



Sanford, Florida

Choice Neighborhoods Lead Grantee: Sanford Housing Authority

Choice Neighborhoods Co-Grantee: City of Sanford

Target Public Housing Project: Castle Brewer Court (including William Clark Court), Edward Higgins Terrace (including Cowan Moughton Terrace), and Lake Monroe Terrace

Target Neighborhood: Goldsboro

Choice Neighborhoods Grant Amount: \$500,000

Key Partners:

Goldsboro Front Porch Council | EJP Consulting Group | Arlington Properties, Inc. | Career Source Central Florida | Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida | East Central Florida Regional Planning Council | Florida Department of Health in Seminole County | Seminole County Community Development | Seminole County Public Schools | City of Sanford Police Department | University of Central Florida | EJP Consulting Group

Project Summary:

The Goldsboro neighborhood is within walking distance of downtown Sanford but is in many ways miles apart from the city center. Incorporated in 1891 before it was annexed by Sanford, Goldsboro is one of the oldest African-American founded townships in the United States. Over the years, the neighborhood has suffered from limited investment, resulting in a 38 percent vacancy rate, sharp health disparities, and a violent crime that is more than five times that of the City. Goldsboro was also formerly the location of five severely distressed public housing developments, totaling 380 units. These developments were demolished in 2015, leaving nearly 48 acres of land vacant in the heart of Goldsboro.

Despite these barriers, Goldsboro is on the brink of change. Goldsboro is within walking distance to the downtown/waterfront area, as well as the new Sanford SunRail station. Since 2010, the City has invested millions in the neighborhood through street and sidewalk improvements, park and trail enhancements, renovations to the Westside Community Center, and a new police and fire headquarters. For the past 15 years, the Goldsboro Front Porch Council, a 501(c)(3) founded by community members, has leveraged neighborhood investments of over \$5 million and created a robust volunteer program to address housing, neighborhood beautification, economic development, education, youth mentoring, and employment.

The Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant awarded to the Sanford Housing Authority and the City of Sanford will enable the community and its partners to unlock the full potential of Goldsboro. The planning process will bring together community members and partners in health, public safety, transit, economic development, education, housing, and more to establish a plan for developing mixed-income, transit-oriented housing, visibly improving the neighborhood, and improving the health and well-being of residents.