Project Name: USS Little Rock Fantail Canopy

Project Description: Each year, over 110,000 people from across Western New York and around the world cross the deck of the retired guided missile cruiser the USS Little Rock, the largest of the three ships permanently moored on the downtown waterfront at the Buffalo & Erie County Naval and Military Park (BNMP). While many are visitors touring the ship for the first time, nearly one-third are United States Armed Forces veterans, their families and loved ones, attending one of the dozens of memorial services, reunions and commemorations held at BNMP each year.

Many of these ceremonies are held aboard or conclude with a reception on the Little Rock’s fantail deck. Without a permanent cover, deck events are at the mercy of our unpredictable Buffalo weather; even in good weather, the unshaded deck can become inhospitable. A permanent canopy covering the deck will enable BNMP to host receptions and ceremonies in all types of weather, while also expanding the Little Rock’s viability as a rented event space.

Project Name: Timeline: The Bicentennial Story of Erie County

Project Description: In 2021, Erie County celebrates its Bicentennial – a once-in-a-generation opportunity to engage residents to learn how the people of our region shaped the course of history. As the region’s leading heritage-based center, The Buffalo History Museum plans a premiere experience that enhances quality of life in our deeply rooted region.

One of the most frequent questions asked is, “Where can I find the story of Buffalo?” In 2021, “Timeline: The Bicentennial Story of Erie County” debuts, responding to the community’s need. The 3,800 sq. ft. experience shares our collective stories from immigration to innovation and the unique histories that have unfolded over two centuries. The beneficiaries are the 53,000 multi-generational, culturally diverse annual visitors. This project advances WNY as a leading destination for cultural tourism. It will take another century to realize a time more perfect than now to offer a premiere experience that elevates our region’s potent sense of community connection.
**Project Name:** GrowMore for Good  
**Project Description:** To overcome barriers marginalized communities face to accessing healthy food, FeedMore WNY is thinking inside the box - a 320 sq. ft. box that houses a hydroponic farm to be exact.

Decades of institutional racism and economic inequality have negatively influenced access to healthy food choices. In our four-county service area, 12% of individuals and 20% of children are food insecure. These rates are complicated by the numerous food deserts and food swamps in WNY, neighborhoods where residents do not have access to affordable healthy food options.

Access to healthy food strengthens communities, restores dignity, and works to create equality. A FeedMore operated Freight Farms Greenery™ will be a healthy food oasis supplying fresh produce to more than 129,000 individuals every month who turn to our 300 agencies for food to thrive. Capable of producing 200 lbs. of produce a week, we will harvest and distribute within 24-48 hrs, a variety of client-requested vegetables, fruits, and herbs.

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**Project Name:** Renovating Homes. Restoring Lives.  
**Project Description:** Countless WNY residents bear the often-hidden scars of trauma. When youth suffer trauma at the hands of their caretakers/parents, they are removed from the home to protect them. A harsh reality of the Child Welfare System is its unusually high rate of teen pregnancies. Homespace was founded to protect, nurture, and transform these pregnant/parenting girls and their dependent children. With an appreciation of Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs, we know that until basic survival necessities are satisfied (e.g., shelter, food, safety), human beings cannot “build up” to achieve our full potential.

Homespace housing opened in 1994 to meet basic needs. Trust soon followed, allowing for next-level trauma-informed care and life skills development. After accommodating over 500 young families, our independent living units need restoration. Interiors need work beyond routine maintenance. The rehab of four townhouses to last another 25 years will directly impact 500 or more of our most vulnerable youth.
Project Name: Dental Clinic at 1021 Broadway

Project Description: With a distinct oral health provider shortage in Buffalo’s East Side, bringing comprehensive safety-net dental care back to this neighborhood is an essential component of overall community health. In an area where nearly two-thirds are under 200% of the federal poverty level and are faced with multiple determinant of health challenges, many East Side residents don’t know how to locate the closest safety-net providers in other neighborhoods or have the means to travel outside the neighborhood for care. Jericho Road’s medical staff identify poor oral health as a major issue in our patient base, building this clinic is needed and the right thing to do.

Our dental clinic will be fully integrated with our primary medical care, interpretation & behavioral health staff, care coordination and all our supportive, wrap-around human service programming. Over the next three years, we plan to increase access to dental services by 4,300 dental visits in year one, 5,000 in year two and 5,700 in the third.

Project Name: Re-pointing of North and South Redoubts

Project Description: The Redoubts, two iconic stone towers that flank Fort Niagara’s main wall, have stood guard over the Niagara River for nearly 250 years. Built by the British after their seizure of the fort in 1759, the Redoubts have stood witness to the American Revolution, the War of 1812, the Civil War and two world wars. The fort maintains ties to Indigenous, French, British and US cultures. In America’s early years, the fort enabled settlement along the frontier in such places as Lewiston and Buffalo. It served as a gateway from the Atlantic to the upper Great Lakes and American interior.

The redoubts are now in dire need of repair. Without this work, they are in danger of serious decay as the forces of nature wear on them. Such wear would greatly reduce their value as a cultural and economic resource for New York State. This project would promote the redoubts’ sustainability and allow them to continue to serve as valuable educational venue for thousands of residents and visitors to our region.
Project Name: Emergency Foster Care Capital Improvements

Project Description: Established in 2016 and licensed by NYS Office of Children and Family Services, the OLV Human Services (formerly Baker Victory Services) Emergency Foster Care Program provides a safe, immediately available placement option in cases where removal of children from their homes is necessary for their own protection. It is the only program of its kind in Western New York, and has the capacity to care for a total of 10 children in one facility (named Michael Cottage). In the three years since its inception, the program has served over 250 children.

Capital improvements are necessary due to the age and condition of the building. Constructed in the 1950s, the cinder-block building is stark and institutional in nature and does not offer the ideal home-like setting necessary to best care for these children, many of whom have behavioral and emotional issues brought on by a history of trauma, neglect, or abuse.

Project Name: Community Makerspace Expansion

Project Description: The Foundry serves 235 youth along with 1,200 adult learners and volunteers annually in our shared community makerspaces, all while providing private space for up to 32 small businesses. Finding room to collaboratively design and build a minimum of 12 community projects each year, including 200 beds for low-income youth through The Service Collaborative’s Beds for Buffalo program, is a challenge.

Increasing the square footage of our workspaces by 1,500 sq. ft. will enable us to build throughout all seasons and manage multiple projects. Community projects -- small benches, little libraries, or signs currently built one at a time due to space constraints -- could be created simultaneously or expand to include the construction of larger structures. Additional space will allow us to maintain our current members, students, and workforce development programs, while enabling us to expand access opportunities for residents to learn about trades, computer assisted design and advanced manufacturing.
**Project Name:** Critical Facility Upgrades to The Trading Post Community Care Center

**Project Description:** The Trading Post has been a vital service provider to Erie, Cattaraugus, and Wyoming County residents since 2003. The Trading Post Community Care Center is located at 38 Franklin Street (Springville, NY), in a 4,295 square foot building built in 1942 that is now owned and operated by Watermark Wesleyan.

The Trading Post is seeking one-time capital funding to enhance the facility with a “facelift” that would include new siding, an awning, double entry front door, exterior lighting and commercial sign, along with a new drop ceiling, insulation, and conversion to LED lighting throughout the interior. These critical one-time infrastructure investments will have a lasting impact, helping to ensure that over 1,600 low-income and vulnerable individuals, families, and elderly in the greater Springville community served by The Trading Post annually will continue to receive critical assistance in addressing hunger, meeting everyday needs, and nurturing hope for the future.