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**Contact: Bethany Sullivan, Gallatin Shalom Zone, 615-442-7575 or [Bethany@gallatinsz.org](mailto:Bethany@gallatinsz.org)**

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**Gallatin Shalom Zone Receives Significant Contribution from Meta to Preserve History**  
\$250,000 Donation Will Support Renovating the Union High School Gymnasium

**(Gallatin, TN)** \_\_\_\_\_ announced plans today to restore a vital piece of Gallatin’s history, the original Union High School gym. The renovation, supported by a \$250,000 grant from Meta, is part of a series of ongoing efforts to transform the facility into a nonprofit hub and resource center for the Clearview Park community.

Meta has partnered with Gallatin Shalom Zone since breaking ground on its Gallatin Data Center in 2020. The partnership garnered support from across the site, including general contractor DPR Construction and other skilled trade partners which have lent significant in-kind work and supplies to the project in anticipation of the project’s formal launch.

“We’ve been honored to call Gallatin home and partner with Gallatin Shalom Zone over the years, from helping launch the organization’s robotics program to providing support for families to have holiday meals. Each time, we see how connected Shalom Zone is to the community’s needs and how space has constrained its ability to meet them,” said Tara Tenorio, community development regional manager for Meta. “Through this donation and the support from many of our skilled trade partners at the Gallatin Data Center, we’re excited to help change that and provide opportunities for the local community to grow and thrive.”

The gym was originally constructed in 1950 as part of the all-black Union High School during the era of segregation.

“Sumner County donated the old school to Shalom Zone more than 20 years ago after they condemned it,” said Kaneisha Dotson, president of the non-profit Gallatin Shalom Zone. “While we have made significant renovations – we have not had the resources to tackle the gym. This donation provides an opportunity to pursue a capital campaign to restore the iconic facility.”

Almost all of the students participating in Shalom Zone's after-school program and other educational services are from Sumner County Schools.

"Sumner County Schools has always believed in and invested in education as a powerful path forward," Sumner County Schools Director, Dr. Scott Langford said. "This commitment is demonstrated to this day by the extraordinary history and legacy of Union's teachers, principals, and alumni. Today, by restoring this building, we honor that rich tradition while extending Union's legacy into the future as another generation of Sumner County children will learn, grow, and play. As the voices of children ring out in the building today, they will echo the voices of previous generations, renewing our commitment to education, opportunity, equality, and a bright future together. We are thankful for the commitment of Meta to our community and the rich tradition of

Union's commitment to equality for all students. Restoring the gym would allow Shalom Zone to increase its service to students, children, and families with programs that have a waiting list, including after-school enrichment, summer camp, and robotics camp. Additionally, it would add space to expand the agency's hygiene and diaper parties, community Saturday events and services, and Toys 4 Tots - all of which fulfill needs

of our community. This is a great opportunity for us to provide a safe and healthy environment for our children and families. We are excited to partner with Meta to restore this building and provide a space for our community to thrive.

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