



Safe-Hub Philadelphia

Key Messages

Origin

The Safe-Hub model grew from deep community partnership and years of on-the-ground learning.

- Safe-Hub emerged from collaboration with the CTC Ten Foundation in South Africa in response to the need for safe, consistent spaces for young people.
- Over more than 15 years, the model was shaped through daily practice, community collaboration, and continuous refinement alongside local partners and participants.
- The decision to establish Safe-Hub in Kensington was shaped by both longstanding personal ties to the neighborhood and the clear need for safe, youth-centered community infrastructure.
- Safe-Hub's leadership reflects deep connections to Kensington, including family history and lived experience rooted in the same streets and fields where the program now operates.

Place-Based

Safe-Hub is a place-based community campus that uses soccer as an entry point to long-term youth and community development.

- Soccer is the anchor that brings young people into Safe-Hub, but it is not the end goal.
- Safe-Hub's work centers on physical safety, emotional wellbeing, skill-building, and relationships that support young people beyond the field.
- The Kensington Community Campus integrates soccer, learning, leadership, and support in one accessible, dignified space rooted in daily neighborhood life.

The Kensington Community Campus is the foundation for Safe-Hub's work in Philadelphia.

- The campus brings together interconnected public and private spaces that serve young people, caregivers, and neighbors in one place.



- By housing programming within a single shared campus, Safe-Hub remains consistently accessible to the same community, deepening relationships over time.
- The campus functions as a consistent, accessible environment where long-term outcomes are supported through continuity of relationships, services, and community engagement.

Developmental Continuum

Safe-Hub supports young people through every stage of childhood and adolescence while extending opportunity to families and the broader community.

- Safe-Hub's programming ethos recognizes development as a lifelong process and is intentionally responsive to how young people grow and change over time.
- Programming is designed to engage young people as active participants in shaping their experiences and development.
- Physical spaces and program structures are built for and around young people, reflecting their interests, needs, and ideas rather than imposing a one-size-fits-all model.
- The developmental continuum begins in early childhood, continues through high school, and evolves as young people grow, with leadership and skill-building opportunities emerging over time.
- Programming intentionally includes family members of participants, from caregivers to other children and young adults, recognizing that strong environments strengthen outcomes for young people.
- Safe-Hub engages caregivers and community members as active participants in the same shared ecosystem, strengthening youth development outcomes.

Partnership-Powered

Partnership is central to how Safe-Hub operates and delivers impact.

- Safe-Hub does not attempt to provide every service alone. Instead, it intentionally brings in expert partners to strengthen and expand its work.
- Through these partnerships, families and community members can access support related to physical, mental, and economic wellbeing at both individual and community levels.



- This ecosystem approach allows Safe-Hub to remain focused on youth development while strengthening the broader network of care around families.

Outcomes-Driven

Safe-Hub is focused on building impact that lasts.

- Safe-Hub's vision prioritizes depth, stability, and community trust over rapid growth or replication.
- The Kensington Community Campus reflects a long-term commitment to building futures alongside families and neighbors.
- Ongoing participant data collection and monitoring allow Safe-Hub to address participant retention gaps, modify programming to address developmental needs, and determine future programming needs.
- As young people graduate from core programming, Safe-Hub creates pathways for continued engagement through mentoring and leadership roles that extend the impact of earlier participation.
- By centering its work in one neighborhood and growing alongside the community, Safe-Hub builds impact that deepens over time.