

*A newsletter for residents of  
Halyard Park, Brewers Hill, & Harambee*

# GMF/MCW PARTNERSHIP



The partnership between the Greater Milwaukee Foundation, Medical College of Wisconsin and Royal Capital Group is an investment in people and place. Our vision is for a Milwaukee that is equitable, healthy and thriving for all. Achieving this vision requires focusing on places where the investment has been scarce and supporting people of color who are disproportionately affected by disparities in our community. As new neighbors, we plan to engage the community as guided by community priorities and data. The partnership will be a catalyst for improved health, equity and economic well-being in Halyard Park, Brewers Hill and the Harambee neighborhoods and will ripple out beyond those areas.

Together, the partners will:

- Engage residents and community partnerships
- Improve social determinants of health
- Catalyze change that leverages resources and investment

The partnership is demonstrative of the Foundation's generational commitment to advancing racial equity and inclusion in the region as well as MCW's commitment to better understanding and addressing the social determinants of health.





# VISIONING SESSIONS UPDATES

The partnership hosted three visioning sessions so far this year. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it will postpone hosting any community gatherings. We hope everyone is staying safe with their families. Learn more about COVID-19 and how to remain safe at [covid19.mcw.edu](https://covid19.mcw.edu). Below is a recap of this year's sessions, which presented an opportunity to continue to build relationships with new neighbors as well as engage with partnership leaders and the community engagement team.

## January session

This session gave the community an opportunity to respond and make suggestions to the drawings of the first-floor space, which were based off ideas from the visioning sessions that occurred in August, September and October of 2019. Community members were asked if the layouts represented the neighborhoods, what programming elements were missing and what issues the space should address. Community responses included having a space to highlight the history of the neighborhoods, ensuring there was a space for young people to fit in, resource information for youth and older adults, addressing mental health needs, health and wellness and training for child care providers.

## February session

February sessions expanded on the community feedback provided about the first-floor space updates. In addition, the community had an opportunity to respond to plans about the parking structure and what was important when it came to public art, green space, safety elements as well as traffic concerns. Alderwoman Milele Coggs attended the session and acknowledged the importance of the partnership in giving the community an opportunity to respond to the parking structure. The second session provided updates on the recommendations made in January from the community about the drawings. Details around the types of concepts were shared with the community and they included intergenerational programming, special events, café, teaching kitchen, workforce development, small business support, public art, mindfulness, youth programming and education, neighborhood resource and meeting space. These concepts were celebrated, and community members gave input on what partnership partners should remain aware of when moving forward on the next phase of the project.

## Community Survey

What are your urgent needs and how can we provide direct support and resources? Please complete the [survey](#). All information will be confidential.



## RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT LENNIE MOSLEY

Lennie Mosley has been the president of the Halyard Park Association for the past 15 years. In this position, Mosley provides exceptional support and service to neighborhood residents. Known as the “go-to” for most things in Halyard Park, she identifies residents’ needs and moves efficiently to provide key information, resources or direction.

Through her leadership, the association provides various opportunities for neighbors to convene through annual picnics, Christmas gatherings and monthly meetings.

Wherever Mosley goes, she represents her community and speaks on behalf of residents. Over the last year, she has been instrumental in amplifying residents’ voices and engaging with the GMF-MCW Partnership. She participates in various workgroups, attends community visioning sessions and speaks on behalf of residents regarding how the project will impact the neighborhood. Additionally, Mosley was active in the creation of an anti-displacement fund (created by MKE United and supported in part by the Greater Milwaukee Foundation), specifically as an advocate for its eligibility requirements.

## PARTNERSHIP IMPACT

# MKE United housing recommendations

- Address barriers to appraisals that reflect market reality
- Increase homeownership rates in the greater downtown area among communities of color to a level which puts us in parity with leading cities nationally
- Return homeownership rates in the greater downtown area to pre-recession levels
- Maintain or increase subsidized affordable housing units in the greater downtown area over the next 10 years
- Preserve unsubsidized affordable housing in the greater downtown area



## Anti-Displacement Fund Updates:

The application period is closed for the 2019/2020 tax year. Results based on the first year of applications:

- Total applications approved: 114
- Total households with members ages 60 and older: 73
- Total households with mortgages: 62
- 70% of applicants with mortgages were seniors over 60 years old
- Range of assistance: \$11 to \$1,800

Visit [mkeunited.com/antidisplacementfund](https://mkeunited.com/antidisplacementfund) for more information.

## GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY

# REASONS FOR HOPE MKE

The Reasons for Hope MKE Fund will award grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 to projects or programs within Milwaukee neighborhoods. Funding will support local youth and community-based organizations and programs impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. We understand that the closure of the local school district and limited access to participants is having a impact on our entire community and your ability to do your best work. With that in mind, Reasons for Hope is seeking to provide emergency funding to local community-based organizations to fill critical operational gaps and continue to provide virtual programs and services to members of our community.

Applications for the second cycle are due May 14. To learn more, visit the Reasons for Hope MKE [grant opportunities page](#).



## COMMUNITY RESOURCES HIGHLIGHT CENTER STREET WELLNESS

2701 N. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DRIVE

Center Street Wellness was founded in 2019 by Alexander Hagler and Joseph Ferch to bring awareness and assist others who wish to cultivate a wellness lifestyle. Their passion and desire to work in the Milwaukee community, local environmentalism, and social justice drove them to plant their roots in the heart of the Bronzeville neighborhood. Center Street Wellness aims to serve Milwaukee and the surrounding communities, which includes Harambee, Brewers Hill and Halyard Park, by providing education, products, and services which promote physical, mental, social, emotional, environmental, and financial wellness.

## Contact the COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM



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