THE CITY HAS STORIES. LET THEM BE HEARD.

An emerging Black-centered bookstore and cultural home for San José and the Bay Area. Original writing, hip-hop, poetry, local history, art and conversations worth having.

OUR MISSION

Reinforce communities in body, opportunity, and imagination through access to wellness, education, literature and art, while preserving the stories and cultural life that make a city its own.

LITERATURE + CULTURE | COMMUNITY WELLNESS | SKILLS + WORK

WHY WE EXIST

A PLACE TO READ THE CITY.

PSS Community Wellness began with practical health access and workforce pathways. We are exten
that public-benefit work into literature, art, storytelling and cultural participation.

THE BOOKSTORE IN DEVELOPMENT

FIRST THE BOOKS. THEN THE WALLS.

Curated books, small-press work and live cultural gatherings come first. A permanent bookstore follows when fun
and a sustainable operating plan make it possible.

THREE CONNECTED PROGRAM AREAS

01

LITERATURE + CULTURE

ARTS & BOOKSTORE

Literature, Black cultural history, hip-hop, poetry, original storytelling, visual art, small presses and local publications.

02

COMMUNITY WELLNESS

HEALTH + MOVEMENT

Accessible strength, recreation, practical food and health education, personal safety and participation for communities facing barriers.

03

WORKFORCE

SKILLS + PATHWAYS

Training, certification preparation, mentorship, supervised practice and connections to paid work, develop
with partners.

PROGRAM AREA 01 / BOOKS + CULTURAL LIFE

THE ART IS THE REASON TO GATHER.

A poem read aloud. A rapper unpacking a verse. A resident telling a story about how San José chang
The work leads; the conversation follows.

BLACK LITERATURE / BAY AREA VOICES / SMALL PRESSES
ORIGINAL WORK / CULTURAL HISTORY / LOCAL ART

STORIES

THE CITY SPEAKS

Firsthand stories about neighborhoods, schools, work, family and the changing Bay Area. Live narration, intervie
and audience questions.

MUSIC + WORDS

BEHIND THE BARS

A rapper shares original music and examines the memories, images and ideas inside the lyrics.

ART + TEXT

POEMS, PAGES & IMAGES

Poetry, fiction, zines and visual work presented by their makers, with conversation and room for response.

ARTISTS + STORYTELLERS

We are seeking poets, rappers, writers, visual artists, zinesters, publishers, cultural historians and people with co
local experiences. Original work and thoughtful collaboration are the starting points.

PROGRAM AREAS 02 + 03

THE WORK CONTINUES.

Physical wellness and economic opportunity remain central to the organization. We are building accessil programs with community partners and funding support.

WELLNESS / COMMUNITY

WOMEN'S STRENGTH

Small-group strength with practical food and health education, progress tracking and support for women and caregivers.

WELLNESS / EDUCATION

FOOD + MOVEMENT

Practical nutrition, cooking, activity and blood-sugar education focused on skills people can use in daily life.

WELLNESS / SAFETY

PERSONAL SAFETY

Boundary setting, de-escalation, awareness and practical self-protection taught within an appropriat nonclinical scope.

WORKFORCE / IN DEVELOPMENT

CERTIFICATIONS + WORK

Access to credentials, mentorship, supervised experience, employment preparation and connections to opportunities across wellness and community-serving fields.

WHAT FUNDING MAKES POSSIBLE

REAL ACCESS. REAL PARTICIPATION.

Support can underwrite instruction, participant places, artist fees, facilities, materials, transportation, and th supervised work required to turn learning into opportunity.

WHERE PARTNERS FIT

BRING THE WORK TO THE CITY.

A bookstore, arts program and community initiative need different kinds of collaborators. PSSCW can p curate, host, coordinate and document programs with the right partners.

ARTISTS + PRODUCERS

Share original work, develop a themed evening, reach new audiences and build relationships for future programs

BOOKSELLERS + PUBLISHERS

Supply books, chapbooks and zines, support consignment or donated inventory, and introduce local writers.

VENUES + CULTURAL GROUPS

Host a pilot gathering, coordinate promotion and help connect audiences to local artists and ideas.

FUNDERS + BUSINESSES

Underwrite artist fees, access costs, book purchases, training, facilities and program operations.

COMMUNITY + WORKFORCE PARTNERS

Recruit participants, identify barriers, support practical skills and connect people with training or paid opportuni

WHAT WE DOCUMENT

Participation, audience feedback, artist engagement, books circulated, skills gained, completed credentials, a opportunities created. These are the measures we intend to build into each funded program.

A PRACTICAL INVITATION

FIRST THE BOOKS. THEN THE WALLS.

We are building relationships, original programming and book access now. Our long-term goal is a permanent, Black-centered bookstore in San José, with a funding target of $50,000 before taking o separate lease.

EARLY FUNDING PRIORITIES

01	PRESENT	Artist fees, venue support, accessibility and production for an intimate cultural evening.
02	CIRCULATE	Curated books, local writing, small-press publications and artist-created work.
03	BUILD	Sustainable operations, relationships, publishing opportunities and a permanent-home plan.

LET'S MAKE SOMETHING WORTH COMING TO

START A CONVERSATION.

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PSS Community Wellness is the public name of Pacific Spin and Strength, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation. EIN 33- IRS-recognized 501(c)(3) public charity. Based in San José, California.