



Partnership for
Action Learning
in Sustainability

Fall Projects

The Partnership for Action Learning in Sustainability program (PALS) is again solving Maryland's toughest issues with our University's brightest minds. An outgrowth of the University's National Center for Smart Growth (NCSG), a research center associated with the School of Architecture, the PALS program works to connect students in a variety of disciplines with real work in Maryland. As a result, the students gain from real-world experiential learning while providing assistance to a wide variety of local Maryland jurisdictions.

PALS applies University of Maryland expertise and energy to a broad spread of sustainability issues - offering experiential learning, community engagement, and real-world impact. In total, the Fall 2023 semester will engage with 19 projects, in jurisdictions across Maryland. For more information, please contact Kim Fisher, PALS Program Director, at kmfisher@umd.edu or visit the PALS website at: <https://www.umdsmartgrowth.org/programs/pals/>.

IMPACT (SINCE 2014)

290
PROJECTS

2,400
STUDENTS

25
COMMUNITY, CITY &
COUNTY CLIENTS

14
COLLEGES
& SCHOOLS
across the University

FALL 2023 PROJECTS

User Experience Research

College of Information Studies
Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Partner Requirements Gathering & Data Assessment

College of Information Studies
Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Customer Journey Mapping & Information Workflow Improvements

College of Information Studies
Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection

Comparative Analysis of Bicycle Standards Policies

School of Public Policy
Prince George's County Planning Department

Concepts for the Adaptive Reuse of the Hyattsville Justice Center

School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation
Prince George's County Planning Department

Business Plan for Community Forklift

Robert H. Smith School of Business
Prince George's County Planning Department

Affordable Housing Strategies Study for Prince George's County

School of Public Policy
Prince George's County Planning Department

Long Branch CHEER Dashboard

College of Information Studies
The Purple Line Corridor Coalition

Geophysical Surveys of the Emory Grove Cemetery and Church

College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences
Emory Grove Church

PALS is acutely aware that our efforts have been concentrated in the DC and Baltimore Metro areas, and we are aware of the areas in the state where we have not yet been able to work.

Many incorporated towns in Maryland, community groups, NGOs, and small departments within a jurisdiction have one or two staff members. They may be stretched thin with their existing responsibilities, unable to negotiate contracts, or have limited funding. Yet, these communities often have the greatest need for University expertise. Unfortunately, our funding model currently requires a financial investment - making many collaborations impossible at this time.

As PALS grows in reach, we are increasing the need for staff support, and resources for students, faculty, and partners. Additional PALS funding would expand partnerships to groups that do not have financial resources. The additional funding would also allow PALS to share existing projects and potential ideas for collaboration to assist state agencies at all levels and at all locations.

SPRING 2023 PROJECTS

Solar Equity for Greenbelt and Prince George's County

School of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Prince George's County Department of the Environment

Stormwater Manual for Urban Small Businesses

School of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Joe's Movement Emporium

Climate Change Impacts on Youth Mental Health

School of Public Policy

Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Public Waterways Recreation Policy

School of Public Policy

Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Exploring Community Along the Anacostia Tributary Trail System

School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation

Prince George's County Department of Planning

State Park Survey

School of Public Policy

Maryland Department of Natural Resources

University Boulevard Corridor Plan

School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation

Montgomery County Department of Planning

Small Forest Protection Program

College of Information Studies

Montgomery County Department of Planning

Lakeland Community Planning Project Extension

School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation

Prince George's County Planning Department

Tree Inventory GIS Layer

College of Information Studies

Kensington, Maryland

Collington Square Play Space

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Broadway East Community & CDC

Educational Material for Pet Waste and Vessel Sewage Discharge

School of Public Health

Anacostia Watershed Society

Inventory of Public Housing in Maryland

School of Public Policy

Rural Affordable Housing

School of Public Policy

Rural Maryland Council

Application of Rural Affordable Housing in Brunswick MD

School of Public Policy

Brunswick, MD



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For more information, contact:
www.umds martgrowth.org/PALS