

CREATIVE ALLIES

Partners Page: Greensboro City Departments + Programs/Initiatives Overview

Creative Greensboro's Neighborhood Arts: Creative Allies program (Phase 1) partners with the **Human Rights** and **Housing and Neighborhood Development** departments. Our City department partners invite the artists to select from any of the following programs and initiatives as a focus area for their artist residency. Artists may apply for up to two (2) programs per City department.

Housing and Neighborhood Development – [website](#)

1. **Lead-Safe GSO** provides grants to assist low-income homeowners with addressing unsafe lead paint conditions that pose a potential health hazard to young children. The program is designed to assist owners of single-family and multi-family dwellings and rental properties.
2. Housing and Neighborhood Development is working to establish **Community Land Trusts (CLT)** to develop *affordable housing* on land targeted for redevelopment or reinvestment. CLTs provide broader access to affordable, low-risk homeownership opportunities for income-qualified families. The CLT manages land to ensure it's used to benefit the community and ensure owner-occupied homes remain affordable.
3. **The Neighborhood Toolbox** is a tool lending center that provides Greensboro residents access to tools at no cost. The program removes barriers to neighborhood improvement and beautification.
4. **Homebuyer Assistance Programs** are funded by the City of Greensboro to provide down payment and closing cost assistance to eligible low- moderate-income first time homebuyers. There are three program offerings based on income and employment, including a Public Services Heroes offering for employees of the City of Greensboro, Guilford County, Guilford County public schools, or active military or military veterans.

Human Rights - [website](#)

1. **Open Door GSO:** A two-part approach, Open Door GSO provides ongoing trainings to local businesses as proactive practice to prevent discriminatory processes and increase access for all residents. This program also supports compliance filing for any resident or guest that may have faced discrimination at a local business. Launching January 2024, we are excited to collaborate with Downtown Greensboro Inc. and the Chamber of Commerce as we uplift the importance of access across protected classes.
2. **Fair Housing Outreach:** A federal protection, Fair Housing ensure safe and fair housing regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and identity, familial status, religion, national origin, and/or level of ability. Our office hosts an annual Fair Housing Luncheon and quarterly outreach efforts through our Coffee Convos series to educate and inform residents of their rights. We also collaborate with community organizations in the name of furthering the conversations around pressing housing issues that can lead to unfair practices in our community. We also have a compliance arm that allows residents to file complaints and possible pursue reconciliation in the event they were subject to discrimination.

3. **Thrive GSO** - More than 15,000 people return to local communities after release from the State correctional system each year. Thrive GSO aims to help those facing reentry as well as those that are justice served in the Greensboro area. We serve as a hub connecting community service providers, legal professionals, and law enforcement. Our goal is to increase access to various processes such as expungement, transportation access, employment resources, and housing access.
4. **International Advisory Committee:** The vision of this committee is to create a more inclusive Greensboro for members of Greensboro's diverse international community, ensure the voice of the international community is heard, share its successes and present concerns to the Human Rights Commission and City Council. They support World Refugee Day programs and provide insight on language access, refugee and immigrant concerns, and champion for policy review/changes. One of the five commissions/boards supported our department; the IAC is the only one where the community elects their leadership!



GREENSBORO
Housing & Neighborhood
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