

2024 Ideas to Serve Community Partners

- Rosario Hernandez, [Historic Westside Gardens](#)
- Wande Okunoren-Meadows, [Hand, Heart and Soul Project](#)
- Tiffany Roberts, [Southern Center for Human Rights](#)
- Omar Howard, [Freedom is a Choice](#)
- Kelli and CJ Stewart, [LEAD Center for Youth](#)
- KaCey Venning, [Helping Empower Youth](#)
- Dawn Townsend, [Hopeful Change](#)
- Raioni Madison, [3D Girls](#)
- Dr. Na'Taki Osborne-Jelks, [West Atlanta Watershed Alliance](#)
- Odetta MacLeish White, [Center for Community Progress](#)
- Patricia Luna, [Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta](#)

2023 Ideas to Serve Community Partners

Organization: 3D Girls, Inc

Founder: Raioni Madison Jones

Website: <https://www.3dgirlsinc.org>

Summary: Founded in 2012, 3D Girls, Inc.'s mission is to educate and empower young women to be advocates for themselves and their families. Our work is fulfilled through youth mentoring, prenatal and parental development, and social and emotional wellness. Our wrap-around services provide opportunities for women and girls that are inclusive and intentional about empowering them to thrive.

Organization: Close Ties Leadership Program

Founder: Brandon Martin

Website: <https://www.closeties.org/>

Summary: Close Ties Leadership Program serves as both a mirror and a window. We create a safe space for Black boys to reflect on who they are and equip them with the tools to become whom they aspire to be.

Organization: ReadI Workforce Training and Development

Founder: Elissa Russel

Website: <http://www.consultreadi.com/>

Summary: READI Consulting, LLC is a for-profit, tech-enabled training platform that reskills youth aged 16-26; READI offers literacy and foundational workforce skills-building remediation. We design and deliver courses to upskill the undereducated and underemployed with a focus on addressing literacy inefficiencies (reading, numeracy, digital, language) and workforce skills building.

Organization: Swim Life Fitness

Founder: Adrienne Wesley

Website: <https://www.swimlifefitness.com/>

Summary: Swim Life Fitness provides communities access to quality and impactful wellness and aquatic programming that focuses on addressing mental and physical health disorders.

Organization: Jared's Heart of Success

Founder: Sharmaine Brown

Website: <https://www.jaredsheartofsuccess.com/>

Summary: Jared's Heart of Success is dedicated to advocating for gun violence prevention through education and youth empowerment. JHOSI does this through education, advocacy, and empowerment.

Organization: Edquity Consulting

Founder: LaTrice Lyle

Website: <https://www.edequityconsulting.com/>

Summary: Committed to dismantling white supremacy culture in schools and developing and sustaining equitable classrooms, schools, and systems for Black and Brown children by implementing project-based learning through a culturally relevant lens.

Organization: Showcase Group

Founder: John Kennebrew

Website: <https://showcasegroup.org/>

Summary: Showcase Group provides support to at-risk youth and their families by implementing psychosocial services such as youth advocacy, mental health, and case management services. Each participant experiences programming that is culturally relevant and tailored to their unique needs, addressing various elements related to mental health, residential living/care, education, and employment pathways.

2022 Ideas to Serve Community Partners

Organization: Civil Bikes

Founder: Nedra Deadwyler

Website: <https://civilbikes.com/>

Summary: Civil Bikes walking tours and bicycle tours of Atlanta brings attention to unseen and unheard stories about Atlanta in a unique and accessible way that creatively builds a just community and inspires action. Our tours cover a range of topics from neighborhood history, major movements like Civil Rights, and communities of people who continue to impact Atlanta, Georgia, and her future.

Organization: Best Fit, Inc.

Founder: Asha Owens

Website: [BestFit \(best-fit.app\)](https://bestfit.best-fit.app)

Summary: On a mission to remove non-academic barriers for students at risk of dropping out because they cannot afford to meet their basic needs like housing and food. Best Fit provides a technology platform to colleges & nonprofits looking to address basic needs insecurity on campus and in their communities.

Organization: Step Ahead Scholars (SAS)

Founder: Debra Nealy

Website: <https://www.stepaheadsolars.org>

Summary: SAS increases college access equity by empowering under-resourced students on their journey to, and through, college. Through assemblies, informational sessions, one-on-one mentorship, and outreach events, SAS positively impacts core college-going indicators (FAFSA,

SAT, ACT, and Best Fit college research know-how), thereby increasing the number of underserved students that successfully navigate the college admissions and transition process.

Organization: TruDiary, Inc.

Founder: Veronica Berry

Website: <https://trudiary.com>

Summary: TruDiary provides culturally relevant value-based care to Black and Brown maternal patients in underserved communities. TruDiary's digital health platform that eliminates barriers to quality prenatal care by connecting patients to the right doctor, offering inclusive educational content, and providing social determinants of health (SDOH) services such as food security, mental health, lactation services, vaccine education, and transportation.

Organization: Helping Empower Youth (HEY!)

Founder: KaCey Venning

Website: <https://www.helpingempoweryouth.org/who-we-are>

Summary: HEY! inspires, motivates, and mobilize young people to take action that changes their world. HEY! focuses on three initiatives to address those needs: Sport For Good S.T.E.A.M., the EMPOWERED! Leadership Academy, and the HEY! Let's Read! Book Festival for Children of Color.

Organization: Umi Feeds

Founder: Erica 'Umi' Clahar

Website: <https://umifeeds.org>

Summary: We are a food rescue organization that is dedicated to serving the hungry and homeless healthy and nutritious meals in Atlanta, Miami, New York, and Mississippi. Over the years we have shared healthy meals, barber services, free yoga, clothing, personal hygiene products, books, and so much more. Our mission is to spread love through food!

Organization: Nourish Botanica

Founder: Quianah Upton

Website: <https://www.nourishbotanica.cafe/>

Summary: We're building a black woman-owned greenhouse and eatery in Atlanta to provide healing through art, flowers and plants grown in our greenhouse, food as medicine and herbal blends. Nourish Botanica also provides a physical space for civic engagement and education around food equity and economic justice.