

## **Study, Market, Train and Showcase: Community Based Organization and CCRH** **Walkthrough Slides**

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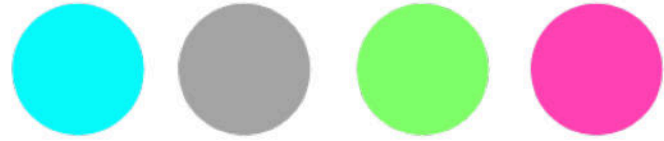
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**About:** Slide deck that uses media to educate on TRUE Collective and its mission with The Loft.

**Usage Description:** This document outlines the multi-phase development of The Loft, starting with establishing a community and event space known as the Urban Room, followed by a flagship Green Energy Training Center. It details the programs offered, such as T.O.G.E.T.H.E.R. Youth Program and R.E.A.D.Y. workforce training, and describes how The Loft will serve as a central space for educational and mental health support, alongside hosting a variety of cultural and arts events. The Loft is designed to foster resilience by providing a platform for community engagement, resource distribution, and clean energy education.



T.R.U.E.

DIVERSITY

TRUST. REFORM.

UNDERSTANDING. EQUITY.

# Who is T.R.U.E.?



T.R.U.E. is a grassroots organization holistically **championing equity** and instilling **growth mindset** in **BIPOC and marginalized youth**, as well as supporting underserved families.

# T.R.U.E.'s Mission



Our mission is *twofold*:

- 1) We provide **robust prevention programs**;
- 2) We tirelessly **advocate for diverse resources** to ensure cultural enrichment and **educational equity**.

Our **youth workforce initiatives** are designed to enhance personal development and **build resilience**. We proudly celebrate **cultural diversity** through educational arts and immersive events, enriching the tapestry of our **shared community experiences**.



TRUST



REFORM

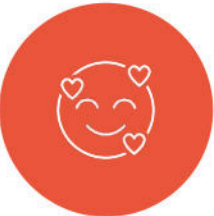


UNDERSTANDING



EQUITY

# T.R.U.E.'s Values



## COMPASSION

We acknowledge each others' perspectives and where others are in the journey. We communicate in an open and truthful way that is supportive, and constructive.



## TEAMWORK

We leverage resources, foster collaboration and create an environment where voices are heard. Our members feel they have a seat at the table. We serve as an extension of our communities.



## EMPOWERMENT

We encourage our members to initiate and act on productive and positive ideas. We provide guidance and support; help enable connections and clear a path for success.



## ACCOUNTABILITY

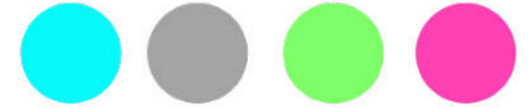
We challenge and hold each other accountable in our growth. We deliver on our promises to our audiences and partners in the community and ask they return in kind.



## ACTION ORIENTED

We are committed to activate and create sustainable, tangible change. We are alert to opportunities and challenges and move strategically. No action is too small, no task too large.

# T.R.U.E.'s Approach

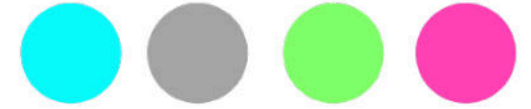


DIVERSE  
TEACHING  
CO - CREATING  
EMPOWERING  
COLLABORATIVE  
CELEBRATORY  
CHALLENGING  
MOBILIZING

|  
**N**  
**O**  
**T**  
|

SINGLE PERSPECTIVE  
PREACHING  
AUTHORITY  
DICTATING  
DEMANDING  
ONLY TOUGH ISSUES  
ADVERSARIAL  
OVERSTEPPING

# T.R.U.E.'s Pillars



## Public Education Support (K-12)

### *We are about:*

- Partnering with TPS to promote cultural immersion, effective family & community engagement and student success
- Free or cost effective resources
- Understanding Federal / State compliance

*We are **not**:* Creating curriculum but have the resources to do so if needed to collaborate.

## Community Engagement

### *We are about:*

- Community listening & engagement
- Cultural programming/ events, inclusive celebrations
- Connection, collaboration with other local groups and bringing resources together.

*We are **not**:* Only about singular issues (racism, police reform, social justice); Representative of or spokespeople for other local groups.

## Group Member Empowerment

### *We are about:*

- Opportunities for cultural self-education, celebration, and activism, on a broad range of diversity & inclusion topics.
- Guidance, direction, resources and support for members to act and serve in the community.

*We are **not**:* Creating oversight for individuals and their personal activism

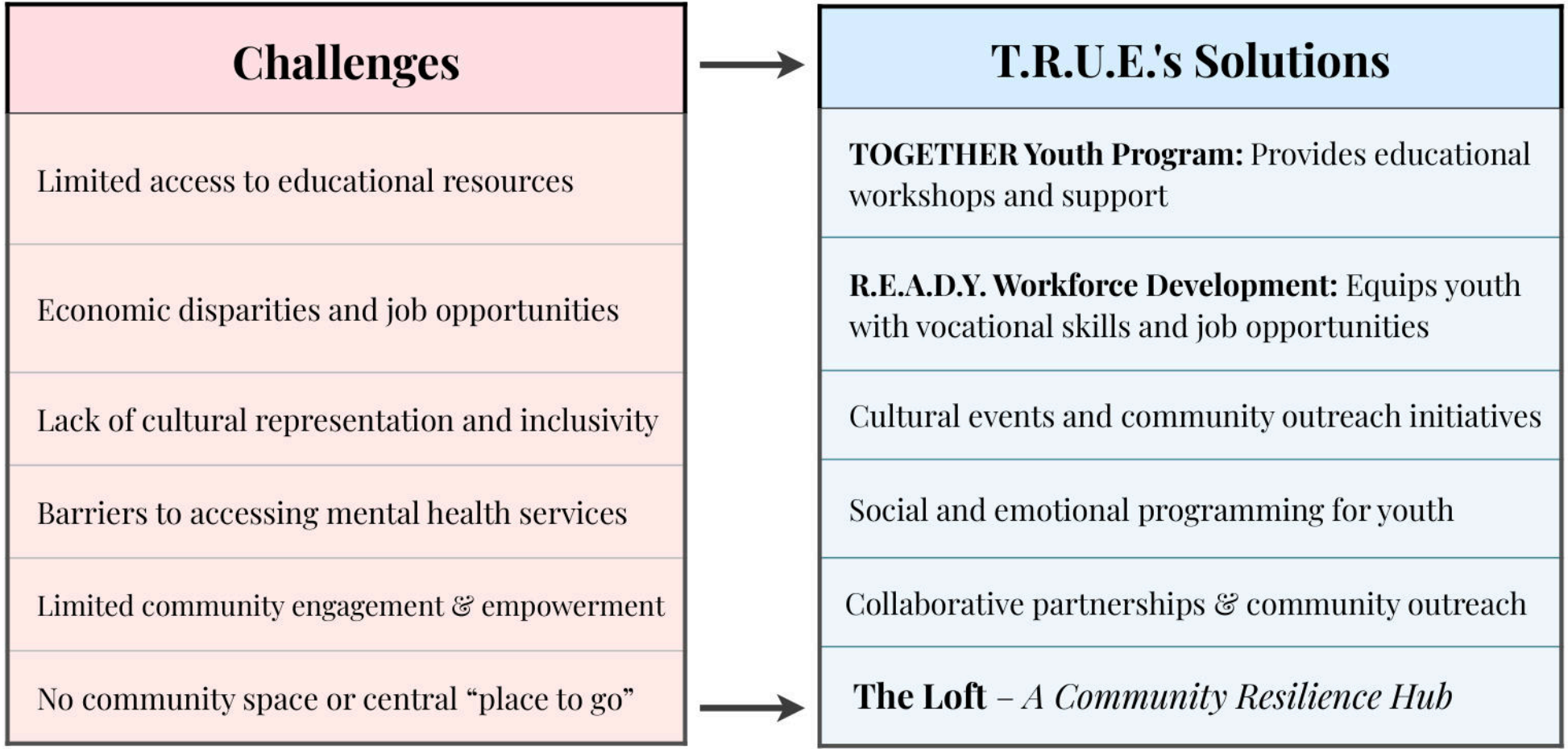
## Local Government Participation

### *We are about:*

- Awareness, commitment, communication and connections between groups around D&I initiatives
- Helping to inform T.R.U.E.. members around opportunities to participate, serve, and volunteer

*We are **not**:* Affiliated with or sponsor of any one political party, local or state representative, or government official

# Social Challenges Faced by Taunton's BIPOC Community





T.R.U.E. Diversity is teaming up with MassDevelopment's TDI to build **The Loft**, a Community Resilience Hub, that will include an "Urban Room" community & event space, afterschool programming, and a flagship Green Energy Training Center in the heart of Taunton's Whittenton neighborhood.





The Loft will be situated in a vacant, highly visible 6,000 sq ft building at the corner of Bay St and W Britannia. Formerly “Steve’s Appliances,” the building has three separate storefront spaces which will be developed in phases.





Whittenton, Taunton, MA

The redevelopment and rehabilitation of this building into The Loft will have a profound effect on the Whittenton neighborhood and offer the community an **anchor space** and **regional destination** as a *Community Resilience Hub*.



# What might I find at a Resilience Hub?



A **Community Resilience Hub** supports residents, coordinates communication, distributes resources, and **reduces carbon pollution** while **enhancing quality of life**. Alongside The Loft, T.R.U.E. is partnering to build a sister Resilience Hub, the Riverside Community Center, with the Taunton Housing Authority.





**Community resilience** can mean many things. Energy resilience means **adapting to climate change** and **training a diverse workforce** for the new clean energy economy. But resilience is also about nurturing **social networks, community bonds,** and building **cultural awareness.**



**Bay Street**

*Phase 1*

*Phase 2*

Bay 1

**T.R.U.E  
DIVERSITY**

BAY C - MAIN SPACE  
1814 SQ FT

BAY C - INTERMEDIATE SPACE  
230 SQ FT

BAY C - RESTROOM

BAY C - RESTROOM

Bay 2

**Urban Room/Community Space**

BAY B - BACK SPACE

BAY B - RESTROOM

Bay 3

**Flex/expansion space**

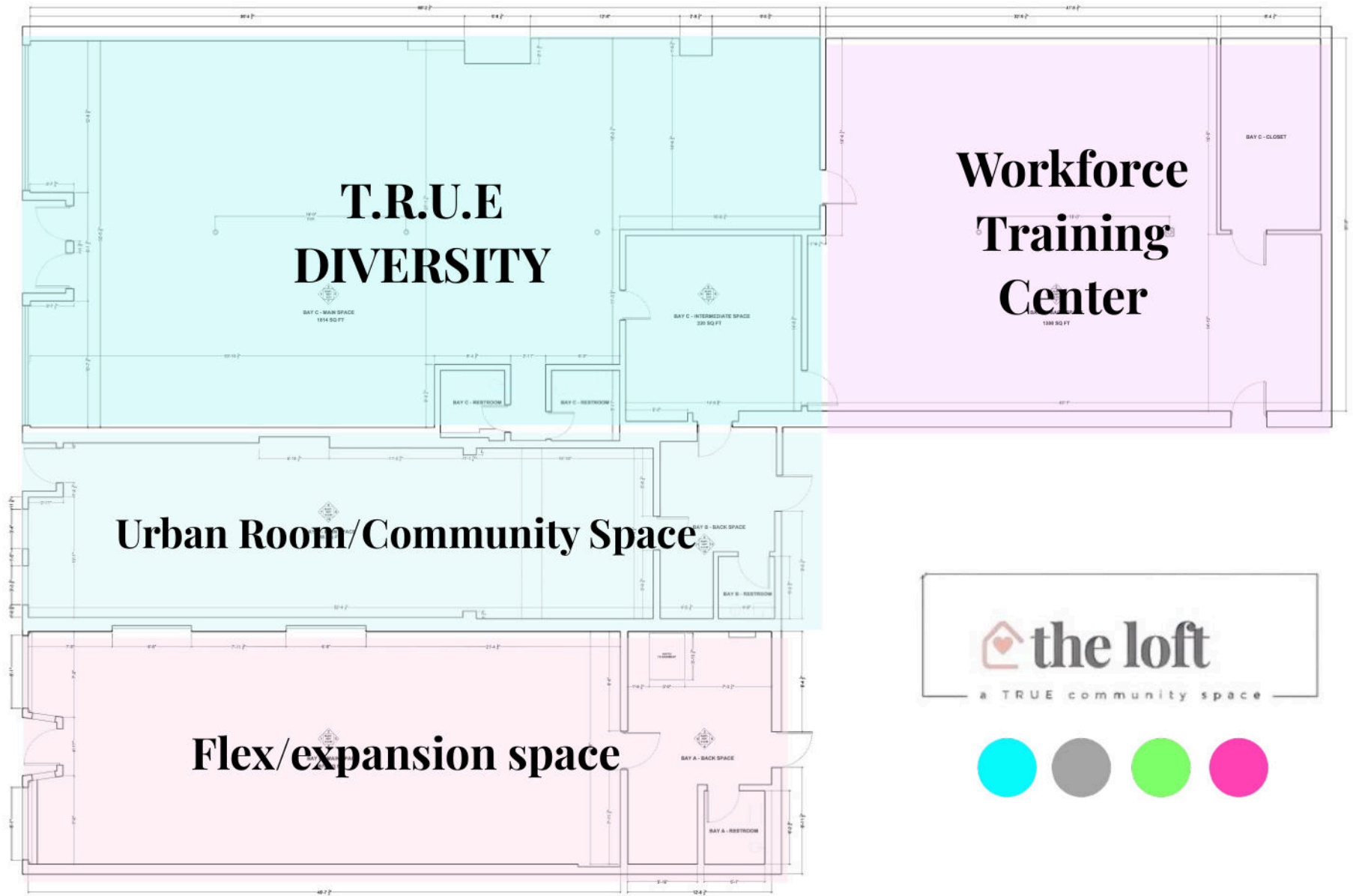
BAY A - BACK SPACE

BAY A - RESTROOM

**Workforce  
Training  
Center**

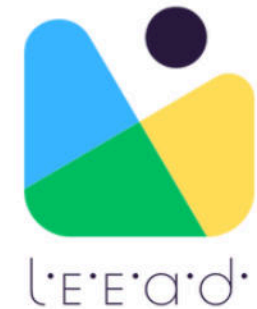
1338 SQ FT

BAY C - CLOSET





T.R.U.E. Diversity will run their **afterschool programming** out of the space, including the T.O.G.E.T.H.E.R. Youth Program, R.E.A.D.Y workforce training, L.E.E.A.D., and E.L.I.T.E Connect, in addition to offering mental health support and educational opportunities.





T.R.U.E.'s space will have the flexibility to transform into an **event space**. Combined with the adjacent Urban Room/Community space, The Loft will be able to host a diversity of cultural, educational, and arts events.





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The adjacent **Urban Room**, run collaboratively by T.R.U.E. and TDI, will be open to the community. An Urban Room is a **community space** situated at **sidewalk level** that allows citizens to debate, explore, and create ideas about the **future of their neighborhood** and their city.

  
MassDevelopment



Phase 2 of The Loft will feature a flagship **Clean Energy Workforce Training Center**. T.R.U.E.'s focus will be on giving BIPOC and underserved communities the opportunity for jobs in these important industries while also growing **generational and community wealth**.



.....> **Help us Build The Loft!** <.....

Join T.R.U.E. in Building a Brighter Future



***Founding Funder:*** Support build out of The Loft by becoming a founding funder of the space. Your contribution will help establish a hub for education, support, and empowerment in underserved areas.

***Sponsorship:*** Become a sponsor and help fund our programs.

***Volunteering:*** Get involved and make an impact by volunteering your time and skills.

***Spreading Awareness:*** Share our mission with your network and help amplify our message of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

