Equitable Development in Action

What Makes Community-Driven Revitalization Models Work?

To advance both environmental justice and equitable development, EPA Region 4 hosted a series of conversations with community change-makers to understand what strategies have helped neighborhoods increase local wealth and opportunity while preventing gentrification. Visit the website below to learn about success stories from a range of community-based organizations who are taking revitalization into their own hands to increase affordable housing, education, economic opportunity, and health.

Community Highlights

- Groundwork Jacksonville | Jacksonville, Florida
- The Mill District | Columbus, Georgia
- Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa, Inc. | Tampa, Florida
- City of North Charleston, South Carolina
- Regenesis | Spartanburg, South Carolina
- Build UP | Birmingham, Alabama
- Birmingham Land Bank Authority & The Woodlawn United Foundation | Birmingham, Alabama

These community change-makers are employing effective community development models including:

- National Affiliations
- Purpose Built Communities
- Community Development Organizations
- Social Impact Assessment
- Collaborative Problem Solving
- Build UP
- Land Banks

These stories celebrate communities who are charting their own future by adopting models that empower residents. These integrated solutions invest in both the people and the place and build toward prosperity for existing residents to address gentrification and environmental justice issues. EPA invites interested communities to learn from these inspiring change-makers and tap into EPA resources that can help take the next step to achieve community-driven solutions.

To learn about successful community-driven models, visit the EPA Region 4 brownfields website:
epa.gov/brownfields/region4

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