



# FAITH COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

1903 Cool Lane (Church Office)

Item No. 5

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*Dr. Patricia A. Gould-Champ, Pastor*

### Our Logo:

The arms uplifted toward God symbolize God's promise to raise up in the heart of this community—a faith community. At the heart of all of our searching is the cross of Jesus Christ which represents God's grace and mercy. The person is each of us and each of our brothers and sisters. It speaks to who we are as a people—constantly seeking God and constantly striving to be "The Community Church For All People."

The colors represent the fact that we are an African American church who is united with our people. Red represents the blood that has been shed in our struggle for freedom and liberation. Green represents the land of our foreparents, mother Africa. Black represents both us as a people and oppressed people everywhere.

February 15, 2019

## Richmond Planning Commission

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of Faith Community Baptist Church (FCBC), I am pleased to provide this letter of support for Cool Lane Apartments in Henrico County, which will provide supportive housing for homeless and low-income adults. In a joint effort to provide community resource services, Virginia Supportive Housing (VSH) is partnering with C.I.D., Inc., a non-profit community development corporation of the Faith Community Baptist Church which is located across the street from the proposed apartments.

Faith Community Baptist Church through its 501c3 *Community In Development (C.I.D., Inc.)* presently provides a number of critical services to the community including weekly food distribution and urban farming programs, workforce development through its church-based commissary, HIV/AIDS Prevention Education and serves as a site for court-ordered community service. FCBC/C.I.D. will have dedicated office and meeting space including access to a community kitchen in the apartment building to support the growth of its community resource programs.

C.I.D., will serve as the administrator of the *Community Resource Center* which will house additional community resource agencies such as, but not limited to: *Mommies, Bellies, Babies and Daddies (MBBD)*, an outcomes and evidence-based program to serve homeless pregnant women through nutrition education, food distribution and parenting training; *Community In Action*, a consortium of agencies that offer various services to meet the educational, mental, physical, financial, and social needs of underserved communities.

Faith Community Baptist Church has a long history of service to the residents of this community and faithfully served the residents of the former Seven Hills Health Center. Along with the residents of the community, we have long desired to see this abandoned and rapidly deteriorating property used to provide needful services that will positively impact the residents and help revitalize this area of the city. We believe that as Virginia Supportive Housing provides supportive housing to those in need and as C.I.D., Inc. provides additional community resources, this goal can be realized. We see this project as beneficial to all concerned and a positive model of collaboration for future projects between the City of Richmond, agencies, churches, and residents. We give our full support and look forward to collaborating with Virginia Supportive Housing on this important project.

Sincerely,

Dr. Patricia A. Gould-Champ,  
Senior Pastor and Founding Visionary