



NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS: STEPS FOR BUILDING COMMUNITY PRIDE, AWARENESS & ACTION





STEP 1: CLEAN

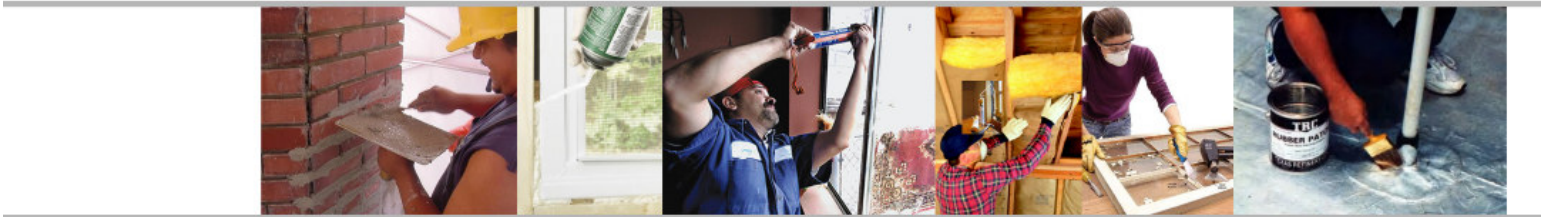
THE ACT:

The process of restoring and maintaining the Mellus Building can **begin now** with little to no resources. The simple act of **cleaning up the façade** and grounds of the abandoned building will **emphasize the quality and character** of the existing structure and clearly show that The Mellus is not vacant and forgotten, but **cared for and significant**. The clean up can include power washing, paint scraping, polishing, and light repairs to window frames and trim.



THE EVENT:

The **impact** of cleaning up the façade will be **greatly enhanced** by **promoting** community **involvement** and **awareness**. Advertising the efforts and intent of the Mellus building revival and holding a weekend cleaning party will **build support** for the project. People within the community interested in historic preservation and the health of the city can share in these clean up efforts. Those with less interest will see something happening and take note of community members coming together to show **pride** for their community and taking **collective responsibility**.



STEP 2: WEATHERIZATION

THE ACT:

Begin the **weatherization** of the Mellus building. Beyond the cleanliness and visual appeal of the building, it is important to ensure the structure is free of leaks to **avoid further deterioration**. Also, updating the insulation in both the walls and roof will **improve energy efficiency**. There are different scales at which a building can be weatherized based on cost and scope of work. It is possible to **start small**, sealing doors and windows, and work up to roofing and insulation based on available funds.

**THE EVENT:**

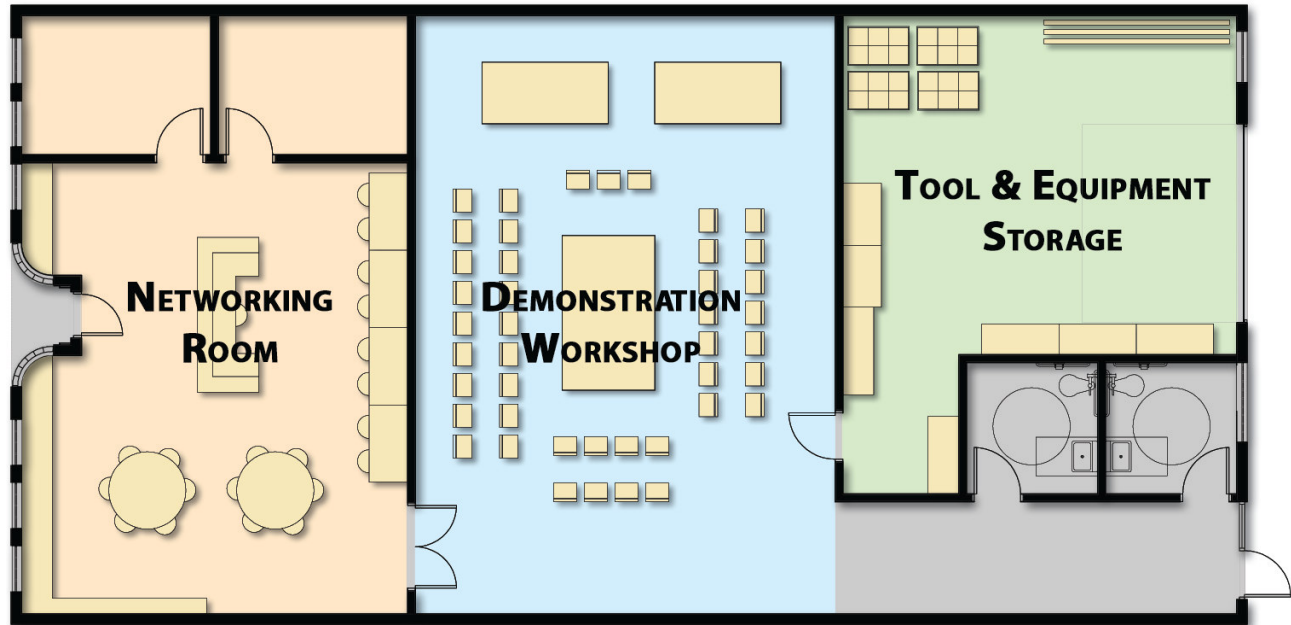
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STEP 3: DO-IT-YOURSELF

THE ACT:

With the building cleaned and weatherized, the interior space can be adapted to facilitate future continuation of **do-it-yourself** efforts, including **preservation** and **rehabilitation** within the community. Three elements, a **tool storage and rental shop**, a **demonstration area**, and a **networking room**, will be available for the community's use.



THE EVENT:

A grand opening event will be held initially to demonstrate and explain how the community building will work. The **tools and equipment** can be shared by the community to **fix up properties**, homes, and businesses. The demonstration area can be used for **continuing seminars** on weatherization, construction, financial planning, or anything of **value for community members**. The networking room will host a **computer kiosk** to allow citizens access to different **rehab projects** around town. Also, a **maintenance record of vacant and foreclosed properties** can be kept so community members can share the workload to keep the neighborhoods looking good. There will also be **resources available for do-it-yourself projects** in book, magazine, and video formats.