#HYDEPARK2025

DREAM BUILDERS 4 EQUITY

IMPACT UPDATE

We're one step closer to our vision.

(Year-End Update)

www.DreamBuilders4Equity.org

DONATE NOW

2021 is coming to a close. We're looking back on a year of partnership and community-driven transformation in Hyde Park.

Hyde Park is a community full of hardworking families and hope for the future. Through our Hyde Park 2025 initiative, we're working in partnership with the community to transform homes and community spaces to reflect the spirit of the folks who live here.

5,046 residents/families live in Hyde Park
- 23% are youth
- 24% are older adults
- 6.1 average household size
- $31,673 median household income

Progress made through our 4 Pillar Equitable Development Model in 2021:

We envision a world where all communities have the courage to dream, the skills to build, and the resources to own their future - and 2021 brought us one step closer to our vision.

Equity for residents:
- Free landscaping for 150 seniors in 2021
- 5 seniors received $50,000 in free home repairs

Equity for youth:
- 50 served in Black Squares Chess Program
- 36 youth served in Summer Academy
- Published two youth-authored books
- $114,214 total earned by youth in 2021
- Youth completed 6,480 hours of jobs readiness training
- Youth completed 2,160 hours of community service
- 3 youth received full Ranken Scholarships
- 2 youth joined unions
- 5 youth graduated high school
- 7 youth entered college
- 3 Youth returning to college
- 7 Youth graduated college

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Progress made through our 4 Pillar Equitable Development Model in 2021:

Equity for businesses:

- 90% of contractors reported growth in revenue
- 90% of contractors reported an increase in the likelihood that they will hire DB4E youth
- 90% of contractors reported improvements in the internal structure of their business

Equity for real estate:

- 5 properties acquired in 2021:
  - 3509 14th Street - 24-Hour Daycare Center with 3 residential units
  - 1910 Destrehan - upcoming rehab
  - 1514 Mallinckrodt - upcoming new build
  - Chess Park
  - Warehouse at 2301 Bremen Ave

- **Completed properties:**
  - Sold 4967 Cupples Pl
  - 4433 Randall Pl - rehabbed family home

- **Current projects:**
  - Began rehab of 1522 Mallinckrodt - scheduled to be completed first quarter of 2022
  - Began rehab of 1524 Mallinckrodt - scheduled to be completed first quarter of 2022

Program Spotlight - Black Squares Chess Program

We launched a new program this year to expand our work impacting youth of all ages. Black Squares is increasing access to chess for Black youth, and, in doing so, is developing and expanding Black chess culture. We saw that there are very few Black and brown role models in the chess world—and we're out to change that.

Chess builds critical thinking skills and supportive relationships for low-income youth in St. Louis. In 2021 we launched Black Squares and served 50 youth. We completed chess tournaments in prisons, parks, schools, and community centers.

(Click here to learn more about our impact featured on CBS)

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Chess Master Justus Williams

Rehab Spotlight - Randall Place

When we first toured Randall Place, we knew it was special. The property had a rare unobstructed view of the Bissell Street Water Tower, one of only three remaining water towers in St. Louis, and was directly across the street from the historic Bissell mansion. We couldn't believe it had been vacant and in disrepair for over 5 years.

We resolved to work with the community to turn it into something beautiful. Led by a fantastic team, the rehabilitation took about 12 weeks. Youth who worked on Randall Place got to see every aspect of the rehabilitation process: demolition, concrete work, landscaping, painting. We completed the project in summer 2021, thanks to the hard work of contractors of color and youth!

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WHAT WE LEARNED IN 2021

We do our best work when we trust each other. One of our biggest focuses in 2021 was building a strong internal team. We made a few key hires necessary for expanding and growing our work, building trust from the inside out.

Relationships are everything. As we deepened our connection with Hyde Park as a community, we found ways to build partnerships with key members of the community and trusted local organizations. Partnership helped us achieve our goals this year. Whether it's within our team, with the youth, with contractors, or with residents, relationships are key to this work.

Supporting youth means supporting the whole person. We can't stop at educational or economic opportunities. Well-being is integral to success in school—or in a job. In 2021, we introduced mindfulness into our youth programming.

Let the community lead. Our work in Hyde Park will only be successful if, at the end of the day, the community feels that what we have built reflects who they are. This year, we engaged with Hyde Park residents, working in partnership to identify and prioritize projects.

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