



IMPACT
REPORT
2022

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INTRODUCTION

Grant Blvd is our response to slavery, to leased labor, to Jim Crow, to persistent economic injustice and to mass incarceration. Our truest work is to use fashion to restore lives & dignity, and to create a sense of belonging. It's about us, all of us, and it's about designing radically inclusive pathways in the best interest of our collective good. Grant Blvd is about the use of artful design to respond to the ugly realities of our climate crisis.

Fashion is an art form. Fashion is a self expression. Fashion is a universal language.

But the fashion industry is broken. The practices and procedures are antiquated, irresponsible, and unsustainable.

We're rewriting the story of fashion by disrupting the whole system from top to bottom, inside and out. We are the authors of change. We hope you'll see in our garments a clear roadmap for what we believe is the only way forward in fashion and beyond fashion. And forward is the motion.

OUR STORY SO FAR

WORDS FROM OUR FOUNDER

"I believe that when we demand more, when we think differently about what we buy, and who we buy from - we step into our power to challenge the social issues exacerbated by fast fashion, and to more meaningfully address climate change. For those of us who are dreamers & doers, it's time we wear our values and that we curate ever more sustainable, ethical closets."

OUR MISSION

Grant Blvd is a Philadelphia-based manufacturing start-up on a mission to construct stylish, sustainably sourced fashion, while not only reducing recidivism, but in supporting women who are formerly incarcerated or have experienced homelessness, in leading self-sufficient lives by partnering with local non-profits & government agencies to create fair wage employment opportunities.

We believe that if we demand more, if we think differently about not only what we buy, but who we buy from- we have the power to challenge not only the social & economic issues exacerbated by mass incarceration, but to more meaningfully address climate change.

Our Commitments:



PARTNERSHIP WITH BOOKS THROUGH BARS

We give 1% via book donations annually and bi-annual days of service.

WHO ARE BOOKS THROUGH BARS?

Books Through Bars has been sending free books to incarcerated people in six mid-Atlantic states (Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia) for over 30 years. We do our best to send the books people ask us for, whatever those may be. By fulfilling all requests to the best of our ability, we work to support self-determination, self-education, and healing behind bars.



PARTNERSHIP WITH THE YOUTH SENTENCING & REENTRY PROJECT

YSRP is an advocacy organization that believes that children do not belong in adult jails or prisons, and that people deserve to return home and live full lives with dignity. Their work is guided by these values.

IMPACT AT A GLANCE

For us, impact is defined by our guiding values and includes our effort to center both sustainability (climate positive action) and benefit to the Greater Philadelphia Area.



"Let's be clear: the future requires intersectional solutions."

PRIORITY SDGS



05 — GENDER EQUALITY

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.



08 — DECENT WORK & ECONOMIC GROWTH

Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all.



12 — RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION & PRODUCTION

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.

2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Became the

1ST
Black-owned

**@bcorpuscan in North
America in the fashion space**

2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Launched

GRANT BLVD

Home & Hospitality Division

**In Partnership
with:**

@wphiladelphia

@indiecongress

@spfoodcoop

@bcorpus

2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Prepared for the

OPENING OF
GRANT BLVD

University of Pennsylvania
flagship store

LAUNCH
BLK IVY THRIFT

2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Creating
vending opportunities for**

50 VENDORS

In the Greater Philadelphia Area

With a focus on:

**Women-owned
BIPOC- owned
Sustainability
centered brands**

2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Commitment to Waste Mindfulness

ALL
Brand Mailers

Compostable or Biodegradable

ALL
Mail Inserts

Printed on recycled paper

NO
Waste-making fillers

Foam, tissue paper, stickers ever

2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

5,808 Hours
Of Living Wage Work

**Between our studio &
retail locations**

2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Coordinated

32 HOURS
Of Volunteering

At Books Through Bars

OUR CODE OF ETHICS

Many companies have implemented a code of ethics document, especially in the past few years. But words are just marks on a page until you put them into action.

At Grant Blvd, the code of ethics is our first step in authoring the change - we believe in our words and we walk the talk.

- 1 Act with Integrity and Honesty
- 2 Support Local Communities
- 3 Show Care & Concern
- 4 Be Climate Positive
- 5 Be the "I" in "TEAM"
- 6 Offer Dignity to ALL
- 7 Speak with Truth & Tenderness

TEXTILE STRATEGY

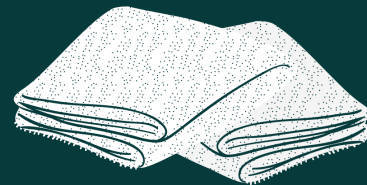
Designing and making a collection starts with textiles. At Grant Blvd. we believe that more than enough materials already exist on this planet and we want to **promote better ways of making clothes.** We believe thoughtful consideration of every material at every step of the way is necessary to responsibly design and produce our products.

There are no easy solutions, and every strategies that aims to solve one part of the global problem poses its own set of challenges.

Even though we're often taking two steps forward and one step back, we're committed to finding the right mix of **reclamation methods** for our textile strategy.



DE/RECONSTRUCTION



DEADSTOCK

Here's where we stand today. But we know full well there is much work to be done. This is only the beginning.

DESIGN STRATEGY



ONE OF ONE



SMALL BATCH



ETHICAL PARTNERS

RESPONSIBLE PURCHASING

At Grant Blvd, we are committed to responsible purchasing practices that put **people** and the **planet** in focus.

Our responsible purchasing framework aims to support the local economy, both financially and environmentally, while disrupting the textile and garment industry norms, using a three-tiered approach.

1

LOCAL PURCHASING & PARTNERSHIPS :

We have a strong local presence that allows us to have genuine partnerships with our suppliers built on trust and longevity. The benefits to having a local supply chain include (but are not limited to) **greater flexibility & more control, positive impact on local economy, and reduced emissions & energy use.**

2

TEXTILE SOURCING GUIDELINES :

Textile sourcing and purchasing relies mainly on reclaiming textile waste in 2 key ways: Purchase of used garments to be deconstructed and reconstructed into new items, and purchase of fabric scraps and deadstock textiles.

3

AS SUSTAINABLE AS POSSIBLE :

We strive to be as sustainable in our purchasing practices as possible at all times. Continual research and analysis of practices and purchases are necessary in order to keep up with advances in technology, materials, and supplies.

GOALS 2023

Where are we going from here?

1 — Studio Impact Priorities

- Textile inventory/tracking usage
- Improved signage that encourages zero waste practices
- White board to visually represent progress to goal in studio

2 — Employee Opportunities

- Identify Design Team Sustainability Lead
- Enhanced learning opps for employees
- Survey distributed to employees to understand sustainable behaviors and workplace structure to make improvements
- New employee and sustainability handbook, highlighting zero waste initiatives and best practices
- Expand manufacturing team to 8

3 — Community Initiatives

- Consumer Education: Impact report, Carbon offset initiatives, etc
- Increase Books through Bars volunteer sessions to one per month
- Donate 350 books
- Increase Spring Community Clean ups to one per quarter
- Launch Fashion the Future Forward
- Increase open access education campaign

CLOSING

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR VISION.

Visit us

Blk Ivy Storefront x GB Storefront

West Philadelphia

www.grantblvd.com

www.blkivythrift.com

customerservice@grantblvd.com

Follow us

@grantblvd @blkivythrift

