# MIDTOWN

## **2023 IMPACT**

#### Connecting, Advocating, and Activating since 2007

The year was full of challenges and triumphs as Midtown Indy continues to fulfill its mission of cultivating an equitable, healthy, and sustainable community in which stakeholders of all incomes, races, and ethnicities have access to the opportunities, services, and amenities they need to thrive.



### PARKSIDE AT TARKINGTON

Eight years of steady, patient work has culminated in full residential occupancy of Parkside at Tarkington, 3901 N. Meridian Street. The 75,000 sq. ft. former United Way of Central Indiana headquarters was transformed by Flaherty & Collins into affordable housing units for fixed income seniors aged 55 and up as well as individuals with intellectual disabilities. Midtown Indy led the community outreach effort to convince neighborhood groups that the necessary rezoning was for community benefit. The ground floor commercial space is poised to become the home of an established community serving nonprofit in 2024.



### **CONCORD BUILDING**

After acquiring the historic structure in 2016, Midtown Indy has been working to reanimate this important neighborhood commercial node. In 2021, Midtown sold the building to the **Kheprw Institute**. A \$1.6M Enhancing Opportunity grant from **Lilly Endowment** to Kheprw has funded renovations with Midtown

Indy's Executive Director Michael McKillip serving as owner's rep. Upon completion in Q1 2024, the venerable building will house Alkhemy, Kheprw's initiative designed to foster and promote cultural, financial, intellectual, and social capital for young entrepreneurs of color.



### 🔔 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

After acquiring the former gas station site at 46th and College Ave., and paying for an environmental assessment, Midtown Indy successfully petitioned the Indiana Department of Environmental Management to remove a deed restriction that would have precluded residential housing on the site. Midtown Indy is now moving forward to issue a Request for Proposals to developers in Q1 2024.











Midtown has been working with partners like the MLK Center, Catch the Stars Foundation, Tea's Me Community Café, **Kheprw Institute**, and Indy Parks to help program Tarkington Park. The 3rd annual Juneteenth Freedom Celebration was a rousing success as were three Free Movie Fridays.

Thanks to a \$3 million Lilly Endowment grant, **Indy Parks** is working on phase two of the park's master plan. The draft plan includes walkways to improve pedestrian circulation, safety, and access; farmers market pavilions; on-street parking; additional tennis and pickle ball courts, and other amenities. A multi-use playing field is also planned. It will be named in honor of Indy Steelers coach Donnell "Coach Nell" Hamilton, who tragically passed away in January, 2023.



#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Thanks to a **MIBOR** grant, Midtown Indy has been working with the **Keystone-Monon** community on a certified planning process. Nine residents and community leaders have stepped up to serve on the committee that is leading the project.
- Midtown Indy is collaborating with a group of organizations and community leaders who are working to form a Friends of Tarkington Park Group: **Tea's** Me, Catch the Stars Foundation, **Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood** Association, Butler University, MLK Center, and Crown Hill Neighborhood Association.
- Midtown Indy has continued advocating for an assessment of the 38th Street corridor with an eye to overhauling the right-of-



#### FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Thanks to a **LISC** grant, Midtown was able to pass through funds for a variety of projects in Midtown neighborhoods.

- \$75,000 to **Kheprw Institute** as part of the Vacant Lot Acquisition Fund for Minority Urban Farmers
- \$13,284 to small businesses in **Crown Hill** and **Butler-Tarkington** neighborhoods for façade improvements.

#### **Become a Supporter Today!**

Midtown Indy's accomplishments are not possible without the generous support of individuals like you.



Scan the OR code or visit midtownindy.org/support to make a gift.

way to reduce vehicle speeds, improve safety, and be more accommodating of non-motorized users. Thanks to a **Lilly Endowment/CICF** Connected Communities grant, a corridor study and community outreach will occur in 2024.

- At the request of the **Community Partners of James Whitcomb Riley School 43** (CP43), Midtown Indy signed a Memorandum of Understanding with IPS that memorializes CP43's desires for community collaboration and services for James Whitcomb Riley School 43.
- Midtown Indy led a robust outreach effort with Meridian-Kessler neighbors and successfully rezoned properties located at 4155-4185 and 4201-4208 N. College Ave. to permit residential and mixed-use redevelopment that may include a new home for **Kids Dance Outreach**.