



# ATLANTA

## TransFormation Alliance (TFA)

**TransFormation Alliance** is a collaboration of community advocates, policy experts, transit providers, and government agencies that believes equitable transit-oriented development can promote community building practices to link communities near transit stations with the opportunities they need to thrive. TFA does this work by convening, advocating, educating, and providing technical assistance.

TFA directs the collective power of collaborative members to advance equitable transit-oriented development as a pathway to economic prosperity, opportunity, and high quality of life for the beloved Metro Atlanta neighborhoods; especially legacy Black communities.

Examples of some of the work done with SPARCC capital grant funds follow.

### ABOUT SPARCC

Launched in 2017 the Strong, Prosperous and Resilient Communities Challenge (SPARCC) is an initiative to change the way we invest in and shape our cities to promote racial justice, health equity, and climate resilience. SPARCC offers flexible grant funding, technical assistance, and a community of practice that convenes around policy and arts & culture to support innovative solutions that elevate communities' role in shaping their environment.



# Soccer in the Streets

## West End Soccer Station & East Point Soccer Station

**NEIGHBORHOOD** West End and East Point

### SPARCC CAPITAL GRANT

West End: \$100,000      East Point: \$25,000

**DEVELOPER** Soccer in the Streets

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Unused space at the heart of the community near transit stations provided an opportunity to create space for community youth and parents to gather. Soccer in the Streets received grant funds from SPARCC to assist with the cost of building soccer fields near two MARTA stations. The projects are part of an expansion of Station Soccer, soccer leagues built around the metro transit network by developing underutilized spaces in and around transit stations. The fields break barriers of entry including transportation and affordability. Additionally, children have the opportunity to learn life skills as well as building an active lifestyle.



### LESSONS LEARNED

- Ability to creatively establish community facilities in existing/underused properties
- Greatest community impact is achieved when community entities work with local agencies

# Atlanta CREW

## Culture Resilience Environment Workforce

**NEIGHBORHOOD** Southwest Atlanta

**SPARCC CAPITAL GRANT** \$142,100

**DEVELOPER** Southface Energy Institute

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In 2019, Southface and its partners launched the Atlanta CREW (Culture-Resilience-Environment-Workforce) project. It was established in response to Southwest (SW) Atlanta community challenges related to stormwater management, economic opportunity and community displacement.

Community outreach and engagement supported the recruitment of 108 applicants from the primary focus area of SW Atlanta and the Utoy Creek Watershed as well as the City of Atlanta (COA). In total, six (6) GI bioretention and bioswale projects were designed, implemented, and maintained as part of hands-on training with cohort participants. These projects in aggregate comprise nearly 2,300 sq ft in size and divert more than 2.46 million gallons of stormwater annually.

### LESSONS LEARNED

- Art and creative placemaking projects, in conjunction with community outreach, help increase community participation



# West Atlanta Preservation Initiative

**NEIGHBORHOODS** Washington Park & Mozley Park

**SPARCC CAPITAL GRANT** \$38,960

**DEVELOPER** Atlanta Land Trust

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Atlanta Land Trust's West Atlanta Preservation Initiative creates affordable housing opportunities through the purchase of rehabilitated properties located in National Register districts. The two homes purchased with the help of SPARCC funds are located in neighborhoods experiencing rapid price increases that have an overwhelmingly Black, low-income population and have suffered from decades of disinvestment. The SPARCC Capital Grant allowed ALT to acquire the properties and retain ownership in perpetuity, ensuring permanent affordability. The final owners are low-to-moderate income purchasers.



## LESSONS LEARNED

- In some geographies a relatively small grant can provide an outsized opportunity for scalable homeownership opportunities that prevent displacement and slow gentrification
- Strategic partnerships among similarly minded social equity stakeholders can achieve equitable development outcomes including affordable housing

# Lifecycle Building Center (LBC)

**NEIGHBORHOOD** West End

**SPARCC CAPITAL GRANT** \$93,940

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

LBC's programs serve organizations needing affordable (or free through the Nonprofit Material MATCH program) materials for home improvements: schools, nonprofits, houses of faith, contractors and small business owners, and community members interested in educational programs. LBC's facility renovation will provide classroom space and enable LBC to both expand workshop offerings and serve more community members. It will continue developing educational content that connects workshop offerings with LBC's inventory, such as a plumbing basics workshop. LBC partners with Georgia Works to provide job training and employment to men transitioning from incarceration or homelessness and provides these men with marketable skills in the growing green jobs sector. LBC's facility renovation will help increase the volume of materials processed and distributed through the MATCH program, thereby reducing project costs for these organizations and diverting more dollars into the programs and services they provide to those in need. The capital grant will be used to replace the electrical system in the first phase of a planned \$2.2 million rehab of the 70,000 sf warehouse.



## LESSONS LEARNED

- Positive high community impact can result from strategic neighborhood partnerships