“You are distinguished by your thundering silence (in the face of urban disintegration) You share responsibility for the mess we are in... Get involved in helping cities rebuild, or risk the consequences.”

Whitney M. Young
Executive Director of the Urban League
AIA National Convention, 1968

photo courtesy of Vincent Purcell, 2015
Socially Conscious Practice
Pro Bono Service
Public Advocacy
the Neighborhood Design Center

LAURA WHEATON, RA | CivicLAB | MARCH 15, 2016
the Neighborhood Design Center

Projects 1968 - 2016

- Baltimore City Office
- Prince George’s County Office

ndc
CUSTOM DESIGN SERVICES

FUNDER INITIATED
- CONTRACT FUNDED
- IMPLEMENTATION VARIES

SMALL CONTRACTS

FUNDER-BUILT SERVICES

FUNDER/AGENCY INITIATED
- CONTRACT FUNDED
- FUNDER IMPLEMENTED

RIGHT TREE, RIGHT PLACE

STORMWATER PONDS

RESOURCE CONNECTION SERVICES

COMMUNITY INITIATED
- CONTRACT FUNDED
- FUNDER/MATERIALS, COMMUNITY/LABOR

CLEAN UP, GREEN UP
ARBOR DAY EVERY DAY
TREE ReLEAF

GRASSROOTS SERVICE MODEL

COMMUNITY INITIATED
- GRANT FUNDED
- COMMUNITY IMPLEMENTED

COMMUNITY DESIGN WORKS

STORMWATER SAVVY

NDC DESIGN EXCELLENCY

NDC INITIATED
- GRANT FUNDED
- NDC IMPLEMENTED

R^D
NDC COMMUNITY DESIGN WORKS PROJECT PROCESS

1. **CLIENT/NDC**
2. **DETERMINE SCOPE**
3. **NDC RECRUITS**
4. **COMMUNITY**
5. **VOLUNTEERS RECRUITS**
6. **ENGAGEMENT**
7. **VOLUNTEERS DESIGN**
8. **REVIEW PROCESS**
9. **DESIGN HANDOFF**
10. **CLIENT GOES FORWARD**
We work where and when invited to do so.

[community design works]
Residents are experts, too.
Do much for few or little for many?
Sisson Street Lot
Empire Homes of Maryland
“You are the little non-profit that could.”

-Mary Lehman

Councilwoman, Prince George’s County
*69% of surveyed clients reported that NDC’s conceptual designs enabled them to at least partially meet their funding goals. *37% of clients reported that they were able to fully meet their funding goals.
*63% of surveyed clients reported at least partial implementation.

*36% of surveyed clients reported full (100%) implementation.
*61% of clients named NDC’s services or products as the most critical factor of their success.
Many ways to get involved...

**project VOLUNTEER**
- Recruited per project
- Single and multi-firm teams of 2-20
- Gain experience, work interdisciplinary
- Medium duration variable time commitment

**design REVIEWER**
- Experienced professionals
- 2 hours/review, monthly as available
- Add value to multiple projects

**office VOLUNTEER**
- Recruited per initiative
- No design experience necessary

**year-long VOLUNTEER**
- AmeriCorps VISTA
- Volunteer Maryland (AmeriCorps)
- Chesapeake Conservation Corps

**international VOLUNTEER**
- Via international study-abroad programs
- 6 weeks - 6 months
- Earn university credit

**independent STUDY**
- Earn university credit
- Explore projects in partnership with NDC
- Benefit from NDC resources