

CITY OF URBANA CITY COUNCIL ARPA PRESENTATIONS

DATE: Tuesday, December 13, 2022; Wednesday, December 14, 2022; Thursday, December 15, 2022

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: 400 South Vine Street, Urbana, IL 61801

AGENDA

- A. Call to Order and Roll Call
- B. Approval of Public Input Rules
- C. Public Input
- D. ARPA Presentations
 - #1: Carle Foundation Hospital: Hope Village: A tiny homes community with intensive case management for chronically homeless and medically fragile homeless individuals
 - #2: City of Champaign Township: Strides Low Barrier Shelter-70 E. Washington St. Champaign, IL 61820
 - #3: C-U at Home: Pathways to Progress
 - #4: Cunningham Township Supervisor's Office: Bridge to Home: Filling Gaps in Local Homeless and Housing Services
 - #5: Habitat for Humanity of Champaign County: First-time home ownership counseling
 - #6: Housing Authority of Champaign County: Steer Place Renovation Project
 - #7: Immigrant Services of Champaign-Urbana: Affordable Housing for Poor Immigrants
 - #8: Northpointe Development II Corporation: Prairie Ridge Apartments
 - #9: Housing Authority of Champaign County: Affordable Housing Single Room Occupancy Project
 - #10: Union Development Holdings, LLC, an affiliate of The Annex Group: Union at Bradley
 - #11: University YMCA (New American Welcome Center): COVID-19 Recovery for Immigrant Communities
 - #12: Housing Authority of Champaign County, YouthBuild: YouthBuild: Bridging the Gap
 - #13: KidAlytics: Data Science
 - #14: Salt and Light: Workplace Readiness Program

Meeting continued to the next day (Wednesday, December 14th at 7:00 p.m. at the City Building at 400 Vine St. Urbana, IL 61801)

E. ARPA Presentations (Wednesday, December 14, 2022)

#15: Champaign County Environmental Stewards: Establish a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility

#16: Champaign County Economic Development Corporation: Solving the Talent Attraction Equation in Champaign County

#17: Eastern Illinois Foodbank: Electric Cargo Vans & Charging Station

#18: Champaign County Health Care Consumers: Special Populations Outreach and Enrollment for Health, Food, and Housing Security

#19: Common Ground Food Co-op: Common Ground Food For All Food Accessibility Program

#20: Red Herring Vegetarian Restaurant: Handmade Harvest; Healthy Meals for Families Facing Food Insecurity

#21: Sola Gratia Farm: Community Farm Expansion for Enhanced Sustainable Fresh Food Production, Engagement and Consumption

#22: Champaign County Economic Development Corporation: COVID-19 Recovery: Urbana Small Business Microloan Fund (Justine PETERSEN)

#23: The HOYCE Center: The Blessing Bank

#24: The Well Experience: Well Family Care Program

#25: TRAUMA SURVIVORS HEAL 2: Trauma Survivors Heal 2

#26: Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Clinic: Reducing Gun Violence through Community Trauma Informed Care

#27: Champaign County Crime Stoppers: CS Urbana ARPA

Meeting continued to the next day (Thursday, December 15th at 7:00 p.m. at the City Building at 400 Vine St. Urbana, IL 61801)

F. ARPA Presentations (Thursday, December 15, 2022)

#28: FirstFollowers: Urbana Community Peace Hub

#29: Application withdrawn

#30: Angel's Youth Center: Angel's Youth Center Program

#31: Bradley Learning Center: Bradley Expansion

#32: Creative Children's Center: Creative Children's Center

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#33: Urbana SD 116: Urbana School District Alternative Education
#34: Greater Champaign County AMBUCS: AMBUCS Park Wellness Upgrades
#35: Illinois Futbol Club: Illinois FC youth soccer program
#36: Soccer Planet: Soccer Planet or Soccer Planet expansion
#37: The Urbana Free Library: Community Connections Youth Programming Specialist
#38: Urbana Neighborhood Connections Center: Operation UNCC Boost
#39: Urbana Park District: Urbana Park District Health & Wellness Center
#40: Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center: ACCESS IMC
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G. Adjournment

PUBLIC INPUT

The City of Urbana welcomes Public Input during open meetings of the City Council, the City Council's Committee of the Whole, City Boards and Commissions, and other City-sponsored meetings. Our goal is to foster respect for the meeting process, and respect for all people participating as members of the public body, city staff, and the general public. The City is required to conduct all business during public meetings. The presiding officer is responsible for conducting those meetings in an orderly and efficient manner. Public Input will be taken in the following ways:

Email Input

Public comments must be received prior to the closing of the meeting record (at the time of adjournment unless otherwise noted) at the following: citycouncil@urbanaillinois.us. The subject line of the email must include the words "PUBLIC INPUT" and the meeting date. Your email will be sent to all City Council members, the Mayor, City Administrator, and City Clerk. Emailed public comments labeled as such will be incorporated into the public meeting record, with personal identifying information redacted. Copies of emails will be posted after the meeting minutes have been approved.

Written Input

Any member of the public may submit their comments addressed to the members of the public body in writing. If a person wishes their written comments to be included in the record of Public Input for the meeting, the writing should so state. Written comments must be received prior to the closing of the meeting record (at the time of adjournment unless otherwise noted).

Verbal Input

Protocol for Public Input is one of respect for the process of addressing the business of the City. Obscene or profane language, or other conduct that threatens to impede the orderly progress of the business conducted at the meeting is unacceptable.

Public comment shall be limited to no more than three (3) minutes per person. The Public Input portion of the meeting shall total no more than a half hour, unless otherwise shortened or extended by majority vote of the public body members present. The presiding officer or the city clerk or their designee, shall monitor each speaker's use of time and shall notify the speaker when the allotted time has expired. A person may participate and provide Public Input once during a meeting and may not cede time to another person, or split their time if Public Input is held at two (2) or more different times during a meeting. The presiding officer may give priority to those persons who indicate they wish to speak on an agenda item upon which a vote will be taken.

The presiding officer or public body members shall not enter into a dialogue with citizens. Questions from the public body members shall be for clarification purposes only. Public Input shall not be used as a time for problem solving or reacting to comments made but, rather, for hearing citizens for informational purposes only.

In order to maintain the efficient and orderly conduct and progress of the public meeting, the presiding officer of the meeting shall have the authority to raise a point of order and provide a verbal warning to a speaker who engages in the conduct or behavior proscribed under "Verbal Input". Any member of the public body participating in the meeting may also raise a point of order with the presiding officer and request that they provide a verbal warning to a speaker. If the speaker refuses to cease such conduct or behavior after being warned by the presiding officer, the presiding officer shall have the authority to mute the speaker's microphone and/or video presence at the meeting. The presiding officer will inform the speaker that they may send the remainder of their remarks via e-mail to the public body for inclusion in the

meeting record.

Accommodation

If an accommodation is needed to participate in a City meeting, please contact the City Clerk's Office at least 48 hours in advance so that special arrangements can be made using one of the following methods:

- Phone: 217.384.2366

- Email: <u>CityClerk@urbanaillinois.us</u>

ARPA Applications: Organization, Project, Score, and Requested Funding

	Presentat	Organization, Project, Score, and Requested Funding	Average Score		Requested Funding
Case Id	ion # Organization Name	Project Name	(Max 30)		Amount
30286	33 Urbana SD 116	Urbana School District Alternative Education	29.3	\$	850,000
30323	U4 City of Urbana	Urbana Roof Repair & Replacement Program	28.7	\$	250,000
30309	39 Urbana Park District	Urbana Park District Health & Wellness Center	28.5	\$	3,300,000
30334	U2. City of Urbana	Sanitary Sewer Lateral Lining Pilot Program	28.0	\$	1,296,000
30350	U1 City of Urbana	Green Stormwater Infrastructure Grant Program	27.7	\$	1,100,000
20274	Champaign County Economic Development	COVID-19 Recovery: Urbana Small Business Microloan Fund (Justine	27.7		455.000
30374	22 Corporation	PETERSEN)	27.5	\$	475,000
30317	14 Salt and Light	Workplace Readiness Program ACCESS IMC	26.8	\$	346,200 149,903
30321	40 Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center 37 The Urbana Free Library		26.5	\$ \$	370,733
30382 30277	17 Eastern Illinois Foodbank	Community Connections Youth Programming Specialist Electric Cargo Vans & Charging Station	26.3	\$	133,000
30307	20 Red Herring Vegetarian Restaurant	Handmade Harvest; Healthy Meals for Families Facing Food Insecurity	26.0	\$	24,985
30307	20 Ked Herring Vegetarian Kestatriant	Trandmade Traitvest, Treating Means for Franines Facing Food Insecurity	20.0	ې	24,703
30324	12 Housing Authority of Champaign County, YouthBuild	YouthBuild: Bridging the Gap	26.0	\$	400,000
30328	5 Habitat for Humanity of Champaign County	First-time home ownership counseling	26.0	\$	50,000
30326	8 Northpointe Development II Corporation	Prairie Ridge Apartments	25.8	\$	800,000
30372	9 Housing Authority of Champaign County	Affordable Housing - Single Room Occupancy Project	25.5	\$	500,000
		Community Farm Expansion for Enhanced Sustainable Fresh Food Production,			
30284	21 Sola Gratia Farm	Engagement and Consumption	25.3	\$	750,000
20200	44 II WMCA AL A W/ 1	COMID 10 B	25.2		(22,000
30288	11 University YMCA (New American Welcome Center) 19 Common Ground Food Co-op	COVID-19 Recovery for Immigrant Communities Common Ground Food For All Food Accessibility Program	25.3 25.3	\$ \$	622,000 45,000
30357	34 Greater Champaign County AMBUCS	AMBUCS Park Wellness Upgrades	25.0	ş	307,881
30337	54 Greater Champaign County AMDOCS	Special Populations Outreach and Enrollment for Health, Food, and Housing	23.0	ې	307,001
30379	18 Champaign County Health Care Consumers	Security	25.0	s	818,716
30352	28 FirstFollowers	Urbana Community Peace Hub	24.8	\$	158,400
30292	4 Cunningham Township Supervisor's Office	Bridge to Home: Filling Gaps in Local Homeless and Housing Services	24.3	\$	1,199,452
30375	38 Urbana Neighborhood Connections Center	Operation UNCC Boost	24.3	\$	100,000
30327	27 Champaign County Crime Stoppers	CS Urbana ARPA	23.8	\$	100,000
	Champaign County Economic Development				
30381	16 Corporation	Solving the Talent Attraction Equation in Champaign County	23.8	\$	215,000
30366	3 C-U at Home	Pathways to Progress: Construction of Mid-Barrier Program Site	23.5	\$	4,000,000
30380	6 Housing Authority of Champaign County	Steer Place Renovation Project	23.5	\$	1,500,000
30312	7 Immigrant Services of Champaign-Urbana	Affordable Housing for Poor Immigrants	23.3	\$	268,800
	Union Development Holdings, LLC, an affiliate of The				
30329	10 Annex Group	Union at Bradley	23.3	\$	1,950,000
		Hope Village: A tiny homes community with intensive case management for			
30332	1 Carle Foundation Hospital	chronically homeless and medically fragile homeless individuals	23.3	\$	2,000,000
30315	2 City of Champaign Township	Strides Low Barrier Shelter-70 E. Washington St. Champaign, IL 61820	23.0	\$	2,985,199
30330	15 Champaign County Environmental Stewards	Establish a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility	21.8	\$	300,000
30376	26 Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Clinic	Reducing Gun Violence through Community Trauma Informed Care	21.8	\$	399,999
30351	3 C-U at Home	Pathways to Progress: Predevelopment & Site work	21.5	\$	400,000
30337	U3. City of Urbana	Student, Family, Community Engagement Sponsorship	21.3	\$	220,977
30349	U5 City of Urbana	Urbana Housing Navigation, Case Management, & Affordable Housing Units	20.0	\$	1,000,000
30302	24 The Well Experience	Well Family Care Program	18.8	\$	250,000
30370	13 KidAlystics	Data Science	18.8	\$	948,819
30353	25 TRAUMA SURVIVORS HEAL 2	Trauma Survivors Heal 2	18.3	\$	300,000
30294	30 Angel's Youth Center	Angel's Youth Center Program	16.8	\$	2,090,731
30373	23 The HOYCE Center	The Blessing Bank	15.3	\$	1,865,444
30295	31 Bradley Learning Center	Bradley Expansion	15.0	\$	1,385,227
30290	35 Illinois Futbol Club	Illinois FC youth soccer program	13.5	\$	360,000
30348	32 Creative Children's Center	Creative Children's Center	13.0	\$	260,000
30319	36 Soccer Planet	Soccer Planet or Soccer Planet expansion	12.3	\$	250,000

ARPA Urbana Executive Summary

Title

Hope Village: A tiny homes community with intensive case management for chronically homeless and medically fragile homeless individuals

Collaborators

Champaign County Health Care Consumers, The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and Carle Foundation Hospital

Problem

Chronically homeless as well as medically fragile homeless individuals have often exhausted their housing options bringing significant problems finding safe, reliable, and accessible housing. These individuals have unmet needs straining social services, health care, and the criminal justice system. They also frequently have co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders, as well as trauma from homelessness and/or incarceration. These behavioral health issues make it harder to address physical health issues and to adjust to traditional residences and apartment living. Often, when transitioning into more traditional housing, individuals can experience significant anxiety and feelings of isolation. Many violate apartment living rules by failing to pay rent, being noisy, engaging in ongoing substance abuse, having too many visitors, or letting other homeless friends stay with them. Those Hope Village will support are often discriminated against because of criminal backgrounds, source of rental payment, poor credit, and poor rental history. Therefore, it is imperative to ensure that these chronically homeless and medically fragile individuals have access to housing that is equipped with the resources needed to succeed with permanent housing.

Vision

The vision of Hope Village is to improve Urbana's housing system for those suffering from both chronically and medically fragile homelessness through coordinated and intensive case management, healthcare support, and residence in a tiny homes community.

Solution

We propose to create a community-centric village of 30 homes for individuals struggling with homelessness. Hope Village ('Village') is a solution to a societal problem, designed for chronically homeless and medically fragile homeless individuals. Residents would receive: 1) non-congregate transitional or permanent supportive housing, 2) along with intensive case management provided by Champaign County Health Care Consumers staff (CCHCC), and 3) access to a network of supportive organizations to improve physical and mental health. The Village is intended for those for whom our housing safety-net system has not worked. Hope Village seeks to improve housing and create community for those who have run out of options. Qualifying individuals for Village residency would be those who have exhausted their housing options in Urbana. This model is built on a 'community and housing first' framework by providing intensive and coordinated case management as well as a clean, safe, and supportive living environment with ease of access to kitchen space, a community center and garden, as well as a mobile medical unit.



In early 2022, the City of Champaign Township began discussions with staff at the City of Champaign as well as other local governments and nonprofits to address the overwhelming need for a 24/7 low barrier shelter in Champaign-Urbana. After extensive dialogue, the City of Champaign and City of Champaign Township entered into an intergovernmental agreement in which the City would fund, for a period of two years, the Township to operate a 24/7 low barrier shelter that would accommodate at least 50 men and 10 women.

City of Champaign Township

The City of Champaign Township has contributed significantly to the social service field and to those in need in Champaign County. The Township's general assistance, comprehensive emergency rental and mortgage assistance are just a few areas in which the Township has worked to address quality of life related issues. Additionally, the Township's CU at Work program, a nationally recognized program, provides homeless men and women an opportunity to work in the Township's Prosperity Gardens. This provided over 40 homeless men and women employment and 10 of those men and women permanent housing in the 2022 cohort alone. Additionally, the 1.5 acre urban farm provided thousands of pounds of fresh produce to the Beardsley Park neighborhood, Daily Bread, and the mobile market.

Strides Low Barrier Shelter

The Township purchased 70 E. Washington from CU at Home on December 2nd, 2022. The Township and CU at Home intend to implement a sheltering system in which CU at Home, through a mission change, will provide mid-level sheltering throughout Champaign and Urbana and the City of Champaign Township will open and operate a low barrier shelter at 70 E. Washington. The shelter will open in full operation on 12/12/2022 and will provide not only shelter but medical care, mental health care, comprehensive case management, safety personnel, as well as other services as needed. The shelter will also operate as a drop-in center and have laundry, basic need supplies, showers, and other services for those in Champaign County that need them. The shelter will be operated and staffed with a minimum of 2 case managers and 2 safety personnel as well as medical staff. Additionally, mental health services will be on site regularly to address client needs. During peak times Strides will be staffed with 3 case managers and 3 safety personnel to address higher demand. As noted, Strides fills a significant need in Champaign County to address homelessness.

The Need

The Township has hired 23 personnel to operate the shelter. Staff stared on 11/21/22 and have been onboarding at the Township. The staff has been training on conflict resolution, mental health strategies, medical first aide, and usage of Narcan and other procedures. The shelter is funded in it's entirety through December 31, 2024. As with all 24/7 operations, personnel costs are by far the most significant costs. The Township is pursuing additional funding from community partners such as other municipalities, nonprofits, and educational institutions, to extend operations of the shelter beyond 2024 and indefinitely. The Township's request for funding through this grant cycle, if funded in its entirety, would extend the shelter's 24/7 operations through December 31, 2026.

53 Logan St. Champaign, IL 61820 phone: 217-403-6120 fax: 217-403-6125 cctownship.com



C-U at Home PO Box 8816, Champaign, IL 61826 A 501(c)(3) Organization/EIN #45-3132278

Melissa Courtwright, Executive Director Melissa@cuathome.us/217-818-4569

C-U at Home Executive Summary

Pathways to Progress: A Strategic Framework for Mid-Barrier Programming

December 2022

The Need: Accessibility to stable housing is one of the most significant goals that an individual can reach. In Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, having one's most basic needs met is the beginning of stability, and will ultimately lead to self-fulfillment in the form of community integration. Of the estimated total population of 87k in Champaign County, the summer 2022 point-in-time count conducted by the CSPH indicated, that 194 individuals are homeless. An article from the Economic Roundtable in January 2021 projected that the pandemic recession will increase chronic homelessness by 49% over the next four years, and as also published in Market Watch in January 2021, there will be twice the level of homelessness since the Great Recession. While there is current funding for the implementation of the low-barrier portion of the shelter system, no funding has been set aside for services or a suitable environment to address the needs of mid-barrier clients. Mid-barrier clients are defined as part of the system of care in which individuals experiencing homelessness are provided with intensive case management in an environment that supports stability and community integration. Historically, 100 beds have been necessary to meet the needs of those low- and mid-barrier individuals experiencing homelessness. The City of Champaign Township STRIDES low-barrier shelter will serve 60 individuals. C-U at Home is proposing constructing and running a mid-barrier shelter that will serve 40, filling the gap in services in the Urbana-Champaign community.

The Solution: C-U at Home seeks to provide appropriate mid-barrier housing support services, promoting stability and community integration. These services provide the best outcomes in a trauma informed environment. An environment that is trauma informed integrates trauma informed principals into not only the services but also the design structure of the environment. Providing housing support that leads to community integration through the physical design structure requires realizing how the physical environment affects identity, worth and dignity, and how it promotes empowerment. An appropriate noncongregate shelter provides spaces that are inviting, demonstrate safety, and provide some degree of privacy, while not interfering with staff needs to support clients in reaching their goals.

The vision is to develop an inclusive, trauma-informed campus that not only provides space to meet the gap in services for shelter housing (40 individuals) but includes space for those individuals to thrive. C-U at Home is proposing a four-story facility that is non-congregate but provides communal space. This environment would allow for a mixture of private and semi-private rooms alongside shared living areas

Rationale for such a concept:

- C-U at Home is committed to designing the mid-barrier program to be sustainable. Operating out
 of one facility would provide for a reduction in staff cost and other expenses estimated at
 \$400,000. Total cost savings are estimated at \$400,000. It is anticipated that once the facility is
 fully operational, C-U at Home, with its ability to fundraise and partner with the CCMHB, will be
 able to fund expenses with no further allocation of government funding.
- A facility that houses Mid-barrier 1, 2 and 3 provides a structure to develop a program of Peer-to-Peer Support, a model that has proven to increase the rate of stability for those in residence.
- Locating such facility in the City of Urbana provides the space needed between the low-barrier and mid-barrier shelter. The mid-barrier shelter truly becomes the goal for those in the lowbarrier, congregate shelter. The distance between each encourages stability as well as the ability to build strong relationships with the social service network in the City of Urbana.

Grant Request: Pre-development/design funding - \$400,000/Capital funds for facility - \$4,000,000

Bridge to Home: Filling Gaps in Local Homeless & Housing Services



Cunningham Township

Danielle Chynoweth, Supervisor 205 WEST GREEN ST • URBANA, IL 61801 (217) 384-4144 • FAX: (217) 367-7063

WWW.CUNNINGHAMTOWNSHIP.ORG

Urbana ARPA request: \$1,199,452

Bridge to Home is the result of 5 years of work by CTSO to identify and fill gaps in local homelessness services. It meets the council goal of "reducing housing costs for those that need it most" by providing a continuum of housing and services for local residents experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity so they may access and maintain permanent housing.

Funds for expansion leverage 7 different funding sources and 13 partnerships to ensure CTSO can build capacity and sustain Bridge to Home long haul – saving lives and building strong, healthy families. (See Letters of Support or MOUs from USD 116, Housing Authority of Champaign County, City of Urbana, CU Public Health District, City of Champaign Township, CU at Home, Crisis Nursery, and others).

When fully funded, Bridge to Home will be provide a this continuum of successful services:

- 1. **Street Outreach** to build trust with those who are still street homeless, after the opening of a 24/7 congregate shelter, and help them move to safety.
- 2. **School Outreach** to ensure this program funded with COVID dollars can continue to provide a safety net for families, preventing homelessness as well as responding to it.
- 3. **Emergency Housing** 12 units for literally homeless families and residents with disabilities and risk factors in congregate shelter, such as LGTBQ+ residents.
- 4. **Transitional Housing** 12 units to support participants who need more time to achieve permanent stable housing especially young parents, families with a disabled or medically fragile parent, parents re-entering from jail/prison, and immigrants.
- 5. Rapid Rehousing/Rental Assistance providing 1-12 months of rental assistance to those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, including expanded support for families who are unstably housed to move into independent housing.
- 6. **Housing Navigation & Supportive Services** to support residents from homelessness through emergency housing and, for those needing additional support (often due to trauma or disability) services to remain successfully housed.

Budget: This grant request is focused on the following. That said, we are open to working with funders on the areas that best meet their goals and funding criteria.

- 1. Facilities Improvements/Costs \$280,874 for safety, accessibility and energy efficiency improvements.
- 2. **Personnel** \$528,578 to support program expansion we will sustain these after 4 years.
- Direct Financial Assistance \$390,000 in Rental Assistance to respond to COVID dislocations as well as support McKinney Vento homeless families with income to move into independent housing.
 NOTE: Funding from ARPA \$ is important as HHI funds may not be used for short term rental assistance.

Executive Summary

Introduction

Rent payments overburden those living in Champaign County with over 50% of renters paying rent so high that they cannot afford other necessities. Homeownership helps reduce this burden for low-income families and creates an environment for increased success in school, better health outcomes, less reliance on public assistance, and increased community involvement.

Issue

For many potential low-income homeowners, the dream of homeownership is out of reach. Homeownership, more specifically homeownership counseling, provides the vital piece for low-income individuals to develop the skills and knowledge needed to transform their lives through housing. Habitat focuses on individuals below 60% of the area median income with a specific emphasis on closing the racial ownership gap. In Champaign County, 62% of white families own homes but only 28% of black families own homes.

Solution

As the only HUD-certified housing counseling agency in the county, the Habitat counseling program allows us to assist low-income Urbana residents that are interested in becoming first time homebuyers. The HUD housing counseling session provided will help qualify the potential homeowner for down payment assistance that would not be available otherwise. In addition, the HUD certification that Habitat for Humanity of Champaign County maintains has allowed us to assist numerous Urbana residents who needed rental and mortgage assistance over the last year. We were able to serve over 200 residents in Champaign County that had the potential for eviction or foreclosure--demonstrating that counseling serves a preventative measure as well.

Evidence

Since 2006, Habitat has built 124 homes with two homes under construction in Urbana currently. A component of the home building program is a free financial education program focused on low-income, first-time homeownership in Champaign County. The program gives individuals access to resources like down payment assistance, and the support needed to make sound decisions to achieve and sustain financial security. It is about reaching financial goals to build financial health, build wealth, and ensure permanent housing stability. Habitat serves over one hundred families a year through the program; it is free to anyone living in Champaign County.

Cost

- We are requesting funds for the Pre and Post Purchase Housing Counseling and Affordable Home Ownership Workshops. This includes a series of ten group courses and one-on-one counseling when warranted.
- Our request does consider the partial funding for the program that we receive from the United Way, PNC foundation, and the CRG banking consortium.
- In total, we would need an additional \$50,000 to fund the program for one year. If funds are not awarded to Habitat, we would have to use private donations to fund the program, taking away from our house builds and low-income homeownership in Urbana.



2008 N. Market Street Champaign, Illinois 61822 Phone: (217) 378-7100

Fax: (217) 378-7113

Oscar Steer Place Renovation

Executive Summary

Organization Overview

The Housing Authority of Champaign County (HACC) is a municipal corporation organized pursuant to the Illinois Housing Authority Act. The jurisdiction of HACC includes all incorporated and unincorporated areas of the County of Champaign, Illinois. The Housing authority is governed by a seven-member Board of Commissioners. HACC has been a champion in the affordable housing arena for over seven decades. As a Move to Work (MTW) agency, HACC employs cutting edge strategies to administer housing assistance programs, develop and/or redevelop housing communities, and engage individuals in self-sufficiency initiatives. HACC makes considerable efforts to ensure adequate housing for low income and very low-income housing families and individuals. This includes multifamily housing, single family housing, senior housing, veteran housing, housing for individuals experiencing disabilities, reentry housing, and a variety of other underserved populations.

Purpose

The primary goal we are addressing with the use of the ARPA funds is to reduce housing costs for those who need it most. HACC's nonprofit affiliate Oak Grove Development Corporation will use the funds to aid in the rehabilitation of Oscar Steer Place (Steer Place), a 108-unit, senior affordable housing project in Urbana IL. Originally constructed in 1973, Steer place needs significant improvements to remain a viable housing resource in the city of Urbana.

The rehabilitation will focus on providing structural upgrades, updating units, making the property more accessible, adding security features, improving the indoor air quality, and providing community spaces within the building to improve the quality of life existing and future tenants. The ARPA funds will ultimately preserve the affordable housing at Steer Place and protect Urbana's vulnerable Senior population. The renovation of Steer Place will not only help to sustain the development but will also reduce housing costs and increase health benefits for the tenants. A new roof will provide lower energy bills, while the removal of asbestos and a new air filtration system will decrease potential health hazards

Affordable Housing for Poor Immigrants From Immigrant Services of Champaign-Urbana (ISCU) EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ISCU's project seeks to reduce homelessness and threats of eviction for poor immigrants in Urbana by offering rental assistance. The funding requested for the entire period of 4 budget years (2023-2026) is \$756,410.00. Please note that the amount listed in the application under B.2 is incorrect due to a clerical error.

- 1. Goal and unmet need: We will use the Urbana ARPA funds to provide financial support to keep immigrant families in their homes. The high cost of housing in our city often blocks poor immigrants from becoming selfsufficient. Post-pandemic, a large percentage of poor immigrants continue to be unemployed or underemployed, and thus in danger of losing their housing. The ample funding for rental assistance during the first two pandemic years, provided by federal and state agencies and distributed here through CCRPC and charitable organizations like ours, has dried up nearly completely since the spring of 2022, driving up evictions of immigrants. Once they have been evicted, collateral damages and costs to local institutions are substantial. 2. ISCU's capacity to carry out the project: With the onset of the pandemic, both the rapidly rising demand for help and our own growing capacity to respond to rental assistance applications increased dramatically. Between April of 2020 and November 2022, ISCU processed \$167,000 worth of rental and utility assistance to nearly 170 families. We developed application forms, learned how to collect the required supplemental information from the clients, landlords and employers and established criteria for evaluating the urgency of each application. ISCU has worked since its inception in 2017 with Urbana's diverse immigrant communities. ISCU provides a comprehensive set of services—from housing assistance to access to healthcare, to support for transportation, education, provision of household goods, and legal assistance. ISCU's holistic approach has drawn hundreds of families to rely on our services. Families turn to us when they need help. Since 2021, ISCU has received – alone or in partnership with other immigrant rights organizations - five grants totaling over \$600,000 to work on COVID-19 mitigation among immigrants and establish mental health care for immigrants in Champaign-Urbana.
- 3. Methods of service delivery and cooperation with other organizations: ISU will create a new electronic ISCU Rental Assistance Application form; communicate with various immigrant communities about the availability of rental assistance; send the application form to those who ask for rental assistance help; get in touch (through phone or in person) with applicants to offer help filling out the form; inform them about the supporting documentation required; verify the truth of the information in the application; approve or reject the application; process the check for the landlord in a seamless and efficient manner to avoid threats of eviction and accumulated late fees. An experienced Community Health Navigator on ISCU's staff will dedicate their position to this work. We will closely cooperate with other charitable organizations and institutions to assure the broadest reach of rental assistance to immigrants in Urbana.
- 4. Budget and sustainability of this project beyond this grant: We are budgeting to help 8 families per month (or 96 families per year) with an average of two months of rental assistance (\$1,400). This is a realistic workload for our staff and should make a significant dent in helping at-risk Urbana immigrants avoid eviction. We are already planning further applications to public and private agencies to make this project sustainable beyond the four years of ARPA funding.
- 5. Measuring the success of the funded program: There is an immediate measure of success by quantifying the number of evictions avoided by the program's assistance. ISCU will use a holistic approach to also improve beyond rental assistance better support for the basic needs of the family and opportunities to improve language skills and employment opportunities. We will track the number of families served and the amount of assistance provided; the number of evictions avoided; the number of families still requiring assistance after rental assistance is provided, and the number of families served who become stable/self-sufficient.

Prairie Ridge Apartments

1603 E. Washington and 1001/1003 S. Lierman Urbana, IL

Executive Summary

Northpointe Development is excited to present an application to the City of Urbana requesting \$800,000 of ARPA funds for our Prairie Ridge Apartments development (the "Project). This new construction development will provide 40 apartments for households of all ages at 30%, 50%, 60%, and 80% of Area Median Income (AMI). The proposed unit mix is 15 one-bedroom units, 15 two-bedroom units, and 10 three-bedroom units. This would become the first 9% tax credit development in Urbana since 2015.

Prairie Ridge Apartments presents a unique opportunity for the City of Urbana to support a new, high-quality affordable housing development that emphasizes the health and well-being of residents. With proximity to Urbana's planned comprehensive indoor health and wellness facility, building a health centric community is Northpointe's top priority.





The development will feature thoughtful amenities including a fitness center, playground space, and community room. The building will be certified under Enterprise's Green Building program and include large units that feature in-unit washers/dryers, luxury vinyl tile flooring, high-speed internet hookups, ceiling fans, walk-in closets, stove/oven, microwave, and garbage disposal. Prairie Ridge Apartments will redefine what affordable housing means in the City of Urbana.

Prairie Ridge Apartments will be built as a public-private partnership between Northpointe Development, the City of Urbana, the Champaign County Housing Authority, and existing neighbors. This includes:

- The City of Urbana donating the subject property
- Champaign County Housing Authority serving as the lead sponsor on our tax credit application, the majority owner of the development, and the property management agent
- A comprehensive community engagement process
- Low-density buildings that align with existing infrastructure and accommodate various family sizes
- Urbana residents and employees of local businesses will be prioritized during lease-up
- Deployment of Moving to Work Project Based Vouchers to assist very low-income households
- Eight units dedicated to IHDA's Statewide Referral Network targeting households at the 30% AMI level with a head of household who has a disability/illness, including physical, developmental, or mental limitation, substance abuse disorder, HIV/AIDS, or is homeless or at risk of homelessness

Financing for the project will include federal tax credit equity generated from the sale of 9% Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, Illinois Affordable Housing Tax Credits (IHTC), permanent financing from Legacy Bank & Trust, soft financing from the Illinois Housing Development Authority, local City of Urbana financial support, and deferred developer fees.



Affordable Housing - Single Room Occupancy Project

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview

Established in 1943, the Housing Authority of Champaign County (HACC) has been a champion in the affordable housing arena for over seven decades. As a Move to Work (MTW) agency, HACC employs cutting edge strategies to administer housing assistance programs, develop and/or redevelop housing communities, and engage individuals in self-sufficiency initiatives.

HACC will utilize ARPA funds to reduce housing costs for those that need it most. This will be accomplished by investing in a single room occupancy project for acquisition and renovation. The project will provide 40-60 non-age restrictive long-term, safe and affordable housing units for individuals and/or families that are housing insecure.

The Problem

Although temporary housing assistance exist locally for individuals and families that are housing insecure, homeless or atrisk of homelessness, there is a need for permanent and affordable housing.

In the spring of 2022, HACC opened its waiting list for the Housing Choice Voucher program. The waiting list was opened for two weeks but drew in over 5,000 applicants, only 1200 of which were retained. This data demonstrates the community-wide need for affordable housing, especially with the cost of living on the rise since the start of the pandemic. Of those on HACC's current waiting list, almost 600 of them reside in Urbana.

HACC services all segments of the low-to-moderate income population in Champaign County and in 2021, over 2,200 households and 5,000 individuals were assisted through our various rental assistance programs. Of those households, 83% are black, 30% are disabled and 86% are extremely low-income (at or below 30% of the AMI). HACC participants are comprised of veterans, persons with disabilities, the elderly, and the working poor. HACC's participant demographics are reflective of the Urbana population most in need of affordable housing and this project will allow us to help meet that need.

The Solution

The Single Room Occupancy Project will help fill in the gap for permanent, affordable housing that is needed in our community. This project will increase the number of affordable housing units by 40-60 in Urbana providing at least 40 households with affordable, permanent and safe housing. HACC will also provide subsidies for each unit to maintain its affordability and provide long-term housing security for the individuals that need it most.

Additionally, supportive services and self-sufficiency activities will be made available to participants in this program. HACC will collaborate with the City of Urbana and the Champaign County Regional Planning Commission to execute this project.

Keys to Success

HACC's innovative approach, development experience and administrative capabilities demonstrate how our project will be effective in addressing the ARPA Funding Goal of lowering the cost of housing for those that need it most. In the past five years alone, HACC has invested \$100 million in the construction of affordable housing developments; five of which will generate 174 additional units of affordable housing. HACC currently manages 853 units of affordable housing and is responsible for the development and management of 16 local affordable housing communities.

HACC has the personnel, experience and knowledge to successfully implement the Single Room Occupancy Project and partnering with the City of Urbana and the Champaign County Regional Planning Commission will provide additional expertise and resources to ensure all metrics of the project are accomplished.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Union Development Holdings, LLC, an affiliate of The Annex Group: Union at Bradley

Union Development Holdings, LLC, an affiliate of The Annex Group, is proposing to develop quality, affordable rental housing in Urbana, a community with a rental market dominated by student housing, and where residents often must spend 35-percent or more of household income on housing. Our recent market study found that most existing apartments (99-percent) in Champaign County were built prior to 2010, and that none have been renovated since 2016. Additionally, many of the comparable apartment communities in this market maintain low vacancy rates and some even maintain waiting lists.

Union at Bradley will be a multi-family income-restricted development offered to family households targeting income averaged levels at or below 60-percent of the area median incomes (AMI), and this affordability will be maintained for a minimum 30-year period. The project is planned on ~14 acres of vacant, relatively flat land that is already zoned for medium density multi-family housing and has existing utilities at the site. The program consists of 220 units in eight, two and three-story buildings with a mix of 1-, 2-, 3-, and 4-bedroom apartments. All units will include modern amenities, in-unit washers and dryers, private balconies, open floor plans, and luxury-vinyl tile flooring. Amenities will feature a clubhouse building with on-site leasing/management, fitness room, a lounge with tv/kitchen, a computer room, and flex space for trainings, meetings, and workshops. There will be extensive surface parking, bicycle parking, and optional covered parking for interested residents. An outdoor playground is included, and an 8 ft. walking path will also be provided to connect residents to the future road extension and the greater Urbana bicycle/pedestrian network. The site is walking distance to 2 MTD bus stops offering alternate routes for mobility throughout the Champaign-Urbana area as well as access to the nearby Amtrak Station with more than 30 routes throughout the US. With close proximity to highway I-74, public transportation, multiple grocery stores, retail, restaurants, public amenities, and employment opportunities, this community will be ideally suited to individuals or families looking for a convenient and affordable place to call home.

At this time, we are requesting \$1.95 million of ARPA funds to assist with land acquisition and construction costs which are estimated at \$65.1 million. We anticipate closing on the property in January of 2024, with construction starting shortly thereafter. During construction, we anticipate the project will create approximately 50-70 construction jobs and will provide long-term economic benefits that will remain well after construction is complete. Construction completion with certificate of occupancy is projected to occur in November of 2025.

Once constructed, the Union at Bradley development will provide new options for much needed housing and, as Annex will be the property manager, our team will also facilitate connections and education regarding available community resources. With the opening of each new community, the Annex management group works with incoming clients to identify services, assistance, training, programs, and support needed or desired most, as determined by the residents themselves. Our goal is to have an ongoing, long-term collaboration that establishes a consistency of access to needed supports for all residents of our communities.

The Annex Group is a developer, owner, general contractor, and property manager with years of experience building successful multi-family communities that include affordable and workforce housing. Within the past 3 years alone, we have been awarded and successfully constructed from the ground up over a dozen affordable and student housing projects, positively leveraging over \$10 million in grants, ARPA, Township, HOME and County funds in a variety of states. We hope the City Council will consider approving this request, which will help us to the bring the Union at Bradley affordable housing development to the City of Urbana.





Executive Summary

COVID-19 Recovery for Immigrant Communities
University YMCA (New American Welcome Center)

Urbana ARPA Funding Goal: Reduce housing costs for those that need it most

Amount Requested: \$622,000 (7/1/2023 - 6/30/2026)

Contact: Gloria Yen, nawcgrants@universityymca.org, 217-790-7895

The Problem. The pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on immigrant communities in Urbana. At the University Y's New American Welcome Center, we continue to see needs fueled by lasting effects related to the pandemic, such as layoffs, reduced hours, medical debt from COVID-19 hospitalization, debilitating long-covid symptoms, and more. Around 60% of our clients earn less than \$1,000 a month, and approximately one-third (33%) of our clients are Urbana residents. They are below the poverty line, struggle with unemployment, have limited English proficiency, and reside in mobile homes and/or in crowded conditions and rental units.

Proposed Intervention. We will provide direct financial assistance for low-income residents in need of rental and utility assistance while continuing to build our capacity to increase access to affordable housing in collaboration with community partners. Through ARPA funding, the City of Urbana can meaningfully reduce housing cost burden, residential instability, and forced moves for its foreign-born residents (18.3% of population). Studies have shown the added benefits of increased food security, mental wellbeing, educational outcomes, workforce development, and safety that accompany stable housing conditions. Funding this project will further solidify the City's commitment to the implementation of the Champaign County Welcoming Plan, an active framework for our shared pursuit of equitable access, civic engagement, economic opportunity, and safe and connected communities.

Immigrant-Centered Response. We provide holistic case management and service coordination for immigrants, refugees, and migrants in Urbana, and more broadly in Champaign County, regardless of legal status. Our community-responsive framework means that we effectively mobilize rapid response for emergency needs (e.g., COVID, Afghan arrivals), while simultaneously addressing ongoing needs that will continue to evolve (e.g., youth programming, housing insecurity, mental health access, small business relief, etc.). Our work is led largely by immigrants for immigrants – 8 out of 12 NAWC staff members are foreign-born. We have considerable experience – in service delivery and lived experience – in effectively administering direct assistance funds while addressing service gaps for immigrants by ensuring culturally and linguistically responsive services for our community's most vulnerable.

Administration. Funds will be jointly administered by the University Y's New American Welcome Center and The Refugee Center. Funds will support direct financial assistance (72.3%), personnel (19.3%), and administrative costs (8.4%). Both agencies are designated Illinois Welcoming Centers and have successful records of managing government and philanthropic funding at the local, state, and federal levels. Since the onset of the pandemic, the two agencies have distributed nearly 1M in direct assistance to immigrant families and have established processes for eligibility screenings and application assistance while offering a wide array of other wraparound support services.

Housing Authority of Champaign County



2008 N. Market Street Champaign, Illinois 61822 Phone: (217) 378-7100

Fax: (217) 378-7113

Executive Summary

Housing Authority of Champaign County YouthBuild: Bridging the Gap Project

YouthBuild is a community-based, pre-apprenticeship program designed to offer a unique second chance to young people. Our program is currently funded through the Department of Labor to serve 84 at-risk and disadvantaged youth between the ages of 16 and 24 who are high school dropouts, adjudicated youth, youth aging out of foster care, youth with disabilities, homeless youth, and other disconnected youth populations by providing basic education, occupational training, and leadership training while addressing several core issues important to low-income communities: affordable housing, education, employment, and leadership development. Students in our program earn an accredited High School diploma while also earning nationally recognized credentials in basic construction. Our program model is 50% classroom instruction and education, 40% hands-on instruction, and 10% leadership development.

During their tenure in the YouthBuild program participants also get the opportunity to earn the following certifications: Flaggers, Forklift, OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration), NCCER (National Center for Construction Education and Research), First Aid & CPR, Illinois Food Handlers Certification, Smart Money Financial Literacy Certification, Anger Management Certification, and a variety of other employment related certifications that make youth more marketable employees.

Since the inception of our program, Urbana youth have found difficulty accessing the services provided by YouthBuild due to the distance from their homes. This distance has not stopped the continued interest in the program as we have between 20-30 Urbana students on our waitlist at any given time. The proposed project is intended to expand the YouthBuild program by twenty additional youth who are exclusively Urbana residents. Under this proposal, youth will be serviced in the city of Urbana as opposed to our current location in Champaign.

We are requesting a total of \$400,000 in support of the YouthBuild Program. A proposed breakdown of services intended to be covered by this funding are below.

- \$100,000 We are requesting \$100,000 to secure a location in Urbana for approximately 18 months. The requested funds will go toward program site space rental/equipment, and general operations.
- \$100,000 The average cost of tuition for a YouthBuild student is \$10,000. The funds requested under this line item will cover a portion of tuition for 20 Urbana youth in partnership with the YouthBuild Coalition funds that were received earlier this year.
- \$100,000 Funding for two essential full-time staff positions (including fringe benefits) at Urbana site \$50,000 each (\$35,000 salary + \$15,000 fringe benefits).
- \$50,000 Supportive services for students in the program (transportation, childcare, counseling, etc.).
- \$50,000 post-secondary education certifications (application fees, transcripts, books, and tuition for 24- month certificates).

KidAytics 2302 W. John St. Champaign, IL 61821 (908) 313-2913 I kjenkins@kidalytics.com



Executive Summary: KidAlytics - Data Science Program

KidAlytics is a micro-credentialing platform that teaches youth (8-12 grade) and young adults (18-24 years old) data science so they can be employable that's mapped to industry. We offer programs that strengthen data, media, and digital literacy skills ingrained in critical thinking, strategic planning, and social-emotional learning that put students on the trajectory to learn skills for their future job that does not exist. The program focus on social capital in exposing students to industry leaders and peer interactions that stimulate thinking and valuable relationships.

Opportunity

In a time when information is everywhere, how do students navigate this data and utilize it in their communities and life to make a change? We have crafted programs that help strengthen the everyday curriculum by going beyond the minimum Common Core skills and building students' relationships across borders. Currently, the main challenge is how do we upskill the student and reskill the teacher.

Solution

KidAlytics programs help students look at data in many aspects of emerging opportunities in technology. We expose students to future employers, companies, venture capitalists, scientists, and developers, to name a few. Helping students to investigate public health, safety, economic recovery, and development. Some of our program offerings are:

- **Analytics Exploration** Exploring data through many lenses
- Mindset: Business Analytics Data and analytics intelligence to build strategy
- Upward: Professional and Career Tech Quest College and workforce development
- **Agriculture In Space:** Experiment to grow alfalfa on the International Space Station (ISS)
- Web3: Analytics Gaming Introduction to analytics and gaming

To ensure social capital building for the most vulnerable population, 65% of the participants will be from Urban with 70% serving from low-income and high-risk areas in Urbana. With 30% of participants from surrounding towns and 10-15% from around the state of IL, and 10% students from outside of the state.

Through our relationships with Women in Technology International, Lite Tuition, ILSTEM, Pod Labs, Unstoppable Domains, HUE, Roblox, Magnitude.io, Global Accelerator Network, Start Co., and many others we build the infrastructure of support and access.

Timeline and Costs

This project is set to start in FY2023 -FY2025 with an investment of \$983,037.61. The money allocated to help over 125 students in a three-year cohort will also provide outreach to more than 1000 students. In addition, this investment will help secure additional partnerships, technology, software, hardware, and subscriptions needed to help develop students' skills.

KidAytics 2302 W. John St. Champaign, IL 61821 (908) 313-2913 I kjenkins@kidalytics.com





Salt & Light Workplace Readiness Executive Summary

In talking about what they do, many organizations state a desire to alleviate poverty. We don't want to make the condition of poverty more bearable for those suffering in it; we want to help them overcome it. In wrestling with how we, as an organization, define "help" we arrived at a definition that included creating space and opportunity for individuals to effect lasting change in their lives. We believe clearly defining what help means is the first step in developing programs capable of changing lives and transforming our community.

Our Workplace Readiness Program will build upon the trust we have cultivated in the community, and our experience developing relationships to effectively work with individuals in poverty. Whether it is folks with developmental, physical, or social emotional disabilities, individuals reentering society from incarceration, people who have struggled with addiction, or just neighbors mired in generational cycles of poverty—we have been present for the last 19 years as a place of refuge where all are welcomed, affirmed, and challenged to grow.

In developing two different tracks for people in need we address opportunity and access for those folks with limited capacity who will likely need some form of help accessing basic resources indefinitely, as well as those for whom meaningful, self-sustaining employment outside of Salt & Light is a very realistic goal. In our Workplace Readiness Program, the first group will gain access to the things they need, but equally as important, they will find community, encouragement in realizing their full potential, and purpose as they work in their community. The second group will find all of this with additional structure, classes, and support to help them along their journey to self-sufficiency.

Every participant will attend our 19-session job readiness class, our 12-session financial education class, and have access to other supporting services. Additionally, they will be placed in affinity groups facilitated by trained volunteers for the purpose of mutual support, goal identification, and accountability. Along with meeting in these groups twice each month, participants will meet regularly with the Workplace Readiness Coordinator to evaluate progress on the plan they laid out. Participants will also receive coaching on the job as they earn store credit. This will lead to part-time employment with us or a business partner where they will continue to be coached as we work with them towards full-time employment.

Several years ago, in partnership with a couple of professors from the University of Illinois whose focus is program evaluation, we developed an organizational logic model which led to the development of participant questionnaires we will use as part of our measuring outcomes of the program. We will capture all relevant demographic information as well as several opportunities for both qualitative and quantitative measurements of individual progress across several different life domains.

Our funding request of \$346,200 will allow us to hire a full-time staff member to lead the program and fund the position through 2025, as well as half of the store credit participants will earn through that period. We are prepared to fund the other half along with all classroom and other miscellaneous expenses. During the life of the grant, we will work towards absorbing the grant-funded expenses into our annual budget, ensuring the program continues long after the funds are gone.

We believe by continuing to do for someone something they can or could do for themselves you diminish and disempower the individual. Our motivation is not because we believe "people should have to work for it". Rather, we believe every person is born with skills, gifts, and abilities, and we want to see them realize the fullness of who it is they were created to be.



Executive Summary

CCES proposes to use the requested \$300,000 of City of Urbana ARPA funds toward capital costs to establish a household hazardous waste (HHW) collection facility in Champaign County.

A safe and secure HHW collection program at a convenient HHW collection facility, open year-round, part-time, can better protect the health and safety of our community. The CCES proposal to establish a HHW collection facility takes into consideration:

- The inherent risks of HHW in our homes and in our environment.
- Awareness that inadequate or improper management of HHW is a contamination threat to the Mahomet Aquifer, the primary source of drinking water for Champaign County.
- Why convenience is a key factor to consider in providing HHW collection option to residents.
- Results of the HHW collection survey that most residents prefer the convenience of a permanent HHW collection facility, one open part-time, and year-round.

CCES presents its funding strategy and preliminary budget for the CCES project to establish and operate a HHW collection facility. CCES plans to leverage Illinois EPA annually appropriated funds support to the new HHW collection facility to cover the transportation and processing costs of HHW collected.

To date, CCES has received \$650,000 toward capital costs to establish a HHW collection facility.

CCES is preparing to conduct a major broad-based community capital fundraising campaign that will be needed to raise the remaining funds of \$1,850K - \$2,350K for this project.

The CCES project to establish, operate, and maintain a HHW Collection Facility in Champaign County will help ensure a safe environment for our residents for years to come.

CCES History

In 2017, a task force led by Susan Monte at the Champaign County Regional Planning Commission held a series of meetings to explore a best path forward to address the long-standing need for convenient, safe, and environmentally responsible household hazardous waste (HHW) management options for residents of Champaign County and nearby counties. A key task force recommendation was to form a nonprofit organization to advance and support this effort.

The Special HHW Task Force identified the need to implement a regional solution to the problem as the most feasible, efficient, and sustainable solution.

The Champaign County Environmental Stewards formed as a nonprofit in April 2019 and received 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status in June 2019.

CCES Mission

• Support the ability of area citizens to responsibly manage materials by advancing improved local options for recycling, composting food scraps, and the safe and convenient disposal of household hazardous waste. ● Strive to facilitate local solutions for waste reduction, such as reduction of single-use plastics. ● Provide useful information and resources that assist citizens in these efforts.



TALENT ATTRACTION EQUATION IN CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

OVERVIEW

In the age of talent wars, it's critical that Champaign County stays on the cutting edge of recruiting tactics. The Champaign County Economic Development Corporation and Visit Champaign County are joining forces to create real, sustainable practices to attract top talent and retain them in our community. Businesses—small and large—in the community have been negatively affected by the pandemic. This initiative will assist local businesses in pandemic recovery by filling jobs (placement opportunities), promoting Champaign County as a destination to live and work, retaining residents, and growing our population.

ARPA Goals Met: Increase job training and placement opportunities; Provide relief and support for local businesses

COMMUNITY JOB APPLICATION

This project proposal outlines a new approach to talent attraction, which doesn't currently exist, via a Community Job Application. This innovative approach gives future residents an accessible path to "yes" by providing a virtual front door to employment in Champaign County. This system would give people a chance to apply to be a resident—an innovative concept that could only work in our collaborative community. It will provide recruiters everything they need to hire and show them the results of the region's talent attraction efforts in real time.

TIMELINE OF TALENT ATTRACTION PROGRAMS

The Community Job Application builds upon additional programs that have achieved success in talent attraction.

- Fall 2019—Launched trainings and tours for the Champaign County Area Recruiters Network, assisting with telling the community story.
- Winter 2019—Chambana Proud gear launched with t-shirts and totes designed by local artists.
- **August 2021**—The Chambana Welcome Crew, a community ambassador program, launched with a dozen ambassadors. In the past twelve months we've tripled our ambassadors and have helped over 50 new residents settle into the community, network, and in some cases, find jobs.
- May 2022—Launched New to CU Mixers bringing together new residents as of 2020 to network with each other and the Chambana Welcome Crew. These events happen quarterly.
- October 2022—Launched the Chambana Proud podcast
- Winter 2023—Anticiapted launch of the Community Job Application and launch of new CU Job Board.

TALENT ROSTER COMPILATION

Once we've collected candidates, we'll send out a Talent Roster to the Champaign County Recruiters Network (150+ employers.) This is an organized list of all the candidates who have completed any part of the application. Candidates are segmented by industry allowing us to provide this data directly to local employers for their hiring searches. Information on hobbies and interests will be fed directly to the Chambana Welcome Crew allowing us to reach out immediately to help answer their community questions.

This concept has been developed and implemented by the state of North Dakota with great success. In one week after launch, they had 40 leads from 21 states looking to relocate immediately. https://relocate.findthegoodlife.com/help-desk.

JOB PIPELINE FOR URBANA RESIDENTS

This project will assist existing and potential residents in finding jobs locally, providing opportunities to obtain well-paying opportunities, thus increasing household incomes. This project will positively impact local employers by connecting them to much-needed talent, thus providing better opportunities for companies to succeed—and potentially grow—in Urbana.

PROJECT COSTS

The project costs were determined after extensive research on what it takes to build the infrastructure of the Community Job Application, including development and maintenance costs, and to market the program adequately. A total of \$215,000 is being requested for this program with the following breakdown:

- Year 1 (2023): \$5,000 for training (Champaign County Recruiters Network)
- Year 2 (2024): \$50,000 for Community Job Application + \$20,000 for marketing of programs
- Year 3 (2025): \$50,000 for Community Job Application + \$20,000 for marketing of programs
- Year 4 (2026): \$50,000 for Community Job Application + \$20,000 for marketing of programs

All funds requested will go directly towards costs to administer and market the program. Year 1 (2023) of the Community Job Application is being funded by Champaign County (\$50,000) with matching funds provided by Champaign County Economic Development Corporation and Visit Champaign County. All talent attraction programs to date - and marketing of the programs - have been jointly funded by Champaign County Economic Development Corporation and Visit Champaign County.









GRANT PROPOSAL EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Proposed Initiative: Electric cargo vans and electric charging station

Statement of Need: According to Feeding America's *Map the Meal Gap* study, at any given time, more than 100,000 people in eastern Illinois face food insecurity. Last year Eastern Illinois Foodbank (EIF) served nearly 25,000 people in Urbana alone. Overall, EIF distributed nearly 8 million pounds of food to more than 118,000 individual people serve last year to our entire service area, but we have experienced a 30% increase in the number of people seeking our services in recent months. It is imperative that we seek additional ways to meet the increased need, while also reducing our carbon footprint.

Goal: Funding from this grant would allow EIF to make transformational change to our local delivery and food rescue pickup model by adding two electric cargo vans to our fleet of vehicles, and an on-site EV charger, increasing both efficiency and sustainability.

Measurable Objectives: Two electric cargo vehicles would increase our food deliveries and pickups by 80 per week by operating in addition to our regular fleet schedule. More food being rescued and delivered to our partner agencies means more vulnerable populations in our community are getting the nutritious food they need.

Impact: Eastern Illinois Foodbank continues to strategically evolve to serve our community as efficiently as possible. The addition of two electric cargo vans to our fleet will have an immediate impact on our ability to pick up and deliver food resourcefully. As EIF strives to increase our fresh produce distribution, efficiency is critical to ensure that nutritious, perishable food does not go to waste.

Last year, EIF served 25,000 people in the City of Urbana, which represents 21% of all individuals served throughout our entire 18-county service area. The electric cargo vans will have a larger impact on our local pickup and deliveries, increasing our ability to travel into congested areas that are inaccessible by our large box trucks.

The electric cargo vans will also provide us energy independence at a time when fuel costs are high. One of our box trucks travels an average of 400 miles each week, resulting in more than \$300 in fuel expenses. Electric vehicles and an on-site electric charging station allow us to stay agile and respond to the needs of our neighbors resourcefully.

Urbana ARPA Grant Application Executive Summary

Applicant

Champaign County Health Care Consumers (CCHCC)

Title

Special Populations Outreach and Enrollment for Health, Food, and Housing Security

Problem

Not enough resources exist in Urbana to meet the needs of low-income seniors, low-income or no income people with disabilities, and immigrants. Public benefits that could significantly improve the lives of these special populations are grossly underutilized because people who could benefit from these programs do not know about them, and do not have the help they need to apply and qualify for these programs. For example, it is well documented that millions of older adults in the U.S. have trouble making ends meet, yet many do not realize that help is available through programs such as SNAP (food stamps), LIHEAP (energy assistance), Medicare Savings (which pays for Medicare premiums and co-pays), Medicare Extra Help (which pays for Part D prescription coverage), Medicaid, and SSI (disability program for low-income disabled individuals). https://www.cbsnews.com/news/seniors-how-to-get-medicare-savings-snap-food-stamp-benefits-inflation/
Even a few hundred dollars in assistance on a monthly basis can make a huge difference for older adults living in poverty, and can reduce risk of housing insecurity.

Likewise, too many individuals with disabling conditions are unable to successfully make their way through the very difficult process of applying for disability benefits from Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Income (SSDI). These programs are notoriously difficult to apply for, and without knowledgeable and experienced assistance, many people simply give up and live in extreme poverty and/or become homeless. Many homeless individuals could successfully apply for SSI and/or SSDI with the proper assistance. Likewise, many formerly incarcerated individuals have significant disabilities and could benefit from SSI and/or SSDI. Individuals applying for SSI and/or SSDI are far more likely to successfully qualify for these programs if they can work with a knowledgeable and experienced advocate, and if they have the necessary medical documentation about their disabling conditions. As with the programs that benefit low-income older adults, SSI and SSDI are notoriously under-enrolled, with many more people who could qualify simply unable to get through the daunting application process. Sometimes, the very conditions that are causing the disability make it nearly impossible for the person to be able to get through the application process on their own.

Additionally, many immigrants in our community are low-income and cannot afford health insurance. Thankfully, the State of Illinois is in the forefront of making Medicaid coverage available to many immigrants, regardless of their immigration status. The State of Illinois has made Medicaid coverage available to children, seniors aged 65 and older, and most recently (this year!), for low-income immigrants aged 55 and over.

However, much more work is needed to reach these populations in Urbana, and specialized benefits navigators are needed to help with outreach and enrollment in public benefits for these populations.

Solution

CCHCC's proposed project for these special populations would substantially increase the human services resources available to assist these populations with enrolling in these public benefits programs. CCHCC is the only organization in the county that specializes in outreach and enrollment in a wide range of public benefit programs from health insurance enrollment, SNAP, to disability applications and more. But, while CCHCC has the experience and expertise, we do not have enough staff to meet the need in Urbana. By adding staff, we can help enroll more low-income seniors, immigrants, and people with disabling conditions in the various programs that can benefit them, and they will have health care coverage and access, food assistance, utility assistance, and monthly income in the forms of SSI and SSDI. This will improve their health and their financial lives, and help build more economic stability for these individuals, reducing the likelihood of housing insecurity and other adverse outcomes. Additionally, for people with disabilities who qualify for SSI or SSDI, new resources – including more affordable housing options – will be available to them because they will be "officially" deemed disabled.

Common Ground Food Co-op Food For All Food Accessibility Program City of Urbana ARPA Grant Application Executive Summary

Common Ground Food Co-op is a cooperatively-run grocery store owned by over 9,000 Champaign-Urbana neighbors. We focus on supporting the local food system, fostering conscious consumerism, and building a vibrant community. We are requesting ARPA funds to support our existing food accessibility and food discount program, Food For All, which provides a 10% discount on our entire produce section and grocery pantry staples to hundreds of local neighbors who are low-income and experiencing food insecurity. Common Ground also covers the full equity grant - a one-time \$60 investment - for Food For All members so they can receive all the additional benefits of Co-op ownership. In keeping with our mission, we want all of our customers to be able to access healthy and local food at an affordable price. We are invested in the future of our local food system and prioritize supporting regenerative agriculture practices, local farm infrastructure, and marketing local farms and businesses to our community.

We strongly believe that Food For All addresses two of the Urbana ARPA goals - to increase availability and affordability of food, and to provide relief and support for local businesses. In 2021, Common Ground sold over \$996,964 in local products which provided economic support to many small local businesses. By providing a reliable outlet for farmers to sell their produce and products, Common Ground is helping build infrastructure and increasing the availability of food grown locally, while our Food For All program increases the affordability and accessibility of this food.

In the past five years, we have seen significant increases in both the amount of new Food For All members, and the total dollar amount in discounts being used by those members. Both the equity component and the discount on produce and staple items allow individuals with limited food dollars to extend their budget and support our local food economy. The last few years have brought unprecedented challenges for both us and our customers. Climate change, supply chain disruption, and inflation have all impacted our sales. Additional funding would allow us to continue supporting and expanding Food For All without having to pull funds away from other important store needs (staffing, purchasing, maintenance, etc).

In addition to increases in Food For All membership, we have also seen a massive increase in the amount of EBT dollars being used at Common Ground. EBT usage grew 150% from 2020-2021. Many of our EBT users are already Food For All members, but additional funding would allow us to reach more people, stretching their food budget even further and encouraging them to shop with us rather than a larger chain, which in turn supports the local food economy.

Food For All is primarily supported through our Round Up For Good Program, but the money raised is not enough to keep up with the steady increase of members and discounts used in the program. We are requesting a total of \$45,000 in ARPA funding to be used over the next three years, 2023-2025. We would like to have the funds cushion the discount program because we know the need for food discounts will continue to grow, as proven by the 51.7% increase in Food For All Discount redemption in 2021 compared to 2020.

Common Ground has been an important institution in our local food economy for almost 50 years. Focusing on local and organic foods are very important facets of our mission and identity, and we want everyone to be able to afford them and experience their benefits. Food For All is the first step in that direction, and we are hopeful that we will be able to continue this program and help our neighbors purchase healthy food while keeping their dollars local.

Red Herring Vegetarian Restaurant

A food-justice program of the Channing-Murray Foundation

Handmade Harvest; Healthy Meals for Families Facing Food Insecurity

A proposal to provide locally grown and prepared meals at no cost to food insecure residents during harvest season (summer 2023) via established food pantries and free produce markets.

ARPA FUNDING GOALS: Increase availability and affordability of food Provide relief and support for local businesses Invest in infrastructure to increase community health, safety, and future resilience

Partnering with 3 well-established food distribution networks:

- Friday Free Market Sola Gratia Farm & CUPHD
- Mobile Market CU City Farms, Carle, Sola Gratia Farm, Prosperity Gardens, & CUPHD
- Bucket Brigade Food Pantry Delivery Channing-Murray Foundation, Red Herring
 & Cunningham Township Supervisor's Office

Knowing the Need

- Markets: These free produce markets (Mobile and Free Friday), distributing in low-income neighborhoods, have specifically requested ready-to-eat items to distribute alongside their free produce (thus providing food education & meal service)
- 2. **Food Pantry:** After running Bucket Brigade for 3 years and serving 4,677 extremely low-income recipients, 81% of families have indicated that they would like to receive fresh produce/prepared meals.

Deliverables/Metrics Distributing 3 days a week, expecting an average of 60 meals each day, 12 weeks:

- # of Meals Distributed
- # of People Served
- Pounds of local produce utilized
- Demographics of individuals served (Bucket Brigade) & neighborhoods served (Markets)

Budget - Total Request \$21,985 ~\$10 per meal

- 61% Labor- \$15,360 (purchasing, preparing, and distributing)
- 32% Cost of Goods \$8,100 (focusing on local wholesalers like Sola Gratia Farm)

Future Funding/Sustainability

ARPA funding will lay the groundwork for Red Herring to launch a pay-it-forward meal program year round; with every meal customers buy, they can buy one for their food insecure neighbor for the following summer.



Sola Gratia Farm

A ministry of St. Matthew Lutheran Church

2200 South Philo Road • Urbana, IL 61802

Phone: (217) 367-1189 solagratiacsa@gmail.com • www.solagratiacsa.com

Project Title: "Community Farm Expansion for Enhanced Sustainable Fresh Food Production, Engagement

and Consumption"

Requested Amount: \$750,000 **Project timeline:** 1/2023 - 12/2024

Primary Contact: Traci Barkley, Director of Sola Gratia Farm

In order to continue to serve and respond to our community's fresh food needs and participate effectively and efficiently in innovative community partnerships, Sola Gratia Farm needs to invest in the next iteration of our community farm. All 15 acres we farm are leased, with five acres at Mumford/Philo recently sold to the City of Urbana and another 6 acres at Colorado/Philo to be developed at some point. We have secured funds and contracted to purchase 29 acres of adjacent land and began development in mid-2022. Investment in this farm expansion will allow the farm to be sustainable for at least another 20 years and will address the following goals of Urbana's ARPA Concept Plan:

- <u>Increase availability and affordability of food.</u> Will support sustained sales (CSA, retail and wholesale) and food donations (>15,000 lbs/yr). Will expand offerings with investment in additional crops including perennial fruits and nuts, increasing revenue stream, diversifying offerings and addressing food insecurity;
- <u>Invest in infrastructure to increase community health, safety and future resilience.</u> Will secure long-term financial sustainability, support lasting relationships with 25+ partners (donation, resource/skill-sharing, and educational), and support long-term ecological sustainability as proper investments allow mitigated and improved climate change resiliency.
- <u>Increase job training and placement opportunities.</u> We employ 15-20 people and serve as a job training/work site for at-risk youth from Cunningham Children's Home, the Youth Employment Service (YES) program, HACC YouthBuild and DREAAM, developing skills in food production, processing, sales, marketing, community service and education.
- <u>Improve accessibility of public recreation space and youth programming.</u> Allows expansion of educational programming including targeted demonstration, skills training and development, and onsite outreach/education and events. Our outreach/educational work engages 500-700 people yearly.

SGF is requesting support from the ARPA Program to cover approximately 30% of project infrastructure expenses. Funds secured to date are sufficient to purchase the land, install a well, prepare the site for access, parking, and utilities and construction of a storage building for our farm equipment and supplies. These investments allow us to start production on the new land in 2023. Securing the remainder of the project funds will allow for us to complete construction and furnishing of a new wash/pack facility and office building, install a greenhouse and high tunnel, invest in perennial plantings, and redevelop our original four acres to an educational/demonstration farm. Sustainability is a primary goal of this project and will allow expanded service to our food-insecure neighbors. We are requesting infrastructure funding as a one-time request, rather than on-going operational funding. Investment in the expanded blueprint of the farm will allow for strategic expansion and continuation for at least another 20 years of a proven business, service and organizational model.

COVID-19 Recovery: Urbana Small Business Microloan Fund (Justine PETERSEN)

Urbana ARPA Funding Goal addressed by this project: Provide relief and support for local businesses

OVERVIEW

The establishment of this Small Business Microloan Fund (via Justine PETERSEN, a U.S. Treasury-certified Community Development Financial Institution) will expand micro-enterprise and small business lending in Urbana, which will provide direct relief and support to local businesses. Justine PETERSEN is the #1 SBA microlender in Illinois, and they focus on three areas: **micro-enterprise and small business lending**, consumer lending and credit building, and housing and homeownership support. Justine PETERSEN serves existing and startup businesses and offers safe and affordable capital with the goal of graduating businesses or individuals back to mainstream finance. The establishment of this fund would be focused on supporting eligible businesses in Urbana, including home-based businesses.

THE ROLE OF A CDFI

The role of a U.S. Treasury-certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) is to expand economic opportunity in low-income and underserved communities by providing access to financial products and services for local residents and businesses, especially those not eligible for traditional lending. A CDFI does not currently exist in Champaign-Urbana, nor does a dedicated fund for microlending.

Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) are lenders with a mission to provide fair, responsible financing to rural, urban, Native, and other communities that mainstream finance doesn't traditionally reach. Unlike traditional banks, CDFIs specialize in lending to individuals, organizations, and businesses in under-resourced communities, offering clients financial education, business coaching, and access to safe and affordable loans that increase economic potential and help build wealth. As borrowers repay their loans, CDFIs recycle money back into the community through new borrowers, multiplying the impact of each dollar on local economies. CDFIs are a proven model to create fair economic opportunity for all.

Justine PETERSEN provides wrap-around services to all of their borrowers to ensure they aren't only getting the capital they need but to provide counseling and support to reach their financial goals of small business capitalization, homeownership, and, ultimately, financial stability. Justine PETERSEN is committed to working with regional partners who also provide support services to small businesses. The Champaign County Economic Development Corporation and Illinois Small Business Development Center at Champaign County EDC are committed partners in this effort.

PROPOSED BUDGET

A range of funding options - \$175,000.00 to \$475,000.00 – has been submitted with this application. The suggested amounts are based on the establishment of similar programs in other markets (i.e. Springfield, IL) and what was approved by Champaign County.

Budget options and anticipated outcomes (estimated based on funding options):

- Option 1: \$475,000.00 total 175-200 businesses served
- Option 2: \$325,000.00 total 110-125 businesses served
- Option 3: \$250,000.00 total 100-115 businesses served
- Option 4: \$175,000.00 total 85-100 businesses served

CONTACTS

- Champaign County Economic Development Corporation: Carly McCrory-McKay, Executive Director, carly@champaigncountyedc.org or 217-649-2586
- Justine PETERSEN: Sheri Flanigan, Chief Operating Officer, sflanigan@justinepetersen.org





Executive Summary ARPA Funding

The H.O.Y.C.E. Center was established as a 501(c)(3) organization in 2010 by a group of friends who wanted to create a place for youth to learn more about themselves, their talents, and options available to them. Our mission is to to decrease youth exposure to violence by connecting them to educational and positive recreational activities in order to increase awareness of options. We strive to provide youth and families with basic needs and mental health supportive services in order to promote a better quality of life.

The H.O.Y.C.E. Center has noticed that mental health is more evident and needed post pandemic. Individuals and families have suffered a great deal of loss and this trauma has affected the community as a whole. After determining which jobs were considered essential, many lost their jobs which increased the amount of mental health issues due to stress. Families worried about how bills were going to get paid, funerals paid for, supporting their child(ren) school work and mental health. Families were placed in a position where there was nowhere to turn. Although mental health services transitioned to online, many families in poverty could not afford the proper internet service to support their emergency and immediate needs. The H.O.Y.C.E. Center also noticed an increase in support to obtain basic household items, clothes such as underwear, shoes, socks, and t-shirts. The Blessing Bank received 50% more requests to communities and events to give away items desperately needed.

According to the research study "Cyber-Victimization and Mental Health Concerns among Middle School Students Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic" conducted by the School of Social Work at the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana and Dr. Jennea Klingenberg on middle school students in Urbana 2018-2021, students reported significant increases in anxiety, depression, and social stress (i.e., loneliness, exclusion). This research has proven how valuable support for mental health is beyond social-emotional learning. Schools are faced with more significant issues during the school day that require more support.

The Blessing Bank is a project whose purpose is to provide families with their basic needs through the collection of donations. Mental health has become a part of those needs. Therefore, H.O.Y.C.E. is extending its program to include support for mental health services. We aim to provide financial support to low-income, disadvantaged, or individuals impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic by helping to prioritize mental health. The H.O.Y.C.E. Center wants to help eradicate the stigmatism around getting help. The pandemic has caused a great shift in our lives, businesses, and workforce that needs daily and consistent support.

The total cost of implementation of our Blessing Bank is \$1,567,592.47. This investment will enhance the funding we need to fully implement this project. The cost of the project was determined by previous donations received, estimated staff and facility costs needed to expand, cost of mental health services by the hour without insurance for individual/family therapy services, and prior admin fee costs for donations. The funding will allow an individual or family to begin mental health services for up to a year depending on their need. We are excited about the prospect of receiving funding. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Applicant: The Well Experience Proposed Project: Well Family Care Program

In the four years The Well Experience (TWE) has been serving Urbana-Champaign communities, it has quickly become a vital support for families seeking healing and hope. TWE is 501(c)(3) community organization that provides services that heal, engage, restore and empower historically disadvantaged, marginalized, and oppressed populations in our communities, with focused support for women and children.

TWE has developed strong relationships and reputation with families in Urbana-Champaign and Rantoul communities. TWE focuses on helping, supporting, and challenging individuals of all ages to become their best selves by providing the resources, education, support, and services needed to promote sustainability, increase opportunities, and build resilience. TWE staff have been working with families who are considered to be in poverty according to the Federal Poverty Guidelines updated in 2022.

Through community partnerships and previous ARPA funding, TWE has provided services through the Well Family Care Program for the past three years. With families in Urbana already looking to TWE for support in a variety of areas, funding from the City of Urbana will allow the organization to continue and increase services, enhance the facility where we provide family services, and continue to provide financial assistance to families who need it most. The Well Experience is developing fundraising efforts and working with other funders to increase and extend funding over multiple years so family services will not end when ARPA funding has been exhausted.

Funding from the City of Urbana will assist the organization with the following:

- Increase mental health support by hiring additional mental health professionals to provide crisis management services, group and individual therapy, and wraparound support for families.
- Allow TWE to continue providing economic and financial assistance to families to helps prevent homelessness and loss of utilities, provide transportation assistance, assist with food insecurities, and provide case management to help families develop plans to prevent recurrences of the same concerns.
- Enhance TWE's partnership with Urbana School District 116 to provide in-school programming and support services for students and families within the schools, and increase the number of schools where group and individual supports are provided.
- Enhance the quality of programming provided in the after-school and summer program by increasing program and mental health providers.
- Continue and enhance career development, financial literacy, and workforce readiness to families to help build sustainability.
- Enhance support for young mothers through the Moms Grow program, where mothers receive support with and for young children while learning skills to build a better life. This program includes home visiting support, transportation assistance for doctor's appointments, assistance with food, diapers, and other support as it relates to increasing the health of the mother and child.
- Improve the infrastructure to allow TWE to best serve clients in the community through enhancing the youth program facility, creating more office space within the building for group and private meetings, and enhancing youth and teen spaces for quality evening, weekend, and summer programming.

TWE has a well-established board and administrative team. Currently, TWE employs an Executive Director, Director of Operations, five Well Family Care Outreach Workers, two Parent Mentor Coordinators, 14 Youth Development Leaders, three Social Workers, two Interns, a Program Assistant, Receptionist, Bookkeeper, and Custodian. TWE has the current capacity, experience, and ability to successfully manage programs funded by the City of Urbana and other funders.



To Whom it May Concern,

Have you ever experienced anxiety or depresson as a result of community violence and trauma? How do you suppose the youth and young adults feel with no outlet to turn to? A traumatic event or the loss of a loved one can lead to mental health disorders that impact a person's ability to live a healthy life. Experiencing or observing physical, sexual, and emotional abuse, childhood neglect, suiicide, having a family member with a menth health or substance use disorder, experiencing or witnessing violence and incarceration can increase the likelyhood of being re-traumatized by engaging in high-risk behaviors ssuch as substance use and gun violence Community violence and trauma halve been a major problem in the Champaign-Urbana area with our youth and young adults.

Trauma Survivors Heal 2 is an outpatient program for young individuals 14-18 that will provide trauma-Informed services and evidenced-based therapy modalities in a safe environment so individuals can build insight, learn to cope in a sustainable way and tap into their own strengths and resilence through individualized and curriculum- based group therapy while eliminating systemic barriers that often re-ttraumatize our low-income, underrepresented and maginalized youth. Our grief support groups a supportative environment for youth who are often overlooked and feeling hopeless and powerless and lack hope for a brighter future. Trauma Survivors uses peer-to-peer support that addresses the needs of whole child by breaking down isolation and stigma equipping them with coping strategies and effective communication skills We provide tools that they can use for the remainder of thier lives and empower them to make healthier choices for lifestyle change, manage their emotions in a more appropriate way, becoming productive members of our community, moving forward with their goals that align with a sense of a healthy wellness, happier life and a safer community.

Trauma Survivors Heal 2 is the only trauma-informed therapeutic trauma, grief and loss support program for young adults to process and express themselves in the Champaign-Urbana area in one facility.

Respectfully, Leslie Smith Executive Director





Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Initiative: Reducing Gun Violence through Community Trauma-Informed Care (Ruby Mendenhall & Karen Simms)

Executive Summary. According to the CDC (Centers for Disease Control), the average cost of medical care for an incident of non-fatal violent injury that requires hospitalization is approximately \$29,201 (CDC, 2021). Researchers at Iowa State University argue that the cost of a murder is \$17.25 million (DeLisi, 2010). Community members who experience gun violence are sent to the Emergency Department at Carle Foundation Hospital- the only Level-1 Trauma Center in the region. During this time, the Trauma & Resilience Initiative, Inc. (TRI), engages in trauma-informed care and provides crisis management, coordinates follow-up care, and makes connections to other community resources for individuals. TRI is a critical component of the healing process for families and the entire community. This proposal seeks to significantly expand the capacity of TRI to deliver trauma-informed services aimed at healing from and preventing future gun violence in the Champaign-Urbana community. The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) initiative will hire four peer health workers/community health workers (CHWs) to enhance a culturally-embedded and community-empowering ecosystem of healing and support. This initiative will also hire a Program Coordinator to ensure families' needs and social determinants of health are addressed across generations. A Research Scientist will document the innovative work and its impact on the community. They will also help to scale the initiative and make it sustainable through additional funding. Mendenhall and Simms will administer the initiative.

Background. In 1998, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) produced a landmark study on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) that included mostly white families. The ACEs study identified the clear connection between certain individual experiences in childhood such as abuse or witnessing violence, and adverse health outcomes later in life, such as heart disease and cancer. Our ACEs initiative is based on this knowledge and seeks to advance our understanding of how Black and brown communities are impacted by ACEs, racism and other traumas later in life. The Research Scientist will train community members as citizen/community scientists who will communicate the benefits of the program using innovative methods (e.g., comic books, photo exhibits, co-authoring publications, etc.).

Community Need. According to the Urbana Police Department, shootings in Urbana have increased by about five times over the past five years (Urbana Police Department, 2021). From a health care standpoint, the cost is substantial., violent injury is a recurrent problem, and while hospitals treat these injuries, little is done to prevent the next ones. Over 40% of patients treated for violent injury are re-injured within five years (CDC, 2022). The additional mental health consequences last far longer than any duration of time it takes to heal any consequential physical injury. This often manifests itself in the form of Post- Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Continuous Traumatic Stress Disorder, depression and substance use disorders. The ACEs initiative seeks to interrupt these challenges by directly addressing trauma and the need for physical and emotional safety, engaging individuals along the continuum of care, and connecting them to needed mental health resources and community supports.

Advancing Racial Equity and Justice. Due to structural racism, in the U.S., Black communities often have higher rates of multigenerational poverty, unemployment, educational challenges, residential segregation, criminalization, precarious and toxic housing, incarceration and health disparities (Kramer et al. 2019, Mendenhall, 2019, Mendenhall 2010). The Illinois House and Senate revisited the Trauma-Informed Awareness Day resolution in 2021, with an amendment to maintain a commitment to trauma-informed policy. Although efforts at the legislative level have been made to help address ACEs though bringing trauma-informed policies to various sectors of state governance, the health care sector has been slow to adapt these policies at the community level. The ACEs initiative is well-positioned to heed this call to action and become a leader in mitigating and preventing ACEs, such as gun violence, with a trauma-informed approach. These efforts will advance racial equity and justice in the Champaign-Urbana community and serve as a state, national and global model. Our long-term goal is to develop an ACEs clinic, the first of its kind in the country. We are also in the process of creating a Wellness Store based on culture wealth and neuroscience.

Champaign County Crime Stoppers/Urbana ARPA

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview

Champaign County Crime Stoppers is seeking \$100,000.00 from the Urbana ARPA funds. Champaign County Crime Stoppers objective for the purposes of this project is to provide critical information to law enforcement to assist with the resolution of crimes committed in the county while keeping the identity of those providing the information anonymous.

The Problem

- Violent crime in our community has increased over the years and this affects every part of our community.
- Until recently, our organization was funded primarily through the Anti-Crime Fee; fees imposed on criminals through the court system and distributed to Crime Stoppers through the Circuit Clerk's office. Due to circumstances changing within the legal system, those fees have been reduced by approximately half in the last few years.
- Many are afraid to approach police for the fear of retaliation or needing to testify in court.

The Solution

- With our program, we have the structure to keep every tip anonymous. We do not ask for any names or identifying information and have no way of identifying any tipster, due to the technology we utilize. Tipsters are offered a cash reward and are only identified by a tip number throughout the process.
- We have a simple solution for anyone that may be fearful of being identified or speaking directly to police to report what they know regarding any crime that has been committed. We have been in existence in Champaign County for 36 years and have assisted law enforcement in solving countless cases over the years. Tipsters can contact us by phone, website, or mobile app.

Highlights

Our organization is an all citizen, all volunteer board, with no paid staff. We have a diverse board of directors all working toward the goal of reducing crime in Champaign County. From 1986 through 2021, Crime Stoppers gave a max reward of \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest of an individual involved in a crime in Champaign County. In response to an increase in gun violence, in 2019, we brought a program to the community called the Illegal Gun Bounty Reward. This program offered a reward to anyone giving us information, anonymously, leading to the arrest of anyone in Champaign County who used a gun in the commission of a felony crime.

In early 2022, we were able to secure ARPA funding from the City of Champaign and Champaign County in order to increase our rewards to tipsters. In March of 2022, we started offering \$2,500 to anyone giving us information leading to the arrest of anyone in Champaign County who used a gun in the commission of a felony crime. We were also able to add an enhanced reward of \$5,000 to anyone giving information leading to the arrest of anyone in Champaign County who has committed a homicide.

- 2019 Present
- 62 arrests (including 2 for homicide), \$76,000 in approved rewards, 72 firearms recovered

This program has shown a large increase of illegal weapons removed from the streets of Champaign County and an increase in tips to our program. Overall, this program has been a huge success!

Keys to Success

- A portion of the funding will be used to increase our marketing to the community; specifically, the younger population of Champaign County.
- We expect to use these funds to continue this important and successful program in our community and would expect to start using these funds starting in 2024.

Financial Highlights

- A large portion of the funds will be used to continue to pay cash rewards to tipsters, including those for the Illegal Gun Bounty Reward Program.
- A portion of the funds will be used to increase marketing within the community.
- A portion of the funds will be used for tip line support expenses. As tips increase, the expenses related to tip line support increase as well.

FirstFollowers Community Peace Hub

FirstFollowers will use the ARPA funds to establish the first community peace hub in Champaign County. To be located near downtown Urbana, the hub will build off FirstFollowers' seven years of operating a wide range of programs targeted at people returning home from prison in Champaign County as well as emerging adults aged 18-24 who have had some involvement with the criminal justice system. However, we believe such services based in Urbana are long overdue. More recently, FirstFollowers has led the formation of H3, a coalition of twelve community organization who have been involved in anti-violence work in the community. The hub fits well into this anti-violence eco-system.

The hub will specialize in outreach and in reach. The outreach component will involve efforts by FirstFollowers' community navigators who will use the Hub as a base of operations to carry out education and training of impacted indivduals in apartment complexes in Urbana where FirstFollowers has established a deep connection.

Operating from the hub, the navigators will contribute to bettering public health by offering workshops, peace circles and public education on issues relating to violence. We will offer economic opportunity, counseling support, and educational chances outside the classroom. The hub will also deliver reentry services targeted at women and families through our Hope for Women initiative. Built on the in-reach model and founded by two women impacted by incarceration, these service, under the title Hope for Women, will target women returning home from prison and jail and their families. Often overlooked, this cohort are potential key players in re-establishing peace in the community, as mothers, as parents and as mentors to young people, especially girls. In reach involves connecting to the women while they are still in incarcerated to lay the foundation for transition to the community. Since most people in women's prisons have parenting responsibilities, a key component of this would be provision of counseling and legal support for family reunification along with parenting skills. Upon release, these sessions would occur during drop-in hours at the hub or at times and places convenient to the participants. The Hub will distribute Welcome Home packages tailored to the needs of program participants. All packages would include some clothing provision, hygiene products (Including feminine hygiene) linens, hair products, notepads, pens. Depending on the individual, the packages could also include rental assistance, cellphones and bus passes.

The Community Peace Hub will become an Urbana-based focal point for anti-violence activities and a place for those impacted by violence to receive the support and services they need.

We request \$158,400 to establish and run this initiative for the first year and have contracted a marketing firm to build out a long-range funding strategy by tapping into our donor base and our connections with funding sources at state level. Reentry is a top priority for criminal justice funders and FirstFollowers is a leading presence in reentry work and anti-violence work in Central Illinois. Our reputation and the impact of this hub on our community will ensure us long term base of support.



Angel's Youth Center 809 Dennision, Champaign IL 61802

angelsyouthcenter@gmail.com 217-607-7088

Executive Summary

Overview:

Angel's Youth Center is dedicated to producing life chances for young people by bridging socioeconomic gaps and empowering the family. We provide youth with opportunities to achieve greatness through courses such as art design projects, musical composition sessions, and cooking classes. Angel's Youth Center members are determined to break the historical cycle of poverty and violence in our community.

Target Audience:

Our target audience, underprivileged youth, ages 6 weeks to 18, represents one of the most vulnerable segments of our society. Angel's Youth Center exists to provide the Champaign-Urbana community with life-changing opportunities.

Opportunity:

Angel's Youth Center has 25 youths from the Champaign-Urbana community enrolled in its programs. 90% of our participants are Urbana residents. With funding, AYC will be able to expand its support in academic excellence, educational enrichment opportunities such as college visits, SAT and ACT test prep, college courses and application assistance, FASFA assistance, violence prevention, and life planning.

Conclusion:

Angel's Youth Center staff has established over 30 years of providing licensed childcare and customer service. Based on our current needs the funds are needed to enhance the impact in the community to serve more underprivileged students, their families, and pay staff. It will also permit us to continue to advocate for students and their parents.

Bradley Learning Center's Executive Summary

Bradley Learning Center has operated in the city of Urbana for over 50 years. We have resided at 1311 East Florida avenue for the last 22 years. Within our time span, we have served over 10,000 families within this community. Our legacy will always be to help families of the low income population of Urbana, addressing the at risk families. Working side by side with the unit 116 school district and meeting the needs of our parents. We have successfully helped produce children that are productive citizens within our community.

Due to the needs of our community Bradley is working to expand and upgrade our program to a level that will not only meet the needs of our children from 6 weeks old to 12 years old but to expand to meet the needs of our 13 to 17 year old population.

We are seeking funding to help us remodel our new facility at 1717 South Philo Road. This space will allow us to increase our program for our current age group of 6 weeks to 12 year olds by approximately increasing our enrollment by 25. This new space will also allow us to create programming space for children between 13 to 17 years of age who have nowhere to go after school or in the summer by 30 to 40. So our overall enrollment would increase by approximately 50 to 60 kids. In order for us to transform this space into a learning/enrichment center we need financial assistance in creating this space that will be acceptable for a DCFS approved learning center for children.

This new space of 22,000 square feet will allow us to create new jobs and allow us to hire more people in our community. It will also create a cafeteria (which is in the old restaurant that has been vacant for over 7 years with no occupancy), where we are also hoping to be able to serve the community. This project will help by giving children a safe environment and it will also keep from having another vacant or empty building in the Philo Road district. With the additional projection of our increase in clients, this will also increase our revenue of approximately \$58,000/month.

The grant funds will be used to help renovate the building, create the new program for teens 13 years to 17 years of age, help with the increase of the lease amount from the \$10,100 that we currently pay to the \$22,000 per month for the new leased space, it will also add at least 8 full time positions to our current staffing.

The amount we are asking is \$1,385,227.00 over a time span of 4 years.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Holly York Director

Judy Woodall Executive Director

1. What will be the lasting impact of this project after ARPA funds run out?

The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) Study of Early Child Care has found that the benefits of high-quality care accrue not just to the parent and the child but to society generally. They include lower costs for later schooling, as children enter school better prepared to achieve. future reductions in crime as juvenile delinquency diminishes, increased productivity, and lower need for social services. Working parents face fewer child-related absences or terminations and remain more securely attached to the labor market. Early child care prepares children for primary schooling, so good child care readies children for primary education. The Cost, Quality, and Outcomes Study report that children enrolled in higher-quality child care, such as in Creative Children Center, will display better math skills through second grade, have significantly higher reading scores, and by age 20 will be more likely to have completed high school and to have lower rates of juvenile criminal activity. Taxpayers are likely to save in future schooling costs, primarily through reductions in special education and grade retention, and potentially from citizens who gain through reduced crime and public assistance costs. Creative Children's Center will be sustainable within a year.

2. Why would this project be the best use of City ARPA funds?

The Secretary General of the UN acknowledges that the better and more cost-effective place to stop the "cradle-to-prison pipeline" is to close the beginning of that pipeline as possible. Ending violence in children's lives and investing in early childhood is, first and foremost, a question of children's rights, further supported by scientific evidence which shows that violence-free early childhood matters: the first 1,000 days of a child's life are the foundation for a person's whole future development. Violence in early childhood is a stressful, painful experience for a child in the immediate term, with the additional risk of mid and long-term consequences. Children's optimum physical, intellectual, and socio-emotional potential depends on receiving loving care and enjoying a nurturing environment. Intervening early "not only saves young lives from being wasted" but also prevents the onset of adult criminal careers and reduces the likelihood of youth perpetrating severe and violent offenses. For children who have experienced significant trauma or multiple traumas, Creative Children's Center may need to refer the child and family to community-based services where they can get more intensive care. We need to know when to refer to community-based services and to create and regularly update a list of possible resources. Then we'd like to meet with the parent(s) and discuss a potential referral.

3. Why are you confident you can use these funds per federal guidelines and achieve demonstrable results in the required timeline? Creative Children's Center currently serves ten families from Urbana out of our proposed twenty. We have historically shown that we can follow through on all deliverables and submit reports according to requirements. We have a solid management program that starts long before the grant is awarded and includes strategic planning, efficient grant design, program development, effective tracking, and sufficient resources to manage the process smoothly. Grant management means working with all of our key stakeholders in our organization to develop our strategy around grants, identify grant opportunities, implement specific grant awards, evaluate successful projects, and streamline future proposals.

Urbana School District Alternative Education Center (USDAC)

City of Urbana ARPA Executive Summary for Case ID 30286

Overview

Urbana School District is developing a restorative, therapeutic program alternative focusing on the whole child through an equity-centered wrap-around, social-emotional, trauma-informed service delivery model. ARPA funds will be designated for building renovations, repairs, and technology improvements to refurbish the alternative learning spaces to address the following City of Urbana ARPA Goals:

- 1. Improve accessibility of public recreation space and youth programming
- 2. Increase support for community violence interventions
- 3. Increase job training and placement opportunities

The Problem/Need

USD116 and the City of Urbana have seen firsthand the direct results of gun violence and its impact on our students, families, and community. This project will support our youth, deal with the root causes of gun violence, and find creative ways to repair the harm in our community. In December 2021, Urbana was identified by the Office of Firearm Violence Prevention as one of 15 Illinois municipalities with the greatest concentration of firearm violence victims. Based on shots fired maps from January 2021 to May 2022, our programming and violence prevention efforts will focus on students in the three most impacted areas: the ML King Neighborhood, Silver & Vawter/Yankee Ridge, and Lierman/Prairie/Dr. Preston Williams Jr. While our District focuses on programming for all students, ARPA-funded programming will focus on our students of color, with a greater emphasis on our African-American students who primarily make up these three neighborhoods.

The Solution

ARPA funds will support our alternative center as a pre-emptive restorative resource space for students in grades 6-12. We envision this space as a collaboration between USD116, the City, and community partners to enhance youth development and mitigate the academic and social skills lost during the pandemic through intervention and prevention. The focus is to prevent behaviors that require suspensions, both in-school and out-of-school, and future expulsions by substituting with these keys to success:

- Connections with mentors and building relationships with trusted adults
- Culturally responsive learning opportunities to develop a sense of belonging, a positive understanding of racial identity and self, and a strengthening of individual character and integrity
- Active engagement of students in Restorative Practices to grow their conflict resolution skills
- Employment training, job hiring with community businesses, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship
- Community service opportunities to build ownership, pride, and a sense of community belonging
- College and career readiness by completing interest inventories to develop successful post-high school plans and utilize non-traditional teaching methods for student success for middle and high schoolers

Funding and Sustainability

If awarded, ARPA funding will allow us to fully occupy the new alternative center space and make the building accessible and inviting to our youth. The funds requested are primarily one-time costs for renovating and remodeling the facility. The District is taking on the recurring costs of cleaning, security, utilities, maintenance, and basic upkeep of the building for years to come. We also cannot utilize other state and federal grants and other funding sources to remodel spaces not designated as actual school attendance centers (i.e., a traditional school building). The ARPA funds also ensure we have funding for future trauma intervention groups.

Once we have exhausted our ARPA fund allocations, we will assess our current success rates and evaluate the need to continue looking for other funding sources to maintain those most successful and impactful areas in improving student outcomes and refocusing students away from gun violence incidents in the community. We anticipate being able to promote many student and family success stories throughout these next three years!

Greater Champaign County AMBUCS ARPA Executive Summary

The GCC AMBUCS requests **\$307,881** of ARPA funds for the substantial improvements to AMBUCS Park, located at 1200 E University Ave, Urbana. The improvements will include:

- * construction of a new bike/pedestrian loop path,
- * installation of an ADA water fountain near the current play area,
- *upgrading the IDOT structure/swale, and seeding to treat runoff from the road and parking lot.

In addition to a \$20,000 contribution from GCC AMBUCS, the total cost for the project is projected at \$327,881.

Investing in parks has proven to improve neighborhoods and cities – particularly in areas with few resources, such as the neighborhoods near and around AMBUCS park. AMBUCS park is located in an area of Urbana identified as a Block Group Level Social Vulnerability area as defined by the CDC. According to the website, bestneighborhood.org, the Urbana neighborhoods closest to AMBUCS park are identified as "low income, not walkable" areas. Households in areas such as these are disproportionately impacted by COVID. Our proposal will add an accessible, low-maintenance, recreational opportunity with physical and mental health benefits to this neighborhood.

Currently there is no safe bike/pedestrian path in this area of the city. Making the improvements to the park supports research that demonstrates that how urban parks can be a key in promoting better mental and physical health. In addition to promoting physical health, such bike/pedestrian walking loops have been documented help decrease stress, make individuals feel safer, connect generational gaps, and connect families and neighbors.

GCC AMBUCS is a 501(c) Non-Profit Organization with a long history of working collaboratively with the Urbana Park District to ensure that AMBUCS park is safe, accessible, and as low-maintenance as possible. Based on a 2012 Urbana Park District master plan, making these improvements to the park is listed as the next highest priority project. Figures were adjusted to account for current market pricing from the original costs projected more than 10 years ago. In addition to the support of the Urbana Park District, this project also has the endorsement of the Kiwanis Tom Jones Challenger League – another key organization that calls this park its "home field" and utilizes the facilities consistently for several months of the year. Making these improvements is a long-term investment that will serve the community for years to come, providing residents, area businesses, and community members an accessible and safe place to exercise while enjoying the beautiful Urbana AMBUCS Park.

On behalf of the Greater Champaign County AMBUCS, thank you for considering this project as one that can make a lasting difference in our community. We believe we have met the criteria required for purposeful use the ARPA funds and will be glad to address any questions or questions the review committee may have.

GCC AMBUCS President, Larry Windingland, lwrcflyer1@gmail.com, lwrcflyer1@sbcglobal.net 217-621-6991

GCC AMBUCS member/Grant Writer, Crystal Vowels aeiou1@comcast.net 217-202-4980



Illinois Futbol Club (IFC) was founded in 1982 and since that time has provided thousands of children and families in Urbana and the surrounding area the physical and emotional benefits of high-level athletic training and competition. IFC players have been the backbone of successful high school soccer programs, have gone on to earn scholarships to play soccer in college, and have even made a career out of their passion for the sport as a player or coach.

IFC provides soccer training to players from 3 years old through high school. Coaches for IFC are paid, experienced, and often credentialed, providing a level of instruction unavailable at the recreational level. This level of training allows IFC teams to compete against top soccer clubs from all around the state or even the region. Past IFC teams have traveled all over the Midwest and even to Europe to compete in tournaments and have won state championships. The history and success of the club have made it an important part of the Urbana-Champaign cultural identity and quality of life.

Despite drastically reduced income, IFC continued to provide training during the pandemic and has now emerged with a mission of growth and outreach. With more and more activities rising in cost, IFC is working towards making soccer more affordable and more accessible to more of the community. The cost of training for a high school player is around \$800 and for a younger player around \$1200. Travel soccer also requires uniforms, hotel stays, transportation, shoes, and food. Each scholarship player IFC accepts and supports may cost the club over \$2000 in lost income or expenses. Last year IFC funded more than 20 scholarship players based on need, and we hope to continue to grow that number.

Studies have shown that athletic participation helps students with behavior, social interaction, and grades. IFC also unites families who might otherwise never meet as they travel together to support their children. As the current World Cup shows, soccer is a universal language. At IFC you will find players speaking Spanish, English, French, and Chinese among other languages. Players from every high school in the area and every social class interact and form bonds. In the past year several families moving to Urbana made their first community contact through IFC social media. In short IFC is particularly important to those groups who might otherwise be insulated from the community due to language or financial barriers. Players make friends, gain confidence, and may even find employment as coaches through IFC.

IFC's outreach also provides a more concrete benefit to low-income families. Travel soccer, rather than high school soccer, is the main gateway to college scholarships. College soccer coaches recruit players by attending club tournaments and receiving recruiting videos. IFC allows players to be seen by these coaches and provides tools (video footage) and contacts (former and current college coaches) for these players to chase their dreams. Just in the past few years several Urbana High School players who spent time with IFC earned college scholarships.

In 2021 IFC had two boys high school teams and one girls team. This season IFC fielded two girls teams and will have five boys teams. Our focus on growth and outreach has proven viable. The growth of IFC will also have ripple effects in the community. IFC provides an important revenue stream to Soccer Planet. IFC's tournaments provide tourism dollars to the community and in the past IFC has rented fields at U of I and Urbana High School as well as indoor space at the Urbana Armory. IFC contributes financially to local high schools and is looking to use a local company as uniform supplier. The money from this grant will therefore quickly be disseminated throughout the community, particularly in the form of social services for those who might otherwise feel isolated from the community and who can most benefit from the camaraderie, travel, and financial opportunities of high-level soccer.

Re: ARPA Funds Request to the City of Urbana for Soccer Planet

In summary, Soccer Planet's proposal is to fund phase 2 building projects on our land that will increase the number of sports housed at our facility, adding different demographics, increasing day time and night time traffic to northern Urbana. We are targeting Pickleball.

During the months of October through March, Soccer Planet, with mainly soccer, pulls in many people from a 40 mile + radius to gather and play. We do not have enough space for those months as soccer clubs all need field time. To add more indoor space, we know can be rented is step one.

The major push of these funds is for these added fields, but the focus will not be on soccer, but mainly Pickleball. Pickleball is the fast-growing sport in the US since it is mainly played by an older generation. Currently, there is no organization of pickleball leagues and no indoor permanent space. We intend to have at least 8 indoor courts and 8 outdoor courts. Giving Pickleball a home should have the same effect as housing soccer in our community. We pull everyone together in a happy, efficient manner. With at least 16 courts, we will try to have constant tournaments (recent tournaments in nearby Indiana have attracted over 1,000 people. Pickleball is mainly during the day where our facility is underused. We understand that there is at least a community of Pickleball players of over 500 players. Since many come from off the highways, our location is perfect for most. When the Pickleball courts are not used, we can fill them with sports teams' practices/games, birthday parties, dog agility training, inflatable indoor playground, etc.

We are willing to again work with the Park District to run events – we have helped running the men's soccer league to keep it under control. We can possibly work with Rantoul to bridge the communities for major sporting events. We intend to have free community use space as well.

The overall concept of Soccer Planet is to create a European sport club feel where the community want to gather to play, hangout and have food/drink with your friends after your game, play many different sports if they are available, gather to watch major events. Typical European clubs are not only a place to participate in athletic activities, but are more importantly a space to spend off field activities with friends / teammates. They enhance the feel of community. With major sporting events like World Cup soccer, this is the place to watch with friends.

Funds will be used to cover financing costs for the new build of this phase of our overall plan. Bank Champaign is our lender and will lend us the funds to build what we need. We will use the ARPA funds to cover our loan costs for the first few years so that we can build balances in our business accounts to be able to withstand another Covid like scenario.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Achim von Bodman, Soccer Planet 847-420-0625

□□□ THE URBANA FREE LIBRARY

Community Connections Youth Programming Specialist Executive Summary

Project Summary and Benefits:

The Urbana Free Library provides outreach and programming to support literacy, personal growth, and community and cultural engagement, which support lifelong success. The Library requests \$370,733 in ARPA grant funds to hire a full-time bilingual programming specialist through 2026 who will focus on youth programming and community outreach to provide long-term benefits, especially for youth who have been impacted by the pandemic. The specialist will be responsible for three to four youth programs or outreach events a week, totaling 150-200 events a year. Grant funds will pay wages and benefits. The impacted and disproportionately impacted groups that will benefit from this project are youth (birth-18), those living in areas identified as socially vulnerable, and immigrant youth who speak the same languages as the programming specialist. The programming specialist will increase the accessibility of youth programming by:

- Increasing the number of accessible youth programs. All of the Library's programs are free and open to the public, and free programs are more accessible to the community.
- Seeking out programming and outreach opportunities in areas the City identified as socially vulnerable.
- Speaking English and either Spanish, French, or Chinese three languages that are commonly spoken in this area. This will increase the accessibility of youth programs to non-English speakers by offering more programs in multiple languages.

Ability to Complete Project:

The Urbana Free Library has existed for almost 150 years and has provided youth programming for decades. Every year, the Library holds hundreds of programs on a wide variety of subjects attended by thousands of children, teens, and their caregivers. The Library has existing infrastructure in place to successfully create and promote youth programming, and has the ability to increase the accessibility of youth programming and outreach in multiple languages in Urbana with this project.

Measuring Success:

The project will follow federal guidelines and evaluate the project's success by collecting data on:

- How many programs and outreach events the programming specialist runs or assists, breaking out the number held in socially vulnerable areas of Urbana.
- Event and outreach attendance.
- The number of community partners involved in those programs and outreach events.
- Satisfaction and feedback by asking attendees to fill out a program survey at least twice a year.
- The number of impacted and disproportionately impacted people reached. Attendees will be asked to fill out a self-reporting demographic survey with categories based on who the City and federal guidelines identified as impacted.

Continuing the Project After the ARPA Grant Ends:

The Library is committed to serving our community with this position. By the end of 2026, the Library will either reallocate the funds in its operating budget or obtain grants from The Foundation and/or The Friends of The Urbana Free Library to continue to fund the specialist position. The Library will also seek out grants from other sources to ensure that the position will be funded. The Library will continue to find additional funding sources until the position can be fully covered by the Library's operating budget.



1401 East Main Street Urbana, IL 61802 (217) 954-1749 www.urbanaconnectionscenter.org

Urbana Neighborhood Connections Center: Operation UNCC Boost Executive Summary

- I. What will be the lasting impact of this project, after ARPA funds run out?
 - Through this project, we are proposing much-needed maintenance and cosmetic upgrades or full replacement of our 3 vehicles. Our newest vehicle is a 2012 mini-bus and the oldest is a 2009 mini-bus. We also have a 13-passenger van. The oldest mini-bus operated with minimal issues for approximately 7 years, while in our possession. It is now inoperable. The van and mini-bus are in need of tune-ups, and the newer mini-bus that still operates could use a wheel alignment. Signage with our most recent logo added to the van and mini-bus would be very helpful for students and staff trying to identify us at our pick-up locations. We are also requesting funds to be utilized for the purchase and installation of an industrial fire sprinkler system. Once installed, this system would only require routine check-ups. My final request is for any remaining funds not expended on our vehicles and sprinkler system to be used for purchasing clothing, school supplies, hygiene products, and winter apparel for Mrs. Mitchell's Closet. This is a new initiative that has served upwards of 50 individuals and provided nearly 200 items between its two locations since its opening in October. Once ARPA funds run out at the commencement of the 4-year granting term, with proper inspections and maintenance, we will still be able to run an additional route to pick up more students, as we currently serve around 45, but at one time we were serving about 60 in our after-school program.
- II. Why would this project be the best use of City ARPA funds?

 As many of us are aware, having supervised, productive environments for youth to dwell in significantly decreases the likelihood of their gravitation towards violence, premature sexual activity, theft, and other idle or criminal activity. Granting us these funds would help us do just that.
- III. Why are you confident that you can use these funds in accordance with federal guidelines and achieve demonstrable results in the required timeline? Many of our grants do not cover transportation needs and getting outside contractors out to the center to inspect and/or repair our vehicles during the COVID shut-down was nearly an impossible task, which prolonged getting the timely attention they needed before becoming completely inoperable. Ensuring that we can provide safe, efficient transportation for youth directly from the schools to our facility aligns with federal ARPA goal- Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)-2.34. We would have another layer of protection in the areas surrounding the kitchen that would only require a 10year inspection with likely no replacement during that timeframe. The items donated to families in Urbana are requested on nearly a day-to-day basis. Providing a child, teen, or parent with financial challenges some assistance with basic human needs helps to ensure that those other needs, such as academic achievement and development of positive selfconcepts are attainable. Other considerable federal guidelines and demonstrable results we would achieve within the designated timeline are: Addressing Educational Disparities: Academic, Social, and Emotional Services 2.25 and Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care 2.11.





Darius E Phebus Administrative Building / 303 W University Ave / Urbana, IL 61801 Phone 217.367.1536 / Fax 217.367.1391 / www.urbanaparks.org

Urbana Park District Health & Wellness Center: ARPA Executive Summary

Key Project Information: The Urbana Park District's Health & Wellness Center, located in Prairie Park on East Washington Street, aims to offer a welcoming and motivating environment that safely engages and benefits everyone in our community in their journey to better health and wellness. Essential public health and safety needs will be addressed through the construction of an indoor space including a multi-court gymnasium, elevated walking track, exercise equipment room (cardio equipment, weights, stretching space), and a community meeting and rental room. The 30,000 square foot Health & Wellness Center is projected to cost \$14.6 million and the Urbana Park District has already secured \$11.3 million in funding from a variety of sources including park district capital funds, state grants, and community donations. The donations and pledges at this time have risen to \$1.8 million, underscoring the immense support and need for this project.

<u>Community Need and Impact:</u> Urbana does not have a comprehensive indoor public recreation facility which allows both programming and drop-in usage at this time. In developing the *Urbana Park District Strategic Plan 2020*, our community feedback indicated that a Health & Wellness Center was a high priority. Especially important to community members was a place with extended hours to support visits on their own time and will provide opportunities for all ages and abilities. Additionally, the 2022-2023 Mayor and City Council Strategic Goals place a high priority on funding and supporting partners working to promote the health and well-being of Urbana citizens.

Community engagement also indicated that Urbana has diverse needs and this project centers on all aspects of wellness: physical, social, intellectual, spiritual, emotional, environmental, financial, and occupational. Our current facility, Brookens Gym, already sees 60,000 visits per year without fully meeting park district or community needs. We anticipate doubling that number to over 120,000 at the new Health & Wellness Center, where we will better be able to expand our programming and better serve Urbana citizens. Furthermore, Urbana as a whole, and this neighborhood specifically, needs a safe, open, accessible, welcoming refuge for the neighborhoods negatively affected by violence. The Lierman Neighborhood contains the highest number of violent crimes in Urbana since 2010 at more than 800. The facility will also be adjacent to the largest elementary school campus and provide beneficial after school and evening programming for youth and teens, including job opportunities. The age demographics surrounding the project area are also uniquely diverse. The neighborhoods both north and south of Washington Street, have the highest percentage of population 65 and older (greater than 30%) and highest percentage of those under 18 (more than 40%) respectively. The facility will serve all ages and backgrounds.

The Health & Wellness Center will also provide important resources for other community organizations. One such partner is the Champaign-Urbana Trauma and Resiliency Initiative. Director, Karen Simms, shared the following experience in support of this project: "We believe that the facility would be used for training - trauma informed care, wellness, resilience, and equity for community members. We know that our families/survivors will use the facility. Urbana Park District has been a supportive, engaging, and proactive partner generously offering recreation and opportunities for youth & families impacted by community violence. We trust those partnerships will expand and grow as more resources are available."

The Urbana community deserves a comprehensive Health & Wellness Center.

ACCESS IMC Grant Proposal

Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center Executive Summary, City of Urbana ARPA Grant 2022

Amount requested: \$149,930

Project Description:

ACCESS IMC will add an enclosed community meeting space with A/V technology and a kitchenette and will also fund key safety and accessibility improvements. In line with existing IMC policies, these spaces will be available for free or at cost to residents and visitors of Urbana through its easy online, phone, or in person reservation process. ACCESS IMC will prioritize space for youth programming and anticipate youth users in the design by including key features like media-sharing tools, food preparation space and access for youth with disabilities.

Demonstrated Need:

ACCESS IMC was designed in response to high community demand for event and meeting space in downtown Urbana. One IMC member and community event organizer said, "I love everything about the IMC!" but said she sometimes goes elsewhere because we have only a single accessible bathroom. Urbana Free Library staff said they would refer patrons if we had meeting space because they cannot accommodate private events, celebrations with food, events with sales, and they are often at capacity for use of their meeting and study rooms. Additionally, we can provide meeting space at affordable rates because of our unique financial model. While the Urbana Park District provides spaces for \$50-75 per hours with \$100-200 deposit, we charge \$0-40 per hour for rentals, depending on the time of day, ability to pay, and the type of event, with no deposit for most events under 20 people.

Spending Overview:

Sub-project	Description	Amount	
Meeting Space w/ Kitchenette	Constructs an enclosed community meeting space with furniture, food-preparation area and accessible technology for hybrid meetings	\$36,820	
Accessible Bathrooms & Entrances	Adds second accessible bathroom on main floor and widens egress for ramp entrance	\$25,100	
Building Safety	Covers asbestos flooring in basement	\$20,130	
Outreach	Launches community meeting space with key personnel support to get the word out	\$54,250	
Administration	Supports grant management personnel time and associated costs	\$13,630	
Total		\$149,930	