WHAT
A limited set of consultation services that may address a physical development project or a community design-related issue or program. Technical assistance services typically do not include conceptual design.

FOR
Non-profits/communities, intermediaries, broad community-based organizations, agencies, and for-profit entities such as design firms and developers, seeking targeted consultation services to assist with specific aspects of the design and development process or the delivery of pro bono community-engaged design services.

LIMITED SCOPE PRELIMINARY DESIGN SERVICES

Quick Hit
A targeted package of preliminary design services for non-profits/communities that are considering a significant development project but need additional information or specific limited design services to take the next step in the development process.

Scope of service:
/ is developed through discussions with, or field visit by, Collaborative staff
/ is tailored to specific needs
/ may include limited feasibility studies, existing condition assessments, RFP development
/ is completed in 1–2 months
/ is provided by 1–2 volunteer design professionals

Deliverable is a final package with cover letter and 1–2 products
In-progress work is reviewed by Collaborative staff, or once by the Collaborative’s Design Grant Review Committee, as appropriate

Cost is $1500–$3000 administrative fee ($250 design grant application fee is included)

Range of grant value of services (value of pro bono services provided to the nonprofit) is $5000–$15,000

Design Professionals On-Call
Two-hour consultations for non-profits/communities and agencies that need a quick opinion on the feasibility of a development project.

Scope/type of advisory service:
/ is developed through discussions with Collaborative staff
/ is tailored to specific needs
/ is limited to verbal and/or written assessments and recommendations based on a visual survey
/ is completed in 1–2 months
/ is provided by Collaborative staff or 1 volunteer design professional

Deliverable is a final package with cover letter and the product
In-progress work is reviewed by Collaborative staff, as appropriate

Cost is $1000–$3000 (fee for service)
Quick Hit

The Lighthouse, Inc.
Limited Consultation Services: Structural Feasibility Study
The Lighthouse, Inc. offers sports and recreation programs for youth at its 15 acres of playing fields and green space in the Fairhill neighborhood. Due to a deteriorated roof, its fieldhouse had been closed for several years. When another non-profit offered to replace the existing flat roof, the Collaborative determined that the existing structure could support a new A-frame roof.

Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania
Limited Consultation Services: Energy Assessment
Legal Aid of Southeastern PA (LASP) was pursuing a PA State grant which required a 25% energy savings for eligibility. In order to understand how they could meet that requirement, they needed to model energy saving strategies for their building and use the data to evaluate energy savings and system upgrades. The Collaborative volunteer modeled the building using computer simulation software to analyze different energy saving strategies and presented the annual savings to LASP so they could make an educated decision on which system upgrades to pursue. The energy modeling data was also used as part of the grant application.

Samuel S. Fleisher Art Memorial
Limited Consultation Services: RFP Assistance
Fleisher was looking to hire a design consultant to develop a master plan for their eclectic facility which was comprised of several rowhomes, a church sanctuary, a funeral home, and a settlement house. The Collaborative worked with Fleisher to create a Request for Proposals (RFP) with a clear, well-organized overview of the facility and the organization’s strategic goals. The RFP enabled Fleisher to hire a consultant who created a master plan that melded their facility into a welcoming, sustainable 21st century community arts organization.

Design Professionals on-Call

People’s Emergency Center Community Development Corporation
Limited Consultation Services: Hawthorne Hall Revitalization Project
People’s Emergency Center CDC, in their effort to assist the building owner with rehabilitation and reuse of this historic structure, received services from the Collaborative to assess existing conditions and evaluate the feasibility and potential for reuse. The Collaborative volunteer’s feedback regarding the building’s location, physical condition, architectural characteristics, and size and quality of spaces, enabled the owner and PECCDC to make informed decisions about how best to move forward with redevelopment.

City of Philadelphia Department of Commerce
Storefront Improvement Program Consultation
The Commerce Department’s small business improvement programs help the city’s businesses grow. They offer several programs to assist entrepreneurs in upgrading their businesses inside and out. Through their Storefront Improvement Program (SIP), business and property owners may be eligible to receive grant money for facade improvements. In order to assist the Adonis Gallery, located in the Feltonville neighborhood, with their application for SIP funding, a Collaborative volunteer worked with the business owner to make recommendations for improvements to the storefront.
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Consulting/Advisory Services
Based on the Collaborative’s nearly 30 years of experience working in the challenging arena of community and economic development, a wide variety of technical support and assistance is available to all entities —non-profits/communities, intermediaries, broad community-based organizations, agencies, and for-profit entities such as design firms and developers – who are engaging, or wish to engage, in any aspect of community development, community-driven design, pro bono design services, community engagement and outreach, etc. Let us know about your goals and challenges and we will design a custom set of services tailored to your needs and priorities.

Scope/type of advisory service:
/ is developed through discussions with Collaborative staff
/ is tailored to specific needs
/ is completed in anywhere from 1 day to multiple years
/ is provided by Collaborative staff or 1 volunteer design professional
/ may be provided through a contract
/ may include:
• Best practices for selecting pro bono design recipients
• Determining appropriate pro bono scope of work
• Community outreach and engagement
• Creating connections to design community, public entities, non-profits
• Matchmaking for pro bono services (firms to non-profits)
• Follow-up services/next steps in the development process/advancing projects
• RFP review
• Charrette/workshop development
• Setting up a community design center (using the Collaborative as a model)
• Grant/funding application assistance/review
• Participation on advisory/review committees
• Presentations
• Referrals to other resources
• Creating publications, exhibitions, promotional material related to the Collaborative’s work

Deliverable varies depending upon specific needs

Cost is $120–$150/hour or a comprehensive project fee, as appropriate (fee for service)
CONSULTING/ADVISORY

KABOOM!

Play Everywhere Philly

The Collaborative is providing technical assistance to KABOOM for the Play Everywhere Philly Challenge, a city-wide competition to support child development and literacy skills through interactive play installations across Philadelphia. The Collaborative’s assistance with community outreach, community engagement, and design is supporting participants’ creation of playful learning features in neighborhood spaces like sidewalks, bus stops, footpaths and areas outside businesses where kids can play and learn together with caregivers.

Viola Street Residents Association

Follow-Up Services: Viola Street Connector

The Collaborative had provided a design grant to Viola Street Residents Association (VSRA) for a master plan for redevelopment in their neighborhood. Once completed, VSRA had an opportunity to move an aspect of the proposed plan toward implementation through a Knights Cities Challenge grant. The Collaborative provided follow-up services that included assistance with the production of materials to support VSRA’s submission as well as advisory services to VSRA as they prepared the grant application.

Habitheque Inc./Philadelphia Water

Advisory Services: Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center Charrette

The Fairmount Water Works, originally constructed in 1812 to pump water out of the Schuylkill River to serve the City of Philadelphia, is used today as “an Interpretive Center that offers visitors information about the impact of water on their daily lives, and how they in turn impact their water supplies.” As part of the Collaborative’s partnership with Philadelphia Water for the Infill Philadelphia: Soak It Up! Initiative, the Collaborative provided advisory services to Habitheque, an exhibit designer, for the implementation of a design charrette intended to influence the design of the Interpretive Center’s future exhibits.

PRESENTATION AND WORKSHOP

Community Design Collaborative

Good Design is Good Business

Many commercial corridors in Philadelphia have declined over the past four decades and this deterioration has disproportionately impacted low-income neighborhoods, creating a real need to revitalize these critical social and retail centers. To support the revitalization effort, the Collaborative created a presentation, as well as workshops, that showcase the vital role that design can play in creating healthy corridors which promote local investment, decrease vacancy, boost property values, preserve historic and urban fabrics, and create neighborhood jobs.

PUBLICATION

Community Design Collaborative and Philadelphia Water

Transforming Philadelphia Schoolyards Guide

Based on over a decade of working with public schools to re-envision their schoolyards, in 2015, the Collaborative, together with Philadelphia Water, published a design guide to greening schoolyards. The guide included case studies of three public schools, the steps to greening a schoolyard from community organizing through stewardship, and seven design elements to consider in creating a green schoolyard. The guide was intended to support schoolyard improvement efforts throughout the city and beyond.