



Dear Friend,

March 20th, 2018

We are excited to announce that Thomas Jefferson University in collaboration with New Kensington CDC and Impact Services has been awarded a design grant from the Community Design Collaborative to develop a conceptual plan for a mobile community health outreach platform currently being referred to as CoLab Philadelphia!

We recognize that Philadelphia has some of the widest health disparities in the United States. We also recognize that addressing these disparities will require creativity and new approaches to providing valuable community services. We plan to convert an Airstream trailer as a mobile, multi-use platform to activate public spaces and create unique programming for Philadelphians in their own neighborhoods. This program will build new partnerships among hospitals, clinics, other service providers, community-based organizations, designers and artists in order to change the future of neighborhoods in Philadelphia.

The initial pilot phase of CoLab Philadelphia will focus on the Kensington Neighborhood. Examples of activities which may be provided through this outreach platform include a fresh farm stand; health promotion activities and screenings; a public exhibition space to raise awareness about health issues; and a workshop space for local youth and students.

The core mission of CoLab Philadelphia is to create a platform that flexes to the needs of the community and brings people and organizations together. While the Community Design Collaborative will be providing the design experts, we need your help to guide the programmatic design which will, in turn, inform the physical design.

We would like to extend an invitation to you to participate in our community task force event to be held in Kensington in mid-to-late April. We will be sending more detailed information on the event soon. In the meantime, please respond to let us know that you are interested in assisting us with this exciting initiative!

Sincerely,
The CoLab Philadelphia Partners

