

2009

# *College Hill*

2011

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



# THE COLLEGE HILL CORRIDOR

**It's more than a location. It's a grassroots movement that has transformed a neighborhood and is strengthening our city.**

The idea behind the College Hill initiative began with Mercer students seeking to revitalize the area by connecting campus to downtown Macon. The City of Macon and Mercer then took up the cause, leading to the creation of the **College Hill Corridor Commission**. The Commission soon attracted a \$250,000 grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation to facilitate the creation of the College Hill Corridor Master Plan.

The Master Plan was the result of nearly a year of discussions and forums at sites throughout the Corridor, from houses to churches, on walking tours and at Mercer. Ideas from these public meetings were compiled by Philadelphia's Interface Studio and developed into a plan that focuses on enhancing the Corridor as an ideal place to live, work, and play.

*"The inclusive planning process, which brought the neighborhood together, involving and investing them in the project, has been key to the success of this project,"* said Sarah Gerwig-Moore, co-chair of the College Hill Corridor Commission. *"The Master Plan doesn't belong to just Mercer or the city—it's the entire community's plan."*

Knight Foundation then granted \$5 million to further the College Hill initiative. Mercer received \$2 million for the three-year operation of the **College Hill Alliance** and \$3 million was awarded to the Community Foundation of Central Georgia for the implementation of the **Knight Neighborhood Challenge**—a grant program that funds innovative ideas from local residents aimed at reshaping the unique area between Mercer and downtown Macon.

The College Hill Corridor Commission continues today as an advisory board for the area, while the College Hill Alliance is the administrative arm responsible for implementation of Master Plan



MARYANN BATES

College Hill residents review the Master Plan. (left to right) Rogers Willoughby, Nadia Osman, Reshanda Walker, Chuck Boulware, Stacey Harwell

recommendations and guided by a nine-member steering committee. The mission of the Alliance is to foster neighborhood revitalization in the Corridor through business recruitment and retention, lifestyle enhancement, and by catalyzing commercial and residential real estate development that strengthens the historic character of College Hill.

During the Alliance's first two years of operation, both public and private investment have been attracted to the Corridor, including more than \$22 million in private investment and a \$1 million federal grant to renovate Tattnell Square Park.

Mercer President William D. Underwood said, "I would give the effort an A-plus so far. I think it's the single most successful thing going in Macon right now."

We at the College Hill Alliance thank you—the Macon and Middle Georgia community—for your partnership in furthering this initiative and realize your energy and creativity have helped make this endeavor a success. Though the grant cycle ends next year for our operation, we continue to take steps to ensure there is lasting change in the Corridor, while seeking funding and partners to keep the momentum going.



## College Hill Recap

- 2007** College Hill student project at Mercer University takes place.  
College Hill Corridor Commission is formed.
- 2008** **\$250,000** Planning grant issued by John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.
- 2009** College Hill Corridor Master Plan is published.

Knight Foundation grants **\$2 million** to Mercer University to form the College Hill Alliance and **\$3 million** to Community Foundation of Central Georgia to establish the Knight Neighborhood Challenge.

- October 2011** **College Hill Alliance** has catalyzed... **\$19,940,000** in commercial investment in the Corridor, **\$2,034,052** in residential investment in the Corridor, and **\$1,374,518** to improve Tattnell Square Park.

And, has coordinated **41** College Hill events attracting **16,320** attendees, creating **1,091** volunteer hours, and generating **\$28,362** in sponsorships.

**Knight Neighborhood Challenge** has awarded **68** grants totaling **\$1,078,032** to local residents and organizations to fund innovative ideas for the Corridor.



**Having great places to live is one of the cornerstones of the College Hill Corridor Master Plan, and a major focus of the College Hill Alliance.**

To reignite residential revitalization, the Alliance helped to create the Historic Hills & Heights Corporation, an organization designed to redevelop area neighborhoods with “hills” or “heights” in their title, starting with Beall’s Hill. This public-private partnership consists of the City of Macon, College Hill Alliance, Historic Macon Foundation, Macon Housing Authority, and Mercer University, as well as funding from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

The mission of Historic Hills & Heights, for which the Alliance acts as program coordinator, is to produce sustainable neighborhoods with well-built housing for a variety of incomes and lifestyles. The organization leverages resources from each of its member partners and has created a revolving fund of nearly \$1 million to revitalize Corridor neighborhoods. During the National Preservation Conference in November 2010, it was revealed that Historic Hills & Heights has put together the nation’s most active revolving fund. John Hiscox, executive director of the Macon Housing Authority, spoke highly of this model. “The Alliance serves as the catalyst, helping to keep the pot well-stirred,” Hiscox said. “The revolving fund serves as a conduit for resources and is an effective, cost efficient means to use funds in the neighborhood.”

The goals of the project in Beall’s Hill include construction and rehabilitation of 15 to 20 single-family homes each year in the \$75,000 to \$200,000 range. Counter to recent national real estate trends, the market for houses in Beall’s Hill has been robust. Currently, all homes have sold at or above asking price, with the average sale price of \$131,250 and an average of only six days on the market.



Josh Rogers, Executive Director, Historic Macon Foundation

“The Historic Hills & Heights partnership has transformed our program,” said Josh Rogers, executive director of Historic Macon. “Before any of this started, we thought two rehabs a year would be our model. Now that the College Hill Alliance has taken a more active role, we’re closing in on building 20 homes per year. That has a tremendous impact on our work and it also accelerates the pace of change in the neighborhood, helping to ensure that it develops in a stable manner.”

The partners help to spur demand in the Beall’s Hill neighborhood by offering down payment assistance programs for buyers. The City of Macon offers incentives for moderate-income homebuyers and Mercer, in conjunction with the Knight Foundation, offers down payment assistance to employees who purchase homes in the area.



LIVE

Amy Abel-Kiker and Chris Kiker, Beall's Hill homeowners



Homes in Tatnall Square Heights

Amy Abel-Kiker and her husband Chris Kiker both graduated from Mercer and now own a newly renovated home in Beall's Hill, thanks in part to the university's down payment assistance program. They witnessed the beginnings of the College Hill Corridor initiative as students and saw the transformation of the neighborhoods around campus accelerate since its inception.

**"It's amazing how much Beall's Hill is growing. It's by far the fastest selling market in Macon," Amy said. "It feels pretty incredible to be on the brink of something so cool. We're going to look back 10 years from now and be able to say we were a part of it."**

Revitalization of the neighborhood hinged on engagement from the Beall's Hill residents themselves. "The strength of our neighborhood association helped provide stability before and after the formation of Historic Hills & Heights," said Aaron Zaritzky. Zaritzky moved to the neighborhood five years ago, when many private developers were building in the area, but development stopped with the collapse in the real estate market. "It was really tough for awhile, and the association had to step in to be the voice for the neighborhood," Zaritzky said. "It was a lot of work, but we were able to get many of the needs in the community addressed, and we've built up credibility for the association with both new residents and those who have been here for 30 years." With the Alliance in place, the work of the neighborhood association still includes advocacy for the area, but it is able to focus on other efforts as well, including community block parties and the Beall's Hill Community Garden.

The Beall's Hill neighborhood, which is based on the New Urbanism model of creating a mixed-income, mixed-use community that is walkable, with easy access to parks and schools as well as retail shops and restaurants, will serve as a model for the revitalization of other Corridor neighborhoods.

**The vision for the College Hill Corridor, is to transform the vacant buildings in the Corridor into thriving businesses. That goal has been fully realized within a critical location of College Hill —Mercer Village.**

## WORK

Once a collection of empty, aging buildings across from Mercer University's campus, the Village is now a thriving retail destination filled with new businesses as well as new residents. This fall, 113 Mercer students moved in to the recently completed Lofts at Mercer Village, a mixed-used building with three floors of student housing above four retailers—Barnes & Noble/Mercer University Bookstore, Designer Tan, Fountain of Juice and Margaritas at Mercer Village.

The Lofts retailers join four other pioneering Mercer Village merchants—Rodeo Beach Outfitters, Francar's Buffalo Wings, Jittery Joe's Coffee and Ingleside Village Pizza. The Village, which is also home to the local Georgia Public Broadcasting studios, acts as a critical link between the University and surrounding neighborhoods and has become a vibrant streetscape.

The vibe around Mercer Village created an environment that lured Rodeo Beach Outfitters from the online world into a brick-and-mortar location. "We could have stayed online, but we really wanted to be a part of a community," said co-owner J.J. Hobbs.

**"We chose Mercer Village for its potential. We think it's the place to be and it has the most growth in Macon. With the students and professionals in the area, it's a young, active crowd."**

Natasha Phillips, owner of Fountain of Juice, expanded to a second location in the Lofts at Mercer Village over the summer. "I like being a part of the revitalization of the area and being affiliated with Mercer is a really big draw," Phillips said. "Mercer Village feels very urban, like some of the neighborhoods in Atlanta."

One of the Alliance's major goals is business recruitment and retention. With that in mind, the College Hill Alliance launched Shoplocalmacon.com in November 2010. The website is a free marketing tool for area businesses that hosts business listings, articles written about the retailers, coupons and an events calendar.



Natasha Phillips, Fountain of Juice

Shoplocalmacon.com is more than a website. It's a movement designed to encourage people to shop at locally owned establishments and patron local talent. By choosing to shop local, the entire community benefits from the creation of new jobs and support of existing ones. Although Shoplocalmacon.com is currently maintained by the College Hill Alliance, a permanent home for the site is being sought.

The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation launched its own project to support local retailers in the fall of 2010—Macon Money. This "serious game" was designed to connect residents to one another and to the businesses within the Corridor and downtown Macon. Locals received a game piece marked with three symbols that had to be matched with another game piece containing the same symbols. Players were encouraged to use social media, forums and designated meet-up events to find their identical game piece. Once a match was made, participants could exchange their game pieces and receive up to \$100 in Macon Money—a local currency redeemable at participating businesses throughout the Corridor and downtown.



Alex Morrison, Urban Development Authority

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“Knight funded this as a complementary strategy to continue to build the community,” said Beverly Blake, Knight Foundation’s program director for Macon. “We did it to bring together people who otherwise would never have met one another and support local business at the same time.”

In all, the game gave away \$65,000 in Macon Money bills, which were graced by the image of Macon’s own Otis Redding. The impact on the business community was significant. “As residents started playing, they began to try different restaurants and shops, spending more than their amount of Macon Money,” said Mechel McKinley, the local project manager for Macon Money.

As efforts continue to make the Corridor an ideal place to live, work and play, the College Hill Alliance has begun a new initiative, dubbed the **KITE Alliance**, designed to recruit and retain talented young professionals and high-tech businesses. With Mercer University as a primary partner, the Alliance created this demonstration project to catalyze the growth of College Hill and downtown Macon as hubs for economic development, linking the community’s resources, specifically the **Knowledge, Innovation, Technology and Entrepreneurship** of academic, business and government entities in Middle Georgia.

The goals of the KITE Alliance center around establishing a network of economic development organizations that promote the creation of local entrepreneurial companies that offer technical, higher paying jobs. The project also seeks to utilize the academic and research capacity of Mercer University, creating new ideas for commercialization and building relationships with technology-based companies.

Alex Morrison, one of the four Mercer students who helped launch the College Hill Corridor initiative, is now taking part in the effort as the new executive director of the Urban Development Authority. He sees fostering jobs from within the community as an essential part of Macon’s future success.

Morrison said, “To keep the best and the brightest in our community, we have to create the jobs that will allow them to stay here.”



Rodeo Beach Outfitters  
(left to right) Leah Parris, J.J. Hobbs, Susan Hampton

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## PLAY



College Hill residents prepare to take on the Soapbox Derby. (left to right) Koryn Young, DJ Shawty Slim, Dan Zook, Tyler Woodall, Shane Woodall

### Enhancing the opportunity for people to play in the Corridor is a prominent feature of the College Hill Corridor Master Plan.

Mike Collins, an area resident, can trace his band's origin and most of its recent success to "playing" in the Corridor. His band, Back City Woods, was formed on the front porch of a College Hill home and has since developed a regional following, playing at venues across the Southeast. "I guess we are the quintessential Corridor band," Collins said. "It wasn't intentional, but it's worked out. We started here, cut two records down the street, and now we've played Second Sunday."

The Alliance's signature event, Second Sunday, is now in its third year. The free outdoor concert series takes place monthly in the Corridor at Washington Park, a beautiful pocket park with waterworks. The event's diverse crowd averages 600 people and can swell to 1,300. Though the College Hill Alliance currently runs the event, it also works with sponsors to develop the financial sustainability of Second Sunday and is now in search of a community partner to take on the event.

The annual Magnolia Street Soapbox Derby has also become a highlight on the Corridor calendar. The derby represents a model that the College Hill Alliance strives to implement with all of its programs. Though the Soapbox Derby began as an Alliance project in its first year, Magnolia Street residents, with the help of a Knight Neighborhood Challenge grant, coordinated the event's second installment.

"The derby is right outside our front door, so we have a vested interest in making it a success," said Dan Zook, one of the Magnolia Street residents who now runs the event.

"We realized to make the event bigger it needed to have community ownership. So, we worked on the grant and with the Alliance to take over the derby and, this year, we had more than 50 volunteers help make the event a success and over 1,300 people in attendance."



The College Hill Alliance partners with another local organization, the Macon Film Festival (MaGa), for Big Screen Movie Nights. These free outdoor movie screenings take place in Tattnell Square Park, located beside Mercer University's campus, after sunset. The Alliance owns the screen equipment and MaGa, thanks in part to a Knight Neighborhood Challenge grant,

installed "sharrow" bike lanes along the Corridor from Mercer Village to City Hall. The sharrows are a series of roadway markings and signage that promote awareness of cyclists to vehicular traffic.

"The Master Plan originally called for bike lanes, but the area wasn't quite ready for that. We hope the sharrows will build demand from the community

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## PLAY

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Big Screen Movie Night at Tattnell Square Park



Bike racks are found throughout the Corridor and downtown.

purchases the rights to show each film. "The partnership has worked out well," said Tabitha Walker, MaGa board president. "Not only have we created a cool event for the area, we are also able to connect with the Macon community throughout the year outside the annual festival."

In keeping with the alliterative tradition of the Corridor, Mercer Village merchants host a Third Thursday party in the Village each month. They close the street running through Mercer Village for the event and offer live music, outdoor games and merchant discounts. "We want to make Mercer Village a destination for local residents and students," said Carl Fambro, owner of Francar's Buffalo Wings. "That's why we've made Third Thursday an event for everyone. We have different activities throughout the year, including a variety of performing artists, contests, and deals on food, drinks and retail."

Physical spaces are also an important part of playing in the Corridor. Among the priorities of the College Hill Corridor Master Plan is "cooling the streets" by creating a progressive cycling and pedestrian-friendly community. Last year, the City of Macon, in conjunction with the College Hill Alliance,

so bike lanes can be installed in the future," said Bill Causey, manager of engineering for the City of Macon and interim co-chair of the College Hill Corridor Commission.

**"Sharrows are a great way to encourage more cyclists to ride on urban streets and alert drivers to be aware of those cyclists."**

The centerpiece of playing in the Corridor is Tattnell Square Park, a historic 16-acre park used throughout the year for passive recreation and active festivals. The park is in need of renovations, however, and is included in the College Hill Corridor Master Plan. The Alliance was awarded a \$94,518 Knight Neighborhood Challenge grant in February 2011 to develop a master plan for improvements to the park and, working alongside a College Hill Corridor Commission task force, has held multiple public meetings about the project and finalized a concept for the park. The final plan will best represent the community's vision for Tattnell Square Park and contain pricing for each piece of the renovation so the city and the Alliance can seek multiple funding sources for its implementation.

## PLAY

With the park only a few steps away from Mercer's campus, students are excited about the upgrades. "We already use the park for events," said Kaleigh Manson, a junior at the university. "Once it is redeveloped though, there will be even more reasons for students to frequent the area."

The first grant aimed at revitalizing Tattnell Square Park was awarded to the City of Macon in June 2011 by the Georgia Department of Transportation. The \$1 million grant, along with a match from Mercer, will fund improvements to the park along College Street, including a retaining wall, three elevated crosswalks and the addition of a bike lane and new sidewalk. These renovations will greatly benefit Alexander II Magnet School, which is located across from the park. "This will truly be an enhancement for Alexander II and its children as they cross to and from Tattnell Square Park," said Macon Mayor Robert Reichert.

"The improvements will increase the utilization of the park, improving the streets and enhancing the connection between Mercer and downtown Macon, which is what we're all about."



Sharrows welcome cyclists to the Corridor.



JuBee and the Morning After perform at September's Second Sunday in Washington Park.



Macon Arts Alliance with the Trail of Bears. (left to right) Jim Coleman, Cindy Hill, Heatherly Darnell

## What does a community do with a challenge?

In the case of the Knight Neighborhood Challenge, Macon has risen to it.

Established by a five-year, \$3 million grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation to the Community Foundation of Central Georgia, the Knight Neighborhood Challenge provides funding for the best ideas in the College Hill Corridor. The Challenge funds innovative projects that brand College Hill with a sense of place, spruce up its parks and public spaces and enhance the arts and entertainment scene. So far, the program has enabled members of the Corridor community to put their most creative ideas into action.

“Seeing the empowerment of the community has been one of the greatest rewards as a grantmaker,” said Kathryn Dennis, president of the Community Foundation. “The Knight Neighborhood Challenge allows people to dream and then gives them access to resources to make that dream a reality.”

The Knight Neighborhood Challenge supports new ideas for improvements to the area, large and small, from individuals and organizations. To date, more than \$1 million has been awarded to 68

recipients of Challenge funds, leaving the grant program with nearly \$2 million to fund more inventive projects.

The grant reviewers look for projects that support at least one of the five major goal areas of the College Hill Corridor Master Plan. So far, the Knight Neighborhood Challenge has awarded 19 grants relating to the goals of the **Basics**, 23 grants to promote the **Vibe**, six grants to enhance the **Connection**, 15 grants to protect the **Environment**, and five grants to preserve the **Look**.

### The Basics

Facade Squad is a nonprofit group of volunteers that works to clean up Macon by doing everything from mowing vacant lots to painting buildings. Appropriately enough, the group won a Challenge grant for the Basics goal area, which focuses on making the Corridor clean, safe and branded. The group will use \$6,200 to give the former Milady Cleaners Building, which sits empty in a prime location on College Street, a face-lift. The grant will pay for a new paint job, landscaping, and a mural on the side of the building painted by local residents.

“The project is leveraging volunteers to transform a stark white building into a colorful landmark in the Corridor,” said Kevin Berry, Façade Squad board member. “The grant will give us the opportunity to be creative with the project, taking it beyond what we might otherwise have been able to do, and make the building an asset to the community.”

### The Vibe

The Knight Neighborhood Challenge has funded many new and existing events in the Corridor, each fulfilling the goals of the Vibe, which encourages cool events and free activities in the Corridor.

One existing festival received Challenge funding and moved its events into the Corridor. The Tubman African American Museum received \$15,000 to help it fund its Pan African Festival, moving it from Central City Park to Tattnell Square Park. The change of venue enabled the Tubman to connect with new audiences.

“By having the festival in Tattnell Square Park, in the middle of a neighborhood, we were able to attract a more diverse cross section of the community,” said Anita Ponder, director of education at the Tubman Museum. “Hosting the event in the Corridor really raised the community’s awareness of it.”

### The Connection

Matching art with a bit of Mercer University school spirit, the Macon Arts Alliance received a \$15,000 grant for the Trail of Bears, a set of fiberglass bear statues painted by local artists using Corridor and Macon-related themes.

The grant is a part of the Connection goal area, which encourages cycling and pedestrian efforts to cool the streets and promotes multi-modal transportation. The Connection is also designed to link Mercer to the community and to downtown. The bears will help do this by serving as a permanent walking and biking gallery along the Corridor, from campus to downtown.

“Mercer’s continued role in our community has never been better, particularly with the addition of the College Hill Alliance,” said Cindy Hill, former director of communications at Macon Arts Alliance. “Mercer is such a gem for our community. It’s culturally important, architecturally important, geographically important, and economically important to this community.”



Dr. Heather Bowman Cutway



Pan African Festival in Tattnell Square Park

### The Environment

The environment is another essential ingredient for creating a welcoming atmosphere in Macon. The Environment goal area of the College Hill Corridor Master Plan focuses on promoting greenspace and eco-conscious initiatives.

One Corridor resident has had a particular impact in this area. Dr. Heather Bowman Cutway is a biology professor at Mercer and holds a Ph.D. in ecology. She's turned her interest in the environment into Knight Neighborhood Challenge grants that have given the Corridor an eco-conscious flavor.

Dr. Bowman Cutway has received two grants for Composting in the Corridor workshops. During these workshops, attendees learn how to turn what would otherwise been trash into a valuable addition to their home gardens and receive free supplies to aid them in composting. Dr. Bowman Cutway also received two grants to plant trees in the Corridor. Oglethorpe Re-leaf, the first grant, focused on replenishing the tree canopy along Oglethorpe Street, while Corridor Re-leaf, the second, broader grant, aimed to plant young trees throughout multiple streets in the Corridor.

*"If you have a good idea, there are small bits of money available to get it off the ground,"* Dr. Bowman Cutway said. *"That way, if you see one of those little problems in your neighborhood, and you think, 'Hey, that wouldn't be too hard to fix,' you have a platform to get it started. Otherwise, it's just a problem that stays a problem."*

### The Look

One creative and exciting program that has taken off through grants awarded by the Knight Neighborhood Challenge has been the Historic Macon Foundation Façade Loan Program. Historic Macon has now received two Challenge grants, totaling \$145,000, for a revolving low interest loan program to spruce up homes in the Corridor. The program is a successful example of the Look portion of the Master Plan, which includes promoting residential and business developments that restore, maintain and sustain the area as Macon's urban and historic center.

"The grants have helped Macon's safest neighborhoods look the part," said Josh Rogers, executive director of Historic Macon. "Factually, College Hill is part of the safest neighborhood in Macon, but the perception can be different," he said. "When someone gets out of their car and sees buildings in disrepair, they don't see a safe neighborhood. These loans are helping to ensure College Hill continues to look its best by encouraging people to keep their homes in good condition."

The low interest loans are awarded to homeowners in the Corridor for improvement projects to beautify the exterior of their home. Given in increments of \$5,000 or \$10,000, with a 20 percent homeowner match, the loans have been very successful at leveraging resources to revitalize a number of homes in College Hill.

Creating a sustainable program that pulls from existing community resources is the goal behind the Knight Neighborhood Challenge. With three more years and almost \$2 million left in the Challenge, Kathryn Dennis is excited to see more innovative ideas from the community aimed at making the Corridor an even better place to live, work and play. "I've been so impressed by the creativity of these projects. I'm looking forward to seeing what the community brings us over the next few years," Dennis said. "Our next deadline is December 31, 2011. I encourage everyone to spend time looking over the Master Plan and then send us their great ideas."

Though College Hill Alliance will continue for another year, the future of the initiative is in the hands of the community. As it was at the beginning, the Corridor will continue as a grassroots effort.



College Hill residents and visitors enjoy sidewalk dining in Mercer Village.

“It’s up to the community to decide what the future holds for College Hill,” said Beverly Blake, Macon program director for the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. “We’ve nurtured the initiative and helped launch new programs.

Now it’s in the hands of the residents to keep the momentum going and I have every confidence that they will,” Blake said. “Knight Foundation is open to learn about new innovative ideas that will move College Hill and Macon forward.”

In the final year of its grant, the College Hill Alliance will focus on the sustainability of programs that began under its tenure, turning over programs that can be successful in the hands of community

partners. “The Alliance will also continue assessing and developing the partnerships necessary for the continued success of Macon,” Madison said. “Though the discussion remains open and we hope to apply for another round of funding from Knight Foundation, we have always operated with the idea that we might only have three years.”

The KITE initiative will continue to grow, with a focus on building a unified economic development strategy for College Hill, downtown and the entire Macon area. “The pieces are in place from the perspective of creating a cool place for people to live, but to make College Hill successful long-term, we have to look at what attaches people to their community,” said Patrick Madison, executive director of the College Hill Alliance. “In order to attach people to the area, especially at the beginning of their career, we have to provide well-paying, knowledge-based jobs.

The future of College Hill is the people—it is you and your friends and neighbors. What began with an idea became a plan with community input and later became a success with community support. We continue to need your help and encourage you to get involved: volunteer, join your neighborhood association or neighborhood watch, attend events in the Corridor, patronize local businesses, go to a Mercer University sporting event, performance or lecture on campus. The possibilities are nearly limitless. And, just as importantly, help us by serving as an ambassador for College Hill. There is a lot going on in the Corridor and with your help there will be for a long time to come.



## College Hill Corridor Commission

Andrew Blascovich - **Co-Chair**  
*City of Macon - Mayor's Office*

Sarah Gerwig-Moore - **Co-Chair**  
*Mercer University - School of Law Faculty*

Bill Causey - **Interim Co-Chair**  
*City of Macon Engineering Department*

Veronica Allen  
*College Hill Student Project Member*

Tommy Barnes  
*Bibb County Board of Education*

Maryel Battin  
*Macon-Bibb County  
Urban Development Authority*

John Buckner  
*Mercer University Law Student*

Heather Bowman Cutway  
*Mercer University Faculty*

Dale 'Doc' Dougherty  
*City of Macon Parks  
and Recreation Department*

Jonathan Dye  
*Macon Arts Alliance*

Carl Fambro  
*Franca's Buffalo Wings - Corridor Business*

Dan Fischer  
*Mercer University Faculty  
and Administration*

Nigel Floyd  
*City of Macon  
Traffic Engineering Department*

Ed Grant  
*Urban Development Authority*

Stacey Harwell  
*Centenary Church*

Kris Hattaway  
*NewTown Macon*

David Held  
*Mount de Sales Academy*

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*Amanda Jane Salon - Downtown Business*

Steve Layson  
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Alex Morrison  
*Macon-Bibb County  
Urban Development Authority*

Josh Rogers  
*Historic Macon Foundation*

Larry Schlesinger  
*Macon City Council*

Tim Slocum  
*Medical Center of Central Georgia*

Charise Stephens  
*Middle Georgia Clean Cities Coalition*

Jim Thomas  
*Macon-Bibb County  
Planning and Zoning Commission*

Dalton Turner  
*Mercer University  
Student Government Association*

Jessica Walden  
*Community Health Works, InTown Resident*

Matt Wetherington  
*College Hill Student Project Member*

Bridget Wright  
*InTown Neighborhood Association*

Yosi Rivero-Zaritsky  
*Beall's Hill Neighborhood Association*

## College Hill Alliance Steering Committee

Beverly Blake  
*Macon Program Director, John S.  
& James L. Knight Foundation*

Andrew Blascovich  
*Co-Chair, College Hill Corridor Commission*

Bill Causey  
*Interim Co-Chair, College Hill Corridor  
Commission*

Kathryn Dennis  
*President, Community Foundation  
of Central Georgia*

Sarah Gerwig-Moore  
*Co-Chair, College Hill Corridor Commission*

Sam Hart  
*Chairman, Bibb County Board  
of Commissioners*

John Hiscox  
*Executive Director  
Macon Housing Authority*

Robert Reichert  
*Mayor, City of Macon*

William D. Underwood  
*President, Mercer University*

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For more information about the College Hill Alliance, visit [CollegeHillMacon.com](http://CollegeHillMacon.com) or [facebook.com/collegehillcorridor](https://facebook.com/collegehillcorridor).

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KNOWLEDGE • INNOVATION • TECHNOLOGY • ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Ideal for young professionals.



Photo: Mary-frances Burt

Nestled in Macon's historic district, the College Hill Corridor is a destination for culture, business, and quality living. With affordable housing, free community events, and a dedication to linking entrepreneurial talent with the area's technological resources, the Corridor is where you want to be.

# College Hill Corridor

LIVE [WORK] PLAY

Macon, Ga.

To learn more about life in the Corridor, visit [CollegeHillMacon.com](http://CollegeHillMacon.com)