

Vera French Community Health Center Renovation

Proposed recipient:

Vera French Community Mental Health Center
1441 W. Central Park Avenue
Davenport, IA 52804

Requested amount:

\$1,881,000

Explanation of request:

This project is for renovations to the Vera French Community Mental Health Center (Center Building). The Center Building opened in 1971 and its overall footprint has remained virtually unchanged for over 50 years. During that time, more than 50,000 community members have made hundreds of thousands of visits to the Center Building. Although the Center Building complied with accessibility standards when it was constructed, requirements today seek to give access for a broader population and Vera French is seeing more people seeking help with their mental health. The building is also showing its age in other ways and is in need of structural improvements to safeguard its useful life as a community mental health center. Over time, the community's needs have grown and the Center Building was not designed for the number of clinicians and services that are currently offered within its walls. Currently patients with mobility challenges must enter the building through the back door due to the limitations of the physical landscape of the front of the building. The proposed changes to the Center Building would ensure that all patients can access the front entrance and be welcomed by Patient Services Staff, making it a better experience for all patients/clients. Investing in the Center Building's floor and roof will ensure Vera French can continue to operate out of this location, thereby preserving mental health services in a location proximate to underserved communities.