

CORNERSTONE CAMPAIGN PHASE II:

The Next Step



Our \$500,000 schematic and design development work will produce the detailed plans needed for construction documents and bidding.



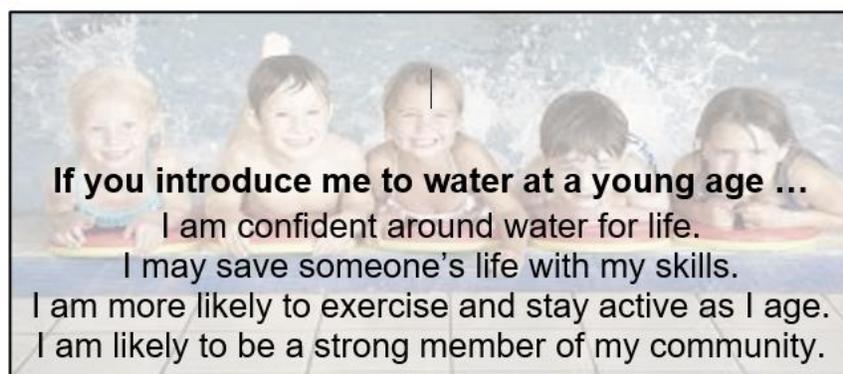
We are excited to embark on the **next phase of our vision** to build a health and wellness facility for Benzie County! We're working to transform the vacant Crystal Lake Elementary School site into a year-round hub for health, movement, connection, and community life - a place where kids learn to swim, seniors stay strong, neighbors gather, and everyone in the community has a place to be active, all year long.

In early 2025, **our community made something remarkable happen**. With the support of local families, seasonal residents, foundations and businesses, BWAC raised \$500,000 to acquire the school, bringing new life to a Benzie gateway that could become blight.

If you know this building, you know it has been a place of learning, gathering, and belonging. Generations of Benzie County students walked its halls. Now, we have a rare opportunity to honor that history while **reimagining the site for what our community needs today**: access to swimming, fitness, physical therapy, wellness programming, and spaces to connect - all under one roof and accessible year round.

With a robust array of **public/private partnerships**, we can build an integrated facility supporting a full range of needs for all age groups and abilities accessible for year-round residents, seasonal residents, and visitors alike.

Benzie County's economic engine is primarily fueled by recreation, tourism, and agriculture – all seasonal in nature. Our project will ensure year-round opportunities for wellness, recreation, and social integration, assist with recruiting and retaining residents, and bring new life to a gateway location. As Benzie County looks to attract year-round residents, a variety of year-round recreation amenities for all ages will enhance our region's economic competitiveness.



What we are asking. BWAC is raising \$500,000 for our schematic and design development work - the detailed plans that make construction possible. These plans will guide everything from room layouts and accessibility to energy use, safety, and long-term operating costs. This is a pivotal moment - when ideas turn into drawings, and drawings turn into something you can walk through.

At 70% to our goal in January 2026, **we invite you to help us carry this forward to reach the finish line!** By making a tax-deductible gift, you'll help:

- Turn a vacated school site into a vibrant, healthy, connected community facility
- Create accessible spaces for swimming, movement, therapy, and gathering
- Build a place that serves families, seniors, and neighbors, all year long

This is about building something our community needs, and making sure it belongs to everyone in Benzie County.

We welcome your support with a gift payable to BWAC at PO Box 2204, Frankfort, MI 49635 or with an online gift on our website:

<https://www.benziewellnessandaquaticcenter.org/donate>

We hope you will dive in with us!