

LANSDOWNE COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

Practicum Description

About Lansdowne Community initiative (LCI)

Organizational Description: Lansdowne Community Initiative is a nonprofit organization to secure vacant properties, rehabilitate existing structures and develop newly constructed affordable housing. We will also, provide financial and housing maintenance education and support to homeowners and renters in the Lansdowne Neighborhood.

Vision: We envision all families living within the Lansdowne community as living within a viable community which provides all who live within its confines with opportunities to advance socially, educationally through the strong community supporting such initiatives.

Mission Statement: To secure vacant properties, rehabilitate existing structures and develop newly constructed affordable housing. We will also, provide financial and housing maintenance education and support to homeowners and renters in the Lansdowne Neighborhood.

Organizational Goal Outcomes:

- Build community pride by beautifying and strengthening the neighborhood.
- Create safe attractive streets.
- Promote homeownership and historical character of the housing stock.
- Provide new retail opportunities and other neighborhood amenities.
- Enhance Jones Park and construct new recreational facilities throughout the neighborhood.
- Create and maintain an effective communicate system (All communications)

Projected Organizational Objectives:

- Build community pride by beautifying and strengthening the neighborhood.
- Increase community capacity and ownership by starting a new neighborhood association
- Organize community cleanups
- Encourage community pride through beautification of parks and open space, as well as along major corridors
- Reduce crime and improve public safety organizational relationships with and within the community.
- Create safe attractive streets.
- Beautify the major commercial corridors
- Reduce litter and dumping along neighborhood streets
- Improve walkability
- Repair infrastructure
- Promote homeownership and historical character of the housing stock.
- Develop housing to attract a mix of income levels
- Repair and resell vacant homes to potential homeowners
- Provide homeownership and home repair to new and existing homeowners
- Remove derelict housing and cleanup abandoned properties

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- Provide new retail opportunities and other neighborhood amenities.
- Increase neighborhood level retail opportunities
- Provide resources to businesses that would like to improve the appearance of their retail building spaces
- Create opportunities for businesses that will hire from within the community
- Explore job training for new and existing residents

ABOUT THE POSITION

The Practicum Student will be working directly with LCI's CEO and Administrative Assistant to build an effective and interactive Web and Facebook media to in order to build capacity to deliver impactful place-based initiatives in the Lansdowne community.

During the period of time the Practicum Student will help in planning at least one neighborhood cleanup day. This is a part of LCI's Community Beautification Initiative identified by LCI to receive tree-trimming, landscaping upgrades, overgrown vegetation removal and similar cleanup in an effort to not only assist residents in need but fulfill one important goal, namely to beautify and strengthen the neighborhood thereby building community pride. For this effort, LCI leadership will recruit Lansdowne residents, members of SID congregations, and other stakeholders to not only increase the amount of work that can be completed, but also increase LCI's organizational capacity.

During the time of participation; efforts will be made to build the LCI Volunteer Workforce as a means to strengthen LCI's organizational capacity to meet future priorities; skilled workers will be recruited in an effort to build cohorts of workers who can continue working with LCI.

Work with CBN and other partners to secure funding for LCI programs. Help with grant funding that will enable the growth of the LCI program in particular and, by extension, facilitate the LCI Community Beautification Initiative and Financial Education Classes. However, because of the way these programs are organized they will also help build the LCI organizational capacity especially in regards to building relationships with funding partners and extend the LCI Volunteer workforce

POSITION QUALIFICATIONS

Education:

Students pursuing their Master's (Bachelor's degree acceptable) from an accredited college or university in public administration, urban planning, economics, social work or related field.