

Highlights of the past year include:

**Financial Services:** Isles continued to offer homebuyer and foreclosure counseling to prepare low- and moderate-income individuals for homeownership and to help families avoid foreclosure. We also offered Isles Financial Solutions (IFS), an employer-based financial capability initiative for lower wage workers that includes an innovative mix of financial coaching, credit-building finance, savings products, and group-based learning. IFS works with Princeton University, Capital Health Systems and local nonprofits. This year:

- Isles had 533 customers seeking housing or foreclosure advice or assistance
  - 13 customers purchased a first home.
  - 17 foreclosure customers had positive mortgage outcomes (loan modifications, etc.).
  - 118 housing certificates were earned.
- 147 employees received IFS services
  - 94 one-on-one customers completed a budget, credit analysis and action plan.
  - 32 customers filed their taxes with the assistance of a financial coach.

**Isles' Center for Energy and Environmental Training (CEET):** CEET is a green collar job training facility, targeting careers in energy efficiency and environmental health. This year, CEET:

- Provided or facilitated Healthy Homes for Community Health Workers training course for 73 home visitors (e.g. Freehold Health Department) and/or supervisors of home visitors.
- Offered “The Seven Keys to a Healthy Home” 7 times to reach a total of 84 community members.
- Provided Lead-Safe Renovation, Repair, and Paint training and certification for 28 workers.

**Lead Safety and Healthy Homes:** Isles continued to provide retrofits to low-income homes to improve energy efficiency and remove lead, mold, and asthma triggers, and other health hazards. This year:

- Tested more than 150 Trenton homes for lead in water, soil, and paint.
- Completed more than 60 lead hazard control projects. All units were made lead safe.
- Collaborated with the City of Trenton and NJ partners to bring electric vehicle infrastructure by applying to DEP’s “It Pay\$ to Plug In” grant
- Presented at statewide and national webinars and conferences, including Newark Culture of Health Conference, and Mid-Atlantic Regional Lead and Healthy Housing Conference.

In addition, Isles continues to be a strong advocate for lead and healthy homes public education, policy change and increased funding for remediation of lead contaminated homes.

**Isles Youth Institute (IYI):** IYI offers alternative education options for disengaged students seeking their high school equivalency diploma, job skills, and life skills training. This year:

- 15 IYI students graduated with high school diplomas, and one matriculated to college
- 24 Pre-Apprentice Construction Training (PACT) certificates were issued to students-12 core skills certifications and 12 in the carpentry field.
- 40 youth participated in meaningful community service projects.
- 22 certifications were earned in CPR/First Aid and OSHA.
- 30 students, community members, and alumni participated in various internal and external job training internships.

- 20 students participated in the Leadership Academy, which included attending the Symposium on Violence Prevention at TCNJ, visiting the state capitol in Trenton to speak with city council members, and visiting the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. for a Congressional Committee meeting on Mental Health in Urban Communities

**Community Planning and Development:** Isles partners with residents, civic organizations, and neighborhood associations to identify community needs, interests, and priorities on city-wide concerns and neighborhood land use and community development, and to support implementation of recommendations that emerge from planning processes. In 2019, this work included the following:

- Conducted the second city-wide vacant property survey with support from the Kresge Foundation, which will inform ongoing policy and planning work around redevelopment, violence reduction, and placemaking opportunities.
- As part of its leadership role with the Capital City Youth Violence Coalition, helped organize the second citywide symposium on violence reduction where the Coalition released the Youth Safety Playbook, a data-driven set of strategies to systematically reduce youth violence in Trenton
- Continued implementation of the Creek to Canal Creative District plan, supporting innovative arts-based initiatives in and around downtown, including the Broad Street Bank Gallery, the A-Team at Studio 51, and Creative Hanover, among others
- Provided T-Recs services at over 30 events reaching over 1,800 people, including National Night Out, East Trenton Day, Brunswick Ave Day, the Levitt concert series in Mill Hill Park, the Children's Home Society's Annual Health Fair, and the City of Trenton's Take-it-to-the-Streets
- Funded façade improvements to small businesses, coordinated neighborhood clean-ups, and installed planters at homes and businesses in Old Trenton, contributing to beautification efforts
- With I am Trenton and funding from the Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit program, initiated two rounds of small grants in Old Trenton and the Trenton Historic Development Collaborative neighborhoods to support small businesses and creative enterprises

Isles CP&D currently supports 63 community, school, and institutional (sponsored by other nonprofits or organizations) gardens. In 2019, we:

- Held seven gardening workshops, attended by approximately 55 people.
- Worked with 710 elementary school students in 38 classrooms in seven schools on a weekly or biweekly basis and supported 15 other school gardens
- Distributed approximately 10,000 vegetable seedlings (the bulk of which are grown by the NJ Department of Corrections) and hundreds of pounds of seeds to school and community gardens.
- Managed 12 beehives at Isles-operated gardens, harvesting 400 pounds of honey
- Donated more than 700 pounds of produce to emergency food suppliers.
- Trained 10 individuals who completed the year in the Incubator Garden.

**Social Profit Center at Mill One** is a 220,000 square foot, historic former textile mill on the Trenton/Hamilton border that Isles is converting into a high performing, mixed use regional hub for dozens of social profit organizations. Highlights from 2019 include:

- Secured New Markets Tax Credit financing bringing \$6M of new financing to complete construction of the first phase of the project.
- Construction of the second and third floors is nearing completion, with HVAC installation and finishes (painting / trim installation / floor finishing) the main work that needs to be completed in the first quarter of 2020. First floor and exterior work continues apace with an aim to finishing construction and securing permits by late spring /early summer for the Social Profit Center.
- Leased one-third of the building already and we are proceeding with actively advertising space to larger non-profit community as well social profit business partners. We are eager to bring an active and vibrant Social Profit Center to life in the first half of 2020.