



Ellsworth Air Force Base Liberty Center

Governor's Office of Economic Development

Overview

Governor Noem's recommended budget includes \$3,200,000 in one-time funding to support a new recreational center near Ellsworth Air Force Base to support airmen and airwomen and their families, as well as the broader community.

Ellsworth Air Force Base will be undergoing extensive mission growth in the very near future related to its selection as the site for the first operational squadron for the b-21 Raider, as well as the training mission. With the coming changes, the base is projected to lose the use of a large hangar space that is currently being utilized as a large-scale, flexible use fitness and recreation facility. The PRIDE hangar houses an indoor track and soccer field, batting cages, extreme fitness work out area, a stage, a climbing wall, a children's play area, and a wide variety of cardio and strength training equipment.

Project Description

Liberty Center is intended to enhance the local and military community by offering a space for year-round indoor physical fitness, running, group sports, childcare, health care, and eventually aquatics. The facility will be a center for community wellness and connection, as well as an anchor for development of the area that aligns with quality of life needs of both the military and civilian populations in the area. Once funding is finalized, the project is expected to begin construction in 2021.

Funding

Design and construction budget estimates the total cost of the Liberty Center to be roughly \$12.7 million. In addition to \$3.2 million from the state, the South Dakota Ellsworth Development Authority secured a grant for half from the Department of Defense Office of Economic Adjustment through the Defense Construction Infrastructure Program (DCIP). GOED and Dram Design International are working to secure a TIF from Pennington County, of which \$2 million would go toward the center.