

GROWING SPACES

Building Safe and Sustainable Communities for LGBTQI+ People in Trinidad and Tobago



ACTION OBJECTIVE

To empower vulnerable and marginalised LGBTQI+ community members through holistic, supportive, and sustainable resources that address immediate needs and foster long-term resilience, wellbeing, and self-advocacy.

ACTION DESCRIPTION

Building upon CAISO's Wholeness & Justice Programme, the Growing Spaces project expands access to economic, social, and cultural rights. Growing Spaces is a response to the needs of LGBTQI+ people in Trinidad and Tobago that emerge from the inequality, marginalisation, and lack of legal and social protections the community faces. Growing Spaces seeks to empower LGBTQI+ community members through holistic, supportive, and sustainable resources that address immediate needs and foster long-term resilience, wellbeing, and self-advocacy. The project focuses on sustainable development and change for justice through interconnected zones of influence including wellness, food and nutrition security, healing justice support systems, and more.

ZONE 1: HOLISTIC WELLNESS HUB

Provides safety and stability for the most vulnerable LGBTQI+ individuals. Wellness programmes led by trauma-informed professionals and creates a resource hub for livelihood opportunities, including skill-sharing workshops.

ZONE 2: FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY

Addresses economic and food insecurity through community-led initiatives. Provides training and starter kits for growing healthy food, and establish a community garden as a space for sharing and trading produce. The goal is to support the development of a multi-purpose co-operative to create sustainable work opportunities and products for the community, integrating lessons on climate adaptation.

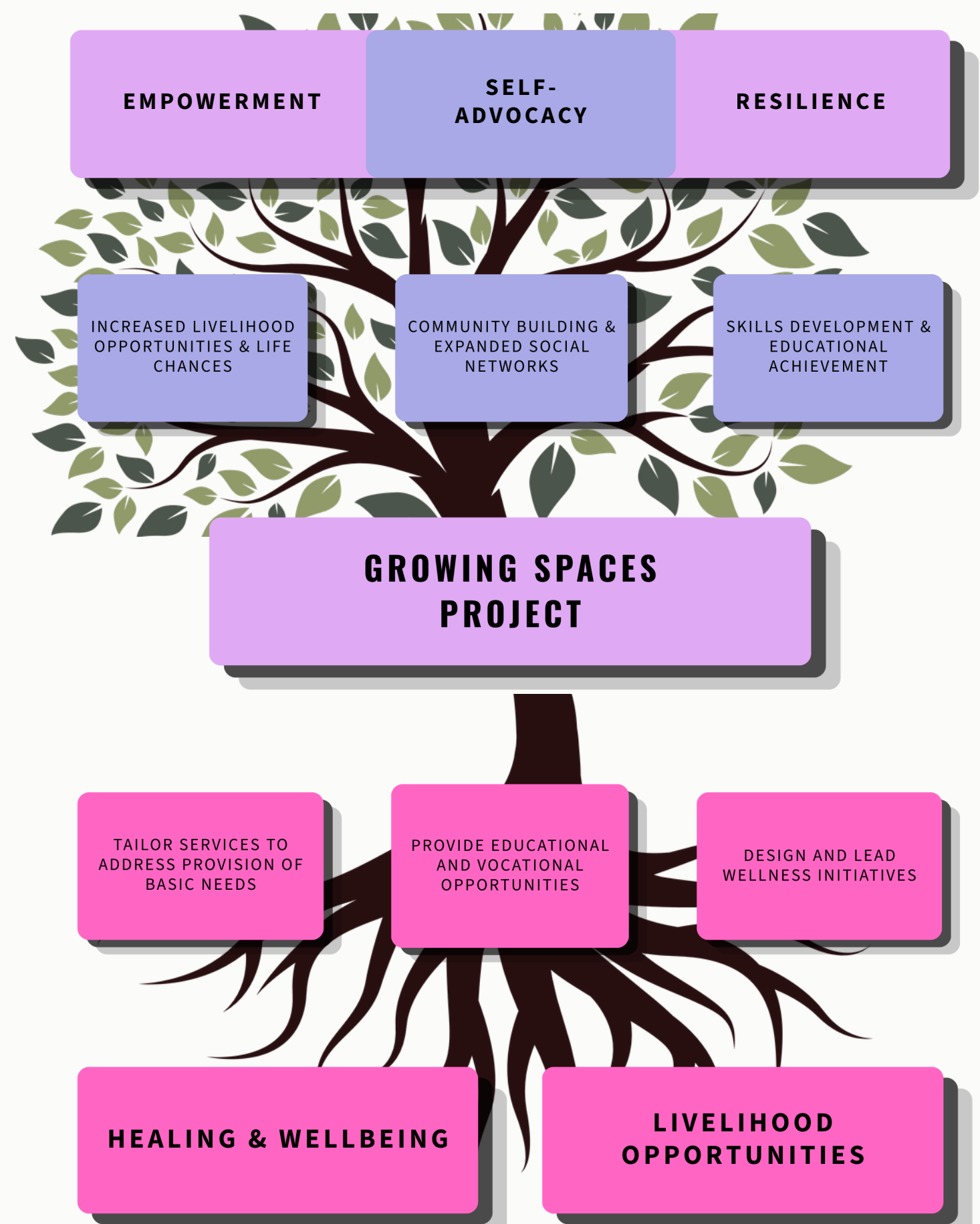
ZONE 3: HEALING JUSTICE SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Focuses on holistic healing and the connection between social and ecological justice. Develops and facilitates creative workshops and nature-based activities that explore the links between gender, climate, and healing. The goal is to nurture a community of gender and climate justice activists who understand the intersections of sexuality, gender, race, and class, fostering long-term resilience and advocacy.

VALUES & GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Growing Spaces values center community guided and collective care, non-carceral restorative justice practices, and intersectional feminist commitments. Growing Spaces understands the importance of resource provision for dignity, self-determination, and wellness for folks. Growing Spaces believes that meeting basic needs, applying transformative care, and providing interconnected wraparound support and services can contribute to community members crafting of the best futures they imagine for themselves.

SOLUTIONS TREE



LEAD AGENCY

CAISO: Sex and Gender Justice
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FUNDING SOURCE

European Union

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