OUR MISSION:

To empower Dudley residents to organize, plan for, create and control a vibrant, diverse and high-quality neighborhood in collaboration with community partners.

WHAT DOES DSNI DO?

We provide a vehicle for residents to exercise neighborhood control and access to resources.

The future is bright for DSNI

DSNI has undertaken the process of evaluating the impact of our initiatives over the last 5 years and identifying community partners that can carry on and sustain the most impactful projects.

HOW DO WE DO IT?

By creating, uniting, and empowering leaders to champion community causes.
AREAS OF FOCUS:

DSNI was born out of the desire of residents to reclaim and take control of their neighborhood. With a shared vision of a vibrant urban village, the thrust of DSNI's work has always been forward-looking.

1. Development without Displacement

To plan and control the physical development of the neighborhood. To work with residents and partners to implement strategies that address the displacement.

We embarked on this strategic process to sharpen our focus and maximize our impact. Through this, we unlocked new opportunities for our community and formulated a stronger vision, one that we can all proudly stand behind and be a part of. Our new strategic roadmap will provide residents with a vehicle to exercise neighborhood control, greater access to resources, and foster local leadership. The following areas will encompass the root of work and help us fulfill our new strategic objectives:

DSNI will lead the development of the former Upham’s Corner Citizens Bank building into a major mixed-use, affordable housing and commercial project that will represent a significant expansion of the DNI community land trust portfolio.
**AREAS OF FOCUS:**

2. **Youth Voice**

To cultivate a rising generation of leaders, who are connected to a supportive community of peers and caring adults, enriching opportunities and responsive systems of support.

*DSNI will maintain a strong focus on youth leadership development, with an emphasis on preparing high school youth ages 14-18 to take leadership roles and be organizers within DSNI and the larger community.*

3. **Neighborhood Development**

To become the lead community collaborator in Dudley, organizing residents to revitalize our neighborhood, increase our economic opportunities, and planning work as a tool for bringing residents together to lead the planning and preservation of the cultural makeup of our neighborhood.

*DSNI will continue to integrate creative placemaking into our community organizing and planning work.*

4. **Resident Empowerment**

To empower and support the next generation of community leaders and sustain DSNI as an organization maximizing individual potential and mobilizing others to realize a shared vision.

*DSNI will reinvigorate resident training and support systems, creating new opportunities for residents to plan and lead organizing efforts.*
### DSNI Strategic Plan Summary 2018 - 2021

**Mission**

To **empower** Dudley residents to **organize, plan for, create** and **control** a vibrant, diverse and high-quality neighborhood in collaboration with community partners.

**Values:**

- Collective Resident Leadership and Control
- Linked Community Destiny
- Community Political Power and Voice
- Mutual and Shared Responsibility and Accountability
- Power in Organized Community
- Vibrant Cultural Diversity
- Community Collaboration
- Fair and Equal Share of Resources and Opportunities
- Development Without Displacement
- High Quality of Life
- Individual and Community Empowerment
- Anything is Possible

**Areas of Focus (2018 to 2021):**

#### Development Without Displacement

To plan and control the physical development of the neighborhood so current residents are not displaced and to work with residents and partners to implement strategies that address the displacement caused by rising rents and property values that are pushing out many long-term residents and threatening the victories won by the community.

**Objectives:**

- To cultivate a rising generation of leaders, who are connected to a supportive community of peers and caring adults, enriching opportunities and responsive systems of support. Youth will be prepared to assume leadership roles at DSNI, the community, and across the City.
- To become the lead collaborator in comprehensive community development initiatives in Dudley, organizing residents to revitalize our neighborhood, increase our economic opportunities, and leverage the creativity and diversity of our community.
- To empower and support the next generation of community leadership and sustain DSNI as an organization maximizing individual potential and mobilizing others to act collectively to realize the community’s shared vision.

#### Youth Voice

**Objectives:**

- Support residents in advocating for greater access to public resources and improved City services and to fight for more opportunities in the neighborhood.
- Engage residents and volunteers in elections and issue campaigns that build civic engagement and link to ongoing advocacy efforts.
- Organize regular creative placemaking activities for residents, artists, and youth to lift up, celebrate, preserve and link the diverse cultures in the neighborhood.

#### Neighborhood Development

**Objectives:**

- Provide opportunities for residents to build their assets and wealth.
- Provide staff and resident-led trainings and workshops to build resident capacity.
- Organize residents to convert vacant land into gardens, promote access to farmers markets, ensure access to locally-grown, healthy food in our neighborhood restaurants and stores.

#### Resident Empowerment

**Objectives:**

- Partner with other youth development networks across the City.
- Develop and implement a robust member recruitment and engagement strategy for the organization.
- Organize and supports parents, students, and school leaders to improve schools in the Dudley neighborhood.

**Strategies**

1. **Engage in Community Land Use Planning**
   - Organize campaigns designed and led by youth that are representative of youth interests.

2. **Preserve and support creation of more affordable housing in Dudley**
   - Community Land Trust
   - Provide leadership opportunities that are interwoven across all areas.

3. **Take leadership to drive policy changes and new anti-displacement strategies**
   - Provide youth with training and leadership opportunities at DSNI.

4. **Expand the CLT model**
   - Partner with other youth development networks across the City.

5. **Engage residents and volunteers in elections and issue campaigns that build civic engagement and link to ongoing advocacy efforts**

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- **Provide opportunities for residents to build their assets and wealth.**
- **Provide staff and resident-led trainings and workshops to build resident capacity.**
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