

28th Annual SLACO Regional Neighborhoods Conference

"Keeping It Clean, Calm & Collaborative"



- March 8, 2025
- Saint Louis University
Busch Student Center
20 North Grand Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63103

Tickets available on Eventbrite.

Presenting Sponsors:

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Dear Participants:

As a proud sponsor of the 3rd Annual St. Louis Home Improvement Summit powered by SLACO, St. Louis Development Corporation (SLDC) would like to welcome all of today's participants. We hope that you take advantage of the different vendors that are here to work with you during this workshop. All of the participating vendor's here today are here to teach you about the benefits of home repair, credit repair and most importantly, the home buying process.

SLDC also has a representative here today that can speak with you about the programs that we offer. Feel free to visit our website at www.developstlouis.org

Neal Richardson
President & CEO

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PROGRAM IN BRIEF

7:30am: REGISTRATION, CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST, MEET EXHIBITORS Wool Ballrooms

7:00am - Vendor Set Up

7:30am – Conference Registration – Continental Breakfast – Meet Exhibitors

8:30am – Welcome: Call to Order – Mrs. Catherine Smith-Morgan, SLACO Board President

Words of inspiration: Father Gerald Kleba, SLACO Founder

Welcome: Bobby Wassel, Ph.D., St. Louis University

Welcome: Office of Honorable Wesley Bell, Missouri 1st District Representative

Welcome: Honorable Tishaura O. Jones, Mayor, St. Louis City

Welcome: Office of Honorable Megan Green, St. Louis Aldermanic Board President

Welcome: Honorable Darlene Green, Comptroller, City of St. Louis

Welcome: Honorable Gabriel Gore, Circuit Attorney, City of St. Louis

Welcome: Honorable Chief Robert J. Tracy, St. Louis Police Department

Membership Recognition: Hyde Park Neighborhood Association

Shaw Neighborhood Improvement Association

St. Louis Place Community Association

Vanderverter Community Corp.

Community Recognition: InvestSTL

Rick Bonasch Community Development Award: Sundy Whiteside, Accepting-Dr. Haley Whiteside McKenzie

9: 30am – Break

9:40am – “ Keeping It Collaborative”

Moderators, Dr. Mark Abbott, Jasmin Aber Panelists: Gregory Carr, Gwen Moore, and Melvin White

10:45am – Break

10:50am – “Keeping It Calm”

Moderator, Craig Schmid, Panelist: Brittini Gray-Chiquillo, eNiCol, Dr. L J Punch

“Keeping It Cuisine”

11:55am – 1:30pm – Meet The Vendors, Network, Lunch, and St. Louis Story Stitchers

1:40pm – 2:30pm “Keeping it Organized and Collective”

Panelists: Charles Bryson, Nate Lindsey, Lisa Potts, and Denise Carter

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March 8, 2025
CONFERENCE OPENING
(8:30 am – 9:30 am)

Call to order: Mrs. Catherine Smith-Morgan, SLACO Board President

Words of Inspiration: Fr. Gerald Kleba, retired, St. Cronan Parish, SLACO Founder

Welcome: Bobby Wassel, Ph.D, Saint Louis University

The Honorable Wesley Bell, Missouri 1st District Representative

The Honorable Tishaura O. Jones, Mayor, City of St. Louis

The Honorable Megan Green, Board President, City of St. Louis

The Honorable Darlene Green, Comptroller, City of St. Louis

The Honorable Robert J. Tracy, Chief of Police, City of St. Louis

The Honorable Gabriel Gore, Circuit Attorney, City of St. Louis

Ms. Catherine Smith-Morgan Catherine Morgan-Smith is the President SLACO. Catherine is enamored with everything involved around the ‘communities of people.’ Catherine is a lifelong resident of the City of St. Louis. Working 20+ years in the private and public sectors in the field of accounting (i.e., Auditing, Budgeting, Financial Analysis, Financial Accounting, Risk Management, Legal Compliance and Operational Risk Management, and Financial/Regulatory Reporting), Catherine saw an avenue for her skills to serve and advocate for the community. To further strengthen her skills Catherine sought opportunities to educate herself in all manners of development and leadership. In September 2020, Catherine became a Neighborhood Leadership Fellow (NLF) graduate from the highly selective and advanced leadership training program at University of Missouri Saint Louis Missouri University Extension, to serve in the St. Louis Promise Zone, City of St. Louis. As a leader in the community Catherine uses her foresight, compassion, and strategic planning skills to lead the community toward progress. In December 2022, Catherine became a graduate of Urban Land Institute St. Louis (ULI) to drive housing and real estate development to help the community thrive and sustain itself. In 2023 Catherine serves a member to the Restorative Justice Movement Center (RJM)’s Board of Directors which aims to initiate the healing process within individuals, families and the community who are exposed to symptoms of trauma, mental illness, substance abuse and trauma for our most vulnerable and formerly incarcerated populations. In 2023 Catherine serves on the Community Advisory Board (CAB) of PreventEd, which works to prevent the harms of alcohol and other drugs through education, intervention, and advocacy. PreventEd has led the conversation around alcohol and other drugs in spreading solution without the stigma. In 2024, Catherine serves a member of the St. Louis Chapter of The Drifters, Incorporated. The Drifters is a national women’s organization who focus on charitable, civic, and social endeavors to support the elderly seniors and the student-college bound population. Catherine has a full-time career as V.P., of Citi’s Independent Compliance Risk Manager. Additionally, Catherine is a wife, mother, daughter, and caretaker. Catherine is a resolute member of The Westside Missionary Baptist Church where she relies on God for spiritual truth and insight. She is a member of the Academy/Sherman Park Neighborhood Association.

Fr. Gerald Kleba, Founder of SLACO. Anyone who has met Father Gerry Kleba, despite his towering, six-foot, five-inch frame, is immediately drawn to his personal magnetism, enveloped in his teddy-bear warmth, and soon lost in the deep pools of his sincere blue eyes. One soon learns, however, that this attraction is followed by a call—to self-reflection, social consciousness, and action to help one’s fellow human beings. (Peter Green) As stated by SLACO secretary at the time, Claudine Clay “The best thing about SLACO to me is that no one knows how to quit. When we fail, we just back off and re-examine the situation and choose another plan of attack. That is what SLACO taught me about life that I never knew before Do not quit!” from “the People Parish” by Gerald J. Kleba

Bobby Wassel, Ph.D. serves as the Director of the Saint Louis University Center for Action. He has over 20 years of experience connecting students to service and community engagement opportunities, and helping students reflect on how these experiences shape their values and purpose in life. Through his leadership in the Center for Social Action, Bobby connects SLU students, faculty, and staff to opportunities in the St. Louis region, as well as maintains relationships with the over 500 community organizations that partner with the University. Bobby holds a bachelor’s degree in psychology and sociology from Indiana University, and both Master’s and Doctoral degrees in higher education administration from Saint Louis University. Bobby has presented at numerous regional, national, and international conferences on such topics as social change and action methods, assessment of faith and service engagement, and organizing high-quality service experiences for college students.

Mayor Tishaura O. Jones, With a deep personal commitment, a wealth of experience, and a proven record of leadership Mayor Tishaura O. Jones started her career as a public servant in 2002 when she was appointed as Democratic Committeewoman of the 8th Ward in the City of St. Louis. She served two terms in the Missouri House of Representatives and became the first African American woman in state history to hold the position of Assistant Minority Floor Leader. From financial empowerment to the modernization of services, Jones has worked to make City government easier to navigate, easier to participate in, and easier to understand. Elected the first African American woman as Treasurer in 2012, Jones helped the City of St. Louis earn and save more than \$30 million during her tenure in the office. Jones launched the Office of Financial Empowerment (OFE) to help St. Louisans make better financial choices, and OFE's College Kids Program has helped over 18,000 public school students start saving through educational savings accounts. After becoming the first mayor in decades to be born, raised, and still live in North St. Louis, Jones recognizes that St. Louis cannot succeed if one half is allowed to fail. She is working to reverse decades of disinvestment in neighborhoods by ensuring incentive agreements contain community benefits while responsibly investing nearly \$500 million from the American Rescue Plan. Through data-driven deployment strategies, alternative responses to conserve police resources, and investment in community violence intervention programs, she is committed to improving public safety in the city. Jones has a bachelor's degree in finance from Hampton University and a master's degree in health administration from the Saint Louis University School of Public Health. A graduate of the Executives in State and Local Government program at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, she has served as Vice President of Public Finance for Blaylock Robert Van, LLC, as well as adjunct faculty at the Anheuser-Busch School of Business at Harris-Stowe State University. A member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., her dedication to public service has earned her numerous accolades including awards from the St. Louis Coalition for Human Rights, the RCGA, and the Lupus Foundation of America. She is also the proud mother of Aden.

Comptroller Darlene Green, The Honorable Darlene Green serves as Comptroller for the city of St. Louis. She is the city's Chief Fiscal Officer and directs the fiscal affairs of the city with a combined annual budget of more than \$1 billion. She is a member of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, the executive branch of city government. Comptroller Green is a member of many citywide boards and commissions, including the Airport Commission, and is a Trustee for the City's Retirement Systems. In 2021, Comptroller Green was elected to her seventh full term in office. She maintains a platform of honesty, fiscal integrity, and a focus on protecting taxpayer dollars. Under her leadership, the city has earned and maintained good credit for 30 years for its strong fiscal management. Through her foresight and leadership, Comptroller Green never exposed the city to variable rate bond debt, which harmed the credit rating of many other municipal governments. Comptroller Green holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Washington University in St. Louis. She has served as a member of various civic organizations and has received many honors. She is a proud member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority.

Police Commissioner Robert J. Tracy started his law enforcement career more than 40 years ago with the New York City Police Department and went on to serve with the Chicago Police Department, the Wilmington (Delaware) Department of Police and the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department. He has held top executive law enforcement leadership positions in each of these agencies, and since January 6, 2023, he has served as the Commissioner of the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department. Chief Tracy built a distinguished record of achievement and advancement through his positions with the New York Police Department. Chief Tracy was the Commander of a newly created Firearms Suppression Division, responsible for the coordination of tasks across several citywide units. He also served as the Commander of the Firearms Investigation Unit, working with the Organized Crime Investigation Division and ATF/NYPD Joint Firearms Task Force. Chief Tracy led the Violent Felony Squad, the NYPD/U.S. Marshal Regional Task Force, and supervised the Bronx/Manhattan Warrant Squads. In Chicago, Chief Tracy held the position as the principal Crime Control Strategist. In this capacity, Chief Tracy instituted various strategies that affected crime statistics including CompStat. As the Chief of Police for the Wilmington Department of Police, Commissioner Tracy continued the course with several learned strategies. He instituted the CompStat process and streamlined the department's methods for Intelligence-Based Policing. Commissioner Tracy also implemented a plan for focus deterrence. These strategies resulted in historic reductions in violent crime - including shootings and murders. Since assuming the role of Commissioner in St. Louis, Commissioner Tracy has worked to implement the same result-driven strategies that have brought about positive results in other cities - both large and small. In the first year of collaborating with the community, the officers and the professional staff of the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, the City of St. Louis saw a citywide reduction in UCR Part 1 crimes by 22%, including a 10 year low in homicides. These reductions, in addition to continuous community engagement, have helped increase trust between the police department and the community. Commissioner Tracy has also served in the private sector, as Vice President of Security Services for Summit Security Services on Long Island and Vice President/Global Crisis Response Manager in the Office of Business Continuity for CitiGroup in New York City. He holds a master's degree in public administration from Marist College and a Bachelor of Arts in History from Suny, Empire State College. He has been the recipient of many distinguished awards, including Pi Alpha Alpha National Honor Society for Public Affairs and Administration; Police Foundation Dale Hummerdinger Award; Numerous Excellent Police Duty Awards; Meritorious Police Duty, and Unit Citations.

Commissioner Tracy has been a member of the ATF's National Crime Gun Intelligence Board, assisting with the development of policy for police departments throughout the United States and Globally, for five (5) years. He has served as a Board member for the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). He is a member of the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) and the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA). Commissioner Tracy was born in Bronx, NY and is married, and has five children.

Circuit Attorney Gore, Gabriel Gore was sworn in as Circuit Attorney for the City of St. Louis on May 30, 2023. An experienced prosecutor and trial attorney, Mr. Gore's top priorities are restoring the public's confidence in the Circuit Attorney's Office, fighting for justice, and enhanced public safety. Mr. Gore began his legal career as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Office of the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri. He later served as Assistant Special Counsel in the Office of Special Counsel John C. Danforth, who was charged by the Attorney General of the United States to review the events surrounding the assault on the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, Texas. Mr. Gore was a law clerk to the Honorable John R. Gibson of the Eight Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals. Mr. Gore has been a practicing attorney for 30 years. Prior to his appointment as Circuit Attorney, he was a partner with the Dowd Bennett law firm, where he tried complex civil and criminal cases. Earlier in his career, he was a partner at Bryan Cave LLP and an associate at Williams & Connolly LLP. Mr. Gore is a graduate of Parkway South High School, Missouri State University, and the University of Chicago Law School. Mr. Gore's passion is service to the community. He most recently served on the Missouri State University Board of Governors and the boards of Forest Park Forever and the St. Louis Community Foundation. He was a gubernatorial appointee to the Ferguson Commission, which was charged with making recommendations to move the St. Louis community forward following the unrest in Ferguson, Mo. He was also a founding member of KIPP St. Louis Public Charter Schools.

Membership Recognition – Hyde Park Neighborhood Association, Shaw Neighborhood Improvement Association, St. Louis Place Community Association, Vandeventer Community Corp.

Community Recognition – InvestSTL

Rick Bonasch Community Development Award – Sundy Whiteside-Accepting, Dr. Haley Whiteside McKenzie
Presenters: Kevin B. McKinney, Executive Director, SLACO, Greg Meyer, SLACO At Large Board Member

Hyde Park Neighborhood Association- was formed in May 2017 and incorporated 505 C 3 not for profit in January 2018. Their vision is to connect neighbors, promote activities, and foster community and civic engagement.

Shaw Neighborhood Improvement Association -We don't really have a name for what we are doing. We just call it Shaw Monthly Litter Pick-up. We started doing it in June 2023 after Aaron Dohogne had reached out to neighborhood associations to encourage a city-wide St. Louis Neighborhood Trash Pick-up on the same day. We focused on seeing how much we could pick up on Grand in an hour and were surprised by how much we did. So, with the help of a few other Shaw neighborhood association volunteers, we have kept going ever since. It's just one hour a month; we keep it simple and do what we can. Covers, Grand, Shaw, Tower Grove, and Magnolia Blvd.

St. Louis Place Community Association -In 2024, St. Louis Place focused on revitalizing the neighborhood by restructuring the St. Louis Place Community Association to better address the needs of residents. The association formed committees in areas such as outreach and engagement, health and safety, development, events, concert, youth, and beautification. These efforts were part of the broader Our Plan initiative, a partnership with the St. Louis Development Corporation (SLDC) to redevelop the near north side, and the Brickline Greenway project, both of which involved active community participation from the beginning. Local partnerships included collaborations with the St. Louis Alliance for Community Organization (SLACO) for neighborhood cleanups and a bus tour highlighting local museums, as well as a summer concert series hosted with the Whitaker Foundation that drew 10,000 attendees.

St. Louis Place also played a vital role in the GO St. Louis marathon, with its rally point named Best Mile Marker. Community outreach continued with events like Trunk or Treat and a year-end Holiday Party, which brought together residents and visitors from other neighborhoods. When Sts. Peter and Paul Community Services chose the area for their new location, the community embraced the opportunity to build a partnership focused on providing health and human services for residents, alongside beautification projects. This collaboration also enhanced access to Novus on the Northside, contributing to the overall growth and improvement of the neighborhood.

Vandeventer Community Corp. - Vandeventer Neighborhood was the first to have a development plan adopted by the City of St. Louis which outlined the orderly and cohesive development of Vandeventer Neighborhood called the North-Central Plan. Due to the arduous work of Vandeventer Community Corp. and its residents, in the past 2 years, shovel-ready projects and commitments totaling more than \$160,000,000 have been made in the Vandeventer neighborhood. AMICSTL, The Hodiament Tracks Greenway, It's All About Delmar, and Monarch on MLK are transforming Vandeventer into a premier neighborhood.



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SESSION ONE (9:40am - 10:40am)

“Keeping it Collaborative” Sharing Stories about MLK: Oral Histories of St. Louis’s Dr. Martin Luther King Drive Corridor

The Dr. Martin Luther King Drive has long served as the “spine” of the Black community in St. Louis, stretching from the Mississippi River to Kienlen Avenue. This corridor and its surrounding neighborhoods have been a cradle for a rich and vibrant culture, producing an extraordinary legacy of athletes, entertainers, writers, and politicians. Despite the racially restricted covenants and discriminatory real estate and banking practices that confined Black St. Louis to a narrow band across the North Side for much of the 20th century, MLK Drive fostered a profound sense of community and shared identity.

However, decades of disinvestment and systemic racism have taken a heavy toll on this once-thriving corridor. In response, SLACO, in collaboration with the Creative Exchange Lab and with the support of the Missouri Humanities Council, is leading an initiative to honor this heritage as the foundation for revitalizing the area. Over the past year, SLACO and CEL have been collecting oral histories from longtime residents and collaborating with local scholars to identify significant historic sites. This effort will culminate in a planned “walkway loop” connecting these sites along the corridor.

This panel will explore the origins of this project (CEL’s East St. Louis National Endowment Awarded project), its long-term goals, the creation of a dedicated website, key findings from the oral histories, and the next steps in this community-driven effort to reclaim and celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Drive.

Moderators: **Dr. Mark Abbott** is an emeritus professor at Harris-Stowe State University. While at HSSU, Professor Abbott taught History and Urban Affairs. He was also the director of the Center for Neighborhood Affairs. His areas of research are St. Louis History and History of Urban Planning. Professor Abbott is a past president of SLACO’s board. **Jasmin Aber** is the Executive Director of the Creative Exchange Lab. She is an architect (licensed in Germany) and PhD candidate in urban and regional planning. Her area of expertise is using art, history, and culture in conjunction with design as a catalyst for equitable and sustainable economic development.

Panelists: **Gregory Carr** is an associate professor of theater at Harris-Stowe State University. He is also a historian and playwright. His research and artistic endeavors focus on the experiences of Black St. Louisians. **Gwen Moore** is a historian at the Missouri Historical Society. She is Urban Landscape and Community Identity curator. She preserves, assembles, and tells stories through historic artifacts. **Melvin White** is the founder and CEO of Beloved Streets of America, A 501c3 non-profit organization. He is a graduate of Hazelwood East High School. A Veteran of the United States Airforce. A licensed EMT. He is a 20-year retired postal employee. He is a 2013 recipient of the Rosa Parks award from Washington University for outstanding work in the community. He received a proclamation from the City of Saint Louis for outstanding community work. He is a 3-time speaker at Harvard University for the mission of Beloved Streets of America work in the community. He has been featured on CNN, MSNBC, USA Today, The Guardian, Riverfront Times, Saint Louis Post Dispatch, Saint Louis American, Comcast, as well as many more National Publications. He is bringing more than 15 years of community work, networking and community building. He has many National contacts and support. He is supported by the African American Mayors Association, Alabama Conference of Black Mayors, LISC, Urban League, Former Governor Mike Parson, Mark Wrighton, Chancellor of Washington University, David Harris, President of the Charles Hamilton Institute at Harvard Law, and Dan Doca, Professor for the Harvard Design School.



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SESSION TWO (10:50am - 11:50am) "Keeping It Calm"

New Opportunities for Wellness is a neighborhood-based healing initiative designed to foster resiliency and wellness in communities impacted by trauma and violence. Led by InPower Institute's Black Healers Collective, in partnership with Power4STL and Freedom Community Center, NOW provides training and facilitates events where residents learn to create communal healing spaces and practices that advance individual and collective well-being. Participants gain skills in community healing, support neighborhood well-being, and develop trauma-responsive skills for collective care. At SLACO's "Keeping It Clean, Calm & Collaborative" Conference, NOW partners will share highlights from their work with two neighborhood cohorts in Walnut Park East, West and Baden and in O'Fallon, College Hill, and Fairground. They will also provide a mini demonstration of their pop-up healing house, which offers accessible wellness activities (like healing circles, play, active listening, creative expression, sound therapy, and relaxation activities) in community settings.

Moderator: Craig Schmid, JD is the Government Services Analyst for the Department of Health of the City of St. Louis. In that position he has been involved with violence prevention (Youth Violence Prevention Partnership and St. Louis Area Violence Prevention Commission); Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Health Committee; heroin and substance use disorders (including a Community Resource Response Team and St. Louis Substance Misuse Task Force); Racial Equity and Disparities; internal and external partnerships; food access; Community Health Improvement Plan/Community Health Assessment; Strategic Plan; Academic Health Department; legislation and policy. He served as Alderman for the 10th and 20th wards in the City of St. Louis for 20 years.

Presenters: Brittini "Ree Belle" Gray-Chiquillo is the Deputy Director of Inpower Institute and the Black Healers Collective as well as Founder of Rebellyen, LLC – a consulting and wellness firm – and Mama Scrap's Inc., a nonprofit committed to the healing of both people and land. With over 15 years of experience as an organizer, healer, artist, ritualist, and wellness curator, Ree Belle has influenced individual and institutional change. Aligned to her truth, power, and wisdom, Ree Belle brings a transformative experience to the spaces she enters. **ēNiCōL** is Director of Culture & Brand Strategy, InPower Institute. A master fitness trainer and practitioner of holistic wellness, ēNiCōL shares with InPower her keen passion for healthy living. For her, passion is purpose and includes co-creating healing spaces for marginalized populations, artistic expression, and cooperative community development. She is a NASM certified personal trainer and the owner of Effective Holistic Fitness. Multitalented, ēNiCōL is also a certified diversity-inclusion trainer. In this role, she works with organizations and businesses in a variety of industries to address issues of race, sexual orientation, gender, ability, and other social identities. She facilitates activities that help groups engage in difficult dialogue, become more aware of their implicit biases, and strategize how to deconstruct systems of oppression at their schools, churches, and work sites. **Dr. L J Punch, MD**, (he/They) attended medical school at the University of Connecticut and specialized in trauma surgery at the University of Maryland and Shock Trauma Center in Baltimore. He was recruited to St. Louis shortly after the murder of Michael Brown, working as a trauma surgeon at Washington University School of Medicine. At Wash U, he served on the faculty and practiced as a surgeon. Soon afterward, he began the efforts that would become Power4STL through pandemic response, harm reduction, and public information campaigns. The BRIC followed in 2020. Since then, Dr. Punch has worked full time as the executive and medical director of Power4STL. He is frequently in demand as a speaker at conferences and events and has testified before Congress about the impact of bullet-related injury.

"KEEPING IT CUISINE" 11:55am – 1:30pm

Meet the Vendors, Network and Eat

Affinity Health	Associated Bank	Consumer Council
City of St. Louis License Collector–Mavis Thompson		Commerce Bank
Conflict Resolution STL		Enterprise Bank
Great River Greenway	InvestSTL	Isiah 58
Magdala Foundation	Metro Transit	Metropolitan Sewer Dist.
MO Coalition for the Environment	Pattan & Company	MO Dept of Conservation
Missouri Stream Team	Office Essentials	PreventEd
Respect Voters Coalition/Show Me Integrity		RISE
St. Joseph Housing	SLDC	St. Louis Health Department
St. Louis Public Library	Trailnet	Tenants Transforming Greater St. Louis
Washington University - ARCHES		Washington University-Movement Disorders Clinic

1:15pm - 1:30pm SPECIAL GUEST, The Story Stitchers

Saint Louis Story Stitchers erases real and perceived divisions through cultural exploration and arts practice — by stitching together our city. Story Stitchers is a nationally recognized Artists Collective known for high quality art and innovative youth violence prevention programs. DJ UP is a live music and training program designed to teach the next generation to understand and use the power of words and music choices to lift St. Louis out of stigma, violence, etc. The Collective has contracted with world-renowned artists to collaborate with our senior staff producers to develop DJ UP. The set features music from the 50 years of Hip Hop and Contemporary Dance.



- ▶ DJ UP is available for hire for your dance, half time show or event
- ▶ The Center is open with free arts programming for 16-25 year olds. Come for a tour or join the Youth Council at storystitchers.org.
- ▶ SAFE! Team works to reduce unintentional shootings amongst children and visits schools, parks, and community centers

- ▶ storystitchers.org
- ▶ 314-899-9001
- ▶ storystitchers@gmail.com



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Metropolitan Sewer District: MO Coalition for the Environment:
MO Dept. of Conservation: Missouri Stream Team: Office Essentials: Pattan & Company;
PreventEd: Respect Voters Coalition/Show Me Integrity:
RISE: St. Joseph Housing: SLDC: St. Louis Health Dept.: St. Louis Public Library: Trailnet: Tenants Transforming Greater St. Louis; Washington University-ARCHES; Washington University-Movement Disorders Clinic.

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Mark Abbott, PhD, Former Tower Grove South Board of Directors; Mark Dowdy, S.P.U.D Neighborhood Association; Greg Meyer, At Large Board Member; Craig Schmid, Government Services Analyst, City of St. Louis Health Department; Leah Sweetman, Ph.D. St. Louis University and Tower Grove South Neighborhood Assn, At Large Board Member; Abbie Leonard, Tower Grove East Neighborhood Association; Kelley Tribut, Consultant; Keith Antone Willis, Sr., Consultant; Kevin B. McKinney, Executive Director, SLACO. We are **#STLMade**.



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FREE EVENT

SESSION THREE (1:40pm - 2:30pm) KEEPING IT ORGANIZED AND COLLECTIVE

Panelists: **Charles Bryson** is currently the Policy Catalyst for Trailnet, the St. Louis regional nonprofit advocating for Safe Streets for All. His duties are to advocate with local and state elected and appointed officials and the public on policies and practices that increase safety of walkers, cyclists, and vehicles on sidewalks and streets. Charles has served in various aspects of human service; from a Case Worker and Case Manager at various programs for persons who were homeless in Baltimore, St. Louis, and Springfield Il., Director of the Urban League Head Start Program in Springfield Il and Executive Director of Harrison Youth Center in Peoria Il. Charles had a 25-year career in State and City governments, including Area Representative for Missouri Housing Development Commission, Neighborhood Development Executive, Senior Policy Advisor, Director of Department of Public Safety, and Director of the Civil Rights Enforcement Agency for the City of St. Louis. **Lisa Potts**, For Lisa, community-building is not a job, it is a calling. Her boundless energy, compassion, and commitment to creating equity in St. Louis exemplify her belief that change happens when we work together. Lisa is driven by the promise of a better future for all. Lisa serves as the Director of Prevention Partnerships for St. Louis Mental Health Board (MHB), where she manages a diverse portfolio of sixteen projects focused on improving the quality of life for St. Louis residents. Through a coordinated system of social and behavioral health services, she works tirelessly to build an equitable, thriving community. In her role, Lisa also facilitates "Funder Friday" sessions, fostering trust-based philanthropy among community organizations. A certified Mental Health First Aid Instructor, Lisa, leads the Wellness in Neighborhoods Initiative—a groundbreaking effort to remove the stigma around mental health by embedding resources and information directly into community settings. Lisa's commitment to community does not stop when the workday ends—it fuels her evenings and weekends. Lisa is a graduate of UMSL's Neighborhood Leadership Academy (2020) and Neighborhood Leadership Fellows Program (2021). Lisa volunteers on boards and committees focused on economic justice and uplifting vulnerable communities, most notably in the West End neighborhood, where she has lived for 23 years. Lisa serves on the board of Cornerstone Corporation, supporting resident services aligned with the agency's mission: Rebuilding Homes, Rebuilding Lives. She is a recognized leader in the development of the city's resident-led community plan - WeCollab a 20-year roadmap for transformative community revitalization. Lisa proudly serves as Vice President of Delmar Main Street Initiative—an effort to restore equity along the Delmar corridor and eliminate the stigma of the "Delmar Divide" through equitable economic development. **Denise Carter** has worked in the philanthropic and non-profit-sector with experience in the mental health and early childhood field which includes managerial roles, oversight of programs, fund development responsibilities and human resource duties. She has held leadership positions in other organizations including her sorority, church, and community. Denise graduated with a MBA from Webster University, a B.S. from Xavier University of New Orleans and holds certifications from other colleges and universities. She recently completed Neighborhood Leadership Fellows and Neighborhood Leadership Academy and earned a Chancellor's Certificate in Neighborhood Leadership from UMSL, Creating Whole Communities, MU Extension. She is a proud parent of three heavenly angels and two earthly angels. New Orleans will always be home to her, but she has resided in Visitation Park for the past 15 years. **Nate Lindsey** is a founding member of the law firm Skelton Moore and a seasoned civil litigator. While he works in private practice, he believes strongly in every attorney's duty to expand legal access in the public interest. He does this in Dutchtown by taking pro bono landlord-tenant cases, representing Dutchtown Main Streets in its vacancy litigation work, and providing "low bono" legal services to small businesses and developers choosing to invest in Dutchtown. Outside of his legal work, Nate, his wife Staci, and their sons Thaddeus and Francis are proud members at St. Anthony of Padua a vibrant Franciscan-hearted community and resolute supporters of St. Louis Public Schools and Meramec Elementary.



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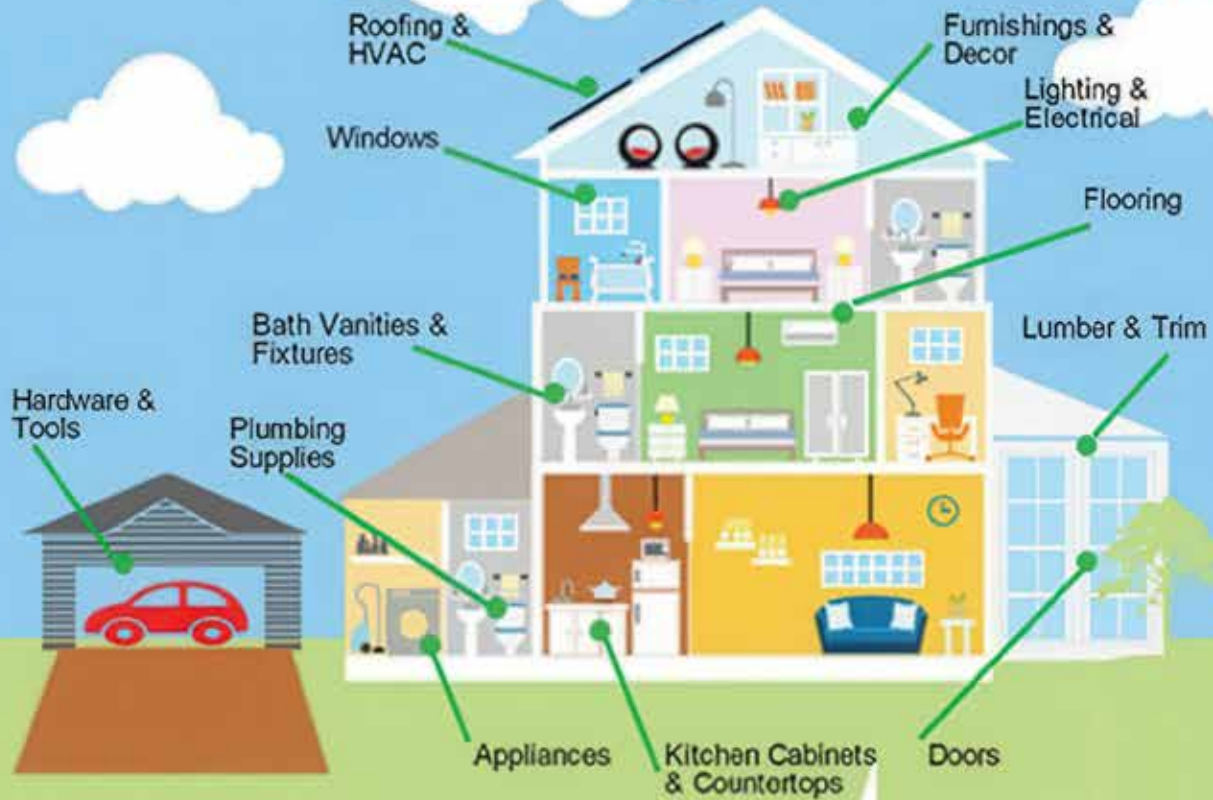
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Isaiah 58 Ministries seeks to be the heart and hub of our beloved community, living out God's call to offer essential services with compassion and care. Through our food pantry, clothing room and outreach programs, we strive to meet the needs of all who come to us, fostering hope, dignity, and a sense of belonging. We are dedicated to creating a place where individuals and families find support, restoration, and the opportunity to thrive in a loving and inclusive environment.

Monday: Food Pantry, 10am-1pm	
Tuesday: Food Pantry & Clothing Room, 10am-1pm	
Wednesday: Food Pantry & Clothing Room, 10am-1pm	
Thursday: Food Pantry & Clothing Room, 10am-1pm	
Friday: Fresh Food, 10am - until gone	
Every Wednesday: Showers, 9am - 12noon no appointment necessary	

2149 South Grand Blvd., Saint Louis, MO 63104
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2025 28th Annual Regional Neighborhoods**

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SOLD! 03.04.25



The Property 8706 Annetta Ave, Baden

This home is located in beautiful Baden, Missouri. The future owner will have the opportunity to choose the colors of the rooms, lighting fixtures and more. This home has a new roof and all new windows!

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\$170,000

Features

- 3 Bedrooms
- 2 Bathrooms
- Enclosed Sunroom
- Huge Muti-Purpose room
- 5 Car Driveway
- Basement

Ericca Willis, Broker

Keith Antone Willis, Sr.

314-391-0058

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This activity is financed in part through an allocation of Community Development Block Grant funds from the Department of Housing and Urban development and City of St. Louis Community Development Administration



Scan me!

227 Louisa Ave, Ferguson

Coming Soon!

The Property

This home is located in Ferguson, Missouri. The future owner will have the opportunity to choose the colors of the rooms, lighting fixtures and more. This home is being rehabbed by Better Living Spaces and has all new windows!

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- 2 Bedrooms
- 1 Bathrooms
- Enclosed Sunroom
- Huge multi-Purpose Room
- 1 Car Garage
- Basement

Ericca Willis, Broker

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2147 Stansbury Street, St Louis, MO 63118
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Ericca Willis, Broker & Keith Antone Willis, Sr.

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