

half full

IMPACT  
REPORT



2024

# “the full”

From the beginning, half full, llc has maintained its commitment to corporate social responsibility and its “do well, do good” business model.

We invest in our community through Youth Forwards, corporate service days and community activism.

At half full, the “half” is about being a for profit, and the “full” is about giving back!



Adewole (Wole) Akinbi

In his role as Facilitator & Community Liaison for half full, llc, Wole manages all community partnerships for the business as well as our Youth Development initiatives.



# Smith Hill Partners' Initiative (SHPI)



Co-founded by half full, llc in November 2015, the **Smith Hill Partners' Initiative** was created to help curb duplicating efforts of programs and services being offered in the Smith Hill Community

Working in silos was not leading to progress so the purpose of **SHPI** was to bring all the organizations, agencies, residents, landlords and leaders to one "table". The collective goal is simple; to share information and resources with each other. This includes information about events and programs or anything else that members are offering that can benefit the residents of Smith Hill.

To date, **SHPI** has been involved in:

- **96** meetings (in-person, virtual and hybrid)
- **67** Smith Hill development meetings
- **11** canvassing projects
- **9** community cleanups
- **8** Smith Hill Turkey Drives
- **5** Smith Hill Block Parties
- **3** street dedications

# Smith Hill Turkey Drive



The **Smith Hill Turkey Drive** is an annual event hosted by The Smith Hill CDC, Althea Graves and the “Friends of Smith Hill Library” and SHARP, the resident’s coalition for Smith Hill. It takes place every year on the Saturday before Thanksgiving. Locations for the event have varied between the PC/Smith Hill Annex and St. Patrick’s Academy. Each year, the aforementioned groups, in partnership with Providence College, 02908 Realty Group and members from SHPI, put their resources together to provide free turkeys and supermarket gift cards to hundreds of Smith Hill residents.

# Smith Hill Neighborhood Cleanups

half full, llc makes its home in the Smith Hill neighborhood of Providence. Since 2016, we have done our part to help keep our community clean.

The annual **Smith Hill Neighborhood Clean Up** brings residents and businesses together to help achieve this objective.



Our record-breaking year was 2022 when over 70 volunteers participated and collected over 400 bags of trash!



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# Smith Hill Block Parties

The **Smith Hill Block Party** is an annual event that was started by the Smith Hill Library Friends back in the early 1990's. Since then, it has since blossomed into a community wide event that attracts residents from all over the North End neighborhoods.



We recruit a wide variety of non-profit organizations to be vendors so that they can provide valuable information and resources to all residents who attend the event. We have also enlisted the support of several local restaurants who graciously provide food to attendees at no charge.



*From 2016 to 2019  
over 3,000 residents  
have attended the  
**Smith Hill Block Party***

# Youth Development Initiatives



Created out of personal experiences and the challenges of growing up as teenagers, each summer the half full, llc team offers youth development opportunities through our **Youth Forward Series**.



Each summer, half full, llc offers a two-part **Youth Forward Series** for a cohort of 15-20 young people from high schools across Rhode Island. As part of our commitment to a “do well, do good” business model, these Youth Forwards are offered at no cost to students and their families\*. All students who attend and complete both Youth Forwards receive a certificate of completion for 30 hours of Leadership Training.

**As of January 2024, half full, llc has hosted nine Youth Forwards, attended by 98 Rhode Island teens!**



# Community Development Initiatives

## Smith Street Revitalization Plan 2019-2022

The **Smith Street Revitalization Plan** is a comprehensive economic development and sustainability project created by a variety of stakeholders in Smith Hill. Over the course of a year, residents and community stakeholders were surveyed and attended a series of strategic meetings to design a concrete plan to assist in increasing economic viability in the neighborhood. Examples of some of those ideas on the plan include projects like tree plantings, monthly farmer's markets, mixed use housing developments and more.

## DOT Thriving Communities Program 2023-2025

In 2023 half full, llc was asked by the City of Providence Planning Department to partner on the application for the **Thriving Communities Program**, using the data from our 2018-2019 Smith Street Revitalization Plan. This program “aims to ensure that disadvantaged communities adversely or disproportionately affected by environmental, climate, and human health policy outcomes have the technical tools and organizational capacity to compete for federal aid and deliver quality infrastructure projects that enable their communities and neighborhoods to thrive.”

*We were thrilled to learn that Smith Hill was accepted into the program in April 2023*

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# the future of “the full”

## 2024 and beyond

In January 2024, half full, llc entered its next phase of growth with the acquisition of AWE, Advancing Workplace Excellence.

This strategic move positions us to deliver even more impact via our philanthropic initiatives.

We can't wait to see what the future holds as we continue to expand our “do well, do good” business model!