COMMUNITY CENTER MODEL

MISSION STATEMENT

OUR PLACE COMMUNITY CENTER will create positive outcomes to provide an opportunity for people of all ages to come together and feel a sense of belonging and experience leadership development opportunities and relationship building! WE believe empowering a sense of belonging and providing a children’s museum are realistic and attainable goals that will make an impact in meeting the challenges of drug prevention, mental health concerns and employability in our community.

PROGRAMS

The Community Center will be a supportive, creative and friendly environment. Participants will be exposed to many new learning situations with opportunities to become more knowledgeable and aware, meet new friends and build positive relationships.

2. Children’s Museum - 3 Rooms and Hallway featuring over 25 exhibits
3. Empowerment Room - Creative projects, art room, leader meeting room . . .
4. Service Tool Kits - Provide community resources for individuals and families
5. Mentoring - one-on-one support
6. Youth Activities - photography, drawing, video, painting . . .
7. Interactive music programs
8. Weekend and evening group activities
9. Lighten Up with John Estes and his service dogs
10. Parent University - Presentations on favorite topics for family members
11. Events - Fund raising and family-community events
12. Empowerment and Belong Leadership Teams

CHILDREN’S MUSEUM

OVERVIEW

The implementation of a Children’s Museum will be a ‘dream come true’ to our local communities. Great Start and many other community partners have been meeting over the past four years planning how this valuable interactive learning museum will become a reality!

CHILDREN’S MUSEUM EXHIBIT IDEAS

Many exhibit ideas are being explored, researched and designed for display in the Imagination Factory Kiwanis Children’s Museum. Exciting action plan discussions are happening for the following exhibits - Pine Mountain Ski Jump, Heart, Eyes, Teeth, Reality Sandbox, Early Literacy, Drug Education, Tiny Town, Rocks, Fishing, Gliders, Toddler Play Area, Water, Golfing, Reading Nooks and more.

CHILDREN MUSEUM GOALS

1. Grand Opening in 2019; June 15 Sneak Peek Event
2. Identify and meet with Children’s Museum Exhibit Sponsors
3. Design 25 to 35 exhibits to locate in museum
4. Write grants to help fund children exhibits
5. Compile list of 100 children museum exhibits
6. Encourage teachers / child care providers to bring groups of children
7. Develop museum exhibit building standards
8. Build traveling exhibits for Iron County
9. Store and rotate children museum exhibits
10. Decorate and renovate children museum rooms and hallways

HAND SHAKE BEGINNING!
COMMUNITY CENTER MOVEMENT

TEAMWORK
Community leaders came together during the summer of 2018 to begin organizing the implementation of a community center in the downtown Iron Mountain, Michigan area. 180 community leaders have joined together to implement a nonprofit organization; form a board of directors, membership team and committees; and decide on missions, visions, program models, museum exhibits, community events and more.

The excitement from individuals and families in the community has been overwhelmingly positive! Community Center leaders have reported that ‘everyone of every age’ sees themselves coming to the community center. “Our children love children museums and they are especially excited to be able to return to a neighborhood children’s museum on a regular basis,” reported exhibit team leader Cherie Fila. “Everyone needs a place where they can go and feel welcomed, comfortable and safe. The Community Center will be an intergenerational gathering place where everyone belongs,” acclaimed co-director Barb Reisner. “We will not duplicate services in our area. It is important that our community center is seen as a needed neutral site where people come from all surrounding locations to enjoy the community center programs, events and activities that will enrich their lives,” announced co-director Jonathan Ringel.

FOLLOW US
The Community Center has a website that will allow viewers to see the schedule of upcoming events, programs and activities; as well as get to know and communicate with the community center leaders. Contributions to the operating costs, children’s museum exhibits and children/youth programs can be made on the website.

The Community Center-Imagination Factory Website – ourplacecc.org

Welcome from Executive Board Members –
JONATHAN RINGEL, TAMARA JUUL, BARB REISNER, JEFF GURCHINOFF, JOHN ESTES

Executive Board
President - John Estes
Vice President - Steve Mulka
Secretary - Ruth Manier
Treasurer - Dian Miller
Beth Bray, Cherie Fila, Jeff Gurchinoff, Tamara Juul, Steve Markham, Christine McMahon, Becky Nord, Jonathan Ringel, Barb Reisner, Kim Webb

OUR PLACE COMMUNITY CENTER-IMAGINATION FACTORY CHILDREN’S MUSEUM

OUR PLACE COMMUNITY CENTER will provide a safe place where people of all ages experience a sense of belonging and experience positive relationships, life satisfaction and healthy lifestyle choices!

IMAGINATION FACTORY KIWANIS CHILDREN’S MUSEUM is the centerpiece of Our Place Community Center. Children and families will have the opportunity to participate in interactive learning and the discovery of new ideas and information!