



USI | URBAN STRATEGIES, INC.
Families at the Center of Results

Perkins Homes Baltimore, Maryland

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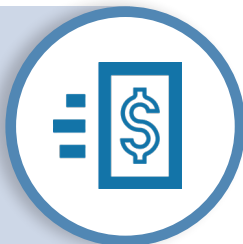
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Perkins Homes

Perkins Homes was a former public housing development from 1942 - 2020, located between Fells Point and Little Italy. Revitalizing neighboring communities of Perkins, Somerset, and Oldtown (PSO), into a mixed-income community with quality amenities and robust services, has been a long over-due project in Baltimore City. In conjunction to families meeting their goals and leading stable and thriving lives, Urban Strategies, Inc. has been supporting all Perkins families since 2018, to bridge the gaps in barriers that have plagued this community for several decades.

The PSO Transformation Plan calls for the demolition and redevelopment of Perkins Homes into a vibrant, mixed-income community with affordable and market rate housing. In like manner, a new 21st century school, new opportunities, community amenities, neighborhood improvements, and a supportive services plan aimed at helping families obtain access to community partners.

The average household income is \$26,275



(427) 96% of households self-report having health insurance



88% of our 4 & 5 year olds enrolled in early learning programs



462 (91%) of families are enrolled in Family Support



Propelling Educational Success:

In an effort to ensure our children 0-3 obtain quality early learning interventions and the ability to enter kindergarten ready to achieve, USI will continue to support families to obtain access to early head start programming, developmental screenings, and resources that assist children with reaching their developmental milestones. Partners and community agencies like Bedtime in a Box and Baltimore Healthy Start align with USI's commitment to successful outcomes. Supporting all our K-12 youth is just as significant as they graduate from high school. Providing safe, nurturing after-school & summer elementary, junior, and senior programming environments where youth can obtain resources and positive life experiences that impart knowledge and skills in preparation for the real world is essential. Perkins Youth Council (PYC), Art With A Heart, Math Motivators, Boys & Girls Club, and Get In The Game (GITG) are several partners that empower our youth to become successful leaders academically, holistically, and develop social emotional learning skills within their communities. Currently, 88% of our 4 & 5 year olds are enrolled in early learning programs, 97% of children ages 0 to 3 are screened for developmental delays, 20 of Perkins youth are members of the Perkins Tenant Council, and 30 families are participating in dual literacy learning programs for children 0 to 7 years old.

Improving Health & Wellness:

Improving Health & Wellness outcomes continues at the forefront of USI's goal in ensuring all families maintain a healthy lifestyle. In 2022, USI collaborated with Merritt Gym to connect residents 50+ to monthly health sessions that provided light exercise, healthy eating tips, and resources that assisted residents with chronic health conditions. Since the pandemic, mental health stats has continued to rise within our households to include both youth and adults. Advocating on behalf of our families to access the appropriate services to successfully manage these conditions is an on-going effort.



Moving Families to Economic Self-Sufficiency:

By partnering with organizations that address our residents' barriers as well as providing options to further their chances of becoming more self-sufficient is essential in areas relative to increasing household income, assets, training, and employment. These tenants are central to USI's mission. Currently, \$26,275 is the average annual income for families enrolled in USI's Family Support Services in Perkins Homes. 54.3% of these families have checking accounts and 57% of residents earn their income via employment wages.



Relocation and Family Support:

Since 2020, families began their initial relocation from Perkins. Many anxiously are waiting for the completion of the revitalized site. USI will continue our efforts to engage, support, advocate, and empower all families to become self-sufficient and achieve positive outcomes. We are able to continue this great work in addressing resident barriers through the generosity and commitment of our valued community partners.



All Families are Stable and Thriving



Our Experience with Choice Neighborhoods

USI partners with a diversity of stakeholders in Choice Neighborhoods sites to create and implement comprehensive neighborhood plans with a focus on human service needs. We owe our success with Choice Neighborhoods to our commitment to using a Results-Based Accountability framework that governs our approach to service delivery. We are using data to constantly measure and improve our

programs for children and families in real time. Using our LEARN (Learning for Effective Actions to Revitalize Neighborhoods) performance measurement system, Urban continuously builds evidence on what works best for the more than 30,000 families we serve. We aim to further build upon early successes with Choice to realize our organizational vision that "All families are stable and thriving".