



## END OF YEAR REPORT



What a transformative year for RISE Coleman Park. As we close out 2025, we celebrate remarkable progress in our first full year as an independent organization serving Coleman Park and activating our three-year strategic plan. We have deepened our work across all four strategic pillars while ensuring our efforts remain firmly rooted in and led by the community we serve. We expanded our board from 11 to 15 members, welcoming four new leaders who bring diverse expertise to guide our mission. Purpose Built Communities picked Coleman Park to host the 2026 Leadership Convening of network members, recognizing our growing impact and best practices. Throughout the year, we facilitated over 10 Coleman Park neighborhood tours, highlighting the urgency of RISE's role as Community Quarterback to influence and control development in ways that mitigate the surrounding gentrification pressures.

This year has proven that resident-centered development is not just our philosophy, it is the foundation of everything we do. We are excited to share the highlights of this incredible year with you.



## ONTARIO JOHNSON (OJ)

In January, we welcomed Ontario Johnson as Director of Community and Housing to lead RISE's housing strategy and strengthen our community partnerships. OJ has been instrumental in building the capacity of our resident leaders and forging meaningful collaborations with nonprofits and organizations throughout the community. Under his leadership, RISE has successfully executed our acquisition strategy, securing two vacant properties that will be developed into affordable housing options in Coleman Park. We anticipate acquiring additional lots in FY26 as we continue to expand our housing portfolio.

## BUILDING STRONG FOUNDATIONS



As part of our Strategic Plan Goal 5 – to grow capacity and improve organizational strength – RISE has made significant strides in establishing the infrastructure needed to sustain and scale our resident-led vision for Coleman Park.

This year marked a major milestone as we successfully brought our fiscal operations in-house after separating from our fiscal agent. We contracted with a seasoned nonprofit CFO to organize our financials and lead our FY24 audit, which was completed with Templeton Advisors. We also established merchant services capability for donations and payments, receiving our first payment on December 13th during our inaugural Christmas in Coleman Park celebration.

To better reflect our deep commitment to the Coleman Park community, we officially rebranded from Northend RISE to RISE Coleman Park, launching our new domain (RISEcp.org) and updated digital presence that centers our neighborhood focus.

We've also invested in professional development and data infrastructure that positions us for scale. Our newly launched Coleman Park Data Dashboard provides baseline metrics across our four strategic pillars, enabling us to track progress and demonstrate impact as we continue building partnerships that support the resident-led vision for Coleman Park's future.



**DONATE HERE**

## STRATEGIC INITIATIVES LAUNCHED



RISE Coleman Park, Palm Beach Venture Philanthropy and the City of West Palm Beach are collaborating with residents of the Coleman Park neighborhood to launch **The Culture Yard (TCY)**. The Culture Yard will transform 2003 North Tamarind Avenue into a vibrant community hub centered around the Taylor Moxey Library and an outdoor community gathering space. This will be a Space for Holistic Community Wellness and will offer residents a dedicated space to engage across three vital dimensions:

- 🤝 **Social Connection** - Building relationships and networks that strengthen our community fabric
- 🏛️ **Civic Engagement** - Providing platforms for residents to participate in local governance and advocacy
- 💪 **Community Wellness** - Supporting physical, mental, and economic health through programming and resources

On September 11th, RISE Coleman Park presented a \$25,000 check to the Coleman Park Champions, our inaugural investment from Quantum Foundation's Stronger Communities Initiative, to support the capacity of grassroots nonprofits doing transformative work in Coleman Park. RISE will serve as an intermediary and fiscal manager, providing capacity-building support to help these organizations strengthen their operations, reporting, and long-term sustainability.

This initiative recognizes what we've always known: the most powerful solutions come from those closest to the community. We're honored to support these grassroots leaders who show up every day for Coleman Park.



### Meet the Coleman Park Champions Cohort 1:

- Inspire Life Resource Center
- Advocacy Activists
- Girls with Scars
- Love, Hope & Healing
- The Grow Lit Project



# STRATEGIC PROGRESS ACROSS FOUR PILLARS

## MIXED-INCOME HOUSING

- Secured \$600,000 for land acquisition strategy
  - Acquired two vacant lots for affordable housing development
- Developed comprehensive database of Coleman Park vacant lots

## CRADLE TO COLLEGE EDUCATION

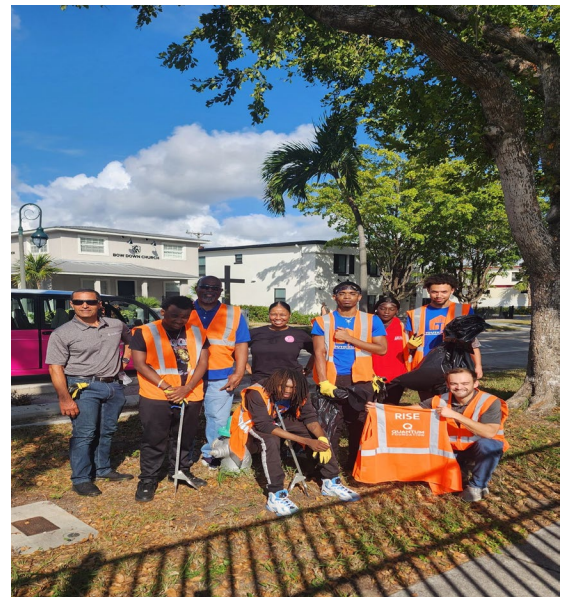
- Completed comprehensive Early Childhood Education analysis for Coleman Park
- Secured funding to support rollout of initial implementation plan.

## COMMUNITY WELLNESS

- Regular neighborhood clean-ups, partnering with Urban League, YouthBuild, PBAU, and volunteer groups
- Facilitated neighborhood Celebrations
  - Welcome Home Celebration
  - Christmas in Coleman Park

## ECONOMIC VITALITY

- Completed peer exchange with lead partners to learn about Neighborhood Development Center model /Build from Within Alliance peer exchange in Minneapolis/St. Paul



Coleman Park Neighborhood Clean-up

## LOOKING AHEAD TO 2026

- Hire Director of Finance and Administration to support operational capacity
- Start Coleman Park Senior Renovations
- Launch “Through our Lens” PhotoVoice
- Implement Early Learning Strategy
- Introduce fresh market concept
- Pillars Committee Activation
- Establish MOU agreements with Coleman Park stakeholders to ensure accountability
- Coleman Park Business Series
- Continue strategic land acquisition for affordable housing



Coleman Park Holiday Celebration - Face Painting



Resident Advisory Committee Meeting - Development Feedback