



IDEAS TO ACTION FUND

BRINGING YOUR IDEAS TO LIFE

Walking in Community: A Place of Our Own

Ideas to Action 2022

By Dr. Kel Hughes Jones, August 2024

Number of people involved in or impacted by the project since Ideas to Action funding:

50

Do you anticipate that your project will continue after Ideas to Action funding?

Yes. Yes, we still have some funds left over so we plan to continue. Additionally, we have really formed a true sense of community, so the group would like to keep meeting quarterly in the coming years.

Did your project encourage partnerships and collaborations with any community partners or other WiLS members? Who did you connect with during this process and how might you sustain those connections?

Yes. During both cycles, we were able to partner with others to enhance the group. With the first cycle, a Wisconsin poet, Dasha Kelly, came to help the group express themselves creatively in writing. In the second cycle, we had a sound therapist, Shana Nunelly, conduct two virtual sound baths. For the third cycle, we have not determined who will be our special guest, but we are open to inviting previous guests back.

Thinking about your project, what was the most innovative part? What can you, or your community, do now that it couldn't before?

The most innovative part was being able to bring librarians of color across the United States and simultaneously participate in self-care activities.

How do you think other WiLS members could use what you learned and accomplished at their own organizations?

There are two takeaways for WiLS members. One is for libraries to find ways for staff members to incorporate self-care and wellness into the work day. The other takeaway is for libraries to find ways to create communities of practice beyond their local community.

Project product(s):



[First Gathering Flyer \(2022\)](#)