

Reshaping Futures. Launching Careers.

Health | Arts | Academics | Skills | Career

# Education Center

For At-Risk Youth



A PROGRAM OF

**CHILDREN'S  
FOUNDATION**

*Providing opportunity and hope for at-risk youth.*

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## VULNERABLE

## Teens in foster care are among the most vulnerable of populations in the country.

Each year in Florida, thousands of teenagers enter the foster care system because they were living in unsupervised, high-risk environments, or they were victims of abuse, neglect or abandonment. They'll have to make their own way in life because the odds of a teen being fostered or adopted are very slim.

When you consider the behavioral challenges brought on by the emotional, physical, sexual, or psychological trauma that many have suffered at the hands of people that were supposed to love and protect them, their odds drop even more. Trauma can create a toxic state of mind, body and soul, and over time, can erode their mental and physical health. For many, their well-being will shatter along with any hope of living a happy, healthy, or stable life.

That's when they become vulnerable to negative outcomes. Many will resort to a life on the streets and get lured into the sex trade or join gangs to fit in and feel a sense of family and belonging. Many will turn to stealing or committing crimes to survive, drink alcohol, take drugs or cause harm to themselves and others to cope with their pain, trauma, and PTSD.

We, as a community can't let this happen. While they may look like teens on the outside, they're still children on the inside who haven't been loved, properly reared, or shown the way to go. They've been robbed of their youth and are left with no alternative but to do whatever it takes to survive. They desperately need love, healing, education, direction, and a plan.

BiG Children's Foundation is driven to prevent these outcomes.

We're on a mission to deliver services to teens in foster care that will help them heal; and education, skills and professional development that will help them live happy, self-sufficient, and successful lives. We're determined to change their life trajectory and reshape their futures.



## TRAGIC STATISTICS

80%

Will suffer serious medical conditions and compromised health due to trauma and abuse.

60%

Will resort to crime, theft and violence, be placed under arrest and/or become incarcerated.

45%

Will become homeless within 18 months of leaving the system and become targets for sex trafficking and gang recruitment.

2%

Will go to post secondary school or college.

\$ 8 BIL

\$8 Billion dollars will be spent this year in Florida for correctional services such as juvenile justice, incarceration, parole, etc. and will include teens from foster care.



Wouldn't it make more sense, and be more compassionate to invest in the teens preemptively, and set them up for success, rather than waiting for a negative outcome and to then spend billions of dollars trying to fix it?

**Foster teens need:**

- healing, laughter, and love
- solid relationships and stability
- a productive outlet
- life skills, education, and resources
- professional development and opportunities





YOU can be part of the solution that changes the statistics!



BiG Children's Foundation, Inc. was founded in 2015 and offered opportunities through producing events for hands-on leadership, community service hours, and volunteerism to teens aging-out of foster care. Soon thereafter, our mission evolved into a more intentional approach as we began to learn of the poor health and well-being of teens in the system, as well as the grim statistics of those turning 18 and aging-out due to the lack of formal self-sufficiency training, education, skills, and professional development to ensure their success.

We also learned that waiting until after they emancipated to work with them, was too late. For genuine impact and change to take place, we needed time on our side. We needed collaborative-minded community partners who would provide for their physical needs such as food, shelter, and clothing while we could simultaneously focus on other essential areas. So, we developed a curriculum-driven program for teens age 14+ that would improve overall health, teach self-sufficiency skills, and provide the academic education, skills and professional development they'll need to succeed when they eventually age-out. We forged relationships with community partners and agencies and began offering a sampling of services on a modified and intermittent basis on their sites.

Since then, and thus far, we've had hundreds of touchpoints with foster youth with our outreach services, summer camps, community initiatives, and community service. We love to see the youth engage and smile when we're on their site, however, they need so much more to achieve the life-changing outcomes that are so desperately needed.

For the youth to realize authentic transformation, a permanent space designated just for them is essential. One that is outfitted with the specific tools and equipment needed for our program. A refuge where they feel welcome and safe, and where our teachers and mentors can bond with them and build meaningful relationships. A facility that is calm and conducive to learning, where we can deliver our program consistently and authentically, in collaboration with our community partners to ensure progress is being made.

That place is our new boutique Education Center!



**100+**

TEENS WILL BE  
SERVED IN THIS  
CENTER  
ANNUALLY

**500+**

HOURS OF  
SPECIALIZED  
EDUCATION &  
TRAINING

**100+**

EDUCATIONAL  
MODULES  
WILL BE  
UTILIZED

**10,000+**

UNITS OF  
SERVICE WILL BE  
DELIVERED!

The following pages contain our plans to build-out a boutique-sized Education Center specific to teens in foster care. This includes the remodeling and re-purposing of a residential structure in Oakland Park, Florida, which will accommodate over 100 youth every year. This facility will enable us to have a laser-focused, intentional approach with the teens several times a week on a consistent, long-term basis, year-round—exactly what is needed for real transformation. It will also enable us to host several summer programs, which is key to onboarding new students each year.

That means **100+ foster teens every year** will have an opportunity to change their life trajectory and will no longer have to resort to desperate measures to survive. Instead, they'll receive **500+ hours of specialized education and training** from professionals, teachers, specialists, coaches, and mentors, utilizing **100+ educational modules** in the areas of Health, Nutrition, Self-Sufficiency, Arts, Academics, Professional Development, Trades, and Career. **Over 10,000 Units of Service will be delivered in this facility annually!**

Our proposed 2023-2024 overall budget is available separately as it is fluid due to price fluctuations, and the generosity of folks just like who have been purposing to invest. They've decided they want to help and be part of a legacy project that will change lives. We'd like to invite you to join them, and partner with us and help provide some of the financial support needed to get the job done. We hope that you'll take a moment and consider the real difference you can make for these teens both now and for many years to come.

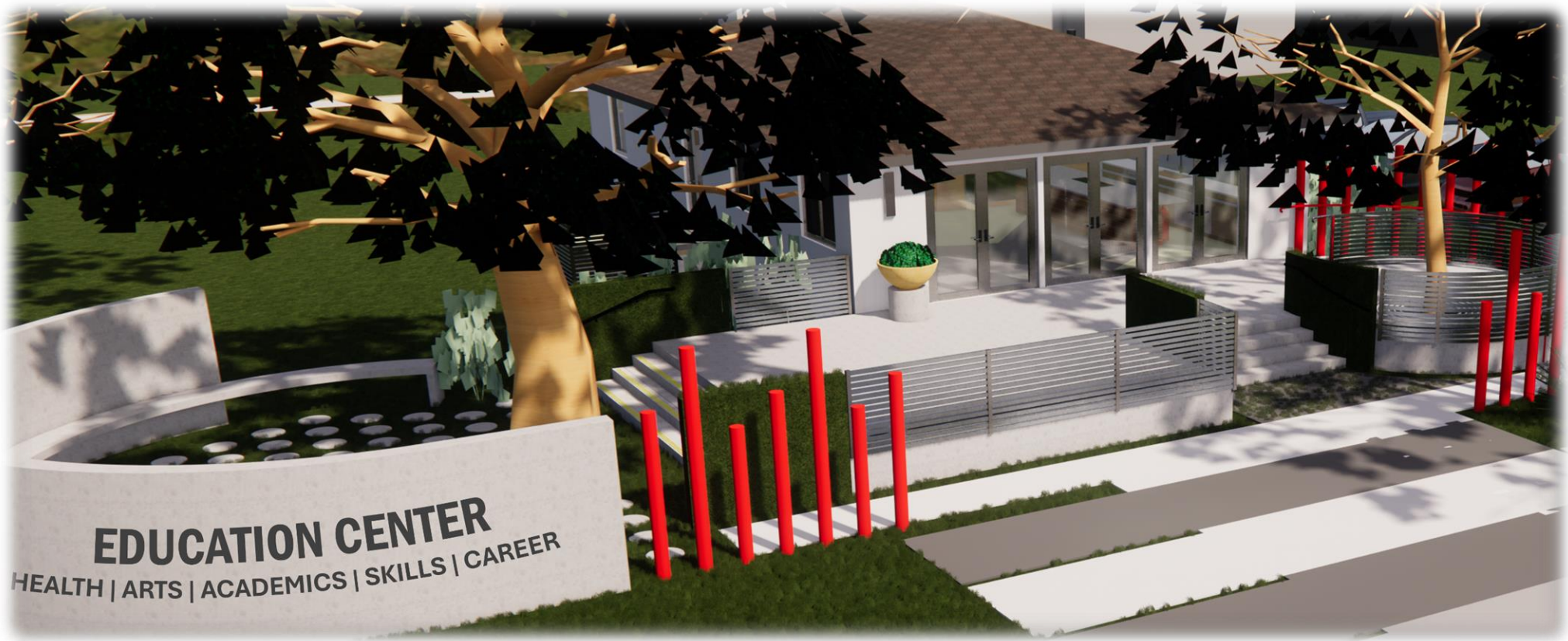
Imagine the healing that will take place in their hearts and spirits. Imagine the relief they'll feel in their minds when they feel that someone has their back, and the hope that their life can legitimately change direction. When teens are healthy and feel loved—and have an opportunity to be trained and educated—lives will be transformed, and futures will be radically reshaped.

Will you partner with us? Will you help make the Education Center a reality for foster teens in South Florida and give them a fighting chance?

# EDUCATION CENTER

## OUR PLANS

Health | Arts | Academics | Skills | Career  
Reshaping Futures. Launching Careers.



## Our MISSION

To improve the quality of life of teens in foster care and set them on a path to success by restoring their health, training them to be self sufficient, and providing the education, skills, and professional development they need to succeed.

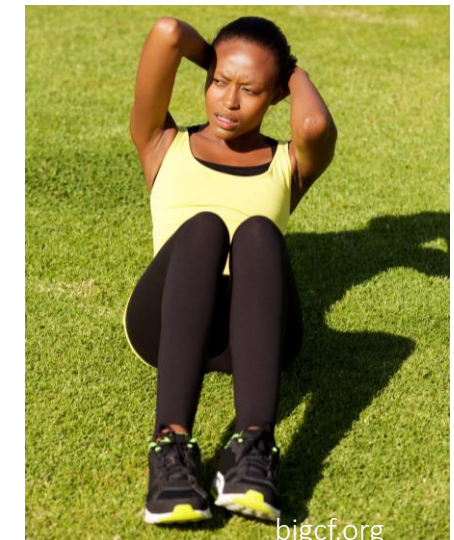
## Our VISION

To prevent negative outcomes and provide an opportunity for foster teens everywhere to enjoy a radically reshaped successful future.



## HEALTH and NATURE GARDEN

Fitness | Training | Quiet Time | Meditation | Natural Environment



### HEALTH and NATURE GARDEN

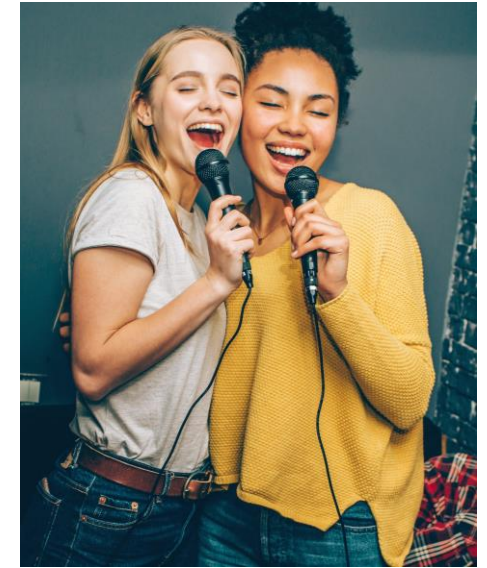
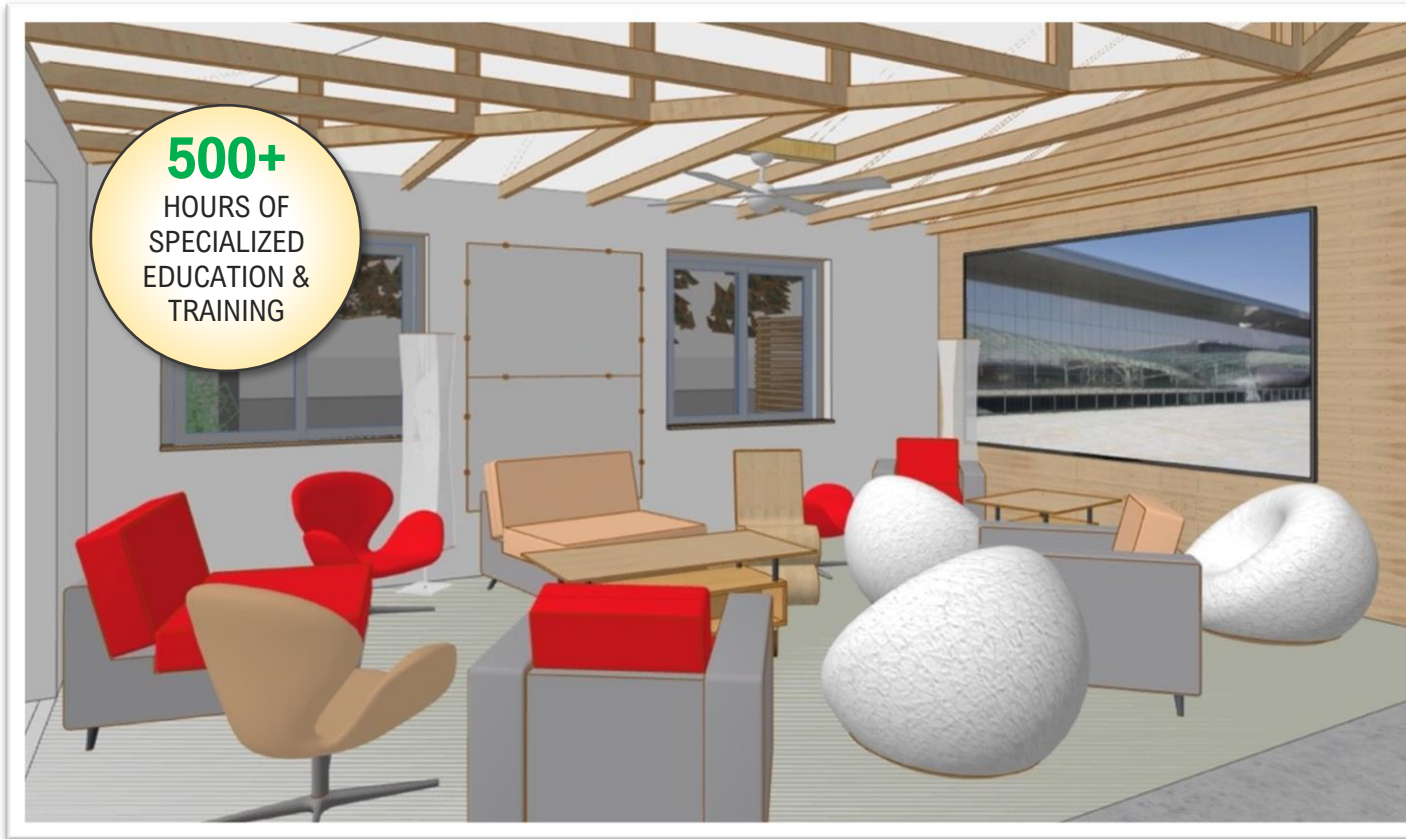
It has long been known that physical activity promotes overall good health, such as preventing heart disease, aiding in weight loss, lowering blood pressure and cholesterol, bolstering immune system, and so much more. But did you know that it is also essential for good mental health as well, such as relieving emotional pain, anxiety and stress, improving self-esteem and increasing a sense of well-being. In fact, youth who engage in regular physical activity and sports are much less likely to smoke, use drugs and alcohol, or involve themselves with criminal activity. Located behind a privacy wall, this peaceful nature garden is a perfect place for the teens to get some fresh air as they workout, stretch or have a quiet place to talk with their mentor, meditate, pray, or connect with their spirit.

**Releasing their Past. Finding their Peace.**



## ARTSPACE and LEARNING LOUNGE

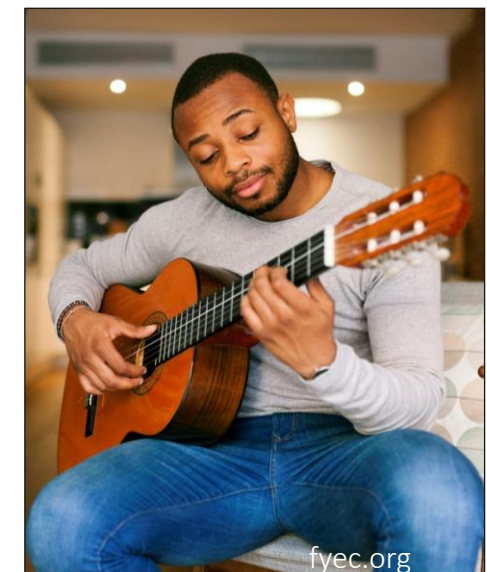
Music | Singing | Acting | Socials | Group Mentoring | Trainings



## ARTSPACE and LEARNING LOUNGE

This space is designed for healing and learning through creativity. Arts such as singing, acting, playing instruments, writing poems or performing spoken word, are effective outlets to express emotions. These tools promote healing by lowering blood pressure, and relieving anxiety and stress. They also help to build self confidence and leadership skills. Additionally, the chosen color scheme and furnishings are therapeutic in design, which makes a perfect environment for small group mentoring and counseling. Equipped with a glass dry erase board and a large format LED computer screen, this space will be ideal for trainings and workshops, as well as a fun space for social activities, board games, movies and popcorn.

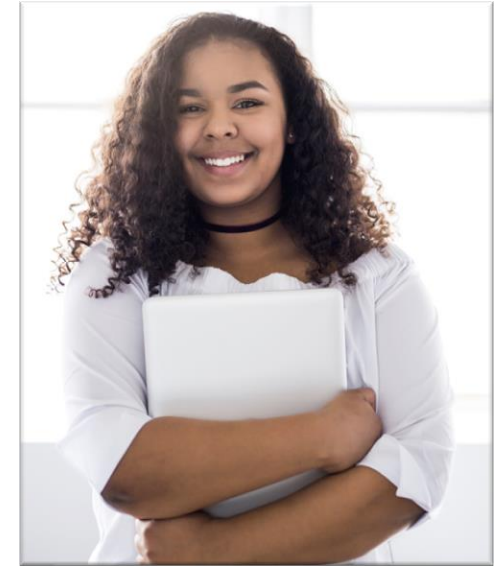
Healing their Hurt. Building their Present.





## MULTI-PURPOSE EDUCATION SPACE

Health | Nutrition | Academics | Trade-Professional Skills | Career



### MULTI-PURPOSE EDUCATION SPACE

This contemporary space will be used in various ways throughout our program, including teaching the teens self-sufficiency skills, including learning to cook healthy snacks and meals, household and financial management, budgeting and more. Likewise, the space will also be used for academic education, trade and professional skills development, and a place for guest speakers and professionals to conduct workshops and hands-on training. In addition to a large movable screen and modern technology, each of the 14 stations will be equipped with a power source, internet access, laptop, school supplies, cookware, utensils, and more so that every teen will have exactly what they need to succeed in the program.

**Reshaping Futures. Launching Careers.**





## iMfit2SUCCEED PROGRAM

A RESULTS-BASED JOURNEY TO WHOLE HEALTH, SELF-SUFFICIENCY, ACADEMIC EDUCATION, AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR FOSTER TEENS AGE 14-17.



### iMhealthy

#### WHOLE HEALTH AND WELLNESS

- Nutrition education
- Food prep and culinary arts
- Food shopping, label reading
- Physical fitness, fitness classes, weight-lifting, sports
- Weight management
- Whole health assessments
- Mind, body, spirit connection
- Confidence building activities
- Stress management
- Anger management
- Healthy relationships, respect of yourself and others
- Personal hygiene
- Sex Ed, abstinence
- Sexually transmitted and infectious diseases, STD's, STI's, HIV
- Disease prevention



### iMfree

#### EMOTIONAL HEALING AND EXPRESSIVE ARTS

- Expressive Arts such as: Dance, Drama, Voice, Music
- Creative Arts such as writing, design, crafts, pottery, photography, videography
- Group and individual counseling
- Trauma-informed mentoring
- Positive thinking and motivational workshops
- Relaxation techniques
- Mindfulness, meditation
- Moral conscience, ethics, and character development
- Spiritual guidance, prayer
- Bible study (optional)



### iMequipped

#### SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND INDEPENDENCE TRAINING

- Life skills and household management
- Budgeting, financial literacy
- Personal tax preparation
- Transportation, car ownership, maintenance, responsibility, and insurance
- Resume writing and interviewing
- Dressing for success
- Professional presentations
- Managing personal and professional relationships
- Conflict resolution and commitment to non-violence



### iMready!

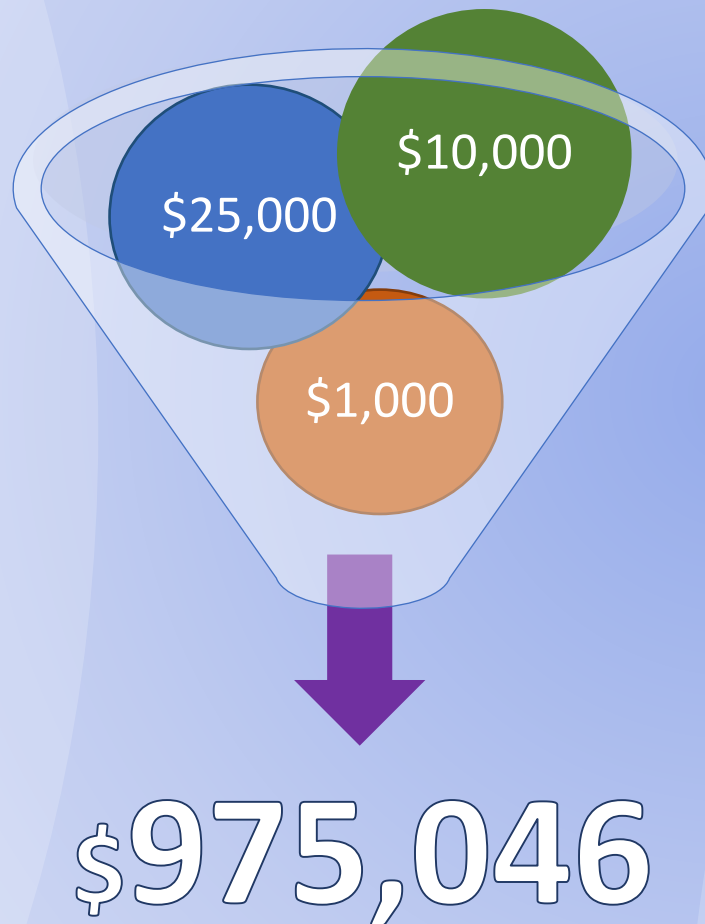
#### EDUCATION, TRADE SKILLS, AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Academic education, tutoring
- Hands-on experience by working with Community Partners to offer internships and OJT
- Opportunity to develop real-world professional relationships
- Learn responsibility, critical thinking and problem-solving by serving on committees that require attending meetings, leading teams, and interacting with partners and volunteers
- Self-esteem and confidence building exercises
- Leadership development
- Gratitude, serving, giving back



# CAMPAIGN GOAL = \$975,046

\$575,200 (RENOVATION COST) + \$399,846 (1<sup>st</sup> YEAR OPERATIONS)



GIFTS	NEED
\$250,000	1
\$100,000	1
\$50,000	1
\$30,000	1
\$25,000	4
\$15,000	1
\$10,000	2
\$5,000	3
\$2,500	10
\$1,000	100
Any \$	Many
In-Kind Gifts	Many



## ESTIMATED RENOVATION COST

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
ARCHITECT ET AL - Architectural Design, Interior Design, All Engineers, Estimating	\$ 75,000
DEMO - Interior	\$ 25,000
INTERIOR RENOVATION Education & Training Rooms, Bathrooms, Staff Offices (excludes furnishings)	\$ 94,000
EQUIPMENT - Appliances, Lighting, Plumbing, HVAC	\$ 93,000
EXTERIOR RENOVATION Entrance, ADA Ramp, Front Deck, Patio, Landscaping	\$ 138,000
OPENINGS - Doors & Windows	\$ 45,000
MAINTENANCE & REPAIR FUND	\$ 10,000
WORKING CAPITAL - Permits, Fees	\$ 20,000
CAMPAIGN MARKETING MATERIALS & PROMOTIONS	\$ 10,000
CAMPAIGN CONSULTANT FEES	\$ 5,000
CONTINGENCIES	\$ 20,000
FURNISHINGS Interior/Exterior, Staff Stations, Volunteer Station, Printer	\$ 40,200
<b>BUDGET TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 575,200</b>

**WITH  
YOUR HELP,  
WE CAN  
RESHAPE  
FUTURES!**

*Costs are estimated and are subject to change.*



## NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

GIFT AMOUNT OR IN-KIND	NAMING OPPORTUNITY	RECOGNITION DESCRIPTION All donors will be recognized as stated below, as well as positioned on our donor wall according to the level of support, and will also be included in campaign PR, media, and promotions.
\$250,000	FUTURE:YOUTH EDUCATION CENTER EXTERIOR MARQUIS	Name displayed on Exterior Marquis
\$100,000	EDUCATION CENTER MAIN ENTRANCE	Name displayed above doors on front of building.
\$50,000	CLEAR FUTURES - Glass Doors and Windows Sponsor	Name engraved on plates and displayed on select glass doors/windows.
\$30,000	POWER-TO-THE-PEOPLE - Electrical Sponsor	Name engraved on plate and displayed on prominent lighting fixture.
\$25,000	DEMOLITION SPONSOR	Name on lawn sign for the duration of demolition.
\$25,000	MULTI-PURPOSE TRAINING ROOM - Central Training Space	Name displayed on main wall in Multi-Purpose Room.
\$25,000	ARTSPACE AND LEARNING LOUNGE - Central Training Space	Name displayed on main wall in Learning Lounge.
\$25,000	APPLIANCE SPONSOR - Central Training Space	Name displayed on sign in Multi-purpose Room.
\$15,000	HEALTH AND NATURE GARDEN - Central Training and Guest Area	Name displayed on wall inside Health and Nature Garden.
\$10,000	LAVATORY AND WATER CLOSET	Name displayed on wall in both the Lavatory and Water Closet.
\$10,000	CLIMATE CONTROL SPONSOR - HVAC	Name to be displayed on sign near Donor Recognition Wall.
\$5,000	FUTURECHANGER PROJECT - MEDIA SPONSOR (3 available)	Name/logo to be shared electronically via social media, eblasts, etc.
\$2,500	JUMBO PAVER - ENTRANCE (10 available)	Name engraved on jumbo rectangular paver at entrance of Education Center.
\$1,000	ROUND PAVER - NATURE GARDEN (100 available)	Name to be engraved on jumbo circular paver in Nature Garden.

*All opportunities and costs are subject to change.*



# 2023-24 PROJECT TIMELINE

NOV



- Secure \$20K Working Capital
- Review and Permitting
- Conduct Facility Tours



DEC



- Permitting
- Site Tours
- Solicit Major Gifts
- Solicit In-Kind Goods & Services



JAN



- Permitting
- Site Tours
- Solicit Major Gifts
- Solicit In-Kind Goods & Services



FEB



- Begin Renovations
- Engage Community Service Projects
- Site Tours
- General Fundraising



MAR



- Continue Renovations
- Engage Community Service Projects
- Site Tours
- General Fundraising



APR



- Finish Renovations
- Program Pre-Enrollment
- Begin Promotions for Celebration Dinner and Education Center Grand Opening



MAY 4, 2024

**Future:Youth™**  
EDUCATION CENTER  
*Celebration Dinner*



MAY 6, 2024



**EDUCATION CENTER**  
*Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony*

SEPTEMBER 9, 2024



**CLASSES BEGIN!**

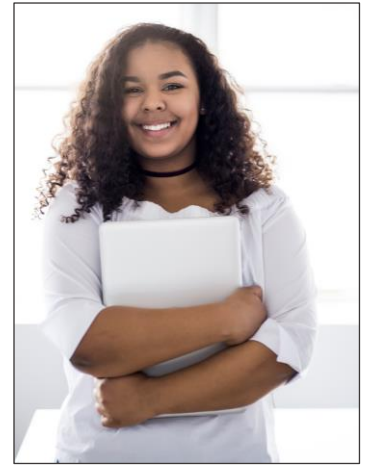


Health | Arts | Academics | Skills | Career

# Education Center

Reshaping Futures.  
Launching Careers.

[bigcf.org](http://bigcf.org)



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