



Equitable Development Initiative 2021 Cohort | Detroit, MI

Our fourth Detroit Equitable Development Initiative learning series is focused on multifamily and mixed-use development in Detroit. Through lecture, panel discussions, breakout sessions, and group projects, the series covers real estate development finance, the real estate development process, the Detroit development context, and “scaling up” to work on larger projects. New to the program, held in early 2021, were “Capstone Partners:” mission-aligned organizations in Detroit with potential development projects with which program participants could partner to pitch projects.



Charles Bailey Founder and president of Lake Star Construction, Inc. and owner of London Sky Investments. Charles has experience in general rehab, renovations and asbestos & lead abatement in residential and commercial properties.

Charles is ready to apply his extensive general contracting skills and experience to developments that improve opportunities in the communities in which he lives and serves.



Darius Barrett Investor, co-developer and licensed builder. CEO of Revere Development Inc., a direct-to-seller marketing company to identify off-market real estate opportunities.



Brandon Carnegie Senior Associate in Advisory & Transaction Services and former Market Analyst for CBRE Group, Inc., Detroit. Brandon aims to expand his real estate knowledge and partner with some of the best minds in Detroit to create developments that are economically and socially sound.



Mary Coats Midtown land and business owner, developer and project manager in residential construction and renovation. Mary aims to expand her real estate knowledge and identify resources to support her goal of creating more developments in her community. Mary purchased land on the same corner as a long-time family business and is excited to build her family’s legacy on this property.



Yvonne Cross Real estate investor, developer, Historic consultant, licensed asbestos contractor and owner of Make It Happen Affordable Homes, LLC. Yvonne is a grass roots housing entrepreneur focused on community development. She is eager to obtain the necessary skills to move forward with her first multi-family development project and to learn how to obtain funding.



Raymond Diggs Member the Mayor’s Jobs and Economy Team for the City of Detroit. Raymond assists developers with permitting, zoning, tax incentive and infrastructure issues.



C’erra Eddington Owner of residential and commercial development firm Akins & Wade, probation officer, certified conflict resolution and positive personal skills coach. C’erra strives to build and connect generations to environments that expand their understanding in economic wealth, diversity, and education.



Ayana Gates Real estate broker and developer with experience in foreclosure sales and residential investments. Ayana gained valuable experience as a teenager working for the family real estate business and continues to follow in her grandparents’ footsteps. Ayana is ready to take on larger projects and make a bigger impact in Detroit.



Jerrell Harris Development Manager for the Cinnaire Corporation focused on bringing residential and mixed- use developments to Detroit’s neighborhoods. Jerrell also has experience as an urban planner and entitlement consultant. Jerrell is looking forward to expanding his real estate knowledge and networking with other professionals and newcomers in the development space.



Theodore McNeal CEO of Building More with Theodore LLC, specializing in acquisitions, financial literacy, & design/build services and founder of The Building More Development Group, a non- profit providing real estate development and resources to urban neighborhoods .



Samantha Jenkins Real estate broker and founder of Renaissance Village, a community development nonprofit. Samantha’s experience includes financing, development, property, foreclosure relief assistance, and personal investment and rehabilitation projects. Samantha aims to use development as a life- transformational tool to improve lives and advance vulnerable communities



Kimle Nailor Licensed builder and owner of Nail-Rite Construction, business analyst and marketing strategist, President of the National Association of Black Women in Construction.



Marcus Langston Gas Renewal Engineer for DTE and Founder of Integral Real Estate Investments. Marcus is working to expand his experience in residential properties to include multi-family developments.



Angela Owens Real estate investor and partner at Ocie Property Management. Angela has a solid foundation in real estate acquisition, project management and lease obligations.



Lauren King Project Engineer for Means Group Inc. and former negotiator for General Motors. Lauren has acquired, rehabbed and sold various single-family homes in Detroit. Lauren has a strong passion for community development and ensuring that all stakeholders have a voice.



Nicole Scott Project Manager at the Detroit Land Bank Authority (DLBA), former community liaison for the City of Detroit Bridging Neighborhoods relocation program, licensed realtor. Nicole plans to purchase a mixed-used building with ground level retail and a loft above.



Sylvester McIntosh Director of Real Estate for the Detroit Public Schools Community District, licensed broker, developer and investor. Sylvester is interested in learning more about securing funding from financial institutions and is eager to network with other African American developers. Sylvester is excited by the recent developments in Midtown and Downtown; he aims to bring similar enthusiasm, passion and development to Detroit’s neighborhoods.



Gardus Tate Licensed Builder, real estate investor and developer, owner of Tate Holdings and Universal-GFI Construction. Gardus has extensive experience in rehab and new construction of single-family homes, he’s ready to expand into multi-family and mixed-use development.



Luis Antonio Uribe Lead Designer MIND and Architect of Ideas at Design Think Tank. Luis Antonio has a passion for innovation.

For more information about the Equitable Development Initiative in the Detroit, please contact:

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