



## Inter-Neighborhood Programming List

**Clean and Green Initiative:** Our Clean and Green Initiative launched in May 2024 in response to residents' concerns about litter. Phase one focuses on increasing the number of trash and recycling containers across our three neighborhoods by partnering with local businesses to sponsor these bins. In phase two, we will collaborate with community art organizations to beautify the trash cans with murals.

We believe this initiative will not only reduce litter but also strengthen our relationships with businesses, foster collaboration among artists, and enhance the visibility of our neighborhood organizations through the United Phillips logo displayed on the bins. This effort serves as a launching point for further Clean and Green actions.

For the past year, EPIC has led a coalition advocating for the shutdown of Smith Foundry. Now that we have achieved this goal, we are transitioning our focus to transforming toxic sites into community assets. We invite all Phillips neighbors to participate in envisioning what a green and just foundry could look like.

Ultimately, we aim to address the vacant lots that have become dumping grounds for cement blocks. Our vision is to launch a broader campaign advocating for the cleanup of these sites, turning them into vibrant public, garden, and community spaces.

Overall, this initiative aims to make our neighborhoods cleaner and greener!

**Phillips Farm and Garden Resource Sharing:** In the summer of 2024, EPIC secured a \$60K grant to strengthen the connections among farms and gardens in the Phillips neighborhoods. Many of our small urban farms and gardens face challenges due to underfunding and limited resources. We recognized an opportunity to leverage this funding to alleviate financial burdens through bulk resource sharing and to establish a food sovereignty network that connects our urban farms and gardens.

To kick off this initiative, we are organizing an annual bike-to-farm tour. Additionally, every spring, we will assess the needs of Phillips farms and coordinate bulk purchases of essential supplies, including soil, compost, straw, seeds, tools, and wood. Our vision is to develop a robust Phillips farm network that empowers our community and enhances local food production.

**United Phillips Website:** In June 2024, we launched [unitedphillips.org](http://unitedphillips.org) as a central hub for all residents. Currently, the site features a calendar of major public events happening in the Phillips neighborhoods. Our goal is to expand its functionality to serve as a comprehensive resource directory for community organizations.

We envision an interactive map that highlights the locations of trash cans, public bathrooms, needle drop sites, and favorite neighborhood spots. Additionally, we aim to host a Phillips history archive—both oral and written—showcasing the rich history and evolution of our neighborhoods.



**Alley (Community Journalism) / Phillips History:** PWNO has collaborated with the Alley Newspaper to host community journalism workshops, equipping neighbors with essential skills in community journalism, effective writing tools, and the publishing process. Over the past year, PWNO, MPNAI, and EPIC have partnered closely with the Alley on a Phillips archival project. This initiative aims to create a comprehensive oral, written, and photographic history of the Phillips neighborhoods, documenting our journey of coming together, experiencing fragmentation, and exploring the possibilities of reunification.

**Renter Education/Empowerment Program:** Last Fall, PWNO started working on a renter-focused campaign by bringing an AmeriCorp Housing Vista into the organization (Hannah!). We have held two renter's rights trainings with one more scheduled for this Fall that will be conducted in Spanish. We would also like to expand our training into Somali. Hannah is also working with other Vista cohort members to expand the educational opportunities for renters. An additional goal of our renter education and empowerment program is to build a tenant cohort of renting neighbors who meet regularly to learn about their rights and how to organize their neighbors.

**Fiscal Sponsorships:** Our neighborhood organizations have successfully built relationships with various groups through fiscal sponsorships. Typically, these involve grants that another organization applies for, and we provide a letter of support while taking on the administrative tasks of distributing the funds and attending events and workshops in support of their efforts. We have established successful fiscal sponsorships with the Anderson School, East Phillips Neighborhood Institute, Edible Boulevards, Banyan Community, and the Alley Newspaper. We hope that through an official partnership we can grow our fiscal sponsorship program and help other smaller community organizations succeed.

**Neighborhood Business Relationship and Financial Partnerships:** One of our top priorities for our neighborhoods is to build capacity through financial partnerships with larger businesses and grant writing. We believe that by building out our cohort of staff we will reach more neighbors and be more effective in creating thriving communities. EPIC/MPNA recently hired a Director of Partner Development to build relationships with businesses and offer them a slate of opportunities that they can sponsor to help build the vitality of the neighborhood.

**Community Meetings:** Our goal for our community meetings is to share tangible resources with our residents. Examples of these include renters rights training, addiction medicine information session, fix it clinics, trauma informed approach training, and more. Our plan is to host six sessions a year, two located in each neighborhood. Residents from all neighborhoods are welcome to attend all of the sessions. Yearly, we will increase our capacity and assess these meetings.