

LILLIE MAY CARROLL JACKSON SCHOOL

COMMUNITY ARBORETUM

AWARDED AMOUNT

\$18,500.00

NUMBER OF TREES

37



PROJECT SUMMARY

This project introduces long-term improvements to several key areas of the Lillie May Carroll Jackson School campus, aiming to provide usable outdoor classroom space, opportunities for play and interactions with nature. Phase one of the project (a natural play area, tree installation and outdoor gazebos) was completed in July of 2021, and funded by a \$100,000 Neighborhood Lift grant from Wells Fargo. Between March and July of 2021, LMCJS worked with Groundswell Design to develop a master plan for the campus as well as implement phase one of the Campus Greening project. Additional funds from the Maryland State Department of Housing and Community Development will be used for Phase 2 of LMCJ's Campus Greening and Community Interface plan. This includes establishing an impermeable path connecting the school grounds to the Rita Church Community Center as well as creation of a centrally located educational arboretum. The arboretum will include a variety of native trees and plants tagged to inspire interest in science and nature, a rain garden to improve water retention, all which will promote the site as a living laboratory.

Lillie May Carroll Jackson Charter School will plant an educational arboretum consisting of large trees and plantings strategically placed to address shade, cooling and air pollution. A rain garden consisting of native shrubs, perennials and flowers, will soak in rain water runoff allowing for water to soak into the land. The arboretum will include signage and tags with supporting information about what roles trees play in supporting environmental justice. In addition to integrating the arboretum into the school's curriculum, LMCJS will oversee monthly programs for the community to educate residents about environmental sustainability in the community. A permeable path will connect the school, Rita Church Community Center, and Clifton Park increasing walkability in the vicinity. Finally, the installation of group swings in addition to the existing play area will provide a safe community gathering area for all. Planting is anticipated to begin fall '22.

Sydnee Wilson Ruff

CONTACT

sydnee.ruff@lilliemay.org

(443) 320-9499

