

## **HGAC INVESTING IN YOUTH INITIATIVE**

### **2019 Report**

#### **Overview**

The Investing in Youth Initiative has completed a successful inaugural year, perhaps even surpassing our initial expectations. Our 2019 accomplishments are captured on the following page.

We have made great strides in relationship building with:

- Adams County Tech Prep Building Trade Program
- Non-profits with similar interests;
- Businesses and skilled historic building trades' owners interested in offering opportunities to educate youth and host internships;
- The public through outreach and successful fund raising.

Looking forward, 2020 presents many expanded opportunities we could not have envisioned in January, 2019. We believe the plan for 2020 will allow us to mature our basic efforts, continue to nurture the emerging relationships with educational institutions and non-profits, and to build a financially viable, long-term youth program.

The plan remains grounded in the mission of HGAC, in attracting new members, in developing appreciation for local architectural, cultural and historical resources and in developing a workforce skilled in the building trades associated with historic buildings.

Specific accomplishments are listed on the next page. They reflect the three original HGAC Board approved recommendations as well as a new category for fund and friend raising. Plans for 2020 and three recommendations for HGAC Board actions follow.



## Accomplishments

### 1. Local Historic Buildings Appreciation Program

- a. Conversations with Director of the Adams County Tech Prep program and instructor of the Building Trades courses led to teaching students how to: 1) survey historic barns with field trip to 350<sup>th</sup> HGAC Barn and 2) build a barn bent in a hands-on classroom. Instructor requested a repeat experience in 2020. Bent mounted in classroom.
- b. Renfrew Institute is pursuing a collaboration with HGAC on an 8<sup>th</sup> grade introduction to historic building techniques and building appreciation in 2020.
- c. Gettysburg Foundation interested in offering space at the Spangler Farm and experts for youth education.

### 2. Historic Buildings Appreciation and Preservation Professional Development Program

- a. Adams County Historic Society interested in collaborating on professional development for teachers and development of tools to teach in 2020.
- b. Gettysburg Foundation interested in HGAC providing learning sessions for staff and others.

### 3. Internship and Apprenticeship Program

- a. HACC in Harrisburg and Gettysburg interested in further discussions about a certificate program for high school students and exploration of articulation between high school, HACC and both associate and bachelor's degrees.
- b. Initial interest expressed in supporting interns at the Gettysburg Hotel and in working with skilled historic building trades people.

### 4. Fund and Friend Raising Program

- a. Created logo and note cards for communications and Initiative recognition
- b. Began addressing current website for ease in navigation and attractiveness to youth
- c. Two articles carried in quarterly HGAC newsletter to inform members and two in *Gettysburg Times* to inform community
- d. Presentation to Rotary to inform members about potential for collaborative service
- e. Video, including drone footage, in draft form shown at Giving Spree
- f. Ten attendees at Giving Spree offered ideas for actions going forward
- g. Developed and implemented fund raising strategy for the Giving Spree including member mailings, member coin collection jars and event staffing
- h. Raised **\$13,000** through direct contacts with HGAC members and at Giving Spree to support the Investing in Youth Initiative. Informal notes and formal thank you letter sent.

## **Planned Actions: *Going Public in 2020***

**1. Local Historic Buildings Appreciation Program:** We will build on initial success as we:

- a. Continue to involve youth in our historic preservation mission through the many HGAC programs.
- b. Explicitly expand our focus to include combined youth-adult activities through, for example, family activities such as a multi-generational barn tour and/or workshop.
- c. Apply lessons learned from our partnership with the Renfrew Institute 8<sup>th</sup> grade summer program and explore replication in Adams County.
- d. Continue our barn survey field trip and in-class building experiences for the Adams County Building Trades program while encouraging other academic disciplines such as History and Photography/Media Studies to apply their area of study to historic buildings appreciation.
- e. Explore introducing historic building preservation in Adam's County school districts.
- b. Explore feasibility of integrating historic homes into our youth, and adults working with youths, outreach programs.

**2. Historic Buildings Appreciation and Preservation Professional Development Program:**

There is significant interest across the educational spectrum to formalize our program as we:

- a. Create plans and curricula for professional development opportunities, in partnership with the Adams County Historic Society and Gettysburg Foundation, for Adams County school teachers.
- b. Create an historical architectural scavenger hunt to use with students (in school) and youth and adults (out of school) to reinforce our historic buildings appreciation program.

**3. Internship and Apprenticeship Program:** We believe these outcomes are within reach as we aggressively pursue:

- a. Feasibility of a certificate and/or degree program with HACC, Tech Prep, and other educational institution leaders.
- b. Engagement of local artisans in multiple trades to discuss feasibility of hiring interns and apprentices, including details such as insurance, costs, performance expectations, etc.

**4. Fund and Friend Raising:** Building on the successful funding raising and the emerging partnership with the Gettysburg Foundation, under the theme of *Going Public in 2020*, we will:

- a. Update our website and continue refinement of use of videos and social media.
- b. Create a budget for existing funds while seeking grants and donations for additional activities and
- c. Explore feasibility of establishing an endowment through the ACCF.
- d. Continue our publicity campaign through interviews; presentations; regular submissions of articles and photographs to *Gettysburg Times*, HGAC newsletter and website and other appropriate outlets.
- g. Foster the emerging relationship with the Gettysburg Foundation and use of the George Spangler Farm as a "laboratory" for our educational programs.
- h. Work with HGAC Board to establish a youth membership and youth leadership council.

## **HGAC Board Recommendations**

### **Recommendation 1: Youth Membership**

The Investing in Youth Task Force requests that the HGAC Board approve a new youth membership. The membership fee for this category would be 5 hours of approved service or \$10. The initial title for this membership category is *Young Preservationists*.

Rationale: Addition of a youth category, ages 12-18, would serve as an introduction to the mission and work of HGAC. Youth membership can serve as a pathway to continued membership as young adults. Youth membership has the potential of encouraging parents and other adults to join.

Requesting service hours as payment for membership removes finances as a barrier to membership. Most importantly, a youth membership offers experiences for youth to provide leadership and other service to HGAC and its events, activities and committees and to learn about historic preservation. Participation will bring energies and ideas to the organization.

The title will be discussed among members of a proposed youth leadership council when established.

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### **Recommendation 2: Youth Leadership Council**

The Investing in Youth Task Force requests that the HGAC Board authorize the Task Force to establish an HGAC Investing in Youth Leadership Council to guide implementation of the programs of the Initiative.

Rationale: The Task Force needs input from youth to assure that events, activities, membership, etc. are aligned with interests and assets of youth. We seek ideas and energies in planning, promoting and implementing youth-focused learning experiences from youth and adults working with youth. The Council will work closely with the Task Force, and on occasion with the Board.

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### **Recommendation 3: Website Redesign**

The investing in Youth Task Force requests that the HGAC Board authorize and fund a redesign of the website to be completed in early 2020.

Rationale: To move forward with implementation and promotion of our programs, the Task Force needs an improved website that will attract attention among youth and adults who work with youth. We need a home for our photos, videos, teaching and learning tools, program announcements, etc. that can be easily modified and maintained. We need a place where potential and current donors and members can learn about the Initiative. We believe that the current website inhibits our *Going Public 2020* efforts.

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Submitted by the HGAC Investing in Youth Task Force  
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\*Joined in December 2019