

# Legacy Neighborhoods Coalition

## GET INVOLVED

Connect with one of the following organizations. LNC meetings are by invitation only. Go online to [AshevilleLegacyNeighborhoods.org](http://AshevilleLegacyNeighborhoods.org) to send us a message.



### Burton Street Community Association (BCSA)

Meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month at Burton Street Community Center, 134 Burton Street in Asheville. Call (828) 259-8020, go to [burtonstreet.org](http://burtonstreet.org), or email [burtonstreetinfo@gmail.com](mailto:burtonstreetinfo@gmail.com).



### East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association (EEVNS)

Meets the 2nd Thursday of every month at Stephens-Lee Community Center, 30 George Washington Carver Avenue in Asheville. Go to [eastendvalleystreet.org](http://eastendvalleystreet.org), or email [EastEndValleyStreet@gmail.com](mailto:EastEndValleyStreet@gmail.com).



### PODER Emma Community Ownership

Meets the 2nd Monday of every month at 17 Westside Drive in Asheville. Call (828) 276-3544, go to [poderemma.org](http://poderemma.org), or email [info@poderemma.org](mailto:info@poderemma.org).



### Shiloh Community Association (SCA)

Meets the 1st Monday of every month at Linwood Crump Shiloh Center, 121 Shiloh Road in Asheville. Call Mrs. Norma Baynes, (828) 277-9654, Go to [shilohnc.org](http://shilohnc.org), or email [shilohgarden59@gmail.com](mailto:shilohgarden59@gmail.com).



### Southside United Neighborhood Association (SUNA)

Meets the 3rd Thursday of every month at Wesley Grant Southside Center, 285 Livingston Street in Asheville. Call (828) 259-5483, go to [www.southsideunitedavl.org](http://www.southsideunitedavl.org), or email [unitedsouthsideavl@gmail.com](mailto:unitedsouthsideavl@gmail.com).

## Legacy Neighborhood Organizers Chart a New Path

BY SEKOU COLEMAN

Strengthening relationships, sharing knowledge, and charting next steps.

In May, leaders and residents from Burton Street, East End/Valley Street, Emma, Shiloh, and Southside gathered for a weekend retreat—stepping back from monthly crisis response to focus on shared strategy. The weekend included planning sessions, meals from local Black food vendors, and self-care from local practitioners of color.

Community work asks a lot from our leaders, elders, and volunteers. Taking care of the people who carry the work is part of sustaining it.

LNC began because legacy neighborhoods were facing related pressures: rising development interest, land speculation, zoning changes, Opportunity Zone activity, and the long shadow of urban renewal. Each neighborhood has its own story, but the pattern is connected. When neighborhoods share information, show up for one another, and speak with a collective voice, they become harder to ignore.

At the retreat, LNC leaders named three “seedling” projects for the next six months.

## SAVE THE DATES FOR VillageFest

August 28 & 29, 2026

VillageFest is village-building made visible: a free collective celebration of neighborhood history and culture, with live music, food, art, games, and dancing powered by locals.

If you grew up here, worshipped here, played here, or still carry Asheville’s legacy neighborhoods in your heart, this is for you.

Come back. Bring family. Bring stories. Bring your young people. This free event takes place at Memorial Stadium, 32 Buchanan Place in Asheville.



Leaders and residents from Asheville’s legacy neighborhoods.

### Home Repair Navigator Pilot

Many longtime residents need help staying safely in their homes but face confusing systems—paperwork, heirs’ property complications, contractor delays, income rules. This pilot would place trusted people in neighborhood associations who can help residents move through the process start to finish. Anti-displacement work in plain language: helping people stay housed.

### Stronger LNC Communications

Every neighborhood already has ways of reaching people. The goal is to strengthen and connect those systems—better turnout, faster emergency response, and more ability to mobilize when a neighborhood faces a threat.

### Legacy Neighborhood Data and Property Inventory

LNC wants better information about our own land: boundaries, vacant lots, public property, development pressure, and community assets. Official maps don’t always reflect lived reality. This work grounds neighborhood leaders in both community wisdom and hard evidence when they walk into policy conversations.

These projects point the same direction: from reaction to preparation. The work must become bigger than the current group carrying it.

## EMMA COMMUNITY EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

For addresses and more details, please call (828) 283-0343.

### Ongoing Events

#### Community Weightlifting Sessions

Every Monday from 7 to 8 p.m.

#### Zumba Class

Every Wednesday from 7 to 8 p.m.

#### Cumbia Dance Class

Thursday, June 18 & Thursday, June 25 from 7 to 8 p.m.

#### Bachata Dance Class

Thursday, June 11 from 7 to 8 p.m.

#### Sunday Morning Aerobics

Every Sunday from 9 to 10 a.m.

#### Community Market

Every Friday in June.

### Special Events

#### Growing Vegetables & Herbs

Thursday, June 11

Learn the basics of growing vegetables and herbs from 4 to 6 p.m. Space is limited to 10 spots. Call (828) 337-9823 with questions.

#### Dealing With Grief

Saturday, June 13

A free workshop on supporting loved ones who are nearing the end of life or grieving takes place from 5 to 7 p.m. Food, childcare, and interpretation provided.

#### Community Yard Sale

Saturday, June 27

Held from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call (828) 283-0343 for the address and more details.

## ABOUT THE LEGACY NEIGHBORHOODS COALITION

The Legacy Neighborhoods Coalition protects historic communities most impacted by displacement, honors the legacy and culture of historically under-resourced residents, and builds collective power that strengthens community voices, expands civic participation, and stewards opportunities where future generations can thrive.