

Project Description: big bad wolf house: cleaner air for quality outdoor play

Big bad wolf house is a Self-Directed learning center in Southwest Detroit. Our goal is to support the community in re-framing what education looks like for children. We want to create a space where families and children of all ages feel empowered to direct their own education.

Due to the location of our center, between 2 large trucking centers, and two major highways (I-94 and I-96) we know that our air quality has changed.

We are working on creating an outdoor space where children can engage in learning. We know from a child development perspective the many benefits children spending time in green spaces, in natural spaces. We also know that children are most affected by low air quality.

Receiving the CAPHE mini grant would allow us to create an outdoor space that provides various layers for dealing with air pollution. Our vision is to install an air quality garden, a fence as an additional barrier. We also envision adding air purifiers to our space.

(recommendation 8-2) We are located next to a school with high traffic, and that high traffic leads to higher pollution when our children are outside. Our goal is to add a vegetative buffer that will not only benefit the children in our center, but also the children who attend the school. We envision planting shrubs, grasses, and other plants that will absorb some of the dust and pollution from vehicles.

We also envision building a fence to protect against dust and tire particles, as well as buffer against vehicle noise.

(recommendation 7-2): Our center is located in an older home with single pane windows, our goal is to increase air quality in the home with air purifiers. We think that this will add a layer filtration to our air.

Project goals. Describe your project goals and outcomes you want to achieve.

Recommendation 8-2: Our goal is to add a vegetative buffer along the edge of our outdoor space, to provide a barrier from the exhaust of the vehicles who visit the school. The buffer would be planted along our fence line, as well as an additional buffer on the road verge. We anticipate the vegetative buffer will be done by August 2023.

Recommendation 8-2: We also hope to install a fence to provide an additional barrier for dust, as well as sound. We anticipate the fence will be completed by end of October 2023.

Recommendation 7-2: Our center is in an older home with single pane windows, our

goal is to increase air quality in the home with air purifiers. Our goal is to have purifiers in the space by May 2023.

Applicant capacity.

This project would improve our ability to address air quality issues by creating a green space with various layers of filtration for the children in our community. We hope that this project will inspire our community to think about the steps they can take to address air pollution. Our center believes that education is an everyday life experience. We think that by completing this project we will be able to provide an opportunity for community building and learning.

- 1) Indicate who will carry out or manage the project and why they are qualified for this role.

Our project will be carried out by the learners, families, and staff in our center. We hope to also engage our neighbors for their help with this project. We are qualified for this role because we believe that learning can be done by anyone at any age and know that our community is willing to take the steps to learn about the best way to complete this project.

Project Impact and Sustainability.

We believe that our self-directed learning community, as well as the children who attend the school across the street from us, will benefit from this project for years to come. We know that the benefits of having green spaces can be one the best ways to increase air quality, and at times one of the most easily to recreate.

Evaluation.

If we can create an outdoor environment with several layers of air filtration for the children not only in our center but also in our community then we will have met our project goals.