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## **Harbor Impact Foundation Awarded \$50,000 Frederick S. Upton Foundation Big Idea Grant**

The Harbor Impact Foundation has been awarded a \$50,000 Big Idea Grant from the Frederick S. Upton Foundation to help build and operate a non-profit, state-of-the-art indoor sports facility for children in and around Benton Harbor. The Big Idea Grant is a special grant program of the Frederick S. Upton Foundation that supports innovative programming and new ideas to enhance and serve our community.

"We greatly appreciate the generosity of the Frederick S. Upton Foundation and all the positive impact the Upton family has had on our community. This Big Idea Grant will help the Harbor Impact Foundation build a state-of-the-art indoor basketball training facility for children in and around Benton Harbor and achieve our mission of changing lives through sports," says Rodney Alexander, Jr., Harbor Impact Foundation Founder and Board Chair.

The facility will provide a home for Benton Harbor based Impact Basketball's successful travel basketball program, while also providing enrichment opportunities for underserved Benton Harbor youth and area student athletes to succeed on and off the court.

These programs include diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI), SAT prep, mental health counseling, college recruitment and financial aid help, and a mentorship program. The Harbor Impact Foundation will ensure no child is turned away due to inability to pay, making participation in travel sports and access to these programs an option many families would not normally be able to afford.

The facility also plans to host eight to ten regional tournaments each travel season as well as provide access to the space for the community to hold events and participate in health and wellness programs. To learn more visit [www.harborimpactfoundation.org](http://www.harborimpactfoundation.org).

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