Rise Together: Building Resilience One Obstacle at a Time

For more than twenty years, the Navy JROTC cadets at Daviess County High School have relied on little more than borrowed gym space and a patch of grass to train for the Navy's demanding Physical Readiness Test. These students are disciplined, service-oriented young people who raise the American flag at civic ceremonies, volunteer at community races, staff food drives, and mentor younger classmates. While their work is visible across our community, their training space is not. Unlike athletics programs with dedicated facilities, our cadets, have never had a professional, permanent place to push themselves physically and mentally. Over 80% of DCHS cadets qualify for free or reduced lunch, and more than one-third are students of color. Too often, their dedication and achievements are overlooked.

Impact100 Owensboro can help change that story.

The Foundation for Daviess County Public Schools exists to help students reach their full potential. We envision an inclusive, innovative learning community and work to secure resources to make this vision a reality. Daviess County High School's Navy JROTC echoes this vision, instilling citizenship, service, responsibility, and accomplishment through maritime heritage. Cadets gain leadership, fitness, community service, competition, and tailored support that levels opportunity and readies them for college, careers, and life.

Together, The Foundation for Daviess County Public Schools and the Daviess County High School Navy JROTC, proposes to construct a 15-station, military-style obstacle course on Daviess County High School's campus. This entirely new installation will include a rope climb, cargo net ascent, balance beams, agility stations, climbing walls, and more, designed specifically for high school students. The contract builder, specializing in ROTC and first-responder courses, will provide stamped architectural drawings, professional installation, safety surfacing, signage, and a multi-year maintenance plan. Built with pressure-treated timbers, galvanized steel hardware, and impact-rated surfacing, the course is expected to last twenty years or more before needing major updates, serving multiple generations of students.

This will be the only obstacle course of its kind in the Greater Owensboro region. Over time the usage of the obstacle course will grow to include not only the DCHS Navy JROTC cadets but also the Apollo High School Air Force cadets, and then other students at DCHS via PE classes, athletic teams, and after-school groups. Within two years, participation is expected to exceed 800 unique users each year. In time, with proper agreements, local partners such as the Kentucky National Guard, Owensboro Police, Daviess County Sheriff's Office, and Fire Department may also benefit. Longer term, the course may allow DCHS to host regional competitions, showcasing cadets' skills and bringing students together from across the Commonwealth

Our students deserve this. The DCHS NJROTC program has earned the Navy's Distinguished Unit with Academic Honors designation for five consecutive years, placing it among the top programs in the country. Additionally, Daviess County High School, one of the largest and most respected high schools in the region and is ranked among the top 100 public high schools in Kentucky.

But this project is about more than just physical fitness through an obstacle course. It's about equity, resilience, and recognition. It's about telling this hardworking, often overlooked group of students, "You matter. We see you. We believe in your future."

This is a one-time investment with long-lasting benefits. The course is built to endure twenty years or more before major refurbishment is required. Regular maintenance will be managed by the school, with additional pledges available for enhancements such as signage and sunshades.

The DCHS NJROTC program is uniquely positioned to lead this project because of its strong foundation in youth development, its track record of results, and the support structures already in place to ensure long-term success. Our Naval Science Instructors bring decades of active-duty leadership experience along with formal training in adolescent education, physical fitness, and safety protocols. They already deliver a proven curriculum grounded in citizenship, service, and self-discipline, values that this obstacle course will reinforce in a hands-on, meaningful way.

For teens whose accomplishments aren't often announced under Friday-night lights, this course is a bold, permanent sign that their work matters. Our cadets will climb walls, traverse ropes, and discover through every scraped palm and hard-won victory that they are stronger than their circumstances. Impact100 Owensboro can turn this bold vision into reality, creating a course that will transform lives and inspire resilience in countless students for decades to come, with each new class inheriting a space designed to foster grit, growth, and leadership.

NAVY JROTC

TheFOUNDATION For Daviess County Public Schools

DAVIESS COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS DCPS Together For Kids!

The Foundation For Daviess County Public Schools

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Impact 100 Grant			
Construction and Equipment			
	Complete O-Course Installed and Ready For Use:		**$77,400.00**
	1	*Rope Climb**	
	2	*Over-Under*	
	3	*Belly Buster*	
	4	*Balance Beams*	
	5	*Confidence Climb**	
	6	*Low Weaver*	
	7	*Tunnels*	
	8	*8' Vertical Wall*	
	9	*10' Inverted Wall*	
	10	*Belly Crawl **	
	11	*Cargo Net Climb**	
	12	*Triceps Traverse*	
	13	*Monkey Bars*	
	14	*(2) Sets One Rope Bridge*	
	15	*Fitness Station*	
Surface Material			
	Impact Attenuation for * and ** Obstacles		**$2,700.00**
Maintenance			
	O-Course Expert Maintenance (2 Visits/year, 2 Years)		**$19,900**
		Maintenance #1: 90-120 Days after Installation	
		Maintenance #2: 90-120 Days after Maintenance 1	
		Maintenance #3: 90-120 Days after Maintenance 2	
		Maintenance #4: 90-120 Days after Maintenance 3	
		Sub Total:	***$100,000.00***

Additional Funding *(Other Awarded and Pledged Support)*			
With Impact100 funding secured for construction, pledged and future funds can be used for enhancements like signage and sunshades, to be determined post-installation based on remaining needs and available resources.			
Equipment			
		Weather Protection Shades to Protect Some Obstacles	
Signage			
		Instructional Signs for Each Obstacle	
		Benefactors/Title Sign	
		Sub Total:	***Approx. $33,700.00***