

Village of Love and Resistance (VOLAR)

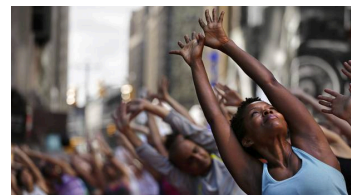


Mission

Village of Love and Resistance (“VOLAR”) is a black and brown-led collective with more than 100 years of experience of living, working, worshipping, studying and playing, and praying in East Baltimore. Our care-taking council includes Darnell Ingram, Dominic Moulden, Heather Douglas, Katherine Williams, Lenora Knowles, Marisela Gomez, and Pamela Jordan. Our council members have researched, organized, designed, litigated, and written about equitable, healthy, and sustainable development. VOLAR plans to renovate and transform a facility into a community and wellness center as well as rebuild and

reinvest into the surrounding area through engagement of the people and implementing neighborhood development projects. We will use a community investment trust fund model to assure investment by legacy residents within several zip codes of our community center. This project is an effort for local residents to co-own and co-lead the redevelopment of their majority black and low income neighborhood(s). This community engaged business model is based on the [Market Creek Plaza](#) in San Diego and [Mercy Corps Northwest](#) in Portland Oregon, which were designed, built and eventually [to be] owned by neighborhood residents in order to remove barriers to financial inclusion and provide low-dollar investment opportunities in commercial and/or residential properties to local residents.

VOLAR is a non-stock corporation in Maryland (our 501(c)(3) status is pending).



Objectives

- Obtain seed-capital to acquire property so that local residents can participate in low-dollar investments
- Acquire 1025, 1031 E. Monument street (17,000 sq. ft.) through donations and non-interest loans as seed-capital to redevelop as a Hub for equitable, sustainable and healthy economic development projects as well as a community organizing and wellness building initiatives
- Develop an economic feasibility study to incentivize investors to redevelop the Hub
- Engage with the community in a concept mapping process to determine the occupants of the Hub
- Redevelop the Hub as a center that will be occupied by social entrepreneurs and retail business as well as promote mindfulness and wellness and intentional co-housing (6 micro units of co-housing space)
- Provide economic and literacy trainings to the surrounding community to assure community investment in the Hub and in the acquisition and development of abandoned residential properties in East Baltimore
- Teach radical community organizing rooted in justice and love through a Radical Young Peoples Academy

Support received to date

- \$20,300 cash
- In-kind support
 - U Maryland/U Baltimore Law Clinics 6 semesters
 - U Towson web design 1 semester
 - Neighborhood Design Center and other architect services 40 hrs
 - Developer 10 hrs
 - Other volunteer 1,250 hrs

Initial Investment Financials

Initial/1 st -Year Investment	Value
Acquisition – 1025, 1031 Monument Street	\$ 500,000
Acquire Parking Lot – 712 Ensor St	\$ 1,000
Renovation-Building/Parking lot	\$2,500,000
Administration and organizing	\$ 600,000
Consultants	\$ 300,000
Total	\$3,901,000