

McCurdy vision and campus master plan improved

“Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay.” Habakkuk 2:2–3 NRSV

The last several years have been tumultuous. Potential schism in the church and declining denominational mission giving made it necessary for the McCurdy Board of Trustees to suspend our Creating Hope, Empowering Lives Capital Campaign in 2019 with a plan to restart the campaign after General Conference of 2020. When the pandemic hit, General Conference was delayed twice. While McCurdy Ministries Community Center focused on finding creative ways to make God’s difference for our students and their families during the COVID-19 epidemic and children were educated, lives were saved and families were supported.

Patricia Alvarado, MMCC’s executive director, has become famous for her, “All in God’s time!” reassurances that helped keep the staff and board positive. Behind the scenes, our New Mexico State Representative Susan Herrera asked McCurdy to rethink our campus redevelopment plans to include affordable housing which is a critical community need. MMCC began an update of our Master Plan focused on creating “A Live, Work, Educate and Recreate Planned Community” on our campus. Rep. Herrera helped bring together our Public/Private Partnership. The blessing in the pandemic included having Public/Private Partnership meetings monthly by Zoom and the group now includes Santa Fe County Commissioner Henry Roybal, Rep. Susan Herrera, New Mexico Representative Roger Montoya, North Central New Mexico Economic Development Department staff, Santa Fe County Economic Development staff, the Española, Planning and Zoning Director, Los Alamos National Laboratories staff, Homewise staff (a nonprofit home developer) and McCurdy representatives. The partnership is working together to help fund and redevelop our campus in ways that will benefit the Española Valley. The campus redevelopment will be approached in three phases.



Phase 1: McCurdy Ministries Community Center Campus

The seven acres from McCurdy Drive on the north to McCracken Gym on the south will be redeveloped to house all of MMCC’s ministry needs in five key buildings. A new two-story Program Building will be built near the site of the Elementary Building that will house childcare, After School Care, expanded Pre-K and Camp Stars on the first floor and MMCC offices, family counseling offices, a computer lab and adult education classroom and a new small business support center on the second floor. Bachman Hall will become the Retreat Center and will be remodeled to house 56 persons in retreat rooms. An industrial kitchen and large dining/gathering space will be added to the building. The Bus Barn will be moved behind the Retreat Center and will be rehabbed to become the new Maintenance Building. The portables remain and will continue as the headquarters for Project Cariño. An event plaza and prayer garden will be added and the landscaping will be improved. In a future phase, the chapel/art center and McCracken Gym will be made handicapped accessible and updated. To make room for a more open and

flexible campus Blake, Herrick, the Library Annex, the Elementary School, the Kindergarten House and the Maintenance Buildings will all be demolished.

This plan will “right-size” the McCurdy campus, include solar installations making energy efficiency a reality and will mean less McCurdy funds will go to insurance, utilities and maintenance and more will go to fund ministry.



Above: View from the east of the remodeled Bachman Hall which will become a Retreat Center. Below: View from the south of the new Program Building. Renderings provided by fbt architects.



Phase 2: 73 Affordable single family homes planned

It has been decades since a new subdivision was developed in Española. In Santa Fe County the average home price has soared to over \$560,000 making it impossible for teachers, nurses, police, fire and EMS personnel to buy homes. McCurdy Ministries Community Center is developing a partnership with Homewise (a nonprofit home developer) to create 73 single-family homes, a park and perimeter walking trails between La Joya on the north, McCurdy Drive on the south, McCurdy Road on the east and Camino Arbolera on the west that will be affordable for working families to purchase.

Phase 3: MMCC is exploring the development of office space on the southern end of campus which will mean a large increase in good jobs in Española.

There is great need for telecommuting office space in Española. MMCC and our Public/Private Partnership are working to bring together local, state and federal resources to develop an office building south of McCracken Gym. McCurdy would be a part owner in this building and a percentage of the building rents would help fund our ministries for years to come. To accomplish this goal all buildings south of McCracken would be demolished and a new two to three story building with a footprint no larger than Cole High School would be built.

MMCC Board approves revised master plan at October meeting

On Oct. 28, the McCurdy Ministries Community Center Board approved the revised campus master plan and authorized staff and FBT Architects to pursue approval of the plan from the City of Española. In addition, they authorized Rev. Diana Loomis to communicate with all donors to the Creating Hope, Empowering Lives Capital Campaign to secure their agreement that funds donated to the campaign can be used for building expenses related to the revised master plan. These approvals opened the door for Loomis to apply for a \$500,000+ EPA Brownfield grant due Dec. 1, 2021, to remediate asbestos and lead paint from existing buildings that need to be demolished.

Capital Campaign donors are welcome to be in touch with Diana Loomis with questions about the Master Plan and Capital Campaign changes at dloomis@mccurdy.org. After Dec. 1, she will begin making personal contacts with donors about these changes.