



Fast Company recognizes the City of Asheville's Community Reparations Project

ASHEVILLE, NC (May 9, 2023) - The City of Asheville, North Carolina's Community Reparations Project has been named a Finalist in the Social Justice category of Fast Company's [World Changing Ideas Awards 2023](#).

This recognition from Fast Company underscores the importance of the Reparation Project's mission, and its potential to be replicated. This year's World Changing Ideas Awards showcase 45 winners, 216 finalists, and more than 300 honorable mentions. A panel of Fast Company editors and reporters selected winners and finalists from a pool of more than 2,200 entries across urban design, education, social justice, technology, and more. Fast Company's Spring 2023 issue (on newsstands May 9, 2023) will showcase some of the world's most inventive entrepreneurs and forward-thinking initiatives actively tackling global challenges.

The Asheville Community Reparations Project is a groundbreaking local government initiative launched in 2020. It aims to address historical wrongs and create a more equitable future. The 25-member [Asheville Reparations Commission](#) seeks to provide reparations for Black residents of Asheville and Buncombe County through community investments, restorative justice, and healing.

"It's humbling to see our client honored in this way," says Christine Edwards, MPA, Founder and Principal Consultant at [Civility Localized](#). "Asheville is leading the way in tackling an urgent matter of social restitution, which is a critical step toward addressing the harms of systemic racism. This is a world-changing idea and I hope it is something more communities can emulate."

Edwards was named Project Management Lead for the Asheville Community Reparations Commission in December 2022. The Commission's two-year term ends in 2024 and Edwards is tasked with guiding the development of recommendations. Edwards and her firm, Civility Localized, look forward to continuing their work with the City of Asheville and Buncombe County Community Reparations Commission and advancing equity overall.

[World Changing Ideas](#) is one of Fast Company's major annual awards programs and is focused on social good, seeking to elevate finished products and brave concepts that make the world better.

About Civility Localized: Established in 2018, Civility Localized (formerly Amplify Charlotte) is a minority-owned, woman-owned consulting firm located in Charlotte, NC. We work with municipalities to enhance their community engagement capacity and increase awareness of important initiatives by conducting workshops, focus groups, and surveys. Using our Engagement First approach, we deliver place-based outreach initiatives that improve quality of life for both residents and stakeholders.

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