

# Riverview

INTERNATIONAL CENTER

## Mid-Ohio Farm at NBC4 groundbreaking with the RIC!



This has been a long time coming - a dream suggested by original RIC board president, Bruce Bernard, owner of the RIC apartment office space and major funder to start the RIC. Bruce noticed the fallow land bordering Riverview Drive and saw possibilities for gardening, green space and walkways. He met annually with Ken Freedman, general manager of NBC4, to discuss his vision. On June 14, this vision became a reality as major stakeholders in the **Mid-Ohio Farm at NBC4**, gathered for the official groundbreaking. Bruce was not able to attend but Ken acknowledged Bruce's dream.

### Excerpt from NBC4 news:

COLUMBUS, Ohio (WCMH) — The Mid-Ohio Food Collective and NBC4 announced a joint venture urban farm to grow up to 100,000 pounds of food annually. Imagine being able to grow 5 Acres of food on 1/8 of an acre of land! That's what will happen when a fallow 2.7 acres behind NBC4 is converted into the **Mid-Ohio Farm at NBC4**. The venue will employ high-tech vertical hydroponics practices and grow dozens of plants per square foot vertically, as opposed to one plant per square foot like a traditional horizontal farm or garden.



Along Riverview Drive adjacent to the NBC4 studios, there are approximately 2,500 people who have moved from other parts of the world. Most are new Americans who are immigrants and asylum seekers, while others are international students who attend Ohio State University.

According to Diane Linton, the interim executive director of Riverview International Center, many residents simply want fresh veggies.

*"They grow food in five gallon buckets along the fence line that separates the parking lots of the multiple family unit apartments from NBC4's parking lot." Linton said. "This is very exciting that this is going in because there are so many possibilities," Linton said. "There is something new on our street to involve people in a different way".*

The neighborhood is a food desert. An apartment complex replaced the grocery store that used to be within walking distance. The larger neighborhood consists of numerous restaurants and hotels.



RIC Friends (L-R): Andrea Jacobs (board), Emily (Em) Miller (staff), Afsana Ferdousi (neighbor & volunteer), Emelia Sheeley & Diane Linton (staff), Ken Freedman (NBC4 GM), Rohullah, Abubaker (neighbors)

## Look what your donations to the RIC did in 2021! Thank you!



# Field trip to Slate Run Farm



It's been a few years, but we finally made it back to Slate Run Farm and had a wonderful day exploring and enjoying the farm with our neighbors. Thanks to our volunteer drivers (Mary, Ji, Michelle), to First Alliance Church for lending us a 15 passenger van, and for Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks for being great hosts. For many of our neighbors it was their first visit to a metro park, but it's guaranteed to not be their last.

# THANK YOU!

UNITED FOR IMPACT



THANK YOU to United for Impact Donors who gave to the RIC! We received \$5,677 from donors and an additional prize pool money from sponsors of \$4,945 totaling \$10,622 during the week of May 9-13! We are thankful to use this money towards our workforce development program.

Prize pool money came from these sponsors: #ADS Foundation #Big Lots #Columbia Gas #Encova #M/I Homes #Osteopathic Heritage Foundations #Donatos #Grange Insurance #Huntington Bank #IGS Energy #Medical Mutual of Ohio #Scotts Miracle-Gro #T. Marzetti #Edward Jones #EY #GBQ #White Castle

# Block Party Kick-Off to Summer Reading



We had SO much fun kicking off our 2022 Summer Reading Program Sat. June 11! More than 50 kids signed up to read with us. It ends July 20. THANK YOU to the youth groups from "Serve the City" who volunteered and made this block party kickoff so amazing!

Reading is Monday-Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:30PM at the RIC. Kids who read for 15 minutes with a volunteer will get a sticker on their chart, with prizes given throughout the program.

At the end of the program, the kids who've read the most will get special prizes, and we will have a drawing for a \$100 gift card!

We still need more volunteer readers! Watch the short video below from last year.

[VOLUNTEER TO READ WITH KIDS](#)



# Congratulations!

One of our neighbors, Ayesha, was honored by her employer for her great work last week. She sent this message and photo to our staff:

"I got a prize from Walmart for my work. Thank you to the RIC staff for all of your help."

We love when are neighbors share news with us and would like for you to share in this joy too.



## Our Contact Information

\*{{Organization Name}}\*  
\*{{Organization Address}}\*  
\*{{Organization Phone}}\*  
\*{{Organization Website}}\*

\*{{Unsubscribe}}\*



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