



Francisville Neighborhood Development Corporation.

1708 Ridge Ave. Philadelphia, Pa. 19130 / Tel: 267.687.7581

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Mission Statement

The Francisville Neighborhood Development Corporation (FNDC) mission is to improve the quality of life in the Francisville community through Commercial and Residential Development and to implement programs designed to develop the youth, aid senior citizens, and generally invest in the people of Francisville. Our aim is to be a resource for information and communication, thereby insuring that all residents can have an active role in the growth and development of their community.

History

Formally known as Concerned Residents of Francisville Community Development Corporation, Francisville NDC, a 501c3 non-profit organization, was formed in 2002 by Penelope Giles, (ED/Founder/President), with the invaluable help and support of Mr. Fred Snead Ali. The organization grew out of a desire to see our once thriving Commercial Corridor Ridge Avenue Revitalized and employing people from the neighborhood. Through this endeavor it was soon realized that there was a severe lack of community interest in active involvement. The community also lacked interest in how the Francisville Community would be developed equitably economically, residentially or socially. This lack of community involvement and interest was the motivation behind our mission and our ongoing work in Francisville.

The organization received its 501c3 non-profit status in March of 2005. Prior to that, the organization spent a great deal of time working to stimulate residents to be more active in community affairs. In the fall of 2003 during the Mayoral election, the idea of creating an information network was conceived. Members set up stations at polling locations and signed up over 500 residents. The Francisville Information Network was launched in January of 2004. This marked the turning point for the organization and the community as participation in community meetings and events increased dramatically and membership in the organization tripled as a result.

In the spring of 2004 the organization was selected by the University of Pennsylvania's Graduate School of Architecture and Design to do a Development Plan for Ridge Avenue from Broad Street to Girard Avenue. Community participation in the creation of the plan was very high largely due to the Information Network. The Francisville Ridge Avenue Development Plan was completed in June of 2005. While conceptual in nature, the plan recommended the creation of a comprehensive residential development plan and implementation for business retention and attraction.

Keeping our eye on the prize, we organization set out to find funding to do a Comprehensive Development Plan for the entire Francisville Community. Partnering with People for People and the Fairmount CDC; Francisville NDC applied for and was awarded a \$100,000 planning grant from the Wachovia Regional Foundation. The Wachovia Regional Foundation Planning Grant brought Francisville NDC that much closer to the larger goal of building a self-contained walk-able community; a place to live, work, play,



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and shop.

Our neighborhood continues to transform and grow economically and has become more ethnically diverse. We continue to be a Neighborhood striving and learning to live in harmony with each other so that we might become a model for the whole world! Francisville NDC is the primary coordinating RCO. We review, vet, and help guide the development of our commercial corridor and residential community while continuing to seed and support cultural and economic diversity in our neighborhood.

Some of our own past real estate development experience includes acquiring 8 properties at nominal consideration from the City of Philadelphia to construct 3 mixed use projects that will meet our mission and neighborhood plan goals; one of which is the 95% finished project for which we are seeking funding to complete our ground floor and lower level fit out.

October 2018 Update:

1608 – 12 Ridge Avenue: We are currently in the process of working through details to complete the commercial space at 1608 Ridge Avenue. The Restaurant will be open 7 days a week for Breakfast – Dinner and the wine and beer bar will stay open till 2am. The space will include seating for patrons and a multi-use area to accommodate private and community events. The projected open is late February 2019.

1628, 30 & 32 Ridge Avenue: Our plan is to install a year-round, rain or shine open air Artisan and Farmers Market. The location will include a commissary kitchen to support an eclectic variety of culinary street vendors, a dedicated Farmers Market where our goal is to secure fresh meat and poultry vendors on the weekends through securing a partnership with the Reading Terminal Market.



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2018 Board of Directors

<p>John Williams Business Owner – Non Profit 1622 Ridge Avenue. Philadelphia, PA 19130 215-684-2847 saxwilliams@gmail.com Occupation: Business Owner, Prof. Musician Committee: Economic Development Affiliations Seat Type – At Large Voting</p>	<p>Penelope Giles Resident 1729 Wylie Street. Philadelphia, Pa. 19130 penelope@francisvillendc.org Founder/CEO Committee: Zoning, Finance & Fundraising Affiliations Seat Type – Resident Voting</p>
<p>Asha Mitchell Ridge Avenue Business Owner 1604 Ridge Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19130 ashasessence@gmail.com Occupation: Self employed Committee: Development Affiliations Seat Type – At Large – Non-Voting</p>	<p>Kristin Szwajkowski 1937 Brown Street – Philadelphia, Pa. 19130 Resident 267-872-3370 Occupation: Planning kszwajkowski@comcast.net Committee: Board Development Affiliations Seat Type – Resident Voting</p>
<p>Amanda Lloyd - Secretary Fairmount/Francisville Resident atlloyd@alumni.upenn.edu Occupation: Professor/Teacher/Planner/Artisan Committee: Planning Affiliations Seat Type – Voting At Large</p>	<p>Zainab Ali – Attorney – Non resident Zainab@alilawpc.com Occupation: Attorney Committee: Finance & Governance Affiliations Seat Type – At Large Voting</p>
<p>Mark Jones – President/Chair Ridge Avenue Business Owner 1600 Ridge Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19130 nestinamarkllc@aol.com Occupation Committee: All Affiliations Seat Type – At Large</p>	<p>Crystal Brown 849 N Uber Street Uber Street – Resident 267-977-7840 Crystal.brown004@gmail.com Occupation: Case Manager/Actor Committee: Planning Affiliations: Property Tax Reform Seat Type - Resident Voting</p>



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Committee: Zoning

Affiliation

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Bonnie Valentine

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Occupation: Business Owner,

Marketing Consultant

Committee: All

Affiliations

Seat Type – At Large Non - Voting