

**SPECIAL MEETING  
OF THE  
ST. JOSEPH COUNTY COUNCIL**

**January 4, 2022  
5:30 P.M.**

1. Call to Order
2. Election of Officers for 2022
  - A. President
  - B. President Pro-Tempore
  - C. Vice President Pro-Tempore
3. Adjournment

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Phone: 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 935 0916 1121

Passcode: 247523

**AGENDA FOR THE  
ARP DISCUSSION  
OF THE  
ST. JOSEPH COUNTY COUNCIL  
JANUARY 4, 2022**

**5:45 P.M. or  
Immediately following Election of Officers meeting**

**This meeting will be held in person with the option of Zoom**

**[Join Zoom Meeting](#)**

Phone: 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 935 0916 1121

Passcode: 247523

**1. ARP Requests**

- 1. VILLAGE TO VILLAGE – OASIS COMMUNITY . Requested amount: \$500,000.00**
- 2. YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU: CENTER FOR YOUTH SUCCESS. Requested amount \$750,000.00**

**2. General discussion of ARP requests and review of spreadsheet**

# St. Joseph County, Indiana 2021 American Rescue Plan Grant Request

Date of Application: 6/29/21 Date Received:  (internal use)

Department : \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: Matt Borst Email: mattborst@gmail.com

Department Director: Matt Borst Email: mattborst@gmail.com

Project Concept: \_\_\_\_\_

Our project, Oasis Community South Bend, is the newest project of our nonprofit, Village to Village International. Please see the attached proposal for a fuller understanding and picture of what we are doing to provide housing for an already vulnerable group of young people, foster youth, who have only been more negatively impacted by this pandemic.

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Amount Requested: \$ 500,000 Total Project Cost: \$ 2,250,000

Other Sources of Funding \$  (explain)

Project Goals: Provide housing for youth impacted by the pandemic who are aging out of foster care.

Eligible Use Declaration: (choose one)

- (1) To respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative impacts
- (2) To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure

Please attach any additional documents necessary to explain the request.

Send to: [AmericanRescue@sjcindiana.com](mailto:AmericanRescue@sjcindiana.com)



# VILLAGE TO VILLAGE INTL.

## American Rescue Plan Proposal

The following is a proposal to invest in a proven model, Intentional Neighboring Community, that has helped solve the issue of homelessness with many different vulnerable populations. You will see that this model could become a model of care that is duplicated in many different locations across the city as well as the county.

**Organization:** Village to Village International

Village to Village International is a nonprofit that was started about 10 years ago. Our mission is to equip vulnerable children, youth and their caregivers with proven tools and resources that bring profound levels of hope and healing.

**Project Name:** Oasis Community South Bend

Oasis Community is an Intentional Neighboring Community made up of multiple generations of people to support youth aging out of foster care as they transition successfully to the next phase of life. Our mission is to create a sense of belonging through an intentional neighborhood model while empowering youth aging out of foster care, active seniors, young adults and families.

**The Model:** Intentional Neighboring Community (INC)

The Intentional Neighboring Community is a proven model that has been successful at providing permanent supportive housing for many vulnerable populations who are facing homelessness. These successful communities are located across the nation in places like Rantoul, IL, Easthampton, MA, and Portland, OR. The core of Intentional Neighboring is the value it places on the formation and sustaining of caring relationships. Of special significance is the value it places on the relationships, and their



contributions to well-being, created by both older adults and those considered most vulnerable—two groups for whom society generally has low expectations.

The following three values must be woven into the fabric of neighborhood life on a daily basis:

1. Embracing the power of relationships - we all need others in our lives who care, yet too many people are living isolated and lonely lives.
2. Reframing vulnerability - an INC is a place where those who are vulnerable are viewed as friends and family members not as wards, clients, or non-contributing community members.
3. Older residents are engaged in the community - older residents occupy roles and engage in activities that amplify their standing as elders.

**Details:**

The City of South Bend has been one of our biggest supporters. Tim Corcoran and his team from the Planning and Community Resources Department were influential in the decision the city made to donate five city lots to jump start our project along with other new development in the Near Northwest Neighborhood. Our 6th lot was donated to us by Michael and Tina Patton. Michael is the Diversity and Inclusion Officer for the City of South Bend and both Michael and Tina serve as pastors of Kingdom Life Christian Cathedral which is located in the Near Northwest Neighborhood. The exact location of these lots are on Sherman and Harrison streets in the Near Northwest Neighborhood. Tim Corcoran would like to see this model duplicated in other areas of South Bend. Oasis Community will be made up of seven duplexes, two single family homes, and one community building (see renderings attached). Following the INC model and their ratio recommendation, we will have room for seven youth aging out of foster care in our community.

**The Need: Statistics**

**The Numbers:**

- 25,000 age out of foster care every year
- 1 in 5 become homeless after age 18
- Only ½ will be employed at age 24
- Less than 3% will earn a college degree
- 71% of young women will become pregnant by age 21
- 1 in 4 will experience PTSD

By the time they turn 26 years old, most youth who have aged out of foster care and are on their own:

- 40% never obtain their high school diploma or GED
- 55% are unemployed
- 28% cannot pay rent
- 65% have been incarcerated

\*Source: Jim Casey Youth Opportunities & Annie E Casey Foundation

#### The Cost of Doing Nothing:

- On average, taxpayers and communities pay \$300,000 in social service costs over the lifespan of every young person who ages out of foster care. That means, taxpayers in the US are spending 7.5 billion dollars.
- Approximately 221 young people age out of foster care in Indiana every year. This means Hoosiers are paying 66.3 million annually

\*Source: Annie E Casey Foundation

#### **The Investment:** \$500,000

Your investment in a proven model of \$500,000 will help us build two of our duplexes. This will allow us to show people what we are building, begin serving young people aging out of foster care, prove that this model will work in South Bend, and encourage others to invest in this same model to continue to help tackle the issue of homelessness in our community. We have approached two local foundations for funding and both stated that they love the concept and the model but did not want to be the first money in. Your initial investment of \$500,000 will allow us to go back to these foundations for our third and fourth duplex. 100% of your investment will go toward construction costs for the first two duplexes and will allow us to break ground this year. We feel like this will give us the momentum that we need to continue to secure funding to see Oasis Community become a viable model for caring for youth aging out of foster care as well as other vulnerable groups who are facing the challenge of homelessness.

#### **Our Board:**

Executive Board:

Dr. Terry Waggoner (Senior Advisor) - Middlebury, IN

Anthony Troyer - Elkhart, IN

Heath Yoder - Nappanee, IN

Rebecca Johnson - Mishawaka, IN

Matt Borst - South Bend, IN

Stacey Borst - South Bend, IN

Stefanie Goudeaux - Grand Rapids, MI

Toussaint Goudeaux - Tacoma, WA

Oasis Community Board:

Minda Clemens Griffin - Goshen, IN

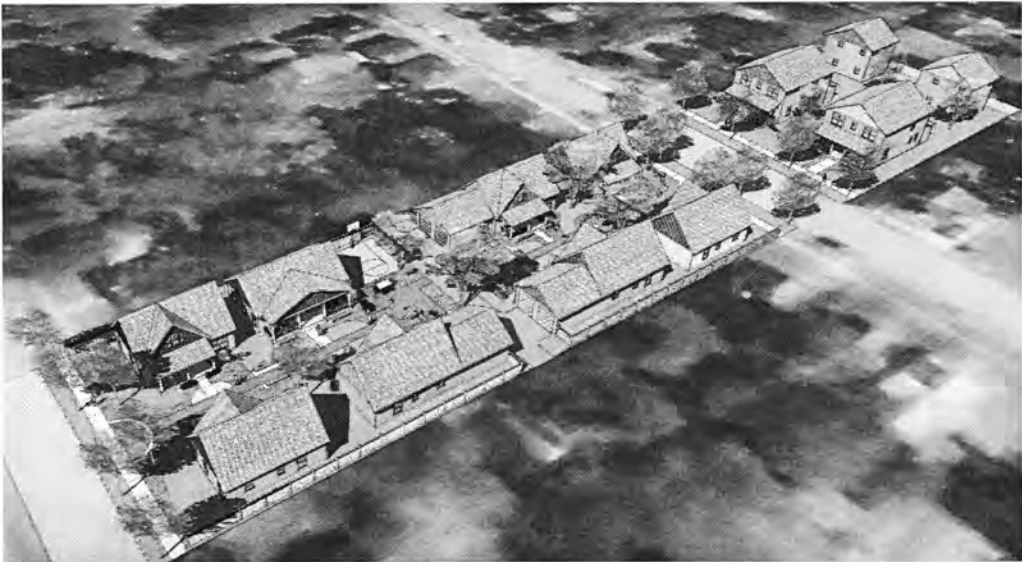
Kalyn Lantz MA, LMHC, NCC - South Bend, IN

Bryan Stowell P.N.P - South Bend, IN

Magistrate Paul Singleton - South Bend, IN

Scott Meiner - Granger, IN







# St. Joseph County, Indiana 2021 American Rescue Plan Grant Request

Date of Application: 8/4/21 Date Received:  (internal use)

Department : \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: Christina McGovern Email: christina.mcgovern@ysbsjc.org

Department Director: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Concept: \_\_\_\_\_

While YSB has done an exceptional job of maximizing resources to help young people across our community for the past 49 years, our facilities have been stretched beyond capacity to meet the current demand for services. YSB's work currently happens out of three, aging residential buildings, some nearly 100 years old, which are scattered throughout the city and are ill equipped to continue to support the services that teens and young adults need, and our community deserves.

In response, YSB is building a new 20,000 sq. ft. facility that will house all YSB programs in one efficient

space. This new facility, the YSB Center for Youth Success, will be the first of its kind in St. Joseph County.

Additionally, the long-term impact and presence of COVID will be with us for years to come. YSB's current facilities make it very challenging to serve a youth population that will likely not be vaccinated for some time. We will continue to need adequate space that will allow for social distancing and the ability to isolate youth who may have been exposed to or have COVID. Mental health, economic, and housing impacts of the pandemic are disproportionately affecting young people and young mothers. The need for YSB services will continue to grow and our currently facilities will not be adequate to accommodate these increases.

Amount Requested: \$ 750,000 Total Project Cost: \$ 5,000,000

Other Sources of Funding \$ -\$1M challenge grant from a local family foundation - \$500K challenge grant from the Justice (explain)

Project Goals: To create a 20,000 square foot building to accommodate all YSB services in one location. Increasing the numbers of youth who can find immediate safety, shelter, and opportunity through YSB.

Eligible Use Declaration: (choose one)

(1) To respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative impacts

(2) To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure

Please attach any additional documents necessary to explain the request.

Send to: [AmericanRescue@sjcindiana.com](mailto:AmericanRescue@sjcindiana.com)



## 2021 American Rescue Plan Grant Request

St. Joseph County Commissioners  
227 W Jefferson Boulevard  
South Bend, IN 46601

It may be hard to imagine, but there are more than 1,000 young people in St. Joseph County each year who are alone, struggling with homelessness, poverty, abuse and neglect. Youth Service Bureau of St. Joseph County (YSB) programs focus on meeting the unique developmental needs of these young people:

**Safe Station Emergency Youth Shelter** : Annually provides safe shelter for 200 homeless youth ages 12 to 18 and responds to over 400 crisis calls.

**Street Outreach Program and Drop-In Center**: Annually connects to 10,000 youth in the streets of our community with 500 of them visiting the Drop-In Center.

**Young Moms' Self-Sufficiency Program**: Annually serves 300 mothers ages 16-24 at risk of homelessness and 600 children. Ninety-nine percent go on to have no substantiated case of child abuse or neglect for at least two years after completing the program while 90% access safe, stable housing.

**Transitional Living Program**: Annually serves up to 20 youth ages 18-24 exiting foster care or homeless. 95% transition to safe, stable housing.

**Porch Light Transitional Living Program**: Serving pregnant or parenting young mothers ages 16-22 and their children. Ninety percent exit to safe and stable housing.

**Youth Development Services**: Established in PHM schools, 5,000 students annually participate in social/emotional wellness programs while 1,500 students received direct in school mental health assistance.

**Safe Place Program**: Coordinates 160 Safe Place Sites in St. Joseph County.

**Now, more than ever, YSB is needed to support youth and their families in St. Joseph County during the continued challenges posed by the COVID-19 Pandemic.**

While these are challenging times for everyone due to COVID-19, they are especially difficult for young people in crises whose homes are far from being comforting, stable, and safe. Homeless and at-risk youths' prevalence of underlying health issues, lack of stable shelter, access to proper hygiene and basic food supplies makes them a particularly vulnerable group during the pandemic.

Children and adolescents are faced with many losses including social isolation, school transitions that didn't happen, friends moving away without the ability to say goodbye, and family and extended family members getting sick and/or dying. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention noted that 18- to 24-year-olds have reported high levels of anxiety and depression, and nearly a quarter have considered suicide.

Try as parents may, flexibility has become the norm and adapting to the ever-changing reality is a necessity. This leaves children having to cope with change constantly in a dizzying environment that makes finding a secure emotional foundation much more difficult.

The consequences of these changes for youth will vary. For children from emotionally and financially secure families, spending more time at home can have its benefits. The majority of the families YSB serves, however, have been struck by financial insecurity, health scares, relationship difficulties, and an inability to balance work and caring for as well as educating children.

Unfortunately, the burdens of the COVID-19 crisis and its economic fallout are hurting all parents, but they are falling disproportionately on the single mothers in our Young Moms Self Sufficiency Program (YMSSP), many of whom were already struggling. Navigating a volatile job market while trying to ensure children are participating and learning remotely are just a few of the hardships facing our clients during this unprecedented time. And the pandemic is harming more than the day to day finances of these low-income families; it is also affecting the psychological well-being of parents and their children.

More than 75% of our clients have been negatively impacted by COVID-19 with job loss and the loss of childcare being the main issues. Clients are also struggling with food insecurities and finding affordable housing. Anyone with a housing goal has had a very hard time applying due to the restrictions of the apartment communities during the pandemic. Clients have also had issues with obtaining personal documents which slows up applying for jobs, housing, and benefits. These issues will likely last for some time.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the program has literally been a lifeline for young mothers struggling to take care of their multiple young children. Mental stress and anxiety are high. The YMSSP is focusing on improving clients' economic self-sufficiency while helping them learn coping skills to mitigate the crisis situations caused by the pandemic and work toward family stability.

New delta variant studies show the pandemic is far from over and a widespread return to COVID-19 restrictions could be on the horizon. In addition, new studies are showing that many of the negative issues caused by the pandemic are still affecting young people and will continue to do so for some time. The long-term impact of the pandemic on employment, basic needs, and education remains to be seen. The entry-level, part-time restaurant and retail jobs many youth relied on have vanished and not returned. Mental and physical issues linger due to the trauma of the pandemic. "Long haul" cases persist with both physical and social/ emotional symptoms during youths' formative developmental phases. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues with its unique challenges, current scientific findings underline the need to invest in promoting resilient systems surrounding adolescents and young adults to improve their mental and physical health as the pandemic continues. The futures of many of the young people in St. Joseph County depend on it.

While YSB has done an exceptional job of maximizing resources to help young people across our community for the past 49 years, our facilities have been stretched beyond capacity to meet the current demand for services. YSB's work currently happens out of three, aging residential buildings, some nearly 100 years old, which are scattered throughout the city and are ill equipped to continue to support the services that teens and young adults need, and our community deserves.

In response, YSB is building a new 20,000 sq. ft. facility that will house all YSB programs in one efficient space. This new facility, the YSB Center for Youth Success, will be the first of its kind in St. Joseph County.

Because youth homelessness is distinct from adult homelessness, both in terms of its causes and consequences, YSB's capital project will be the only facility of its kind in the County that will meet the needs of homeless and at-risk youth. More than 90% of our clients come from St. Joseph County.

The YSB Center will be built on 15 acres of donated land in South Bend valued at nearly \$1M near the corner of McKinley Avenue and Hickory Road and has many desirable features. The site is ideal for our clients as it is near many amenities including a bus line, retail, greenspace and access to employment and educational opportunities.

The YSB Center for Youth Success will:

- Increase the capacity of Safe Station from eight emergency shelter beds to 16.
- Expand the footprint and effectiveness of the Drop-in Center that will offer food, clothing, hygiene supplies, laundry facilities, counseling, case management, and for the first time, gender-specific showers.
- Provide eight new on-site, dorm-style rooms that will allow clients coming out of crises to prepare for their move to YSB's offsite Transitional Living Program apartments with additional support and resources.
- House a learning and recreation center with a computer lab, classrooms, and an activity area for exercise, art, financial coaching, and wellness activities. Improve mental health and foster social connectedness. YSB does not currently have such a space.
- Feature a new commercial kitchen to prepare healthy foods and serve as a classroom for job training, nutrition programs, and a new social enterprise.
- YSB will improve delivery of trauma-informed care through coordinated counseling and case management, and expand engagement opportunities with partner agencies, service organizations, and volunteers.

As of June 1, 2021 YSB has secured \$2.775 M of the campaign's \$5M goal through:

- \$1.M challenge grant from a local family foundation that wishes to remain anonymous (but whose identity may be available through a confidentiality agreement)
- \$500K challenge grant from the Judd Leighton Foundation
- \$1M contribution from an individual donor
- \$75K from the Schurz Communications Foundation
- \$200K from 100% participation by the YSB board

We know young people who experience homelessness are five times more likely than their peers to become homeless adults. Although preventing and ending youth homelessness today is far less costly than paying for the consequences of adult chronic homelessness tomorrow, youth homelessness continues to be a low priority for local, state and federal funding as a disproportionately large amount of public support is directed to the higher profile, costlier population of chronically homeless adults.



YSB is seeking a one time, \$750,000 contribution from St. Joseph County through the American Recovery Plan for the YSB Center for Youth Success. We also intend to seek funding from the cities of South Bend and Mishawaka.

We believe investment from St. Joseph County and local governments, as well as from other local foundations and individuals, is critical for the YSB Center for Youth Success to become a reality.

Stories of at-risk youth are often the ones left untold in our community, yet when these stories are told they are hard to forget. The young people served by YSB live St. Joseph County - they are future employees, co-workers, parents, and neighbors. Our entire community benefits when we can empower these young people and give them the proper tools to build self-sufficient and successful lives.

Please contact me at (574) 235-9132 x 101 if you need any more information. Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

*Jennifer*

Jennifer Pickering  
Executive Director