

OUR VISION

Building Bridges Across the River envisions a future in which the residents East of the Anacostia River experience vital, thriving communities characterized by social, cultural, economic and racial equity.

OUR MISSION

Building Bridges Across the River provides residents East of the Anacostia River access to the best-in-class facilities, programs and partnerships in arts and culture, economic opportunity, education, recreation, health and well-being.

OUR PROGRAMS



THEARC:

The Town Hall Education Arts Recreation Campus (THEARC) provides access to best-in-class education, arts, recreation, health and social service programs. Now encompassing 14 nonprofit partners, THEARC is the largest facility of its kind in the country.



BBAR Farms:

Our BBAR Farms program provides greater access to healthy, affordable food, urban agriculture education and career opportunities via activities within THEARC Farm and 6 Bridge Park Plots.



THEARC Theater:

THEARC Theater provides DC residents living east of the Anacostia River entertaining and enlightening arts and cultural experiences that empowers artists and audiences.



11th Street Bridge Park:

Located on the piers of the old 11th Street Bridge spanning the Anacostia River, the Bridge Park will be a new venue for healthy recreation, environmental education, and the arts. The Bridge Park draws on an extensive community outreach and consultative process, anchored by more than 1,000 stakeholder meetings for design, development, and impact.



Skyland Workforce Center:

Located on the border of Ward 7 and 8 on Good Hope Road, Skyland Workforce Center provides high-quality workforce development programs in one location, leading to work-ready candidates, career-focused job placement, economic self-sufficiency, and improved quality of life.

OUR IMPACT

ARTS & CULTURE



600+ EVENTS HOSTED ANNUALLY IN THE THEATER AND COMMUNITY SPACES

OVER 7,000 VISITS PER MONTH

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY



90% OF ICAN INTERNS GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL AND 80% HAVE PURSUED HIGHER EDUCATION

600 DC RESIDENTS PLACED IN JOBS

HEALTH & WELL-BEING



3,000 POUNDS OF FOOD HARVESTED

13,000 POUNDS OF PRODUCE DISTRIBUTED

COLLABORATIONS & DEVELOPMENT



\$30 MILLION WORTH OF SERVICES PROVIDED ANNUALLY AT THEARC

\$3.5 MILLION IN DIRECT INCOME GENERATED FOR RESIDENTS THROUGH THE 11TH ST. BRIDGE PARK EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENTS

THEARC LOCATION

THEARC is located in Ward 8 at 1901 Mississippi Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20020.

OUR JOURNEY

BUILDING BRIDGES

Building Bridges is incorporated as a (501-c-3) nonprofit organization

1997

THEARC OPENS

Town Hall Education Arts Recreation Campus (THEARC) opens its doors to the public.

2005

ICAN IS ESTABLISHED

THEARC Theater's ICAN Technical Theater Internship Program is established.



2007

11TH STREET BRIDGE PARK ESTABLISHED

Plans for the 11th Street Bridge Park begin.

2013

THEARC FARM ESTABLISHED

THEARC Farm grows to have 22 raised beds, an 18-tree orchard, a season-extending hoop house, three community compost bins, four in-ground rows, medicinal & culinary herb gardens and a bee hive.

2015



THEARC WEST
THEARC West facility opens.

2018

SKYLAND WORKFORCE SUCCESS

Skyland Workforce Center surpasses 4,000 visitors to the Center.

2019



THEARC FARM EXPANDS

THEARC Farm becomes one of the largest urban farms east of the Anacostia River.

2020

11TH STREET BRIDGE PARK PROGRESS

Construction of the 11th Street Bridge Park, Washington DC's first elevated park begins.



2022