

# Neighborhood Beautification 2021 Brief

Prepared March 2022



In 2021, the Hartford Foundation launched a request for proposals for **Neighborhood Beautification grants** through its Higher Opportunity Neighborhoods outcome portfolio. The grants supported the implementation of a broad range of physical improvements that will make Hartford's neighborhoods more attractive, safe, healthy and vibrant for residents.

## Key Indicators



15 grants totaling  
\$230,960 were  
awarded



1,350 residents  
were engaged



1,252 hours of  
volunteer hours  
were worked



58 partners  
collaborated on  
projects

## Beautification Results

- 153 trash bags collected
- 9 lots cleared
- 14 graffiti pieces cleaned up
- 128 planters installed
- 5 green spaces developed
- 28 public art pieces installed

## 2021 Projects Funded

Organization	Project
Blue Hills Civic Association	Supporting the BHCA CLEAN Team in youth engagement in beautification projects along Barbour Street
Colt Park Foundation	Planter installation at Colt Park entrance and Wethersfield Avenue to beautify neglected areas of park and calm traffic
Community Renewal Team	Mural showcasing high profile women of color
Ebony Horsewomen	Heroines of Hartford - Talking Murals Community Portrait Gallery and fencing
Friends of Zion Hill Cemetery	Restoration of the historic Caretaker Cottage
Greater Hartford Chamber of Commerce Foundation	Creation of way-finding murals on pillars under highway to drive traffic to assets in Frog Hollow and Parkville
Hartford Area Habitat for Humanity	Neighborhood clean up, external repairs, graffiti removal, and installation of benches and flowers
Hartford Public Library	Beautification of Camp Field, Dwight and Albany library branches
Knox, Inc.	Residential and public tree planting
Pope Hartford Designated Fund	Priority tree planting in Pope Park
Rebuilding Together Hartford	National Rebuilding Day to engage volunteers in making repairs to external features of low-income homeowners' homes
Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance	Neighborhood clean up and murals depicting neighborhood history
The Conference of Churches	"Bee the Change: The Asylum Hill Pollinator Mural" and accompanying beautification activities at neighboring street
The iQuilt Partnership	Expansion of a small park, public art, a community clean up, a small urban orchard and wraps of electrical boxes
West End Civic Association	Clean up and planting activities on Farmington Avenue

## Project Takeaways

- This initial grant cycle helped us better understand the importance of **strong coordination and planning with stakeholders**, such as the City of Hartford, early in the process to identify barriers and connect efforts to neighborhood priorities.
- It is vital to **involve residents in decision-making**, by inviting them to submit project ideas and to review projects for awards, in order to ensure that grant dollars are lead to making meaningful enhancements to Hartford neighborhoods.

## Moving Forward into 2022

- This year, we are partnering with the City of Hartford to provide a **more comprehensive Love Your Block grant program** for projects led by residents and/or community partners. These grants will be announced in May 2022.



# Grants in Action: Before and After Photos

