

## Neighborhood Report Jan.-Dec. 2023 Fiscal Year

The mission of Vandeventer CDC is to deliver an orderly and cohesive development of Vandeventer Neighborhood under the North-Central Plan. Development plans can be canceled or put on hold for reasons like crime, the neighborhood isn't kept clean and maintained, and vacant houses. Many long-term plans for development are finally being built. Vandeventer CDC projects listed below keep our neighborhood marketable and attractive for development. We are steadfast and committed to retaining our residents and our elderly homeowners.

As a working President, I am proud of the support I have received from my Vice- President Judith Arnold, the Board of Directors, and the residents of our neighborhood. The work of the Vandeventer CDC, residents, and volunteers has paid off. In the last 18 months, Vandeventer Neighborhood will benefit from \$77,510,750.00 in development and infrastructure projects, such as AMICSTL, Workforce Development Center, Vandeventer Place II, Foster Funeral Home, installation of PLZ Cameras and new fiber sidewalks on Delmar to name a few. We aim to make Vandeventer Neighborhood the premier black neighborhood in the City of St. Louis. What we have is what we worked for.

**List of Calendar Year accomplishments:**

Vandeventer CDC President donated Christmas gifts for SLACO after-school kids.

MRCTI/EPA on Plastic Pollution resulted in a grant to keep litter picked up on Hodiament Tracks.

Planted 102 Trees on Delmar between Vandeventer and Newstead in partnership with the City of St. Louis, Dept. of Forestry, Forest ReLeaf of Missouri, AmeriCorps, and Vandeventer CDC. along with trash pickup coordinated with 75 volunteers from area organizations and schools.

Vandeventer CDC Adopted 16 bus stops on Delmar from Vandeventer to Newstead, Page and Pendleton, Taylor, and the Hodiament Tracks. Blue trash cans have been installed and maintained by Vandeventer CDC.

119 cumulative hours of education and community engagement.

209 cumulative hours of city lawn cleanup and mowing, by residents and the Vandeventer CDC Board.

756 cumulative hours in meetings to address problems, attract development, and resources for Vandeventer Neighborhood.

846 cumulative hours of alley debris field cleanup, litter removal, and removal of vegetation overgrowth in alleys by paid volunteers and members of the Vandeventer CDC Board.

Demolition of 4025 West Belle Place after 6 years of no action: mission accomplished. Vandeventer CDC Building Liaison Yvonne Carter continues to work on derelict properties and building demolitions.

Vandeventer CDC President and resident Paul Kukie volunteered for the 11<sup>th</sup> Ward Tire Amnesty Day.

Vandeventer CDC Vice President Judith Arnold hosted Vandeventer Neighborhood National Night Out in partnership with the Gaslight Square Neighborhood and AmeriCorps.

Planting of 17 trees between Newstead to Taylor in partnership with the City of St. Louis, Dept. of Forestry, Forest ReLeaf of Missouri, AmeriCorps, and Vandeventer CDC. along with trash pickup coordinated with 12 volunteers from AmeriCorps, Vandeventer CDC, and residents.

**Projects Upcoming or Still in Progress:**

Vandeventer CDC Board members: Barbara Murphy, Catherine Knights & Yvonne Carter were awarded a Small Cash Grant to purchase neighborhood signage to mark the boundaries of the Vandeventer Neighborhood. Landscaping is to be donated and installed by Michael J. von Gebel and Anne Brown.

Spring 2024- Landscape installation at the Hodiament Mural Wall design and installation by Judith Arnold and Michael J. von Gebel.

Spring/Summer 2024 Two major cleanups are scheduled in Vandeventer Neighborhood and 6 LRA lots mowed through the Keeping It Clean Grant.

Michael J. von Gebel  
Vandeventer CDC, President

Website: <https://www.vandeventercdc.org/> Through our website you can also join our Facebook group.