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.

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

**Before**
- Greater Hartford Chamber of Commerce
  - Laurel St. Wayfinding Murals

**After**
- Hartford Public Library
  - Albany Avenue Beautification

**Before**
- Southside Neighborhood Alliance
  - 493 Park Street Mural

**After**
- Ebony Horsewomen, Inc.
  - Fencing in Keney Park