

DT2 · DOWNTOWN DUTCHTOWN

**Building a
stronger
Dutchtown
during the
pandemic and
beyond.**

DUTCHTOWNSTL.ORG/DONATE

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Building a strong, vibrant, resilient, and thriving Dutchtown for neighbors and local businesses.

There's no denying that 2020 was a difficult year. An unprecedented health crisis and the resulting economic downturn have hit people and small businesses hard.

The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted everyone's life. In spite of that, Downtown Dutchtown continued to build a stronger Dutchtown neighborhood. Both DT2 and the neighborhood are forging a path forward and building momentum not otherwise seen in Dutchtown over the last decades.

2021 looks bright. DT2 is poised to take on new challenges, develop solutions, and accomplish more than ever with new guidance from the UrbanMain initiative, renewed interest from neighbors, and new dedicated staff.

Today we're asking for your help to continue DT2's mission of promoting a thriving community and shared prosperity by facilitating economic development and fostering opportunity in the Dutchtown neighborhood. Through this mission,

we aim to attract diverse ownership, promote places, spaces, and faces, and increase occupancy.

In 2021, we're seeking to develop a strong base of sustaining donors to help us achieve our mission and build a stronger Dutchtown for everyone. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 in annual sustaining donations this year. Your monthly contribution of \$10, \$25, or \$100 goes a long way to our cause.

Donate Today!

It's easy to set up your automatic monthly donation. Just visit dutchtownstl.org/donate

Your contribution allows us to continue and expand our robust programming, including our work

with Missouri Main Street Connection and the UrbanMain initiative, the reactivation of Marquette Park, our campaign to provide additional support for our neighborhood businesses, and so much more.

Though DT2 has been entirely volunteer driven since its inception, in 2020 we were able to hire a part-time staffer to help expand our efforts. Our Dutchtown Growth Manager brings skills and experience that will help us apply for grants, increase volunteerism, promote the neighborhood, and serve the Dutchtown community like never before. Your sustaining donation helps us to further lay the groundwork on which we build a resilient and thriving Dutchtown. Please become a sustaining donor today at dutchtownstl.org/donate.





URBANMAIN'S FOUR POINTS (PLUS ONE)

- Organization
- Economic Vitality
- Promotion
- Design
- Safe Clean & Green

DT2 has worked with Missouri Main Street and the Dutchtown CID to establish a new committee structure corresponding to each of the five points.

Committees are open to all. You can find out more and volunteer at dutchtownstl.org/committees.

The UrbanMain Initiative in Dutchtown

DT2 has partnered with Missouri Main Street Connection on a first-of-its-kind program in the state. The initiative uses a four point approach that has been successful in reviving historic downtowns in cities across the country and adds a fifth point to address the need of urban neighborhoods like ours. The five points are Organization, Economic Vitality, Promotion, Design, and Safe Clean & Green.

The partnership with Missouri Main Street is a three year project focusing on Downtown Dutchtown that will revitalize our neighborhood's core and help DT2 develop strategies to implement throughout the Dutchtown neighborhood.



Activating Marquette Park

While the ability to gather with our neighbors was limited by COVID-19, DT2 teamed up with other Dutchtown organizations to bring people together at Marquette Park for activities such as Movie Nights.

Additionally, a partnership has been build with St. Louis's new Major League Soccer team to sponsor improvements to the soccer field and build a futsal court in 2021. Futsal is related to soccer but played on a smaller pitch.





Not Business As Usual

Dutchtown welcomed several new and revamped businesses in the past year. Despite the ongoing health crisis and economic downturn, entrepreneurs invested their money and time to follow their dreams in Dutchtown.

Urban Eats launched their reimagined **Shared Kitchen** and **Neighborhood FoodHall** concepts. Diners have flocked to the new eateries at Urban Eats. **Juanita's Creole Soul** has received critical acclaim for their soul food with a twist. **Tacos La Jefa** went from serving their birria tacos from their backyard to serving lines of customers at their brick and mortar space. And **Perfectly Pastry** offers

up morning coffee, pastries, and desserts, a niche long unoccupied in Dutchtown. Down Virginia Avenue, **Shay's Donuts** brings breakfast treats to the neighborhood, and work is underway at the former Iron Barley to convert the space to a diner.

New shops have come to Downtown Dutchtown as well. Newcomers include **Kwamboka**, a shop selling Afrocentric clothing and other merchandise, **Forget Me Not Boutique**, specializing in new women's clothing, accessories, and body care, and **Melanin Made Beauty** selling hair and beauty products as well as a range of resale clothing. New barber shops and beauty salons opened on

Meramec as well. And **Cross Grand** established their first brick and mortar location. The business, operated by Dutchtown residents, offers photography, videography, event planning, and more.

Established businesses pushed forward through the pandemic as well. Downtown Dutchtown saw **Diana's Boutique** expand into a larger space on Meramec and team up with **Thrift \$#!&** to provide an opportunity to an upstart business. The **Original Crusoe's Restaurant** has soldiered on in their 40th year, dishing out their classics for carryout and limited dine-in seating. **Logan's Kids Resale** provides virtual shopping opportunities to their customers. Our neighborhood businesses continue to adapt to an ever-changing situation,

providing the goods and services our neighbors need while also protecting their safety.

Although many of our businesses have struggled during the pandemic (as have businesses across the country), we've been excited to see many of these spaces quickly fill back up. Entrepreneurs see opportunity in Dutchtown, and we're bullish on the future for our neighborhood businesses both established and new.

Help us support business in Dutchtown.

Your donation to DT2 helps us to attract, grow, and promote our neighborhood businesses. Make your sustaining donation at dutchtownstl.org/donate.



Dutchtown Proud

Welcome to Dutchtown, a neighborhood that bears the weight of our city's past and stands tall in the truth of who we are today. We are St. Louis's most populous and densest neighborhood. We are a neighborhood that has experienced growth, contraction, and growth again. **We are Dutchtown Proud.**

We are proud to be a part of one of the most diverse, gritty, and forward thinking neighborhoods in St. Louis. Proud to look for prosperity here. Proud to tell the doubters why we call Dutchtown home.

We call Dutchtown home by choice. We choose to come together and build community with neighbors who may not

look or live their lives exactly the same. We respect our neighbors' right to choose Dutchtown, regardless of who they are, who they love, what they look like, what they do for a living, or what circumstances brought them here.

2020 marked the kickoff of the Dutchtown Proud campaign across the neighborhood. With a grant from the St. Louis Association of Community Organizations (SLACO), we printed and distributed hundreds of yard signs to show neighborhood pride and unity across the community.

We also produced a video highlighting what makes us all proud to be residents and business owners in Dutchtown. You can find the video at dutchtownstl.org/proud.

Donate now at dutchtownstl.org/donate





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Big plans for 2021 and beyond.

DT2 and the Dutchtown neighborhood had a successful 2020 despite facing unprecedented challenges. Investment is increasing, interest in the neighborhood is high, and we have a fantastic foundation and partners to build a vibrant and equitable community in Dutchtown in the years to come. But our work has only just begun.

We're asking for your assistance to help continue our mission in 2021 and beyond. A monthly contribution of \$10, \$25, or \$50 helps us to bring resources and reinvestment to Dutchtown and plan a brighter future for all of our residents and business owners. Donate today at dutchtownstl.org/donate.

The DT2 Agenda for 2021

UrbanMain Initiative

The **UrbanMain** initiative is a three year program during which we'll be working closely with the professional staff at **Missouri Main Street Connection** to implement the 4 + 1 Point Approach. Learn more at dutchtownstl.org/urbanmain.

Support Dutchtown Businesses

In late 2020, we began new efforts to reach out to new and existing businesses to drive sales and provide information. We're also starting our **DT2 Before Hours** events—coffee hours that give our business owners a chance to meet, network, and share resources. You can find out more at dutchtownstl.org/business.

DT2 After Hours

DT2 After Hours, our monthly happy hours in support of neighborhood businesses, will resume in the spring of 2021. While safety will be the preeminent concern, we believe it's still important that we continue to bring our community together and bring attention to our new and established businesses.

Movie Nights at Marquette Park

We have also begun planning for our third year of summer **Movie Nights** at Marquette Park. Our Movie Nights have brought hundreds of neighbors into the park for family friendly entertainment, food trucks, community organizing, and more. See our schedule at dutchtownstl.org/movienight.

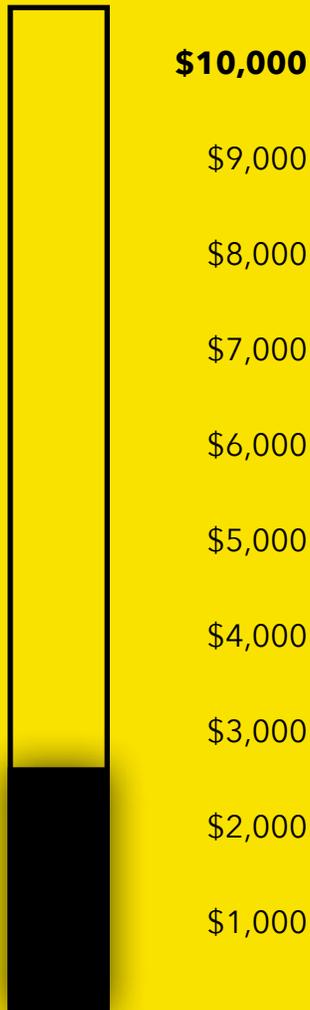
Collaboration with Dutchtown Organizations

DT2 will continue to work closely with the **Dutchtown Community Improvement District** to promote and improve the vital corridor running through the center of our neighborhood. After helping to form the CID in 2017, we're proud to see our efforts coming to fruition with infrastructure improvements and the development of new strategies for safety, beautification, and promotion.

The **Neighborhood Innovation Center** has been an invaluable partner over the last year, providing a space to safely gather for outdoor events, technology to hold remote meetings, and becoming Dutchtown's defacto community center as they continue to develop their long term organizational goals. The NIC will be an integral part of community building in Dutchtown.

We will also aim to strengthen our relationship with **Dutchtown South Community Corporation** as they undergo a leadership transition while they continue their efforts to empower residents, provide affordable housing, and implement the Gravois Jefferson Historic Neighborhoods Plan.

Organizations such as **Thomas Dunn Learning Center**, **Employment Connection**, and the **Cure Violence** program, as well as our neighborhood schools and congregations and our elected officials will all have a seat at the table beside our residents and business owners to ensure that our work continues to be guided by a diverse array of voices from within the Dutchtown community.



Donate today!

dutchtownstl.org/donate

DT2 · Downtown Dutchtown is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization. Your contribution may be tax deductible. Consult a tax professional.

Support DT2 Today!

DT2 has long operated with only a shoestring budget and volunteer staff. This year, we hope to take our work to the next level.

With our new Dutchtown Growth Manager and our work with organizations like Missouri Main Street Connection, opportunities and resources previously unavailable to us are coming into view.

But right now, we need funds to continue our ongoing work of building community and promoting the Dutchtown neighborhood through marketing, events, and other outreach.

DT2's 2021 Fundraising Goal: \$10,000 in Sustaining Donations

We've made it easy to continue your support for DT2 · Downtown Dutchtown. Simply go to dutchtownstl.org/donate where you can opt to make a recurring or one-time donation. Recurring donations will automatically be debited from your account monthly.

With over \$2,000 already committed for 2021, we can reach our goal when 25 more people donate \$25 a month. But contributions in any amount are greatly appreciated and go a long way to helping DT2 continue our important mission of promoting a thriving community and shared prosperity by facilitating economic development and fostering opportunity in the Dutchtown neighborhood.

We also still accept donations by check. You can send your check payable to DT2, 3207 Meramec Street, St. Louis, MO 63118.