



January 5, 2022

To: Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission

We are honored to present to you this collaborative project between Van Go, Inc. and Bert Nash Mental Health Center.

This project will employ Van Go Apprentice Artists for 8 weeks this spring to imagine, design, and create a painted mural for the outdoor area on the east side of the Lawrence-Douglas County Community Health Facility. Our hope is that once complete, this mural will provide the clients and staff of Bert Nash a beautiful outdoor space for the practice of mindfulness in a natural setting surrounded by trauma-informed art.

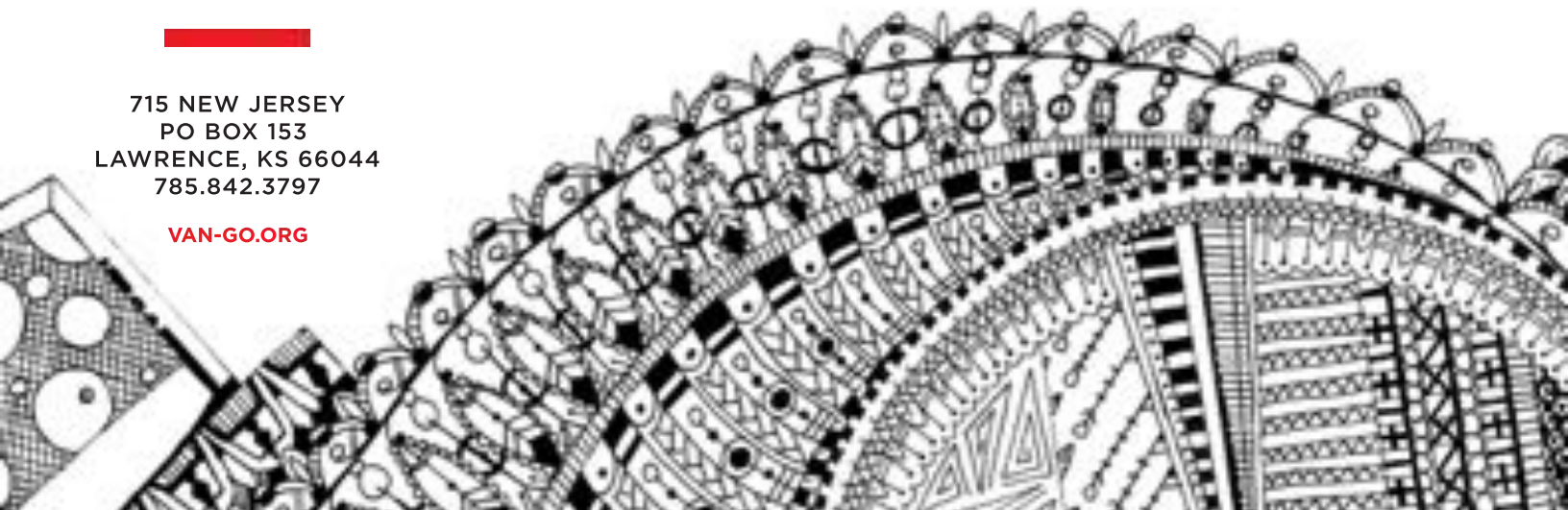
Attached you will find our Mural Review Criteria documents for your review and approval. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or clarification.

In community,

Eliza Darmon and Kristen Malloy
Co-Executive Directors, Van Go, Inc.

715 NEW JERSEY
PO BOX 153
LAWRENCE, KS 66044
785.842.3797

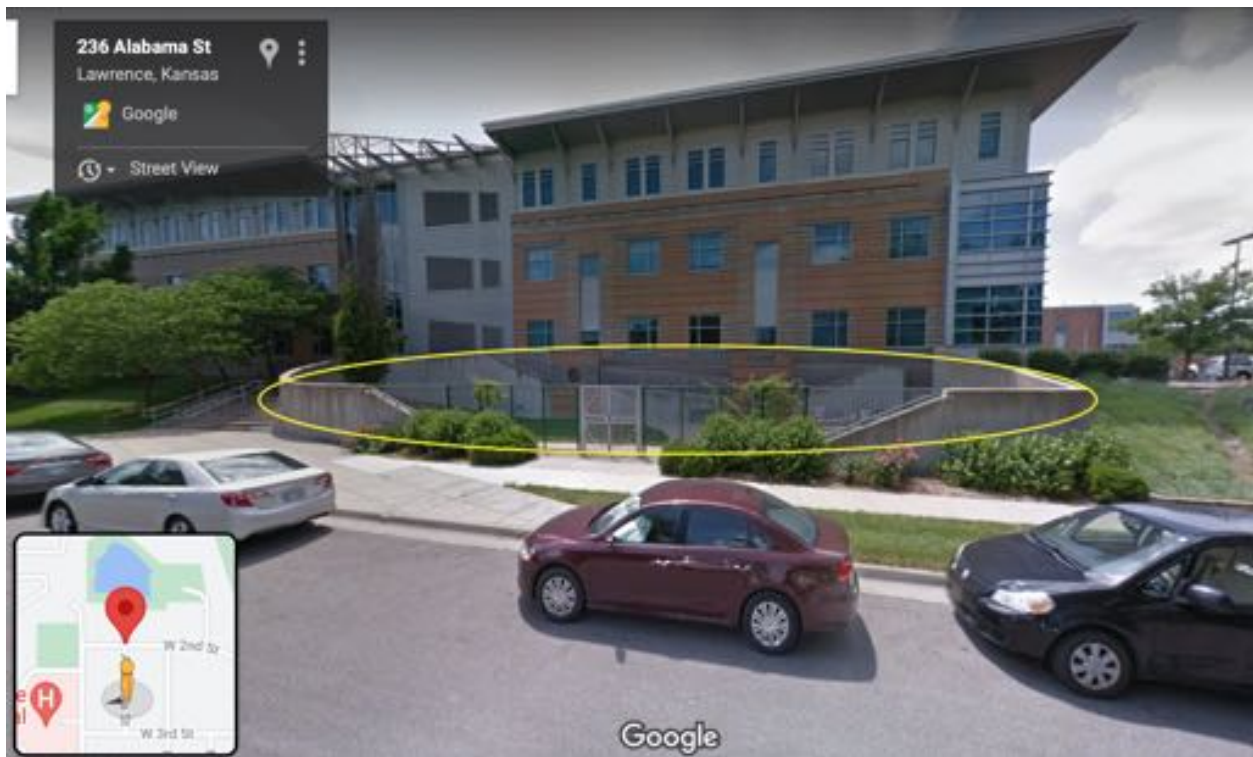
VAN-GO.ORG



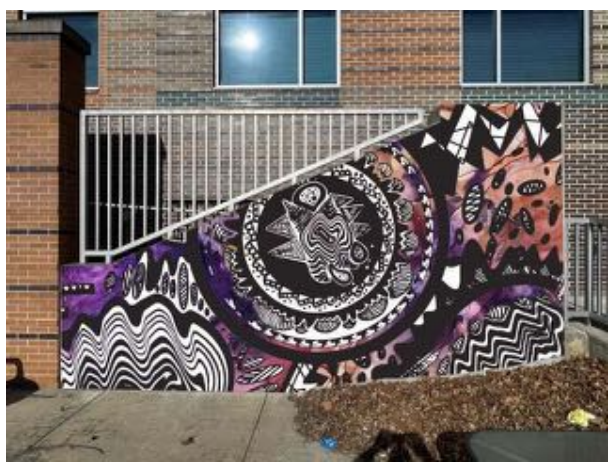
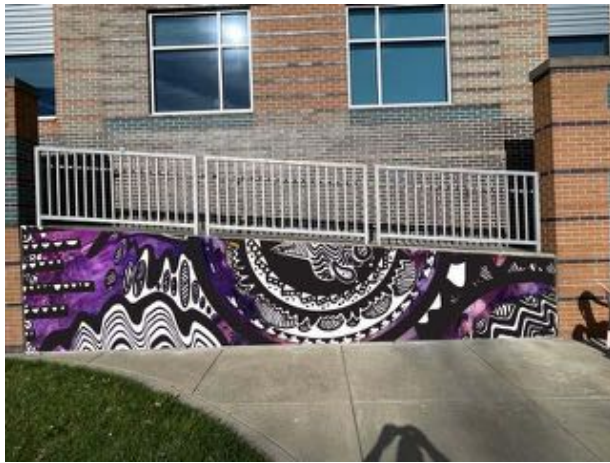
Detailed Description of the location:

Exterior mural to be painted on interior portions of the concrete courtyard walls within the gated area on the east side of the Lawrence-Douglas County Public Health building at 200 Alabama Street. Proposed painted walls would be within the inside perimeter of the courtyard space.

Mural dimensions will total approximately 777sq ft. The mural will be partially visible to passers-by along Alabama Street as it will remain a semi-private courtyard space for employees and clients of the Bert Nash facility.



The attached images are conceptual placeholders, and not indicative of the actual design.



Technical feasibility of the project:

All artwork will be painted physically on the concrete wall surfaces. Surfaces will be prepared by priming with a concrete/masonry primer, and artwork will be applied using professional grade acrylic paint. Finished artwork will be sealed with a UV protectant coating. An exterior concrete patio area with seating exists within the courtyard space, but will not inhibit or be affected by the proposed artwork. No grading or lighting obstacles exist. The building structure has no historical or cultural significance.

Concepts and realization of the artwork:

This project will be executed by a team of 14-18 year old Apprentice Artists who will guide the imagery during their 8-week work session. Though there has not been a predetermined rendering, the mission of the project is to visually compliment the therapeutic work of the Bert Nash facility and provide a space conducive for relaxation, and/or individual or group meetings. (see above conceptual design images)

Artist's or artists' CV:

See Attached

Neighborhood engagement as evidenced by documentation (letters) that the artist has presented the project to the neighborhood association or like body and gained approval for the project.

See attached letters from Douglas County Visiting Nurses Association (VNA), Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority (LDCHA), Lawrence-Douglas County Public Health (LDCPH) and Pickney Neighborhood Association.

Relationship of the proposed work of art to the site:

The Community Health Facility has been home to the Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center since 1999. We have been inspired by our programs, like Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT) and Children and Family's psychosocial group, to renovate the outdoor area on the east side of our building. The outdoor space allows clients and team members to gather with room for social distancing in the rejuvenating sunshine and fresh air. A large element of the project will entail a collaboration with Van Go, Inc. This social service agency will be commissioned to create a mural to be placed on the inside of the cement walls. This will not only provide the possibility of employing youth in Douglas County community to create one-of-a-kind art in our space, but it gives our clients and staff an opportunity to practice mindfulness in a natural setting surrounded by trauma-informed art. The dedicated outdoor space would give our clients the ability to learn new skills and social connection, which is vital to support their mental health.

Mental health providers often hold space and support other people's healing. They walk-through tough times with clients and need to allow themselves a level of

vulnerability in order to be authentically present for the person seeking help. This leaves providers at risk for their own challenging experiences, of secondary trauma, compassion fatigue, high stress levels, and ultimately, burn out. One of our best options for reducing this risk and for taking care of our staff is to be able to debrief and decompress with other professionals who understand the unique work. One of the requests we most often hear from staff is the need to have a space to connect with their co-workers.

A therapist at the Bert Nash Center stated “When indoors, it is possible to see yourself as a whole universe. When outdoors, you are reminded that you are part of something bigger.”

Detailed Installation Plan/Timeline:

- Late February 2022- Van Go Apprentice Artists meet with Bert Nash representatives for client meeting and information gathering.
- March 2022- Van Go Apprentice Artists develop blueprint designs and present them for approval by client.
- Late March 2022- Site preparation to include wall priming and transfer of mural line-work.
- April 2022- Van Go Apprentice Artists begin painting of physical artwork on site at Bert Nash.
- Early May 2022- Project completion and coordination of unveiling.

Budget Plan:

The mural has been privately commissioned by Bert Nash Mental Health Center. The client will retain ownership of the artwork and be responsible for maintenance and repairs, should they be necessary. Van Go, Inc. retains copyright of the artwork.

Owner/Artist Agreement:

See Attached

Van Go, Inc., Founded 1997, Lawrence, Kansas.
us@van-go.org | www.van-go.org | 785-842-3797

Van Go, Inc. is an arts-based social service agency that provides year-round after-school and summer job-training programs to high-needs and under-served youth, ages 14-24. Using art as the vehicle, Van Go is devoted to delivering constructive activities to youth at risk for drug and alcohol use, teen pregnancy, truancy, or delinquency.

Mission: To improve the lives of high-needs youth using art as the vehicle for self-expression, self-confidence, and hope for the future.

Public Works

Murals

2001	Mural for Van Go building	Mural size: 105' x 5'
2002	"Life Changes" for Bert Nash Therapeutic Classroom	Mural size: 4 panels, 93' x 7'
2002	"Nature Nurtures" at Community Mercantile	Mural size: 4 panels, 4' x 5'
2003	"Paradise Lounge" for D.S.T. Systems	Mural size: 86' long; 645 sq ft
2004	"Pages in Time" for Lawrence Public Library	Mural size: 3 panels, 9' x 5'
2005	"Casa 4 Casa Playhouse" for CASA	Mural size: 8' x 7' x 7'
2005	Mural for Amarr Garage Door	Mural size: 9' x 12'
2005	Mural for Colyer Prairie Grassland Heritage Foundation	Mural size: 8' x 12'
2005	Mural for Waves of Relief disaster relief organization	Mural size: 8' x 12'
2006	Mural for United Way	Mural size: 4' x 8'
2006	Mural for 6 th Street Zarco	Mural size: 15' x 3'
2007	"Our Pets, Our Passion" for Hill's Pet Nutrition	Mural size: 6 panels
2007	"Business in Motion" for KU School of Business	Mural size: 5 panels
2008	Vegetable Mural for Van Go	Mural size: 30, 1' sq. panels
2009	Mural for Sabatini Multicultural Resource Center	Mural size: 4' x 7'
2009	"Our Family JAMS" mosaic mural for Van Go entryway	Mural size: 20' x 7'
2010	"All Hands on D.E.C.K." for Lawrence Public Library	Mural size: 5 sculpted panels
2012	"Emergence" for Van Go computer lab	Mural size: 28' x 10'
2015	"Resilience: A Moving Kansas Tribute" wrap for City bus	Mural size: Var. pieces
2016	"Van Growth: Celebrating 20 Years" for Van Go	Mural size: 20' x 5'
2018	"Home Grown" for Natural Grocers	Mural size: 550 sq ft
2019	"Reassurance" for Lawrence Memorial Hospital	Mural size: 3 panels
2020	"Restoration" for Douglas County 31 st & Louisiana underpass	Mural size: 12' x 52'
2021	"Circulating Hope" for Children's Advocacy Center	Mural size: 6 round panels
2022	"Sustenance" in partnership with KCAIC & Lawrence Restaurant Association	Mural size: 8 panels, 4' x 10'

Other Public Projects

Commissions & Donations

- 1999 - (400?) custom benches created for public and private locations around Lawrence and the Present United States, including:
- 2005 Bench for Rita Dove, U.S. Poet Laureate
 - 2006 Bench for Toni Morrison

2002	Newspaper boxes for Lawrence Journal World (12 boxes)
2003	"DCAP Quilt" 3' x 6' for Douglas County AIDS Project
2005	Newspaper boxes for Lawrence Journal World (12 boxes)
2020	Essential needs pantries for the community (17 pantries)
2020	Cruisin' Cupboard of Douglas County imagery for vehicle wrap
2021	Zentangle art for Studio 804 Monarch Village
2021	Zentangle art for United Way enclosures for Lawrence Transit bus stops

Vehicles

1998	Painted Checker limo for Van Go
2004	Painted van for Van Go
2009	Painted pickup truck for Cottin's Hardware
2011	Painted van for Van Go
2014	Painted van for Van Go
2017	Painted truck for Van Go

Awards

2000	Phoenix Award for Arts Education
2005	Coming Up Taller Award
2008	Governor's Art Award
2012	KU Community Partner Award
2013	Lawrence Journal World "Only in Lawrence" Award
2013	KU Outstanding Community Campus Collaboration Award

Articles

Kansas Magazine	"The Colors of Van Go"	Summer 2012
Kansas City Star Magazine	"Art, Inc."	July 28, 2008
KU Alumni Magazine	"Van Go's Young Masters"	Spring 2007
Baldwin City Signal	"Young Lawrence artists learn old art to help build gate for Black Jack site"	February 19, 2011
Lawrence Business Magazine	"Van Go Celebrates 15 Years of Art and Kids"	Fall 2012
Lawrence Journal-World	"Van Go celebrating 20 years of 'Benchmark' program with unveiling of new creations"	July 19, 2018
Lawrence Journal-World	"From at-risk teen to mentor"	March 7, 2019
Lawrence Journal-World	"Making the hospital calmer"	April 6, 2019
Lawrence Journal-World	"Van Go apprentice artists create 12 essential needs pantries in lieu of traditional benches"	August 8, 2020
Lawrence Journal-World	"Van Go teens painting mural in southern Lawrence that honors wildlife, Native American culture"	October 12, 2020
The Indian Leader	"New Mural Honors Wetlands and Indigenous People of Lawrence, Kansas Area"	November 9, 2020



"Sustenance" 8 panels in partnership with KCAIC and Lawrence Restaurant Association, Fall 2021



"Circulating Hope" 6 panels for Children's Advocacy Center, Spring 2021



"Restoration" for Douglas County, 12' x 52', Fall 2020



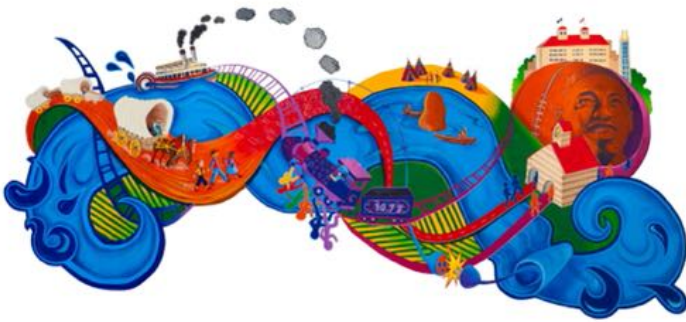
Cruising Cupboard vehicle wrap for Just Food, Spring 2020



"Reassurance", 3 panels for Lawrence Memorial Hospital crisis rooms, Spring 2019



"Home Grown" (selected portions) for Natural Grocers, 550 sq ft, Spring 2018



"Resilience: A Moving Kansas Tribute" (selected portions) for Lawrence Transit, 350 sq ft, Spring 2014



"Our Family JAMS" for Van Go entryway, Spring 2009



Essential Needs Pantries for the community, Summer/Fall 2020



Benchmark benches, 400+ benches to date, annual Summer Benchmark program



VISITING NURSES

Improving quality of life through compassionate patient care wherever you call home.

December 7, 2021

Re: Van Go, Inc. and Bert Nash Center Mural Project

Dear Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission:

On behalf of Douglas County Visiting Nurses Association (VNA), I'm writing in support of the Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center's mural project in collaboration with Van Go, Inc.

We are excited the Bert Nash Center was able to secure private contributions to commission the artwork, which will have a direct impact on the VNA staff and those community members who are served by the Community Health Facility. As a proud neighbor of the Bert Nash Center and a healthcare organization, we understand the correlation between spending time outside and how art effects one's mental health. There is a wealth of studies that indicate the connection of improved cognition and overall well-being when exposed to natural environments and the arts; for example, they can lower stress, blood pressure and heart rate, and reduce the symptoms of depression.

Bert Nash has been an important partner for VNA throughout our history. We increasingly receive referrals for patients with multiple issues, including mental health diagnoses. Bert Nash provides the critical safety net for our patients and so many others across our community.

The mural project will provide a vibrant, trauma informed expression. It will also provide the youth of Douglas County, who will be employed by Van Go, Inc., an opportunity for education and experience to design a piece of art that intentionally demonstrates how emotional and behavioral health are just as important as physical health.

Again, VNA supports the commissioned mural on the east side of the Community Health Facility. This opportunity will directly impact staff, those who visit the facility and the neighboring community members.

Sincerely,



Cynthia Lewis, MHA, CHQ
Chief Executive Officer





December 9, 2021

Re: Van Go, Inc. & Bert Nash Center Mural Project

Dear Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission,

On behalf of the Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority, I am writing in support of the Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center's mural project in collaboration with Van Go, Inc.

We are excited the Bert Nash Center was able to secure private contributions to commission the artwork, which will have a direct impact on our tenants who live in the neighboring homes and those community members who visit the neighborhood. The Housing Authority owns ten units of housing directly across the street from the mural project. The space has been underutilized for many years, which has caused it to appear deteriorated. The renovated space will bring energy back to the outdoor area. We believe the proposed mural will enhance the quality of life for those healthcare workers, neighbors, and community members served by the Community Health Facility.

The mural project will provide a vibrant expression, which will be trauma informed. It will also provide at-risk youth of Douglas County, who will be employed by Van Go, Inc., an opportunity for education and experience to design a piece of art that intentionally demonstrates how emotional and behavioral health are just as important as physical health.

The Housing Authority is a long standing partner with Van Go, through our sponsorship of youth from low income households that we assist in participating in the Van Go employment program. Additionally, the Housing Authority is a long standing partner with Bert Nash to provide housing for our community members that experience mental health issues. Most recent, we built and are operating The Cottages, 10 units of permanent supportive housing, across 2nd Street.

Again, the Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority supports the commissioned mural on the east side of the Community Health Facility. This opportunity will positively impact our staff, our participants, those who visit the facility and the neighboring community members.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Shannon Oury, written in a cursive style.

Shannon Oury
Executive Director

December 7, 2021

Re: Van Go, Inc & Bert Nash Center Mural Project

Dear Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission,

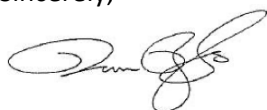
On behalf of the Lawrence-Douglas County Public Health (LDCPH), I'm writing in support of the Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center's mural project in collaboration with Van Go, Inc.

We are excited the Bert Nash Center was able to secure private contributions to commission the artwork, which will have a direct impact on the LDCPH staff and those community members who are served by the Community Health Facility. The facility has been home to LDCPH, VNA, and the Bert Nash Center since 1999. LDCPH understands the correlation between spending time outside, and how art effects one's mental health. There are a wealth of studies that indicate the connection of improved cognition and overall well-being when exposed to natural environments and the arts; for example, they can lower stress, blood pressure and heart rate, and reduce the symptoms of depression.

Physical health and mental health are interrelated, and we support this project as an opportunity to promote a holistic approach to wellness. The mural project will provide a vibrant expression, which will be trauma informed. It will also provide at-risk youth of Douglas County, who will be employed by Van Go, Inc., an opportunity for education and experience to design a piece of art that intentionally demonstrates how emotional and behavioral health are just as important as physical health.

Again, LDCHP supports the commissioned mural on the east side of the Community Health Facility. This opportunity will directly impact our staff, those who visit the facility and the neighboring community members.

Sincerely,



Dan Partridge, MPH
Director



200 Maine, Suite B
Lawrence, KS 66044-1396

OFFICE: 785.843.3060 FAX: 785.843.3161
CLINIC: 785.843.0721 FAX: 785.843.2930

Pinkney Neighborhood Association

<https://www.pinckneyneighborhood.org/>

December 22, 2021

Re: Van Go, Inc & Bert Nash Center Mural Project

Dear Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission,

On behalf of the Pinkney Neighborhood Association, I'm writing in support of the Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center's mural project in collaboration with Van Go, Inc.

We are excited that the Bert Nash Center was able to secure private contributions to commission the artwork, which will have a direct impact on the neighboring homes and community members who visit the neighborhood. The space has been underutilized for many years, which has caused it to appear deteriorated. The renovated space will bring energy back to the outdoor area. The mission of the Pinkney Neighborhood Association is to promote improved property, living conditions, and good relations with the businesses within the neighborhood. We believe the proposed mural will enhance the quality of life for those healthcare workers and community members served by the Community Health Facility.

The mural project will provide a vibrant expression, which will be trauma informed. It will also provide at-risk youth of Douglas County, who will be employed by Van Go, Inc., an opportunity for education and experience to design a piece of art that intentionally demonstrates how emotional and behavioral health are just as important as physical health.

Mental health is crucial. As a neighborhood association that supports our neighbors, we see that mental health is imperative so we thrive as a caring community. It is fantastic that this mural project would be in the heart of the Pinkney neighborhood.

Again, the Pinkney Neighborhood Association supports the commissioned mural on the east side of the Community Health Facility. This opportunity will directly impact our staff, those who visit the facility and the neighboring community members.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Shane Heiman". The ink is light gray and the signature is fluid and stylized.

Shane Heiman

President, Pinkney Neighborhood Association

AGREEMENT FOR COMMISSIONED ARTWORK

This agreement is made the 3rd day of January, 2022 by and between:

Name: Van Go, Inc. (Artist)

Address: 715 New Jersey St., Lawrence, KS 66044

Phone: 785-842-3797 E-mail: directors@van-go.org

Name: Bert Nash Mental Health Center (Owner)

Address: 200 Alabama St., Lawrence, KS 66050

Phone: 785-830-1745

The parties agree as follows:

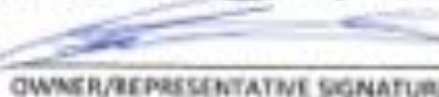
1. **The Project:** Owner is commissioning an exterior mural to be designed and executed by the Artist. The mural will be painted directly on the designated concrete walls with approximate dimensions of 777 sq. ft. consistent with **Mural Proposal Option C**.
2. **Payment:** The Artist and Owner agree the purchase price of the final artwork is **\$17,094**. Upon completion of a scaled color rendering, the Owner shall pay 20% of the agreed total to the Artist. This amounts to **\$3,418**. Final payment of the remaining balance is due upon completion of final artwork.
3. **Commencement:** The mural painting process will begin in **March 2022**. The final mural will be completed, on-site, by **mid-May 2022**. If work on the mural is delayed by adverse weather conditions or any other cause beyond the Artist's reasonable control, then the completion date shall be extended for such reasonable time as the parties may agree.
4. **Copyright:** Artist reserves the common-law copyright to work commissioned by Owner and created by the Artist. Therefore, the Owner must obtain permission from the Artist for any rights of reproduction or distribution.
5. **Mural Maintenance:** The Owner recognizes that periodic maintenance of the mural is essential to the integrity of the artwork. The Owner will consult with the Artist to project a fee and plan for repair methods. If the Artist fails, refuses or is unable to supervise such maintenance and repairs, the Owner shall have the right to do so.

NOTES (if applicable):


ARTIST/REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

1/3/22

DATE


OWNER/REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

1/5/22

DATE

