
2025 Annual Report for the Lower South Valley Land Bank

The Lower South Valley Land Bank is pleased to present its 2025 Annual Report, highlighting a year of meaningful progress in blight reduction, property repositioning, and community reinvestment across our partner municipalities. Through strategic acquisitions, responsible stewardship, and targeted deployment of resources, the Land Bank continued to advance its mission of stabilizing neighborhoods and supporting long-term revitalization throughout the region.

Blight Removal, Property Stabilization & Disposition

In 2025, the Land Bank completed several high-impact blight remediation projects:

- **Demolition and site clearance of a long-blighted residential structure in Nanticoke**, eliminating a persistent safety hazard and preparing the parcel for future reuse.
- **Support for the City of Nanticoke in the demolition of a severely deteriorated church**, addressing a major structural threat and improving neighborhood conditions.
- **Closing the sales on three properties**, one in Ashley and two in Newport Township for a total of \$37,500 in revenue returned to the LSV Land Bank.
- **Approval of the sale of 13 properties**, enabling responsible redevelopment and returning long-dormant parcels to productive use.
- **Acquisition of two properties from tax sale in Wilkes-Barre City**, expanding the Land Bank's inventory of strategic sites for future revitalization.

Organizational Growth & Governance

This year marked a major milestone in the Land Bank's organizational development:

- **Approval of the Land Bank's 501(c)(3) application**, formally establishing the organization as a tax-exempt nonprofit and expanding opportunities for funding, partnerships, and community-driven initiatives.
- **Implementation of QuickBooks** to enhance reporting accuracy, streamline record-keeping, and support long-term financial transparency.
- **Completion of the annual audit with positive results**, affirming the Land Bank's sound fiscal management and compliance with all applicable standards.

Community Investment & Housing Initiatives

Through the strategic use of **PHARE funding**, the Land Bank advanced several key community development initiatives:

- **A \$120,000 contribution to Brian's Place**, supporting the creation of new affordable housing opportunities within the region.
- **Launch of a new homebuyer program**, designed to expand access to homeownership and encourage reinvestment in stabilized neighborhoods.

Looking Ahead

The Lower South Valley Land Bank enters 2026 with a strong foundation, a growing portfolio of strategic properties, and a renewed focus on collaborative revitalization. We remain dedicated to leveraging partnerships, resources, and innovative tools to strengthen our communities and create pathways for sustainable redevelopment.