

# Vintage Gardens (PCDC) Community Engaging and Strengthening Project

Partners: Poppleton Community Development Corporation Maryland Legal Aid, National Housing Trust, The Hampstead Companies, Edgewood Management Corporation, Southwest Partnership, University of Maryland Bio Park, Public Allies Maryland, University of Maryland School of Social Work, Social Work Community Outreach Services

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# Research question

What is the relationship between systematic case management, and the facilitation of a more involved, connected, competent, and powerful community?

# The project

A SWCOS team that includes: a licensed social Worker as a resident services director, two social work graduate students, a Public Ally Service Volunteer, all engaged in a community strengthening strategy that will:

1. Maximize resident participation
2. Build leadership internally and alliances externally
3. Increase the constituency of concerned and empowered residents of the Poppleton CDC community

# We hope to achieve this by:

- Building a referral intake system for systematic case management
- Creating a referral network and resource library for a variety of resident services tailored to meet the needs of all the residents.
- Instilling a culture of reciprocity where services are exchanged for the assets that residents can bring for the entire community.
- Creating a caring community with the goal of mutual support and adherence to an ethos of “the one requirement of living in this community is the willingness to be cared for.”

# Challenges and Next Steps

## Challenges:

- Getting a foothold in the community
- Gaining trust
- Delivering services first, asking questions later