



# HEALTH & WELLNESS CENTER

*a place for you*





## NEED



On August 28, 1963, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. gave his now-famous “I Have a Dream” speech at the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D. C.

The Oakwood College Gym had its place in history—where a year and a half earlier, on March

19, 1962, Dr. King gave a very similar speech at Oakwood College. Thus a vision was cast to “dream” in the gymnasium at Oakwood. We continue to dream big.



Oakwood University’s Ashby Auditorium was constructed in 1956 and has long been a gathering place for current students, alumni, and campus visitors. In Oakwood’s early days, it was used as a place of worship as well as general event space for students and the public. After the construction of the campus chapel, it remained the primary place for students to gather, socialize, and participate in their campus community.





A PLACE FOR YOU TO **3** GATHER. GROW. GIVE.

# INTRODUCTION



Oakwood University's new Health & Wellness Center will be a gathering place for current and former students alike—a place of community connection and celebration for all members of the Oakwood family. Designed by KPS Group, a long-time University planning partner, the 114,000-square-foot facility will include public event space accommodating 4,400





guests, a performing arts forum, a worship area, and gathering places for students and activity groups. To better enable complete wellness experiences, this renovation and construction effort will unify the existing separate structures at the site to provide a cohesive visitor experience—allowing students, faculty, staff and other guests to freely move from one feature to the next on an uninterrupted restorative journey.



**The anticipated Oakwood University  
Health and Wellness Center is  
a place for you; students, faculty  
and staff, alumni, retirees, and the  
community. It's a place to gather,  
to grow and to give...together.**





A group of people are embracing in a bright office setting. The background features large windows with blinds, a desk with a computer monitor, and a potted plant. The overall atmosphere is warm and supportive.

*a place for you to*  
**GATHER.**

*God's dream is that you and I and all  
of us will realize that we are family,  
that we are made for togetherness,  
for goodness, and for compassion.*

*—Desmond Tutu*



*A place to gather for health and wellness, fitness and fellowship, and community engagement.*



### *Health & Wellness*

- Nutrition and cooking workshops
- Self-defense classes
- Worship

### *Fitness*

- Scuba classes
- Zumba classes
- Pilates classes
- Racquetball classes
- Spinning classes

### *Community Engagement*

- Summer Swim Program
- Community Health Fair
- Blood Drive
- Alumni Weekend Village
- Campmeeting
- Pastoral Evangelism and Leadership Council
- Oakwood Adventist Academy Field Day
- Oakwood Vegetarian Market





The new 114,000-square-foot Center will replace the existing, outdated Ashby Auditorium, and will include a new external natatorium and marketplace as well as a 29,000-square-foot plaza for informal meet-ups and formal public events. Incorporating the swimming pool from the previous building and an expanded and improved indoor track on the second level, it will also add much-needed event parking, with the addition of 176 parking spots. The new facility will include a worship center, snack bar, and gathering spaces for student clubs and activity groups. Spaces for the coaching staffs of the University's athletic teams and health and exercise science teaching and learning will also be incorporated.

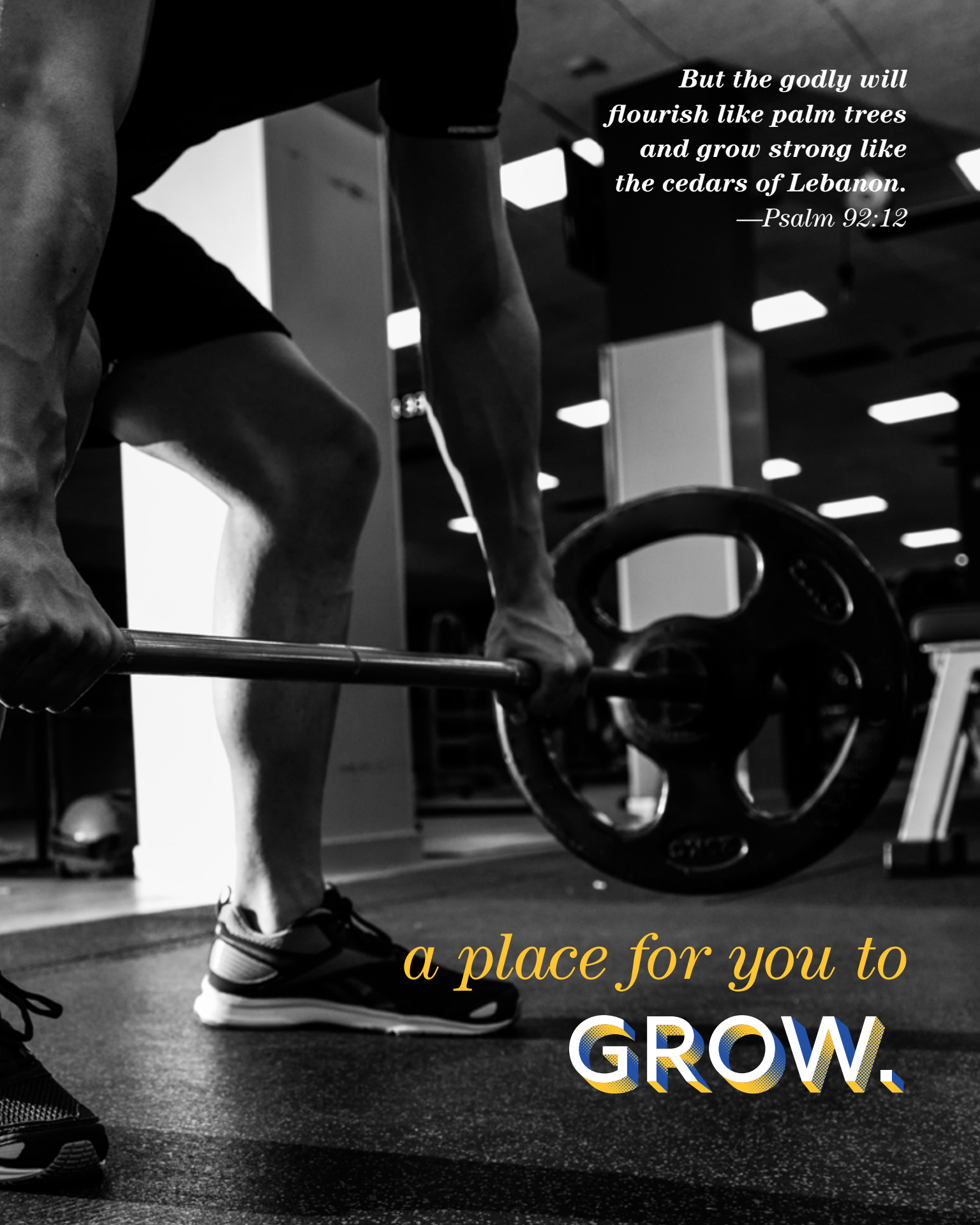
## COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



The University has designed the Center in large part to prioritize and deepen engagement with the broader Huntsville community. The enhanced public event space to host speakers, musicians and performers will be large enough to make participation available to community members. The juice bar and informal meeting spaces will also be accessible to local residents. The Natatorium will serve as a venue for local high school swimming competitions, and the new worship center will welcome Oakwood affiliates as well as those unaffiliated with the University. Increasing the parking available at the Center will ensure that all visitors to the University have a more convenient stay, no matter the reason for their time on campus.







*But the godly will  
flourish like palm trees  
and grow strong like  
the cedars of Lebanon.*

*—Psalm 92:12*

*a place for you to*

**GROW.**

# THE OAKWOOD EXPERIENCE

## Academic Programs and Degrees

- Fitness and Wellness
- Health Science
- Sports Management
- Sports Marketing

## Sports and Recreation

- Track
- Gym
- Softball Field
- Racquetball Courts
- Swimming Pool



### JENNIFER HUTTON, PT, DPT, CLASS OF 2005

**Major: Pre-Physical Therapy (Allied Health)**

*Jennifer is a Physical Therapist and Instructor making a difference for children with special needs to provide a movement outlet through sports and activities.*

“Observing my youngest cousin in physical therapy sessions during his childhood inspired me to want to help children in similar situations. For the last nine years, I have treated developmentally delayed patients, and children with neurological and orthopedic diagnoses. Recently, I have started to

create more community programs for children with special needs who are unable to participate in mainstream sports to provide a movement outlet for them. I’m also a volunteer with a local organization that builds adaptive bicycles for kids with special needs.

Having a Health & Wellness Center would provide a great resource for hands-on learning. I believe our professors could be even more effective with a space that allows them to teach principles in real time. Because those who are interested in health and wellness are prone to being more active themselves, a health and wellness center would be a great place to maintain physical health.

We should provide a place that allows for development of physical health. It was important for me

to take care of my body for spiritual reasons, and because I chose a career that required me to be a champion of movement; I had to practice what I was going to preach.”



### ANDREW B. YOUNG, PHD CLASS OF 1998

**Major: Physical Education**

*Andrew is the Chair of the Department of Health Sciences at Oakwood University.*

“Here at Oakwood, I believe it is important that we focus on preparing our students holistically; focusing on their physical, mental and



*A place to grow mind, body and soul.*

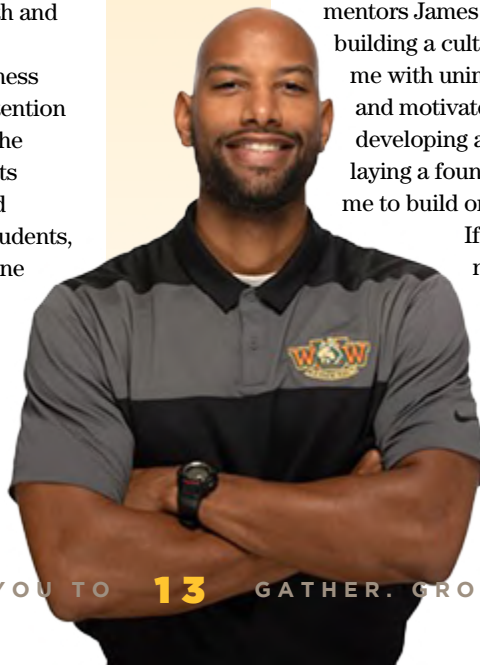


social development during their time with us on campus. The Health Sciences department faculty is looking forward to the new facility to offer students hands-on learning. They will relish the opportunities to perfect their craft through teaching a variety of classes that will also be open to the greater Huntsville community. We will offer exercise classes, nutrition/cooking classes, health education classes and seminars on topics related to health, fitness and wellness. This is extremely important to our faculty, because of our Seventh-day Adventist message, but it excites us as a department knowing that we would be equipped to have an immediate impact on health and wellness in the local community.

Research shows that facilities, such as wellness centers, aid in both student recruitment and retention and I would add, strengthening relationships. The Health & Wellness Center will allow our students access 16-18 hours a day for building health and relationships, providing a gathering place for students, faculty and staff opportunities to engage with one another.”

**BRANDON BROOME  
CLASS OF 2010**

**Major: Health and Physical Education**  
*Brandon is a Head Basketball Coach,  
PhysEd teacher and a former member*



*of the Oakwood University men's basketball team and is dedicated to making an impact on the body and mind simultaneously, through physical activity.*

“Through my career, I've been able to help prepare young minds for higher education. Using my Oakwood network, I've help connect youth with professionals.

Having a Health & Wellness Center at Oakwood would provide students with real world tools of the trade, and the opportunity for guided practice.

To have an opportunity to affect this area like my mentors James Roddy and Dr. Howard Shaw, while building a culture that can exist long after me fills me with unimaginable gratitude. It energizes and motivates me to push for excellence in developing an environment of wellness and laying a foundation for those behind me to build on.

If the health message is not a secret, it should be of the utmost importance to the institution and its constituents to provide a training ground for potential professionals equipped with the knowledge to obtain the credentials necessary to provide care in the “real world.”



A high-angle photograph of a swimming pool. The water is a vibrant blue, with ripples and reflections of light. A dark shadow of a person is cast onto the water's surface, extending from the left towards the center. On the right side, a lane line with a red and white striped pattern runs vertically. The overall scene is bright and clear.

*a place for you to*

**GIVE.**





*I do not believe one can settle  
how much we ought to give. I am  
afraid the only safe rule is to  
give more than we can spare.*

*—C. S. Lewis*





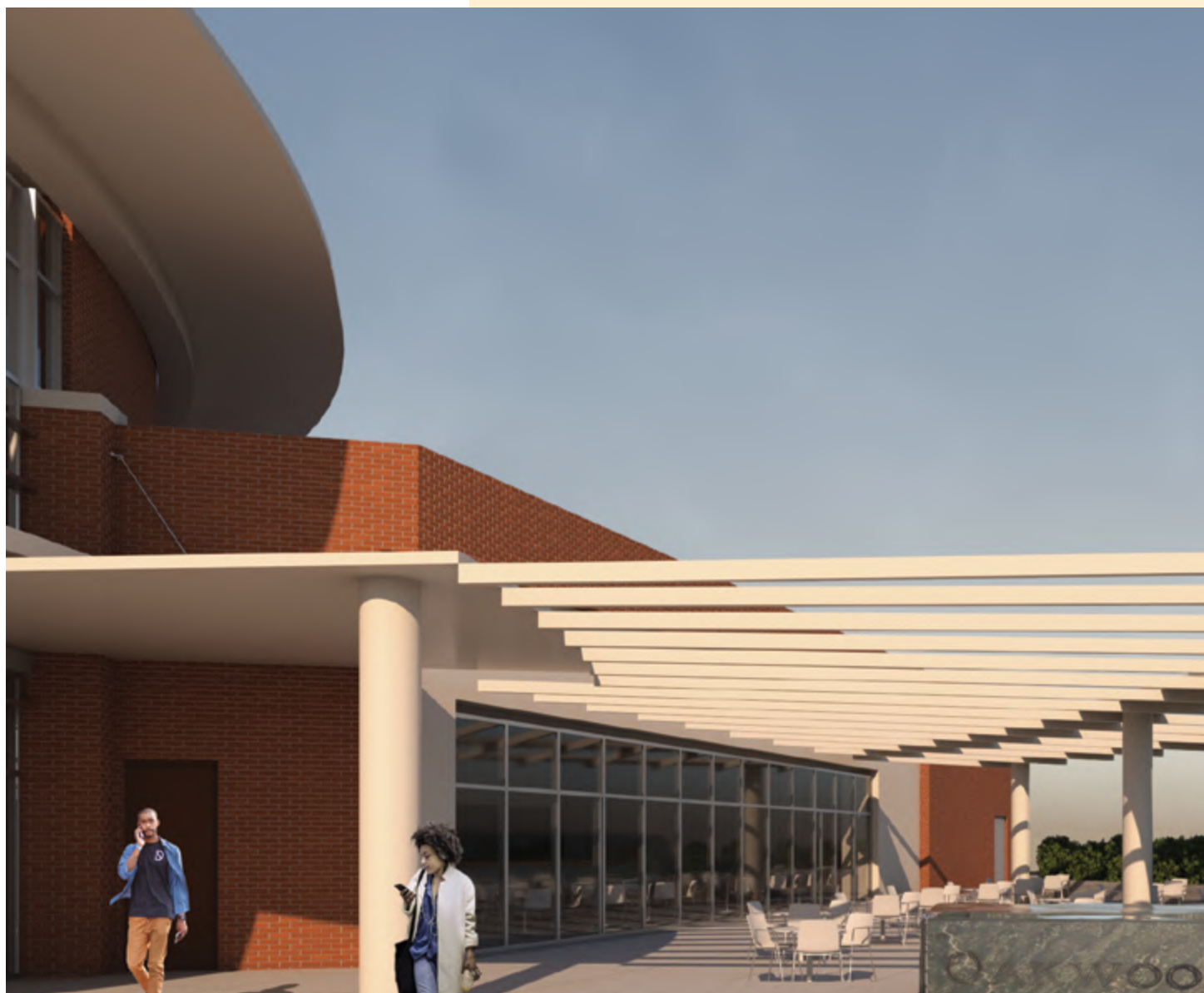
*A place to give and to serve, a place for us, a place for you.*

### *Leadership Opportunities*

- **Steering Committee**
- **National Co-Chairs**
- **Regional Chairs**
- **Volunteers**

### *Giving Opportunities*

- **Naming Opportunities**
- **Special Projects & Programs**
- **Scholarships**
- **Endowments**
- **Bequests and Estate Gifts**
- **Class Gifts**
- **Departmental Gifts**
- **Annual Fund**
- **WJOU Sharathon**
- **In-kind Gifts**
- **Services and Goods**





## *Naming Opportunities*

- Health and Wellness Center - \$16 Million
- Gymnasium - \$10 Million
- Natatorium - \$5 Million
- Weight Room - \$2 Million
- Fitness Room - \$2 Million
- Track - \$2 Million
- Classrooms (50 @ \$150K) = \$7.5 Million
- Seats in the Gymnasium - (4,400 @ \$1K each) = \$4.4 Million

## *Other Giving Opportunities*

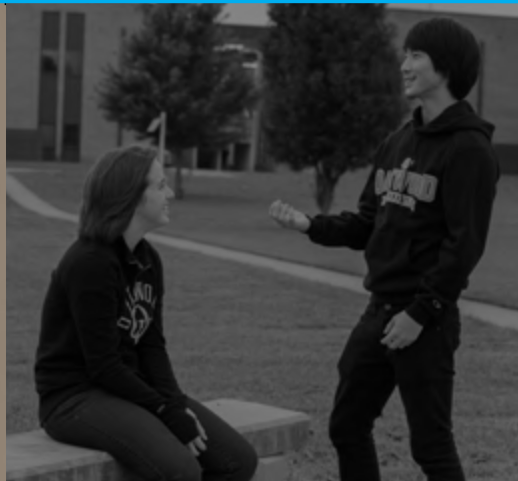
- Landscaping (engraved walkway bricks, memory trees, flower gardens), Art, Equipment, Signage, Bleachers, Lighting, Audio/Visual, Tables, Chairs, Technology - \$1.7 Million

All gifts in excess of \$1,000 will be included on the donor register in the building foyer.





*a place for you to*  
**TOGETHER**





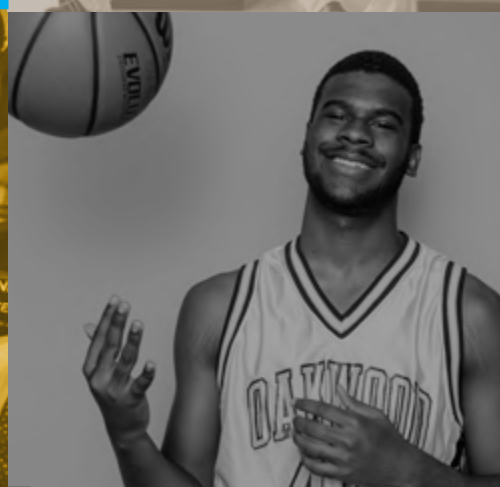


*gather, grow, give...*

# TOGETHER!



Join with us, our many friends and supporters to make the Oakwood University Health & Wellness Center a vibrant reality. Today, you can help change the lives of our students and our community.



## FROM THE PRESIDENT



Oakwood University's new Health & Wellness Center will be a gathering place for current and former students. As the University has grown, so have the needs and expectations of its students. As compared with facilities at other schools in the region, the University's health and wellness facilities must be updated. By embarking on this building effort, the Health & Wellness Center will become a highly visible symbol of growth and rejuvenation. It will stand as an investment in the spiritual and physical health of Oakwood's community.



**LESLIE N. POLLARD,**  
Ph.D., D.Min., M.B.A.

PRESIDENT,  
OAKWOOD  
UNIVERSITY

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Leslie N. Pollard".







# OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY







# OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY AMBASSADORS



**Oakwood**  
UNIVERSITY

**GOD First!**

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