



Faith Community Development Corporation (FCDC)

Project Overview for The Services Associated with The Germantown Services District Project

Organization History:

In 1978, Faith Community Development Corporation (FCDC) was formed as the service arm of, Faith Chapel Church. Since that time some forty years the organization has been servicing Germantown, and surrounding areas with an emphasis on hunger, social services, community outreach/organizing, and zoning/development. Our longevity as a service agency has afforded the organization multiple relationships with community residents, business, churches, and other prominent service agencies who have a vested interest in the growth, development, and unity which is what's needed to maintain a successful relationship between area business owners and the community residents patronize their business. As a long-time community advocate, we are very interested in Germantown as a community, its residents, and its business corridor's future that are being challenged are being challenged daily in numerous ways. The resent activities and pressures to dissolve the, GSSD in favor of a bid process organized and headed by folks who own properties, but don't live, work or patronize the businesses on the corridor, but are more concerned about the makeup of the management of the, GSSD agency and not the needs of the residents and business operators. This mindset cannot move our community forward but, will once again leave the residents and business owners voiceless and not involved in the decision-making process of what happens in the community where they live.

Services to Be Offered By, FCDC In This Project:

In 2017, FCDC joined forces with the, Germantown Special Services District (GSSD) to implement and coordinate the Avenue Ambassador's program (AAP) that opened up a connection and dialogue between the community and the businesses along the corridor using men/women from our various service programs including our VETS program, some community partners, and long-term residents. The Ambassadors became the eyes and ears of the business corridor through the following activities:

*Monitoring and reporting of activities happening on the business corridor, reporting of the dumping of trash and other prohibited materials became necessary to report through the recording a video using their cellular phones and forwarding that information to the, City's 311 operators and FCDC supervisor for follow-up. activities going on,

*Reporting negative activities to the 14th and 39th police district center through photographs and text messaging to keep them abreast of those activities that impacted business on the corridor.

FCDC Project Page 2. Services

***If there are violent activities occurring the Ambassadors who have and will form relationships with the 14th and 39th police districts will be able to call those incidents into the district using the 911 system to request immediate assistance. Using the training from city's Town Watch program, 311 hotline services, and Philadelphia anti-Drug/ anti-violence Network's intervention training the Ambassadors will be equipped to respond to All issues affecting the welfare of the community and its businesses. Issues such as: vandalism, graffiti, illegal dumping, student's afterschool activities, and loitering, which all have a major impact on the business's livelihood and the safety of its patrons.**

***Introducing shoppers to the businesses to allow the operators an opportunity to get to know their customers and vice-versa by saturation of the community and businesses with information on programs, events, and services offered within the district. Using handout information provided by the business owners to help owners promote their goods and service through advertising distributed by the Ambassadors.**

Business Corridor Cleaning

***The cleaning and removal of trash and debris will be contracted out to area trash removal businesses by the submission of proposal to, FCDC. The contracted company will be monitored daily by, FCDC's program supervisor five days a week for cleaning and five days a week (twice a day) for dumping of trash receptacles.**

***Area business corridor cleaning and removal of refuse will be done on a five-day cycle of cleaning and dumping of trash on the identified business corridor from Cheltenham Avenue and Morris Street to Cheltenham Avenue and Baynton Streets. From Germantown Avenue and Johnson Street to Germantown Avenue and Penn Streets.**

***Also using trash receptacles as monthly business advertisement tools for businesses. They will also be responsible for saturating the community, commuters, patrons with information on programs, events and services offered within the district and to help the business owners promote their goods and service.**

Staffing Needs Ambassadors and Supervisor

Staff will be chosen from our pool of men and women who participate in our service program, as well as Six Ambassadors will patrol their designated areas of the business district from; in teams of two eight hours per day between 10:00 am. through 6:00 pm. Each Ambassador will be introduced to all proprietors in their area of patrol to introduce familiarize themselves with the staff and how beneficial the project will be for them and the business corridor. Staffing Hours: The project will run from October 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019 six days a week between 10:00 am through 6:00 pm. All Ambassadors will be clocking at least 120 hours per month for a nine-month period and the average individual will work five-six hours per day approximately.

FCDC's Project Page 3. Staffing

Each Ambassador was equipped with a cell phone with photo and texting capabilities to record and report each interaction to, FCDC's supervisor in real time. Using that same system, the Ambassadors sign on and off each day using face time and texting. The supervisor will monitor the beginning and ending of their daily patrols.

Supervisor role and responsibilities: One supervisor will be available between the hours of 10:00 am through 6:00 pm. Monitoring staff interaction with businesses, patrons, students attending area school, commuters, and, area questionable activity. The supervisor will also monitor and track all information forwarded to the city's 311 non-emergency hotline and all criminal activities reported to the 14th and 39th police district. Keeping track of staff hours and recording of the staff hourly rate will also be the responsibility of the project supervisor. The outcomes of each Ambassador will then report back to FCDC's supervisor daily for follow-up to ensure that the appropriate city agencies received and responded to each issue reported, as mandated.

Faith Community Development Corporation (FCDC) feels strongly that it is the community organization that can handle the responsibilities of running the service component of GSSD due to our longevity within the Germantown community and our relationships with community residents and business owners.

We will develop a project description, operating procedures, and budget at your request. It is our hope that the needs of the residents of, Germantown and surrounding areas are taken into consideration when making the decision about the future of our beloved, Germantown and the folks who have shopped, worked, and worshipped here for many years. The development of relationships between the residents/patrons is primary if there is to be success for, Germantown and its business corridor. Building relationships, communication, and the implementation of a comprehensive approach will open the doors to:

- *better business,**
- *community relations,**
- *area beautification,**
- *retail growth, and**
- *safety.**

Relationship building and communication are the tools needed to a successful business regardless of whether you are a patron or business owner. As we all know, without the community's commitment to continue supporting the businesses that remain on the corridor we don't have much of a chance to fight for the corridor's survival and success.