NDC, in collaboration with members of Community of Hope AME church, The Shops at Iverson, and Farming 4 Hunger designed a community gathering and growing space in a derelict area at the back of the mall property.

The NDC team co-designed with teens, local residents, business owners, and those who frequent the shopping center to design an appropriate place to support community needs. The goal of the placemaking was to give residents and the faith community places to grow, to heal, and to spend time together. NDC brought the Clean Water Partnership to the project as a partner, increasing public agency investment in the project. CWP will provide stormwater management best practices on site and sees this project as very valuable for its high community benefit. Additionally, NDC has supported the Office of Community Relations in their Blight Eradication work on Iverson Street, engaged the civic association, and designed a sign through DPW&T for the Hillcrest Marlow Heights Community which will be installed in summer 2019. This highly concentrated work will greatly benefit the community, with the addition of public art, traffic calming, beautification, growing, and gathering spaces.

**BENEFITS**

- 2 youth design workshops, engaging more than 25 teens
- A community-designed, community-approved neighborhood sign
- 1 stormwater management best practice
- 6,400 square feet of asphalt to be removed
- NDC Volunteer Team of the Year 2019
- $35,000+ in in-kind design support for the project