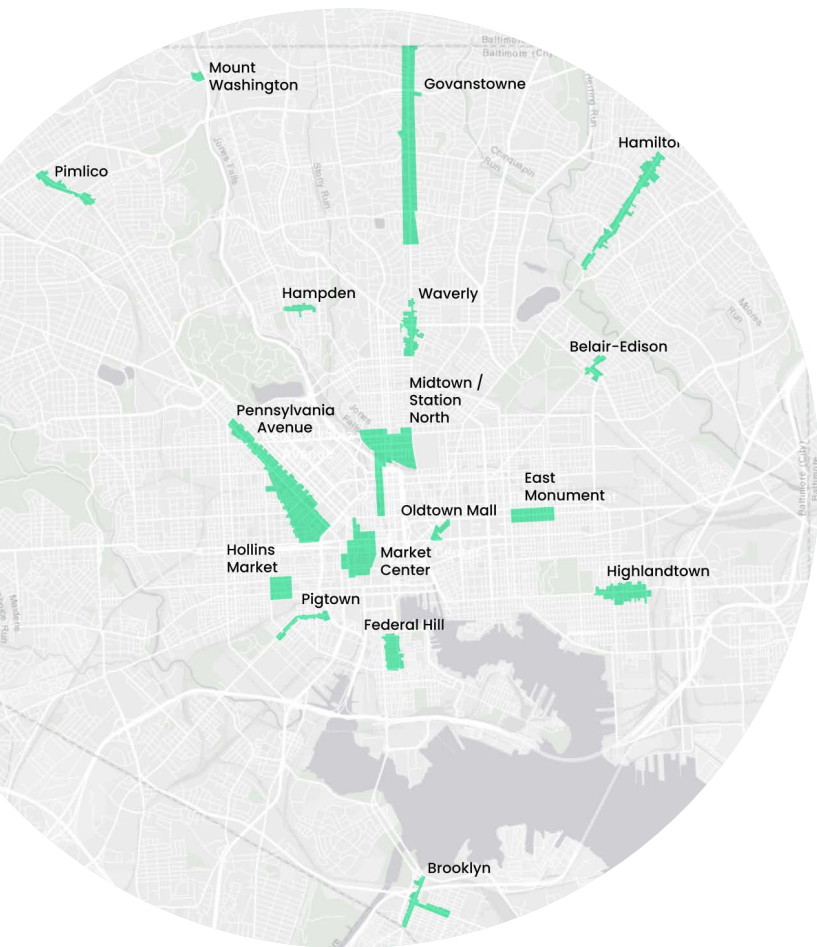
Part two of the project kicked off in the summer and fall of 2020, turning ideas from the Guidebook into real, custom solutions across Baltimore city.



The Build: Implement custom plans throughout Baltimore

Business districts were paired with a local design-build team to scope, develop, and implement custom interventions, unique to each location. There were 17 participating districts.

Each team was offered a stipend and worked closely with NDC members and district leaders. Construction was funded and managed through BDC, with the Neighborhood Design Center supporting project management, design, and volunteer teams.





AFTER

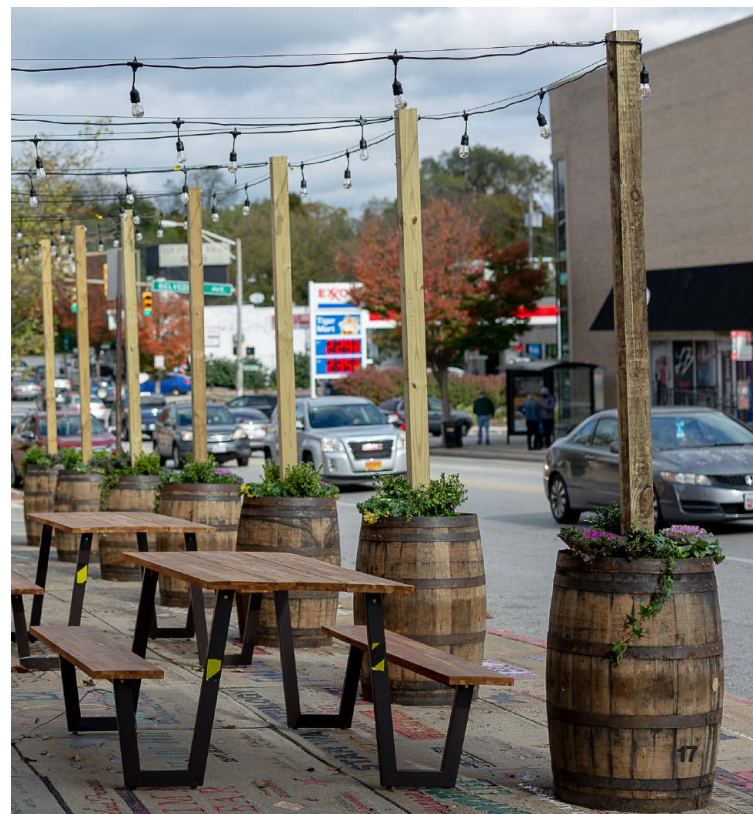
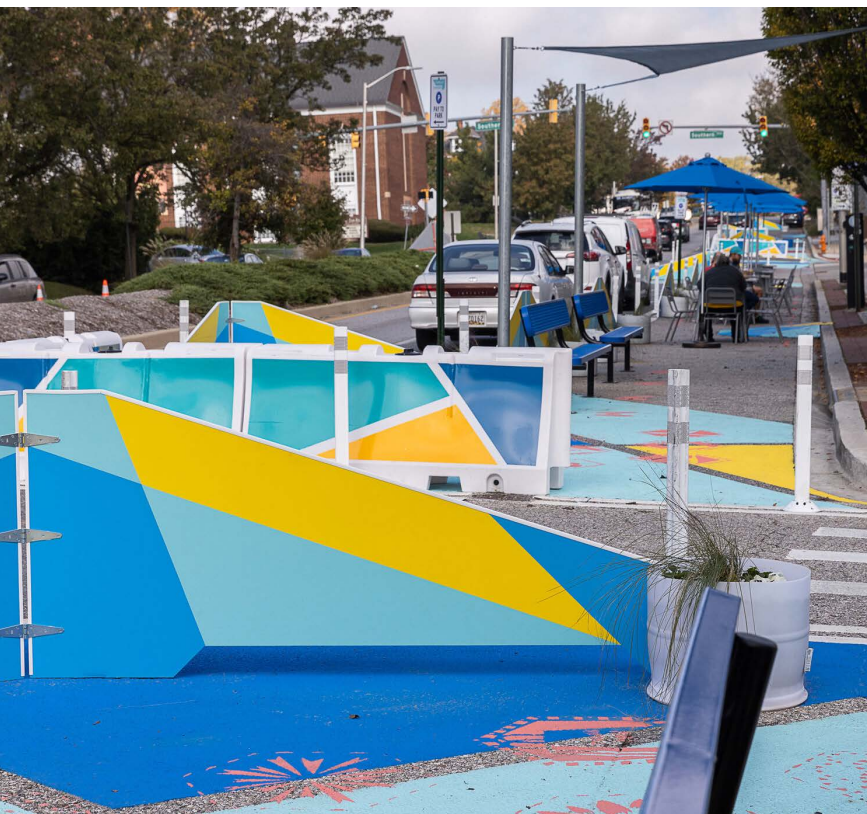
A FOCUS ON
ACCESSABILITY
+ PEDESTRIAN
SAFETY



REPURPOSED
STREET



BEAUTIFIED
NEIGHBORHOOD



“ These projects have shown us how our public spaces can serve small business and the people of Baltimore. Similar projects have popped up all over the city since Design for Distancing, and people are already talking about how to be sure that they’ll live on after the pandemic has passed.”

— SISTER ISRAEL, BALTIMORE RESIDENT



the Neighborhood DesignCenter

Annual Report FY21 | ndc-md.org

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