

BREAKING THROUGH IT

Areas of need

- 1) *Mental & Emotional Health*
- 2) *Absence of pride for our city of Butler*
- 3) *Lack of support & resources*
- 4) *The devalue of relationships today*
- 5) *Absence of a safe & positive place that can host all backgrounds & interests*

***Building trust to provide:** The known that the youth are in the care of a safe and trusted place is crucial. When a person wants to be a part of a safe community center along with their friends under the supervision of trusted and reliable mentors/adults. This is where people learn and develop life skills, pursue interests, try new activities, and building relationships. All of these are strengths that help us become better, stronger, and united as people and a community.*

***Provide mental & emotional health by:** Providing resources on our website (Excite!), carrying a positive environment, encouraging people to talk, listen, and feel, hosting a safe space, and promoting these values in every program*

***How do we fit the need?** Butler needs a safe space that attracts children and teens to keep them off the streets and bring them into a place that is built on a strong community and relationships. As Proverbs 27:17 says - Iron Sharpens Iron. Another common phrase is you are who your friends are. Both refer to the truth that strong, genuine relationships that allow people to be completely themselves promote positive growth and development. Of course, if a person gets surrounded with the wrong crowd - one bad decision can lead to the next one and so on. But a strong support system can spark the desire to overcome, bounce back, and break through onto the next step of your journey to finding your best self. This has a ripple effect on others, which can be people already in or wanting to be in your circle, and those who are around watching. - the next wave of youth.*

***Return of respect and purpose:** The youth can come as they are and feel accepted. Every person deserves to feel accepted for who they truly are. Breakthrough-Butler not only creates that environment, but also provides the room for every child to develop into a better version of themselves, which ultimately will be a major positive benefit to the people around them and the potential for better opportunities in their future. Healthy relationships are twofold in the sense that they require a person respecting themselves, while also maintaining that same respect for the other person. This increase in all-around success translates towards taking care of and giving back to our community.*