TABLE OF CONTENTS

• Speakers Biographies
• Presentations
• Resources
• Attendee List
Laura Torchio AICP  
**Deputy Director, Transportation Initiatives, Project for Public Spaces**  
Laura Torchio has considerable expertise on Complete Streets and Safe Routes to School (SRTS), having worked on both initiatives previously for the New Jersey Department of Transportation and as a consultant with The RBA Group. During her time with the SRTS National Partnership, Ms. Torchio facilitated collaboration among New Jersey’s state, regional and local leaders to fund and implement Complete Streets and SRTS programs. Most recently she led and managed the Project for Public Spaces Healthy Places Program making the connection between transportation and placemaking to positive health outcomes. She is a board member and past president of Bike&Walk Montclair, and helped her community pass New Jersey’s first municipal Complete Streets policy, achieve New Jersey SRTS Resource Center Gold SRTS status, and Silver Walk- and Bronze Bike Friendly Community status.

Meishka L. Mitchell, AICP, PP  
**Vice President of Community Initiatives, Cooper's Ferry Partnership**  
Meishka has established herself as a leader in the community, equally respected by government officials, community partners, city residents, and her peers. Drawing on her background as a Camden native, as well as her education and experience, she brings a keen and unique perspective to her work in community planning and neighborhood revitalization at Cooper’s Ferry Partnership. Cooper’s Ferry Partnership (CFP) is a nonprofit community and economic development organization that works to establish public and private partnerships to effect sustainable economic revitalization and promote Camden as a place in which to live, to work, to visit and to invest. Meishka joined the CFP staff as a graduate intern in 2003 and took the helm as the Vice President of Neighborhood Initiatives in 2010. Meishka has played a key role in broadening CFP’s mission to address planning and redevelopment efforts in Camden's neighborhoods, overseeing the development of plans and implementation of key neighborhood projects with a high level of community input and participation. Meishka has a Master of City Planning from the University of Pennsylvania. Meishka is also certified by the American Institute of Certified Planners and maintains a Professional Planners license with the State of New Jersey.

Laure Biron LSW, MSS, MLSP, MFA  
**Porch Light Program Director, Mural Arts Philadelphia**  
Laure Biron joined Mural Arts Philadelphia in 2008 as a teaching artist sparking an interest in social justice and social work. After completing her Masters at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Laure enrolled in the Bryn Mawr School of Social work and Social Research and took a field placement with the Restorative Justice Department Guild Program at Mural Arts. After three years with the Restorative Justice department and completing her Masters in Social Service with a clinical focus and a Masters in Legal and Social Policy, Laure started her own private psychotherapy practice and became the Director of the Porch Light Program, a partnership between Mural Arts and the Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services that offers programming and projects on behavioral health and community wellness.
Healthy Places, Healthy Communities
Laura Torchio
Deputy Director of Transportation Initiatives
Project for Public Spaces

Connect the Lots in Camden
Meishka L. Mitchell
Vice President of Community Initiatives Cooper’s Ferry Partnership

Mural Arts Porch Light
Laure Biron, Director
Mural Arts’ Porch Light Program
HEALTHY PLACES
HEALTHY COMMUNITIES
The Intersection of Civic Space and Mental Health

July 14th, 2017
Philadelphia, PA

LAURA TORCHIO, AICP
Dep. Director, Transportation
ltorchio@pps.org
WHERE WE HAVE WORKED
Since 1975

Helping people create and sustain public spaces that build stronger communities.

46 countries, 6 continents, 50 US states, 7 Canadian provinces, 1000 cities, 3,000 communities
Placemaking is a collaborative process of people coming together to reimagine and reinvent public spaces.

- The Community is the Expert
- Create a PLACE, not a Design
The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces

William “Holly” Whyte
“It’s hard to create a space that will not attract people, what is remarkable, is how often this has been accomplished.”
~Holly Whyte

WHY???
WE’RE NOT SEEING THE BIG PICTURE
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES OF THE FUTURE

Public Spaces
Squares, Parks, Parking Lots, Markets, Streets, Transit

City Hall
Churches
Schools
Community Centers
Theatres/Museums
Offices
Libraries
Coffee Shops
Hospitals
Transit
“What attracts people most it would appear, is other people.”
WHAT MAKES A GREAT PLACE?

- Number of Women, Children & Elderly
- Street Life
- Social Networks
- Evening Use
- Volunteerism

Diverse

- Stewardship
- Cooperative
- Neighborly
- Welcoming

Sociability

- Uses & Activities
- Active
- Fun
- Vital
- Special
- Real

Uses & Activities

- Access & Linkages
- Proximity
- Connected
- Walkable
- Convenient
- Accessible

Access & Linkages

- Comfort & Image
- Safe
- Walkable
- Sittable
- Attractive
- Historic

Comfort & Image

- Measurements
- Intangibles
- Key Attributes

Problem for Public Spaces

- Local Business Ownership
- Land-Use
- Property Values
- Rent Levels
- Retail Sales

- Traffic Data
- Mode Splits
- Transit Usage
- Pedestrian Activity
- Parking Usage Patterns

- Sanitation Rating
- Building Conditions
- Crime Statistics
- Environmental Data
USES & ACTIVITIES

- Fun/Vital
- Active
- Indigenous
- Sustainable
- Affordable
- Challenging
COMFORT & IMAGE

• Inviting
• Attractive
• Usable
• Clean
• Green
• Friendly
ACCESS & LINKAGES

• Convenient
• Walkable
• Bike-friendly
• Transit
• Orienting
• Connected
• Enticing
SOCIABILITY

• Welcoming
• Cooperative
• Interactive
• Neighborly
• Proud
• Diverse
• International
• Cared for
Setting the Context for **Healthy Places**

Creating Healthy Communities Through Placemaking

[Image of people cycling in a park with market stalls in the background]
The Upstream-Downstream Story

Social Determinants of Health
- Policy and Programs
  - Corporations and other businesses
  - Government agencies
  - Schools
- Social inequities
  - Class
  - Race/ethnicity
  - Gender
  - Immigration status
  - Sexual orientation

Prevention/Risk Reduction
- Physical environment
  - Housing
  - Land use
  - Transportation
  - Residential Segregation
- Behavior
  - Smoking
  - Nutrition
  - Physical activities
  - Violence

Medical System
- Disease and Injury
  - Infectious disease
  - Chronic disease
  - Injury
- Mortality
  - Infant mortality
  - Life expectancy

Let’s Keep People from Getting Sick!
Let’s Make it Easier to Live Well!
RWJF 2016 County Health Rankings

Health Outcomes
- Length of Life (50%)
- Quality of Life (50%)
  - Tobacco Use
  - Diet & Exercise
  - Alcohol & Drug Use
  - Sexual Activity
  - Access to Care
  - Quality of Care
  - Education
  - Employment
  - Income
  - Family & Social Support
  - Community Safety
  - Air & Water Quality
  - Housing & Transit

Health Factors
- Health Behaviors (30%)
- Clinical Care (20%)
- Social & Economic Factors (40%)
- Physical Environment (10%)

Policies & Programs
HOW HAVE WE BEEN DESIGNING OUR PLACES?
Driving-only transportation pattern

Getting From Point A to Point B is tougher among Cul-de-sacs than on a Grid Pattern

Walkable connected transportation network

Images of Two Atlanta neighborhoods are of the same scale, about one square mile. Travel distance on the left is 1.3 miles; travel distance on the right is 0.5 miles.

Source: Healthy and Community Design by Lawrence D. Frank et al. © 2003 Lawrence D. Frank and Peter Engelke. Reproduced by permission of Island Press, Washington, D.C.
San Diego, California - A 24-Hour Fitness Center with escalators.
THE RESULTS?

- 2/3 of American adults either obese or overweight
- **Physical inactivity** is the 4th leading cause of death globally
- Half of Americans have a *chronic disease*
- 26% of Americans suffer from *depression*
- Growing *health disparities*
“We have to turn everything upside down to get it right side up – to get from inadequate to extraordinary.”

~Fred Kent, PPS President
Don’t ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive.

- Howard Thurman, Civil Rights Leader
Don’t ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive.

- Howard Thurman, Civil Rights Leader

Healthy Places

We are products of our environment... how can we build places that help us come alive?
Understanding the connection between Placemaking and Healthy Living
5 Key Themes

1. Social Support & Interaction
2. Play & Active Recreation
3. Walking & Biking
4. Healthy Food
5. Green & Natural Environments
Placemaking projects improve community social capital, sense of community, and individual well-being, including decreased reports of depression;

People who have a stronger sense of belonging to their local community tend to live healthier lives and have fewer mental health challenges; and,

Public space features and amenities that facilitate face-to-face interaction have been linked to reduced levels of psychological distress.
Social Support & Interaction

Key Findings

• Placemaking projects improve community social capital, sense of community, and individual well-being, including decreased reports of depression;

• People who have a stronger sense of belonging to their local community tend to live healthier lives and have fewer mental health challenges; and,

• Public space features and amenities that facilitate face-to-face interaction have been linked to reduced levels of psychological distress.

Strong social support and networks instill a sense of belonging
Social support and connections essential to health and well-being
Connected to decreased levels of stress, longer lives, improved pregnancy outcomes
Placemaking projects linked to improved sense of community, social capital, depression rates, well being
Greater sense of belonging linked to healthier behavior and mental health improvements
Emerging evidence about impacts of engagement in park management and activities
Strategies that create ‘bridging’ social capital and networks are especially powerful
Taking Action
Taking Action

1. Institutionalize community engagement.
Taking Action

1. Institutionalize community engagement.

2. Identify spaces for additional public uses.
Taking Action

1. Institutionalize community engagement.
2. Identify spaces for additional public uses.
3. Organize or host community events and programs.
Taking Action

1. Institutionalize community engagement.
2. Identify spaces for additional public uses.
3. Organize or host community events and programs.
4. Provide amenities that encourage social interaction.
1. Institutionalize community engagement.

2. Identify spaces for additional public uses.

3. Organize or host community events and programs.

4. Provide amenities that encourage social interaction.

5. Build the capacity of local stakeholders to manage public spaces.
Taking Action

1. Institutionalize community engagement.

2. Identify spaces for additional public uses.

3. Organize or host community events and programs.

4. Provide amenities that encourage social interaction.

5. Build the capacity of local stakeholders to manage public spaces.

Case Study

Peaches & Greens, Detroit, MI
A small produce store grows into a community and health hub that houses a commercial kitchen, a meeting space, a plaza and park, community gardens, and an orchard.
The Role of Social Support & Interaction: The critical role of social connection and community networks in promoting overall health and well-being

New Areas of Research

1. Explore the connection between mental health, social supports, and social capital

2. Evaluate the relationship between place attachment and health

3. Bridge social capital and attract a diversity of users

Play & Active Recreation

Key Findings

• Having easy access to clean parks has been associated with healthier weights and greater life satisfaction amongst users;

• Parks in communities with higher levels of social capital generate more physical activity; and,

• Play streets can increase children’s physical activity, at no cost to their families.
Play & Active Recreation

Key Findings

- Having easy access to clean parks has been associated with healthier weights and greater life satisfaction amongst users;

- Parks in communities with higher levels of social capital generate more physical activity; and,

- Play streets can increase children’s physical activity, at no cost to their families.
Taking Action

1. Engage local stakeholders
2. Work with community groups
3. Increase public active recreation spaces
4. Add active recreation
5. Additional amenities, equipment, or programming
6. Play Street or Open Street events
7. Advertise play and active recreation opportunities widely
8. Improve walking, bicycling, and public transportation access.
9. Promote socialization and interaction
Green & Natural Environments

Key Findings

• Close proximity to parks and green spaces positively impacts physical activity levels, mental health, and cognitive function;

• People living in neighborhoods with high-quality public spaces report better mental health than those with low-quality public spaces; and,

• Green spaces and placemaking activities can potentially reduce crime by adding “eyes on the street”.
Green & Natural Environments

Key Findings

- Close proximity to parks and green spaces positively impacts physical activity levels, mental health, and cognitive function;

- People living in neighborhoods with high-quality public spaces report better mental health than those with low-quality public spaces; and,

- Green spaces and placemaking activities can potentially reduce crime by adding “eyes on the street”.

Immediate and affordable, low-cost improvements that adds visual appeal, comfort, and identity to a place
Taking Action

1. Increase the number, size, safety, and quality of parks and trails accessible on foot.

2. Incorporate more natural features into existing green spaces.

3. Incorporate trees, landscaping, and other engaging natural features into the urban fabric at large.
Healthy Food

Key Findings

• Adding a farmers’ market to a neighborhood lacking supermarkets can increase the availability and affordability of fresh produce;

• Incentives to purchase fruits and vegetables can help low-income populations purchase and consume more of these products; and,

• Community gardens can increase fruit and vegetable consumption.
Adding a farmers’ market to a neighborhood lacking supermarkets can increase the availability and affordability of fresh produce;

- Incentives to purchase fruits and vegetables can help low-income populations purchase and consume more of these products; and,

- Community gardens can increase fruit and vegetable consumption.
Taking Action

1. Establish year-round farmers markets
2. Co-locate healthy food opportunities with health services
3. Integrate community gardens into schools, housing, etc
4. Education and health-related programming
5. Vouchers at farmers markets
Social places encourage walking;

Walkable neighborhoods foster social interaction and community cohesion;

Perceptions of a neighborhood’s walkability is often higher in those communities with higher levels of social capital; and,

Low-income communities often face additional barriers to physical activity that reduce the health benefits.
Social places encourage walking;

Walkable neighborhoods foster social interaction and community cohesion;

Perceptions of a neighborhood’s walkability is often higher in those communities with higher levels of social capital; and,

Low-income communities often face additional barriers to physical activity that reduce the health benefits.

Create communities by fostering new community destinations... “to” not “through”
Taking Action

1. Enhance public spaces that are accessible
2. Improve walking and bicycling access
3. Play Streets & Open Streets
4. Traffic Calming
5. Clean up, repair, green, and beautify
6. Wayfinding
The Unique Role of Healthcare Institutions

1. **Use Community Health Needs Assessments**, which non-profit hospitals must conduct every three years, to identify potential placemaking projects and strategies.

2. **Utilize Community Health Workers**, defined by APHA as “a frontline public health worker who is a trusted member and/or has a close understanding of the community served,” to engage local residents in placemaking efforts.
HEALTHY PLACES AUDIT

WHAT MAKES A GREAT PLACE?

A Tool for Initiating the Placemaking Process

PROJECT FOR PUBLIC SPACES

What makes a great place? A healthy place audit is a tool to evaluate the physical and social environments of a place to identify opportunities for improvement. The audit considers various aspects such as accessibility, safety, aesthetics, and community engagement.

Example:

- **Sociability:** People want to know their neighbors. It is a great neighborhood...
WHAT MAKES A GREAT PLACE?

- Sociability
- Uses & Activities
- Access & Linkages
- Comfort & Image
What are the strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for:

- Walking & Biking
- Social Support & Interaction
- Play & Active Recreation
- Healthy Food
- Green & Natural Environments
HOW DO YOU DO IT?

The Community is the Expert

Place, Not Just Design

You Can’t Do It Alone

You Are Never Finished
Collective Impact occurs when organizations from different sectors agree to solve a specific social problem using a common agenda, aligning their efforts, and using common measures of success.

The Collective Impact Model allows partners to leverage efforts even when their missions differ.
CONVERGENCE OF MOVEMENTS/DISCIPLINES AROUND PLACE

- Urban Equity
- Smart Growth
- Climate Change / Sustainability
- Local Food Systems
- Historic Preservation
- Transportation & Land Use
- Public Health
- Local Economies
- Community Engagement

When you focus on place, you do everything differently.
~Fred Kent

You Can’t Do It Alone
PPS Healthy Places Initiative

1. **Healthy Places Tools and Training**
   Leverage placemaking tools and trainings to make the Place/Health connection

2. **Healthy Places 2.0**
   Identify and catalog evidence to support the connection between health and place and to justify place-led, person-centered change efforts

3. **Partnerships & Movement Building**
   Build a Healthy Places network that can emerge as the “next system” for addressing health and wellbeing
Stay in Touch!

pps.org  (read our blog, subscribe to our free newsletter)

@PPS_Placemaking

facebook.com/ProjectforPublicSpaces

PPS_Placemaking

Placemaking Leadership Council
What is Creative Placemaking?

Meishka L. Mitchell, AICP, PP
Healthy Communities Task Force
Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
PLACEMAKING

A multi-faceted approach to the planning, design and management of public spaces. Placemaking capitalizes on a local community’s assets, inspiration, and potential, with the intention of creating public spaces that promote people’s health, happiness, and well being. It is political due to the nature of place identity. Placemaking is both a process and a philosophy.
CONNECT THE LOTS IS A COMMUNITY-DRIVEN INITIATIVE TO ACTIVATE CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY’S VACANT AND UNDERUTILIZED SPACES
Expanding Park System

$20+ million invested in last five years
SPACE — — ➔ PLACE
CONNECT THE LOTS
Creating Community & Reclaiming Vacant Spaces

The City of Camden and Connect the Lots present
CAMDEN NIGHT GARDENS

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2017
7 PM
ROOSEVELT PLAZA PARK
520 MARKET STREET
IN FRONT OF CAMDEN CITY HALL
FREE TO ENTER

Refreshments & merchandise available for purchase

#CAMDENIGHTGARDENS
#CONNECTTHELOTS

For info call 856.757.9154
www.camdennightgardens.com

ART • MUSIC • DANCE
FOOD • CAR SHOW

Camden Night Gardens, a presentation by the City of Camden and Cooper’s Ferry Partnership, and supported by the William Penn Foundation and the Kresge Foundation. “RISE UP” is produced by Wild Dogs International.
CONNECT THE LOTS
2017 SCHEDULE
TURN UP THE FUN!

MAY 20, 2017
CAMDEN
NIGHT GARDENS
ROOSEVELT PLAZA PARK
7 PM

SEPTEMBER 9, 2017
CAMDEN
JAM
ROOSEVELT PLAZA PARK
2:30 PM

GET FIT!

MONDAYS IN JUNE - AUGUST
6 PM @ DUDLEY GRANGE PARK
3101 FEDERAL STREET

TUESDAYS IN JUNE - AUGUST
6 PM @ JOHNSON PARK
2ND & COOPER STREETS

WEDNESDAYS IN JUNE - AUGUST
6 PM @ PYNE POYN'T PARK
6TH & ERIE STREET

THURSDAYS IN JULY - SEPT
11 - 11 PM @ ROOSEVELT PLAZA PARK
520 MARKET STREET

FRIDAYS IN JUNE & JULY
7:10 PM @ ROOSEVELT PLAZA PARK
520 MARKET STREET

FRIDAYS IN AUGUST
7:10 PM @ DUDLEY GRANGE PARK
3101 FEDERAL STREET

CITYWIDE BASKETBALL FEST
SUNDAY, JUNE 11 - 3 - 7 PM
REV. EVERS PARK
990 MORGAN BLVD

WEDNESDAYS IN JUNE - AUGUST
6 PM @ COOPER'S POYN'T PARK
DELAWARE AVE AT ELM STREET

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12
10 AM @ COOPER'S POYN'T PARK
DELAWARE AVE AT ELM STREET

“WEAVING COMMUNITY”
MON. WED & FRI IN JULY
10 AM @ CAMDEN COMMUNITY POOL
1000 ERIE ST

THURSDAYS IN JUNE - AUGUST
6 PM @ CAMDEN COMMUNITY POOL
600 ERIE STREET

“WEAVING COMMUNITY”
MON. WED & FRI IN JULY
10 AM @ CAMDEN COMMUNITY POOL
1000 ERIE ST

TEXT "CTRL CAMDEN" to 41141 for event alerts

www.connectthelotscamden.com
For more information, please call (609) 737-9154

HAVE FUN!

ZOOGA

YOGA

HOUSE PARTY
FITNESS

FARMERS
MARKET
& MUSIC

BOOTCAMP

AQUA
AEROBICS

CAMDEN
GOT TALENT

Bike
Event

ARTS
WORKSHOP

CAMDEN
PEACE GAMES

CONNECT THE LOTS IS SUPPORTED BY:

THE KRESGF FOUNDATION

RUTGERS
Center for the Arts Camden

DODGE FOUNDATION

Seth and Katherine Wolfensohn Foundation

The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the Lots
The Camden Promise Zone

Connect the L
2017

- 18 distinct activities
- 5 weekly fitness classes
- 8 locations
- Farmers Market & Music
- "Weaving Community" Arts Workshops

2017  |  TBD
2016  |  10,000
2015  |  7,500
2014  |  4,000

CTL ATTENDANCE
23% of people came to the event with children.
3/4 of attendees from Camden City
FREE!

FITNESS CLASSES

ZUMBA
MONDAYS/ JUNE - AUGUST
6-7 PM @ DUDLEY GRANGE PARK
3101 FEDERAL STREET

BOOTCAMP
THURSDAYS/ JUNE - AUGUST
6-7 PM @ COOPER'S POYN'T PARK
DELWARE AVENUE AT ELM STREET

YOGA
TUESDAYS/ JUNE - AUGUST
6-7 PM @ JOHNSON PARK
2ND & COOPER STREETS

AQUA AEROBICS
SATURDAYS/ JULY - AUGUST
10-11 AM @ NORTH CAMDEN COMMUNITY CENTER POOL (BATHING SUIT REQUIRED)
600 ERIE STREET

HOUSE PARTY FITNESS
WEDNESDAYS/ JUNE - AUGUST
6-7 PM @ PYNE POYN'T PARK
6TH & ERIE STREETS

For info, call 856.757.9154
www.connectthelotscamden.com

Text "CTLCAMDEN" to 41411 for event alerts

Get Healthy Camden

Cooper-Harvey Foundation

Get Healthy Camden Fitness Classes provided by:
DIVA Richards
City of Camden
Kroc
YMCA
IN 5 WEEKS, THE VIRTUA MOBILE FARMER’S MARKET HAS SOLD TO OVER 300 PEOPLE.

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE HELPED ADD ANOTHER OPTION FOR FRESH PRODUCE IN THE CITY!
Saturday Sept. 9th
2 – 8 PM
Roosevelt Plaza Park
520 Market Street
(In front of Camden City Hall)

FREE with Ticket Required.
Tickets at CamdenJam2017.eventbrite.com

Art! Crafts!
Music! Kids Zone!
Green Discovery Zone!

Food & Drink Available for Purchase

KELLY PRICE
BILAL

presented by the City of Camden & Connect the Lots
hosted by Dyana Williams of Old School 100.3

Arts & crafts vendor space is available! Volunteers needed!
For more information, visit www.connectthelotscamden.com or call Sarah Blockman at (856) 757-9164.
"Camden Jam is one of the many engaging community events that not only celebrates our city's dynamic arts and culture scene, but also showcases the extraordinary talents of our local artists..."

- Camden Mayor Dana L. Redd
CAMDEN JAM 2017
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2017
2 – 8 PM
Meishka L. Mitchell, AICP, PP
Vice President of Community Initiatives
856.757.9154/meishka@coopersferry.com

CTLCamden
CTLCamden
Connect the Lots - Camden

Text “CTLCAMDEN” to 41411 for event alerts
OUR MISSION
We create art with others to transform places, individuals, communities and institutions. Through this work, we establish new standards of excellence in the practice of public and contemporary art.

We listen with empathetic ears to understand the aspirations of our partners and participants. And through beautiful collaborative art, we provide people with the inspiration and tools to seize their own future.
WHAT IS THE PORCH LIGHT PROGRAM?

Our Porch Light program, a joint collaboration with the City of Philadelphia’s Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services, focuses on achieving universal health and wellness among Philadelphians, especially those dealing with mental health issues or trauma. We do this by providing opportunities to contribute to meaningful works of public art.
PORCH LIGHT PROGRAM MISSION

Porch Light projects are driven by issues that have tangible effects on local communities, such as mental health, substance use, spirituality, homelessness, trauma, immigration, war, and neighborhood safety.

The targeted outcomes of any Porch Light project include:

- improvements to the physical environment
- new opportunities for social connections
- positive changes within a community, such as enhanced unity and empathy among neighbors
Porch Light Program Findings

Yale School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry, Division of Prevention and Community Research

1300+
Philadelphia residents in six distressed neighborhoods completed brief on-the-street interviews

Reduced Stigma
Small relative decrease in feelings of stigma toward individuals with mental health or substance abuse challenges

Collective efficacy
Relative increase in social cohesion and trust among neighbors

Individual Impact
From 264 individuals receiving behavioral health services and supports from six Philadelphia agencies were interviewed

Neighborhood Health
Relative increase in the quality of the walking environment and perceptions of neighborhood safety artworks created throughout the city

Participants reported positive effects including less use of secrecy, fewer rejection experiences, and a decrease in overall stress
Contemplation, Clarity, Resilience, Completed 2016
Artist: Eric Okdeh
Photo: Steve Weinik
Personal Renaissance, Completed 2010
Artist: James Burns
Photo: Steve Weinik
Southeast by Southeast Storefront

Photo: Steve Weinik
Building Brotherhood Mural Design 2015
Artists Willis “Nomo” Humphrey And Keir Johnston

Photo: Steve Weinik
NEW STOREFRONT INITIATIVE:

Kensington

Partnership with
• New Kensington Community Development Corporation
• Prevention Point Philadelphia
• Impact Services
Atlas of Tomorrow, Completed 2016
Artist: Candy Chang
Photo: Steve Weinik
Laure E. Biron, LSW, MSS, MLSP MFA
Porch Light Program Director

CONTACT:
Laure.biron@muralarts.org
Get Involved

Donate
muralarts.org/give

Share
@muralarts

Volunteer
volunteers@muralarts.org
**Speakers' Organizations' Websites**

- Project for Public Spaces: [https://www.pps.org/](https://www.pps.org/)
- Cooper's Ferry Partnership: [http://coopersferry.com/](http://coopersferry.com/)
- Mural Arts: [https://www.muralarts.org/](https://www.muralarts.org/)

**Programs**

- Cooper's Ferry Partnership – Connect the Lots [http://www.connectthelotscamden.com/](http://www.connectthelotscamden.com/)

**Reports and Journal Articles**

ATTENDEE LIST

Alicia Knowlton
Chester County Health Department
aknowlton@chesco.org

Alison Hastings
DVRPC
ahastings@dvrpc.org

Amory Hillengas
Philadelphia Department of Public Health
amory.hillengas@phila.gov

Amy Confair
Drexel Urban Health Collaborative
arc333@drexel.edu

Amy Verbofsky
DVRPC
averbofsky@dvrpc.org

Andrew Svekla
DVRPC
asvekla@dvrpc.org

Anne Mitchell
Thomas Jefferson University
anne.mitchell@jefferson.edu

Ashley Orr
Chester County Health Department
aorr@chesco.org

Dr. Cheryl Bettigole
Philadelphia Department of Public Health
Cheryl.Bettigole@phila.gov

Christina Arlt
DVRPC
carl1@dvrpc.org

Christina Miller
PHMC, Health Promotion Council
christinam@phmc.org

David Kanthor
Philadelphia City Planning Commission
david.kanthor@phila.gov

Derek Lombardi
DVRPC
dlombardi@dvrpc.org

Dion Lerman
PA Integrated Pest Management Program/Penn State
dll33@psu.edu

Edward Thomas
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
edward.a.thomas@hud.gov

Elise Turner
DVRPC
eturner@dvrpc.org

Elizabeth Devietti
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
elizabeth.devietti@hhs.gov

Erika Morgan
Clean Air Council
emorgan@cleanair.org

Evan Wise
Temple University
evan.wise@temple.edu

Frances Williams
PHMC, Research & Evaluation Group
frwilliams@phmc.org

Garrett O’Dwyer
Philadelphia Association of Community Development Corporations
godwyer@pacdc.org

Geraldine Wang
Partners for Sacred Places
gwang@sacredplaces.org
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Glen Stevens</td>
<td>Abington Shade Tree Commission</td>
<td><a href="mailto:glensevens55@gmail.com">glensevens55@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heather Martin</td>
<td>Chester County Planning Commission</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hmartin@chesco.org">hmartin@chesco.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heather Strassberger</td>
<td>Philadelphia City Planning Commission</td>
<td><a href="mailto:heather.strassberger@phila.gov">heather.strassberger@phila.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Felsman</td>
<td>DVRPC</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hfelsman@dvrpc.org">hfelsman@dvrpc.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ifeekam Ozonuwe</td>
<td>Public Health Management Corporation</td>
<td><a href="mailto:iozonuwe@phmc.org">iozonuwe@phmc.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennie Patterson</td>
<td>PHMC, Health Promotion Council</td>
<td>j <a href="mailto:patterson@phmc.org">patterson@phmc.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jillian Gallagher</td>
<td>PA DEP</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jiggallaghe@pa.gov">jiggallaghe@pa.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joey Bilyk</td>
<td>Esperanza</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jbilyk@esperanza.us">jbilyk@esperanza.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jon Lesher</td>
<td>Montgomery County Planning Commission</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jlesher@montcopa.org">jlesher@montcopa.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan Muse</td>
<td>The Food Trust</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jmuse@thefoodtrust.org">jmuse@thefoodtrust.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justin Dula</td>
<td>Delaware County Planning Department</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dulaj@co.delaware.pa.us">dulaj@co.delaware.pa.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justin Spencer-Linzie</td>
<td>YMCA of Burlington and Camden Counties</td>
<td><a href="mailto:justins@ymca-bc.org">justins@ymca-bc.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kara Barber</td>
<td>Drexel University</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kara.barber21@gmail.com">kara.barber21@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karin Morris</td>
<td>DVRPC</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kmorris@dvrpc.org">kmorris@dvrpc.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kate Morrow</td>
<td>The Goldenberg Group</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kmorrow@goldenberggroup.com">kmorrow@goldenberggroup.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen Grady</td>
<td>Temple University</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kathleen.grady@temple.edu">kathleen.grady@temple.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katie Kuffner</td>
<td>Chester County Health Department</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kkuffner@chesco.org">kkuffner@chesco.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katie Lample</td>
<td>DVRPC</td>
<td><a href="mailto:klample@dvrpc.org">klample@dvrpc.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keith Davis</td>
<td>Philadelphia City Planning Commission</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Keith.F.Davis@Phila.gov">Keith.F.Davis@Phila.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelli McIntyre</td>
<td>Philadelphia Department of Public Health, Get Healthy Philly</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kelli.mcintyre@phila.gov">kelli.mcintyre@phila.gov</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Keri Salerno  
PHMC, Health Promotion Council  
ksalerno@phmc.org

Kevin Sheridan  
Delaware County Planning Commission  
SheridanK@co.delaware.pa.us

Kinnari Chandriani  
Philadelphia Department of Public Health  
kinnari.chandriani@phila.gov

Lamarr Kendrick  
EDO Ventures  
edoventures@gmail.com

Leah Lazer  
London School of Economics  
leahlazer@gmail.com

Leonard Bonarek  
Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia  
leonard.bonarek@gmail.com

Loretta Kelly  
NJ Department of Health  
loretta.kelly@doh.nj.gov

Lori Devlin  
Delaware County Intercommunity Health  
Devlinl@co.delaware.pa.us

Marilyn Howarth  
University of Pennsylvania, Center of Excellence in Environmental Toxicology (CEET)  
Marilyn.Howarth@uphs.upenn.edu

Marisa Jones  
Safe Routes to School National Partnership  
marisa@saferoutespartnership.org

Marilyn Howarth  
University of Pennsylvania, Center of Excellence in Environmental Toxicology (CEET)  
Marilyn.Howarth@uphs.upenn.edu

Morgan Hugo  
Liberty Resources, Inc.  
morganhugo@Libertyresources.org

Murylo Batista  
Public Health Management Corporation  
mbatista@phmc.org

Mica Root  
Philadelphia Department of Public Health  
mica.root@phila.gov

Michelle Gross  
PHMC, Health Promotion Council  
mgross@phmc.org

Patty Elkis  
DVRPC  
pelkis@dvrpc.org

Rita Stevens  
Abington Shade Tree Commission  
ablingontrees@gmail.com

Rob Simmons  
Thomas Jefferson University, College of Population Health  
rsimmons810@gmail.com
Sara Grossman  
Philadelphia Department of Public Health, Get Healthy Philly  
sara.grossman@phila.gov

Sarah Scott  
DVRPC  
sscott@dvrpc.org

Shane Spink  
Delaware County Planning Department  
SpinkS@co.delaware.pa.us

Shawn Megill Legendre  
DVRPC  
slegendre@dvrpc.org

Shirley Loveless  
Coleshill Associates LLC  
SML23@cornell.edu

Shoshana Akins  
DVRPC  
sakins@dvrpc.org

Stefan Mend  
PHMC, Research and Evaluation Group  
smend@phmc.org

Shawn Legendre  
Energy Coordinating Agency  
thomasf@ecasavesenergy.org

Thomas McKeon  
University of Pennsylvania, Center of Excellence in Environmental Toxicology (CEET)  
mckeont@upenn.edu

Valerie Brown  
Camden County Office of Sustainability  
valerie.brown@camdencounty.com

Waffiyah Murray  
Office of Transportation and Infrastructure Systems  
waffiyyah.murray@phila.gov