

Adaptive Wellness and Recreation for All

By YMCA of Greater San Antonio



YMCA of Greater San Antonio's mission is to put Judeo-Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.

Critical Need in our Community and Population to Be Served by the Project:

More than one in four U.S. adults lives with a disability, and Texas has the second-largest population of individuals with disabilities in the nation. Despite the size of this population, individuals with physical, intellectual, developmental, sensory, and neurodiverse disabilities continue to face significant barriers to recreation and wellness opportunities in Bexar County. Many traditional fitness facilities lack adaptive equipment, accessible design features, inclusive programming, and environments that accommodate diverse mobility, communication, and sensory needs. As a result, many individuals with disabilities are excluded from regular physical activity, contributing to poorer health outcomes, social isolation, and reduced community participation.

This need directly aligns with the Environment, Recreation & Preservation focus area through its emphasis on enhancing recreational facilities and expanding equitable access to community recreation opportunities. While San Antonio is recognized for its commitment to inclusion, opportunities for ongoing, community-based adaptive fitness and wellness remain limited. Families often face barriers to accessing affordable, accessible recreation that supports lifelong health and well-being.

As demand for adaptive recreation continues to grow, there is a critical need for facilities that remove barriers, promote healthy lifestyles, and ensure individuals of all abilities can participate fully in recreation and community life.

The YMCA improves quality of life by creating opportunities for health, independence, and belonging. The Hartman Family YMCA at Morgan's will provide inclusive fitness and recreational opportunities where individuals of all abilities can participate side by side. Through adaptive equipment, inclusive programs, and welcoming spaces, participants will improve health, build confidence, reduce isolation, and strengthen connections. The facility will also support caregivers and families by providing opportunities to participate together.

The project will serve children, adults, veterans, caregivers, and individuals with mobility, developmental, sensory, and neurodiverse disabilities across Bexar, Bandera, Comal, Guadalupe, Kendall, and surrounding counties. More than 63% of participants report low-income or under-resourced household status. Without this project, many families would continue to face limited access to affordable, inclusive recreation and wellness opportunities.

Description of Project and Proposed Use of Impact SA Funds:

The project supports the development of the Hartman Family YMCA, an ultra-accessible, fully inclusive recreation and wellness facility located on the Morgan's campus. Designed for individuals of all abilities to participate side by side, the facility will provide adaptive and traditional fitness and recreational opportunities in a universally accessible environment.

While Morgan's and the Hartman family are leading the construction of the facility, the YMCA is responsible for the furniture, fixtures, and equipment (FF&E) needed to operate the facility. The YMCA's portion of the project includes adaptive recreational and wellness equipment, furnishings, technology, signage, child activity equipment, lockers, and related infrastructure to support inclusive programming and community use.

These investments will ensure the facility is equipped to remove barriers, foster belonging, and provide meaningful opportunities for health and recreation for individuals and families of all abilities.

Funds requested from Impact SA will support the YMCA of Greater San Antonio's furniture, fixtures, and equipment (FF&E) responsibilities for the Hartman Family YMCA at Morgan's Wonderland. The majority of funding will be used for permanent and facility-related improvements that help create a safe, accessible, and inclusive recreational environment for individuals of all abilities.

Proposed uses include adaptive playground components, lockers, cabling and technology infrastructure, furnishings, equipment, and other essential operational items needed to activate the facility for community use. These investments will help ensure the space is functional, welcoming, and equipped to support adaptive recreation, wellness programming, and inclusive community engagement for children, adults, veterans, caregivers, and families.

Impact on People to Be Served - Measurable Outcomes (Described in "S.M.A.R.T." terms):

Specific: The project will create a fully operational, ultra-accessible Hartman Family YMCA equipped to provide inclusive fitness, recreation, and wellness opportunities for individuals of all abilities. The facility will expand access to adaptive programming, wellness resources, and community space where children, adults, veterans, caregivers, and individuals with disabilities can participate, connect, and thrive together.

Measurable: Success will be measured through completion of facility activation milestones, including procurement and installation of furniture, fixtures, equipment, and technology necessary for operations. Achievement of project outcomes will be demonstrated through facility readiness, successful launch of inclusive programming, participant enrollment, and facility usage data. The YMCA will also track participation in adaptive recreation and wellness programs, including engagement by individuals with disabilities and underserved households.

Achievable: The YMCA has successfully managed prior capital and facility improvement projects and is working in close coordination with Morgan's, where construction is already underway. Organizational leadership, operational planning, and extensive experience delivering adaptive and inclusive recreational and wellness programming position the YMCA to successfully implement and sustain this project. While the scale of the Hartman Family YMCA represents a significant undertaking, the YMCA has the expertise, partnerships, and infrastructure necessary to achieve the project outcomes.

Relevant: The project directly supports the YMCA's mission to strengthen community through healthy living, youth development, and social responsibility. Expanding adaptive recreation and wellness opportunities advances the YMCA's commitment to inclusion and accessibility while increasing opportunities for individuals of all abilities to improve their health, build connections, and fully participate in community life. The project also supports the organization's long-term goal of creating welcoming spaces where everyone belongs.

Time-Bound: The YMCA expects to achieve initial project outcomes, including facility activation, launch of inclusive fitness and wellness programming, and expanded access to adaptive recreation opportunities, by January 2027. Broader outcomes, including increased participation, community engagement, and utilization by individuals of all abilities, will continue to grow throughout 2027 and 2028 as the facility reaches full operational capacity.

Project Budget:

Funding Source	Amount	Narrative
Foundations/Corporations	\$1,000,000.00	Existing requests to H-E-B and Bank of America have been submitted to each organization. The YMCA continues to solicit philanthropic donations to support the startup costs of this project.
Total Other Revenue	\$1,000,000.00	

Expense Category	ISA Exp	ISA Narrative	Other Exp	Other Exp Narrative
Indirect Costs	\$10,000.00	N/A	N/A	N/A
Construction Costs	\$90,000.00	Impact SA funds would go largely toward the construction of an outdoor playground for individuals with differing needs.	\$360,000.00	Other construction costs include the installation of permanent lockers, cabling, network gear & circuits, rubber flooring for the Wellness Center, window treatments, and other costs.
Program Supplies and Expenses	\$0.00	NA	\$101,000.00	Program supplies include consumables such as paper products & cleaning, Childwatch & Kidz Club toys, PC, printer, & tablets.
Vehicle, Equipment, Furnishings & Related	\$0.00	NA	\$539,000.00	Equipment costs include fitness & Group Ex (Exercise) equipment and Kidz Club & Childwatch equipment.
Total Expenses	\$100,000.00		\$1,000,000.00	