



Canton For All People exists to improve the quality of life for the residents in downtown Canton. Thank you for being part of our community as a donor, homeowner or any other program area we offer.

We're excited to send out our second monthly newsletter with you! Here, we'll share stories from the people we serve, program and project announcements and helpful resources.

Watch a video from Executive Director Don Ackerman as he talks about project completion on the Newton Family Apartments and our new Homeowner Improvement Program.



Our work to make homes affordable for working families wouldn't be possible without those who finance our projects. Thank you Consumer National Bank for partnering with us to accomplish our goal of building quality affordable homes in the Greater Shorb Neighborhood.

Canton For All People was invited to Hartville Hardware's Builder Appreciation Night in March where we were recognized as one of their top 50 builders this year. We are thankful for their continued partnership and support.

## **We're celebrating the completion of Newton Family Apartments**



**Mark your calendar for a ribbon cutting ceremony at Newton Family Apartments on Friday, May 8, 2026, at 10 a.m.**

The ceremony will include light refreshments and the opportunity to hear from executive director, Don Ackerman, about revitalization efforts for this project, its impact and how quality affordable housing is being brought to the Greater Shorb Neighborhood. Partners recognized will include Mayor William V. Sherer II, funders and philanthropic supporters, and the development and construction partner, Woda Cooper Company. Guests will have the opportunity to hear about direct impact from a resident who lives in the neighborhood.

Ribbon cutting will commence with partners near the entrance. Afterwards, attendees will have the opportunity to tour a model unit, the common space and Canton For All People's office space.



**"It's important to us that this space remain a community asset," Don Ackerman said.**

To learn more about this story, [click here.](#)

Leasing information will be available soon.

**Canton for All People is honored to have acquired the Athens Restaurant property**, a place that has meant so much to our community for nearly 50 years. Maria and Ted Karasarides created more than just a restaurant — they built a gathering place filled with warmth, hospitality, and relationships that have touched generations of Canton residents.

**We recognize how important Athens has been to the fabric of this neighborhood**, and it was important to us that this space remain a community asset rather than be lost to outside investors or redevelopment that would not serve local residents.

**Our intent is not to operate the restaurant ourselves, but to steward this property in a way that honors its legacy.** We plan to lease the facility to a local operator who is ready to carry forward the spirit of Athens — a place where people feel known, welcomed, and at home — while also creating an opportunity for a new or growing entrepreneur to serve our community. We are deeply grateful to the Karasarides family for the legacy they leave behind, and we look forward to seeing the next chapter of this space continue to bring people together in meaningful ways.

# Apply for our Homeowner Improvement Program



Through a \$1.5 million Affordable Housing Program award from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati, Canton for All People will complete repairs up to \$15,000 for owner-occupied homes in the City of Canton for eligible residents. [Apply here.](#)

Typical repairs include:

- Roof repairs
- Windows, doors and siding improvements
- Plumbing and emergency water issues
- HVAC replacement
- Electrical repairs
- Accessibility modifications

Eligibility Criteria include:

- Priority for majority minority census tracts
- Homeownership & residency
- Income limits
- Age 60+
- Physically or developmentally disabled
- Repair needs
- Program participation

Click [here](#) to learn more about the program and eligibility requirements. Fill out our [Homeowner Improvement Program](#) request form to apply.

You can also call our Neighborhood Service Director Matt Belliveau at (234) 360-3042 or send an email to [matt@cantonforallpeople.org](mailto:matt@cantonforallpeople.org).

## James wanted to buy a

James purchased one of our homes in Canton in December. He applied for mortgage loans in the past, but he was denied until he met with Canton For All People's housing director Traci Skipper to learn about credit and how to prepare his finances in order to get approved for a home loan.

**Want to buy a house with us?** Fill out our [Housing Interest Form](#) or call our

# house for his daughters.



Housing Director Traci Skipper at (234) 360-3042 for more information. Houses for sale are also listed [here](#).

**Our next open house** will be Thursday, April 16th from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. located at 305 Brown Ave. NW, Canton OH 44703. PNC Bank will be on site for lending questions. RSVP to Jada at [jada@cantonforallpeople.org](mailto:jada@cantonforallpeople.org). Walk-Ins are also welcome.

Mark your calendars for our **Post-Purchase Homeownership Education Workshop**. There are two dates to choose from: Sept. 14 or Sept. 19. Sign-ups will be announced at a later date.

## We broke ground in Alliance

We started construction on the first set of 25 homes in Canton in March and the first set of 10 homes in Alliance this week.

Here's a recap of our projects:

We're building 25 single family homes in Canton, 10 single family homes in Alliance and 13 single family homes in Youngstown.



### Why do we build homes?

Before we started building homes in Canton in 2021, 20% of the lots were vacant or blighted. Plus, there's a housing shortage of 9,000 homes in Stark County, according to a 2024 housing study from the Stark County Economic Development Board. On Average, houses costs almost \$200,000 in our county while household incomes are just over \$60,000.

We've helped reduce the financial burden of more than 20 first-time homeowners who purchased a Canton For All People house in the Greater Shorb Neighborhood by offering up to \$50,000 in subsidies for \$180,000 homes.

# "It helps tremendously."

Paulette is a single mom of five children and has been picking up free groceries at the **Shorb Market + Connection Center** for a few months. The market "helps fill in the gap to feed my children and myself," she said.



**Need other resources while at the market?** We offer a community table where local partners offer free resources to the community.

## April dates include:

4/1 & 4/8 - Community Legal Aide

4/7 - Spark Ohio

4/9 - Neuro Behavioral Health

**4/14 - Shorb Market will be closed**

4/17 - Light After Loss

4/22 - Community Legal Aide

4/23 - Neuro Behavioral Health

4/30 - Canton City Public Health Department

\*Dates are subject to change\*

You can call the market at (234) 214-0408 on the scheduled date.

We continue to see more people in need

of groceries at the **Shorb Market + Connection Center**. We had 5,166 households shop for free groceries during the month of March. Thank you to our partners, the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank, for our fifth year of certification.



Shorb Market is located at 603 Shorb Ave. NW, Canton OH 44703 and is open Tuesday to Friday from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Lunch For All People is every Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.



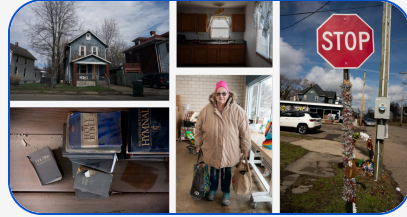
Join us on [Facebook live](#) every Monday at 10:30 a.m. with Coffee with Carrie and Carlos to hear about weekly market offerings. We are closed April 6th, so there will be no Facebook live that day.

We can't do this important work without our volunteers. If you'd like to join our team of volunteers call Shorb Market Director Carrie Maletich at (234) 214-0408.



# Become a resident photographer

We're excited to announce a new project called **Neighborhood Photo Project**. Neighborhood Photo Project tells the past and present story of the Greater Shorb Neighborhood and the people that live there through guided conversations and pictures taken by residents.



*We need you – a resident photographer*, which is someone who lives in the Greater Shorb neighborhood or Northwest side of Canton and takes pictures of what they see around them. This could include all sorts of things such as streets, houses, family, friends, barbecues – anything you find interesting or want to share.

*There are two ways you can contribute towards this project:* take photos on your phone or camera and submit them to us while answering a few questions or sign up for a photo walk where we'll lend you a camera and walk with you to take pictures of your choosing while learning more about your neighborhood.

You can email our Communications Director Kelly Krabill at [kellyk@cantonforallpeople.org](mailto:kellyk@cantonforallpeople.org) for more information.

## Panther learned what it takes to



During March's retreat, students of the Neighborhood Leadership Academy paired up into teams to work through what they learned from Kristina

# write a grant



"It's so much of a group effort as much as there are so many individual pieces. If it's not together, the whole project can fall," said Panther, a participant of the Neighborhood Leadership Academy."

Belliveau, the chief financial officer at Canton For All People.

Participants work on a capstone project during the semester and are granted \$5,000 upon completion to go out and implement their idea.

"They are a group of individuals with all different backgrounds and different ideas," Kristina Belliveau said. "So, having them work together kind of helped them solidify and work through some of their ideas and forced them to make a decision on what they want to do."

## Does our newsletter help keep you informed?

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No, I'd like to [submit feedback](#).



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