



CDCLP ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

Supported by:



Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation

Prepared by:

The Community Development Corporation
Leadership Program

TABLE OF CONTENTS

03 Year In Review

04 Cohort III Graduates

05 2023-2024 Graduate Grant Awards

06 CDCLP Cohort II Graduate Grants

07 CDCLP Graduate Capacity Session

08 2024-2025 Goals

09 CDCLP... Words from Graduates

10 CDCLP Curriculum



YEAR IN REVIEW

There are **14 CDCLP sessions** over **10 months**, each lead by a **content expert(s)**.

CDCLP is our City's only leadership capacity building program specifically designed for Community Development Corporation leaders and those who collaborate and work closely with CDC's.

Recruitment to Graduation



44 CDCLP Cohort III applications received.



46 CDCLP Cohort III interviews held.

***Two Neighborhood Leadership Development Program (NLDP) Applicants Transitioned Directly Into CDCLP*



18 CDCLP Cohort III graduates.



99%

CDCLP Cohort III experienced its **highest session attendance rate** - 99%



67%

67% of Cleveland's CDC's were represented in Cohort III.



62%

As a part of its institutional platform, four \$50,000 grant awards were made available to apply for. 62% of CDCLP CDC's grasped the opportunity.

COHORT III GRADUATES

“Leadership is not about a title or a designation. It is about impact, influence, and inspiration...”

Robin S. Sharma

1. Brandon Collier - Director of Neighborhood Services - Ohio City Inc.
2. Molly Crawford - Director of Community Development - West Park Kamm's
3. Anthony Giambroni - Director of Community Engagement - MidTown Cleveland
4. Melinda Gigante - Director of CDC Advancement - Cleveland Neighborhood Progress
5. Robert Grant - Director of Administrative Services - Northwest Neighborhoods
6. Donna Grigonis - Director of Real Estate & Economic Development - Tremont West
7. Whitnye Long Jones - Senior Director, Community Engagement - Ohio City Inc.
8. Shneur Kushner - Special Projects Officer - Slavic Village Development
9. Emily Lee - Executive Director - Metro West Development
10. Niraj Naik - Planning Manager - MidTown Cleveland
11. Keri Palma - Senior Director, Youth & Family Engagement - Ohio City Inc.
12. Jamie Pawlak - Board Member - Slavic Village Development
13. Edward Peppers - Vice President of Economic Development - MidTown Cleveland
14. Austin Raymond - Economic Development Coordinator - Jefferson Puritas Westpark
15. Tony Scott - Assistant Director, Dept. of Community Development - City of Cleveland
16. Artrice Smith - Managing Director - Union Miles Development
17. Ben Trimble - Chief Real Estate Officer - Ohio City Inc.
18. Elise Yablonsky - Chief Place Management Officer - University Circle Inc.

In the three Cohort years we have graduated a total of eleven CDC Executive Directors from CDCLP. Eight of which continue to remain in their role. This is an accomplishment we are proud of for the City of Cleveland and its CDCs.



CDCLP 2023-2024 GRANT RECIPIENT AWARDS

In 2023-2024 four \$50,000 grants were awarded to four different CDCLP graduates.

For the first time since the inception of CDCLP, a grand total of \$200,000 was awarded to four different Community Development Corporations, each putting forth a project that would have a direct and positive impact on the neighborhoods their CDC serves.

CDC Recipient	Activity / Project	Goals
Jefferson Puritas Westpark	To create their first neighborhood development plan in over 24 years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase neighborhood investment and development.• Inject a community voice representative of today's neighborhood residents.
Ohio City Inc.	To develop an updated strategic plan that will reflect current needs/trends specifically identified by Ohio City residents and stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create a plan that addresses the current needs of the neighborhood.• Establish long-term funding & professional development strategies for the organization.
Slavic Village Development	To create a community master plan in concert with a regional transportation plan sponsored by the Regional Transit Authority.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have a master plan that more accurately represents the Slavic Village community present-day.• Create a CDC driven grantmaking approach to better meet the requests and needs of residents.
West Park Kamm's	Complete office renovations, which includes a community room on the first floor of their CDC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase community engagement with an accessible community room for all.• Enhance office productivity and community service.

CDCLP 2022-2023 GRANT RECIPIENT PROGRESS

Two \$50,000 grants were awarded to two different CDCLP graduates from One South Euclid and West Park Kamm's.

One South Euclid (OSE) - Building Up their Downtown District as a Community Engagement Space for All

Leveraging the \$50,000 CDCLP grant, OSE was able to secure an additional \$6,900 that enhanced updates towards their Food Truck Park, a public gathering space that brings together all residents for entertainment, community gathering, and yummy food.

Furthermore, a public mural - designed with feedback from residents will be finalized and installed in Spring of 2025 and placemaking pole banners and signs helped to better identify the Downtown District as a friendly public space to be used by all.

*"With the generous support of the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation, One South Euclid has engaged South Euclid residents and stakeholders on what placemaking efforts they wanted to see, provided enhanced programming during our second season of the South Euclid Food Truck Park, and will have a lasting impact as we install new murals and improvements to a pocket park located on a prominent corner in our Downtown." - Annette Iwamoto, Executive Director
One South Euclid Community Development Corporation*



CDCLP 2022-2023 GRANT RECIPIENT PROGRESS CONTINUED

West Park Kamm's- Using Public Art as a Method to Increase Community Connectivity

The \$50,000 CDCLP award went directly to beautifying an area that is frequently overlooked in the West Park Kamm's CDC service area - Riverside Drive and Riverside Estates. Three community murals and ten utility box wraps - all designed with input from CMHA residents and community stakeholders at a series of public events - will be fully installed at the conclusion of 2024. Specifically, neighborhood youth who reside at Riverside Estates were provided a paid mentorship opportunity where they worked directly with a mural artist to design and complete the murals...and they received a complimentary t-shirt!

"CDCLP's support has been integral to launching our inaugural public art program in West Park Kamm's. We were able to not only fund works of public art with the grant we received, we were also able to invest in community visioning work that engaged residents and community members in determining priorities for the final art installations. This ensures that the dollars we received from CDCLP were not only beneficial to our organization but beneficial to our community as well." - Molly Crawford, Director of Community Development West Park Kamm's



CDCLP Cohorts I-III Graduate Capacity Session: Leading with a Trauma Informed Lens and Navigating the Political Waters of Cleveland.

CDCLP prides itself in gathering, reflecting, and acting on participant and graduate feedback. One particular success is the first CDCLP Graduate Capacity Session - a two-topic session designed 100% from direct graduate feedback, which took place in July, 2024.

AM Session - Leading with a Trauma Informed Lens

- Amy Korsch-Williams, MSSA, CNM, LISW-S
 - Senior Instructor CWRU Center on Trauma and Adversity, Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences
- Ivan Conard, MSSA
 - Research Associate, CWRU Center on Trauma and Adversity, Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences

PM Session - Navigating the Political Waters of Cleveland

- Merle Gordon, Former Cleveland City Councilwoman
- Phyliss Cleveland, Former Cleveland City Councilwoman
- Matt Zone, Former Cleveland City Councilman



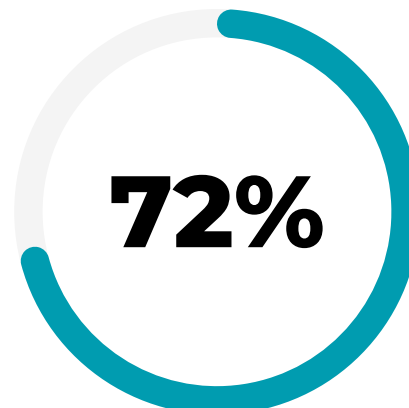
90%
Rating

Ninety percent of attendees evaluated the Content Meeting the Session Objective as 'Excellent'.

95%
Rating

Session evaluated as 'Excellent' by 95% of attendees.

Seventy-two percent of the current CDCLP graduates attended this session.



NEXT STEPS

Where are we heading this year?



CDCLP Cohort IV will kick off this year with its Launch on Tuesday, August 27th, 2024. With a grand total of twenty-two cohort participants we are incredibly excited to get things started!

1

CDCLP COHORT IV

Successfully launch our 14-session, ten-month Community Development Leadership Program in its fourth cohort year

2

CDCLP GRANTS

Administer four additional \$50,000 grant awards directly impacting the neighborhoods/residents within the CDC service area of the CDCLP applicant.

3

CDCLP GRADUATE SUPPORT

Provide two CDCLP graduate interface opportunities - one social and one that continues to build upon leadership and capacity building.

4

CDCLP COHORT IV GRADUATION

Close out CDCLP Cohort IV with a 100% graduation rate.

WORDS FROM GRADUATES



EMILY LEE, METRO WEST

"The CDCLP program was the best leadership program that I have attended in my 25+ years in community work. It featured a meticulously crafted curriculum that set participants up for success with the necessary skills and confidence to excel. It was comprehensive training along with robust support, ensuring a smooth transition and effective integration into our new roles."

SHNEUR KUSHNER, SLAVIC VILLAGE

"CDCLP didn't just teach me how to lead; it taught me when I should stand up or sit down, where I should focus my efforts or maximize efficiency, and what I can or shouldn't do for my community. But most importantly, CDCLP taught me how to navigate all of the above to become an asset for change and betterment in Northeast Ohio and beyond."



NIRAJ NAIK, MIDTOWN CLEVELAND

"I would recommend CDCLP to anyone looking to level up their personal and professional growth. This program helped me build my network, understand essential CDC functions, and establish confidence in my leadership abilities. This is program is what truly excellent professional development looks like."

We believe that thriving neighborhoods are the result of the strength and dedication of its leaders. CDCs are the conduit for helping to create quality neighborhoods that go on to become neighborhoods of choice. A strong Community Development Corporation is the bedrock upon which neighborhood transformation rests. Through the Mandel Foundation's investment in enhancing the leadership capacity of CDC's, more neighborhoods will prosper.

CDCLP CURRICULUM SCHEDULE



CDCLP offers fourteen sessions over the course of ten months, August through June. All sessions are on Thursdays from 8:30am-5pm at Trinity Commons. The Cohort Launch is held prior to the first session and provides an opportunity for participants to meet and learn about each other.

CDCLP Cohort Launch

Session 1: CDCLP Orientation

Session 2: Leading CDCs: Management vs. Leadership

Session 3: Who You Are is How You Lead

Session 4: Leading with an Equity Lens/Creating an Equitable Community

Session 5: Creating the Best CDC Team

Session 6: Raising Funds for your CDC - Preparation, Sources and Post-Grant Relationships

Session 7: Organizational Planning

Session 8: Governing CDCs: Building Better Boards

Session 9: Neighborhood Planning and Real Estate Development

Session 10: Managing the Finances of a CDC

Session 11: Neighborhood Marketing, Communication and Advocacy for Change

Session 12: Self-Care as a Leadership Strategy and Quality HR

Session 13: Rallying Your Neighborhood for Change

Session 14: Sustaining the Community Movement