

Organization Name: Grove Park Foundation

Organization Contact Person: Debra Edelson

Contact Phone: (404) 386-1703

Contact Email: dedelson@groveparkfoundation.org

Organization Mission: The Grove Park Foundation is a community quarterback, purpose-built community organization dedicated to revitalizing the Grove Park neighborhood and improving the quality of life by working with local partners, leaders, and residents to create a healthy, equitable, and vibrant community.

Internship Semester: Summer 2020

Project Title #1: N.O.W. Program

Keywords: Housing, Economic Development, Health and Wellness

SLS Priority Issue Areas: Equitable Development, Community Health

Project Background: A previous GT graduate student assisted the foundation with the development of the program and was instrumental in creating the survey, program parameters, and tracking system. The Neighborhood Opportunities for Wealth (“N.O.W.”) Program is designed to economically mobilize 1,500 residents located in the 30314 and 30318 zip codes in Atlanta. The program will provide a clear pathway to housing affordability, financial literacy, workforce development, entrepreneurship and small business development (with access to a minimum of \$150K capital) and record expungement to residents at risk of displacement. Our partners will provide classes and one to one counseling to establish bankability, financial stability and economic mobility. GPF is leveraging its partnerships and programs to close the equity and wealth gap for the most vulnerable residents to displacement. Our goal is to reach 1,500 residents over the next 24 months to improve their incomes, credit, and housing through our N.O.W. (Neighborhood Opportunities for Wealth) program.

Project Timeline: Project is ongoing through December 2021.

Desired skills and qualifications: Economic Development, Planning and mapping, Housing

Deliverables: Community Outreach Event, Survey and data collection

Project Title #2: Proctor Greenway Trail

Keywords: Environmental Justice, Walkability, Affordable Housing

SLS Priority Issue Areas: Equitable Development, Green Infrastructure, Water Citizen Science

Project Background: Grove Park Foundation (GPF) envisions the Valley Branch Greenway as a new and critical link connecting residential Grove Park neighborhood to its civic, education, retail and greenspace amenities in the heart of the neighborhood. The proposed hardscape trail will run along the Valley Branch tributary, which flows into Proctor Creek, and connects the Hollowell Parkway to its southside through the heart of Grove Park’s multifamily corridor, to Joseph E. Boone Boulevard corridor. By connecting with Boone Boulevard, the Valley Branch Greenway will provide access to the northwest Beltline, and several Westside neighborhoods including: Washington Park, English Avenue, Vine City, Upper Westside and West Midtown, Georgia Tech’s campus greenway, the Atlanta University Center,

and future Cook Park. The Valley Branch Greenway would create a safe off-street corridor through Grove Park, allowing a bikeable transit.

Project Timeline: Project is ongoing.

Desired skills and qualifications: Data collection and analysis, community engagement

Deliverables: Data collection, benchmarking and synthesizing pursuant to environmental health. Healthy homes and air quality auditing with City's Office of Sustainability. Financial literacy and small business development.