



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information contact:

Kacee Ochalek

(414) 286 - 8228

healingspaceLYB@milwaukee.gov

Healing Spaces Initiative: Where Flowers Bloom So Does Hope

Milwaukee, WI (DATE) – The City of Milwaukee is launching the Healing Spaces Initiative in the Harambee neighborhood. Milwaukee’s Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation (NIDC) will lead the city’s effort.

The Healing Spaces Initiative will help residents build relaxing natural environments on available city-owned vacant lots while, at the same time, eliminate blighted spaces and engage residents. Projects will include pathways, benches, flower gardens, solar lights, Free Little Libraries and more. By engaging in these activities, citizen volunteers will create safe spaces for rest and rejuvenation in the Harambee neighborhood.

Bader Philanthropies, Inc. is supporting the Healing Spaces Initiative with a \$70,000 grant. To amplify the initiative’s impact, NIDC is combining forces with Harambee residents, Eras Senior Network, Groundwork Milwaukee, Lowes Home Improvement, Safe & Sound, True Skool, and other community-based organizations.

Public spaces are an important part of urban life. They provide a relaxing time-out from city-life, recharging one’s spirit and allowing residents to enjoy their surroundings. The healing spaces will create a sense of comfort while being accessible to all.

Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett and Alderwoman Milele Coggs, whose district includes Harambee, support this initiative.

Residents or community-based organizations may apply to create a Healing Space in the Harambee neighborhood with no out of pocket project cost. To begin the process, call or sign up for an orientation at our [website](#).

More information is available at healingspaceslyb@milwaukee.gov or by calling (414) 286 – 8228.

###

About Milwaukee Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation

The Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation (NIDC) is a nonprofit corporation established by the City of Milwaukee to promote reinvestment in both housing and commercial structures within the City. The NIDC programs encourage private lending institutions and property owners to make improvement to the community’s homes and businesses. DCD staff provides administrative support to NIDC which is managed by a board of directors made up of members from the public and private sectors.

About Healing Spaces Initiative

The City of Milwaukee is launching the Healing Spaces Initiative (HSI) in the Harambee neighborhood. Milwaukee's Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation (NIDC) will lead the city's effort. Healing Spaces Initiative will help residents build relaxing natural environments on available city-owned vacant lots while, at the same time, eliminate blighted spaces and engage residents. Projects will include pathways, benches, flower gardens, solar lights, Free Little Libraries and more. The HSI is funded by Bader Philanthropies, Inc.