



## **NDG Receives Riley Institute's One South Carolina Award**



**The Riley Institute held an all-day event to honor the Northside Initiative and the work of the Northside Development Group on May 10, 2022, in Columbia, South Carolina. The award is the first to be given by the Riley Institute, named after Mr. Dick Riley, former governor of South Carolina who stated, “It is my pleasure to celebrate the selfless and collaborative efforts to move South Carolina forward”. The Northside Development Group is honored for the recognition it brings to the on-going efforts to revitalize the Northside community in what has been characterized as an unconventional way. With a focus on education, healthcare access, mixed-income housing, job training, and healthy food access, the Northside Initiative has been in progress since 2011 and is operating at full capacity to achieve its goals with the community. The NDG staff, Northside Voyagers, board members, and members of city and county governments were all present to receive this first annual award. Congratulations to the Northside Initiative!**



# Mobile Mammography Unit Comes to The Northside



On June 15, 2022, the Northside Voyagers Partnered with the Bearden-Josey Center for Breast Health, a division of the Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System to provide mammograms for the residents of the Northside community. With transportation being a barrier to access for many, the Mobile Mammography Unit team agreed to bring the service to the people. The Dr. T.K. Gregg Community Center hosted the event for a full day of service. Although 1% of men get breast cancer annually, the focus was on the female population. Forty-seven patients were seen and successfully screened for breast cancer and in some cases, referrals were given to provide future treatments. This event was part of an on-going effort by The Northside Development Group and the Northside Voyagers to address the health needs of the community and the barriers to better health outcomes. For more information about the Mobile Mammography Unit contact Kristy Hun at the Bearden-Josey Center for Breast Health at (864) 560-6400 or [khun@srhs.com](mailto:khun@srhs.com).



# Seniors Get Vouchers for Farmer Market



Since November of 2014 the Hub City Farmer's Market has worked diligently to provide fresh, local produce, meat, and dairy products on a weekly basis to Northside residents. In June of this year, the market held a three-day event to provide nutrition vouchers to senior residents of the greater Spartanburg community. Administered by the South Carolina Department of Social Services annually, the vouchers provide qualifying individuals with the opportunity to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables at local authorized farmers' markets. Many seniors in the Northside and surrounding communities came out to participate and share their gratitude for the service. Harvest Park is located at 498 Howard St., along with the Urban Farm which is operated by Ben Lea. To purchase locally grown produce directly from the farm, contact Ben at (828) 506-1856 or [blea@hubcityfm.org](mailto:blea@hubcityfm.org). For more information on the senior voucher program and other services offered by the Hub City Farmer's Market, contact Heather Raines at (864) 580-0341 or [hraines@hubcityfarm.org](mailto:hraines@hubcityfarm.org).



# NDG COMMUNITY STAFF MEMBER RECEIVES WEAVER AWARD



The Community Weaver Award was established nearly twenty years ago by The Spartanburg Regional History Museum and the City of Spartanburg to tell the story of ordinary people who are making or have made a difference in the community. Among the recipients this year was NDG's own-Tony Thomas. Tony was informed that that he was a recipient by Mrs. Nannie Jeffries, the administrator for the Regional History Museum and planner of the event. Mrs. Jeffries stated that, "we only nominate and award those individuals who are interested in what is good for our community". Former recipients of the Community Weaver Award include Hudson Barksdale Sr., educator and first African American legislator for district 31 and James Talley, educator and former Mayor of the city of Spartanburg. The celebration was held at the Chapman Cultural Arts Center in June of this year. Tony serves as the Community Engagement Coordinator for The Northside Development Group.



# HCFM SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM COMPLETES THIRD YEAR



The Summer Youth Program has successfully completed its third year in existence at the Hub City Farmer's Market. Students 14-17 years of age were selected to participate in this year's cohort. Over the course of a two-month period during the summer, Youth Crew Members learned how to grow farm fresh foods at the Urban Farm while learning leadership, teamwork, and basic job skills. To participate, students are asked to have a teacher, coach, or mentor (non-family member) submit a letter of recommendation to the program director. Once selected, Crew members serve as advocates for their communities and are held to high standards of performance and behavior. Upon completion of the program, each participant receives a stipend. To date, 25 students have completed the Summer Youth Program and have shared their experiences with other students to inspire future participants. Raven Logan is the Program Director and can be reached @ (864) 585-0905 or [rlogan@hubcityfm.org](mailto:rlogan@hubcityfm.org) for more information.



# Voyager Conversations Series Continues



**The Northside Voyagers continued their Voyager Conversation series on October 26, 2022, with an engagement with the incoming freshman anthropology class at Wofford College. Dr. Alysa Handelsman, Assistant Director of Anthropology, invited the Voyagers to share their experiences as community advocates in an effort to build on the growing relationship between Wofford and the community. The concept behind the series is to share with the greater Spartanburg community how we, as Voyagers, engage with the community, partners, and stakeholders to improve the quality of life for residents. The Voyagers believe that by understanding how they have evolved with the Northside Initiative that their experiences will be helpful to others in communities with similar demographics and challenges. The Voyager Conversations Series will continue as the Voyagers evolve and can serve as a helpful resource. The Voyagers have plans to recruit new members in the Spring of 2023. Linda Askari is the president of the Northside Voyagers and can be reached at (864) 342-1524 or [linda.nsvoyager@gmail.com](mailto:linda.nsvoyager@gmail.com) for those interested in joining the team.**





# Back To Basics



**The Spartanburg Association of Realtors hosted its second homeownership event on June 11, 2022 at the Cleveland Park Event Center (lower level). The event focused on fair housing, budgeting, and understanding credit. It was determined by the first event held in October of 2021 that individuals interested in homeownership needed more information on these subjects. Spartanburg Association of Realtors collaborated with several community organizations including the Northside Development Group, city and county governments, Community Works, ReGenesis, and Piedmont Community Actions. Participants had the opportunity to meet one on one with representatives from each organization. The event was held to support the growing number of residents seeking homeownership throughout the Spartanburg area. To learn more about upcoming events with The Spartanburg Association of Realtors, contact Julie Blough at (864) 583-3679 or [julia@spartanburgrealtors.com](mailto:julia@spartanburgrealtors.com).**

# START:ME PITCH COMPETITION



**Start:Me, a free fourteen week business training program modeled after Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia and adopted by The Northside Development Group, held it's first "pitch competition" in June of this year. This competition was created as part of a new program known as Build:Me. Build:Me was designed to serve as an enrichment program to further supplement the businesses of Start:Me graduates. Funding for the pitch competition was provided by the South Carolina Loan Fund, J.W.Woodward Funeral Home, The George Dean Johnson School of Business, and The Northside Development Group. Participants were given three minutes to give their "pitch" and local business owners/mentors chose the winners as follows: 1st place: Seed Thyme & Harvest-\$5000 (100% plant-based kitchen serving vegetarian and vegan delights), 2nd place: Mane Tame-\$2,500 (wig cleaning/maintenance service), 3rd place: Beyond This February-\$1,500 (Bookstore featuring African American authors), and 4th - 10th place receiving \$1,000 each. All funds were to be used for capital expenses by December of 2022. Applications for the 2023 cohort for Start:Me were accepted from September 15th - October 30th of this year. For more information about the Start:Me program, go to [StartMespartanburg.com](http://StartMespartanburg.com).**



# New Neighbors Coming Soon



Habitat for Humanity held a wall-raising event on June 7, 2022 for Mrs. Evelyn Martin. Mrs. Martin is the second homeowner in the last three months to break ground on a new home in the Northside community. Habitat for Humanity has been a crucial partner with the Northside Development Group in the visioning and preparation of individuals for homeownership. Mrs. Martin stated, "Habitat for Humanity was very patient, helpful, and I learned a lot during the process". The Martin family is scheduled to move into their new home in the month of October. We congratulate the Martin family and welcome them to the Northside community. Contact Carrie Vaughn, Associate Director of Homeownership Engagement at (864) 504- 0291 or [carrie.vaughn@habitatspartanburg.org](mailto:carrie.vaughn@habitatspartanburg.org) for more information.





# REDEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS



- **Oak & Avenue Property Group, a community development partner, closed on three of four new properties on Folsom St. in the month of September, with the homeowners slated to move in very soon. As a gesture of their commitment to helping families achieve homeownership, the four home plans were named after those families who purchased the homes. Future homeowners will have a choice of four names to choose from: The Dawkins, The Bomar, The Ballew, and The Lyles.**

- **Aden St. Warehouse, a re-development of 96k square feet of warehouse space with the goal of improving local amenities, supporting local employment, and cultivating space for residents to be successful in the Northside, is on schedule to receive necessary tax credits this fall. Located in the heart of the Northside community, this project will house such amenities as restaurants, office spaces, large outdoor greenspaces, and a variety of other economic opportunities. Rob Howell and The Avison Young Group is leading the effort to procure necessary funding for the project which is slated for completion in the 4th quarter of 2023.**

- **Creekside Village, a mixed-income housing development including 31 units of townhomes, brownstones, and single-family homes, is currently under construction with the laying of its first foundations in September of 2022. Rick Quinn, a developer out of Greenville, S.C. anticipates completion of this project in late Spring off 2023.**

**Along with these developments, NDG has several individuals in their “pipeline to homeownership” that are at various stages of the process and will be featured in our “Transformation Tuesday’s” series that highlights new homeowners in the community. To learn more about these projects and homeownership opportunities, contact the Northside Development Group at (864) 598-0097, ext. 2.**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **IT'S "S'MORE" FUN WITH FRIENDS AT THE FARM!**

Please join NORTHSIDE DEVELOPMENT GROUP AND HUB CITY FARMERS MARKET for our cocktail party at the URBAN FARM.

**WHEN: THURSDAY NOV. 10TH, 2022 @ 5:30PM-7:30PM**  
**LIVE MUSIC, HEAVY HORS D'OEUVRES, AND DRINKS! COST: \$25**

### **2022 Saturdays Farmers Market Schedule**

Every Saturday through December 10th  
Market runs from 8am -12pm

### **Check out our calendar of events at**

NDG EVENTS CALENDAR — Northside Development Group ([spartanburgndg.com](http://spartanburgndg.com))