



ANNUAL REPORT

2024 - 2025

**WCC HISTORIC
RENOVATION
ASSOCIATION INC.**

**115 DEWITT AVE
ASBURY PARK, NEW JERSEY**

*TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF THE
YOUTH AND FAMILIES.*



FELICIA SIMMONS

President & Executive Director



I'm a tireless community activist at heart and I'm honored to serve as the founding President & Executive Director of Wcc Historic Renovation Association Inc.

I'm a lifelong Asbury Park, New Jersey resident and was twice elected to the Asbury Park Board of Education. I'm the founding President of the Monmouth/Ocean County Chapter of the National Action Network. I'm also the founder of Proper Foundation LLC, an organization dedicated to providing information and connections to community residents to help them find solutions to the varying problems facing urban towns and cities. I'm a devoted mother to my 22-year-old son Zachariah, who drives me to transform and unite my community as a whole.

In 2020, I founded C.U.R.E.D (Community United Response to Eliminating Disparities), a Black women-led initiative that brought COVID-19 testing and vaccinations to the hardest hit minority communities in Monmouth County. I'm an artist, recording musician, published poet, and former TEDX speaker.

MISSION & HISTORY

MISSION

To improve the lives of the youth and families by providing education and resources, health and wellness, leadership, and career training.

HISTORY

In 1942, the Westside Community Center was founded in Asbury Park, New Jersey as the successor to the Urban League. Rev. John Ashby, Lorenzo W. Harris Sr., Leonard J. Martin, and William Griffin were its founding leaders. Located on Dewitt Ave, its building was the former home of Dr. William J. Parks, a prominent African American doctor in the community.

The organization was dedicated to the promotion of the moral, spiritual, physical, social, and mental welfare of Asbury Park's Westside, a predominately African-American community.

Since 2022, Wcc Historic Renovation Association Inc. has taken over ownership of the Westside Community Center to restore its glory and prominence.

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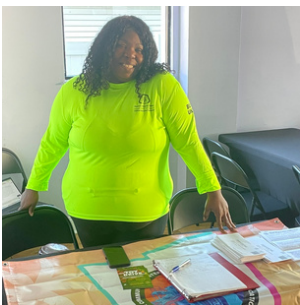
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ONE YEAR REVIEW

In FY 2024, Wcc Historic Renovation Association Inc. continued work on rehabilitating our administrative building and cultural and education center. An estimated \$300,000 is needed to complete the rehab, which includes roof repairs and replacement, electrical repairs, and mold remediation.

Thanks to donations from AcryLabs and volunteer labor from Rory Stout, Myzel Frierson, and many more beloved community members, we've substantially completed exterior work on our administrative building. We established a partnership with the Eastern Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters and plan to work alongside them to complete interior work on our administrative building and secure funding to complete work on our cultural and education center, and more.



ONE YEAR REVIEW

In FY 2024, Wcc Historic Renovation Association Inc.'s team expanded and developed relationships with diverse community organizations, industry professionals, and public/private institutions throughout Monmouth County, New Jersey, and across the United States. By leveraging these relationships we:

- **Secured over \$150,000 in monetary and in-kind donations.**
- **Hosted and participated in 25+ community events serving over 500 residents.**
- **Added 200+ new unique contacts to our community outreach database.**
- **Attended 30+ professional networking conferences and events.**
- **Applied for 20+ local, state, federal, and private funding programs.**
- **Launched a neighborhood revitalization platform.**



TEN-YEAR COMMUNITY PLAN

In FY 2024 Wcc Historic Renovation Association Inc. launched the Greater Asbury Park Historic Revival Project (GAPHRP). Our project aims to build a consortium of local residents, organizations, and external partners to unify the Greater Asbury Park community in the pursuit of self-revitalization and good governance.

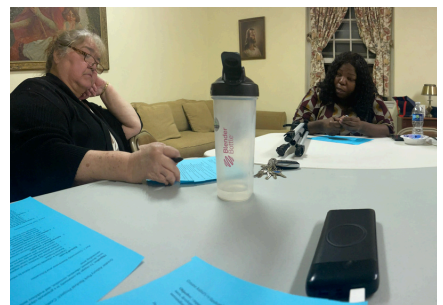
In FY 2025, through the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (NJ DCA) Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit (NRTC) program, the GAPHRP will gather input from various stakeholders to develop a comprehensive 10-year neighborhood plan that promotes sustainable growth while preserving Asbury Park's unique historical and cultural heritage.



TEN-YEAR COMMUNITY PLAN

Our neighborhood plan will focus on:

- **Social, Environmental, & Civil Justice:** developing a healthy environment and just civil society.
- **Economic & Workforce Development:** developing an equitable economy and sustainable, thriving workforce.
- **Infrastructure & Housing Development:** developing a modern civil infrastructure and affordable, supportive housing for low-moderate income and chronically houseless people.
- **Historic & Cultural Preservation:** developing a historically accurate, vibrant, and culturally rich communal scene for all ages.
- **Family & Youth Development:** developing self-sufficient family units and well-educated, creative, and healthy children.



OUR GENEROUS PARTNERS

- *Elorm Ocansey Ministry Foundation*
- *AcryLabs*
- *Building One New Jersey*
- *Eastern Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters*
- *Essex Community Land Trust*
- *New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance*
- *Attentive Energy*
- *Local Content*
- *WEACT*
- *Pillars of Harvest Ministries, Inc*
- *Ballard United Methodist Church*
- *Powerhouse Tabernacle*
- *Only Pierre*
- *Church By The Bay*
- *New Jersey State Police*



OUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTORS

- Ibrahim Muhammad
- William Phillips
- Mattie Simmons
- Rory Stout
- Myzel Frierson
- Samia Bahsuon
- George Melton
- Debra Eson
- Ethel Berry
- Paul Scully
- Anthony Abrantes
- Cyndie Williams
- Frank Mahoney
- Shirley Green
- Britnee Timberlake
- Alexa McNeil
- Oriana Holmes-Price
- Erica Spencer-El
- Jill Potter
- Coach Will Smith
- Annette Rose
- Pastor Antonious Thigpen & Family
- Pastor Jason Rogers
- Minister Elorm Ocansey
- Pastor Allyson Estes
- Jason Rowe
- New Jersey Pan-African Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Minister Charles Mills
- Pastor Lou Strugala
- Colonel Patrick Callahan
- Jim Johnson
- Jason Dermer
- Tiffany Durant
- Stacey-Ann Tinglin
- Dwayne Wilkins
- Natasha Parker
- Cathlin Calio to Calesky
- Winfred Johnson
- Guy Williams
- Rita Marano
- Quint Essence
- Asbury Beauty Within
- Zachariah Dion Simmons-Byrant
- Adina Boyce
- Ronald Height
- Allen Height
- Issac Jones
- & all our Angel Contributors.





THANK YOU

Board of Directors

- *Felicia Simmons (Board President)*
- *William Philips (Board Secretary)*
- *Ibrahim Muhammad (Board Member)*

CONTACT US :



347-374-1133



feliciasimmons4ap@gmail.com



www.westsidecommunityhra.org



115 Dewitt Ave., Asbury Park, NJ, 07712

