



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## 2023–2024 F.M. KIRBY CHILDREN’S CENTER RENOVATION PROJECT

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We are excited to share that the F.M. Kirby Children’s Center of the Madison Area YMCA will undergo a renovation project to improve the facility for existing students and to accommodate additional students at our facility. In the next few weeks, we will begin the construction phase of this exciting project that will help us expand our services to more members of our community.

### **What is the purpose of the Renovation Project?**

Our growing waitlists indicate the increasing need for quality early childhood education in our community. This renovation project will allow us to better optimize our existing footprint into more usable classroom space, including space intended to serve siblings of our currently enrolled families and staff.

### **What does the Renovation Project include?**

The project’s scope includes two construction phases. Both spaces are designed to meet the universal needs for children ages 0–5, in addition to maintaining licensing, quality rating and state standards for early childhood education and care.

First, we plan to repurpose our existing stage, next to our gymnasium, into a fully functional classroom. The interior redesign will allow for a 762 square foot classroom with added plumbing for a children’s bathroom, built-in storage, and cabinetry. The exterior design will match the other classrooms along that side of the property, including an outside door and stairs. Phase 2 of the construction, which is scheduled to begin in March, includes an expansion to our smallest classroom (currently the Young 3s Hummingbirds classroom who will be temporarily relocated to a comparable space during the renovation project). The exterior wall will be pushed out by 17 feet. The added square footage will allow for a full-size classroom and will be equipped with similar features to the other classrooms.

### **What is the cost of the Renovation Project?**

The total amount needed to fully fund this project is currently estimated at \$1,100,000.

### **Who will be working on the Renovation Project?**

We conducted an interview process for architects and prospective contractors familiar with projects like ours. With careful consideration, we hired the Gianforcaro Architect and Engineer Group, who have worked with more than 100 school districts in the state, including right here in Madison. We hired Builder Lanyi & Tevald out of Warren, NJ, who have experience working on projects such as ours.

### **What safety measures will be in place?**

Throughout this project, maintaining a safe and appropriate environment for our students, staff, and families and minimizing disruption during construction is of the highest importance. For the safety of our students and staff, the active construction site will have a defined perimeter and will be inaccessible to Center children, staff, parents and families. Our goal is to minimize any classroom disruption during the Construction. We will keep parents informed of any changes that may impact operations along the way. All contractors on site will undergo a full background check before their work begins. Their access to the building will be limited to the sections under construction.

### **What is the timeline of the project?**

With the demand for childcare on the rise, planning for this project first began about a year ago to assess feasibility for optimal classroom space. In August, we received approval of our project plans from the Madison Borough’s Zoning Board of Adjustment. We finalized the expansion design with our architects and our construction management team this fall. With approval from our Board secured in October, the renovation is expected to begin December 26, 2023. Our goal for completion of the Renovation Project is summer 2024.

### **Will there be any disruption to services?**

No. There will be no changes to the existing hours of operations or other operating components. The Gymnasium may be unavailable for up to two weeks at the start of the Renovation Project. Weather-permitting, additional outdoor play will supplement the day.

It is critical to us that all currently enrolled families continue without disruption of services, and that all children continue to be cared for in a safe and nurturing environment. All scheduling and sequencing will be done with this as top priority.



# FAQS CONTINUED

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### **How are you addressing noise during hours while my child(ren) is at school?**

With experience working in school buildings, our contractors understand that noise levels need to be managed continuously. Noise barriers will be put in place to help reduce noise spreading to adjacent areas. Additionally, our contractors are aware of our designated naptime hours. Any anticipated louder noises will be scheduled outside of naptime and may be done on the weekends or early in the mornings.

### **Do my tuition fees or Y membership fees go toward this project?**

No. Tuition and Membership fees are used for operations including utilities and salary.

### **How can I help financially and / or by fundraising?**

Thank you for asking! Please contact the Development Department at [fundraising@madisonymca.org](mailto:fundraising@madisonymca.org). We would be happy to talk about how your generous support will make a difference and explore ways you can help. Stay tuned for more information about our upcoming capital campaign.

### **How will I receive communications throughout the project?**

Updates will be shared through our bi-weekly parent newsletters. Information will be shared to parents on the upcoming work schedule as the project progresses.

### **I still have questions. How can I learn more?**

Thank you for supporting our Kirby community as we advance our efforts to expand the Y's services to the community now and for the future. Please reach out to F.M. Kirby Children's Center Executive Director Karé Matrisciano at [kmatrisciano@madisonymca.org](mailto:kmatrisciano@madisonymca.org) or call 973-377-4945 x3227 should you have any questions or if you are interested in further project details.

### **PHASE 1 NEW CLASSROOM EXTERIOR (STAGE CONVERSION)**



### **PHASE 2 NEW CLASSROOM EXTERIOR (YOUNG 3S EXPANSION)**

