



Myanmar
Youth
Association
USA

BELONG • BUILD • BRIDGE

MYA COMMUNITY CENTER

A place to belong. A place to build. A bridge to the future.



CASE FOR SUPPORT

A donor and community partnership brief

Fort Wayne, Indiana | Concept design: August 2026

More than a building

MYA envisions a community center where young people and families can find connection, grow in confidence and capability, and build meaningful pathways into the wider Fort Wayne community.

The building is the infrastructure. Belonging, growth, and connection are the purpose.

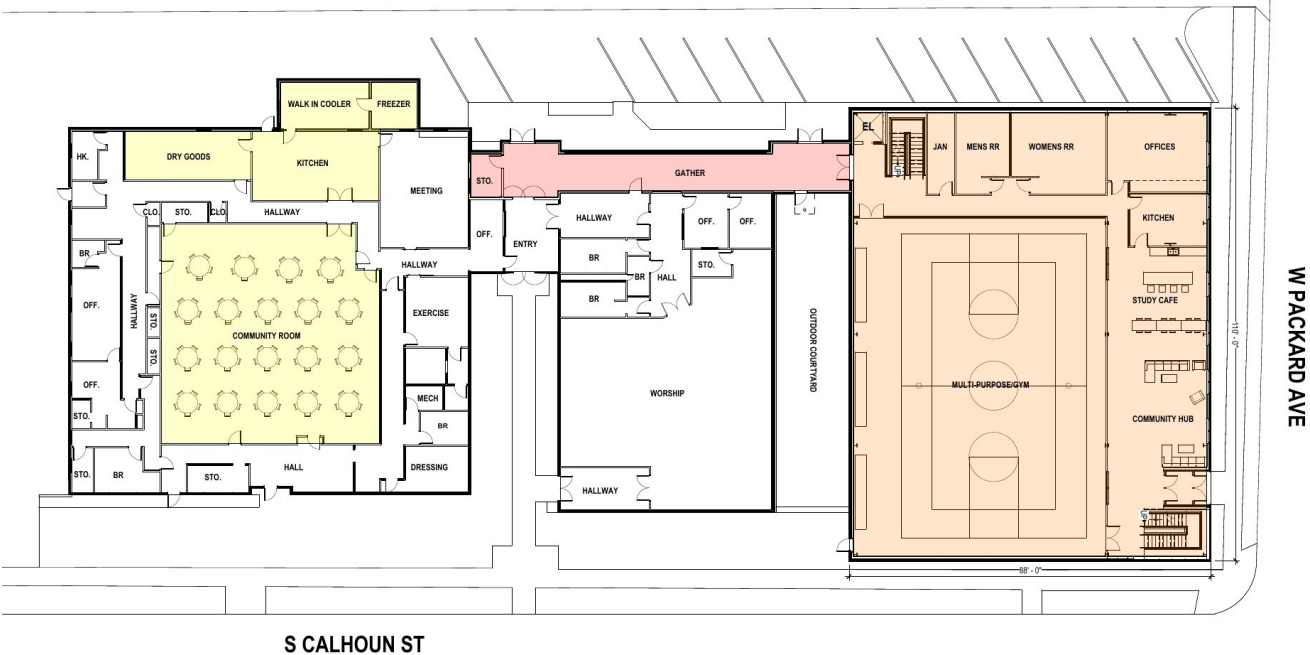
Our framework: Belong → Build → Bridge

BELONG	BUILD	BRIDGE
A trusted place	People and potential	Opportunity and community
Create a place where youth and families feel known, culturally understood, connected, and less isolated.	Develop character, education, leadership, family relationships, job readiness, health, confidence, and practical life skills.	Connect young people and families beyond MYA to schools, employers, institutions, mentors, services, and opportunities throughout greater Fort Wayne.

Belonging comes first. When people feel they have a place and people who care about them, they are better positioned to learn, lead, serve, and contribute.

A hub designed around people

The current concept brings together spaces for gathering, learning, recreation, family connection, service, and community life under one roof.



Conceptual first-floor plan - Design Collaborative

Community Hub A welcoming front door for connection and everyday belonging.	Multi-Purpose / Gym Flexible space for sports, youth activities, gatherings, and events.
Study Cafe + Classrooms Places for homework, tutoring, learning, mentoring, and skill development.	Kitchen + Community Room Shared meals, family programs, hospitality, and community connection.
Offices + Meeting Spaces Coordination, mentoring, partnerships, and support services.	Outdoor Courtyard / Activity Space A safe extension of the center for recreation and community life.

WHAT IT CAN FEEL LIKE

Designed for connection and possibility

The concept is intentionally flexible: a community hub that welcomes people in, a multi-purpose space that can change with the day, and outdoor areas that extend activity beyond the walls.



Community Hub and Multi-Purpose Space - conceptual renderings by Design Collaborative

One center. Many reasons to walk through the door - to study, play, gather, learn, serve, or simply belong.

What your partnership helps make possible

A capital project matters because of what it enables every day. The center is envisioned as a platform for long-term youth and family development - not simply as a construction project.

A place to come back to	A consistent, trusted environment where young people and families can build lasting relationships.
Room to learn and lead	Study, mentoring, classes, leadership development, and practical preparation for life and work.
Healthy activity and connection	Recreation, exercise, team-building, and positive ways to spend time together.
Stronger families	Space for shared meals, family programming, conversations, and support.
A bridge into Fort Wayne	A home base from which MYA can connect people to employers, schools, mentors, institutions, and community partners.
A place that can grow with the community	Flexible spaces that can serve different ages, programs, and partnerships over time.

A significant project - approached responsibly

Michael Kinder & Sons prepared a conceptual rough-order-of-magnitude (ROM) budget based on the August 2026 Design Collaborative concept. This is an early planning estimate, not a final construction contract or final fundraising target.

\$7.38M

Current conceptual ROM

What the estimate includes

- New community center construction and connector space
- Second-floor shell/basic services
- Renovation and upgrades to portions of the existing facility
- General conditions, permitting, insurance, and construction fee

Important: the conceptual ROM does not include design fees or furniture, fixtures, and equipment (FF&E). As the project advances, scope, phasing, value engineering, contributed services, and partnership opportunities can affect the final capital need.



Outdoor space - conceptual rendering by Design Collaborative

Help build more than a building

We are inviting individuals, families, foundations, businesses, congregations, and community partners to explore how they might help move this vision forward.

1

Capital gifts Invest directly in the development of the center and its core spaces.

2

Space or program sponsorship Support a future room, program area, or function that aligns with your interests. Specific recognition opportunities can be developed as the project is refined.

3

In-kind support Contribute professional services, materials, equipment, furnishings, technology, or other project needs.

4

Strategic introductions Connect MYA with people, businesses, foundations, and institutions that may share the vision.

5

Long-term partnership Help ensure the center is not only built, but activated with opportunities for youth and families for years to come.

The next step is a conversation: What part of Belong → Build → Bridge speaks to you?

MYA welcomes the opportunity to listen, learn what matters to you, and explore a partnership that is meaningful for both the donor and the community.

BELONG → BUILD → BRIDGE

A community center is not the finish line.

It is a place from which young people and families can move forward.



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Fort Wayne, Indiana

For donor and community conversations - August 2026