



September 21, 2017

For Immediate Release

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**District of Columbia Building Industry Association and DC Housing Authority
Invest \$3 Million and Engage 350 Volunteers for the Benning Terrace Community
As DCBIA Celebrates its 25th Year Impacting Communities**

(Washington, DC) – On Saturday, September 23, three-hundred and fifty DCBIA volunteers will complete key upgrades to the District of Columbia Housing Authority's (DCHA) Benning Terrace Recreation Center in Ward 7 at the 25th Annual DCBIA Community Improvement Day, completing a multi-year joint effort to build a thriving sports, recreation, and activity space for Benning Terrace residents of all ages – from young people to seniors.

For its 24th Community Improvement Day last year, DCBIA volunteers (architects, building owners, engineers, general contractors, and other professionals in the real estate development industry) along with Benning Terrace residents and leadership completed Phase I of the partnership by optimizing the existing features of the Benning Terrace Recreation Center and expanding the uses of the nearly 60-year old facility and its surrounding outdoor areas. The volunteer work included: performing minor interior repairs, interior painting, installing new kitchen cabinets and appliances, building work stations, adding furniture, installing lockers, creating a foosball playing area, polishing floors, adding outdoor storage for the Benning Terrace Soldiers football team equipment, repairing concrete steps around the site, and other needed enhancements.

On Saturday, DCBIA and DCHA volunteers will return to the site to complete the upgrades, including creating outdoor playground games, installing new outdoor exercise equipment, adding permanent shade structures, upgrading the community garden, creating a walking path, adding picnic benches, installing art stations and site signage, and extensive general landscaping. Prior to Saturday's event, DCHA also completed extensive stormwater management work over seven acres of the 12.5-acre site, including creating new mains, inlets, and retention ponds to reduce flooding at the property. The authority also rerouted utility wires to the football field and replaced ballasts and bulbs allowing the Benning Terrace Soldiers to practice and play games at home and at night. New fencing and a gate were also built.

"We have created an amazing partnership with DCHA over the last three years," said Lisa Mallory, CEO of DCBIA. "December will be our third year bringing holiday cheer to Benning Terrace residents in addition to the design and construction work of our volunteers. The fact that residents unanimously renamed their Center, at one of our meetings, to the 'Benning Terrace Community Center' instead of 'Recreation' Center tells the whole story. Such meaningful feedback to recognize our 25th year."

"We are grateful to the DCBIA Board of Directors, the Board of Directors of the Community Services Corporation, and the annual financial sponsorship of our donors for their leadership," said Bill McIntosh, President of the DCBIA Community Services Corporation. "The hundreds of volunteer hours the design and general contracting teams have put in to design and execute this major

renovation, through many challenges, is quite commendable. We look forward to seeing all the volunteers on Saturday to complete the job.”

“DCBIA’s volunteers have done so much to beautify, renovate, and uplift DCHA’s communities,” said DCHA Interim Executive Director Nathan Bovelle. “The continuing partnership with DCBIA has been fantastic for our families—especially the youth at Benning Terrace.”

DCBIA members supporting the effort include Pinnacle and Premier Sponsors Eagle Bank and Pepco, an Exelon Company. Property Group Partners also provided financial and technical support. Title Sponsor Hines Development contributed significantly to the project including a \$20,000 donation and 100 volunteers for Saturday. Other major sponsors over the last two years include: ArchCo Residential, BB&T, Bohler Engineering, Booth Law Offices, Boston Properties, Bundy Development Corporation, CIH Properties, Clark Construction, Cox Graee + Spack Architects, Cushman & Wakefield, David M Schwarz Architects, DAVIS Construction, DBT Development, ECS Mid-Atlantic, EHT Traceries, Elm Street Development, Fidelity National Title Insurance Company National Commercial Services | D.C., Forest City Washington, Fort Lincoln New Town Corporation, Gilbane, Grosvenor, HITT Contracting, Holland & Knight, Lewis Real Estate Services, MILLER, Monarc Construction, Monday Properties, R.D. Jones & Associates, RAMCO of DC, Skanska, The Anderson Company, The Bozzuto Group, The Tower Companies, The Wharf DC, Thomas P. Genis, AIA, and Williams Mullen. In-kind support was also provided by: Bradley Site Design, Casey Trees, Dyna Electric, Greening Urban, Jefferson Millwork, Manganaro, Marshall Moya Design, Price Modern, Spielmann Studio, and Wiles Mensch Corporation.

The 2017 Co-Chairs are Christian Benz of Turner Construction and Mario Dominguez of David M. Schwarz Architects. The 2016 Community Improvement Day Co-Chairs were Valerie Berstene, AIA | CNU-A | LEED AP of SmithGroupJJR and Risa Abraham of PN Hoffman, marking the first all-women CID Co-Chair volunteers.

Design services for last two years include: Cunningham Quill, David M. Schwarz Architects, HKS Architects, HOK, HKS, KCCT, Kimley-Horn, and SmithGroupJJR. General Contracting Services were provided by: Balfour Beatty, Clark Construction, Coakley Williams Construction, Gilbane, HITT Contracting, James G. Davis Construction, Monarc, and Turner Construction.

The total investment of \$3 Million over three years, includes labor, materials, and financial donations.

Watch the video: <https://video214.com/play/le23i14NITgdEM1TnfOJFA/s/dark>

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The District of Columbia Building Industry Association (DCBIA) is DC real estate development. We build leaders, community, economy and partnership for our vibrant city through content-rich programs, premier networking, and unsurpassed advocacy. With a membership of over 500 member companies representing thousands of real estate development industry professionals, including owners, developers, general contractors, subcontractors, architects, engineers, lenders, attorneys, brokers, title companies, utility companies, community development organizations and other real estate development industry professionals, DCBIA members are sought-after experts in the DC real estate development industry.

DCBIA Community Services Corporation, a separate 501 (c) (3) organization, is an educational and charitable organized in 1997 to foster a commitment to community service and volunteerism among members of the Washington, DC business community.

The District of Columbia Housing Authority is an independent government agency whose mission is to provide quality affordable housing to extremely low- through moderate-income households, foster sustainable communities, and cultivate opportunities for residents to improve their lives. One of the District’s largest landlords, DCHA provides subsidized housing to approximately 50,000 residents.