

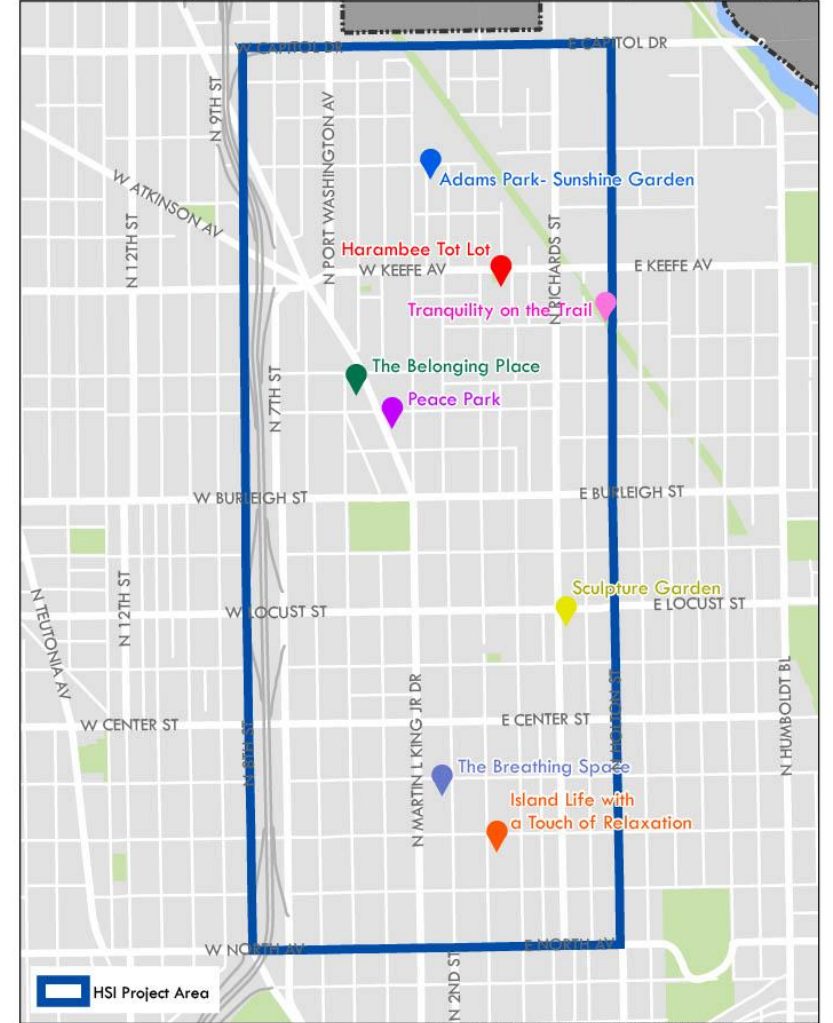
where flowers bloom so does hope

# healing spaces initiative

## HEALING SPACES INITIATIVE | 2021

Harambee Neighborhood

Prepared by the Department of City Development Planning Division, 2/1/2022  
Source: DCD Planning Division, City of Milwaukee Information Technology Management Division



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# Introduction

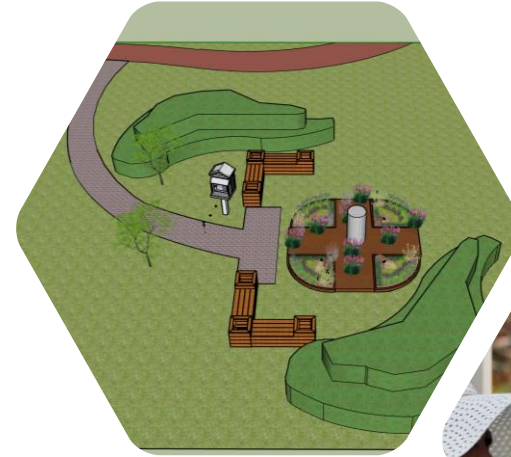
The City launched the Healing Space Initiative in January 2021, as a response to the isolation felt by City residents as a result of quarantine and social distancing practices during the pandemic.

Under the direction of the Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation, the Initiative repurposes vacant, city-owned lots to create spaces for rest and relaxation, along with community gatherings.

There are currently 13 healing spaces, located in City neighborhoods. In addition, 2 new spaces will be installed on the South Side in 2023. Spaces are implemented and maintained by program participants, including residents and community organizations.

# Feedback

- What we do well
  - Community Engagement & Visioning
  - Community Partners
  - Implementation
- Opportunities for Improvement
  - Stewardship
  - Site Activation
  - Maintenance Plans



# HSI By the Numbers: 2023

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2 South Side Healing Spaces  
(Polonia and Historic Mitchell)

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6 Applicants  
12 Visioning Session Attendees

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2023 Budget: \$50,000  
Average per site: \$15,000  
Balance of budget: Maintenance/Upkeep

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# Healing Spaces Initiative in 2023

In 2023 Healing Spaces will be built on vacant, city-owned lots as well as city-owned lots with pre-existing community projects and investment in minority majority neighborhoods.


Projects will include, among other things, pathways, benches, perennial herb and flower gardens, pergolas, solar lights, and meditation sign posts. All Healing Space Initiative projects are ADA accessible.

Residents or community based organizations may apply, but all spaces are underwritten by community based organizations or neighborhood groups.

A community meeting taking place outdoors on a grassy area. Several people are seated at tables, some looking at documents. In the background, there are residential houses and trees. A dark semi-transparent box is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the text 'Targeted Neighborhoods'.

# Targeted Neighborhoods

- Neighborhoods will be targeted by the following factors:
  - South Side locations
  - Identified interest as discussed in DCD Planning Departments Area Comprehensive Plan
  - High social vulnerability score or High Poverty status on City's Equity Mapping Tool
  - Connection to strong network of committed neighborhood groups (TIN, etc.)
  - Vacant Lot availability and density as provided by DCD Real Estate



# Sustainability

- Eligible Applicants
- Locations
- Types of Amenities
- Repair Budget
- Future Collaboration/Activation
- Volunteers



Where Flowers Bloom So  
Does Hope

THANK YOU!!