



THE **CAROL  
KIMMELMAN**  
ATHLETIC & ACADEMIC CAMPUS

# EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LA YOUTH





# Our Mission

The mission of the Carol Kimmelman Athletic and Academic Campus (CKAAC) is to provide a comprehensive community center that offers high-caliber academic and athletic programs for under-resourced children and families.

An innovative public-private partnership with Los Angeles County gave CKAAC its site, which is adjacent to the 405 Freeway in Carson, near Compton, Harbor City, and Wilmington. It will include:

- » a 25,000 square-foot Learning Center,
- » 87 acres consisting of nearly 50 tennis courts and five full-size soccer fields, as well as other multipurpose athletic facilities, including baseball fields, basketball courts, track and field, fitness and play areas; and,
- » a variety of spaces open to use for events by the community.

These facilities alone will transform life in the region, which has a dearth of community centers and less than half the park space per capita than LA County as a whole. Most importantly, CKAAC's program partners – in active collaboration with local schools and community organizations – will also ensure that its state-of-the-art facilities will house an array of high-impact, evidence-based youth programs. CKAAC's programs will be available at little or no cost to young people from across Los Angeles who are facing barriers in education and healthy living opportunities, with an especially strong emphasis on school-aged youth living within a 20-minute commute from the campus. CKAAC will thus particularly benefit the communities in Service Planning Areas 8 and 6, two of LA's most underserved regions.





# The Need

The general needs of CKAAC’s local communities are well established and are core motivations for the opening of the Carol Kimmelman Athletic and Academic Campus. In South LA, poverty and violence have led to pervasive trauma; access to safe spaces to play outside is rare; access to high-quality facilities to develop athletic and life skills, as well as healthy bodies, is rarer; and, top-quality college preparation and similar extracurricular educational programs are lacking.

Within a 20-minute driving radius from CKAAC’s campus, there are:



## THE LOCAL NEED FOR PARK FACILITIES

While LA County has an average of **3.3 park acres per 1,000 residents**, in Carson the average is **1.6 acres per 1,000 residents**. This park poverty is especially concerning when considering that the prevalence of childhood obesity, along with higher rates of premature mortality from cardiovascular disease and diabetes, are inversely related to park space



## THE LOCAL NEED FOR LEARNING PROGRAMS

Data from the California Department of Education show that in Compton and LA Unified School Districts (which both serve Carson), only 39% and 66% of students, respectively, met UC/CSU entrance course requirements in 2017-18. Additionally, CKAAC partners, working with Hart Research Associates, conducted community needs research and found:

**19%** of surveyed parents believe that there are ample educational and enrichment programs for youth in their community. The vast majority say there is a need for more such programs.

**87%** of those surveyed indicated a strong interest in a “new learning center” that could provide after-school and summer educational, enrichment, and recreational opportunities to area children.” Parents expressed interest in specific kinds of programs for their children, including college preparation and hands-on science learning.



# The Vision

CKAAC's facilities alone – which will be open to the community – will increase park acreage in Carson by 61%, already a transformative benefit that will promote healthy lifestyles for the residents of Carson and surrounding communities. Yet, CKAAC will further leverage this impact with its partners' proven brands of expertise, including their expertise in collaborating with local school and community organizations.



## LEARNING CENTER



The expansive Learning Center will be overseen by **TGR Foundation** — a Tiger Woods Charity (TGRF) — and modeled after the award-winning curriculum at the flagship TGR Learning Lab in Anaheim. Equipped with high-tech equipment, labs, and classrooms, the Learning Center's offerings will prepare students for college and success in the 21st century workforce. The Learning Center programs will seek to help students recognize their full potential through dynamic hands-on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) learning experiences and career readiness programs. Programming will include: Stem-focused curricula; after-school enrichment; college access and support; and professional development for educators.

TGRF's programs have been honed over 14 years of experience in California, Washington, D.C., Pennsylvania, and Florida. In 2018 alone, TGRF programs benefitted 100 schools, 1,300 educators, 8,000 students at Learning Labs, and 414,000 students through its digital curricula. TGRF's impact is significant:

- » An independent evaluation of TGRF programs by the University of California, Irvine, found that students who regularly attended these programs showed an average of 18% gains in "science efficacy" (interest and sense of efficacy about learning science) and a 13% reduction in negative behavior.
- » In line with best practices in informal science learning: 83% of TGR students feel more engaged in learning, 80% report learning about future careers, 72% report the programs help them work hard towards their goals, and 66% report increased confidence in their STEM skills.
- » Similarly, among educators attending TGRF's professional development programs: 96% report learning powerful STEM and college-access activities for their students, 95% exit TGRF training with plans to implement STEM learnings in their classroom, 92% report increased knowledge of project-based techniques, and 88% learn new strategies to increase student engagement.
- » Among college-bound scholars helped by TGRF, 98% are first-generation college students and 98% of TGRF's Earl Woods Scholars have graduated from college, among the highest rates in the U.S.
- » At the CKAAC Learning Center, TGRF will seek to serve thousands of students and teachers annually to realize, on a large scale, the impact it has already proven in other communities.



## TENNIS CENTER



The Tennis Center will become the regional home of the **USTA Foundation's** flagship National Junior Tennis & Learning program (NJTL) and will significantly expand the capacity of NJTL to provide its academic support, enrichment, athletic development, health, wellness, and scholarship programs.

NJTL was founded by Arthur Ashe in 1969 to engage children in character building and educational opportunities with the goal of graduating at-risk students from colleges across the country. It has proven its efficacy in over 264 national chapters reaching 185,000 young participants, ages 5 - 18, annually. Of these young people, an average of 75% are eligible for free/reduced lunch, 69% represent minority communities, and they are 50% male and 50% female.

In addition to NJTL, CKAAC's tennis programs will include junior tournament and team tennis, introductory tennis lessons, college showcases

for young talent to be evaluated by coaches offering scholarship funds, and adult leagues and tournaments facilitated by **The USTA Southern California**. CKAAC will also be the first Regional Collegiate Venue in the US, such that numerous college tennis programs will host prime-time collegiate matches and hundreds of rivalry competitions at CKAAC during the spring of each season. This will create meaningful opportunities for youth in the community to be inspired and mentored by student athletes on site. Finally, USTA will also move its West Coast Player Development programs to CKAAC, creating additional links between local youth and elite and professional players and coaches from across the country. Through all of these programs, the CKAAC Tennis Center will work closely with local schools and community organizations to provide safe, educational, and healthy after-school and summer tennis programming to thousands of youth each year.

## IN 2018-19, NJTL CHAPTERS IN HIGH-NEED COMMUNITIES SIMILAR TO CARSON PROVED THE PROGRAMS' POWER:

**100%**

of high school seniors were accepted into college

**100%**

of students graduated on time

**90%**

of K-12 students raised their reading level

**88%**

of students missed fewer than 21 days of school

**51%**

of middle and high school students earned a 3.0 GPA or higher



## ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMING

The impact of CKAAC's unprecedented facilities will be further leveraged by allowing the expansion of programs already in operation in Carson, including the LA Galaxy's Champion Project, which already reaches thousands of students a year in collaboration with eleven Carson elementary schools. The LA Galaxy

Champion Project uses soccer to teach health, wellness, and leadership development, and the program — which brings with it existing, strong relationships with local school leaders — will benefit from numerous new soccer fields in the community.



# The Campaign

By combining the deep academic enrichment of Learning Center programs with the training and athletic lessons represented by tennis, soccer, basketball, and other youth athletics offerings, CKAAC will have a unique ability to make generational impact on the holistic intellectual and physical growth and development of more than 5,000 young people each year. To realize this vision, CKAAC turns to the philanthropic community to close a \$125 million comprehensive campaign to cover capital costs and the first two years of CKAAC operations, which include plans to support transportation for young people in the area who face barriers to access.

To date, the project celebrates a leadership commitment of \$40 million from the Kimmelman Family Foundation and an additional \$20 million from its partners – the USTA, TGRF, the LA Galaxy Foundation, Disney/ESPN, and others, along with in-kind contributions approaching \$5 million.

The site, conservatively valued at more than \$700 million, is available through a long-term lease of \$100 a year from the County, thanks to the guidance and support of LA Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas' office. This partnership adds significant value to CKAAC, allowing donations to be used exclusively to build and run the facilities, programs, and services. New gifts over \$20 million are now in discussion, leaving approximately \$40 million to raise.



## Carol's Legacy

CKAAC will honor the legacy of Carol Kimmelman, an elementary school teacher in South Los Angeles, mother of four, and member of the USC tennis team. She was devoted to serving and supporting the young people of Los Angeles, especially those most in need, and believed that education and a healthy and active lifestyle are key to a better path forward.

Carol lost her battle with cancer in 2017, and, in her memory, the Kimmelman family has brought together top-quality partners to develop the largest non-profit community academic and athletic center in the Western United States.



The campus is located adjacent to the 405 freeway in Carson, about 10 miles from the elementary school where Carol taught.





[kimmelmancampus.com](http://kimmelmancampus.com)