



# Case Statement



# Lifting Our Community

**CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE FAMILIES CAN THRIVE**

A Capital Campaign for MTZ Charitable Organization's Family Life Center



**Family Life Center**

**LIFTING OUR COMMUNITY**

An MTZ Charitable Organization Capital Campaign

# Laying a foundation of hope

Over the last few years, there have been exciting signs of community-driven revitalization on Madison's South Side. We've seen new educational facilities and new spaces to support Black entrepreneurs, honor Black culture, and strengthen Latino families.

These community-transforming investments will make a critical difference to the health and well-being of the South Side and Madison as a whole. But we can't overlook the daily adversities that could stop many from making the most of these opportunities.

Things like food insecurity, mental health issues, and paychecks that don't stretch to cover life's necessities are far too common. Isolation, limited access to healthcare, and unhealthy relationships plague our residents. It can be hard to reach for a better life when faced with such seemingly insurmountable odds.

The MTZ Charitable Organization is intimately aware of the challenges Madison's residents face. We've been a beacon of hope for our community, forging partnerships, providing a wide range of services, and helping people of all ages find a path to a better life. The community has embraced our efforts, and we've seen life-changing results. But the need is overwhelming, and we simply don't have the facility space or resources to keep up with the demand.

We won't let those challenges stop us: Our task is too important. Instead, we've created a plan to address them. One that will allow us to offer the support the most vulnerable people in our community need to have their chance at a brighter future. We're excited to share it with you. And with your support, we can make it a reality.





## Serving our brothers and sisters

Originating from Madison's Mt. Zion Church, MTZ Charitable Organization has deep roots in the community. For over 110 years, Mt. Zion has played an unparalleled role in supporting people of color. The church has a reputation for boldly acknowledging and confronting the most critical issues people of color face. It is widely respected for its steadfast commitment to improve their quality of life. In addition, Mt. Zion has been an exemplary steward of its financial resources—case in point, quickly paying off the debt it incurred to build a new sanctuary in 2003.

Although Mt. Zion has always worked to serve the community beyond its walls, in 2021, the church decided to formalize this commitment by launching the MTZ Charitable Organization, Inc. We have deep Madison roots and a profound understanding of the needs and challenges our community faces. Creating this free-standing entity provided a way to support broader community needs. It also opened the door to new partnerships that ensure families receive the support they need without duplicating already available services.

At the heart of the MTZ Charitable mission is the belief that we can best help people of color by taking a whole-family approach. Our efforts aren't limited by gender, age, or background. Instead, we work to understand and meet the needs of everyone, from young children to older adults, through inclusive, holistic services and support. We know the problems our community faces are complex and multifaceted, and we are committed to diving deep to address them.



# Partnerships make all the difference

We are so grateful for the many organizations that have come alongside us to serve our community.

Anesis Family Therapy  
City of Madison  
Dane County Human Services  
Dane County Juvenile Court Program  
Madison Metropolitan School District  
New Bridge  
Second Harvest Food Bank  
SSM Health  
The River Food Pantry  
Thrivent Financial  
United Way of Dane County  
Unity Point Health- Meriter  
Urban League  
Urban Triage  
UW Health  
UW-Athletic Department: Football Team  
YWCA



*“Working with MTZ has been an incredible benefit to youth at our facility. Thanks to MTZ, and its partnerships with local athletes and community members, our youth have regular opportunities to connect with people who sincerely care about them and provide the mentoring and guidance they need. We look forward to future opportunities to partner with MTZ.”*

—John Bauman, Dane County Juvenile Court Administrator, Juvenile Court Program



# Preparing our community for a brighter tomorrow

Our dedicated board, staff, and volunteers have worked together tirelessly to analyze current programs and determine the facility resources we need to do an even better job providing them for years to come. The design for our new Family Life Center is ADA-compliant and technologically advanced. It can easily be adapted to provide an evolving suite of programming and services and is designed with the needs of multi-generational community members in mind.

This new facility will give us ample space to deliver services in three important areas:



## *Educational programs*

We believe in the power of lifelong learning, and our new facility will accommodate everyone from children to older adults.

Youth will benefit from our updated Academic Learning Center where we offer afterschool programming during the academic year and daily enrichment offerings during the summer months. Designed for children in grades K-5, these resources create community, build social skills, offer respite to parents, and improve academic performance.

Our T.R.Y. (Transforming and Reaching our Youth) program helps teens involved with the Juvenile Justice System find their way to a better future. Spaces designed with their needs in mind will allow us to provide a non-judgmental oasis of privacy and support. And thanks to our partnership with Dane County Human Services, we're able to mentor youth aging out of foster care and help them become successful adults.

And we haven't forgotten our adult learners. They'll be able to tap into healthy living and wellness classes and community education programs—plus, have a place to socialize and connect.



## *Health and wellness*

To achieve true well-being, we must address our community's physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. We're excited that our new facility will let us expand our efforts in every area. Through our ongoing collaborations with local partners, community members can

turn to us for mental health resources and physical health services like flu and vaccination clinics. Our facility includes an indoor walking track, wellness equipment for all ages, and space to host high school basketball and volleyball games. This space will also house our new food pantry which will allow us to expand services to those in need of nutritious meals.

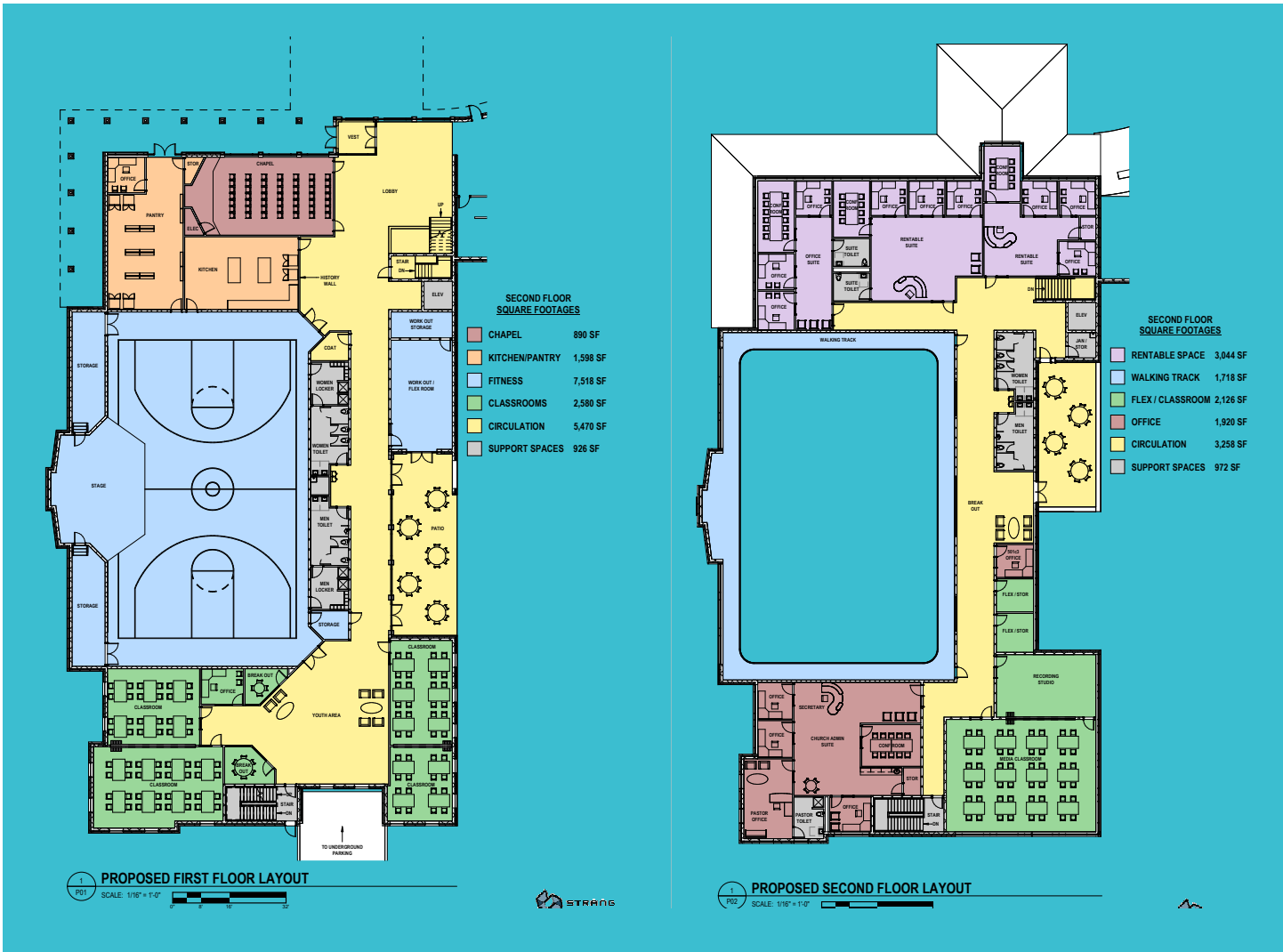


## *Community events*

Activities and programs that families can participate in together encourage bonding and

strengthen relationships. Our new building will allow us to host community and private events, such as conferences, trainings, and community listening sessions, as well as birthdays, weddings, banquets, reunions, and performances. Thanks to our industrial-size kitchen, we'll be able to prep meals and accommodate large events.





## Current Programs and Participation Levels

PROGRAM	PARTICIPANTS
Academic Learning Center	25-30 children weekly
Behavioral Health Clinic	100 non-repeat clients monthly
Older Adults Services	50-60 monthly users
Transforming & Reaching Our Youth (T.R.Y.)	20 in summer program; 15 visits at the Juvenile Detention Center twice a month
Food Pantry	60 families per month
Mentorship Program	50 youth/teens per month
Health Services & Clinics	200 people per quarter

## OUR NEW FACILITY WILL CREATE A WORLD OF POSSIBILITY FOR MORE PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY

**5x** more students will benefit from our Academic Learning Center

**4x** more community individuals of all ages will have access to free mental health services

**3x** more youth who are currently in the juvenile justice system will be able to attend our programs

- + More community health programs
- + More access to healthy food options





# Help us make a difference for our community

**M**TZ Charitable Organization is deeply committed to the people of Madison. These are our families, our neighbors. We understand their challenges and dreams. We are driven to provide the support and resources they need to stabilize their families and get on track to a better life. The community knows and trusts us and is comfortable turning to us for support.

We have spent the last several years creating programs and collaborating with local organizations to provide the services and support our neighbors need. Now we need a new home to house them effectively.

## *Will you join us as we create a facility that lifts our community and helps them achieve their best tomorrow?*

Our campaign fundraising goal is \$16 million. We know this is a substantial sum and one that will require the support of many to achieve. We are actively reaching out to individuals, families, foundations, and government entities at all levels—city, county, state and federal—for the resources to make this critical facility happen. Your support will be more than simply a donation—it's an essential investment in the future of our community.

Together, all things are possible. Please join us in lifting our community and making a difference. Thank you for taking the time to learn more.

*“Mount Zion is one of the anchor institutions in our city. Partnering with Mount Zion Church has allowed us to provide health and wellbeing programs to our African American community in a trusted place and space. We look forward to deepening our partnership with the expansion of Mount Zion’s community services through the new Family Life Center.”*

—Shiva Bidar, Vice President & Chief Diversity Officer, UW Health



## Contact Us

MTZ Charitable Organization

📞 608-255-5270

✉️ [mtzcharitableorg@gmail.com](mailto:mtzcharitableorg@gmail.com)

📍 P.O. Box 259933 | Madison, WI 53725

🌐 [www.mtzlife.com/familylifecenter](http://www.mtzlife.com/familylifecenter)