



# Opening Worship SPECIAL OFFERING

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## ABOUT THE PARTNERSHIP AND SPECIAL OFFERING

The history of the partnership between these groups goes back hundreds of years to the original founding story of Brooklawn as the German Protestant Orphans Society. Molo Village is an outgrowth of St. Peter's United Church of Christ congregation, whose history in Louisville is tied to the German Evangelical and Reformed movement.

The current partnership, however, has a much newer and pressing story. Molo (meaning welcome in South African dialect) seeks to meet the needs of the Russell neighborhood in Louisville, KY through a variety of villages or programs across the life span and needs of the neighbors of the church in a historically black neighborhood. It is a place where all can feel like they are welcomed home by the love and hospitality of the Village. Rev. Dr. Jamesetta Ferguson began her vision 10 plus years ago to create the current site of The Village at West Jefferson. Such a vision has such clear impact upon the residents of the Russell neighborhood and was a perfect match with what the vision of Bellewood and Brooklawn has been for well over a century. Seven Counties Services, of which Bellewood and Brooklawn is a part, is a community mental health provider in Louisville and the surrounding areas and as such it seeks to provide the services needed for families, children and communities to be healthy. It seemed only natural to pursue a partnership with Molo Village in that mission.

Upon learning these stories, the IKC WISE Team considered the many ways that mental health and community health, and matters of justice intersect. They then decided that they wanted to be the first entity to invest money in the project and on the spot they committed \$5000 toward the start of this new ministry in Louisville.

May this story of commitment to offering mental health services to children and families in Louisville encourage you to offer a financial donation to matching the WISE Team's \$5000 gift to Bellewood and Brooklawn and MOLO Village. It can be a small gift, a large gift, the size of the gift is not nearly as important as your commitment to seeing this important work thrive in Louisville.