It was a busy summer and fall at the ThriveOn King building.

Notable 2022 milestones include the demolition of a loading dock, restoration of masonry and windows, repair of the external brick, and construction of the office and residential divider wall.

The completed ThriveOn King building will house the new headquarters of Greater Milwaukee Foundation (GMF) and community engagement programs of the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) and will feature spaces to support its five priority areas: housing, early childhood education, health and wellness, social cohesion, and economic opportunity. Anchor tenants include Malaika Early Learning Center, a 5-star-rated early childhood education provider established in the Harambee neighborhood which will expand to a second site in the ThriveOn King building, and Versiti Blood Center of Wisconsin, which will establish a community hub for blood donation, education, and employment and job skill training.

Through significant neighborhood engagement and consistent meaningful input, forthcoming opportunities include makerspace, meeting space, a food hall, and gathering spaces for special events. There will also be 89 mixed-income apartments.

We are excited to continue sharing progress updates in the new year and wish you a peaceful, healthy, and fulfilling 2023!
GREATER MILWAUKEE FOUNDATION LOOKS FORWARD TO FUTURE HOME AT THRIVE ON KING

When ThriveOn King officially opens its doors, you’ll find the Greater Milwaukee Foundation taking up residence on the historic building’s fourth floor as well as continuing to build relationships throughout Bronzeville, joining the community in partnership.

After 13 years headquartered in the Schlitz Park office complex, the Foundation is moving its entire operation, including its diverse staff of over 65 employees, to ThriveOn King, furthering its commitment to and ongoing investment in the storied and pivotal neighborhoods of Halyard Park, Harambee and Brewers Hill.

As Wisconsin’s largest community foundation and one of the first in the world, the Foundation has been at the heart of Milwaukee’s civic community for over 100 years. The Foundation serves as a partner of choice for all philanthropic donors, nonprofits and community stakeholders interested in growing resources and unifying impact so greater Milwaukee can thrive. It serves as a catalyst, investing in and advocating for community priorities and lasting solutions to structural inequities. It serves as a convener, following community voice and connecting people across neighborhoods, organizations and sectors to tackle the greatest issues, together.

The Foundation’s North Star of racial equity and inclusion guides its priorities and strategies for building a Milwaukee for all. The Foundation focuses investment and amplifies voice around such interrelated priorities as early childhood education; dignified, affordable housing; and equitable economic opportunity. This year brought heightened support for community-centered approaches to violence prevention and healing. As a co-founder and co-leader of the ThriveOn Collaboration, the Foundation further helps advance racial, health and economic equity.

In supporting community-based organizations and initiatives, the Foundation provides funding in several different ways. Strategic investments and responsive grants for nonprofits are directed by the Foundation’s Board. Grants and co-investments are also made through the funds of those donors who partner with the Foundation for their philanthropy. The Foundation houses more than 1,400 charitable funds – including donor advised funds, agency endowments and scholarship funds – each serving the intent of the donors who established them.

Altogether last year, the Foundation and its donors awarded $65.1 million in grants to nonprofit organizations serving the community. Among its Board-directed grants, 43% were awarded to organizations led by people of color.

Additionally, the Foundation’s impact investing program has provided access to capital for small businesses, community development, early childhood education and more, totaling over $17 million to-date. This includes the ThriveOn Small Business Loan program that has so far supported 17 small businesses in the Bronzeville area and beyond.

The Foundation is also home to Milwaukee Succeeds, an embedded initiative that advances education equity in Milwaukee through a collective impact approach to systems change.

Driven by the belief that everyone can be a philanthropist, the Foundation invites the community to join in co-creating and co-investing in solutions for a more equitable Milwaukee. Its Greater Together Campaign offers a platform for philanthropy that recognizes all forms of giving, from time to talent to treasure to ties, and supports a range of community priorities, including the ThriveOn Collaboration.

“We couldn’t be more excited for the Foundation’s new King Drive address and the opportunity ThriveOn King provides for us to be even closer to our community,” said Ellen Gilligan, Foundation president and CEO. “At the same time, we have always known that our commitment to the surrounding neighborhoods goes far beyond a building, and as your community foundation, we will continue to show up for those we serve through bold actions, deep investments and vocal advocacy.”

COMMUNITY ART VISIONING SESSIONS

As construction at the ThriveOn King building moves forward, residents were once again invited to attend in-person Community Visioning Sessions at America’s Black Holocaust Museum. The focus of the community discussion held in September, October, and November was public art for the first-floor community space of the ThriveOn King building and the parking garage.

ThriveOn’s initial visioning sessions began in August 2019. It was during those sessions that neighbors expressed that art was an important and desired element for inclusion in the ThriveOn King construction.

During the recent art-focused community visioning sessions, facilitators inquired more specifically about the “sense of place” that is desired for the ThriveOn King community hub, and how this can be reflected in art.

Attendees participate in a recent Community Art Visioning Session
Health Navigation Information from 
The Froedtert & The Medical College 
of Wisconsin Cancer Center Community 
Outreach and Engagement Team

The Cancer Center Community Outreach and Engagement (COE) team is committed to reducing cancer incidence and mortality in our communities. This starts with facilitating discussions around the importance of a medical home. Once this is established, community members can pursue screening for cancer early, and the COE team hopes to assure that the Cancer Center is easily accessible to the community. As one way of assisting with health navigation, this article highlights the various health clinics that are in proximity to the ThriveOn Collaboration neighborhoods.

Aurora Family Medicine
1575 N. River Center Drive, Milwaukee, WI 53212
414-283-8444

Aurora Women’s Health Center
945 N. 12th St., 1st Floor, Milwaukee, WI 53233
414-219-5800
Aurora Women’s Health Center offers specialty care including gynecology concerns, reproductive health and family planning.

Froedtert FastCare Walk-In Clinic (McKinley Health Center)
1271 N. 6th St., Milwaukee, WI 53205
414-978-9037
Located on the southwest corner of McKinley Avenue and N. 6th Street, the clinic offers walk-in care to children older than 18 months and adults. Services available include physicals, flu shots, and laboratory among many others.

Gee’s MKE Wellness Clinic (inside Gee’s Clippers)
2200 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Milwaukee, WI 53212
414-763-8832
Gee’s MKE Wellness Clinic offers men and women services related to employment, housing, education, health screenings, and food assistance.

Milwaukee Health Services
2555 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Milwaukee, WI 53212
414-372-8080
Located in the Harambee neighborhood, Milwaukee Health Services offers adult medicine, pediatrics, women’s health, podiatry, laboratory, and X-ray services. The clinic also offers behavioral health, HIV early intervention program, human services, oral health, and WIC.

Progressive Community Health Centers (Hillside Family Health Center)
1452 N. 7th St., 2nd Floor, Milwaukee, WI 53205
414-935-8000
Progressive Community Health Center offers routine care to people of all ages. Services include women’s health, pediatrics, dental care, behavioral health, specialty care referrals, and financial counseling.

MILWAUKEE’S JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION
ThriveOn Collaboration was excited to host a booth where attendees at the 51st annual Juneteenth parade and festival could learn more about our collaboration and building. Milwaukee’s Juneteenth parade and festival, hosted by Northcott Neighborhood House, occurs annually on June 19, the national holiday that celebrates the anniversary of when the last Black people enslaved in the U.S. learned of their emancipation in 1865. Milwaukee has celebrated this holiday since 1971. Learn more about Juneteenth Day at milwaukeenns.org/2021/06/16/what-you-need-to-know-about-juneteenth-day-in-milwaukee/

THRIVE ON KING CLADDING REMOVAL
On June 30, construction crews began work on the exciting transformation of the historic department store/warehouse at 2153 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive to the new ThriveOn King building, by removing metal panels covering the red brick structure. A modest gathering of partners, colleagues and community members assembled to observe, support and celebrate this significant milestone.

THRIVE ON KING “THANK YOU” BLOCK PARTY
We were grateful to all who attended the ThriveOn King Block Party on July 27. It was such a joy to come together and celebrate the start of construction with our community partners, our future neighbors and their families, and all who have supported the ThriveOn King project. We shared delicious food, great music, and perfect weather. It was truly a memorable party!

BRONZEVILLE WEEK
ThriveOn collaboration celebrated the 11th annual Bronzeville Week, Aug. 6-12. Bronzeville Week, an annual celebration of Milwaukee’s Black culture, history, art, and more, occurs in the Bronzeville Cultural and Entertainment District in the Harambee neighborhood. Learn more about Bronzeville Week at milwaukeenns.org/2022/08/05/bronzeville-week-is-back-heres-what-to-know-and-do/
Each office hour session is designed to share information about neighborhood programs, resources, and highlight organizations in the ThriveOn King building. To learn more about office hours, visit www.thriveoncollaboration.org/events and scroll down to the section listing office hours. We hope you can join us to learn more about ThriveOn Collaboration and the ThriveOn King building!

**Tuesdays from 9:30-11:30 a.m.** – Clinton Rose Senior Center
3045 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Milwaukee, WI 53212

**Tuesdays from 5-7 p.m.** – Virtual via Zoom
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8084900247
Meeting ID: 808 490 0247

**Wednesdays from 2-4 p.m.** – Pete’s Fruit Market
2323 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Milwaukee, WI 53212

**Fridays from 10 a.m.-noon** – Gee’s Clippers in the vault
2200 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Milwaukee, WI 53212

Look for articles that introduce and highlight other ThriveOn King occupants, vendors, partners, construction updates, and neighborhood happenings.

The Community Engagement Team would love to hear from you. We continue to engage the community through various one-on-one chats with residents, stakeholders and community leaders from the Brewers Hill, Halyard Park and Harambee communities. Please reach out to one of our Community Engagement Team members to share your thoughts about the partnership, what types of things you think would be beneficial in your community, and to find out how to get involved. Want to be added to our mailing list? Please send an email to a member of our Community Engagement Team and someone will get back to you.

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