Cultivating connected, compassionate, and age-embracing communities together.
Overview

Background
Northside is a historically Black neighborhood in Chapel Hill whose residents live by the mandate to "love thy neighbor as thyself". However, in recent years, Northside has experienced “studentification” marked by a shift from a predominance of single-family owned homes to rental properties shared by college students. This process has disrupted the sense of community of Northside.

This shift has made it more difficult for long-time residents, especially older adults, to stay in the community. The health and wellbeing of older residents who have long been models of courage and care are essential to the health of the community more broadly. Retaining and preserving strong community networks supports the longevity and vibrancy of the community as a whole. The Northside Residential Fellowship seeks to bridge long-term Northside residents and UNC graduate students in a mutually beneficial relationship. We seek to create space for students to be more active members of the Northside community and to re-establish a multigenerational neighborhood where all residents feel supported.

What to Expect
The Northside Residential Fellowship brings UNC graduate and professional students interested in aging and justice together in a living-learning community. By joining this program you can expect to:
1) Build relationships with other fellows and your neighbors, both young and old
2) Learn and grow together
3) Participate in community-wide events
4) Be engaged in Northside

Program Requirements
You and your housemates will create a community agreement that outlines your values and commitments for intentional community engagement. The NRF Program Coordinators will facilitate and support your continued participation in various components of the fellowship including:
1) Academic and Service Activities
2) Community Engagement Activities
3) Monthly and Biweekly check-ins
4) General Reflections or Journaling

Core Ideals

Mission
The Northside Residential Fellowship (NRF) builds on the Jackson Center’s mission to honor, renew, and build community in Northside and UNC Partnerships in Aging Program’s (PiAP) mission to cultivate age-embracing people and communities. The NRF strives to integrate these missions by supporting intentional and reflective community engagement that facilitates opportunities for students and long-term residents to grow, learn, and build relationships together in their everyday lives.

Core Intersecting Perspectives

Expanded View of Aging: The NRF seeks to cultivate age-embracing communities where elderhood is understood as an opportunity for growth and vibrancy.

Racial Equity: The NRF seeks to offer a space where racism - structural or individual, covert or overt - can be understood and dismantled.

Housing Justice: The NRF seeks to highlight the integral role home and place have in the health and well-being of residents and the community.
Expected Program Components

Fellowship Structure and Activities

- NRF Orientation
- Bi-Weekly Discussions and Community Meetings
- Participation with LINK
  As NRF’s, you will be participating in LINK, another initiative organized by PiAP and the Jackson Center. LINK connects graduate students at UNC with elders in Northside to promote intergenerational connection. Each Northside Residential Fellow will be matched with an elder from Northside and you will connect with them weekly. Your participation in LINK will include weekly visits/phone calls with your elder.
- Weekly Check-In

Learning and Service Activities

The following are included to prepare you for an enriching NRF experience. We want to make sure you have the tools necessary to grow, so we have incorporated a variety of onboarding training and service components.

- Conflict Resolution Workshop
- Safe and Humble Spaces Workshop
- Soundwalk of Northside
  It can be accessed through the Jackson Center website here.
- Jackson Center Service Partner Orientation
- Commitment of Volunteer Service in Northside
  We ask fellows to commit to 10 hours a month of community engagement and volunteering. How you serve is up to you, and you are encouraged to pick a place that taps your passions. Below are some options:
  - Heavenly Groceries
  - Northside Elementary School
  - Hargraves Community Center
  - Marian Cheek Jackson Center
  - EmPOWERment, Inc.
- Oral History Workshop
  The Oral History Trust can be accessed here.
- Be WITH your neighbors
  We will encourage you to immerse yourself into your surroundings and take the chance to get to know neighbors in the community.
- Community Events*
  - Good Neighbor Block Party
  - Porch Revival Tour
  - Northside Festival
  - Holiday Party
*events are dependent on the state of the COVID-19 pandemic and CDC guidelines