



Westside
Future Fund

Power of Storytelling
on the Westside"

Transform Westside Summit

Convene | Communicate | Collaborate

Westside Future Fund
Friday, December 4, 2020

TABLE OF CONTENTS

About Westside Future Fund ... 3-7

Today's Summit ... 8-10

Agenda ... 8

Featured Participants ... 9-10

Announcements ... 11-15

Free COVID-19 Testing: Good Sam x CVS ... 11

Westside Business Directory ... 11

AT&T Connected Learning | Keeping Students Connected ... 12

Owner-Occupied Rehab Program | Invest Atlanta ... 13

"Fix That!" Home Repair Series ... 14

Westside Connect Hotline ... 15

Creating the Beloved Community ... 16



Westside
Future Fund

PRESENTS
"SAY IT AT THE
SUMMIT"

FRIDAY
DECEMBER 4TH
7:15-9AM

FREE TO ATTEND

ENJOY THE
LIVESTREAM

JOIN THE
INTERACTIVE
ZOOM MEETING!

NO!
YES!
GREAT!

WEST
SIDE!

BEST
SIDE!

MORE!
LESS!
AWESOME!



Westside
Future Fund

VISION

A community Dr. King would be proud to call home.

MISSION

To advance a compassionate approach to neighborhood revitalization that creates a diverse, mixed-income community, improves the quality of life for current and future residents and elevates the Historic Westside's unique history and culture.

VALUES

Do with the Community, not to the Community
We know that residents are the real experts on the challenges in their community. Therefore, we learn from residents and involve them in all we do.

Be Compassionate
We meet residents where they are in a spirit of empathy and respect.

Have Integrity in Everything
We stand behind all we say and do. We are open, honest, and courageous.

Be Creative
We bring high energy and fresh ideas to tackling the long-standing challenges on the Westside. We're dedicated to trying different approaches to get different results.

Deliver Results
We're committed to driving transformation in the long term, with a focus on measurable outcomes today.

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President Emerita,
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Sylvia Russell
Retired President,
AT&T Georgia



Dave Stockert
Retired CEO,
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Beverly Thomas
Vice President of
Communications and
Public Affairs,
Kaiser Permanente



Nicole Yesbik
Principal
PricewaterhouseCoopers

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Terri M. Lee
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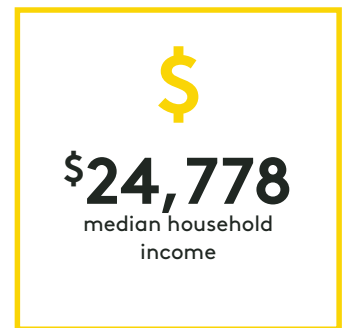
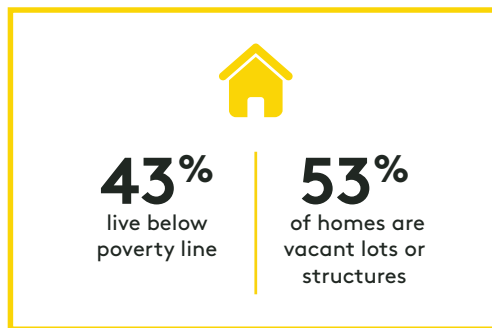
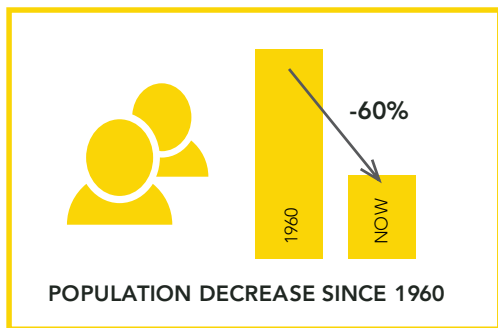


Westside Future Fund

CREATING A NEW WESTSIDE FUTURE

Westside Future Fund (WFF) is a nonprofit formed by Atlanta’s public, private and philanthropic partners who believe in the future of Atlanta’s Westside and are committed to helping Historic Westside neighborhoods revitalize and develop into a community Dr. King would be proud to call home

English Avenue • Vine City • Ashview Heights* • Atlanta University Center



Role of the Westside Future Fund

With an emphasis on community retention and a compassionate approach to revitalization, Westside Future Fund is focused on creating a diverse mixed-income community, improving quality of life, and elevating and celebrating the Historic Westside’s unique history and culture.

Impact Areas

Westside Future Fund’s holistic, partner-driven model is proving successful. Through our roles as participator, amplifier, convener, strategist and accelerator, WFF is delivering results in our four impact strategies.



SAFETY & SECURITY



COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELLNESS



MIXED-INCOME COMMUNITIES



CRADLE-TO-CAREER EDUCATION

* Includes Just Us and Historic Booker T. Washington



HOME ON THE WESTSIDE

Investing in a New Westside Future

- Westside Future Fund is deeply committed to community retention
- We created Home on the Westside as a signature initiative in partnership with Mayor Bottoms to drive equitable and inclusive redevelopment in the Historic Westside neighborhoods
- WFF's community retention guidelines prioritize individuals and families with ties to WFF's historic neighborhoods to be first in line for housing opportunities and do not discriminate based on income

Using these guidelines, Home on the Westside prioritizes Westside legacy residents by providing high quality, permanently affordable housing opportunities

- Providing renters housing they can afford as area rents continue to rise
 - Renters should not have to pay more than 30% of their gross income on rent
- Enabling homeownership with financial coaching and counseling
- Constructing and renovating new single-family homes, available for purchase and for lease-to-purchase, supported by down payment assistance
- Covering increases in property taxes for qualified legacy homeowners

If you are interested in housing opportunities through Home on the Westside, start by completing an interest form.

[REGISTER NOW](#)



A Dedicated Team



John Ahmann
President and CEO



Jaren Abedania
VP of Real Estate



Rachel Carey
VP of Project
Financing



Brenda Dalton
Chief Operating
Officer



Sonia Dawson
Special Assistant to
the President & CEO



Lee Harrop
VP of Real Estate
Development



Raquel Hudson
Director of Westside
Volunteer Corps



Deidre Strickland
Development
Manager



Joan Vernon
Director of Neighborhood
Engagement



Christal Walker
Staff Accountant



Robyn Washington
Development
Coordinator



Elizabeth Wilkes
Program
Coordinator



Cristel Williams
Chief Development
Officer



Agenda

7:15AM – 7:30AM
Welcome

John Ahmann
President & CEO
Westside Future Fund

Ebony Ford
Westside Resident
English Avenue

7:30AM – 7:45AM
Opening Devotion

Dr. Leroy Wright, Jr.
Pastor
First Thessalonian Missionary Baptist Church

7:45AM – 8:55AM
Say It at the Summit!

..featuring YOU!
We invite YOU to have your say about what Westside topics you'd like us to discuss or feature at future summits!

featuring
LIVE CAM from our
Westside Correspondent

Benjamin Earley
Westside Correspondent
Redclay-Hill

All viewers can submit questions via social media channels for the duration of the program.

8:55AM
Closing Remarks

John Ahmann
President & CEO
Westside Future Fund

9:00AM
Summit Adjourns

 @westsidefuturefund

 @WFFAtlanta

 @westsidefuturefund

 westsidefuturefund.org

Our Featured Participants

John Ahmann

President & CEO, Westside Future Fund

For more than 25 years, John Ahmann has been driven by the determination to improve the way communities and institutions function in Atlanta. From his early days working in Washington, D.C. to his positions with private, governmental, and organizational entities in the Atlanta area — including his eight years as an elected school board official in Decatur — he has focused his energy on solving the big problems whose resolutions can ultimately change Atlanta’s trajectory. He has worked primarily behind the scenes, bringing together diverse stakeholders and managing initiatives through to fruition, and has had a hand in some of the region’s most important public policy initiatives and cross-sector collaborations. Along the way, John has built a vast network of individuals who are impacting Atlanta and its future.

John is a native son. He was born at Grady Hospital in Atlanta in 1965, was one of Paideia School’s first graduates in 1983, and earned his BA in Political Science from Emory University in 1987. After having moved to Washington, D.C. and worked for Representative Pat Williams of Montana and then Congressman Ben Jones of Georgia, he entered Yale School of Public Private Management in 1991 and graduated with seven letters of recognition in 1993.

Within months after returning to Atlanta, John was hired by the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games as the Program Coordinator of Government Relations. He was soon promoted to Manager of Federal and State Government Relations where he worked with officials from four federal government offices, including the White House. Following the 1996 Olympic Games, John worked at Edington & Wade, a public affairs firm, and then Georgia’s Department of Industry, Trade and Tourism (GDITT, now the Department of Economic Development), where he led and managed strategic planning teams. From there he moved into GDITT’s newly created position of Deputy Commissioner for Strategic Planning and Research.

In 2000, John was hired by the Metro Atlanta Chamber to serve as its Senior Vice President of Community Development. There he oversaw the Chamber’s initiatives regarding transportation, education, arts and culture, the environment, and legislative affairs. In 2003, John bought the majority interest in a local public affairs firm, and in 2006 he established Ahmann, Inc. While in private practice in 2004, John began his engagement as the outsourced Executive Director of the Atlanta Committee for Progress (ACP), a group of top CEOs and university presidents that advises and supports the mayor on priorities critical to Atlanta’s economic vitality. While with ACP, he was heavily involved in launching the Atlanta Beltline, the acquisition of the Martin Luther King Jr. Personal Collection, the 2015 Renew Atlanta Bond Program, and ACP’s Westside Redevelopment Task Force that led to the launch of the Westside Future Fund. John is currently the President & CEO of the Westside Future Fund.

John has also been an elected public servant. He won his race for the City Schools of Decatur Board of Education in 2003, was re-elected in 2007 without opposition, and served until 2011. John was the first Paideia School alumni invited to join the Paideia School’s Board of Trustees where he served for four years.

John’s unwavering commitment to Atlanta and deep knowledge of specific areas such as education, economic development, infrastructure and local fiscal policy make him a unique presence in Atlanta’s change landscape. He is honored to serve the board of Westside Future Fund as its President & CEO.

Our Featured Participants

Ebony M. Ford

Westside Resident, English Avenue

Ebony purchased a home in English Avenue after moving from her home state of Michigan more than 10 years ago. She was drawn to the potential of the Westside and wanted to be apart of what was sure to be its uprising in the very near future. She is a divorced mother to a 4 year old son, and an IT Analyst for the State of Georgia. Ebony has started an organization, English Avenue Tea, to bring awareness and an image of normalcy to the rest of Atlanta about the residents that live in historic Westside neighborhoods. The Westside is on the rise and Ebony is proud to go along for the ride.



Dr. Leroy Wright, Jr.

Pastor, First Thessalonian Missionary Baptist Church

Dr. Leroy Wright, Jr. is the pastor of 1st Thessalonian Missionary Baptist Church whose vision is Empowered by God, to Embrace all people and Enhance the world. Dr. Leroy Wright, Jr., received his early education in Savannah, Georgia.

He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Morehouse College, and the Master of Divinity and the Doctor of Theology in Pastoral Counseling from the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) in Atlanta, Georgia. He is a psychoanalytic therapist, providing psychotherapy to individuals, couples and groups, certified Chaplain and a registered neutral (mediator) in the State of Georgia.

Dr. Wright served as Special Programs and Field Placement Coordinator and adjunct Professor at ITC. He has a wide variety of other work experiences. Previous capacities include Trinity Community Ministers as the Business Manager; Flair Vending Corporation as CEO; the Atlanta Police Department as a Patrolman; the United States Army as a Sergeant; Emory Center for Pastoral Services as a Chaplain; Georgia Association of Pastoral Care (currently Counseling, Care, Center of Georgia); Ben Hill United Methodist Church as a Pastoral Counselor; Wells of Wholeness as a Psychotherapist; and St. Stephen Missionary Baptist Church as an Associate Minister.

Some of his organizational affiliations are: Member of the Fulton County Community Development Corporation Advisory Board; Past President, English Avenue/Vine City Ministerial Alliance; Former Member-American Association of Pastoral Counselors; Magic Toastmasters; and Charter Member, Afro-American Patrolman League, Atlanta, Georgia.

Dr. Wright is married (wife –Bettie) and is a father of two daughters (Erica & Andrea) and one son (David).

Benjamin Earley

Senior Consultant, Redclay-Hill

Benjamin Earley is a web developer, creative writer, and musician born and raised in Atlanta, Georgia, where he continues to call the Westside home. He holds two certificates from Berklee College of Music for Music Business and General Music Studies. In addition to pursuing his passion for songwriting and music production, Benjamin also builds websites and web-based solutions for clients as an independent contractor with Redclay-Hill.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

♥CVS Health[®] + Good Sam

Good Samaritan Health Center and CVSHealth are offering free rapid COVID-19 testing with results in 20 minutes.

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
Call **404-523-6571** to schedule.

Good Sam is located at 1015 Donald Lee Hollowell Pkwy, Atlanta, GA 30318.



Visit <https://goodsamatlanta.org/COVID-19> for more info.



Do you know, own, or love a business on the Westside?

Support Westside Business Awareness

To join the Westside Business Directory or participate in an upcoming community market:

email Joan@westsidefuturefund.org with the subject line **ATTN: Westside Business**



CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS EXTERIOR OWNER-OCCUPIED REHAB PROGRAM

Atlanta Housing, Invest Atlanta and the City of Atlanta have launched a deferred forgivable loan program that provides up to \$70,000 in federal funds to eligible Ashview Heights and Atlanta University Center homeowners for exterior health and safety repairs on their home. Funds will be provided in the form of a forgivable loan at a 0% interest rate with payments deferred and forgiven until the earlier of loan maturity, sale, transfer of ownership, or failure to maintain the property as the primary residence during the loan term.

The maximum loan amount per home is \$70,000, inclusive of all construction related costs and closing costs. Loan term will be determined by loan amount, not to exceed 10 years.

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

- Homeowner must reside within the Choice Neighborhoods of Ashview Heights or Atlanta University Center.
- Must be a primary homeowner and existing resident as of September 30, 2015.
- Homeowners with 1st Mortgage Liens are permitted. Second mortgages from Habitat for Humanity on a Habitat home, and Invest Atlanta will be treated as one mortgage for purposes of this program. Homes with other liens (tax liens, recorded Fi Fas, etc. are ineligible. Homes with water liens must have a payment arrangement to be eligible).

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY

Contact the Choice Neighborhoods Exterior Owner-Occupied Rehab Program Manager
Meals On Wheels Atlanta at info@mowatl.org or 404-351-3889



KEEPING STUDENTS CONNECTED

Eligible schools and nonprofits,
apply now for hotspots and
free internet service.

Apply by January 11, 2021



LEARN MORE >> go.att.com/ConnectedLearning

APPLY HERE >> <https://att.connectednation.org/s3/connectedlearning>



**Home on the Westside is our
Community Retention initiative.**

LEGACY HOMEOWNERS | RENTAL HOUSING | HOMEOWNERSHIP | FINANCING SUPPORT



LEARN MORE AT THE FOLLOWING LINK >>

<https://www.westsidefuturefund.org/homeonthewestside/>

THE FIX THAT! HOME REPAIR SERIES

The Atlanta BeltLine Partnership, Atlanta Community ToolBank, Atlanta Land Trust, and House Proud are partnering to bring you the Fix That! Home Repair Series, an 8-part series of free online workshops focused on helping you make simple repairs at your home, save money on repairs, and making you safer and more secure in your home. At each workshop in the series we will provide an overview of the topic and you will have a chance to ask questions live with an expert.

The Fix That! Home Repair Series is part of the Partnership's 2020 Home Empower Workshop Series, sponsored by Wells Fargo and Bank of America.



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS:

- December 16: Winterizing Your Home
Visit beltline.org/empower to register.

If you have any questions about the workshops,
please contact:

Email: empower@atblp.org

Call: (404) 446-4404

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

WESTSIDE FUTURE FUND'S 2019 ANNUAL REPORT IS NOW ONLINE



WE'RE HERE TO HELP

Call 404- 430- 8180

Westside Connect Help Line



One number to get the help you need: Food, Housing, Counseling, Employment, Education, Health Care, COVID-19 Testing

Feeling lonely, lost, stressed, anxious or down?

Need help managing your health condition?

Call 404- 430- 8180 today!

**Need a
Doctor?**

**Text: Westside
to 51555**

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Changing Directions.
Changing Lives.

CHRIS180.ORG

VIEWPOINT: Fulfilling our vision of the beloved community

By D. Makeda Johnson | First published in the Atlanta Business Chronicle May 5, 2017

Gentrification of urban American cities is a complex phenomenon with social, political and economic implications.

It represents a double-edged sword with both opportunities and challenges. The infusion of higher-income individuals into urban centers generates increased renewal investments in formerly neglected and abandoned blighted communities. It provides needed revenue to local municipalities to meet the expense of much-needed infrastructure and service delivery improvements. Unfortunately, gentrification and displacement are manifesting as symptoms nationally as the urban center across our nation strives to attract upper-middle-income families while displacing current residents with increasing housing costs that exclude the working poor and altering the cultural and historical fabric of urban America cities.

Gentrification can be managed and provide an opportunity for Atlanta, Georgia, to honor its most noted son and drum major for social justice: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Atlanta can once again shine as an urban American city "Too Busy to Hate." We can redefine the G word. We are in a moment of opportunity for the creation of the "Beloved Community," a community of racial and economic diversity.

But it will not just happen, it must be intentionally developed. It is simple, but requires authentic partnership between community, political and private stakeholders committed to the possibility of the "Beloved Community." It will require a resident retention plan that prevents forced displacement, inclusionary affordable housing policy that supports mixed income and racial diversity by acknowledging the area median income, and a tax abatement program to protect vulnerable home and business owners.

The Historic Westside Community is poised with the opportunity to manifest not forced displacement, but demonstrate how to align urban transformation with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision of "The Beloved Community." A community where justice and equality is the order of the day; an authentic mixed community where all can live, change and grow without the destruction of the Historic Westside Community's cultural integrity.

To accomplish the building of the Beloved Community, trust must be established requiring a shift

from traditional transactional approaches to community redevelopment. We had declared that our approach will be transformative and centered on the development of human capital. This innovative transformative approach to community development is no easy task. It requires that both residents, stakeholders and service providers rethink and reset traditional mindsets associated with poverty that fails to see and value the many assets within communities and design programs that empower residents with the skills and resources to be a part of the solution with equality and equity.

This writer loves living and working within the Historic Westside Community. Having chosen to call it home for nearly three decades, I proudly celebrate the beauty of community. We are a very resilient community that has, in spite of many challenges, continued to make contributions to society, especially as it relates to striving for social justice and an equitable society.





Unfortunately, too often those who seek to serve often overlook the value of relational capacity that exists within community, wealth of knowledge and ability to be a vital asset to achieving transformative sustainable communities.

Envision what could happen as residents and dedicated stakeholders shift their mindsets and reinvent how to renew communities without displacement, where there is the pollination of skills and the capacity to stay in communication even when they are difficult, seeking to establish trust and new ways of engagement that produce the greater good for humanity while creating economically healthy, thriving businesses, well-kept homes, quality affordable housing that is reflective of the earning of the communities' workforce, accessible and affordable healthcare, high-performing educational institutions. In this moment of opportunity, we can be the change that the world is looking for and create the environment that produces productive citizens with economic and social mobility by design. As residents and stakeholders, we will either fulfill or betray the vision of the beloved community based on our actions or inaction. There is a critical need for advocacy on behalf of the often-marginalized long-term residents in gentrifying communities; we have the opportunity to shift that. Where do you stand? I shall continue to strive to be a drum major for justice, equality and inclusion for the establishment of the "Beloved Community."

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INVALUABLE SUPPORT
IN MAKING THESE SUMMITS POSSIBLE:



How to Connect with Us

-  @westsidefuturefund
-  @WFFAtlanta
-  @westsidefuturefund
-  westsidefuturefund.org



P.O. Box 92273, Atlanta, GA 30314
(404) 793-2670
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For bulletin ideas and comments, contact Elizabeth Wilkes at elizabeth@westsidefuturefund.org.