



MT GROWMORE HYDROPONIC FARM & WELLNESS CAMPUS 2023

OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS

COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

• Neighborhood: East End

• Organizations: East End NRZ & East End NRZ Market and Café

PARTNERS & SUPPORTING COLLABORATORS

- Partners: East End NRZ Market & Café and Yale Elevate Policy Lab
- Supporting Collaborators
 - o Government:
 - Local: City of Bridgeport
 - State: CT DEEP, CT Dept of Agriculture
 - Federal: US EPA Region 1, US HHS, USDA, US HUD
 - o Academia
 - Via Yale Elevate Policy Lab
 - Yale School of Law Environmental Protection Clinic
 - Yale School of Medicine Child Study Center
 - UCONN Targeted Brownfields Assistance (TBA Program)
 - o Business
 - BEDCO



EAST END NRZ
Market & Café

PROBLEMS WITH PLACE



ENVIRONMENTAL STRESSORS

- Contaminated Soil: Mount Trashmore, other contaminated properties, and operating businesses
- Polluted Water: Johnson's Creek (point source discharges and stormwater run-off); flooding; odor from sewage treatment plant

HEALTH INEQUALITIES

- Healthy food, fruits, and vegetables
- Violence Prevention
- Mental health and Child-Caregiver Support

COMMUNITY VISION AND PROBLEM-SOLVING PRIORITIES

- Mt. Growmore Hydroponic Farm and Wellness Campus
- Johnson's Creek: Flood Control and Green Spaces & Recreation
- Violence Prevention

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OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS 2023

SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY VOICES REGARDING CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES



What is your vision for the East End Neighborhood?

Safe Neighborhood	Wellbeing	Whole Health	Healthy Food	Physical Activity
Safe Neighborhood	Parks to relax	5		
	Crime-free	9		
	Local businesses	6		
Wellbeing	Caregiver & connecting	8		
	Education & jobs	6		
	Multi-generation families	5		
Whole Health	Prevention	5		
	Mental health	7		
	Physical health	5		
Healthy Food	Nutritious	7		
	Fruits & vegetables	10		
	Affordable & available	6		
Physical Activity	Fishing	7		
	Gardening	8		
	Team sports	6		

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2023

OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

- Breaking Bread for Brownfields to Healthfields (B2H) weekly check in calls of community champions and supporting collaborators
- B2H/Civic Justice Engagement Workshops held in June 2022, December 2022 and February, 2023
- Story Map on "Mount Trashmore to Mount Growmore" featured on UCONN TAB website
 - Roundtable Discussion and Affiliates Meeting at National Brownfields Training Conference featuring Mount Growmore Hydroponic Farm and Wellness Campus
- Yale Environmental Protection Clinic, School of Law, Advancing Environmental Justice and Public Health in CT Through Community Engagement and Capacity Building

PROMOTING COMMUNITY CAPACITY & WHOLE HEALTH

- US EPA Region 1 Targeted Brownfields Assessment "free consultation" to complete remediation requirements for Mount Trashmore
- US EPA Region 1 Targeted Brownfields Assessment "free consultation" to assess nearby contaminated properties
- USDA NRCS Soil Testing Workshop
- Community Challenge Response to Odor from Sewage Treatment Plant: EE NRZ Market & Café webpage report form; CT DEEP Environmental Justice and Program ongoing responses

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PROGRESS

BY

COMMUNITY

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REDUCING ENVIRONMENTAL STRESSORS

- "Brownfields Assistance Menu" of funding, technical assistance, and capacity building resources, US EPA Region
- Land Revitalization Technical Assistance workshop for "live" production of application, US EPA Region 1
- Briefing for Assistant Secretary of Health on Mount Growmore Hydroponic Farm and Wellness Campus as a national incubator model, US HHS Office of Assistant Secretary
- Blueprint for Action to Advance Family Mental Health with Triple Bottom Line Justice, Yale Elevate Policy Lab (December, 2022) Yale Child Study Center, School of Medicine, Child & Family Mental Health and Environmental Justice Hackathon
- Bridgeport MOMS Partnership, supporting maternal mental health with partnership of Alliance for Community Empowerment, Greater Bridgeport Area Prevention Program and Southwest Community Health Center
- Local Food Purchase Assistance, EE NRZ Market & Cafe partnership with CT farms to purchase and distribute CSA shares to low-income individuals and families identified through partner social service organizations, local schools, and senior centers, USDA and CT Dept of Agriculture