

reclaimclairton2.0

January 2018

Project Overview

The ReClaim Ambassador model builds the knowledge, capacity, and expertise within individuals in vulnerable communities to design, organize and lead vacant lot revitalization efforts. The Clairton ReClaim Ambassador Program (i.e. ReClaim Clairton) has engaged, equipped and empowered 12 Clairton residents as Ambassadors. The ambassadors participated in a 10 month long, place-based training program resulting in the transformation of 7 community public spaces.



The second phase of the ReClaim Clairton project intends to build on this success by using events, programming, and additional site amenities to activate these community spaces. Our goal is to:

- Implement Ambassador training on sustainment, fundraising, and activation strategies
- Activate and reinvest in existing Ambassador sites by hosting events and adding additional amenities
- Construct one new Ambassador site
- Engage Clairton youth by facilitating a Jr. Ambassador program on vacant lot reclamation

What Can I Do?

Want to help with events and workdays on ReClaim Ambassador sites? Sign up to volunteer by completing the form on our website: <https://gtechstrategies.org/contact-us/> or by calling Project Coordinator, Tom Mulholland, at 412.361.2099 ext.#7.

Keep up to date with ReClaim Clairton 2.0 by visiting <https://gtechstrategies.org/projects/reclaim-clairton-2-0/>

Project Totals



Vacant Land Reclaimed

8 Lots



Ambassadors Recruited to Date

13



Hours of Education

24 hours



Volunteers

102



Volunteer time

554 hours



Events Hosted

2 events



Residents Engaged

100

Thanks to our partners



Project Spotlight: First Education Session of the Year

On Monday, January 22nd, the Clairton 2.0 Ambassadors came together for the first of seven workshops for this year's phase of the ReClaim Ambassador program. Unlike the educational sessions that Ambassadors attended last year, these workshops are more 'hands-on.' Nearly everything the Ambassadors do during this session will help prepare them for a summer full of on-site events and programming.

This process began at our first session, as we reviewed the goals for this year, and began brainstorming plans to activate the ReClaim Clairton sites. We are extremely excited to see what the Ambassadors come up with, and look forward to sharing their plans with you!



Jr. Ambassadors Recruitment

We are currently seeking current highschool students for our ReClaim Clairton 2.0 Jr. Ambassador, training and enrichment, program.

The ReClaim Clairton Jr. Ambassador program equips and empowers youth to revitalize community open spaces, and provides opportunities for youth involvement in the design and build-out of a new community green space in Clairton.

Jr. Ambassadors will be awarded a stipend for attending vacant land workshops, and for supporting the ReClaim Ambassadors at workdays and events throughout the summer.

Join us from 2pm-4pm on Saturday, February 10th, at the Morning Star Baptist Church, to learn more about the program and how to get involved.

Contact Tom Mulholland at (412) 361-2099 ext. 7 or t.mulholland@gtechstrategies.org with any questions.



Vacant Land Assessment Report

As we move into a new phase of the ReClaim Clairton program, it is useful to look back to where it began. In 2016, GTECH was requested by the Jefferson Regional Foundation to conduct a comprehensive inventory and analysis of all vacant land in Clairton to give community stakeholders greater insight into the scale and composition of vacant land in the city.

The result was a comprehensive data set on 1,326 vacant lots, key insights into 447 "unimproved" vacant lots, the identification of potential barriers to reclamation, and recommendations for the transformation of these spaces.

In the case of unimproved lots, this knowledge provides us the opportunity to transition underutilized land into vibrant community spaces.

This report provided a variety of recommendations, from smallscale, temporary projects to substantial investments, educational programming and more. With this report in hand, we were able to kick off the first Ambassador phase of ReClaim Clairton, and start the process of reimagining, reclaiming, and revitalizing vacant land with the residents of Clairton.

The full report is available on the GTECH website; gtechstrategies.org/resources.

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