

Grantees focus on Development

MEMBERS OF COLECTIVA FEMINISTA EN CONSTRUCCIÓN (PUERTO RICO) and Rio Piedras community residents came together to clean up an abandoned space that was affecting the health of the community. This space was intended to be at the service of the community, especially for youth and families. The rescue was threatened by the State and other parties, who pursued criminal charges to members of Colectiva Feminista en Construcción; however, they won the criminal case thanks to the community members who defended the rescue efforts.

In December 2022, **URBE APIE (PUERTO RICO)** signed a contract and submitted the letter of intention for the purchase of the Gautier #35 building. Urbe Apie has long used the Gautier building to house the Community Boutique, a collection center created after Hurricane Maria to provide essential items for anyone who needs it. The Gautier building also contains shelter/affordable housing units.

When news broke that Texas-based real estate developer, Cypress Real Estate Advisors, would be buying the RiverChase apartments and displacing over 175 Black and Brown families, **THE EQUITY ALLIANCE (TENNESSEE)** and coalition partners worked directly with Riverchase residents to get their needs met and hold Cypress Real Estate Advisors accountable. While Riverchase was ultimately rezoned, and the groups reached an impasse over affordable housing, The Equity Alliance held the developer accountable for commitments they made, such as green space and paying relocation costs for residents forced to move out.



Photo from Colectiva Feminista en Construcción.

EXAMPLES FROM 2022

Grantees are successfully challenging corporate and private interest in development projects, while also obtaining abandoned lots, or revitalizing public spaces, in service of community needs.

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