

**COMMUNITY EFFORTS IN WEST END & CITY OF CINCINNATI** 

# COMMUNITY BENEFITS AGREEMENT



#### **COMMUNITY BENEFITS AGREEMENT OVERVIEW**

- FC Cincinnati is committed to being good neighbors in the West End.
- The club continues to fulfill and **exceed the commitments** outlined in the club's landmark Community Benefits Agreement with The Port and the West End Community Council.
- The agreement identifies neighborhood priorities to improve the quality of life in the West End.
- The **30-year** CBA is valued at more than **\$50 million**.





#### **WEST END NONPROFIT SUPPORT**

- FC Cincinnati Foundation contributes at least \$100,000 annually to non-profits working in the West End or located in the West End.
- FC Cincinnati prioritizes the West End community organizations and schools for concession sales fundraising, other fundraising opportunities during MLS games at TQL Stadium. City Gospel mission is manning one concession stand for the start of the season.
- Donated \$20,000 to MORTAR for entrepreneurship support in the West End.

#### **WEST END YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

- Created and operate a youth soccer program in the West End, the *West End Pride*. The teams were created in 2018 with 35 participants and have grown to over 290 players this Spring.
- Provided \$10 million for the construction of CPS' Stargel Stadium located across from Taft Hight School.
- A scholarship program launched with Chatfield College in 2021. With the change in Chatfield's mission and scholarships no longer an option, we are in active conversations with UC for scholarships to start the 2024-2025 school year.

## **CBA REQUIREMENTS**

#### **WEST END JOBS/WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

- Funded a training program based at CityLink in the West End and a First Source Hiring job referral program for stadium construction.
- Host annual job fair in the West End for FC Cincinnati and TQL Stadium vendors.
- During construction of the West End Mixed Use project, FCC plans to hold hiring events and construction training opportunities for West End residents.

#### **WEST END HOUSING**

- \$200,000 for affordable housing development in the West End.
- \$100,000 to a West End Emergency Housing Fund.
- \$150,000 for a West End housing study and community outreach.

### **CBA REQUIREMENTS**

#### **FCC WEST END COALITION MEMBERS**

Galen Gordon, West End Community Council Alexis Kidd, Seven Hills Neighborhood Houses Matt King, West End Business Association Nick Johnson, West End Youth Sports Programs Kim McCarty, FCC Season Ticket Member in West End Noah O'Brien, Betts-Longworth Historic District Jason Mickey, City West Townhomes Patricia Charlton, City West Neighborhood Association Ceair Baggett, Taft High School Marguicia Jones, West End resident appointed by FCC and West End Community Council Meeka Owens, City Council Member William Fischer, Port John Walter, OTR Community Open Seat, CPS School Board Member Gregory Johnson, Executive Administrator of CMHA Pastor Nick Burnett, Faith Alliance of West End

FC Cincinnati Participants: Kate Solomon, Mark Mallory, Chad Munitz Government Strategies Participants: Jim Benedict, Anne Sesler

#### WEST END COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Meet regularly with the FC Cincinnati-West End Community Coalition which is appointed by City Council. List of participants included to the left.
- Attend West End Community Council meetings.
- During stadium design, FCC formed and met regularly with a Design Committee of West End residents to gain input on the design.
- Prior to stadium design, FCC commissioned a Traffic Study to minimize impact of the new stadium to the neighborhood.

## WEST END SUPPORT OUTSIDE OF CBA REQUIREMENTS



In 2023 alone, FCC staff have volunteered 1,720 hours in the West End.

#### **EXTENSION OF JOBS & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

- Partner with Taft High School for FCC Futures, a sports administration opportunity which provides a
  part-time job at TQL Stadium and education sessions for students to learn more about a career in the
  industry.
- FCC and Levy (TQL Stadium Concessionaire) currently supports a culinary career training program at CityLink with 4-6 individuals joining Levy's staff per cohort and three individuals from the program on staff at this time.

#### **EXTENSION OF NONPROFIT SUPPORT**

• In 2020, FCC Foundation created a \$250,000 Social Justice Fund supporting local organizations with a track record of addressing racial inequities in the region, \$100,000 of which directly benefited West End non-profit organizations.



#### **EXTENSION OF WEST END COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

- Host and/or provide support for annual holiday events in the West End, including:
  - Getting Spooky with Gary event where families from the West End are invited to trick-or-treat with Gary the Lion at TQL Stadium.
  - FCC staff-driven Holiday Food Drive to assist those facing food insecurities around Thanksgiving
  - Participation in West End Christmas Celebration
  - o FCC staff Giving Tree to support West End families with the help of St. Vincent de Paul
  - Shop Like a Pro where FCC surprises kids from Cincinnati College Preparatory School, located in the West End, along with students from CPS, North College Hill and Covington Independent, with a shopping experience they will never forget. These kids arrive at a store in style in a limousine, are greeted by FCC coaches and staff, and are given a gift card to shop along with a dinner.
  - 2023 Initiative with Standard Textile distributed 1,000 pillows to help improve the quality of sleep of families living in the West End.

#### **CELEBRATION OF FC CINCINNATI MILESTONES**

- In 2021, FC Cincinnati celebrated the opening of TQL Stadium with West End residents being some of the first to see the stadium. West End Pride teams were the first people to ever play on the field as they took on their SAY East opponents from the stadium.
- Celebrated the 2023 Supporters' Shield with a West End resident photo opportunity with the Supporters' Shield.



#### **EXTENSION OF WEST END YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

- Hosted a school supply drive for the Hays-Porter School and partnered with the U.S. Women's National Team ahead of their match at TQL Stadium to collect additional school supplies
- Volunteer groups of staff for four Adopt A Class classrooms at Hays-Porter School
- Hosted the first youth soccer camps in 2023 which were open to West End, city of Cincinnati, and other youth in the region
- Run Learning Is Cool across Cincinnati Public Schools, North College Hill and Covington Independent along with CCPA in the West End
- Run Soccer Unites in-school during gym class and through after-school programs
- Build mini pitches across region with one in the West End and seven in Cincinnati (CRC locations)



## FC CINCINNATI FOUNDATION



WEST END PRIDE

**457 PARTICIPANTS** 

in West End Pride's Spring and Fall seasons. LEARNING IS COOL

24,585 STUDENTS. 67 SCHOOLS. **SOCCER UNITES** 

824 HOURS OF PROGRAMMING

8,628 Kids. 173 Appearances with Soccer Unites.

## MINI PITCH GOAL ACHIEVED

FC Cincinnati Foundation opened mini pitches #8, #9 and #10.

Common Ground All-Accessible Park (Mason), Hartwell Recreation Center, Lincoln Recreation Center (West End), North Avondale Recreation Center, Price Hill Recreation Center, Madisonville Recreation Center, Austinburg Park, Bond Hill Park, Douglass Park (Middletown), Lunken Playfield

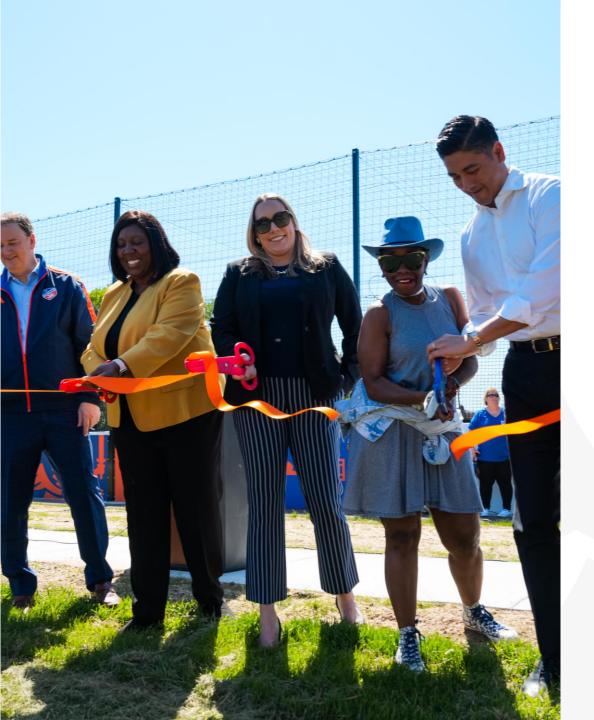




#### **WEST END PRIDE**

The West End Pride was created to make rec-level soccer available to all children ages 4-14 who live, attend school, or worship in the West End neighborhood. Prior to this program, the West End had not had a SAY (rec-level) team.

- Over 290 players are registered for Spring 2024 season.
- The program is free to participants. The FCC Foundation covers expenses for coaches, uniforms, snacks and events throughout the year including an end of season awards program.
- Teams practice once per week and play one or two games per weekend throughout the spring and fall.
- FCC players have made appearances in past seasons which will continue in the future.



#### **MINI PITCHES**

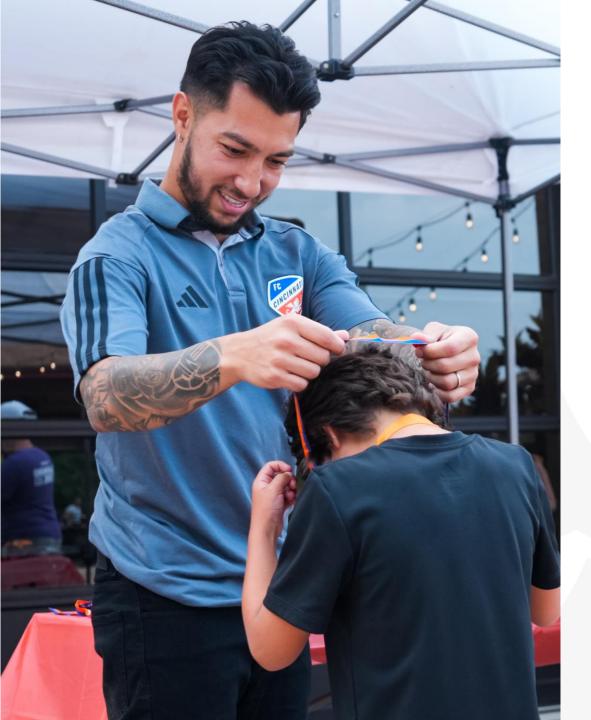
- FC Cincinnati Foundation achieved its original goal of building ten mini pitches by 2024 and is committed to building an additional ten across Greater Cincinnati.
- A lack of physical activity impacts a healthy well being which impacts learning. We will overcome these barriers giving kids another avenue of social engagement and physical activity in their neighborhoods.
- To date, mini pitches have been completed at Lincoln Recreation Center (West End), Hartwell Recreation Center, Common Ground at Makino Park (all-inclusive playground in Mason), North Avondale Recreation Center, Price Hill Recreation Center, Madisonville Recreation Center, Austinburg Park (Covington, KY.), Bond Hill Community Center, Douglass Park (Middletown), and Lunken Playfield.



#### **SOCCER UNITES**

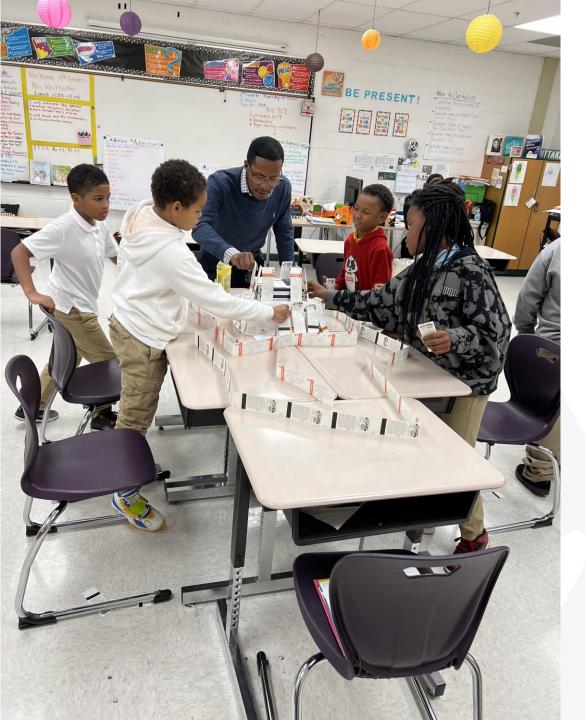
FC Cincinnati Foundation's Soccer Unites program brings the game of soccer to children who may not otherwise be exposed to the sport. Along with soccer drills and programming, character development skills are woven into the sessions.

- In-school gym class takeovers bring Omar Cummings, alumni player and Club Ambassador to school gym classes to introduce the sport.
- After-school programs including CRC, YMCA, Activities Beyond the Classroom, and Boys & Girls Club, participate in Soccer Unites programming in the afternoon with training for their staff and equipment for locations and participants.
- Over 8,000 students were reached in 2024 with 824 hours of programming.



#### **LEARNING IS COOL**

- Learning Is Cool reaches three school districts, 67 schools and roughly 26,000 students annually.
- Students at participating schools receive a reward each quarter that they reach the 'A Honor Roll'. Roughly 7,500 students reach this achievement each quarter. Rewards typically include a small item, free meal to a local restaurant, and a ticket to a trampoline park.
- Students reaching the 'A Honor Roll' at least two quarters in the school year are invited to the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden for an Academic Achievement Celebration event celebrating their accomplishment with the FC Cincinnati team.
- We continue to look for ways to expand our support of students, including Science of Soccer Field Trips which were added for the 2023-2024 school year.



#### **WEST END GRANT PROGRAM**

FC Cincinnati Foundation is pleased to support community building initiatives within the West End neighborhood through our grant program.

Applications are accepted during two periods each year. Organizations selected from applications received March 1- April 30 will receive funding in June.

Organizations selected from applications received September 1-October 31 will receive funding in December.

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#### **GRANT RECIPIENTS**

Adopt A Class

**Artworks** 

Betts Longworth Historic District

Big Brothers Big Sisters

**Bright Star Community Church** 

**Brown Hands Literacy** 

Camp Joy

Carl Lindner YMCA

**CCPA** 

Childrens Hunger Alliance

**Changing Gears** 

Cincinnati Music & Arts Program

Cincinnati Parks Foundation

Cincinnati Squash Academy

Cincinnati Youth Collaborative

CityLink

Families Forward

Findlay Market

**GRAD** Cincinnati

Greater Cincinnati Association of Black Journalists

Hays Porter Elementary

**Healthy Visions** 

**Jewish Cemeteries of Greater Cincinnati** 

Junior Achievement of OKI Partners

Literacy Network of Greater Cincinnati

MyWhy

Never the Less

One Family One Love

OneSource Center for Nonprofit Management

Pink Ribbon Girls

Q-Kidz

Queen City Youth Development

Robert A Taft Foundation

ROMAC

Saturday Hoops

Seven Hills Neighborhood Houses

Sisterhood 360

St. Joseph Catholic School

Students Blossom

Summer Camp Reading

Sweet Cheeks Diaper Bank

Taft High School

**Tender Mercies** 

The Library Foundation

West End Community Council

West End Community Garden

West End Lil Senators

West End Presbyterian Church

West End Reds

York Street UMC



# THANK YOU

