

Q & A WITH THE CHILDREN'S REHABILITATION CENTER, INC. (CRC) BOARD OF TRUSTEES

1. WHY FENCE THE CATOR WOOLFORD GARDENS AND FOREST NOW?

The proposed Cator Woolford estate security plan is a matter of mitigating risk and liability on many levels. This is about instituting best practices to fulfill the CRC's long term fiduciary responsibility to the Frazer Center children and families, and to the historic gardens, buildings, and forest under their stewardship. Erecting a fence to close gaps in the forest and the gardens has been recommended by parents, as well as legal, insurance, and environmental experts. It is the prudent and necessary thing to do for the security of the children and programs on the property and the future sustainability and health of the forest.

2. WHAT IS HAPPENING ON THE PROPERTY AND IN THE FOREST?

In recent years there has been an increase in concerning activities on the site:

- interruption of scheduled events in the Gardens by people and pets.
- undesirable behaviors in the Forest
- thefts of equipment
- car break-ins
- damage to historic infrastructure
- confrontation of visitors by drug-impaired individuals

These incidents have caused growing concern about the safety and liability of children, families and others who have legitimate reasons for being on the property, as well as the historic buildings and surroundings.

In the Forest, many detrimental and unwanted invasive plant species have migrated unchecked from adjoining properties. Soil compaction on frequently used unauthorized trails has caused damaging erosion. People have allowed their dogs to roam unleashed, even with signs saying, "all dogs must be on leash." When unauthorized trails have been closed off and signs posted, those barriers and signs have been removed.

3. WHAT WILL THE FENCE LOOK LIKE?

The fence will be a 6' tall commercial grade black vinyl chain link fence. The placement of the fence is intended to make it disappear within the heavily wooded environment. No trees or critical root zones will be impacted, and the fence will not cross streams.

4. WHAT IS THE HISTORY OF COMMUNITY INTERACTION WITH CRC?

The CRC has welcomed their neighbors for over 70 years to enjoy this unique site. DHCA, Lake Clair Neighborhood Association and other community groups have long held meetings and events for free on the property.

5. WHAT IS NEXT FOR THE CATOR WOOLFORD PROPERTY?

Following widely acknowledged best ecological practices, the CRC is committed to spend resources to ensure that the Forest remains a treasured asset. Led by Trees Atlanta, the Frazer Center, Eco-Addendum, Lake Claire Neighborhood Association, and the CRC, Inc. have applied as a partnership to the National Fish and Wildlife Federation for a Forest Restoration Grant. This grant will provide funding for appropriate trail installation, removal of invasive plants and community engagement in the work of forest restoration.

6. IS THE CRC GOING TO CONTINUE TO ALLOW COMMUNITY ACCESS TO THE PROPERTY?

Two entrances to the property will be maintained where better visitor monitoring and appropriately scheduled times for community access can be handled in a routine manner. The CRC will continue to allow pedestrians to enter during daylight hours through either the back gate or the front entrance.

7. WHAT HAVE NEIGHBORS SAID ABOUT THE FENCE PLAN?

The CRC has conversed with all neighborhood groups about this plan. Druid Hills Civic Association does not oppose the fence. Lakeshore Drive neighbors have voiced their understanding. Communication from the Lake Claire Planning Committee has affirmed that they acknowledge why the fence is necessary and prudent. LCNA has also offered to continue to help with forest preservation.

8. WILL VOLUNTEERS STILL BE NEEDED ON THE PROPERTY?

The CRC welcomes neighbors and the community to engage with us in ways that align with the foundation's mission and vision for this remarkable place. This is important work: serving children and adults with disabilities as well as long-term Forest restoration and sustainability. The CRC is eager for Druid Hills Civic Association, Lake Claire Neighborhood Association, and local individuals to help and support as we begin this period of forest restoration and enhanced security for the Cator Woolford estate. The CRC welcomes all those who wish to positively engage with us in this effort.