



# *Vibrant Neighborhoods*

Grants Program

2019-2020 Report



CITY OF  
TALLAHASSEE



# Vibrant Neighborhoods Grants Program

## Program Overview:

The City of Tallahassee's Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs Department launched the Vibrant Neighborhoods Grant Program (VNG) on July 11, 2019. This grant program was established to fund small-scale resident-initiated projects that are designed to enhance the quality of life in City of Tallahassee neighborhoods. City Neighborhood associations or homeowners' associations (HOA's) can apply for grants ranging from \$500-\$2500 to undertake projects that will benefit their neighborhoods in the following categories: Community Beautification/Placemaking, Community Enrichment Programs/Initiatives, Neighborhood Events.

The grant funds and accompanying technical assistance provided by the program are designed to empower neighborhood groups to effectively plan and implement solutions to enhance neighborhood vibrancy, safety and inclusivity. Grants are intended to support enhancements that the entire neighborhood can enjoy and are not intended for regular neighborhood maintenance.

Neighborhoods must provide a match of 50% of granted funds, which can be in the form of cash, in-kind donations and/or volunteer time. The program is administered by the City's Neighborhood Affairs Division.

For FY 2019-20, **\$10,414** was granted to eight neighborhood groups, leveraging an additional **\$23,355** in matching funds.

## Funded projects:

**Eastgate Neighborhood Association (\$500):** Eastgate Neighborhood Association hosted 50 residents at a "National Neighborhood Day" pancake breakfast complete with a book swap and children's activities on Sept. 14, 2019. The event provided residents an opportunity to meet their neighbors and to build social networks, which are essential to developing and maintaining stable neighborhoods.

**Bull Run V HOA (\$500):** Bull Run V HOA organized a community potluck on Oct. 14, 2019. Initially planned as block party, the HOA moved the event indoors into a resident's home after threat of inclement weather. There were children's games, a DJ and a snow cone truck provided refreshing treats for all.

**S. Bronough Street Neighborhood Association (\$500):** South Bronough Street Neighborhood Association used its grant to support a ceremony for the unveiling event of a memorial to the proprietors of the Pittman Boarding House. The state-approved historic marker and bench, purchased with funding from the Tallahassee Community Redevelopment Agency Neighborhood Partnership Grant, represent hope, pride and inspiration in the community. Due to COVID-19 health advisories, the ceremony has been delayed until further notice. When it can be rescheduled, the event will be an opportunity for residents to celebrate the history of the neighborhood and connect with one another.

**Griffin Heights Neighborhood Association (\$1116):** Griffin Heights Neighborhood Association (GHNA) held a Neighborhood Heritage Day event in February 2020 to honor residents that had an instrumental role in shaping the community. GHNA also installed a new neighborhood sign and accompanying landscaping on a gateway street. An existing neighborhood sign was cleaned and repainted, with new landscaping added. The project brought residents together to celebrate neighborhood history and create additional sources of neighborhood pride.

**Victory Gardens Phase II HOA (\$1298):** Victory Gardens Phase II HOA beautified a community space by removing an old fence, planting native trees and landscaping, and installing a pet waste station and bench. The project gave residents an opportunity to build relationships by working together to revitalize an under-utilized common space which the entire neighborhood can now enjoy.

**Woodland Drives Neighborhood Association (\$1500):** Woodland Drive Neighborhood Association planned a Community Hurricane Preparedness Initiative targeting multiple neighborhoods. The program, originally planned for May 2020 but postponed due to COVID-19, will provide residents from targeted neighborhoods with a series of educational speakers, hands-on activities, disaster preparedness supplies, food and entertainment. The project will educate individual residents and households, but also focuses on strengthening relationships between adjacent neighborhoods to better work together in times of disaster.

**Crawfordville Trace HOA (\$2500):** Crawfordville Trace HOA used its grant to beautify common area in the neighborhood. A fence and landscaping were installed around a common space that the neighborhood uses for community gatherings. The enhanced gateway provides a visual invitation into the neighborhood and creates a safe location for social gatherings.

**Old Town Neighborhood Association (\$2500):** Old Town Neighborhood Association's project included planting trees on Leon High's property with the help of LHS students, landscaping a neighborhood entrance, installing a new neighborhood sign and planting native vines on a concrete wall in the neighborhood. The multi-phase project provided an opportunity to create a source of neighborhood pride, increase volunteerism amongst residents and strengthen the relationship with adjacent "neighbor" Leon High School.



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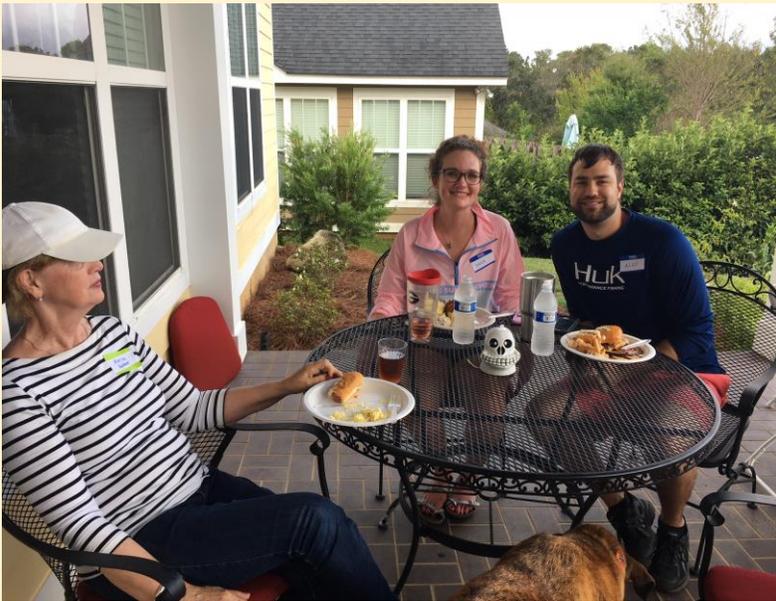
## Eastgate Neighborhood Association





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## Bull Run V HOA





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## Crawfordville Trace HOA





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## Victory Gardens Phase II HOA





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## Old Town Neighborhood Association





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## Griffin Heights Neighborhood Association

