

05

COMMUNITY CENTER



PROJECT #68

Renovation of Seidman Club – Boys & Girls Clubs of Grand Rapids



Identify the need for the proposed project

Our Seidman Club, located at 139 Crofton Ave SE in Grand Rapids, serves upwards of 1,000 children and family members annually. Yet the Club was built in 1958 and last renovated more than 20 years ago. The building is showing its age at a time when we also realized the need for more space to serve more youth and families in the community. Additionally, a recent safety assessment found significant areas for improvement. An updated space is needed to be able to continue delivering quality programs and serving our members the best ways we can.

Brief Description

Every year, BGC works with thousands of children and youth between the ages of 6 – 18 who are often facing complex physical, social, and emotional challenges. BGC’s programs are offered at three different locations throughout Grand Rapids so that all children and families in the community have access. BGC’s diverse programming includes performing arts, sports and recreation, and education programming as well as character and leadership and health and life skills programming. While the services and programs that they have offered to children and families in the community have always been important, the COVID-19 pandemic made this even more clear. BGC adapted its programming to expand Club hours and offer a safe place for children and youth to come to during the day to engage in virtual learning, receive healthy meals, and have opportunities for connection and emotional support. Yet, some of the structural, functional, and stylistic elements of the facilities make it difficult to make as big of an impact as we would like. BGC is requesting funds to assist with the renovations needed at the Seidman Club. Specifically, BGC plans to: • Install a new security system; • Repair basic structural elements, such as the roof and broken doors; • Renovate and reconfigure some of the main spaces and rooms, including adding a new kitchen for preparing meals; • Incorporate new technologies and improved audio-visual capabilities.

Long-Term Benefit

This project will greatly benefit the children who attend BGC activities and programs. BGC’s impact on children in the community is already remarkable. In 2021, they served more than 2,000 youth in their Clubs and logged over 3,400 hours of physical fitness and healthy lifestyles programming. Part of the plans include creating a multifunctional space that can be used by community members for various meetings and group gatherings where families can connect and access additional resources.

Intended Beneficiary

Many of the children, youth, and families that participate in BGC programming face complex challenges, such as financial instability, housing instability, racial and ethnic disparities, and histories of trauma. It is not uncommon for the students in our programs to have had several Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), which are often linked to mental health concerns and chronic health problems later in life if not addressed. BGC serves children and youth in West Michigan between the ages of 6 and 18 years old. Almost half of the children and youth served are between the ages of 13 and 18 years old. Fifty nine percent of youth served identify as male and 41% identify as female, and nearly 75% of the families served have an annual household income of less than \$25,000. The youth mostly reside within City of Grand Rapids’ zip codes 49504, 49507, 49503, and 49509, which are areas centered around the three BGC locations. The racial identities of youth at BGC are approximately 67% Black/African American, 14% Multiracial, 9% Hispanic/Latinx, 6% White/Caucasian, and 4% other.

Project Cost

Minimum Cost: \$2,500,000

Maximum Cost: \$4,000,000

ARPA Request: \$1,000,000

Submitter Info

Name: Angie Stumpo

Organization: Boys & Girls Clubs of Grand Rapids

Project Overview

Funding Group: Quality of Life

Project Theme: Community Center

Project Status: New Project

Matching Funds: 51-75%

Eligibility:



Sustainability:



Feasibility:



Impact:



Source of Funding

We have a \$1 million federal appropriation for renovations at the Clubs, of which some would be allocated toward this project, as well as various verbal commitments from foundation funders. We anticipate raising at least 80% of the project cost by the end of 2023. This funding would enable us to reach our full campaign goal on a much quicker timeline.

Partnership

n/a



Project Cost

Minimum Cost: \$2,500,000
Maximum Cost: \$4,000,000
ARPA Request: \$1,000,000

Submitter Info

Name: Angie Stumpo
Organization: Boys & Girls Clubs of Grand Rapids

Project Overview

Funding Group: Quality of Life
Project Theme: Community Center
Project Status: New Project
Matching Funds: 51-75%

Eligibility: 

Sustainability: 

Feasibility: 

Impact: 

Source of Funding

We have a \$1 million federal appropriation for renovations at the Clubs, of which some would be allocated toward this project, as well as various verbal commitments from foundation funders. We anticipate raising at least 80% of the project cost by the end of 2023. This funding would enable us to reach our full campaign goal on a much quicker timeline.

Partnership

n/a

Estimated Cost

\$3 million-\$4 million

Project Management Experience

Our organization has three Club locations in Grand Rapids and a summer camp located in Alto. Although our services focus mainly on these areas within the county, we are adept at managing large projects to serve our community.

Federal Funds Experience

We have received continuous federal grants through the USDA and Office of Justice Programs. We have also been awarded appropriations for capital renovations in the current federal budget.

Studies on Impact

A commissioned study by Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) found that Clubs are a sound investment, providing nearly \$10 in benefits to the community for every dollar invested. The study, conducted by the Institute for Social Research and the School of Public Health at the University of Michigan, found that every dollar invested in Boys & Girls Clubs returns \$9.60 in current and future earnings, as well as cost-savings, to American communities. The biggest benefits are from Club members' improved grades and reduced alcohol use and their parents' earnings. In addition, 97% of Club teens expect to graduate from high school. 76% of low-income Club members ages 12 to 18 who attend the Club regularly reported receiving mostly As and Bs, compared to 67% of their peers nationally.

Supporting Documentation

[Conceptual Design](#)

Guidehouse Ranking Notes

 **Eligibility**

Childcare investment is eligible

 **Sustainability**

One-time expense

 **Feasibility**

PROJECT #34

Funding is requested by NIA Centre to build a major physical space to provide programming, activities, and events for the underserved, communities of color, and the broader community.



Identify the need for the proposed project

The need for the project has clearly been identified by the South Division Corridor Plan which includes a 3-mile area located south of downtown. Residents during the planning process indicated that there was a need for a center that focuses on the needs of the African American center to be located in the South Division Corridor. Furthermore, NIA Center commissioned a planning study that further confirmed based upon community input obtained that there was support and the need for an African American Cultural Center to be built in Grand Rapids, MI.

Brief Description

NIA Centre is requesting funding to build a major African American Cultural Center in Grand Rapids. This transformational project will provide programming, events, and educational activities in the areas of cultural arts, health awareness, and entrepreneurship & wealth building. This project will be developed in collaboration with other community partners. It will create employment opportunities for youth and adults. Also, this project will promote tourism and attract people from diverse racial & ethnic backgrounds to Grand Rapids. Finally, people from every race and ethnicity will be able to become involved with the center's work and greatly benefit from cross-cultural engagement.

Long-Term Benefit

1) Continued revitalization of the South Division Corridor 2) Continued neighborhood revitalization 3) Creation of employment opportunities for youth and adults 4) Financial support of minority, women, and broader business owners 6) Continued development of programming that will focus upon cultural arts, health awareness, entrepreneurship & wealth building 7) Promotion of tourism 8) Providing mentoring and learning opportunities to youth. 9) Promoting cross-cultural engagement

Intended Beneficiary

The underserved, communities of color and the broader community will all benefit from NIA Centre building a larger physical space for community engagement as a cultural institution.

Estimated Cost

n/a

Project Management Experience

Robert Upton, Jr., Board Chair of NIA Centre has significant experience in overseeing large projects and events that have impacted

Project Cost

Minimum Cost: n/a

Maximum Cost: n/a

Submitter Info

Name: Robert Upton, Jr.

Organization: NIA Centre

Project Overview

Funding Group: Quality of Life

Project Theme: Community Center

Project Status: New Project

Matching Funds: 0-25%

Eligibility: 

Sustainability: 

Feasibility: 

Impact: 

Source of Funding

Private donors, corporate support, foundations, community support, city, and state funding.

Partnership

n/a



Project Cost

Minimum Cost: n/a

Maximum Cost: n/a

Submitter Info

Name: Robert Upton, Jr.

Organization: NIA Centre

Project Overview

Funding Group: Quality of Life

Project Theme: Community Center

Project Status: New Project

Matching Funds: 0-25%

Eligibility:

Sustainability:

Feasibility:

Impact:

Source of Funding

Private donors, corporate support, foundations, community support, city, and state funding.

Partnership

n/a

Federal Funds Experience

Robert Upton, Jr., the Board Chair of NIA Centre formerly worked for the City of Grand Rapids. He has over 23 years of overseeing the compliance of neighborhood associations, agencies, and organizations that received federal funding. Also, he has significant experience working with federal government representatives regarding the City of Grand Rapids' compliance with federal funding requirements. Also, Barbara Welch the Treasurer of NIA Center formerly worked as a branch manager for Old Kent Bank (now referred to as Fifth Third Bank) and has significant experience in the financial services industry when it comes to the administration of funds from federal, state and local funding sources.

Studies on Impact

There is plenty of research available regarding how valuable cultural institutions are to communities. Cultural institutions help foster learning and understanding about history, culture and so many facets of life. No one can place a price tag on how cultural institutions help enhance education within communities. A journal article written by Jasminka Kocoska and Dobri Petrovski documents this entitled, "The Role of the Cultural Institutions in the Civic Education." Also, Joshua Guetzknow has conducted valuable research regarding "How the Arts Impact Communities." He has identified the following areas of impact: Material Health, Cognitive Psychology, Interpersonal, Economic, Cultural, and Social." Cultural institutions enhance the cultural vitality of communities. This has been documented in a book written by Maria Rosario, Florence Kabwasa-Green, and Joaquin Herranz entitled, "Cultural Vitality in Communities: Interpretation and Indicators" that was published by The Urban Institute in 2006. Cultural institutions also contribute to the economic prosperity of communities. The Research team at the American for the Arts publishes the Arts & Economic Prosperity report that documents the economic impact of cultural institutions.

Guidehouse Ranking Notes

Eligibility

Eligible under non-profit support

Sustainability

Project is run by an organization, but more information would boost assessment of sustainability.

Feasibility

PROJECT #116

Boston Square Community Hub



Identify the need for the proposed project

Amplify GR is facilitating a \$100 million redevelopment effort called Boston Square Together to revitalize the Boston Square neighborhood. Boston Square Together (<https://bostonsquaregr.org/>) is a community-focused and collective design plan in which residents, business owners, nonprofit organizations, and city partners are working together to advance a shared vision for the future state of the Boston Square neighborhood. The partners are committed to advancing an equity-focused, wholistic solution that weaves Health, Education, Arts & Culture, Recreation and Technology (H.E.A.R.T) into a mixed-use, mixed-income 10-acre redevelopment area in the neighborhood, removing blighted commercial buildings on the site. This development will include 30,000 square feet of commercial space, 230-250 mixed-income residential rental units, 20 mixed-income homeownership units, a public park and pathways, an early learning center, a community center, and banking and grocery options. This development will be transformational in its impact to the health and wellbeing of residents and as an anchor for further development in a portion of the region that has traditionally been bypassed, overlooked and historically lacking investment. The new development will serve the heart of the 49507 zip code, in which most residents (74%) are Black, Indigenous, or People of Color (BIPOC) (American Community Survey, 2020). The neighbors of this area have a strong bond based on mutual respect and trust making it possible to work together to revitalize the neighborhood in an inclusive manner to create something truly reflective of the neighborhood that exists here currently. This area has the promise to demonstrate what can be accomplished when neighbors work together toward a common goal to improve quality of life for all, when supported by corporate, philanthropic, and governmental partners who champion the work. While the Boston Square / Oakdale neighborhood holds a lot of promise, the people who live, work and worship there encounter many barriers as the area is one of the most under resourced in Grand Rapids as demonstrated by the following data points: • 33% of families live below the poverty line, with a \$29,988 the Household Median Income (Economic Innovation Group, 2022) • 26% of adults without high school diploma (American Community Survey, 2020) • Only 16% of 3rd graders are proficient in Math and Reading (MI School Data, 2021) • Highest incidence of child lead poisoning in the state of Michigan (Healthy Homes Coalition, 2022) • 7 fewer years of life expectancy compared to the adjacent neighborhoods in East Grand Rapids (Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2020) What could the neighborhood become if we collectively work together to position neighbors to thrive and not just survive?

The Boston Square neighborhood sits in the city's Third Ward. Historical data has shown ongoing disinvestment from both private and public sources for the Third Ward, which happens to have the city's highest concentration of Black residents. Meanwhile, the other two wards within Grand Rapids have received an influx of investment, spurring economic and community growth. Between 2012-2017, the City of Grand Rapids experienced over \$1.2 billion in investment, only 1.5% of which occurred within the Third Ward (Hicks, 2019). The Boston Square Together initiative builds off public planning efforts, including the 2009 Boston Square Area Specific Plan, the 2019 City of Grand Rapids Strategic Plan, and the 2019 Southtown Business Area Specific Plan. Using these efforts as a starting point, Amplify GR hosted a series of three human-centered design open house planning sessions which were well attended by residents and community stakeholders in the neighborhood. During these sessions, participants voiced their priorities, considered design alternatives, and selected shared project principles that will drive all future development on the 10-acre site. The Boston Square Community Hub, what will be the neighborhoods "front porch and living room" is one of the key developments on the site and aligns with many of the priorities and principles being honored and uplifted through resident-driven, place-based planning (Amplify GR, 2019). One of the unique aspects of the Boston Square Together initiative relates to equitable development. The partners (Amplify GR, City of Grand Rapids, Boston Square Neighborhood Association, and Oakdale Neighbors) entered into a Voluntary Equitable Development & Community Partnership Agreement, the first of its kind in Grand Rapids, to ensure equitable development practices throughout the process from inception to implementation. The agreement established measurable goals including, among other targets, at least 30% of the overall cost of construction will be sourced by companies that are either based in the 49507 zip code, owned by a person of color, women-owned, and/or a Section 3 business (i.e., business that is owned and controlled by low- or very low-income persons). This goal will ensure that the existing neighborhood businesses and entrepreneurs benefit from the investments made during development of the 10-acre site.

Project Cost

Minimum Cost: \$29,441,210

Maximum Cost: \$29,441,210

ARPA Request: \$5,000,000

Submitter Info

Name: Jon Ippel

Organization: Amplify GR

Project Overview

Funding Group: Community Health

Project Theme: Community Center

Project Status: New Project

Matching Funds: 76% or greater

Eligibility:



Sustainability:



Feasibility:



Impact:



Source of Funding

(Listed in main description)

Partnership

City of Grand Rapids Early Learning Neighborhood Collaborative (ELNC) Spectrum Health Spectrum Healthier Communities Boston Square Neighborhood Association Oakdale Neighbors IFF (mission-driven lender, developer and consultant)



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Eligibility:



Sustainability:



Feasibility:



Impact:



Source of Funding

(Listed in main description)

Partnership

City of Grand Rapids Early Learning Neighborhood Collaborative (ELNC) Spectrum Health Spectrum Healthier Communities Boston Square Neighborhood Association Oakdale Neighbors IFF (mission-driven lender, developer and consultant)

Brief Description

As part of Boston Square Together, Amplify GR is planning to construct the Boston Square Community Hub, a two-story, 45,000 square foot multi-purpose community facility dedicated to enhancing the health and well-being of neighbors. The facility will include a 13,000 square foot health and wellness clinic operated by Spectrum Health, a 9,000 square foot early childhood center operated by the Early Learning Neighborhood Collaborative (ELNC), office and community programming space for Amplify GR, a co-working space to be operated by a bank partner (still in negotiation), a 240-person community event and performance space, a community café, and 6,000 square feet of wellness spaces (e.g., fitness classes, after school programming, and arts enrichment) to be offered by tenants that are still being finalized. For decades, neighbors have been asking for safe spaces to fellowship and gather as well as increased access to services and resources to reconcile social determinants of health and enhance their lived experiences. One of the most exciting aspects of the development is Spectrum Health’s Advanced Primary Care model which will focus on value-based outcomes, reducing use of high acuity levels of healthcare, and focusing on preventative tactics to improve the health of the area’s vulnerable population. This model prioritizes quality of care over quantity of patients served, which unduly burdens our healthcare system.

Long-Term Benefit

Geography should not determine destiny. Everyone should grow up in strong neighborhoods that produce healthy, and hopeful young people who have infinite opportunities. The Hub addresses neighbor priorities, namely education and enrichment, arts and culture, and health and wellness. These services will enrich the community by addressing health, economic, and educational disparities. As a result, this project will increase equitable outcomes and improve quality of life for generations to come.

Intended Beneficiary

The people who will benefit the most from the Boston Square Community Hub are families living in the Boston Square Neighborhood and surrounding neighborhoods within the City’s 3rd Ward. Neighbors will have access to world-class healthcare, highquality early childhood education and pre-school services in a state-of-the-art facility, workforce development services, arts enrichment opportunities, after-school programming, and community wellness programming. There are a total of 12,668 households within the 49507 zip code, 5,252 of which are families with children (American Community Survey, 2020). WORKS CITED American Community Survey (2020). “Selected Social Characteristics in The United States.” U.S. Census Bureau.

Estimated Cost

\$29,441,210.00

*Source of Funding

New Market Tax Credit, \$4,416,182; City of Grand Rapids \$286,496; Partner capital investments (Spectrum and ELNC) \$12,713,532; grants committed \$5,475,000; Low Income Investment Fund (LIIF) debt \$1,000,000 and LIIF grant \$200,000 (both pending October 2022 approval); and further tenant contributions in negotiation \$350,000



Project Cost

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Maximum Cost: \$29,441,210

ARPA Request: \$5,000,000

Submitter Info

Name: Jon Ippel

Organization: Amplify GR

Project Overview

Funding Group: Community Health

Project Theme: Community Center

Project Status: New Project

Matching Funds: 76% or greater

Eligibility:



Sustainability:



Feasibility:



Impact:



Source of Funding

(Listed in main description)

Partnership

City of Grand Rapids Early Learning Neighborhood Collaborative (ELNC) Spectrum Health Spectrum Healthier Communities Boston Square Neighborhood Association Oakdale Neighbors IFF (mission-driven lender, developer and consultant)

Project Management Experience

Amplify GR serves the Boston Square, Oakdale, Madison Square, and Cottage Grove neighborhoods. To date, the organization has successfully facilitated over \$20 million in investment in the 3rd ward. These projects are either complete or in-progress. Additionally, Amplify GR was awarded State of Michigan Low Income Housing Tax Credits that will support over \$40 million in construction next door to the proposed community center. The organization has not sought to implement county-wide projects.

Federal Funds Experience

In 2020, Amplify GR received a \$799,256 grant from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Administration for Children and Families. This grant funded renovation of four facilities within the 49507 zip code and providing funding for organizational services to recruit new businesses to the neighborhood, assist growing businesses, support employees hired by businesses served, and establish a revolving loan fund for growing businesses in the area. To date, with the support of the DHHS, Amplify GR and its partners (Bethany Christian Services, West Michigan Works!, and Michigan Women Forward) have assisted in the creation of one new business and expansion of four existing businesses. These businesses have created 34 full-time, well-paying jobs that all went to workers who qualify as “low income.”

Studies on Impact

Amplify GR utilizes the nationally recognized Purpose Built Communities (PBC) framework of community development. PBC integrates well-managed community facilities within specific neighborhoods as a more cost-effective method of creating greater cycles of prosperity within low-to moderate-income neighborhoods. This approach is intentionally neighborhood-based, ensuring strong partnerships to create more inclusive, equitable outcomes that can break the cycle of generational poverty. In 2018, IFF evaluated the need for early childhood investment in Grand Rapids. The study concluded that “only 30 percent of the need for subsidized and Head Start early childhood education programs is being met in Grand Rapids, putting an undue burden on low-income children and families,” particularly in Boston Square and surrounding neighborhoods. In 2020, Kent County completed a community health needs assessment that identified significant health challenges for Black and Hispanic populations in Grand Rapids. These populations were found to be 3 to 4 times more likely to be uninsured and have difficulty navigating the health system. The community health clinic model has been found to address these disparities.

Supporting Documentation

- [1. Combined ARPA Attachments](#)
- [2. Economic Impact Study](#)
- [3. GRDM Attachment](#)



Project Cost

Minimum Cost: \$29,441,210

Maximum Cost: \$29,441,210

ARPA Request: \$5,000,000

Submitter Info

Name: Jon Ippel

Organization: Amplify GR

Project Overview

Funding Group: Community Health

Project Theme: Community Center

Project Status: New Project

Matching Funds: 76% or greater

Eligibility: 

Sustainability: 

Feasibility: 

Impact: 

Source of Funding

(Listed in main description)

Partnership

City of Grand Rapids Early Learning
Neighborhood Collaborative
(ELNC) Spectrum Health Spectrum
Healthier Communities Boston
Square Neighborhood Association
Oakdale Neighbors IFF (mission-
driven lender, developer and
consultant)

Guidehouse Ranking Notes

Eligibility

Medical facilities to address disparities in public health outcomes and childcare facilities are eligible capital expenditures. Rehabilitation of blighted properties or demolition of abandoned or vacant properties is also eligible.

Sustainability

Includes a strategy to ensure long-term sustainability

Feasibility

Construction to finish in February 2024

PROJECT #253

Cascade Library Community Garden and Activity Space



Identify the need for the proposed project

In 2018, the Cascade Library began a survey of patron needs in the community which included an idea board at the entrance to the library. Patrons made many indoor requests, but a consistent theme we discovered was a request for expanding spaces for children to play (both inside and outside the building). This request for outdoor space has only increased during the heart of the pandemic and beyond. In response, staff cultivated ways to use the beautiful land surrounding the library to expand library offerings. These offerings have included story walks, scavenger hunts, teen activities, and outdoor concerts. In addition to these scheduled events, many families use the green spaces by the library parking lot to picnic when the weather allows. There are challenges to the space as it currently exists, however. Near the building, the grass is frequently wet from rain and watering, and water pools and puddles. The broader grassy space beyond the trees frequently dries out and provides the perfect habitat for ant colonies and other bug infestations. Some of the space has invasive plants and areas of poison ivy. The space used for concerts and programs is in near total sun, which is also a deterrent for usage during the summer. Finally, these areas are also not currently ADA accessible, which creates significant barriers for many patrons. The library's vision for the area includes developing places in which: 1. People could safely gather, surrounded by natural beauty 2. Larger events (such as book clubs and story times) could be held 3. Special events (such as concerts) could be hosted 4. People—particularly children—could learn and explore 5. Families could picnic 6. Environmental stewardship would be considered

Project Cost

Minimum Cost: \$446,000

Maximum Cost: \$446,000

ARPA Request: \$446,000

Submitter Info

Name: Joe David

Organization:

Friends of the Cascade Library

Project Overview

Funding Group: Quality of Life

Project Theme: Community Center

Project Status: New Project

Matching Funds: No

Eligibility:



Sustainability:



Feasibility:



Impact:



Brief Description

The proposed project is divided into three main phases of work: Phase One includes creating three unique spaces: 1) a wide programming space, 2) a picnic and meeting area, and 3) perennial and water gardens made up of native plants to add natural beauty and to manage the pooling water. It also includes creating exploratory pathways and natural play areas in the wooded area currently in place. Additional plantings on the periphery of the space would create natural barriers that keep children from wandering away from the space. An ADA accessible sidewalk would be created around and through the space. (Funding for phase one is in place) Phase Two adds more green space to gather on for lawn games and programs. It also adds a pavilion or amphitheater to the space to allow the library or township to host larger performances and have a rainy day option. Phase two also expands the sidewalk beyond the woods and adds more green space for gather or lawn games and a pavilion or amphitheater. Phase Three extends the sidewalk entirely around the building and creates additional native plant areas and smaller tabled spaces for eating, studying, and socializing.

Long-Term Benefit

This project will better utilize the space that exists outside the library for the library and the township to offer opportunities for engagement. It addresses the problems that make the current space unusable by the public and creates attractive and engaging spaces for individuals and groups to engage, explore and play. The outdoor space is also a safe space for those with long-term health concerns to gather without fear, a need that has been amplified since the pandemic began in 2020.

Intended Beneficiary

Residents of Cascade Township and other visitors to the library from around the county.

Source of Funding

n/a

Partnership

The Friends of the Cascade Library are funding the first phase of the project. The first phase of the project is estimated to cost between \$200,000 and \$220,000. The request for additional funding includes the original estimated costs of the project (attached) with adjustments for inflation. A final decision will be made between constructing an amphitheater and a pavilion, but costs for either option are comparable.



Estimated Cost

\$446,000.00

Project Management Experience

We do not have experience leading county wide-projects.

Federal Funds Experience

We do not have experience working with federal funds.

Studies on Impact

"Much research exists on the benefits of working/playing outdoors. Studies show that: Developing multi-sensory outdoor spaces that connect people to the outdoors has significant benefits for productivity, energy, memory and overall wellbeing.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/alankohll/2018/06/25/5-data-backed-ways-working-outdoors-can-improve-employee-well-being/?sh=31f83d614eb8>

<https://www.demcointeriors.com/blog/why-outdoor-spaces-are-essential-for-the-21st-century-library/#:~:text=Studies%20have%20shown%20that%20a,for%20library%20users%20and%20staff.>

For children, outdoor play improves health and sleep and outdoor play also offers them opportunities to take appropriate risks as they explore the world.

<https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/yc/may2019/outdoor-play-is-essential> The American Academy of Pediatrics has also emphasized nature play as an important context to children's play. A recent article states: "children should be exposed to the natural environment. This means not only outdoors on a playground but also outdoors in the woods or an open field with parental supervision, and the more exposure to green space, the better."

Supporting Documentation

1. [Master Plan 1](#)
2. [Master Plan 2](#)
3. [Cost Estimates](#)
4. [Concept Narrative](#)

Project Cost

Minimum Cost: \$446,000

Maximum Cost: \$446,000

ARPA Request: \$446,000

Submitter Info

Name: Joe David

Organization:

Friends of the Cascade Library

Project Overview

Funding Group: Quality of Life

Project Theme: Community Center

Project Status: New Project

Matching Funds: No

Eligibility:



Sustainability:



Feasibility:



Impact:



Source of Funding

n/a

Partnership

The Friends of the Cascade Library are funding the first phase of the project. The first phase of the project is estimated to cost between \$200,000 and \$220,000. The request for additional funding includes the original estimated costs of the project (attached) with adjustments for inflation. A final decision will be made between constructing an amphitheater and a pavilion, but costs for either option are comparable.

Guidehouse Ranking Notes



Eligibility



Sustainability



Feasibility

Eligible under non-profit support. Additional information will be needed if the proposal moves forward in the process.

PROJECT #159

Krause Memorial Library Expansion



Identify the need for the proposed project

For 20+ years, staff at the Krause Memorial Library have heard comments and questions from library patrons and residents of the community regarding when the Krause Library will be expanded. The Krause Library, which was last expanded in 1989, outgrew its current building of 9,500sf long ago. A facility that is 85+ years old faces many accessibility issues. A thorough Facility Accessibility Report (conducted in February 2015 by the Disability Advocates of Kent County for Kent District Library) showed definite barriers to access beginning at the main entrance and throughout many aisles. Entrances to the local history room and the only study room do not meet minimum ADA standards. The public restroom doors are heavy and lack an automated opening button. Handicap parking is not located near the entrance ramp by the main entrance. Accessibility issues affect not only those in wheelchairs, but also many seniors, and those with walkers and strollers. Another indicator that the community had outgrown the current library building was the circulation statistics. In 2015, circulation statistics showed that Krause Memorial had the highest circulation per square foot of any branch in Kent District Library—double that of the system-wide average. Additionally, statistics showed that visits per capita to Krause Memorial were triple that of the system-wide average. The Krause Memorial Library is a branch of Kent District Library, which is funded by a millage. Kent District Library provides library services to its communities (including staffing, materials, technology, etc.). However, other than its own Service Center location, KDL does not own or maintain library buildings. This responsibility rests solely with the local municipality. Likewise, KDL does not, and cannot, contribute monies to build new libraries or expand existing ones. Thus, an expansion of the Krause Memorial Library is the responsibility of the City of Rockford, in conjunction with the Townships of Algoma, Cannon, and Courtland.

The Krause Memorial Library has long been a source of pride for the community. It is a beloved institution that is heavily used and enjoys great support. It provides not only reading/viewing materials for the community, but programming for all age groups, as well as technology (public computers, wifi, mobile hotspots, iPads, and a robust digital collection). However, the Krause Library can no longer physically house a collection large enough to meet the needs of the communities it serves. This means that many items requested by patrons regularly need to be brought in from other branches, resulting in longer wait times for patrons. The Library is also in desperate need of more space for programming, study/collaboration rooms, community gathering space, and quiet space for reading or studying. In a bustling building of this size, there is essentially no quiet space. The shortage of space is felt across all areas and services provided to the greater Rockford community by Krause Memorial. Over the past three summers, KDL has partnered with Feeding America West Michigan and the State to provide healthy lunches to students in our communities while school is not in session. Krause Memorial has proudly participated in the program, and response to the free meals has been great. However, storing the meals for so many children in need is a challenge, and an expansion will allow us to operate this needed service more efficiently for the community. For our most popular summer reading programs, there isn't space in the cramped program room for every child who wants to attend—children are either turned away or sit on the floor outside the program room, hoping to catch a glimpse of the program. The Krause Library currently has one study room. It has a maximum occupancy of 2-3 people and also doubles as storage space for tax forms and summer reading club prizes. In a time when more people are working remotely, study and collaboration rooms are also in high demand.

(continued on next page)

Project Cost

Minimum Cost: \$9,100,000
Maximum Cost: \$9,100,000
ARPA Request: \$6,000,000

Submitter Info

Name: Noah Greco
Organization: City of Rockford

Project Overview

Funding Group: Quality of Life
Project Theme: Community Center
Project Status: New Project
Matching Funds: 0-25%

Eligibility: 
Sustainability: 
Feasibility: 
Impact: 

Source of Funding

A Capital Campaign be used to match potential ARPA funding

Partnership

Algoma Township, Cannon Township, Courtland Township, Kent District Library, Rockford Public Schools, Rockford Chamber of Commerce, Rockford Area Endowment, Rockford Area Historical Society, Rockford Rotary, Rockford Lions, Friends of Krause Memorial Library



Identify the need for the proposed project (continued)

During Covid, the Krause Memorial Library and KDL were committed to being there for our residents and communities in any way possible. We instituted curbside service so people could maintain access to library materials at a time when the library was not open for in-person visits. We continue to provide curbside pickup as an option for those who still do not feel comfortable going to public places. We also instituted free printing (with curbside pickup available). We provided online and live-streamed programming for all ages to help people continue to feel connected and combat feelings of loneliness and isolation. We even handed out 'take and make' crafts for children to complete at home. The library partnered with the Kent County Health Department and MDHHS to distribute masks and Covid test kits to any resident who needed them. Perhaps the service that had the most impact on our communities during Covid was the purchase of more than 1,000 mobile hotspots by KDL. At a time when most households were involved in virtual schooling and remote work, these hotspots (which circulate for four months) provided free wifi access to residents in the rural areas of the county served by the Krause Memorial Library. Many residents have expressed their gratitude for the hotspots and other library services provided during the height of Covid, calling them a lifesaver.

In 2017, KDL commissioned a Needs Assessment based on feedback from the Krause Memorial Board, staff, and patrons. George Lawson, a professional library space planner conducted the assessment and worked closely with the Krause Memorial Board, Friends Groups, Branch Staff, KDL Administration, and the community to gather the data needed for the assessment. Multiple staff, board, and community meetings were held in April of 2017. The Assessment was updated in 2018 to include the entire Rockford Service Area (City of Rockford and Townships of Algoma, Cannon, and Courtland). In 2019, the City hosted a series of charrettes, led by Phil Davis of Fishbeck Thompson Carr & Huber. The focus groups were made up of representatives from the City of Rockford and the Townships of Algoma, Cannon, and Courtland and gathered input and opinions regarding what features and services were a priority for an expanded library.

Throughout the process, input from residents in the municipalities was sought out and prioritized. Likewise, professional assistance (architecture, feasibility, fundraising) were retained. In 2018, the house/lot next door to the Krause Library (18 N. Monroe) was purchased by the City of Rockford and the Krause Memorial Library Board for the express purpose of a future expansion of the Krause Memorial Library. Following the 2019 charrettes, an exploratory committee was formed to determine whether a joint municipal effort to expand the Krause Memorial Library was feasible. The exploratory committee was again comprised of representatives from the City of Rockford and the Townships of Algoma, Cannon, and Courtland, along with representatives from Kent District Library and the Krause Memorial Library Board. The exploratory committee contracted with Keith Hopkins of Hopkins Fundraising Consulting to conduct a feasibility study. After a brief covid hiatus, municipal leaders of Rockford, Algoma, Cannon, and Courtland regrouped and began to investigate other options for making the dream of an expanded Krause Library a reality. Ultimately, it was determined that a public and private partnership between the City, Townships, and KDL is the way forward with the project. Progressive AE was hired as the architect and the committee has contracted with The Breton Group to conduct a fundraising campaign.

Project Cost

- Minimum Cost:** \$9,100,000
- Maximum Cost:** \$9,100,000
- ARPA Request:** \$6,000,000

Submitter Info

- Name:** Noah Greco
- Organization:** City of Rockford

Project Overview

- Funding Group:** Quality of Life
- Project Theme:** Community Center
- Project Status:** New Project
- Matching Funds:** 0-25%

- Eligibility:**
- Sustainability:**
- Feasibility:**
- Impact:**

Source of Funding

A Capital Campaign be used to match potential ARPA funding

Partnership

- Algoma Township, Cannon Township, Courtland Township, Kent District Library, Rockford Public Schools, Rockford Chamber of Commerce, Rockford Area Endowment, Rockford Area Historical Society, Rockford Rotary, Rockford Lions, Friends of Krause Memorial Library



Project Cost

Minimum Cost: \$9,100,000

Maximum Cost: \$9,100,000

ARPA Request: \$6,000,000

Submitter Info

Name: Noah Greco

Organization: City of Rockford

Project Overview

Funding Group: Quality of Life

Project Theme: Community Center

Project Status: New Project

Matching Funds: 0-25%

Eligibility:



Sustainability:



Feasibility:



Impact:



Source of Funding

A Capital Campaign be used to match potential ARPA funding

Partnership

Algoma Township, Cannon Township, Courtland Township, Kent District Library, Rockford Public Schools, Rockford Chamber of Commerce, Rockford Area Endowment, Rockford Area Historical Society, Rockford Rotary, Rockford Lions, Friends of Krause Memorial Library

Brief Description

This project expands the Krause Memorial Library to meet the needs of the residents of Rockford, Algoma, Cannon, and Courtland, both now and into the future. The current 9,500sf library will grow to nearly 23,000sf—almost 2.5 times larger and much more appropriate for a community of 40,852 residents (projected to be 78,562 by 2040). This will enable us to house a collection large enough to meet community needs. It doubles the size of the program room, provides multiple study/collaboration rooms, provides adequate seating throughout, incorporates quiet space for reading and studying, and creates a community hub. This library expansion will resolve current accessibility issues. Barriers will be removed to enable access to all areas of the library for all people. It allows for the inclusion of a mother’s room, and barrier-free and family restrooms (equipped with baby and adult changing stations). The expansion allows the very old building infrastructure (HVAC, plumbing, electrical) to be updated and more cost efficient to operate and maintain. The expansion will provide ample space for children—for both materials and for literacybased activities. Two outdoor spaces will be included—a programming space and reading patio for those who would like to sit outside to read or visit. The expansion project keeps the Krause Memorial Library in its current location, which residents have expressed as being very important to them, and keeps the library as the anchor of downtown.

Long-Term Benefit

Libraries are the great equalizers of society. They provide equal access to materials, services, technology, and programs. Libraries level the playing field between the ‘haves’ and ‘have nots’. Expanding the Krause Memorial Library ensures that generations to come continue to enjoy the materials, services, evolving technology, and programs that enrich our lives and our communities.

Intended Beneficiary

The nearly 41,000 residents of Rockford, Algoma, Cannon, and Courtland (projected to be 78,562 by 2040) will be the immediate beneficiaries of a Krause Memorial Library expansion. Having adequate and accessible space to provide materials, programs, homework assistance, technology and tech assistance, and meeting/study space are invaluable to people of all ages. An expanded library facility will enable Krause Memorial to enhance our partnerships and collaborations with Rockford Public Schools, along with area private and charter schools in order to further the education of our young people. A library expansion will provide more space to support the library’s early literacy initiatives, with our educational play spaces, programming that supports early literacy, and STEAM-based activities for older children and teens. Local businesses will benefit from an expanded library. The library is the anchor of downtown Rockford. More visitors to the Krause Library means more foot traffic to businesses and restaurants downtown. Partnerships between Krause Memorial and local businesses in the form of programs that highlight the services offered by the business are a benefit to the business community, the library, and residents. Local community organizations benefit from a Krause Library expansion by having space available to hold meetings. It is said that children are our future. Public libraries are the cornerstone of a literate society. What better way to ensure the future of our communities than to invest in our children today!

Estimated Cost

9.1 million dollars



Project Management Experience

The City of Rockford recently received a \$500,000 Community Development Block Grant for the construction of new sidewalks to link Low to moderate income homes to City amenities.

Federal Funds Experience

The City also has experience working with federal funds. The most recent example of this is a \$5,000,000 grant the City received for the extension of a watermain.

Studies on Impact

n/a

Supporting Documentation

1. [Krause Memorial Library Project Overview](#)
2. [Letter of Support #1](#)
3. [Letter of Support #2](#)
4. [Letter of Support #3](#)
5. [Letter of Support #4](#)
6. [Letter of Support #5](#)
7. [Letter of Support #6](#)
8. [Letter of Support #7](#)

Project Cost

Minimum Cost: \$9,100,000

Maximum Cost: \$9,100,000

ARPA Request: \$6,000,000

Submitter Info

Name: Noah Greco

Organization: City of Rockford

Project Overview

Funding Group: Quality of Life

Project Theme: Community Center

Project Status: New Project

Matching Funds: 0-25%

Eligibility:



Sustainability:



Feasibility:



Impact:



Source of Funding

A Capital Campaign be used to match potential ARPA funding

Partnership

Algoma Township, Cannon Township, Courtland Township, Kent District Library, Rockford Public Schools, Rockford Chamber of Commerce, Rockford Area Endowment, Rockford Area Historical Society, Rockford Rotary, Rockford Lions, Friends of Krause Memorial Library

Guidehouse Ranking Notes



Eligibility



Sustainability



Feasibility

Eligible under non-profit support. Additional information will be needed if the proposal moves forward in the process.



PROJECT #268

A Transformational, Multi-Use & Collaborative Project: A Partnership Between Grand Rapids University Preparatory Academy and NIA Centre an African American Cultural Center

Identify the need for the proposed project

Our proposed project includes a multi-use space located near the heart of the South Division corridor. This 3-mile area in the south of downtown Grand Rapids is the main connector to the City's 3rd Ward, a ward that has received the least financial investment in the city. We identified the need for this project in three ways: • Residents and businesses indicated during the South Division Corridor planning process that there was a need for a center that focused on the needs of the immediate community, primarily people of color. This area is also in close proximity to the Heartside Ministry, which provides programming, and shelter to the homeless community. • The NIA Centre Grand Rapids commissioned a planning study that confirmed support of and need for an African American cultural center in Grand Rapids. • Grand Rapids University Preparatory Academy (UPrep), an award-winning public-private partnership school part of the Grand Rapids Public Schools also located along the city's South Division Corridor identified that there was a need for additional physical space to adequately accommodate its diverse student population and their families (500+ kids and 400+ families) After deciding to partner together in this endeavor, UPrep and NIA Centre learned that the Steelcase Foundation was looking for an opportunity to create physical space more closely situated to the community it serves. This discovery opened the door for the organizations to invite the Steelcase Foundation to be a tenant of the proposed shared space. Sharing this space will allow the Foundation to better realize their mission of collaborating with and connecting resources with people and movements that advance, advocate for and accelerate people toward a more just and liberated community and will give greater opportunities to both UPrep and NIA Centre to advance their own initiatives. Steelcase Foundation recognizes that there is a tremendous need to invest in the lives of communities of color, and the broader community and has expressed its support for such a transformative project that promotes social equity.

Brief Description

Our proposal is to request funding to construct a major multi-use physical space to serve the underserved, communities of color, and the broader community of Grand Rapids. The goal is address challenges in education and health equity and boost community engagement and involvement. The physical space to include: • UPrep Learning & Wellness Center | A multi-use gymnasium, community wellness center, recording studio, classrooms, dance studio, art studio (kiln and darkroom), garden space, and offices. • NIA Centre's African American Cultural Centre | A coffee shop, gift shop, exhibition space, concession area, multi-use concert space, dressing rooms and offices. • Steelcase Foundation (tenant space) | Staff offices, shared space for meetings, events, and community collaboration. • Additional Spaces | A rooftop space, community meeting room, co-working spaces, and kitchen.

Long-Term Benefit

• Continued revitalization of the 3rd Ward area • Employment/internship opportunities • Opportunities for women-, minority-owned businesses • Programming, events, cultural experiences, and collaboration that will invite/inspire cross-cultural community engagement & problem solving • Increased tourism for those seeking diverse, rich cultural experiences • Improved quality of life in the areas of cultural arts, entrepreneurship & wealth building, health

Project Cost

Minimum Cost: \$12,500,000

Maximum Cost: \$12,500,000

ARPA Request: \$3,000,000

Submitter Info

Name: Robert Upton, Jr & Kenyatta Hill-Hall

Organization: NIA Centre & Grand Rapids Preparatory Academy

Project Overview

Funding Group: Quality of Life

Project Theme: Community Center

Project Status: New Project

Matching Funds: 0-25%

Eligibility:



Sustainability:



Feasibility:



Impact:



Source of Funding

3000000 (Private donors and Foundations that are supportive of the project partnership)

Partnership

Grand Rapids University Preparatory Academy, NIA Centre, Steelcase Foundation, and ICCF Community Homes.



Project Cost

Minimum Cost: \$12,500,000

Maximum Cost: \$12,500,000

ARPA Request: \$3,000,000

Submitter Info

Name: Robert Upton, Jr & Kenyatta Hill-Hall

Organization: NIA Centre & Grand Rapids Preparatory Academy

Project Overview

Funding Group: Quality of Life
Project Theme: Community Center
Project Status: New Project
Matching Funds: 0-25%

Eligibility:



Sustainability:



Feasibility:



Impact:



Source of Funding

3000000 (Private donors and Foundations that are supportive of the project partnership)

Partnership

Grand Rapids University Preparatory Academy, NIA Centre, Steelcase Foundation, and ICCF Community Homes.

Intended Beneficiary

Our vision is that this shared space will benefit the underserved, communities of color and broader community that reside in Grand Rapids, Kent County and the greater Grand Rapids metropolitan area. We do anticipate that the cultural center will attract visitors looking for diverse cultural and entertainment experiences across the state and from other nearby states. This center will create an innovative collaborative space that allows 500+ UPrep students and their 400+ families to make connections, collaborate with business and community partners, and remove barriers by having access to resources available in the shared space. With Steelcase Foundation as a primary tenant, we believe this will provide more relational support to the community to convene, connect and learn collaboratively.

Estimated Cost

\$10,000,000 - \$13,000,000

Project Management Experience

Kenyatta Hill-Hall (Principal, UPRep) | Kenyatta worked with community parents/leaders and the UPRep Board to raise over \$9,000,000 for a state-of-the-art school building on South Division. The current space offers innovative learning for students in the Grand Rapids area and specifically targets the unrepresented 49507 area. UPRep values strong partnerships with parents/guardians and caregivers and is pleased to be part of a community where parents/guardians, staff, scholars, and community partners care for each other and strive to build positive relationships that support academic and social growth. Robert Upton, Jr. (Board Chair, NIA Centre) | Robert has significant experience overseeing projects from his previous work at the City of Grand Rapids and serving in leadership roles in nonprofit organizations. He previously served as the principal staff person for the City of Grand Rapids Community Relations Commission, which led a successful effort to place a major sculpture of Rosa Parks in downtown Grand Rapids. The NIA Centre celebrates family, community, and culture in a holistic manner, actively seeking new intersections of their focus areas to foster a safe, thriving African American community in the greater Grand Rapids area. Advisors Daniel Williams, (President/CEO, Steelcase Foundation) | A leader in education and equity-centered design, Daniel works to advance justice through education and community engagement. Daniel has led the revision of the Foundation's giving strategies to uplift community voices and provide more intentional support for partners while leveraging the Foundation's influence and expertise to drive and support larger-scale social change. He previously led the West Michigan Center for Arts and Technology (WMCAT) where he worked towards equity and innovation, and was co-founder of UPRep. He also sits on the Downtown Improvement District Board, was on the board of Fredrick Meijer Gardens during their most recent capital campaign and expansion and was co-chair of the 4-12th Grand Work Group-KConnect, looking at education structures and needs across Kent County. Brian Cloyd (Board of Trustees, Steelcase Foundation) | Brian is the retired vice president of Global Corporate Relations and Chief Diversity Officer for Steelcase Inc. and currently serves on the boards of WMCAT, UPRep, the National Center for Arts and Technology, University of Detroit Mercy, Education Trust-Midwest, and the Executive Leadership Council. Brian has extensive experience with county-wide projects through his previous board service with Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park, ArtPrize, Economic Club of Grand Rapids, Workforce Development Council, Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce Board, Advisory Council for Grand Valley State University Seidman College of Business, Education Reform Initiative, Student Advancement Foundation, Michigan Business Leaders for Excellence in Education, Grand Rapids Public Museum, The Cherry Commission (Governor's Commission on Education and Economic Development), and ACLU of Michigan. The Steelcase Foundation has a long history of working with organizations on a wide array of projects.



Project Cost

Minimum Cost: \$12,500,000

Maximum Cost: \$12,500,000

ARPA Request: \$3,000,000

Submitter Info

Name: Robert Upton, Jr & Kenyatta Hill-Hall

Organization: NIA Centre & Grand Rapids Preparatory Academy

Project Overview

Funding Group: Quality of Life
Project Theme: Community Center
Project Status: New Project
Matching Funds: 0-25%

Eligibility:

Sustainability:

Feasibility:

Impact:

Source of Funding

3000000 (Private donors and Foundations that are supportive of the project partnership)

Partnership

Grand Rapids University Preparatory Academy, NIA Centre, Steelcase Foundation, and ICCF Community Homes.

Federal Funds Experience

The leadership of UPrep and NIA Centre, along with our key advisors, have extensive experience working with federal funds, including but not limited to: • Robert Upton, Jr. worked for the City of Grand Rapids and has over 23 years experience overseeing the compliance of neighborhood associations, agencies, and organizations that received federal funding. He has significant experience working with federal government representatives regarding the City of Grand Rapids' compliance with federal funding requirements. • Daniel Williams raised over \$8,000,000 during his time at WMCAT for a new space, working with various partners on the build-out, shared usage, and programmatic elements: additionally, he oversaw many local, State, and Federal grant projects.

Studies on Impact

We look to the example of the Comer Education Campus in Chicago (comereducationcampus.org/impact), a similar multi-use education/cultural/business space. As noted on their website, the benefit of their schools, programs, services, and educational opportunities is felt by both their immediate neighborhood and the city. Much research has been conducted regarding the importance of urban schools having adequate physical space to promote physical fitness, community wellness, the arts, and science. There is plenty of research available regarding how valuable cultural institutions are to communities to help foster learning and understanding about history and culture, enhancing education within communities. A few references include: • The Role of the Cultural Institutions in the Civic Education, a journal article by Jasminka Kocoska and Dobri Petrovski • Joshua Guetzknow's research on how arts impact communities, identifying the following areas of impact: material health, cognitive psychology, interpersonal, economic, cultural, and social • Cultural Vitality in Communities: Interpretation and Indicators (Rosario/Kabwasa-Green/Herranz; The Urban Institute, 2006) looks at how cultural institutions enhance cultural vitality

Supporting Documentation

- [1. Letters of Support](#)
- [2. Fund Development Strategy](#)
- [3. Intro Page Regarding Site Map](#)
- [4. Site Map](#)

Guidehouse Ranking Notes

Eligibility

Eligible under non-profit support. Additional information will be needed if the proposal moves forward in the process.

Sustainability

One Time Expense

Feasibility

Risk to 2026 completion

PROJECT #76

Rise Up Community Center (Solon Township/Cedar Springs)



Identify the need for the proposed project

Since January 2019, the people of Rise Up Church have been asking, "What might God want to do with 58 acres at the corner of Algoma Ave NE and 17 Mile Rd to serve the Cedar Springs area community?" Recurring themes have been: Affordable Housing – local realtors attest to the great need as do local organizations such as North Kent Connect. Daycare – local daycares have long waiting lists and affordable, available daycare is important for community economic activity and for family wellbeing. Community Space + community development - to gather for learning, serving, and mutual support. Community-facing religious support (We have a church community that has a passion for community engagement) – Cedar Springs area demographics show low involvement in churches which contributes to community isolation and, thus, to lack of positivity and hope. Cedar Springs Public School superintendent Scott Smith identifies the greatest need he sees in the community as Hope. Covid 19 exacerbated this isolation. Farmer's Market – this busy corner has been a natural magnet for vendors over the last 20 years. It is a north Kent County growth opportunity

Brief Description

Rise Up Community Center on the corner of 17 Mile Rd and Algoma Ave NE - A community center in, with, and among the people of the Cedar Springs area in a prime community location. Covered Outdoor space/pavilion for use as a farmer's market and available for community gatherings and/or family use. Day Care Center – to meet an important need in a conveniently located and growing area. Community Center and Church – a multi-use space that serves as a community gathering space and a community-engaged church. Learning Together Barn – a flexible space for serving, fixing, learning, resourcing the needs of community members. (Fixing mowers, sharpening mower blades, household maintenance and repairs, cooking, sewing, woodworking, etc.) Playground – safe hangout space for young families Peaceful park – open, multi-use outdoor space with additional acreage that has potential for many community-serving uses in collaboration with other organizations.

Long-Term Benefit

Rise Up Community Center will be a community-facing, collaborative community hub at an important Kent County intersection that will provide space for small business vendors, micro and small business interaction and work space, service to under-resourced families in the form of an outward-facing church listening to and partnering with people to meet their needs, much-needed day care space, and flexible space to bring positivity and hope to the community.

Intended Beneficiary

Both isolated and engaged community members who need a community center to help them connect and communicate. Home makers, micro and small business vendors who need space and community to network, learn together and share their products. Families who need day care and a community space. Community members who utilize and enjoy the outdoor, play area, and pavilion space (with possible hiking/biking trails). Community members who need positivity and hope.

Estimated Cost

\$6,000,000 - \$10,000,000

Project Cost

Minimum Cost: \$6,000,000

Maximum Cost: \$10,000,000

ARPA Request: \$3,550,000

Submitter Info

Name: Jonathan Huizenga

Organization: Rise Up Church

Project Overview

Funding Group: Quality of Life

Project Theme: Community Center

Project Status: New Project

Matching Funds: No

Eligibility:



Sustainability:



Feasibility:



Impact:



Source of Funding

Rise Up Church brings its owned 58 acre parcel of property to the project. CRC Loan Fund is available as a source of borrowed funds.

Partnership

Christian Reformed Church in North America is a partner with Rise Up Church. The Christian Reformed Church Loan Fund is a source of loaned funds.



Project Cost

Minimum Cost: \$6,000,000

Maximum Cost: \$10,000,000

ARPA Request: \$3,550,000

Submitter Info

Name: Jonathan Huizenga

Organization: Rise Up Church

Project Overview

Funding Group: Quality of Life

Project Theme: Community Center

Project Status: New Project

Matching Funds: No

Eligibility: 

Sustainability: 

Feasibility: 

Impact: 

Source of Funding

Rise Up Church brings its owned 58 acre parcel of property to the project. CRC Loan Fund is available as a source of borrowed funds.

Partnership

Christian Reformed Church in North America is a partner with Rise Up Church. The Christian Reformed Church Loan Fund is a source of loaned funds.

Project Management Experience

Our Pastor has managed a Kent County ARPA grant in 2020 in his role as the Co-President of the Cedar Springs Area Chamber of Commerce.

Federal Funds Experience

Our organization worked through the PPP grant process in which proper records were kept and forms were submitted in order to qualify for grant status for those funds.

Studies on Impact

Research: A "Full Insite" demographic report (Sources: US Census Bureau, Synergos Technologies Inc., Experian, DecisionInsite/MissionInsite) cites the following: projected "moderate" growth for the Cedar Springs area, an average age that is slowly increasing, income that is low for the area but at about the state average, and church involvement that is slightly lower than the state average. Anecdotal evidence: Local realtors and our local community agency, North Kent Connect, are voicing the need for County investment in community building efforts in the north Kent County area. Small business vendors have been asking for permission to use the corner of 17 Mile and Algoma Ave for 20 years.

Supporting Documentation

1. [Letters of Support](#)
2. [Comments about Eligibility and Sustainability](#)
3. [Cost Breakdown](#)
4. [Site Map](#)

Guidehouse Ranking Notes

 **Eligibility**

Only parts of this project are eligible. Construction of new daycare facilities and affordable housing is an eligible use. Other parts are not eligible due to the location not being in a QCT.

 **Sustainability**

Does not include a funding plan or fund availability after expending all the ARPA dollars. Statement supports a limited need and that it will be self-sustaining after.

 **Feasibility**



PROJECT #86

Tyrone Twp. Library/Community Center

Identify the need for the proposed project

We have worked with community members and Kent District Library since 2018 to realize that our current library we have quickly outgrown, with the expansion of needs in the community. We want to keep the library as the hub of our community.

Brief Description

New Tyrone Township library/community center will help meet the needs of the community for generations to come. As the library is a growing hub of information, ideas and excitement over the last 84 years; we wish to remove the constraints of the current building and provide many needed programming options, quiet study rooms, expanded teen space, safe place of all in our community.

Long-Term Benefit

It will be the main hub of activity for all citizens and students; as the accessibility to the elementary and high schools is a key component to the location we chose.

Intended Beneficiary

Families and children, along with Seniors.

Estimated Cost

2.1-2.3 million

Project Management Experience

We have gone thru the COVID ARPA requirements, and went thru the audit process.

Federal Funds Experience

We have been a part of the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund

Studies on Impact

We have done research with Kent District Library which shows from 2001 to 2017 we had a 45% increase in visitors, and during the same time period we had a 231% increase in programs and outreach, along with a 180% increase in circulation during that same time frame. Since 2013 we have seen an increase of 265% in internet and WiFi use.

Project Cost

Minimum Cost: \$2,100,000

Maximum Cost: \$2,300,000

Submitter Info

Name: Shelley A Worley

Organization: Tyrone Township

Project Overview

Funding Group: Quality of Life

Project Theme: Community Center

Project Status: New Project

Matching Funds: No

Eligibility: 

Sustainability: 

Feasibility: 

Impact: 

Source of Funding

n/a

Partnership

Kent City Schools, and Tyrone Twp.

Guidehouse Ranking Notes

 **Eligibility**

 **Sustainability**

 **Feasibility**

Individuals or communities served is not clear or does not align with Treasury guidelines' definition of 'impacted' or 'disproportionately impacted'.