



Green Empowerment Program Overview V3-2

Program Vision: The immediate goal of the Green Empowerment Program is to help reduce household energy bills while increasing comfort for the residents of the neighborhood. The longer-term goal is to create “green” jobs through the training and apprenticeship of youth and unemployed residents for future weatherization and distributed energy related work. This is done through:

1. Education of residents on how to stay comfortable, while lowering energy costs
2. Helping residents receive a high level of home improvement by utilizing the State’s Weatherization Assistance Program administered by authorized third party agencies
3. Providing “Eco-Kits” that will help lower costs while increasing comfort with energy efficient lighting, weather stripping and window insulation
4. Prepare for extreme heat events through the Beat-the-Heat program
5. Incorporate community solar



Lead by neighborhood Houses of Faith, a collaboration of community action groups, business and residents whose mission is to help residents prepare for increasingly severe climate with higher energy costs, while building economic and job development. Help Delaware residents prepare for increasingly severe climate with higher energy costs, through a partnership with community action groups, business and government, while building economic and job development. This initiative involves the creation of more comfortable, weather and energy effective Houses of Faith and residential homes. It also involves the training and apprenticeship of youth and unemployed residents to make this work succeed.

Program Goals

1. Reduce Energy usage and costs for WCC residents and business, using neighborhood resources, with neighborhood leadership and participation.
2. Increase neighborhood value through housing improvements, increased use of functional landscaping for beautification and energy reduction.
3. Build local economic base with employment opportunities developed through neighborhood improvement program
4. Building teaming relationships to leverage WAP, DCH and other resources to foster greatest part of program.

Partnerships: Key partners in this endeavor are Delaware Interfaith Power and Light (DeIPL), West Center City Futures Council, The Challenge Program, Interfaith Coalition Building Blocks for Wilmington, Delmarva Power and Light, Catholic Charities, the Delaware Center for Horticulture and the City of Wilmington.

Program Rollout: Phased Deployment

- Secure financial and high level program support – Raised initial \$25,000
- Run Pilot Project to validate objectives and facilitate improvements – In progress
- Evaluate pilot, make adjustments and expand in place include broader neighborhood
- Extend into new neighborhoods in West Center City and beyond
- Emerge into Energy Smart Neighborhoods



Green Empowerment Program Overview V3-2

Initial Rollout Area with Proposed Additional Congregations:

Current DeIPL Member Congregations on Map: [First & Central Presbyterian Church](#), [Temple United Church](#), [the Episcopal Church of Saints Andrew and Matthew](#), [Hanover Presbyterian Church](#)
Pilot Project: ¹ [Temple United Church](#); Located in heart of Wilmington, with great poverty and crime
Future Program Congregations:

- [Trinity Episcopal Church](#); Large Hispanic and Middle Income Communities
- [Tabernacle Full Gospel Baptist Cathedral](#); Strengthens the program in West Center City as well as beyond
- [Muslim Center of Wilmington](#); Expands beyond the center of Wilmington and partners with important community not currently in DeIPL

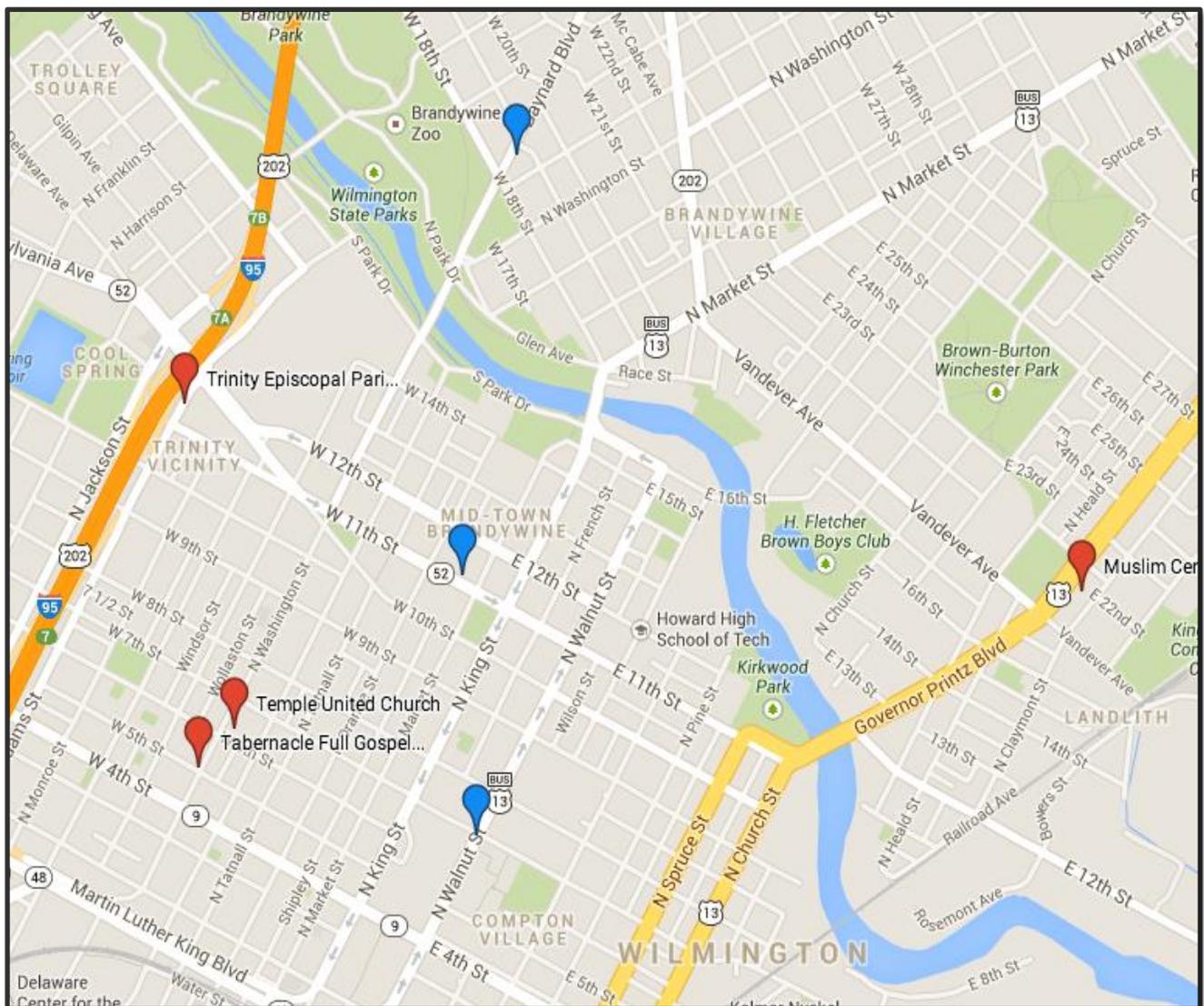


Figure 1. DeIPL Congregations in heart of city of Wilmington

¹ Green Empowerment Congregations