



**HV Neighborhood
Transformation**
116 w Main Street
Urbana, IL 61801
(217)807-1423

May 6, 2022

Champaign County Board
Brookens Administrative Center
1776 East Washington Street
Urbana, IL 61802-4581

Greetings all,

I am the Executive Director of HV Neighborhood Transformation. HV is an independent agency dedicated to eliminating gun violence in what we choose to call the “High Hope” communities in Urbana-Champaign. Our approach is to work directly in the neighborhoods to intercede in potentially violent situations, to provide young people with the skills to avoid violence, and to provide them with the knowledge and self-empowerment to find better life paths and prepare themselves for healthy lives and fulfilling careers. I understand that you are currently deciding how to use the county’s ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds for FY21 and FY22, and I am asking you to consider using some of these funds to support our efforts. This money can have an immediate and critical impact in helping us to grow and in supporting our current efforts.

We are requesting \$50,000 in ARPA funds. This money will be used to boost and expand current programs, develop synergies among the programs and initiatives that HVNT already leads, and to position ourselves to apply for other funding so that our agency is on solid footing and our programs are sustainable. We have a strong immediate need for these funds and they will have a significant impact on our current organizational needs and ongoing programs. Below I will provide specific details on how the money will be spent, and how the different expenditures will be prioritized if you are not able to fund our full request.

HV is distinctive in the Urbana-Champaign area because of our direct experience with gun violence, our connections to the neighborhoods that are most affected by violence, and our comprehensive approach to the systemic causes of gun violence. Violence is perpetuated by a breakdown of community, the traumas inflicted on community members by gun victims and those nearby, and the lack of models for life and career paths beyond those visible in the neighborhood. HV acts in the now, to intercede and prevent incidents or to reduce the damage done after the fact, to provide short term counseling and long term empowerment and career skills for young people in the HV neighborhoods, and to rebuild community in the neighborhoods through a program of summer workshops and neighborhood cleanup efforts. We are the only organization in town that has deep knowledge of and connections to the neighborhoods in which we work.

I have a personal history with gun violence and with the criminal justice system, and this history informs all of our work. Because of my experiences, I have the ability to understand, connect to and support young people, whether they are already affected by gun violence or if they are having their own

Hood Vote • Hood Vision • Hood Voice



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encounters with the justice system. HV has been advocating for and supporting these young people, to provide genuine opportunities for putting themselves on good life paths.

The concept of HV was created over fifteen years ago, but we have been operating in CU for nearly five years. A federal grant allowed us to establish office space and start building an organizational identity, with a strong commitment and few resources. Currently we are offering the following programs: 40 Days of Peace and Community, Neighborhood Voices and Safe Haven; I also go directly into the neighborhoods to talk with people, and especially to prevent gun violence incidents when I have a chance to. Safe Haven is a program of counseling, mentoring and healing strategies for those affected by gun trauma. 40 Days of Peace and Community is a summer program that goes to eight or more neighborhoods for one week each, with workshops, community events and a neighborhood cleanup. In Neighborhood Voices, teens receive mentoring and counseling and learn video production skills that they will use to produce segments on their own experiences for the HVtv Youtube channel.

Although it is not a formal program, I work with networks in each neighborhood to learn about potential violence and when possible to prevent it by talking directly with the people involved. At times I have had the extraordinarily difficult challenge of talking the victims or their allies out of revenge shootings that would perpetuate the violence. I have gone to court to support young people whose only wish is to make better choices.

Our current goal is to partner Neighborhood Voices and “40 Days” in ways that will greatly enhance the impact of both programs.

Neighborhood Voices is a six month program for youth ages 15-21, in which the participants engage in individual and group work around mental health, trauma and gun violence, build their own competence in both avoiding and preventing gun violence in their neighborhoods, and learn how to make and publish videos on the HVtv Youtube channel, in the process acquiring both technical and journalism skills that they can use to start on their career paths.

The “40 Days of Peace and Community” is a series of one week events in the summer, each one in a particular neighborhood. During the week, different sessions are offered each day on subjects related to gun violence, and the sessions are combined with a volunteer neighborhood clean up and activities, especially for children. Sessions including “Trauma”, “Wellness” and “Community Beautification” run Monday-Friday and are capped off with a neighborhood picnic on Saturday and church services on Sunday.

Neighborhood Voices teens will participate in the “40 Days” by making video recordings, presenting their own stories and helping with staffing. The “40 Days” event will benefit from the increased participation and interest provided by the “Neighborhood Voices” teens and will help in recruiting more participants to Neighborhood Voices. By participating in the full “40 Days” the teens will be exposed to a variety of neighborhoods and many new people.



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Our request of \$50,000 falls into two categories: support for Neighborhood Voices and “40 Days”, \$25,000; and organizational infrastructure and expenses, \$25,000. Support for Neighborhood Voices includes \$10,000 for equipment (currently rented) and one time stipends (\$2000-4000) for the staff and facilitators who work directly with the teens. “40 Days” is meant to be run mainly on volunteer efforts and money is needed only for picnic food and amusements (bouncy houses). Organizational expenses include rent, utilities, internet, accountant services and insurance.

As a young organization we need money to run our programs and get the organization on a sound financial and legal footing so that we can apply for more support and build sustainable programs. The amounts above represent one time expenditures and there is no commitment to long term support of staff, rent etc. If you are not able to give us the full amount then our priority would be to support Neighborhood Voices and “40 Days”.

Thank you for your consideration. I hope to have the opportunity to meet with you and to provide any further information that you may need.

Sincerely yours,

Maurice Hayes
Executive Director
HV Neighborhood Transformation

Rachel Joy

Equity and Engagement
Department Director/
Chief Equity Officer

Jorge Elvir

Community Relations
Manager



Community Gun Violence: Root Causes

According to The Educational Fund to Stop Gun Violence (EFSGV), there are seven identifiable areas that contribute to increased risk of involvement in gun violence:

- Income inequality
- Poverty
- Underfunded public housing
- Under-resourced public services
- Underperforming schools
- Lack of opportunity and perceptions of hopelessness
- Easy access to firearms by high-risk people

Community Violence Reduction Blueprint

Goal #1: Prevent/Reduce Gun Violence and Promote Safety

- Active Firearm Offenders/ Firearm related violence
- Youth and families at risk for being harmed or harming others
- Trauma-informed support and services to victims or people harmed by violence
- Focused Law Enforcement Strategies
- Recovery and community re-entry for formerly incarcerated persons

Goal #2: Community engagement and support

- Developing and Maintaining Community Relationships
- Integration of Services

Goal #3: Data-Driven Decision Making

- Research, Monitoring and Evaluation

COMMUNITY GUN VIOLENCE REDUCTION BLUEPRINT

City of
Champaign

Carle Hospital

Crime Stoppers

RFP: Family Programming

Private Sector

Unit 4 Schools

First Followers

University
Of Illinois

STEAM Genius &
Youth for Christ

RFP: Victim Legal Services

Community
Coalition

Community Members
& Neighborhood Groups

Case management
& counseling supports

DREAM

HACC Youthbuild

RFP: Street Outreach Partner

CU Tri

RFP: Evaluation Team

RFP: Faith-Based Mentoring

Youth & Family
Peer Support Alliance

Organization	Requested Amount
Youth and Family Peer Alliance	135,900
DREAM Academy	216,000
Champaign County Housing Authority - YouthBuild	150,000
East Central Illinois Youth for Christ and STEAM Genius	216,300
Champaign Unit #4 Schools	526,620
CU Trauma and Resilience Initiative	407,704
Carle Hospital Foundation (2-years)	400,000
First Followers	686,841
Crimestoppers	100,000
Research and Evaluation	355,000
ARPA Funding Total for Year One	3,194,365

H3 Coalition: Summary of Strategic Plan

Background

H3 is a community driven initiative to combat violence. The three H's refer to the fact that we must acknowledge the **harm** that has ripped through the community and that **healing** is required to get people past those harms, Once healing has taken effect **hope** can be restored. Without hope there is no chance to address the violence that has engulfed our community.

H3 rests on three main notions:

1. No single cause lies behind the spread of violence in our community. Therefore, no single organization or program can curb that spread. It requires a coordinated effort by a range of stakeholders.
2. People who are impacted by violence must participate directly in developing and implementing solutions to violence.
3. Addressing violence requires a continuous infusion of resources. The ARPA funds offer a unique opportunity to mobilize a significant component of those resources.

Formulating H3

H3 is an effort to act on these notions by bringing together a variety of stakeholders. To this end, over the course of the past year, FirstFollowers has been reaching out to impacted individuals, community organizations, government officials and national experts to build a model for action in Champaign County.

Four main needs drove the emergence of H3:

- 1) The need for a community center or a "one-stop" shop which would provide a safe space for people impacted by violence as well as offering resources for a range of programs.
- 2) The need to identify the mental health components that underlie much of the violence and to create counseling and support programs that could ameliorate this situation.
- 3) The need to create opportunities that would offer people impacted by violence pathways to economic and educational opportunities.
- 4) The need to build membership, or a formal coalition structure which connects existing organizations that strive for a common goal. By unifying the community and agencies doing the work, a force capable of solving the challenge of community violence can be created.

Governing Structure

H3 will use a coalition-based governing structure to guide our development over the first year. The Coalition will develop in four phases, the developmental phase, the integration and development phase, and the implementation phase. A sustainability phase will follow as the implementation phase unfolds.

Developmental Phase

A dedicated committee of FirstFollowers members referred to as FirstFollowers' H3 Planning Committee, will lead H3 during the developmental phase. During this phase, this Planning Committee will begin to conceptualize and plan for the Coalition with input from other organizations. This Committee, operating under the authority of the FirstFollowers board, will apply for funding and resources to support the H3 Coalition and will create an initial structure for the H3 Coalition.

Integration & Development Phase

In the integration and development phase, the FirstFollowers' H3 Planning Committee will meet with representatives from prioritized organizations and consolidate MOUs for our collaborative operation. This group will collectively be referred to as the H3 Organizing Committee. During this phase, the H3 Organizing Committee will refine the governing structure, policies, pillars, and culture of the H3 Coalition.

Implementation Phase

In the implementation phase of coalition building, the H3 Organizing Committee will transition power to the Leadership Council, and the H3 Organizing Committee will dissolve. The Leadership Council, Directors of H3, and members of H3 will implement the governing structure, five pillars of work, and operate at full capacity. During this phase H3 will form its own legal entity and governance will shift from the FirstFollowers Board to the governing entity of the new H3.

Sustainability Phase

In the final stage, the H3 Coalition will pursue additional funding and resources to sustain the coalition beyond the initial ARPA funds.

Proposed Program for first 12 months of H3.

Administration & Management

H3 will hire a full-time director, full-time administrator and a half time program coordinator who will focus on developing and implementing H3.

Program Structure

Each of the five pillars will develop its programs and deliver services working in collaboration with other pillars and community partners.

1. **Counseling and Support-** The lead of the Counseling and Support is Ready Set Go, led by Dr. Regina Parnell and her team of five licensed clinical social workers with extensive experience in trauma-informed care. They will provide direct services to 30 impacted individuals. Each client will have up to 12 counseling and support sessions that will be conducted via in-person and/or telehealth consultations. The coordinator of the services will be led by a local resident who has experienced the effects of community violence firsthand.

2. **Economic Development-**The lead of the Economic Development pillar is the non-profit Business Elevator founded by local educator and entrepreneur Mark Pelmore. This pillar will identify individuals for training in basic computer skills, financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and preparation for home ownership. This pillar targets 25 people to complete courses and programs in the first year. The agency will also provide capacity building workshops for existing minority owned businesses and technical assistance services for aspiring minority business startups. Thus far, the Economic Development Pillar has delivered a series of workshops that provided technical assistance to minority start-up businesses. Ten people participated in the workshops. Business Elevator also ran a chess club for youth that taught entrepreneurship skills using chess. The ages of the club ranged from 10 to 16 and seven youth attended the 8 week training.
3. **Community Outreach-** FirstFollowers peer mentor team will lead the Community Outreach pillar. The agency will utilize its existing network to bring impacted people together in safe spaces to identify gaps between impacted individuals and service providers. This pillar will also create cultural initiatives designed to cultivate and nurture identity. H3's first year aim is to engage with 100 people through the community outreach pillar and funnel selected individuals to counseling and support services, if needed. Those participants will be provided with an opportunity to connect with services offered by other pillars. In collaboration with the Illinois Department of Corrections, the Community Outreach pillar has conducted a live stream video with incarcerated individuals returning to Champaign County. The session was live streamed in five Illinois prisons: Danville, Decatur, Lincoln, Logan, and Jacksonville. In addition, the pillar has partnered with Dr. Tariq Khan of UIUC's History Department. Dr. Khan and his students researched the history of violence in Champaign-Urbana. The research will be converted to an active website where people can learn more about the trends and impacts of community violence.
4. **Civic Engagement-** The temporary lead to the Civic Engagement is FirstFollowers. The agency will run a series of community workshops involving local practitioners and nationally known experts to explore the successes and failures of anti-violence initiatives in other places such as: Richmond CA, Baltimore, and Chicago. The Civic Engagement pillar will also provide the knowledge of such programs and strategically share it through workshops and popular education efforts for government officials, service providers and the impacted population. Research projects on community violence and cultural competence as they apply to the local community will be shared with government, faith-based organizations, and the community. In addition, the Civic Engagement Pillar will produce a series of conversations and cultural events that showcase local talent dedicated to ending violence.
5. **General Education-** FirstFollowers will lead this pillar temporarily. This pillar will offer support for adult literacy, ESL, GED, High School diploma and basic vocational skills training. Working in partnership with the Counseling and Support Pillar, the General Education Pillar will develop courses that deal with the social and emotional components of what drives individuals into violence as well as provide instruction and tutoring for individuals involved in formal education programs outside H3. Thus far, the pillar has already secured an agreement with Penn Foster for online high school diploma courses and students have been enrolled.

The One Stop Center

An essential component of this model is the creation of safe spaces where impacted members of the community can seek support, access resources and build community. A safe space represents more than just a building. It is the focal point of H3, a place community members can shape according to their needs and wants.

The proposal seeks a facility that would have the capacity to provide offices, classroom and workshop spaces, but also be able to accommodate community meetings and occupational training. It should also include a commercial kitchen and computer lab.

The goal is to secure an unused or under-used facility which would require renovation to suit our purposes. The development of this facility should be carried out through an intergovernmental agreement involving the Champaign County Board, the city councils of Champaign and Urbana and the Village of Rantoul. The immediate need is for a central facility but in the medium and long-term this would turn into a network with smaller satellite centers in impacted communities.

H3 Coalition Phases of Development

Phase	Developmental Phase (Phase 1)	Integration & Development Phase (Phase 2)	Implementation Phase (Phase 3)	Sustainability Phase (Phase 4)
Timeline	September 2021 - March 2022	March 2022 - December 2022	January 2023 - December 2023	January 2024
Lead	FirstFollowers' H3 Planning Committee <i>with some initial input from potential organizations</i>	H3 Organizing Committee <i>Representatives from FirstFollowers and prioritized organizations</i>	H3 Leadership Council, H3 Staff, Directors & Coalition Members cedes power to H3 board	H3 Leadership Council, H3 Staff, Directors & Coalition Members
Purpose	Develop the early conceptualizations of the H3 Coalition	Collaboratively refine and designing the governing structure, pillars, and culture of H3	Implement the H3 governing structure and pillars of work	Pursue additional funding and resources to sustain the Coalition's work

MOU's & Letters of Support

The following organizations have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with H3:

- A Cut Above the Rest Barber Academy LLC
- Bethel AME's
- Business Elevator
- Courage Connection
- Champaign-Urbana Trauma Resilience Initiative
- Forever Healing LLC
- Housing Authority of Champaign County
- Ready Set Go
- Youth and Family Alliance
- YouthBuild

The following organization/person have written letters of support for H3:

- ACLU of Champaign County
- Professor Helen Neville, UIUC

Project Title H3 Coalition
 Project Period March 1, 2022 - December 31, 2024

PERSONNEL COSTS

Key Personnel	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
	FTE	Base Salary	Fringe	Total Salary	FTE	Base Salary	Fringe	Total Salary	FTE	Base Salary	Fringe	Total Salary
Director	0.42	\$90,000	\$11,340	\$49,140	0.5	\$92,700	\$13,905	\$60,255	0.5	\$95,481	\$14,322	\$62,063
Operations Manager	0.42	\$75,000	\$9,450	\$40,950	0.5	\$77,250	\$11,588	\$50,213	0.5	\$79,568	\$11,935	\$51,719
Administrator	0.42	\$50,000	\$6,300	\$27,300	0.5	\$51,500	\$7,725	\$33,475	0.5	\$53,045	\$7,957	\$34,479
Total				\$117,390				\$143,943				\$148,261

OTHER THAN PERSONNEL SERVICES

Consultants	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Counseling and Therapy Pillar (Ready Set Go! Counseling Services)	\$90,800	\$93,524	\$96,329
Economic Development Pillar (Business Elevator Consulting Services)	\$85,700	\$88,271	\$90,929
Education Pillar (Penn Foster & A Cut Above Barber Academy)	\$98,000	\$213,600	\$217,668
Community Outreach Pillar (FirstFollowers)	\$0	\$100,000	\$103,000
Civic Engagement Pillar (FirstFollowers)	\$0	\$41,600	\$42,200
Accountant - TBD	\$7,500	\$7,725	\$7,957
Auditor - TBD	\$15,000	\$15,450	\$15,914
Community Center Development Consulting Services - TBD	\$35,000	\$30,000	\$0
Strategic Planning Consultant (Treet Center)	\$30,000	\$30,900	\$31,827
Staff Development Training Consultants - TBD	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
Implementation and Sustainability Consultant - TBD	\$0	\$70,000	\$72,100
Consultants Subtotal	\$387,000	\$716,070	\$702,923
Other Project Expenses			
Travel	\$2,690	\$7,756	\$7,975
Equipment	\$15,500	\$25,500	\$26,100
Project Expenses Subtotal	\$18,190	\$33,256	\$34,075
Operational Expenses			
Utilities & Maintenance & Communications	\$16,200	\$31,806	\$32,760
Insurance	\$1,800	\$1,854	\$1,910
Community Center Building Acquisition	\$0	\$250,000	\$0
Community Center Renovations	\$0	\$100,000	\$0
Office Supplies	\$3,750	\$3,863	\$3,978
Marketing	\$1,500	\$1,545	\$1,591
Software & Technology	\$1,450	\$1,494	\$1,538
Operational Expenses Subtotal	\$24,700	\$390,561	\$41,778

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
TOTAL PERSONNEL SALARY	\$117,390	\$143,943	\$148,261
TOTAL OTHER THAN PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$405,190	\$749,326	\$736,998
OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	\$24,700	\$390,561	\$41,778
TOTAL REQUESTED	\$547,280	\$1,283,830	\$927,037

NOTE 1: The budgets for years 2 and 3 were created based on a 3% inflation rate. There may be rounding errors associated with calculations.

NOTE 2: Although this budget encapsulates 3 years of funding, the budget narrative focuses primarily on year 1 of H3's strategic plan. Budgeting for the entire 3 year grant period provides clarity of the goals and objectives of H3.

PILLAR CONSULTANTS			
Agency	Contract Amount	Service	# of Clients Served
Business Elevator	\$85,700	Provides training for interested individuals basic computer skills, financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and home ownership. The agency will also provide capacity building workshops for existing minority owned businesses and technical assistance services for aspiring minority business startups.	The program will serve 20 clients for year 1
Ready-Set-Go	\$90,800	Provides counseling, therapy, and wraparound support plans for H3 clients. The counseling and therapy will consist of individual and group therapy. The telehealth model will play a considerable role in these services.	The program serve 30 clients for year 1
Penn Foster	\$9,000	Provides an accredited online high school diploma option.	The program will serve 10 students for year 1
A Cut Above the Rest Barber Academy	\$6,900	Provides instruction and testing for barber licensure.	The program will serve 10 students for year 1

OTHER CONSULTANTS		
Position	Contract Amount	Service
Accountant	\$7,500	Will provide bookkeeping and payroll services for H3 staff.
Auditor	\$15,500	Will be responsible for preparing the audit report for H3 coalition.
Community Development Consultant	\$35,000	Will work closely with H3 staff, coalition partners, and strategic planner to implement the 3 year strategic plan.
Strategic Planning Consultant	\$30,000	Will work closely with H3 staff, coalition partners, and strategic planner to develop a 3 year strategic plan.
Staff Training Consultant	\$25,000	Will provide training and professional development opportunities for H3 staff and coalition partners.

Supporting Survivors & Healing Trauma

**The Community Violence Response Team &
Trauma Healing &
Resilience Building Initiative**

May 17, 2022
Champaign County Board Presentation



It takes a village to heal!

Trauma interrupts an individual's, family's, and community's right to ...

Be, Become & Belong!



Trauma & Resilience Initiative (TRI)

Working to Help Make Champaign County a Trauma Informed Community
Founded in April 2019

Mission: Trauma & Resilience Initiative is a not for profit that educates, advocates for, and promotes resilience in individuals, families, organizations and communities.

Vision Statement: To create communities in which every person is cared for, connected, supported, and well.

- Increasing our community's ability to effectively respond to those in need
- Equipping the community's understanding of trauma and resiliency (and what helps/heals)
- Advocating for solutions to address the root causes of trauma, toxic stress & community adversity.

Receives grant funding from the Champaign County Mental Health Board & support from the Champaign County Community Coalition & the City of Champaign.



**Structural
Violence Leads
to
Adverse
Community
Experiences**

There is growing understanding that ***trauma manifests at the individual level and at the community level*** through exposure to both interpersonal violence and structural violence, which prevent people and communities from meeting their basic needs. ***Community trauma manifests, for example, as a breakdown of social networks, relationships, and positive norms across the community.***

Howard Pinderhughes, Prevent Institute, Adverse Community Experiences

The Known Root Causes of Community Violence

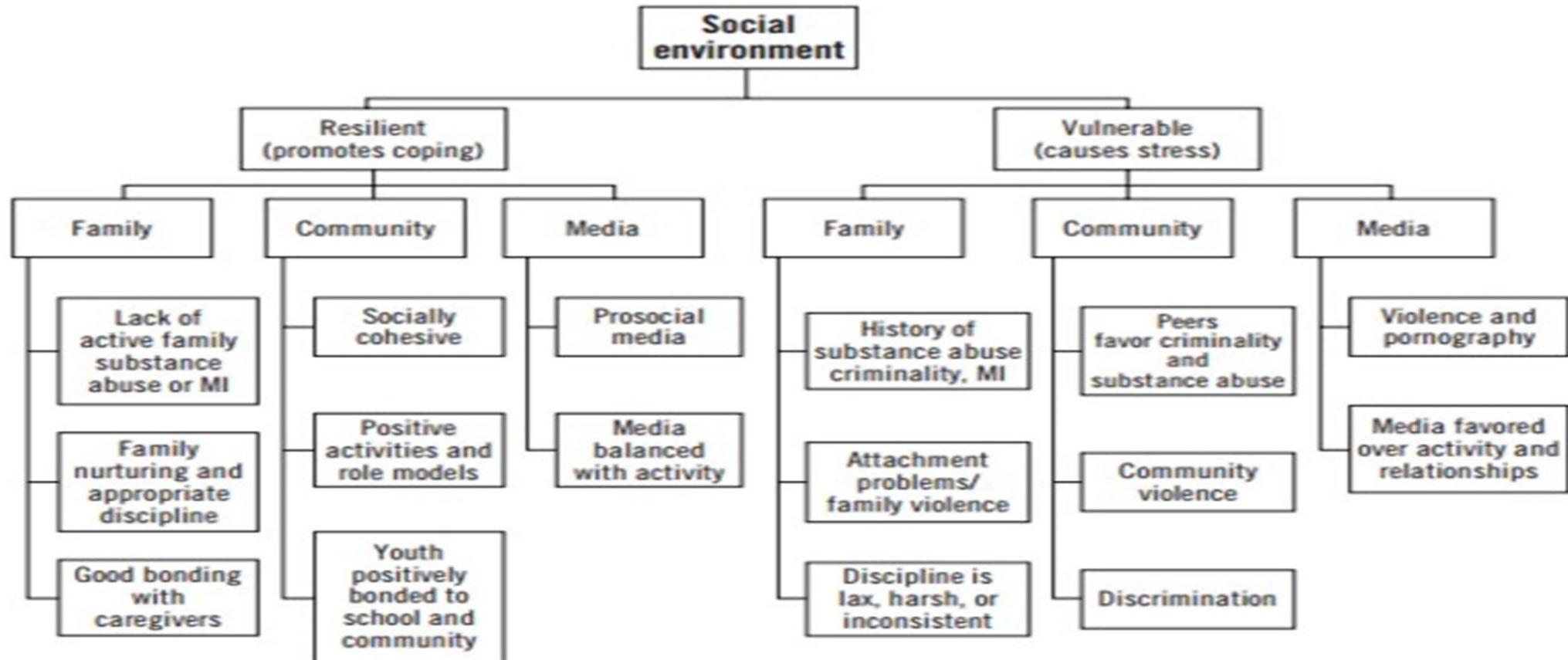
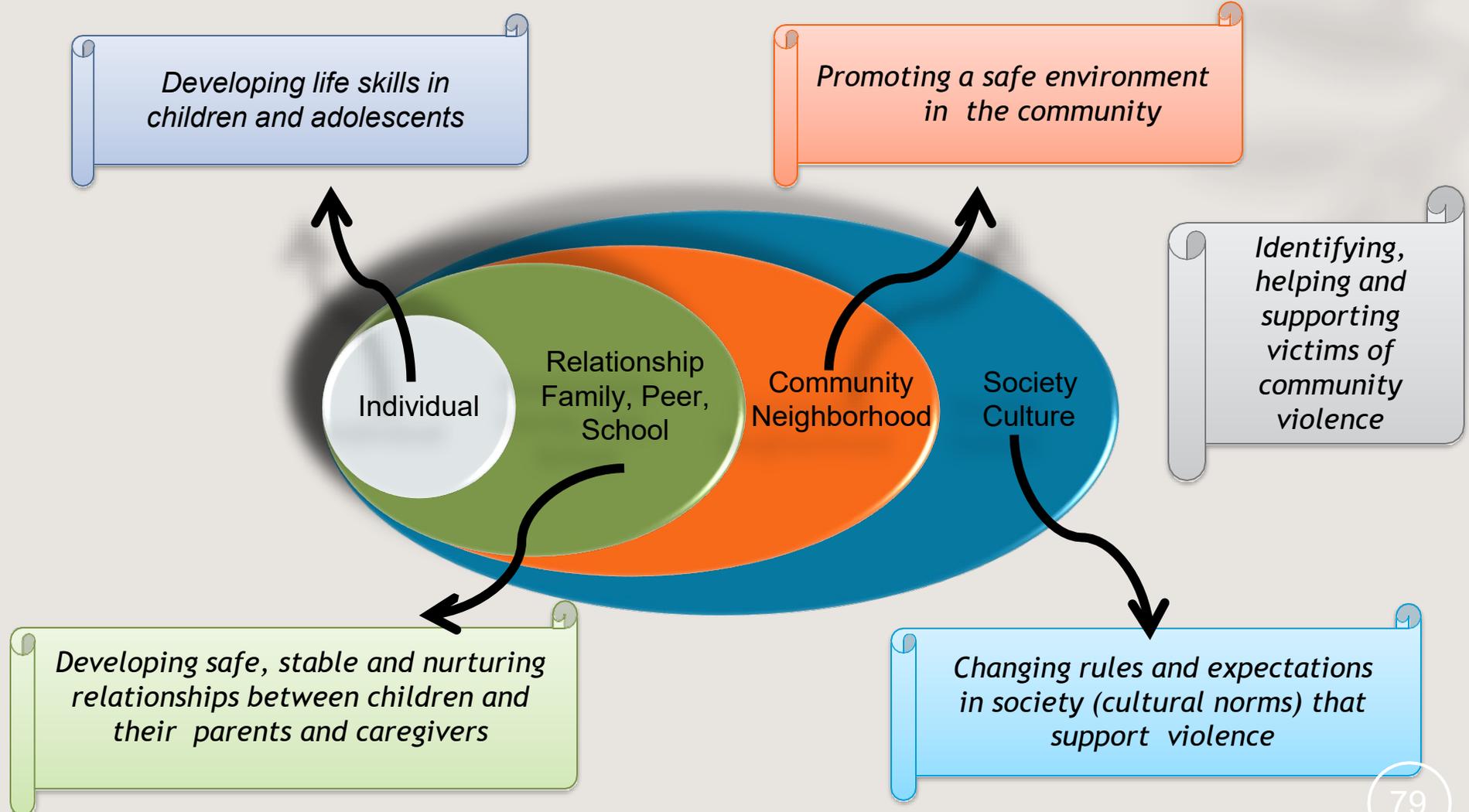


FIGURE 6.1 Environmental Factors.

FINDING SOLUTIONS:

BEST PRACTICES FOR ADDRESSING TRAUMA & VIOLENCE



This is a unique opportunity to create a seamless array of services & supports

(grounded in best
practices)

Blueprints/H3

Prevention

- Preventing Community Violence
- Promoting wellness, positive youth development, resiliency
- Addressing root causes of violence
- Changing social norms

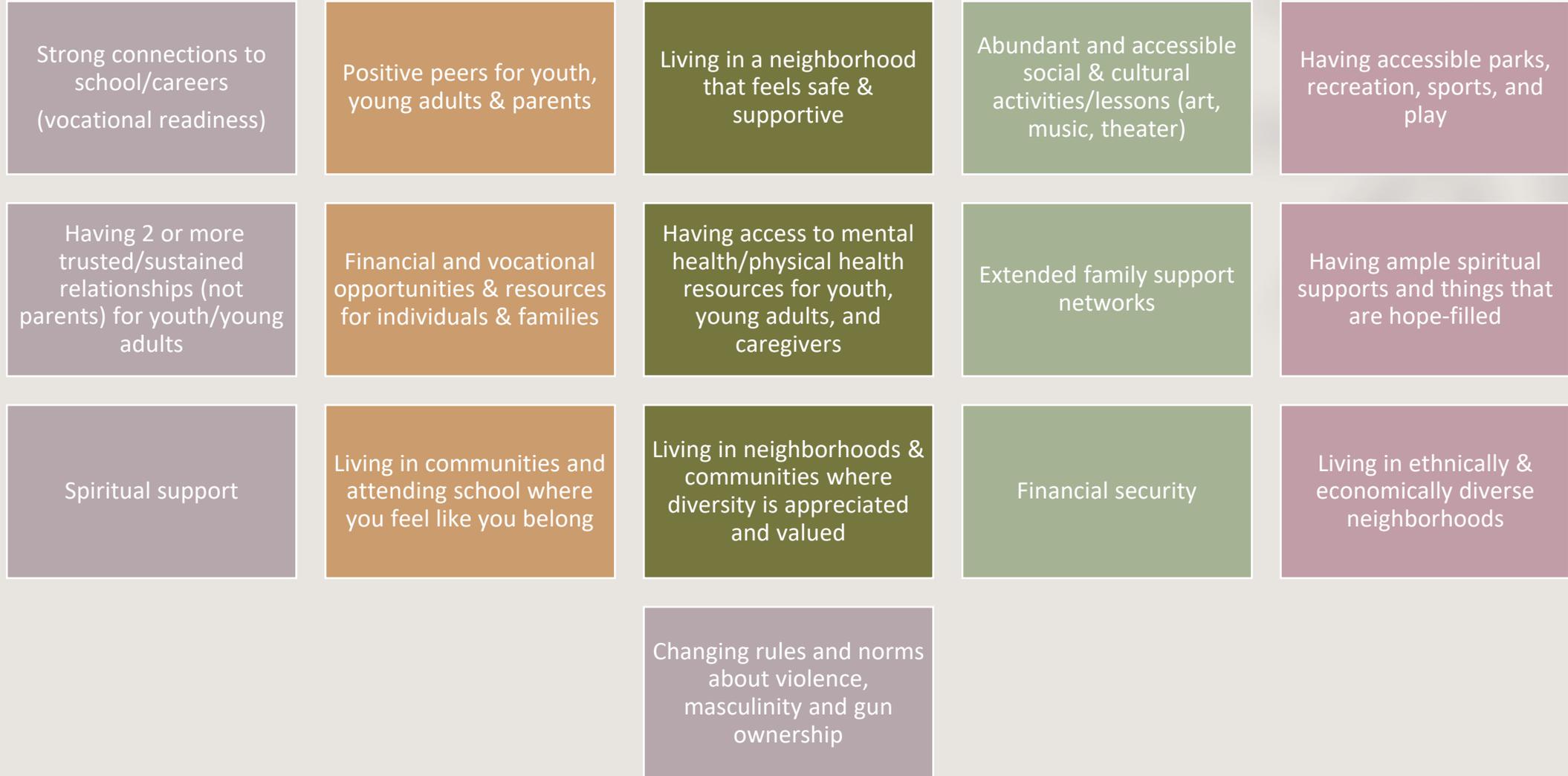
Intervention

- Strategies to interrupt the cycle of violence for those with identified risk
- Collaboration & early identification
- Offering community-based supports that promote safety, re-instill feeling of safety
- Strategies to teach and reinforce affect regulation

Postvention

- Supports offered after an incident of violence/crisis
- If done correctly is also a prevention strategy
- Care for and support those impacted and affected by community violence (individually, community, and family wide)

Some Accessible & Proven Solutions to Address Community Violence



Supporting Survivors

- A team of individuals who will be available on call from Thursday evening through Sunday night to respond, in community settings and to Carle, to survivors who have been impacted by community violence
 - The front end of our Community Violence Response effort – triage and dispatch others working as a part of the response effort
 - Coordinate care (linkage & engagement)
 - Individuals & families with complex needs (or who are under resourced) will receive coordinated & comprehensive service planning

*217-673-7122 or curesponds@gmail.com

Supporting Survivors

Expanding the array of trauma-specific services & supports and culturally responsive providers who are trained in several evidence-based trauma-specific treatments:

- The treatments have been identified as needed by families, providers, and community members

Trauma Focused CBT

Sensing Safety

Strong Families * (a family therapy model)

And other trauma specific treatments

*Blueprints funding covers the cost of these services/supports

Expanding the Availability of Wellness & Resiliency Building Opportunities

Supporting survivors by working to ensure that there is an array of wellness and resiliency building supports:

- Start 2 Heal *
- Wellness & Resilience Groups (that are developmentally appropriate for groups impacted by adversity and stress)
- Grief & Loss Support
- GRITT (Growing Resilience in Tough Times)
- Stressless (Stress & affect regulations skills groups for young parents, seniors, and adolescents)

Also assist in building & expanding a paraprofessional network of peer supports who can provide mental health, youth driven & other supports

How to Get Involved

- If you want to learn more, please sign up on our email list : <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!groupsettings/cu-coalition-trauma-resiliency-working-group/join>
- If you would like to join us: Email us at curesponds@gmail.com for our next Working Group meeting or Community Violence Response Team meeting!
- If you would like to become involved : Email us at curesponds@gmail.com or call us at 217-673-7122
- If you want to stay up -to-date about upcoming events and trainings: Visit us at <https://www.traumaresilienceinc.org> or on our social media pages.
 - Facebook: CU Trauma & Resilience Initiative
 - Instagram: [_cu_tri](#)
 - Twitter: [CUresiliency](#)

Mr. Kyle Patterson, Champaign County Board
Community Violence Prevention Task Force
Brookens Administrative Center
1776 E. Washington Street
Urbana, IL 61801

Dear Mr. Patterson,

Thank you for your continued interest in learning more about the Urbana Park District's (UPD) need for ARPA support for the recovery from the negative impacts of COVID-19. I appreciated being able to speak during the public session at the hearing held on May 17, 2022 regarding area proposals to help reduce community violence in Champaign County. As you know, the Urbana Park District is proposing to construct a new Health & Wellness Center at Prairie Park. Our proposed facility has been in the planning stages for several years now. Both community COVID recovery and eliminating/reducing gun violence is a big part of our vision. Our District is now focused on final design, bidding, and constructing the facility, and we need Champaign County's help.

One of the key reasons for constructing such a facility is to begin improving the physical and mental health of our Urbana area residents and visitors. A key aspect of this focus is to reduce the level of community gun violence. The UPD has been an active member of the Champaign County Community Coalition and has been working collaboratively for many years with our other partners in local government to stem the number of shootings and other aggressive acts of gun violence in our county. We have measures in place to help our youth and families find positive activities to do together. We are making good progress, but more is needed. The UPD needs a comprehensive recreation facility to direct our staff and resources in a way that we can be effective leaders in reducing gun violence and improving the overall physical and mental health of our residents.

The UPD is working with the architecture and engineering firm Farnsworth Group and Construction Manager-at-Risk CORE Construction on the design and delivery of this project. We recently received our first round of cost estimates from our Farnsworth and CORE based on our Schematic Design phase. All construction-related costs have skyrocketed — increasing over 30% in project costs. The UPD is not able to postpone the project in hopes of construction prices going down in the future as our need to recover from COVID and rebuild Urbana is urgent. The high level of community gun violence—combined with trauma, stress, and poor mental health — will not improve without intervention, appropriate facilities, and directed public programs and events. Further, CORE predicts that high construction costs, supply-chain issues, and labor shortages will continue over the next two to three years. We cannot wait for a hoped-for, yet unknown, timeframe when conditions may be more favorable for construction.

Therefore, the UPD must find a way to build this much-needed facility more than ever. The UPD hopes to retain the full program for the facility without needing to reduce the overall square footage and eliminate key programming areas. The UPD can meet our community needs to construct a Health and Wellness Center with ARPA support from both the City of Urbana and Champaign County. The UPD has recently requested ARPA funding support from the City of

Urbana. The UPD's Health & Wellness Center meets four of the five established ARPA funding criteria from the City of Urbana:

- Providing substantial infrastructure
- Improving public health and safety
- Added human rights and social services
- Economic Recovery and Development

We imagine that many of these same criteria are likely to be important to the Champaign County Board and citizens as well.

As you know, park districts, forest preserve districts, conservation districts, and special recreation districts were excluded from ARPA recovery funds as an oversight. While we too have had high level of losses due to COVID-19 and are facing direct impacts of gun violence, we have no direct ARPA support. The neighborhood where this facility will be constructed is located in an Urbana "hot spot" — neighborhoods with a high number of gun incidents reported. Constructing this facility in the Washington Street/Lierman Avenue neighborhood would help reduce gun violence and improve nearby living conditions.

Champaign County ARPA funding support for this facility can help the UPD meet our critical goals including:

- Capital funds to construct the Health and Wellness Center;
- Capital funds to construct Phase 2 development for outdoor recreational facilities for free use by all visitors at Prairie Park and/or Weaver Park including: destination playground, Sprayground with outdoor restrooms, outdoor basketball courts, trails, picnic pavilion, rain gardens, athletic fields/courts, public art and/or other outdoor features;
- Operating funds to offset the cost of operations;
- Funds to help support staffing costs for full time, part time, seasonal employees, work/study programs, internships and mentoring programs;
- Collaborations to help reduce costs including making connections to sanitary service, utilities, stormwater drainage systems, trail connections, improved HVAC, solar energy and other "green building" opportunities and/or other infrastructure supports;
- Youth and Family Scholarship funds to support access to the Health and Wellness Center and/or other UPD facilities and programs;
- UPD program support to provide specific activities for our most vulnerable youth to help reduce gun violence including Midnight Basketball, All Urbana Schools - Third Grade (3rd) Swim Lessons, athletic programs, after school SPLASH programs, nature-based mental health programs, arts and cultural programs or other effective programs to help redirect youth away from gun violence.

The UPD has a long history of establishing collaborations with governmental units, local agencies, and other organizations with similar missions. The new Health and Wellness Center will be at the center of meaningful collaborations to help reduce community gun violence. Champaign County ARPA funding would allow the UPD to provide a program base for all of the groups listed below. All critical services—including indoor and outdoor programs, events, and other activities—will help reduce gun violence by the following state, county, and local groups and organizations:

GOVERNMENT

- **University of Illinois “Call to Action”:** a community compact with the University and our local units of government to work together to end racism in Champaign County;
- **CU Public Health Department:** joint support for underrepresented health and wellness needs; joint interests with youth and families related to gun violence as a public health measure; COVID recovery and other health initiatives;
- **City of Urbana:** ARPA support for collaboration with Public Safety (police/fire) to reduce community gun violence; Arts and Cultural events and activities with youth/families; Community Development efforts to promote jobs;
- **Urbana School District #116:** joint collaboration with multiple programs and activities to promote education, recreation services, and workforce readiness;
- **Urbana Free Library:** ongoing joint programs and events to attract underrepresented youth and families to participate in healthy and safe activities;
- **Housing Authority of Champaign County:** work collaboratively with HACC to provide worksites for Youth Build, a program to prepare youth for work readiness and life skills;
- **Cunningham Township:** partnering agency to promote housing, jobs, organic food production, recreational activities, and life skills for residents.

COMMUNITY GROUPS - the UPD created a community umbrella group called C.O.A.S.T. (Community Outreach and Support Team) to help the UPD with our outreach and wellness initiatives; many of these groups listed below participate in the larger C.O.A.S.T. group facilitated by the UPD.

- **HVNT – Maurice Hayes:** the UPD has ongoing programs and events planned with this Urbana outreach organization.
- **Midnight Basketball – Rev. Willie Comer:** the UPD is beginning to work on a Midnight Basketball program at Brookens Gym; this facility is not appropriate to host such a program; however, the need is so great in Urbana we must offer this program now; our hope is that a new, comprehensive facility will be built by the UPD to better host and support this program.
- **Lierman Avenue Gardens – Community Gardens Board:** UPD serves as a support unit for the garden program located at Lierman Avenue and Washington Street in Urbana; growing organic produce, providing recreation and celebrating neighborhood accomplishments to improve the neighborhood.
- **DREAAM – Tracy Dace:** DREAAM is in need of public space to hosts two (2) major programs; the UPD is partnering with DREAAM at the UPD Health & Wellness Center to support:
 - *Dream Big:* supports young boys and young men to college and career readiness, social and emotional skill building, and boosting, academic achievement.
 - *Hope for the Future (H4F):* addresses inequities in academics, physical, mental and social health of kids that might be derailed by gang activities or other forms of violence and trauma.
- **Dream Girls – Deborah McFarland:** UPD supports this group by hosting “back to school” events to promote education/school readiness;

- **Silver Hearts – Giovanna Dibenedetto:** UPD partners with Silver Hearts and other local units to provide special events to help provide food, clothing, recreational programs and family services for residents of Silverwood Neighborhood Association;
- **Urbana Park District Youth Scholarship Program:** Urbana Parks Foundation (UPF) supports fundraising efforts to provide youth and family scholarship funds to offset the costs of attending and participating in UPD programs;
- **Urvana:** UPD Recreation Department hosts a mobile van unit that supports our outreach efforts in every neighborhood in Urbana; Urvana can be found at most UPD events and activities to support our Outreach and Wellness team to provide recreational services in a mobile format;
- **Solidarity Gardens:** a community garden program intended to provide work readiness, leadership skills and work history while growing and sharing organic fruits and vegetable with neighborhood groups;
- **CU Trauma and Resiliency Initiative:** UPD works with CU Trauma to train and educate UPD staff on how to work with youth and families impacted by gun violence.
- **Faith in Place:** joint efforts to promote environmental justice by hosting programs and activities with underserved residents;
- **University YMCA – New American Welcome Center:** collaborative efforts to support immigrants and other New Americans into Urbana-Champaign area; focus on peace building, environmental concerns and inclusion with the Urbana Park District;
- **Uniting Pride:** providing public meeting space, promotion of an inclusive community and welcoming activities; participation in Pride Fest;
- **Urbana Neighborhood Connections (UNC)** –providing facility space, programs and events to support the mission of UNC;
- **Champaign-Urbana Special Recreation (CUSR)** – Joe DeLuce, Jameel Jones, Tim Bartlett and Corky Emberson - Operating Board; joint recreation program by Champaign and Urbana Park Districts to provide inclusive park and recreational services to youth and adults with special needs.

Attached you will find updated floor plans and estimated costs for the UPD’s Health and Wellness Center. Option 1 is the lowest base plan layout for the facility. This plan contains only 1 basketball court, a small elevated track, some staff office space, and reduced fitness/wellness space. As a reminder, our current leased gym at Brookens Administrative Center has only 1 court space in the gymnasium. The UPD would not be able to increase our service capacity now or in the future. Option 2 is our ideal plan—the “full program” as was originally proposed. Both of the options could include some alternate bid items, however we will not know what could be accepted until we have bids in hand.

As such, we are still in a fluid position with the design, budget, and construction schedule, and adequate funding will be key. UPD has dedicated \$4.1 million in funds toward this project, we have been awarded \$5.5 million in state grants, and have raised over \$1.7 million in private donations toward the facility. It seems everyone agrees that this project is desperately needed in our community, but due to the economic realities of today we still need further funds to bring this much-needed facility to Urbana. Our board, staff, foundation, and community donors all believe the UPD Health & Wellness Center is both shovel-worthy, shovel-ready and an ideal recipient of Champaign County ARPA support.

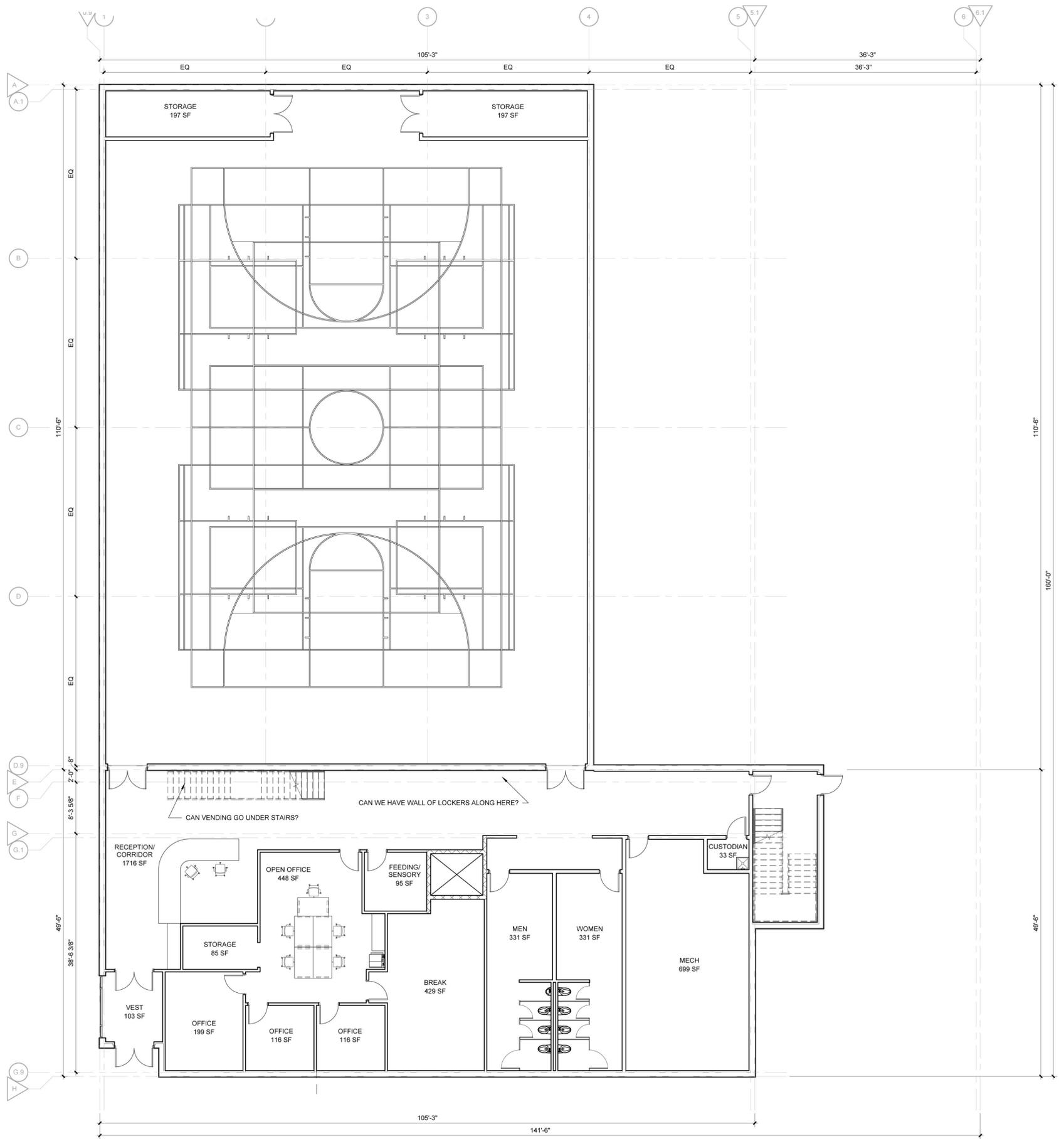
Our UPD staff are available for any briefings, presentations and/or coordination meetings to provide more information about the plans for this facility and/or to direct ARPA funds to the UPD's Health and Wellness Center. We hope that Champaign County board members agree that this facility is a critical need for Urbana, will provide many years of service and create an alternative to gun violence in Urbana.

Be well,

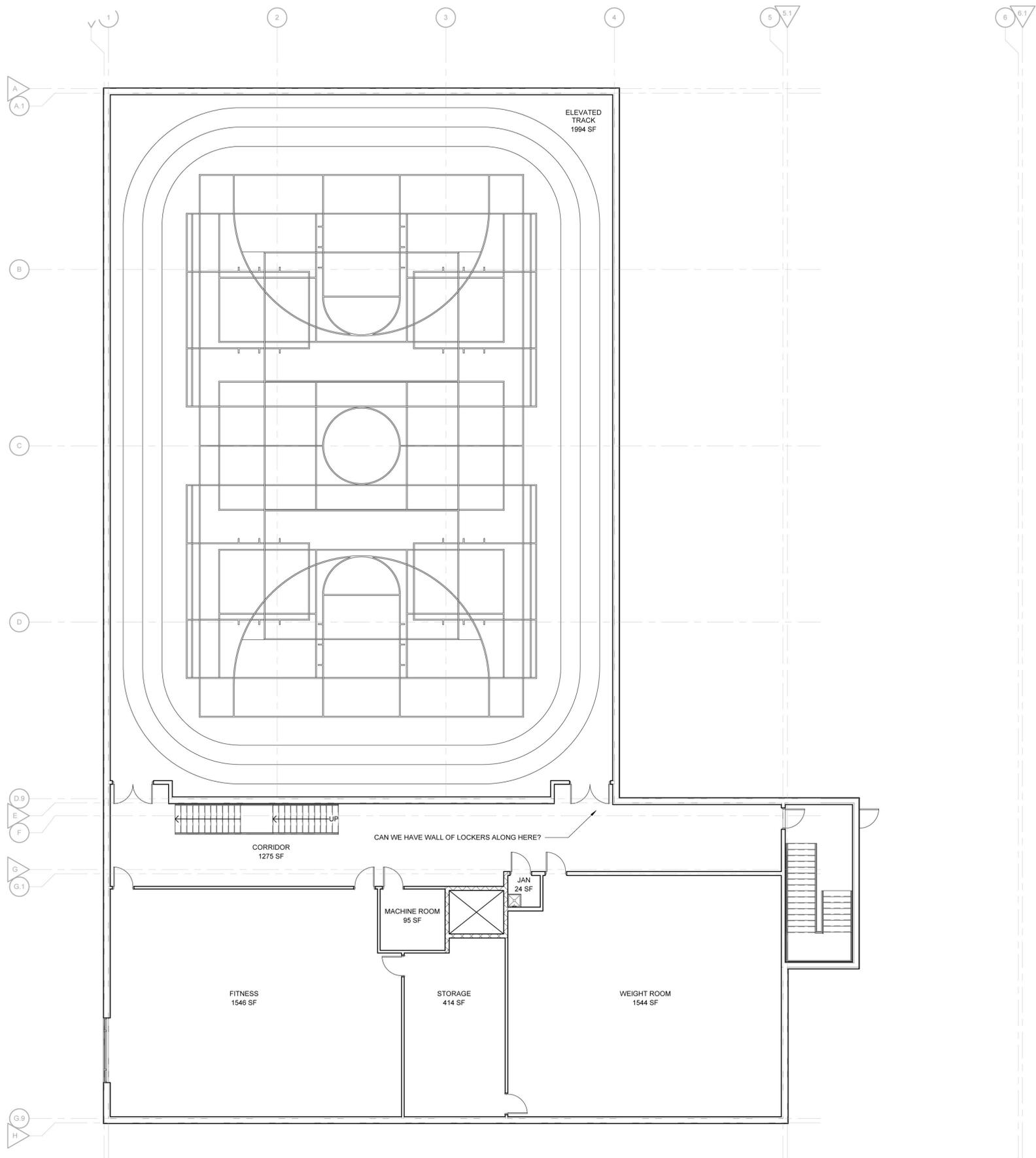
Tim Bartlett
Executive Director of Parks and Recreation

URBANA PARK DISTRICT HEALTH & WELLNESS FACILITY COST ESTIMATES AND FUNDING

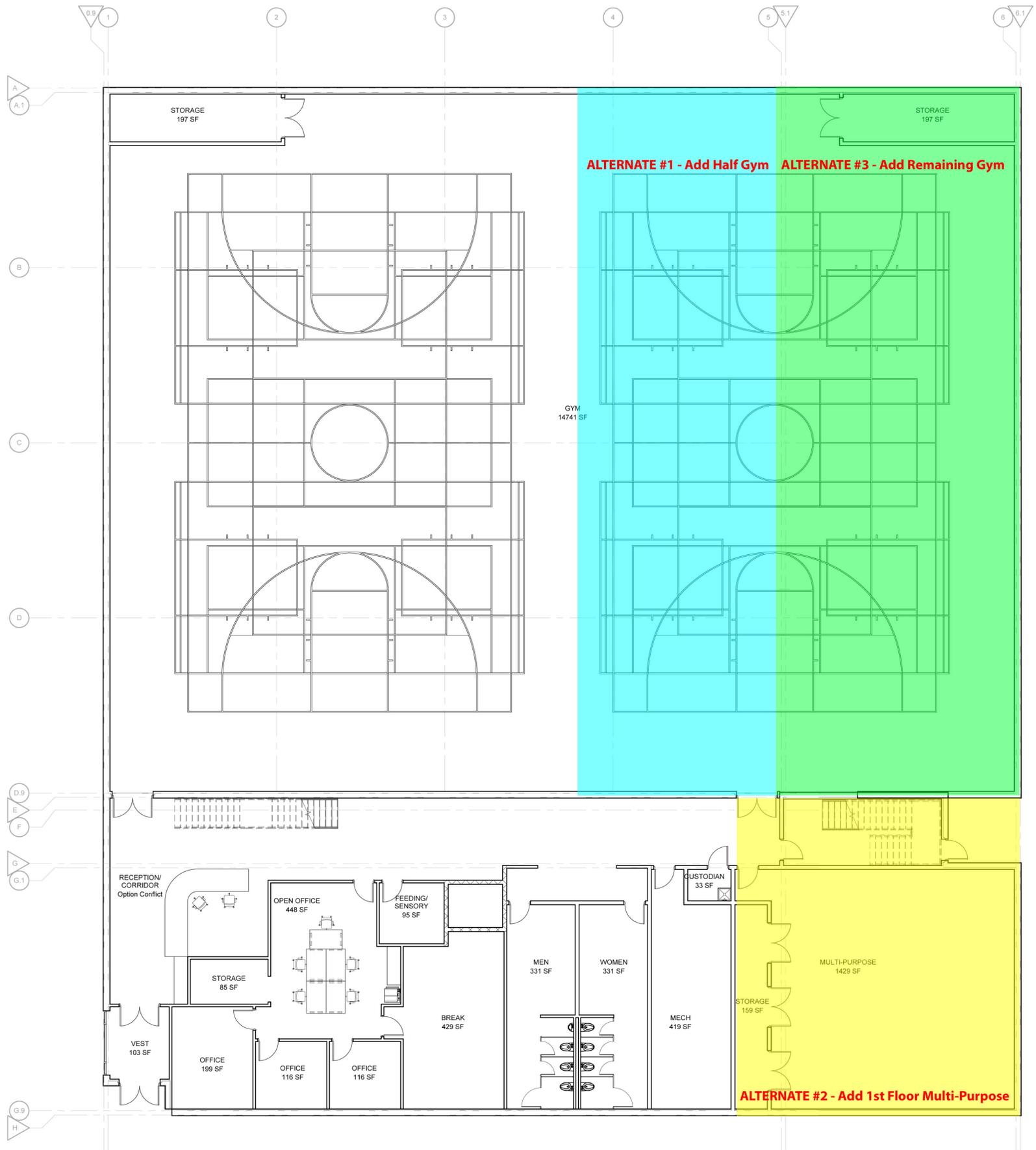
Description	Size	Budget	Range
Base Bid Facility: 1 Gym, 1 Fitness, 1 Weights/Equipment			
Base Bid and Site Work	21,420	\$ 9,400,000	- \$ 9,600,000
Design, CM, Equip, Furn, IT, Testing, Misc Costs		\$ 2,000,000	- \$ 2,000,000
TOTAL BASE BID FACILITY		\$ 11,400,000	- \$ 11,600,000
Full Facility: 2 Gyms, 2 Fitness, 1 Weights/Equipment, 1 Multi-Purpose Community Room			
Base Bid and Site Work	21,420	\$ 9,400,000	- \$ 9,600,000
Design, CM, Equip, Furn, IT, Testing, Misc Costs		\$ 2,000,000	- \$ 2,000,000
Alternate #1 - Add Half Gym	2,847	\$ 570,000	- \$ 600,000
Alternate #2 - Add 1st Floor Multi-Purpose	1,618	\$ 400,000	- \$ 420,000
Alternate #3 - Add Remaining Gym	3,985	\$ 797,840	- \$ 839,831
Alternate #4 - Add 2nd Floor Fitness	1,450	\$ 358,467	- \$ 376,391
TOTAL FULL FACILITY		\$ 13,526,307	- \$ 13,836,222
Health & Wellness Facility Funds, as of 4/22/22			
Park District Bond Reissue		\$ 3,056,861	
Donations/Urbana Parks Foundation		\$ 1,700,000	
2019 Capital Improvement Budget		\$ 26,175	
Fund Balance		\$ 1,000,000	
PARC Grant		\$ 2,500,000	
DCEO (Pending)		\$ 3,000,000	
TOTAL		\$ 11,283,036	



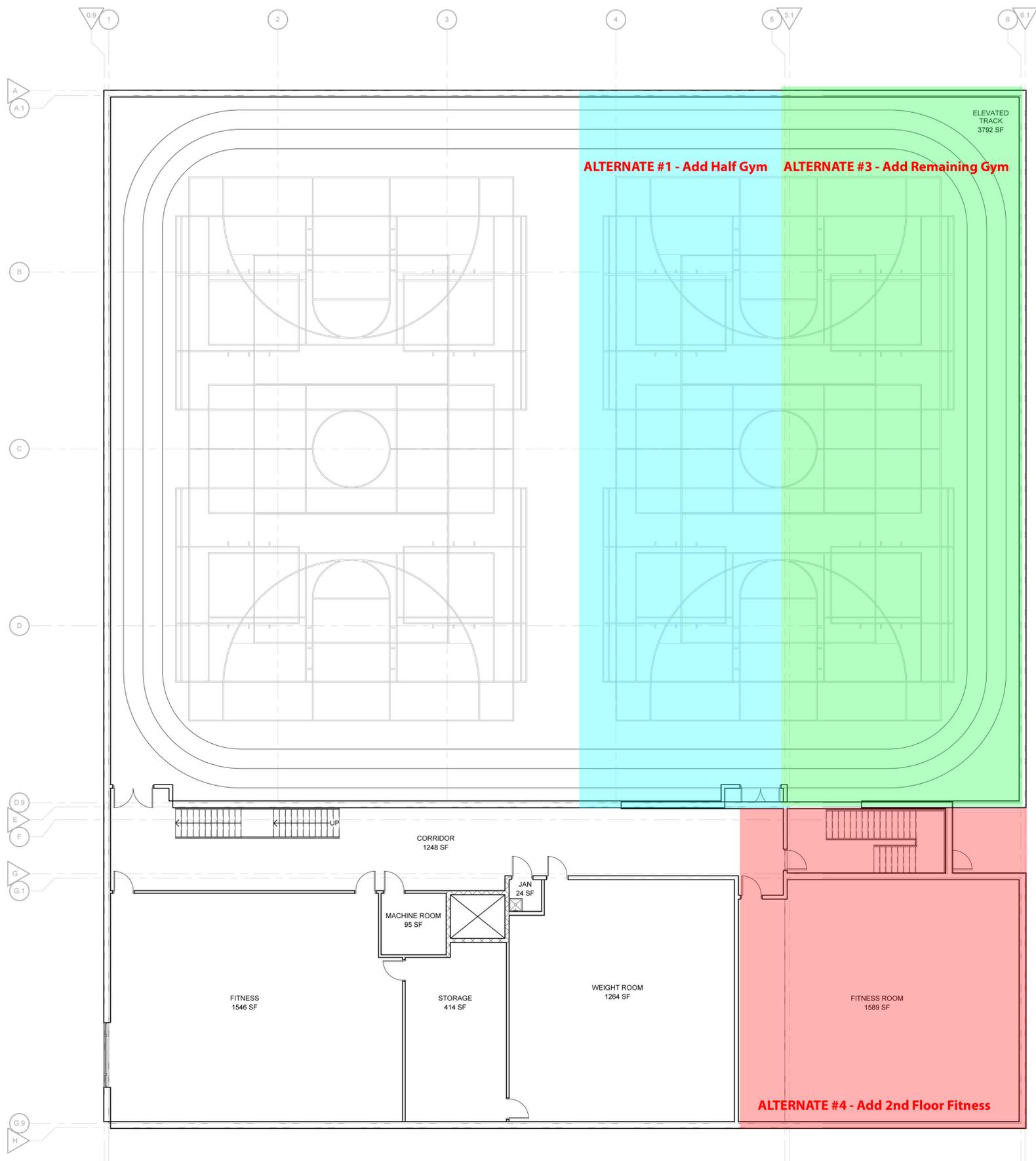
First Floor



Second Floor



First Floor



Second Floor

Vision 2 Succeed

Manhood Training Camp



Manhood Training Camp Program Includes:

- Ongoing Summer Manhood Training Camps
- A Free Life Strategy & Planning Session for Families
- Access to a Lifelong Mentor
- Close Proximity
- 10% discount off all Vision 2 Succeed services

"Idle minds are the devils' playground."

IN NATURE!

Manhood Training Camps are hosted outdoors in nature to promote mindfulness, peace and physical activity.

217-565-9200

4303 S High Cross Rd.
Urbana, IL 61802

mindoverbodyinternational@gmail.com
vision-to-succeed.business.site
ujimaretreatcenter.com



About Us

In response to the Gun & Domestic Violence in our community, this 5-part coming of age, Men's Guidance and Training Camp, is aimed at teaching young men the true definition of manhood and how to live a life that is prosperous, full of honor, principles and a ethical code of conduct.

The goal is to provide mentorship, positive role models, and a support network for young males and men, in an effort to reduce gun violence and domestic violence.



Manhood Training Camps

(merit-based curriculum)

LEVEL 1

- **"Self Discovery Stage"**
Mentees participate in self reflection exercises and take self-inventory.

LEVEL 2

- **"Game Planning Stage"**
Youth complete visualization & goal-setting activities. Families' of the mentee receive a free life strategy & planning session to support his efforts.

LEVEL 3

- **"Action Stage"**
Mentee has to implement strategies, plans, and display sustained effort.

LEVEL 4

- **"Fruition"**
Mentees will reach their goals and targets that they chose. Mentees' graduate the program and attend a rites of passage ceremony.

LEVEL 5

- **"Giving Back"**
Graduates are called on to be leaders and agents of change in their homes and communities. Mentees are encouraged to attend future Manhood Trainings as Jr. Mentors. Mentors will continue to provide guidance, encouragement, and accountability.

IN THE SUMMER!

Manhood Training Camps are held during the summer to increase safety for young males living in areas impacted by gun violence.



VISION 2 SUCCEED
presents



MANHOOD TRAINING CAMP

Hosted by: "B.K" Banio Koroma Jr.
Mentor, Life Coach & Conflict Mediator

Ages: 12 years and up
*scholarships available

Price: \$40/participant
*accepting male volunteers

Activities Include

- ✓ Fishing
- ✓ Kayaking
- ✓ Barbequing
- ✓ Football & more

Date

Saturday, May 21st 2022
Time: 11:00a-4:00p

Location



Ujima Retreat Center
4303 S High Cross Rd
Urbana, IL 61802

Contact Us

+1217-565-9200

vision-to-succeed.business.site

mindoverbodyinternational@gmail.com

VISION 2 SUCCEED

MANHOOD TRAINING CAMP II

FUN & SELF-DISCOVERY



Friday, June 24, 2022

Ujima Retreat Center, Urbana, IL

CAMPING. BONFIRE. KAYAKING. MALE-BONDING.

MANHOOD TRAINING CAMP PT. 2

Rediscover the great outdoors!

6:00-9:00pm

Ages: 11+ | Cost \$40

CAMP ACTIVITIES

Tent Set-Up

Kayaking

Sport Games

Group Bonding

Bonfire Barbecue

1:1 Mentoring Session

To enroll, RSVP at ujimaretreatcenter.com.

*A new date will be selected in the event of adverse weather.

To know more about the camp, please visit our website at vision-to-succeed.business.site. You can also send us an email at ujimaretreatcenter@gmail.com.

BIG PICTURE of DREAAM

Our mission & vision:

DREAAM is a community impact organization with a mission to disrupt generational cycles of poverty and trauma by providing healing-centered services and educational programming that transforms and empowers our DREAAMers and their families.

- Founded in 2015
- Approved 501(c)3 in 2017



REACH.

TEACH.

July 2021 – May 2022

- **BEGINNERS** (ages 3-5)
 - 85 DREAAmers
- **ACHIEVERS** (ages 6-9)
 - 120 DREAAmers
- **BELIEVERS** (ages 10-13)
 - 70 DREAAmers
- **CHASERS** (ages 14-24)
 - 76 DREAAmers





DREAM Summer 2022

Vision:

- **To reach, teach, and empower 500 DREAMers who are kindergarten through 24 years of age**

Number of Programs: 9

Program Locations:

- **University Place Church**
- **Jefferson Middle School**
- **Westview Elementary School**
- **First United Methodist Church – Champaign**
- **Faith United Methodist Church – Rantoul**
- **Broadmeadow Elementary School**
- **Rantoul Township High School**

Please note that DREAM has no programs in Urbana.

**REACH.
TEACH.
EMPOWER.**



DREAAM 2022 & 2023 GOALS:

- Expand to provide mental and behavioral health services for children and adults
- Implement Hope for the Future: A Path to Proactive Violence Prevention in Champaign, Rantoul, and Urbana

Hope for the Future

Champaign County Model

Vision: Two-year pilot initiative to impact 1,000+ people with wellness, mental health, and educational programs to develop a path to proactive violence prevention.





Strategy #1: Wellness for ALL

Physical, Mental, Academic,
Cultural

Research: A growing body of research is making the case for play to boost the well-being of young children as we work through the impact of the pandemic (Mader, 2021).

Caregivers who pay attention to their own physical and emotional health are better able to handle the challenges of supporting someone with mental illness (NAMI).

Outcomes: Implemented our first 6-week soccer camp program reaching over 100 K-5th graders and their families in Champaign, Urbana, and Rantoul. Flag football is the current wellness program taking place in Champaign.

Nutritional lessons and fruit items were given to each family every week. Youth were completing daily workouts at home with their families. Social emotional learning was taught during the soccer skills and drills to our youth and their families.



Strategy #2: Hope for Boys

Healing, Health, and Prevention Services

- **Research:** Cultural identity is an important contributor to people's wellbeing. Identifying with a particular culture helps people feel they belong and gives them a sense of security (Diaz & Bui, 2017). The prevention efforts targeted at limiting youth involvement in gangs is integral to promoting optimal individual and community well-being (Youth.gov).
- **Outcomes:** Relationship building was implemented in phase one (1) through creating a basketball program for our 6th – 9th grade DREAMERS. They experience group-based mentoring, mental health care programming, and quality physical activities through practice, travel, being coached, and playing games against other teams. The goal is to grow socially, athletically, and in their leadership abilities on and off the court, in order to increase conflict resolution and violence prevention.

Strategy #3: Black Family Wellness

Wraparound Services for Boys Ages 3-6

Research: Young people in Wraparound tend to have better outcomes than similar young people who don't receive Wraparound, across different areas of their lives including mental health, and functioning in their homes, schools and communities (samhsa.gov).

Outcomes: We have recently trained, equipped, and hired four wraparound facilitators and have three families enrolled in our program.

We are partnering with Stratton and Urbana Early Childhood to provide effective wraparound services for our youth and families.





Champaign County Board Community Violence Prevention Proposal

Organizational Mission

DREAAM (Driven to Reach Excellence and Academic Achievement for Males) is a community impact organization with a social justice mission to reduce the achievement and opportunity gaps among boys and young men ages 3 to 24. To achieve this mission, DREAAM builds a seamless pipeline of hope to disrupt the "school to prison" pipeline and increase life opportunities. During COVID-19, DREAAM expanded to serve girls, young women, and families, and provided in-person services to improve remote learning outcomes, social emotional health, and parental involvement. This expansion has strengthened and re-purposed our mission to prioritize the whole family's health, well-being, and achievement.

Project Description

Hope for the Future (H4F) is an evidence-informed, social justice initiative to develop a path of proactive violence prevention. The vision is to prevent violence over time and build hope for a lifetime. This initiative will address inequalities, child well-being, and mental health among Black and Brown children and their parents living in three small urban cities in Illinois which are Champaign, Urbana, and Rantoul. Building on existing partnerships and impactful programming, DREAAM will implement, scale, and sustain H4F programs and services that are trauma-informed, community-based, culturally responsive, and people-centered. Specifically, H4F will implement early childhood cultural education and expand girls' programming, preventative services, health programming, and personal development opportunities to continue supporting children and families during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Champaign Community Board funding will equip DREAAM to implement, scale, and sustain effective programs and services that will provide and elevate children's mental health and wellness services, culturally relevant supports, and family-centered programs. These services will reach, teach, and heal Black and Brown children and youth—ages 3 to 24—and their parents in Champaign County. In addition, a portion of the funding will be designated to continue to expand programs and services specifically for girls ages 3 to 17. This funding will allow DREAAM to "think outside the box" to address violence and replace it with hope, healing, and health. Specifically, the requested funding will be used for the following:

1. To build a racially diverse team of program and support staff and highly qualified mental health professionals, including hiring licensed clinical social workers, wraparound facilitators, behavioral interventionists, and violence prevention counselors.
2. To design and operate a state-of-the-art early childhood center focusing on Black cultural education, wraparound services and early intervention, family mental health services, and culturally relevant parental engagement.
3. To expand and sustain wellness and gender-specific programming across the three target cities that will offer enriching, well-rounded opportunities, such as exposure to the arts, trauma healing, health education, and college and career exposure experiences.

Scope and Approach

Hope for the Future will initially implement a three-strategy approach that concentrates on outcomes of early intervention, violence prevention, health and wellness, and overall holistic development of children and adults in Champaign County. To achieve these outcomes, programs and services will be research-based, accessible, trauma-informed, culturally responsive, and people-centered.

Specifically, H4F will develop a program team who represent and reflect the racial and cultural identity of the target population; program and support staff, volunteers, and partners will form strong relationships and have culturally informed tools; data will drive the implementation, and structural scope of the proposed work; and last, but not least, H4F will embrace respect and love throughout all programming. A "village-building" approach of new and existing partnerships will be used to actualize the outcomes of H4F. It will take a connected, mighty village of partners and people to mentor, volunteer, provide services, evaluate, and, most importantly, change lives.

The proposed scope of work is to develop and implement evidence-based impact strategies and practices across three small, urban, high-hope cities with the vision of impacting over 1,000 people. The impact strategies are:

Strategy One (1) – Wellness for ALL. This strategy will have specific programming targeting well-being, health, and development and providing free, community-based artistic, physical, and mental health, culturally enriching programming, and self-care practices. Broader services will be offered for parent learning and family resiliency.

Proposed Work:

- Extensive training, skill building, and development of community members, practitioners, and clinicians in trauma healing, effective parenting, restorative justice, and gun violence therapy

- Design and re-purpose the former Greyhound space in the Illinois Terminal as a trauma-informed, centralized community resource space for referrals, and linkage, employment services, and other efforts to foster hope
- Expand Wellness for ALL and DREAAM girls programming to Urbana and Rantoul

Strategy Two (2) – Hope for Boys. H4F will expand programming to reach, teach, and empower boys involved in and/or at risk of being involved in gangs and the juvenile justice system. Expanded programming will include restorative justice, peer leadership training, mental health services, and exposure opportunities to careers and college. To support the health and development of girls, male participants in this program will also receive education about fostering positive perceptions of girls and women, developing allyship with them, and reducing negative behaviors, including violence against them.

Proposed work:

- Develop curricula and innovation to prevent and reduce violence across Champaign County
- Develop and pilot a mentoring and life coaching program to address the mentoring gap

Strategy Three (3) – Black Family Health. H4F will develop a new program dedicated to serving families of Black boys in pre-kindergarten through second grade. The program will provide intensive wraparound services to address the child's mental health needs and equip parents with knowledge, skills, and training to address health needs. In addition, this strategy will narrow the opportunity gap in early childhood services by creating high-quality early childhood education focused on Black cultural pride, children's mental health, and parental involvement.

Proposed work:

- Design, equip, implement, and evaluate a high quality, state-of-the-art early childhood program model
- Expand the early intervention wraparound program to Urbana and Rantoul

Requested funds will support the following principal results of H4F. These results include:

1. Children and adults who have experienced trauma and/or impacted by COVID-19 will have increased support available.
2. Child well-being indicators will increase and improve children's mental health and wellness.
3. Decrease in school and community violence.
4. Communities will have early intervention and prevention resources and a sustainable path to reduce gun violence in the future.

Proposed Partners

The following existing partnerships will be involved in Hope for the Future:

Banks Bridgewater Lewis Fine Arts Academy
Bradley Learning Center
Broadmeadow Elementary School
Carle Illinois College of Medicine
Champaign Unit 4 School District
College of Education, University of Illinois
Cunningham Children's Home
Foster Grandparents Program
Head Start, Champaign County Regional Planning Commission
Helping Our Youth Change Everyday (HOYCE)
Office of Public Engagement, Chancellor's Office, University of Illinois
Rantoul Township High School
School of Social Work, University of Illinois
Urbana High School – Anti-Violence Collective
Urbana Park District

Funding Request

DREAAM Opportunity Center is requesting \$500,000 to operationalize the scope of work, goals and proposed outcomes of Hope for the Future. Please see the proposed budget for more information.



**Hope for the Future
Proposed Budget for
Champaign County Board Funding**

Line Item	Amount	Narrative
Personnel – Associate Program Director, Hope for the Future	\$55,000	The Associate Program Director position will work under the leadership of Mr. Tracy D. Dace, DREAM Founder and Program Director of Hope for the Future, to implement and manage the multifaceted components and partnerships of Hope for the Future across Champaign County.
Benefits and Payroll Taxes	\$5,000	Funding is needed to provide health benefits and cover payroll taxes for the Associate Program Director.
Strategy 1 – Wellness for ALL	\$100,000	Strategy 1 funding will support the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive wellness training of practitioners and clinicians (\$30,000) • Community resource space at Illinois Terminal (\$30,000) • Expand wellness programming (\$40,000)
Strategy 2 – Hope for Boys	\$60,000	Strategy 2 funding will support the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gang and violence prevention programming and supplies in Urbana and Rantoul (30,00) • Mentoring program development and supplies (\$30,000)

<p>Strategy 3 – Black Family Health</p>	<p>\$250,000</p>	<p>Half of the funding request will support Strategy 3, which is the development of the early childhood initiative. These funds will cover the costs of the equipment, supplies, training, curriculum development, evaluation, and sustainability planning of the proposed program model (\$150,000). In addition, this funding will expand early intervention wraparound services to Urbana and Rantoul (\$100,000).</p>
<p>Contractual Services</p>	<p>\$30,000</p>	<p>Contractual services will include transportation (\$24,000) and accounting services (\$6,000). DREAM will use various forms of transportation to increase participation of children and families in services and programming. Accounting administration is important to increase accountability and compliance of American Rescue Plan Act funds and financial reporting to the Champaign County Board.</p>
<p>Total</p>	<p>\$500,000</p>	