

# PURPOSE



# IN



# PROGRESS



RALPH C. WILSON, JR.  
FOUNDATION





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# FRIENDS,

We're pleased to share this Biennial Report covering our grants from 2021 and 2022.

Partnerships with the community and our responsibility as a grant maker allow us to play a helpful role in good times and in tragedy. In fact, the highest compliment we can receive from a grantee, or a community is that we were a great partner when they needed it most.

Throughout this report, you'll see collaborations that nurture quality of life in our two communities. As we have worked to build trust and shared opportunities with our grantee partners, we have seen new ideas emerge and take flight; ideas like the Regional Revitalization Partnership, a \$300 million public and private regional co-investment to support opportunities that build inclusive economic growth and prosperity through in Buffalo, Niagara Falls, and Rochester, New York. In Southeast Michigan, a first-time collaboration among community colleges and several stakeholders is driving towards transforming the regional talent pipeline to increase economic equity and prosperity for all residents.

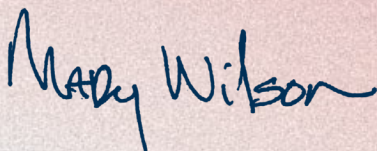
Over these last few years, we continue to witness the sheer resilience and persistence of communities in Western New York and Southeast Michigan. On May 14, 2022, our beloved Buffalo faced the unthinkable, when a racially motivated mass shooting stole the lives of 10 community members. This tragic loss only amplified the disparities within this historically Black neighborhood in East Buffalo. Strategic work and investment in this community was already underway and has seen acceleration through the Regional Revitalization Partnership. In addition, we joined with a committed group of funders through the Buffalo Together Community Response Fund to mobilize immediate support and develop a broader community investment strategy. Much work remains and progress will only take place through neighborhood and community voice.



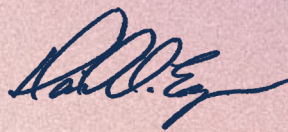
Last year, we also experienced the loss of the Foundation's life trustee Eugene Driker, after his battle with cancer. As one of four life trustees appointed by our founder Ralph Wilson, Eugene's compassion and wisdom is imprinted on every team member and partner that had the honor of knowing him. Eugene's memory is a blessing to us, and his legacy will endure in our work and far beyond.

As we close out our reporting for 2021 and 2022, we also open a new leadership chapter for our Foundation, with life trustee Mary Owen taking on the board chair role in 2023. She succeeds Mary Wilson, whose service and heartfelt leadership have buoyed us and encouraged us to work harder and feel more hopeful during our most challenging times. The Foundation also recently welcomed the addition of Elizabeth Woike-Ganga as an at-large trustee and new program committee members: Monique Wells and Dr. Thomasina "Tina" Stenhouse. The Foundation will benefit greatly from their depth of knowledge and experience across our two regions as we work in partnership to advance the Foundation's grantmaking and program strategies.

Yours in partnership,



**MARY WILSON**  
Board Chair & Life Trustee



**DAVID EGNER**  
President & CEO



# MODIFIED CASH BASIS STATEMENT OF INCOME, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

| INCOME  | DEC 31, 2022           | DEC 31, 2021           |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|
| Contributions   | \$5,000,000            | \$10,000,000           |
| Net realized gains on investments                                       | \$18,307,151           | \$81,693,951           |
| Interest and dividend income - Net of investment expenses               | \$25,627,729           | \$28,763,617           |
| Net unrealized gains on investments                                     | (\$184,347,259)        | \$46,942,782           |
| <b>Total income</b>   | <b>(\$135,412,379)</b> | <b>\$167,400,350</b>   |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>   | <b>DEC 31, 2022</b>    | <b>DEC 31, 2021</b>    |
| <b>PROGRAM SERVICES</b>   |                        |                        |
| Grants  | \$155,980,838          | \$127,184,340          |
| Program support costs   | \$10,848,355           | \$8,132,152            |
| <b>Total program services</b>   | <b>\$166,829,193</b>   | <b>\$135,316,492</b>   |
| <b>SUPPORT SERVICES</b>   |                        |                        |
| General and administration  | \$1,705,019            | \$1,554,082            |
| Federal excise and other taxes  | \$897,626              | \$4,078,935            |
| <b>Total supporting services</b>  | <b>\$2,602,715</b>     | <b>\$5,633,017</b>     |
| <b>Total expenses</b>   | <b>\$169,431,908</b>   | <b>\$140,949,509</b>   |
| <b>(DECREASE) INCREASE IN NET ASSETS<br/>WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS</b> | <b>(\$304,844,287)</b> | <b>\$26,450,841</b>    |
| <b>NET ASSETS - Beginning of year</b>                                   | <b>\$1,326,486,883</b> | <b>\$1,300,036,042</b> |
| <b>NET ASSETS - End of year</b>   | <b>\$1,021,642,596</b> | <b>\$1,326,486,883</b> |

## BALANCE SHEET

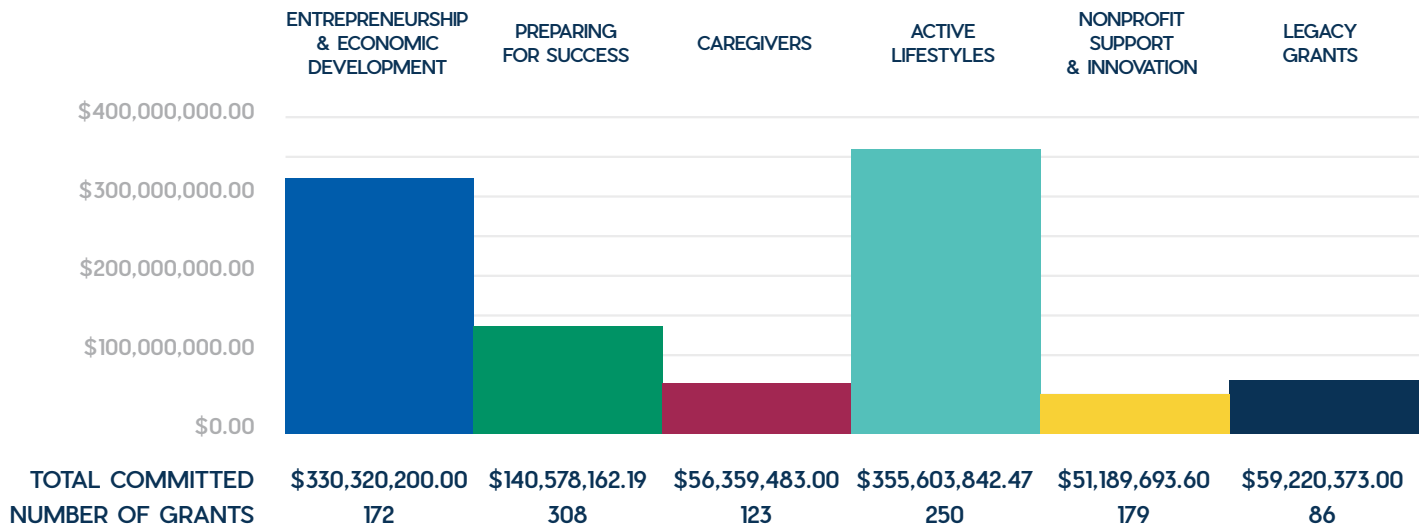
| ASSETS   | DEC 31, 2022            | DEC 31, 2021           |
|--|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents                      | \$6,682,180             | \$22,386,519           |
| Investments                                    | \$1,012,154,181         | \$1,301,043,156        |
| Right-of-use asset                             | \$6,296,701             | —                      |
| Leasehold improvements and equipment           | \$2,813,274             | \$3,057,208            |
| <b>Total assets</b>                            | <b>\$ 1,027,946,336</b> | <b>\$1,326,486,883</b> |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>              | <b>DEC 31, 2022</b>     | <b>DEC 31, 2021</b>    |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b> - Lease liability           | \$6,303,740             | —                      |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b> - Without donor restrictions | \$1,021,642,596         | \$1,326,486,883        |
| <b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>        | <b>\$1,027,946,336</b>  | <b>\$1,326,486,883</b> |



FUTURE  
LEADER

# GRANT COMMITMENTS

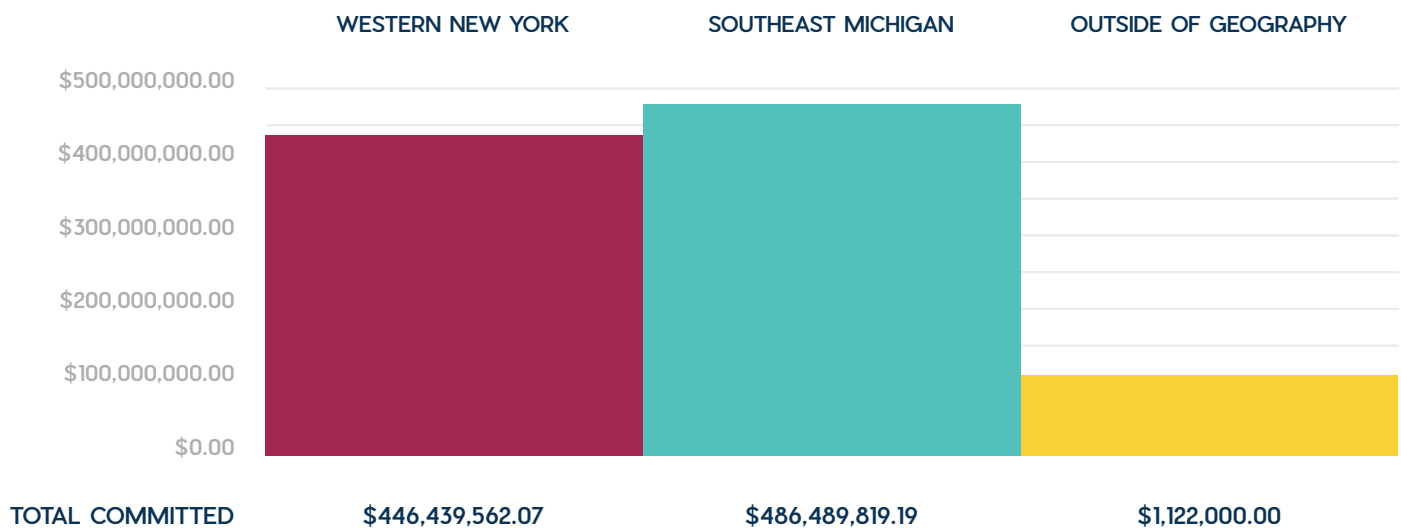
## INCEPTION TO DATE (2015 - 2022)



GRAND TOTAL: **\$993,271,754.26**

GRAND TOTAL COMMITTED NUMBER OF GRANTS: **1118**

## INCEPTION TO 12/31/2022 BY REGIONS SERVED



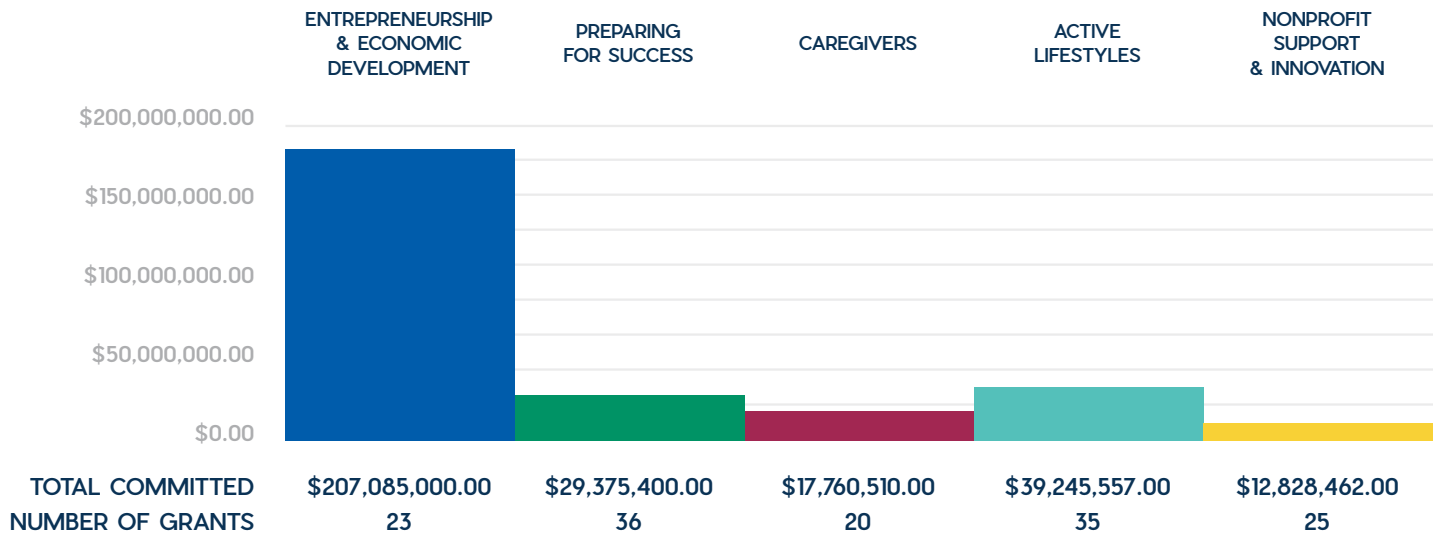
TOTAL: **\$934,051,381.26\***

\*Does not include Legacy Grants



# GRANT COMMITMENTS

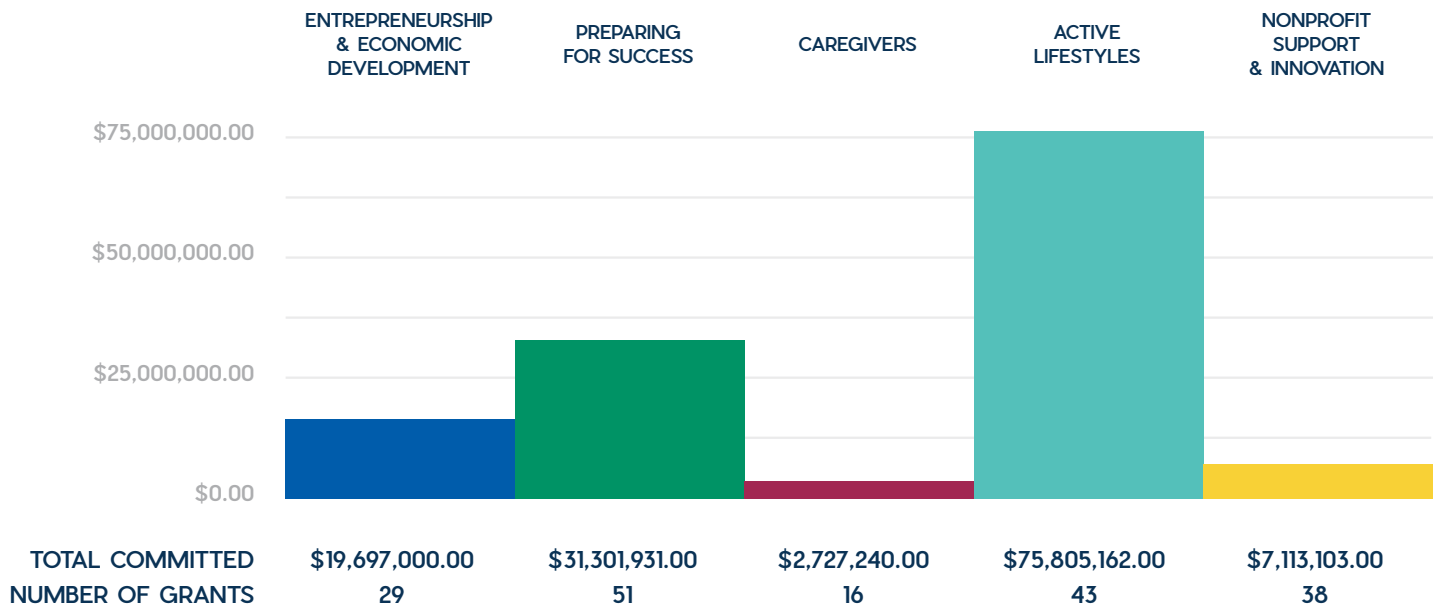
## FOR THE YEAR 2021



TOTAL: **\$306,294,929.00**

TOTAL COMMITTED NUMBER OF GRANTS: **139**

## FOR THE YEAR 2022



TOTAL: **\$136,644,436.00**

TOTAL COMMITTED NUMBER OF GRANTS: **177**

# TAKING

# THE

# LEAD



# PROGRAM AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF LIST AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2022

**DEB BARNEY**  
*Operations Officer*

**JIM BOYLE**  
*Vice President of Programs  
& Communications*

**CAROL DAVIS**  
*Executive Assistant*

**LIZ DELANEY**  
*Sr. Learning Officer*

**MAURA DEWAN**  
*Vice President of Corporate Affairs*

**SUSAN DUNDON**  
*Director, Young Adults  
& Working Families*

**DAVID O. EGNER**  
*President & CEO*

**CONNIE KUO**  
*Program Associate*

**DUBRECE MILLER**  
*Accountant*

**TYLER PARLOR**  
*CMF Philanthropy Fellow*

**AMY PARTRIDGE**  
*Grants Manager*

**KATE PARTINGTON**  
*Program Associate*

**KARI PARDOE**  
*Program Officer*

**MERCEDES PERGANDE**  
*Communications Associate*

**ERIC PHAMDO**  
*Program Officer*

**PAUL RISER**  
*Senior Program Officer*

**ERIN ROGERS**  
*Accounting Specialist*

**MARISSA ROSSMAN**  
*Program Associate*

**AMBER SLICHTA**  
*Vice President of  
Programs & Learning*

**MELANIE SPEELMAN**  
*CMF Philanthropy Fellow*

**CARLY STRACHAN**  
*Senior Communications Officer*

**MARIA SUCHYTA**  
*Executive Assistant*

**NENA TAORMINO**  
*Grants Management  
& Operations Assistant*

**J.J. TIGHE**  
*Director, Parks & Trails Initiative*

**SARAH TRUAX**  
*CMF Philanthropy Fellow*

**MISHA  
STALLWORTH WEST**  
*Program Officer*

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES



### BACK ROW

**RAY TELANG**  
*Committee Member*

**W. HOWARD MORRIS**  
*Committee Member*

**MARY WILSON**  
*Board Chair & Life Trustee*

**DAVID COLLIGAN**  
*Trustee*

**DAVE EGNER**  
*President & CEO*

**MONIQUE WELLS**  
*Committee Member*

**MARY OWEN**  
*Life Trustee*

**JERRY MAZURKIEWICZ**  
*Trustee*

### FRONT ROW

**W. FRANK FOUNTAIN**  
*Trustee*

**EUGENE DRIKER**  
*Life Trustee*

**JEFFREY C. LITTMANN**  
*Life Trustee*

**DR. THOMASINA  
STENHOUSE**  
*Committee Member*





ACTIVE LIFESTYLES

# ELEVATING PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

People of all ages need access to public spaces in their community that encourage and welcome active lifestyles. We work in partnership across our two regions to connect people and communities to each other through trail systems and world-class parks. We also consider the way that infrastructure is supporting sustainability so that communities can thrive amidst growth and climate change. Our perspective is expansive, so we look at how we might fill gaps—literally—in the regional trail systems that connect communities to each other. Our youth sports and recreation work focuses on making safe spaces and programs available so all kids can be active. In 2021 and 2022, our Active Lifestyles investments broke new ground, as you'll read about our legacy parks, made history as with the first ever municipal Environmental Impact Bond in Buffalo, and continued to make play and sports a priority for youth and people of all ages.



**CLICK HERE** to learn more about the community engagement behind the Ralph Wilson Park in Buffalo, NY

# “SISTER PARKS” BREAK GROUND IN DETROIT AND BUFFALO

## WHAT HAPPENED:

In the spring and summer of 2022, the future Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Parks in Detroit and Buffalo marked major milestones with ceremonial groundbreaking events.

## WHY IT MATTERS:

While each waterfront park is connected through the legacy of our founder Mr. Wilson and the Foundation's support, they are unique to each city, having been designed by and for the communities they will serve. The groundbreaking ceremonies were the culmination of several years of inclusive and transparent community engagement and planning with stakeholders.

## OUR ROLE:

On October 17, 2018, the 100th anniversary of Ralph Wilson's birth, we made two \$100 million commitments to support parks and trails in each of our regions. The \$50 million lead gifts allocated to each park – then West Riverfront Park in Detroit and LaSalle Park in Buffalo – was an opportunity for each community to dream big and create one-of-a-kind, world class parks serving all residents and visitors.

## WHO'S INVOLVED:

The communities' visions in each park offered the opportunity and pathway for numerous public and private partners to engage in the development. In each region, a diverse coalition of funding partners have come together to help make these parks a reality – from federal partners like the Great Lakes Commission to local corporate and private funders..

## DETROIT HIGHLIGHTS:

The Detroit Riverfront Conservancy is spearheading the construction of the 22-acre Ralph Wilson Park along the Detroit River, which will feature a water garden, the William Davidson Sport House, the Delta Dental Play Garden with an array of animal structures and the DTE Foundation Hill, an expansive lawn for special events. The William Davidson Sport House will add to the public offerings on the Detroit Riverfront and features a raised canopy and skylight in a multi-use flexible space for a range of programs and events.

## BUFFALO HIGHLIGHTS:

On behalf of the City of Buffalo, the Buffalo Urban Development Corporation is managing the construction of the more than 100-acre Ralph Wilson Park on Lake Erie. The park will undergo a dramatic transformation. The topography will change with sweeping hills and valleys, active and diverse recreation activities, and a destination play space for children of all ages. The new design will increase neighborhood connectivity through a new pedestrian bridge, maximize safe water access, and establish a resilient shoreline to mitigate the effects of climate change and rising lake levels.

“Generations of Buffalo Bills fans knew of founder Ralph Wilson's commitment to Buffalo and generosity during his life. The groundbreaking of Ralph Wilson Park will bring a collaborative transformation of this waterfront park into a vibrant community space where future generations will enjoy gathering for many years to come, and that will ensure Ralph Wilson's love for our community continues to make an impact.”

**KATHY HOCHUL, NEW YORK GOVERNOR**



“Twenty years ago nobody would have believed that Detroit’s riverfront – with its cement silos and parking lots – would become one of the most beautiful and accessible waterfronts in the country, but through the work of the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy, city government and countless partners, that’s exactly what we have. In just a couple of years, our riverfront will achieve true world-class status when the new Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park opens with its incredible amenities and physical features. Even better is the fact that it will connect to the Joe Louis Greenway, giving residents in neighborhoods across the city direct access to this extraordinary new park. Detroit is so fortunate to have been the beneficiary of this incredible gift from the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation.”

**MIKE DUGGAN, DETROIT MAYOR**

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about the community engagement behind the Ralph Wilson Park in Detroit, MI







# PARKS, TRAILS, & GREEN DESIGN

## BUDC

**\$3,060,000**

*Western New York*

To continue to support the City of Buffalo's plan to coordinate development and improve long-term sustainability of the city's downtown waterfront, including Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park in Buffalo, NY.

## Buffalo State College Foundation

**\$1,450,000**

*Western New York*

To support the Dart Street Study to evaluate the opportunity to create recreational opportunities, connections to trails, creek access, and expand educational experiences of students and to support the renovation of the Great Lakes Center storage building on the Black Rock Canal.

## Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo

**\$10,000,000**

*Western New York*

To establish the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Trails Endowment for Western New York to support the long-term maintenance of trails and greenways in the region.

## Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo

**\$322,373**

*Western New York*

To provide capacity for the Ralph Wilson Park Conservancy as it begins to operate independently.

## Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan

**\$1,500,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the connection, Vernor Viaduct, between the Corktown and Mexicantown neighborhoods.

## Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan

**\$250,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the Mariam C. Noland Public Spaces Fund.

## Council of Great Lakes Governors

**\$25,000**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To support for the Council of Great Lakes Governor's 2021 Leadership Summit.

## Detroit Economic Growth Association

**\$3,000,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the construction of the Joe Louis Greenway Phase 1 and Warren Trailhead.

## Detroit Riverfront Conservancy

**\$10,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To provide sponsorship support for the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy's virtual fundraiser #BeingApartTogether.

## Eight Days of Hope

**\$50,500**

*Western New York*

To support the revitalization efforts for Manhattan Park, located in the Masten District of Buffalo's East Side.

## Options Buffalo

**\$1,500,000**

*Western New York*

To support community engagement, planning, design and match funding for implementation of the Northeast Greenway and Scajaquada Creek Trail Extension in the City of Buffalo.

## Michigan Physical Fitness, Health and Sports Foundation, Inc.

**\$206,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To resurface the Eugene and Elaine C. Driker Trail and conduct shoreline erosion maintenance at pedestrian bridge crossing on the east end of Belle Isle Park.

## National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

**\$2,550,000**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To support the extension of the Southeast Michigan Resilience Fund and the establishment of the Save Our Great Lakes Western New York Priority Fund – both multi-funder collaboratives that will take a strategic, coordinated approach to addressing environmental and ecological challenges facing communities and habitats.

## Natural Heritage Trust

**\$8,000,000.00**

*Western New York*

To support the development of a state-of-the-art Welcome Center to highlight the historic and natural assets within Niagara Falls State Park.

## Parks & Trails New York

**\$300,000**

*Western New York*

To support the development of the Genesee Valley Greenway Trail Town Initiative.

# PARKS, TRAILS, & GREEN DESIGN

## BUDC

**\$24,500,000**

*Western New York*

To support the execution of an expanded first phase of construction for Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park in Buffalo.

## BUDC

**\$6,906,050**

*Western New York*

To support implementation of Phase 1 of Ralph Wilson Park in Buffalo, New York.

## Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper, Inc.

**\$5,350,000**

*Western New York*

To support the shoreline restoration of Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park.

## Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper, Inc.

**\$100,000**

*Western New York*

To support a feasibility study on ecosystem restoration within the Scajaquada Creek watershed, in collaboration with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

## Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper, Inc.

**\$750,000**

*Western New York*

To support the Coastal Resiliency Study for the City of Buffalo.

## Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper, Inc.

**\$245,000**

*Western New York*

To support the restoration of the Cayuga Creek in Niagara Falls to reduce flooding and construct a pedestrian path.

## Community Foundation of Monroe County

**\$1,530,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the construction of the Monroe Loop Trail, a 6.5-mile, 10-foot wide shared-use path that connects the City of Monroe to the River Raisin Heritage Trail system.

## Community Foundation of St. Clair County

**\$20,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support outdoor recreation projects in St. Clair County.

## Council of Michigan Foundations

**\$500,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the Council of Michigan Foundations in allocating Michigan Spark grant funds to under-resourced communities through regional and local community foundations.

## Detroit Riverfront Conservancy

**\$10,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support Soirée on the Greenway, Detroit Riverfront Conservancy's annual fundraiser.

## Friends of the Detroit River

**\$2,031,300**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support critical improvements to the Downriver Linked Greenway (part of the Iron Belle Trail).

## Friends of the Rouge

**\$2,704,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the construction of the Rouge Gateway Trail.

## Huron Waterloo Pathways Initiative

**\$3,500,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the construction of multiple sections of the Iron Belle Trail in Washtenaw and Wayne Counties.

## Natural Heritage Trust

**\$5,470,000**

*Western New York*

To support three major trail projects in Western New York: the Bridges of Allegany/Genesee Valley Greenway Project; the Artpark Recreation and Trail Connectivity Project; and the Quaker Area Multi-Use Trail in Allegany State Park.

## Open Space Institute Land Trust

**\$1,405,000**

*Western New York*

To support the renovation and install green infrastructure in three parks identified in the Buffalo Parks Master Plan: Sears Paderewski Park, Lang Weber Park and Roosevelt Park.

## Open Space Institute Land Trust

**\$95,000**

*Western New York*

To support the creation of construction documents for the green infrastructure and revitalization of three pilot parks on Buffalo's East Side.

## Ralph Wilson Park Conservancy

**\$3,000,000**

*Western New York*

To support capacity and sustainable funding for the organizational structure of the Ralph Wilson Park Conservancy.

## Western New York Land Conservancy, Inc.

**\$690,690**

*Western New York*

To support the planting of native plant species and enhanced shoreline biodiversity at Ralph Wilson Park in Buffalo.

YOUTH SPORTS & RECREATION SPOTLIGHT

# BUFFALO'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT BOND

**WHAT HAPPENED:**

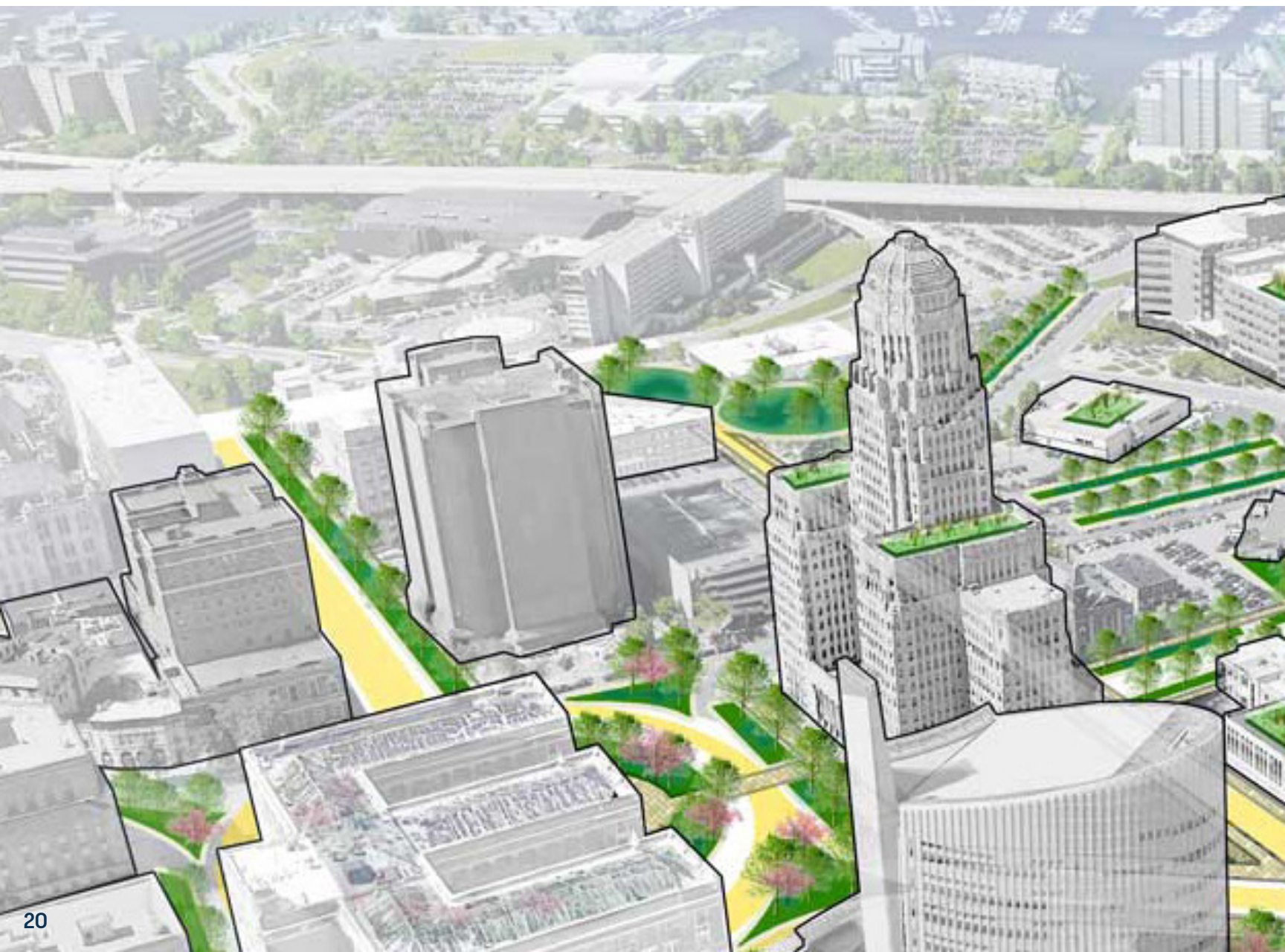
In 2021, the Buffalo Sewer Authority closed on a \$54 million bond, the country's largest to date. The bond will finance green infrastructure and stormwater management as part of the authority's Rain Check 2.0 initiative; we funded some of that initiative's research.

**OUR ROLE:**

In partnership with the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo, we provided a \$175,000 grant to support Ann Arbor-based Environmental Consulting & Technology, Inc. to provide the technical expertise needed to secure the bonds for the Buffalo Sewer Authority.

**WHY IT MATTERS:**

The bond brings together city government and commercial property owners to implement proven green infrastructure projects throughout the city that will have a wide range of economic, environmental, and public health benefits. Environmental impact bonds finance green infrastructure, reduce sewer overflows, and create and retain good-paying jobs – all while making Buffalo a greener, healthier, and more equitable city.

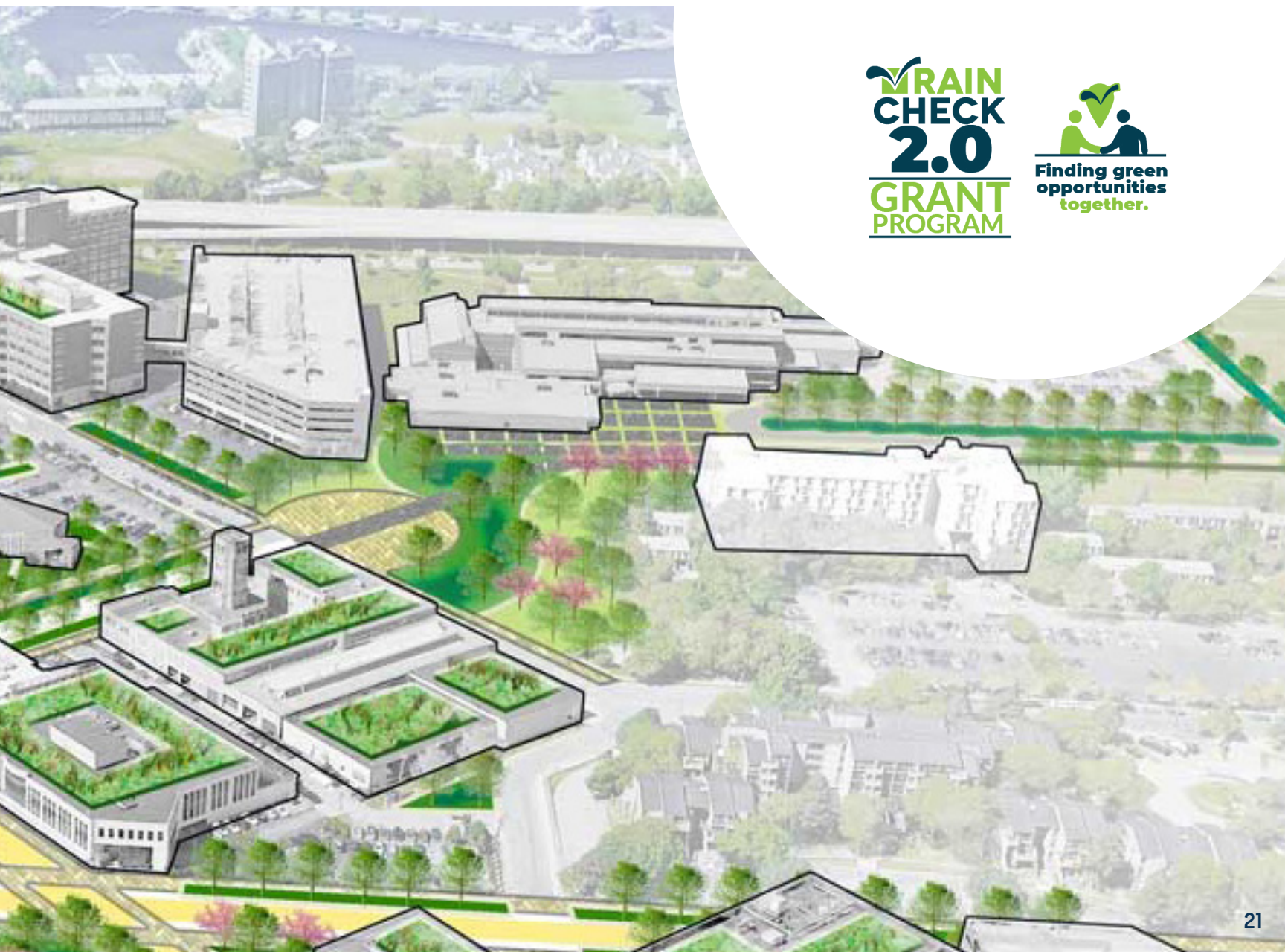




**BUFFALO NIAGARA  
WATERKEEPER®**

**RAIN  
CHECK  
2.0  
GRANT  
PROGRAM**

  
**Finding green  
opportunities  
together.**





YOUTH SPORTS & RECREATION SPOTLIGHT

# DETROIT PARKS COALITION

**WHAT IS IT:**

Detroit Parks Coalition (DPC) is an alliance of organizations that supports healthy, equitable and vibrant parks through fundraising, collaboration, and advocacy. DPC includes representatives from 10 park stewardship organizations, covering more than 20 parks across the city of Detroit.

**WHY IT MATTERS:**

DPC was formed in 2018 in response to various local parks organizations wanting to increase efficiencies by sharing learning and limited resources and taking a collective approach to parks stewardship. This collaboration will lead to improved park experiences for residents through capital improvements, and increased quality, recreational and cultural programming for youth and families to enjoy in the parks.

**OUR ROLE:**

As we look to find opportunities to give more children across the city of Detroit the ability to be active in sports and recreation, we joined other local funders to made grant of more than \$2.6 million to support DPC's efforts across three areas of its work. The grant will provide three years of funding to support and operate the Pistons Neighbors Program in partnership with the Detroit Pistons and William Davidson Foundation providing free and healthy activities across Detroit; match funding for both capital improvements in member parks and for project, programs, or capacity-building in those same parks; and support a fellowship at the city of Detroit to bridge planning between the Parks & Recreation Division and DPC member parks.

**WHAT'S NEXT:**

In 2023, DPC will distribute the first round of grants from our funding to support a cross-section of programming, park improvements, and capacity supports that will immediately and tangibly improve park experiences, while strengthening the stewardship of the organizations leading these efforts.



IMAGES COURTESY OF  
DETROIT PARKS COALITION

## YOUTH SPORTS & RECREATION

### 716 Squash

**\$150,000**

*Western New York*

To support year-round athletic, academic, and enrichment programming for 6th-9th graders.

### Bisons' Charitable Foundation

**\$150,000**

*Western New York*

To provide free and dedicated access to the roller rink at Canalside to children in Western New York in partnership with Project Play Western New York.

### City School District of the City of Niagara Falls

**\$40,212**

*Western New York*

To support the expansion of the Unified Future Stars sports program.

### Community Foundation of St. Clair County

**\$200,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To provide matching dollars for the renovation of four neighborhood parks.

### Detroit Economic Growth Association

**\$1,000,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the expansion of lighting at City of Detroit parks to improve safety and increase usage.

### Detroit Horse Power

**\$210,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support community engagement and capacity-building for a youth development equine program in Detroit.

### Detroit Pistons Foundation

**\$200,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support a summer of collaborative Detroit park activations.

### Good Sports

**\$750,000**

*Southeast Michigan/ Western New York*

To continue support for the Good Sports equipment fund to provide new sports equipment, apparel, and footwear to youth sports nonprofits in Southeast Michigan and Western New York.

### KABOOM!

**\$375,000**

*Western New York*

To support KABOOM! to lead a community design and build process for a playground at Fourth Street Park in Buffalo.

### Michigan Municipal League Foundation

**\$2,000,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the development of the Hamtramck Recreation District.

### Michigan Municipal League Foundation

**\$96,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the capacity and development of the Hamtramck Recreation District.

### Niagara University

**\$569,100**

*Western New York*

To support the Cornerstone Coaches Program, an in-person, online and mobile training platform that will train 5,000+ youth sports coaches, with particular focus on supporting social-emotional learning.

### Playworks Education Energized

**\$300,000**

*Southeast Michigan/ Western New York*

To support continued service delivery to partners in Western New York and Southeast Michigan as schools and children emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Police Athletic League of Buffalo, Inc.

**\$330,000**

*Western New York*

To support the PlayStreets program which brings free and accessible sports programs to youth in Buffalo.

### Say Yes Buffalo Scholarship, Inc.

**\$96,372**

*Western New York*

To support the planning and pilot phase to expand the Breaking Barriers sports and mentoring program for boys and young men of color.

### The Yunion

**\$350,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the expansion of The Yunion's CATTA martial arts program and activate their community hub in Detroit's Hope Village neighborhood.



# YOUTH SPORTS & RECREATION

## Boys & Girls Clubs of Buffalo

**\$45,242**

*Western New York*

To support a learning trip and foster ongoing collaboration for the Boys & Girls Club Collaborative of Western New York.

## Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan

**\$3,000,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the scale of youth sports and recreation programs across southeast Michigan.

## Chandler Park Conservancy

**\$200,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support a third summer of collaborative Detroit park activation in partnership with the Detroit Pistons Neighbors Program.

## City Swim Project

**\$290,000**

*Western New York*

To support the continued expansion of its swimming programs and capacity to help serve youth from low-income communities in Buffalo.

## Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan

**\$2,651,250**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the Detroit Parks Coalition to: 1) operate the Pistons Neighbors Program; 2) provide matching funding for capital improvements, recreational programming, and capacity-building in Detroit's park stewardship organizations; and 3) support a community-facing parks fellow at the City of Detroit.

## Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan

**\$3,074,260**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the next phase of Project Play Southeast Michigan.

## Daemen University

**\$316,694**

*Western New York*

To support The Center for Allied and Unified Sport & Exercise to provide opportunities for people with disabilities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage and experience athletics participation, and to evaluate and expand their current programming.

## Easterseals Michigan

**\$260,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To renovate the Miracle League Michigan baseball field in Southfield, the state's first baseball field for children with physical or cognitive disabilities.

## Figure Skating in Harlem, Inc.

**\$180,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support Figure Skating Detroit's efforts towards improving access to figure skating and advancing non-competitive recreational opportunities for low-income youth in Detroit.

## Girls on the Run of Southeastern Michigan

**\$344,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To expand its Star Power Sites Initiative, which serves girls in schools in high-poverty-areas in Southeast Michigan – with a focus in Monroe and Washtenaw Counties.

## KABOOM!

**\$354,020**

*Southeast Michigan/ Western New York*

To develop a multi-year plan to promote kids' active play across Southeast Michigan and Western New York by giving youth equitable access to quality courts and fields.

## mParks

**\$10,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the mParks 2022 Conference.

## National Summer Learning Association

**\$65,000**

*Southeast Michigan/ Western New York*

To support the participation in a learning community around youth sports and recreation, afterschool and summer learning.

## PeacePlayers International

**\$225,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To increase the quality and frequency of existing basketball-focused afterschool programs in three key Detroit neighborhoods, and to further position the organization for long-term sustainability.

## Tapestry Charter School

**\$900,000**

*Western New York*

To support the construction of a track to be used by youth throughout the city of Buffalo.

## The Champion Project

**\$227,586**

*Western New York*

To support the expansion of the Girl Power program, a six-week volleyball and leadership development clinic targeting underserved WNY youth ages 12 and under.

# YOUTH SPORTS & RECREATION

## The Rural Outreach Center (ROC)

**\$1,000,000**

*Western New York*

Capital support for the Rural Outreach Center for a centralized multi-use, multi-generational facility to increase access to safe play and wraparound services for rural families in the Southern Tier region of Western New York.

## The Skatepark Project

**\$208,570**

*Southeast Michigan/ Western New York*

To provide capacity to support the continued design and implementation of the Built to Play skateparks.

## West Side Rowing Club

**\$60,000**

*Western New York*

To provide operational support for West Side Rowing Club as it expands its program quality and offerings, community engagement, and provides a safe and first-rate year-round training facility for all ages and abilities.

## Women's Sports Foundation

**\$450,000**

*Southeast Michigan/ Western New York*

To conduct research and disseminate results focused on increasing 1) girls' participation in youth sports in Western New York and Southeast Michigan and 2) recruitment and retention of female coaches.

## YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit

**\$2,000,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support and expand the mobile component of the equipment sharing program.

## YMCA of the Twin Tiers

**\$1,000,000**

*Western New York*

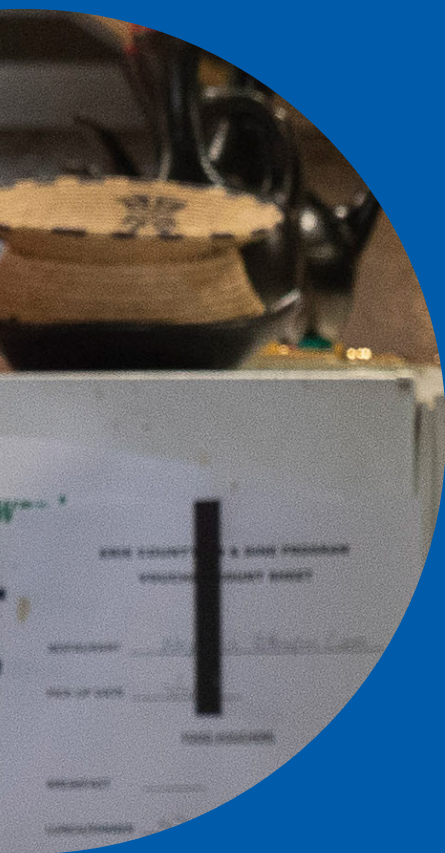
Capital support to the YMCA of the Twin Tiers to build an outdoor center that will create a new outdoor space with facilities that encourage people to be active, connected, and engaged.



TONY HAWK WITH THE SKATEPARK PROJECT CELEBRATING THE NEW BUILT TO PLAY SUPPORTED SKATEPARK IN DETROIT'S CHANDLER PARK.



LIFE TRUSTEE MARY WILSON AND BUFFALO YOUTH CELEBRATING THE GROUNDBREAKING OF RALPH WILSON PARK





ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
& ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

# INVESTING IN OPPORTUNITIES

We often think of entrepreneurship and economic development as key elements in making a place, a community, one in which people want to live, work and play – and one where everyone has the opportunity to build wealth. In our work, we look to partner with public and private groups that are building strong networks of support for entrepreneurs and small businesses at all stages of growth. And it's why we support place-based economic development strategies, including finding opportunities to invest in commercial corridors in the rural, suburban, and urban geographies we invest in. In addition, we know that access to skilled talent also drives economic growth – whether it's keeping our own or attracting it from the outside – and that talent we need is attracted to amenities like the great parks and trails, and arts and culture that are essential for vibrant places where people want to live. When you add it all together, we are investing in great people, places, and ideas. Read on to learn more.

# ARTS AND CULTURE FOR ECONOMIC VITALITY TODAY AND TOMORROW

## WHAT HAPPENED:

In December 2021, we announced a \$200 million commitment to help transform the financial strength and long-term viability of Southeast Michigan and Western New York's arts and culture communities through the creation of two endowments that will support the sector – as a key regional economic driver – now and in perpetuity.

## HOW DOES IT WORK:

We will pay out a total of \$117.5 million between 2021-2031 to establish two Arts & Culture endowments at the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan and Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo. Once fully funded, each endowment will generate approximately \$3.75 million in annual payout to permanently support funding streams, including operational support for key regional anchor institutions; permanent support for small to mid-size organizations through a competitive grant program, and support for implementation capacity at both community foundations.

## HOW IS THE IMPACT IMMEDIATE:

While the endowment is being built over a decade, we are simultaneously providing an additional \$3.75 million annually to each community foundation over nine years in each region (for a total of \$67.5 million), allowing grantmaking to begin in 2022. Additionally, three \$5 million capital grants were provided to the Buffalo AKG Art Museum, Motown Museum, and Strong National Museum of Play in 2021 to complete major expansion projects already in development.

## WHO RECEIVES SUPPORT:

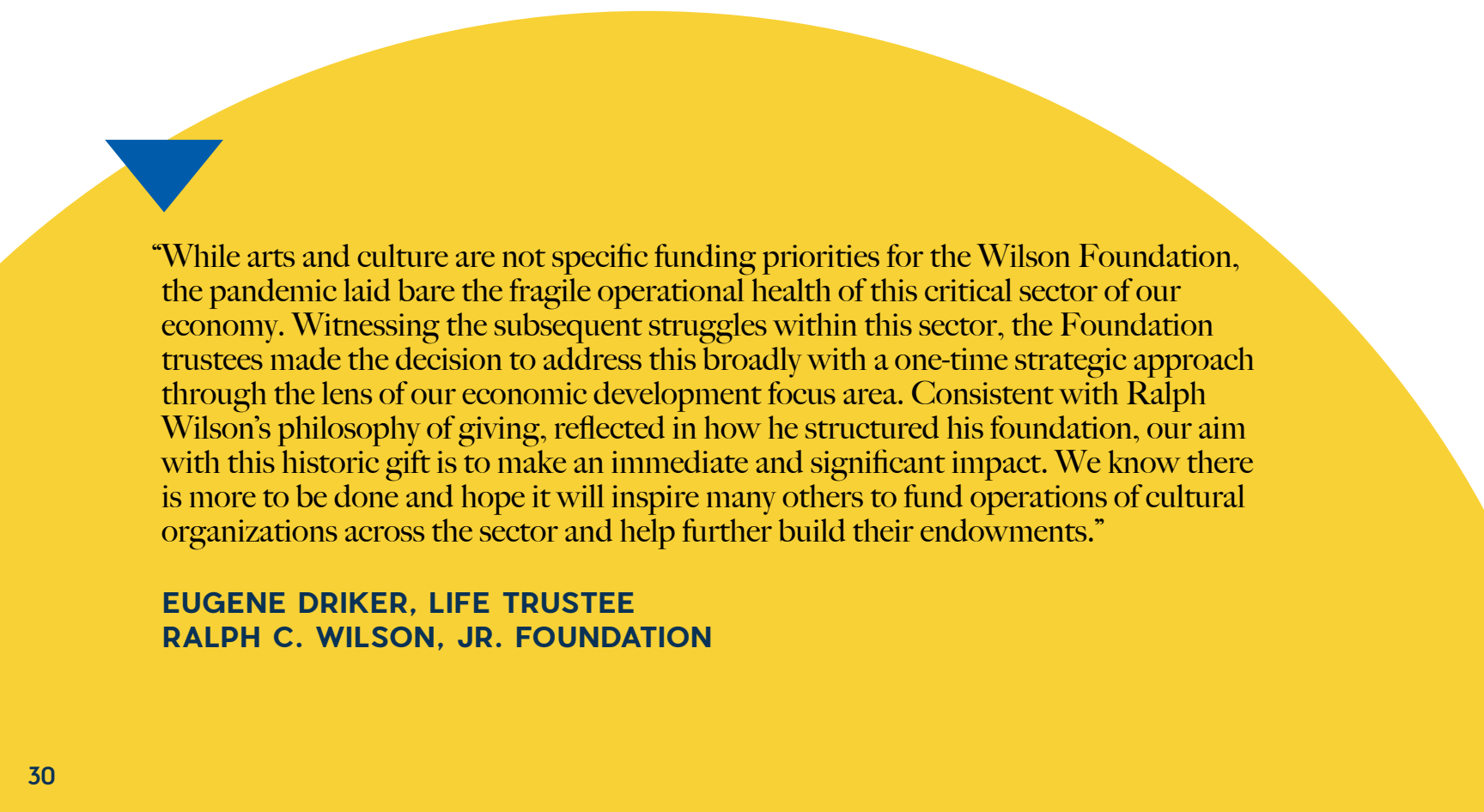
\$6 million annually will be granted for general operating support for 24 of the regions' largest arts and culture institutions that play a critical role as economic drivers. Each organization is co-designing, in partnership with each community foundation and national consultants, metrics and benchmarks that support their goals and strategic plans.

## HOW ARE MORE INSTITUTIONS INCLUDED:

An additional \$1 million will be granted annually to small to mid-size arts and culture organizations through the community foundations. In 2022, more than 100 non-profits arts and culture organizations in Western New York and Southeast Michigan received this funding, with \$500,000 disbursed to each region. Throughout 2021, community conversations led by each community foundation informed the grantmaking guidelines and process. These conversations will continue to gather input from leaders in the sector about expanding access for audiences and artists of all disciplines and the importance of inclusion and equity.

## WHY IT MATTERS:

Arts and culture institutions of all sizes play a tremendous role in shaping the unique identity and fabric of our communities. Their contributions to our regions' quality of life and economies through job creation, local spend, consumer purchases, tax revenue and tourism are significant, in addition to talent attraction and retention.



“While arts and culture are not specific funding priorities for the Wilson Foundation, the pandemic laid bare the fragile operational health of this critical sector of our economy. Witnessing the subsequent struggles within this sector, the Foundation trustees made the decision to address this broadly with a one-time strategic approach through the lens of our economic development focus area. Consistent with Ralph Wilson’s philosophy of giving, reflected in how he structured his foundation, our aim with this historic gift is to make an immediate and significant impact. We know there is more to be done and hope it will inspire many others to fund operations of cultural organizations across the sector and help further build their endowments.”

**EUGENE DRIKER, LIFE TRUSTEE**  
**RALPH C. WILSON, JR. FOUNDATION**







# CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH

## WHAT IS IT:

The Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth (CCPEG) was formally established in 2019 as an initiative within the Chautauqua Region Economic Development Corporation with a mission to serve “as the catalyst and broker of resources for advancing economic prosperity efforts and to be the central coordinating entity for the formation, retention, development, and attraction of sustainable jobs and advancements to quality of life in Chautauqua County.”

## WHY IT MATTERS:

Chautauqua County is a beautiful rural community with many assets including a high quality of life, good infrastructure, natural resources, a strong tourism industry, and opportunities for skilled workers that provide the necessary foundation for growth in coming years. However, the county has not yet experienced the resurgence of economic activity and revitalization initiatives that other parts of Western New York have in recent years, and with continued job and population losses, still lags behind in leading economic indicators.

## WHAT HAPPENED:

With active participation from more than 100 economic development partners from throughout the county, CCPEG led the development of five-year Economic Development Strategic Plan in 2020 to outline a county-wide approach across five strategic pillars: Business Development; Community Development; Housing; Tourism/Destination Development; and Workforce Readiness and Development. Dedicated working groups for each pillar were established and six priority projects were identified with detailed implementation, cost estimates and timelines.

## OUR ROLE:

After providing an initial grant of \$75,000 in 2019 for planning support, we followed up with a three-year, \$1.05 million grant in 2021 to extend and enhance CCPEG’s administrative and project development capacity, while dedicating a majority of the funding to a project leveraging fund that supports the implementation of priority projects outlined in the strategic plan.

This flexible funding pool is designed to provide critical local-matching dollars for catalytic economic and community development projects seeking funding from a multitude of local, state, federal, and other philanthropic sources. These matching funds will allow CCPEG to leverage up to five additional dollars for every dollar we invest.

## WHAT’S NEXT:

CCPEG has since been awarded \$390,000 in local funding in 2022 from a range of sources, including the American Rescue Plan Act and several other local foundations. Its strategic plan serves as a “call to action” and offers a clear vision for achieving economic prosperity in Chautauqua County. Most importantly, it promotes a collaborative and countywide outlook that supports substantial initiatives and strategic investment, to incrementally transform Chautauqua County’s economic standing in Western New York and across the state.



# REGIONAL REVITALIZATION PARTNERSHIP IN WNY

## WHAT IS IT:

The WNY Regional Revitalization Partnership (RRP) is a \$300 million private and public regional co-investment in three interconnected geographic areas: Buffalo, Niagara Falls and Rochester, NY. This community-driven strategy seeks to build local wealth and empower residents using a model that drives economic development through government and philanthropic partnership.

## HOW IT WAS DEVELOPED:

The RRP strategy was developed in 2021 by a team led by the University at Buffalo Regional Institute and was born from the successful experience from the East Side Avenues initiative in Buffalo. RRP has a clear objective of revitalizing economically distressed neighborhoods by fostering small businesses, investing in placemaking, and preparing the workforce.

## OUR ROLE:

As one of the lead funders in the East Side Avenues initiative, we saw firsthand the impact of pooling and leveraging our investments around a comprehensive economic development strategy. Seeing alignment of the developing RRP

strategy across several of our priority areas, including place-based economic development, entrepreneurship, workforce, and parks & trails, our trustees committed \$67 million in late 2021 to jump-start match funding required for the public-private partnership to be realized.

## HOW IT'S FUNDED:

In 2022, Governor Hochul announced a \$200 million commitment from the Fiscal Year 2023 New York State budget for RRP (disbursed through Empire State Development) in response to the match commitment of \$100 million: \$81 million from corporate and philanthropic partners (including ESL, KeyBank/First Niagara Foundation, M&T Bank, the Max and Marian Farash Charitable Foundation and Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation) and \$19 million from local governments. Over the next five years, RRP will make \$180 million in investments for community wealth-building and placemaking efforts in Buffalo's East Side, \$40 million in Niagara Falls, and \$80 million in Rochester.

## HOW DOES IT WORK:

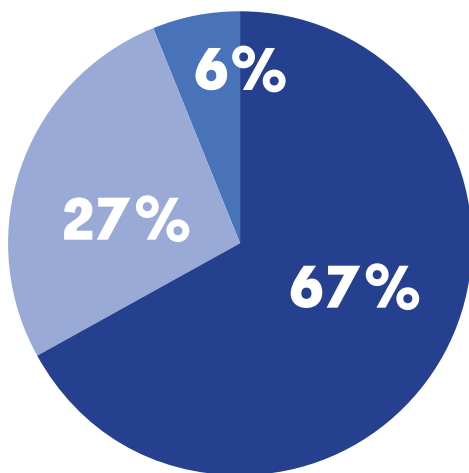
RRP uses economic development strategies that address community priorities and needs in three core areas: fostering inclusive entrepreneurship and small business growth; improving local business districts, rebuilding community anchors, and revitalizing neighborhoods; and preparing the workforce for high-quality jobs. Programs and projects involved must engage with community members, and local intermediary organizations will help to keep folks connected and accountable.

## WHY IT MATTERS:

This economic development strategy can demonstrate how New York State's partnership with cities as well as public-private sectors can drive catalytic initiatives and lay the foundation inclusive and equitable growth for the long-term. RRP can also serve as a pilot program that could be rolled out to the rest of New York State and has the potential to become an innovative national model for community-based economic revitalization.

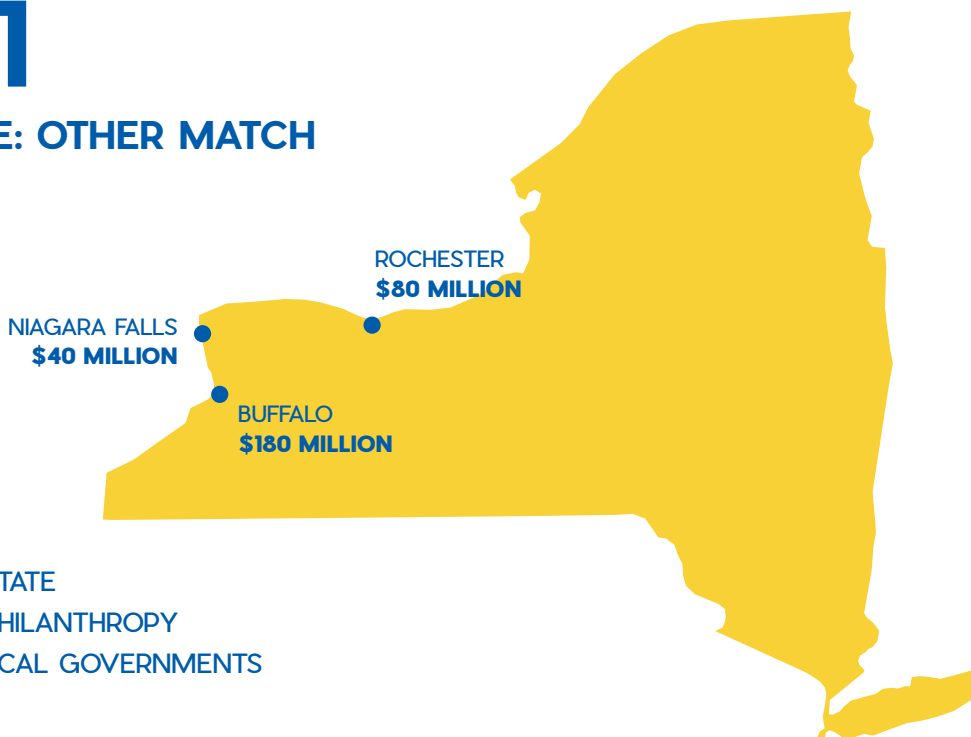
# \$300M

PROGRAM



# 2:1

STATE: OTHER MATCH



67% STATE  
27% PHILANTHROPY  
6% LOCAL GOVERNMENTS



**CLICK HERE** to see how East Side Avenues is positively affecting people living and working on Buffalo's East Side.

“This effort not only builds on the existing work of dozens of partners and funders that has already been underway in each individual community but multiplies those efforts through strategic public and private investments that have great potential to reduce economic disparities and achieve transformational impact across the region. Western New York’s strategic packaging and prioritization of projects is gaining recognition as a national model to leverage additional funding streams. As a spend down foundation with just over 12 years remaining, this strong and strategic collaboration paved the way for us to make this substantial commitment at this moment in time benefiting three communities we care deeply about.”

**DAVID EGNER, PRESIDENT & CEO,  
RALPH C. WILSON, JR. FOUNDATION**

# ENTREPRENEURSHIP & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## Arts & Culture Initiative

**\$200,000,000**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To enhance and sustain the arts and culture sector within Western New York and Southeast Michigan.

## Albright-Knox Art Gallery

**\$5,000,000**

*Western New York*

To support the construction of the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Town Square as part of the Albright-Knox Art Gallery's AK360 campus expansion.

## Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo

**\$58,750,000**

*Western New York*

To establish and maintain the Arts & Culture Endowment at the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo.

## Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo

**\$33,750,000**

*Western New York*

Additional funding to begin grantmaking efforts in 2022 while the endowment is being built. This funding will provide \$3.75 million over nine years.

## Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan

**\$58,750,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To establish and maintain the Arts & Culture Endowment at the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo.

## Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan

**\$33,750,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

Additional funding to begin grantmaking efforts in 2022 while the endowment is being built. This funding will provide \$3.75 million over nine years.

## Motown Museum

**\$5,000,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the capital costs to expand the Motown Museum.

## The Strong National Museum of Play

**\$5,000,000**

*Western New York*

To support the capital costs to expand the Strong National Museum of Play.

## Ann Arbor SPARK

**\$250,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support increased access to capital for underserved entrepreneurs through the continued growth of the Michigan angel investor network.

## Chautauqua Region Economic Development Corporation

**\$1,050,000**

*Western New York*

To support the Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth to establish a project leveraging fund to aid in the implementation of priority economic development projects.

## Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo

**\$70,000**

*Western New York*

To support the Buffalo Purchasing Initiative (BPI) in 2021.

## Community Foundation of St. Clair County

**\$175,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support redevelopment efforts in the downtown commercial corridor of Port Huron, Michigan.

## Detroit Economic Growth Association

**\$2,000,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the Detroit Means Business Coalition.

## Detroit Economic Growth Association

**\$100,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support staff capacity of Detroit Means Business (DMB).

## Downtown Detroit Partnership

**\$10,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the 2021 Detroit Homecoming.

## Jamestown Community College Foundation

**\$50,000**

*Western New York*

To support the development of an online Entrepreneurship Certification program.

## Jefferson East, Inc.

**\$750,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support Jefferson East, Inc.'s operations and the implementation of the Jefferson-Chalmers Master Plan.

## Lawrence Technological University

**\$1,000,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the C<sup>3</sup> Evergreen Investment Fund at the Centrepolis Accelerator.

# ENTREPRENEURSHIP & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## Michigan Municipal League Foundation

**\$50,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the development of inclusive economic growth strategies across SEMI through entrepreneurship and small business growth.

## Monroe County Business Development Corp.

**\$100,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the creation and growth of small businesses through the Monroe County Launch 734 program.

## Regents of the University of Michigan

**\$60,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the 2021 Summer session of the Detroit Neighborhood Entrepreneurs Project (DNEP) to support underserved entrepreneurs and small business with COVID-19 recovery.

## TechTown Detroit

**\$800,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support operations at TechTown and its entrepreneurship and small business programs.

## The Brookings Institution

**\$320,000**

*Southeast Michigan/ Western New York*

To support Brookings Metro to conduct policy analysis and identify resources for Southeast Michigan and Western New York leaders to deliver an inclusive economic recovery and connect local and regional priorities to emerging federal policies.



IMAGES COURTESY OF TECHTOWN DETROIT

# ENTREPRENEURSHIP & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## Build Institute

**\$600,000**

### *Southeast Michigan*

To support the Build Institute's Capital Ladder Loan Fund, Entrepreneur-in-Residence (EIR) program, and general operational support.

## Build Institute

**\$100,000**

### *Southeast Michigan*

To support the proof-of-concept phase for an entrepreneurship incubator for immigrant women in Southeast Michigan.

## Capital Impact Partners

**\$1,500,000**

### *Southeast Michigan*

Support for Capital Impact Partners' Equitable Development Initiative and predevelopment subgrant program to train and support new and emerging developers in Detroit.

## Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo

**\$135,000**

### *Western New York*

To support program management and consulting services for the Buffalo Purchasing Initiative (BPI) 2023-2025.

## Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo

**\$70,000**

### *Western New York*

To support program management and consulting services for the Buffalo Purchasing Initiative (BPI) as it enters its fourth year.

## Detroit Regional Partnership Foundation

**\$3,000,000**

### *Southeast Michigan*

To support the work of the Detroit Regional Partnership Foundation (DRPF) in order to help create jobs, improve the lives of individuals and families, and drive market improvements in regional rates of workforce participation, poverty and lower quintile of income.

## Develop Detroit

**\$1,000,000**

### *Southeast Michigan*

Support for the incubator kitchen within the Detroit Food Commons.

## Downtown Detroit Partnership

**\$25,000**

### *Southeast Michigan*

To provide support for the 2022 Detroit Homecoming initiative that brings together a network of successful Detroit expatriates for a hybrid event of virtual and in-person programming to reengage with the community and encourage them to consider investments in Detroit and the region.

## E. Warren Development Corp

**\$250,000**

### *Southeast Michigan*

Support to build the E. Warren Community Kitchen, which will support and provide affordable rental space to food-based businesses.

## Global Detroit

**\$200,000**

### *Southeast Michigan*

To expand Global Detroit's Entrepreneurship in Residence (EIR) program, to support the growth of tech startup companies in Southeast Michigan.

## Growing Hope, Inc.

**\$30,000**

### *Southeast Michigan*

Support for predevelopment planning to expand the current Growing Hope Incubator Kitchen and programming for food entrepreneurs in Ypsilanti, Michigan.

## Invest Detroit Foundation

**\$3,500,000**

### *Southeast Michigan*

To support promising Michigan-based high-tech and high-growth startups through access to investment capital, focused mentorship for under-networked entrepreneurs, and participation in events and programs to strengthen the broader startup ecosystem.

## Launch NY

**\$3,000,000**

### *Western New York*

Recapitalize the nonprofit seed fund and provide continued operational support for business advisory services to high-growth entrepreneurs in Western New York.

## Michigan Municipal League Foundation

**\$100,000**

### *Southeast Michigan*

To support Michigan Municipal League's continued development of strategies and projects that catalyze local entrepreneurship and small business growth opportunities in small to mid-size communities across SE Michigan.

## National Comedy Center, Inc.

**\$100,000**

### *Western New York*

To support the National Comedy Center as it expands its developmental and institutional capacity.

# ENTREPRENEURSHIP & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## New York Sustainable Agriculture Working Group

**\$170,000**

*Western New York*

To complete a new slaughter and processing facility that will expand opportunities for rural livestock farmers and local food system buyers in Western New York through access to high-quality, timely and affordable processing and packaging.

## ProsperUS Detroit Micro Lending

**\$850,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To help ProsperUS continue to generate small business growth and neighborhood revitalization in Detroit, Hamtramck and Highland Park.

## Rochester Industries Educational Fund (ROC2025 Fund)

**\$305,000**

*Western New York*

To support ROC2025 to serve as the project implementation team for the Regional Revitalization Partnership (RRP) in Rochester, New York.

## TechTown Detroit

**\$3,000,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support operations at TechTown and its entrepreneurship and small business programs.

## The BasBlue Foundation

**\$250,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support BasBlue's Zero to One Fellowship program, Trailblazer-in-Residence Scholarship program, and general programmatic and operational capacity.

## The Brookings Institution

**\$150,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the City of Detroit's participation in the Brookings Metro Transforming Cities Lab for building civic capacity and infrastructure to set and pursue pandemic recovery goals and strategies.

## The Research Foundation for the State University of New York

**\$1,000,000**

*Western New York*

To support project management and planning for the WNY Regional Revitalization Partnership (RRP).

## The Research Foundation for the State University of New York

**\$40,000**

*Western New York*

To begin the process of building a Small Business Resource Center (SBRC) with a focus on Erie County.

## Transit Matters

**\$100,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support Transit Matters' public education in Macomb and Oakland counties.

## Western New York Law Center Inc.

**\$100,000**

*Western New York*

To support the Western New York Law Center's Small Business Legal Clinic, which provides legal services to low-income entrepreneurs and small business owners.

## Westminster Economic Development Initiative, Inc. (WEDI)

**\$100,000**

*Western New York*

To support the continuation of a series of workshops and technical assistance programs for entrepreneurs and small businesses.



IMAGES COURTESY OF WEDI








PREPARING FOR SUCCESS

# SUPPORTING LIFELONG SUCCESS

We are always thinking about the long game – in particular, what happens when we close our doors in January 2035. It's our hope and intent that what we're helping to support and build now can stand the test of time and thrive. The same goes when we think about what it takes to succeed at life. Throughout our lifespan, we need support at every stage of life. From early childhood, when learning crucial social skills that prepare us for education, to out-of-school time as children and teens, when we develop our lifelong interests and passions, to post-secondary learning and occupational discovery, when we make our way as young adults into the world. At every stage, the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation partners with innovative grantees to advance ideas, based on what we hear from the people we serve is important to them. We continually learn along the way and are proud to share some of the fun and meaningful things we've been a part of in 2021 and 2022.



## EARLY CHILDHOOD SPOTLIGHT

# PEDALS HELPS GROW A BRIGHTER FUTURE

### WHAT IT IS:

PEDALS (Positive Emotional Development and Learning Skills) supports teachers in early childhood classrooms to integrate activities, and stories in short daily lessons to help young children learn compassionate methods for managing their emotions and communicating their needs.

### WHY IT MATTERS:

Teachers, students, and even adjacent classrooms see a positive impact when PEDALS is used in a classroom. Positive Emotional Development and Learning Skills (PEDALS) are essential because they are the building blocks for life. When children are taught self-regulation, research shows it leads to better academic performance, healthier relationships, and fewer behavioral issues.

### HOW DOES IT WORK:

Through in-person coaching for early childhood teachers, the PEDALS program strives to boost children's emotional and social well-being by implementing developmental screening, tools to support positive development, and quality improvement methods.

### WHO'S INVOLVED:

PEDALS launched in 2012 in Western New York (WNY) thanks to our partners at the Health Foundation for Western and Central New York (HFWCNY) and the Tower Foundation. More recently, HFWCNY has provided support for the expansion of PEDALS to the Central New York region and BlueCross BlueShield's Blue Fund has provided expansion support in the region's Southern Tier.

### OUR ROLE:

Seeing the positive impact PEDALS is having in WNY, we provided support in 2017 to pilot the program in Southeast Michigan. In 2021, we provided additional support to continue to expand the program to new classrooms in childcare centers and Head Start classrooms across all seven regions of Southeast Michigan and nine counties of Western New York.

### WHAT'S NEXT:

Beyond program expansion, the PEDALS model is being rigorously evaluated to measure the results the program produces for children and providers. The data from this evaluation will be used to support broader systems change and sustainability.





IMAGES COURTESY OF PEDALS

# EARLY CHILDHOOD

## Ardent Solutions, Inc.

**\$50,000**

*Western New York*

To support the launch and operations of the Allegany County Imagination Library for children from birth to age 5.

## Chalkbeat

**\$200,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the Chalkbeat Detroit bureau operations, including news gathering, story production and distribution, and community engagement to ensure access to critical information affecting children, including the youngest learners.

## Health Federation of Philadelphia

**\$50,000**

*Southeast Michigan/ Western New York*

To support the Home Grown Funder's Collaborative to inform investment strategies for home-based childcare in Western New York and Southeast Michigan.

## Lakeshore Connections, Inc.

**\$2,956,893**

*Western New York*

To support the operations and expansion of the PEDALS program in Western New York for social-emotional learning supports in early childhood classrooms.

## Lakeshore Connections, Inc.

**\$2,513,894**

*Western New York*

To support Help Me Grow Western New York as a systems builder and leader in early childhood in Western New York to move the region toward (1) a shared early childhood agenda, (2) a data-informed action plan, (3) improved use of community resources and (4) policy updates for a system that can do more to collectively meet the needs of young children in Western New York.

## PEDALS Michigan

**\$4,611,470**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the operations and expansion of the PEDALS program in Southeast Michigan for social-emotional learning supports in early childhood classrooms.

## Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy

**\$100,000**

*Western New York*

To provide partial matching funds for Alliance for Early Success: Child Care NEXT award for early childhood advocacy and systems-building in New York.

## St. Clair County Regional Educational Service Agency

**\$152,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support expansion of the HelpMe Grow (HMG) childhood development model in St. Clair County, MI.



## EARLY CHILDHOOD

### Council of Michigan Foundations

**\$300,000**

#### *Southeast Michigan*

To support Launch Michigan in executing its newly approved K-12 Mackinac Framework Agreement to develop new strategies for engaging and integrating afterschool and early childhood education.

### Early Childhood Investment Corporation

**\$300,000**

#### *Southeast Michigan*

To support the Early Childhood Investment Corporation to add Washtenaw County's Child Care Network as a sixth grantee to its first-ever Child Care Innovation Fund cohort designed to scale promising early childhood strategies in Michigan.

### Early Childhood Investment Corporation

**\$270,000**

#### *Southeast Michigan*

To strengthen the early childhood system in Southeast Michigan by 1) providing continued general support for a three-year period, 2) providing RCWJRF staff and grantees with social-emotional learning policy strategy and programmatic guidance, and 3) supporting technical assistance for three SEMI communities for the Promising Ideas Incubator.

### Macomb Intermediate School District

**\$51,780**

#### *Southeast Michigan*

To expand access to Help Me Grow early childhood supports and resources for bilingual families in Macomb County.

### Michigan's Children

**\$50,000**

#### *Southeast Michigan*

To support policy and investment opportunity insights and guidance regarding social-emotional learning in Southeast Michigan and across the state.

### Native American Community Services of Erie and Niagara Counties, Inc.

**\$50,000**

#### *Western New York*

To provide general operating support for the Native American Community Services of Erie and Niagara Counties, Inc.

### NY Funders Alliance Initiatives Fund

**\$682,500**

#### *Western New York*

To support Liftoff, a project of the New York Funders Alliance, to launch an Early Childhood Partnership Pilot program with the Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy, The Children's Agenda, and the WNY Women's Foundation.

### NY Funders Alliance Initiatives Fund

**\$700,000**

#### *Western New York*

To support general operations for Liftoff WNY to improve health and education outcomes for young children in the nine-county WNY region.

### RAND Corporation

**\$749,701**

#### *Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To support the evaluation of the Positive Emotional Development and Learning Skills (PEDALS) program in SE Michigan and Western NY.

### RAND Corporation

**\$500,000**

#### *Western New York*

To support an evaluation of Help Me Grow Western New York that will measure success, as well as foster transparency, collaboration, and shared purpose among early childhood system stakeholders.

## AFTERSCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

# GEN Z TURNS THE TABLES ON GRANTMAKING

### WHAT IS IT:

Generator Z is a more than \$5 million grantmaking initiative that brought together teens to share stories and ideas afterschool providers can use to reimagine the future of afterschool in Southeast Michigan and Western New York.

### WHY IT MATTERS:

Decades of research prove that kids in afterschool attend school more often, get better grades, and are more likely to graduate. Afterschool, or out-of-school time, programs can often provide enriching activities, more time for deeper learning, creative spaces for hands-on projects, a chance to relax and unwind, and opportunities to explore careers. The inspiration behind Generator Z was to put youth in the driver's seat and hand them the microphone to share back to afterschool providers, funders, and other community leaders about what they want from an afterschool experience. In turn, afterschool providers can then do what they do best and use that inspiration from youth to both experiment and enhance their existing programs through these grants.

### WHO'S INVOLVED:

In late 2020, more than 1,000 teens representing the diversity of our two regions were selected as "Generators" and paid to share their vision for the future of afterschool. In January 2021, their stories were published on the public platform Generator-Z.org, providing these 13- to 18-year-olds with a platform during a time when their everyday lives were disrupted by a global pandemic, racial injustice, and political tension.

[CLICK HERE](#) to watch our documentary film and hear from a few of the teen Generators and afterschool providers who made Generator Z a success!



### HOW DID IT WORK:

Once the stories were published, afterschool providers across our two regions were then invited to apply for grants responding to the Generators' stories and afterschool ideas they shared. A committee of teens, adult allies and near-peers served as judges to recommend and prioritize grant support that was distributed through our partner-intermediary Lakeshore Connections.

### WHO RECEIVED SUPPORT:

In June 2021, 93 nonprofits were selected to receive one-year grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000 and totaling more than \$4 million. Once nonprofits received grants, the Generators then had the opportunity to provide feedback and evaluate the grants at the six-month milestone. Generator Z's website includes teen and grantee feedback and inspiration to redefine afterschool programs for teenagers in Southeast Michigan and Western New York. Over three phases of engagement, teen "Generators" each collected up to \$1,000 for their participation totaling over \$1 million, valuing them as the ultimate experts of their own lives.

### WHAT WE LEARNED:

The 1,000 Generators acquired storytelling skills, gained insights into philanthropy, and took charge of distributing over \$4 million in grant funds. The Generator Z initiative contributed to afterschool providers offering youth-centered programming, while inspiring many to expand or develop programs to better incorporate youth voices, as informed by Generators' stories. A complete evaluation report will be made public by the end of 2023.

### WHAT'S NEXT:

Visit Genator-Z.org and sign up for updates!

"To actually have influence over afterschool opportunities was really important. A wise person once told me to never trust someone who says they work in your best interest but never invites your opinion. The participation of so many teens of so many different ages and places built trust and led to these grants. When I helped select grantees, I paid attention to language and how they spoke to me. That really helps me believe in an organization and what they have to offer."

**CHARLES D. AGE 18,  
OF SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN**

@generatorzfuture

**"I now see myself more as an artist and believe that imperfection is beauty and have seen more ways the arts affect me and the world around me as well as my mental health."**

**—Katelyn K., Age 16, member KnowResolve, Grantee**

@generatorzfuture

**"Rather than seeing technology and devices as a separation between people and a distraction from "real" social interaction, we want to use technology as a way for youth to better connect with one another - in significant and meaningful ways."**

2021 Grantee

**—Baldwin Center, 2021 Grantee E-Gaming to Z-Leading**

@generatorzfuture

**"I've learned not only about sustainability and environmental justice but also social and political issues, gardening and things that I can do to help the causes that matter to me."**

2021 Grantee

**—Armani Williamson, Green Schools Coordinator with Ecoworks**

**"Mental health is super important, especially for young teens. I think that having people in your life that you can talk to about this stuff helps."**

**—Ishmail, Western New York ('Mindful Moves' Generator feedback)**

@GENERATORZFUTURE

@generatorzfuture

**"Most meaningful conversations, and even relationships, take place around a table with a good meal provided."**

2021 Grantee

**—The Power Company Kids Club Generator Z Grantee**

@generatorzfuture

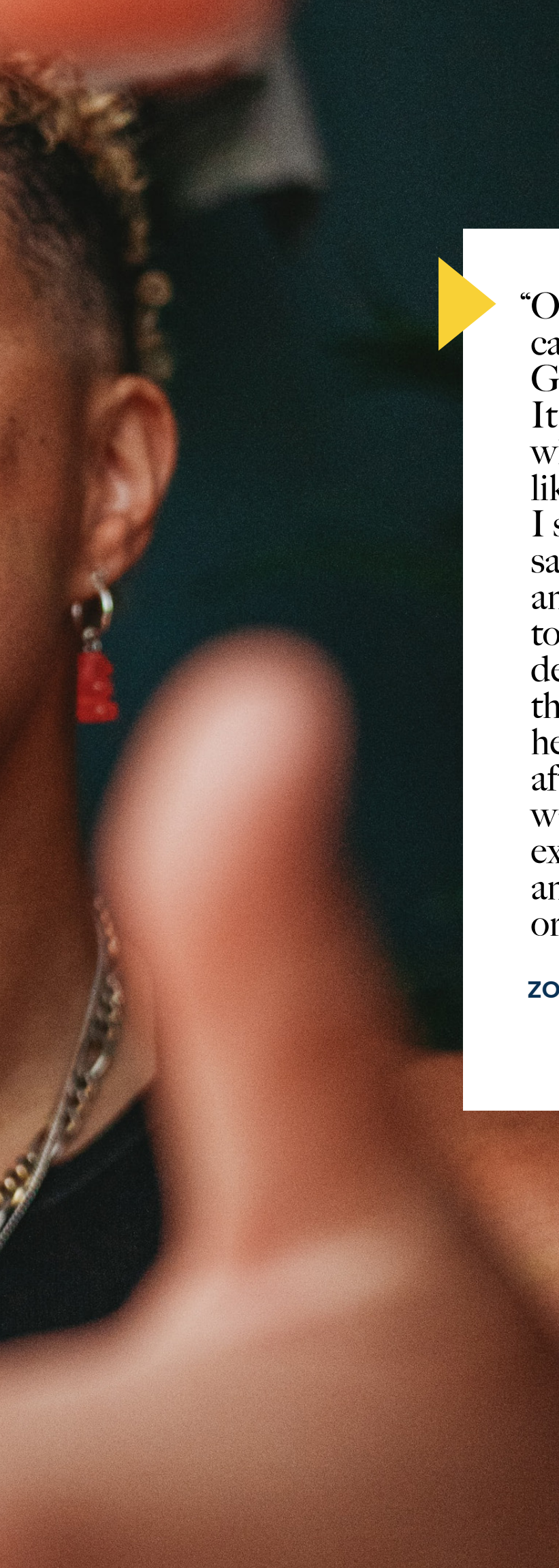
**"You always learn about jobs like doctors, lawyers, teachers, police officers, firefighters and nurses. There is nothing wrong with those jobs, but I know there are so many more jobs and careers out there that teens need to be exposed to."**

2021 Grantee

**—William H. (Age 14)  
Generator who inspired GEN-STEM Mentoring Project**







“Often teens are told that they can’t really have a voice, but Generator Z did the opposite. It got me out of my comfort zone which is good because I usually like to stay in my own bubble. I shared my own story and then saw afterschool providers do an amazing job responding to Generator insights. They developed and pitched programs that sounded fun and could help motivate more teens to join afterschool programs. I like the way that providers took specific examples from a teen’s story and then showed how it impacted or inspired their program.”

**ZOEY L. AGE 14 OF WESTERN NEW YORK**



# AFTERSCHOOL

Cattaraugus Region  
Community Foundation

**\$22,000**

*Western New York*

To support the Dream It Do It Center in Olean, NY.

Lakeshore Connections, Inc.

**\$4,268,181**

*Southeast Michigan/ Western New York*

To support Generator Z grants, recommended by 1,000 teen Generators, and associated administrative costs.

482Forward

*Southeast Michigan*

5 Loaves Farm: Youth  
Internship Program

*Western New York*

African American  
Cultural Center

*Western New York*

Anton Art Center

*Southeast Michigan*

Arab Community Center  
for Economic and Social  
Services (ACCESS)

*Southeast Michigan*

Avalon Village

*Southeast Michigan*

Baldwin Center

*Southeast Michigan*

BestSelf Behavioral Health, Inc.

*Western New York*

Breaking Barriers: A  
Boys and Men of Color  
Initiative (program within  
Say Yes Buffalo)

*Western New York*

Buffalo & Erie County  
Public Library

*Western New York*

Buffalo Maritime Center

*Western New York*

Buffalo String Works

*Western New York*

Cameron Community  
Ministries

*Western New York*

Caught Up

*Southeast Michigan*

Center for Teen Empowerment

*Western New York*

Clark Park Coalition

*Southeast Michigan*

Class Act Detroit

*Southeast Michigan*

Cody Rouge Community  
Action Alliance

*Southeast Michigan*

Commerce Township  
Community Library

*Southeast Michigan*

Community Services  
for Every1, Inc.

*Western New York*

Confident Girl Mentoring  
Program, Inc.

*Western New York*

Congress of Communities

*Southeast Michigan*

DRIVE One

*Southeast Michigan*

Detroit Food &  
Entrepreneurship Program

*Southeast Michigan*

Detroit Horse Power

*Southeast Michigan*

Detroit Muslim Student  
Council (sponsored by  
482Forward)

*Southeast Michigan*

Difference Makers  
Mentoring

*Southeast Michigan*

Downtown Boxing Gym  
Youth Program

*Southeast Michigan*

Dream It Do It WNY

*Western New York*

EcoWorks

*Southeast Michigan*

EnCompass: Resources  
for Learning

*Western New York*

Eye to Eye

*Western New York*

Family Help Center

*Western New York*

Fillmore Powerhouse  
Youth Center Inc.

*Western New York*

Generation of Promise

*Southeast Michigan*

Genesee Orleans Regional Arts  
Council - EXPLORE ART!

*Western New York*

Genesee Valley Central  
School District

*Western New York*

Girls Group

*Southeast Michigan*

GLOW Young Mens Christian  
Association, Inc.

*Western New York*

GLYS Western New York, Inc.

*Western New York*

Growing Hope

*Southeast Michigan*

HERO Hartland Teen Center

*Southeast Michigan*

Highland Clubhouse

*Western New York*

Howell Nature Center

*Southeast Michigan*

# AFTERSCHOOL

Infinity Visual and  
Performing Arts, Inc.  
*Western New York*

InsideOut Literary  
Arts Project  
*Southeast Michigan*

Jamestown YMCA Teen  
Center  
*Western New York*

Karen Society of Buffalo  
Youth Program  
*Western New York*

Kenan Center Inc.  
*Western New York*

KnowResolve  
*Southeast Michigan*

LAHC  
*Southeast Michigan*

Life Application Ministries  
*Southeast Michigan*

Local Circles  
*Southeast Michigan*

Massachusetts Avenue  
Project Inc.  
*Western New York*

Michigan Science Center  
*Southeast Michigan*

Michigan State University  
Extension 4-H Youth  
Development  
*Southeast Michigan*

Mission: Ignite Powered  
by Computers for  
Children, Inc. (M:I)  
*Western New York*

Motor City Street Dance  
Academy  
*Southeast Michigan*

Native American Community  
Services of Erie &  
Niagara Counties, Inc.  
*Western New York*

Neutral Zone  
*Southeast Michigan*

Niagara Falls Boys  
& Girls Club  
*Western New York*

North Star Reach  
*Southeast Michigan*

Orleans County Cornell  
Cooperative Extension  
*Western New York*

Orleans County YMCA  
*Western New York*

Peace Of The City  
*Western New York*

People in Education  
*Southeast Michigan*

Planned Parenthood of  
Central & Western  
New York  
*Western New York*

ProjectArt  
*Southeast Michigan*

Providence Farm  
Collective Corp.  
*Western New York*

PS 366 Research  
Laboratory High School  
*Western New York*

PUSH Buffalo  
*Western New York*

Regents of the University  
of Michigan - Telling It  
*Southeast Michigan*

River Rec Teen Zone  
*Southeast Michigan*

Single Family Living  
*Southeast Michigan*

SONS Outreach  
*Southeast Michigan*

Squeaky Wheel Film  
& Media Art Center  
*Western New York*

Strength Solutions, Inc.  
*Western New York*

The Children's Center  
of Wayne County  
*Southeast Michigan*

The Detroit Creativity Project  
*Southeast Michigan*

The Galactic Tribe:  
Wakanda Alliance Program  
*Western New York*

The Heidelberg Project  
*Southeast Michigan*

The Hive Teen Center  
(Howell Area Parks and  
Recreation Authority)  
*Southeast Michigan*

The Power Company  
Kids Club  
*Southeast Michigan*

The Springville Club for Boys  
and Girls  
*Western New York*

The Student Advocacy  
Center of Michigan  
*Southeast Michigan*

The Yunion  
*Southeast Michigan*

Urban Neighborhood  
Initiatives *Southeast Michigan*

Wellspring  
*Southeast Michigan*

Women of Banglatown  
*Southeast Michigan*

Young Audiences of  
Western New York, Inc.  
*Western New York*

Youth Arts Alliance  
*Southeast Michigan*

Ypsilanti District Library  
*Southeast Michigan*

YWCA of the Niagara Frontier  
*Western New York*

# AFTERSCHOOL

**MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership**

**\$5,000**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To provide general operating support to advance its mission to increase the quality and quantity of mentoring in America.

**Michigan Association of United Ways**

**\$375,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To provide capacity-building support for the Michigan Afterschool Partnership.

**Michigan Association of United Ways**

**\$100,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To provide capacity for the Michigan Afterschool Partnership.

**Neutral Zone**

**\$554,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support and expand the Youth Driven Spaces (YDS) program in Southeast Michigan.

**New York State Network for Youth Success, Inc.**

**\$774,500**

*Western New York*

To support capacity-building efforts for New York State Network for Youth Success, Inc.

**University of Pittsburgh**

**\$300,000**

*Southeast Michigan/ Western New York*

To implement evaluation of the Generator Z initiative.



# AFTERSCHOOL

## Connect Detroit

**\$100,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support Detroit Excellence in Youth Arts in a planning process to assess the feasibility of creating a Detroit-based youth arts intermediary.

## Detroit Food & Entrepreneurship Academy

**\$450,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To provide general operating support to Detroit Food and Entrepreneurship Academy (DFA) to support their afterschool programming.

## Heroes' Alliance

**\$300,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the expansion and scale-up of a project-based STEM focused afterschool program for young adults and to pilot a new STEM program for middle-school students.

## InsideOut Literary Arts Project

**\$425,000**

*Southeast Michigan/ Western New York*

InsideOut (Detroit) and the Just Buffalo Literary Center (Buffalo) will collaborate across regions and expand their joint capacity-building effort, Writing Across the Rustbelt: Phase II.

## Michigan Association of United Ways

**\$400,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the Michigan Afterschool Partnership and the Michigan Department of Education with effective distribution, administration, and evaluation of \$25 million in American Rescue Plan funding designated for afterschool by the State of Michigan.

## Michigan Association of United Ways

**\$399,500**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the expansion of the Michigan Afterschool Partnership's statewide quality and youth engagement efforts with an emphasis to grow its impact in Southeast Michigan and explore a collaboration with Project Play Southeast Michigan.

## STEM Next Opportunity Fund

**\$511,750**

*Southeast Michigan/ Western New York*

To increase access to science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) learning in afterschool programs in Southeast Michigan and Western New York in partnership with Michigan Afterschool Partnership and the New York State Network for Youth Success.

## The Africa-America Institute

**\$100,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the Africa-America Institute in planning to expand its School Services Program, which provides capacity-building, content, and pedagogy trainings, into the afterschool space in Southeast Michigan.

## The Forum for Youth Investment

**\$50,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the Youth Development Resource Center's general operations and continue its afterschool capacity-building work during a period of transition to a new executive director for the organization.

## Wayne State University

**\$100,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the Levin Center in a planning process for the piloting, distribution, and adoption of their civic education curriculum.



IMAGES COURTESY OF SAY YES BUFFALO

YOUNG ADULTS & WORKING FAMILIES SPOTLIGHT

# CAREERWISE GREATER BUFFALO

**WHAT IT IS:**

CareerWise Greater Buffalo is a modern youth apprenticeship initiative that promotes equitable career pathways for students and addresses the local need for skilled talent to fill high-quality, in-demand occupations in the Western New York region. The CareerWise youth apprenticeship model pairs real-world work experience with classroom learning and specialized instruction leading to postsecondary credentials.

**WHY IT MATTERS:**

Modern youth apprenticeships offer opportunities for increased economic mobility for a young adults eager to enter the workforce. To equitably extend these opportunities, it is important to build a regional system that leverages state and nationwide networks, lessons, and best practices. It is also key to closely engage with employers all along the way to ensure the skills finely match the need.

**WHO'S INVOLVED:**

Say Yes Buffalo is playing the coordination role for this initiative, which launched in 2022 with 25 students from Buffalo Public Schools and six inaugural employer partners: Harmac Medical Products, Moog, M&T Bank, Rich Products, Tesla, and Wegmans. Education partners include the Buffalo Public Schools, Hilbert College, and Northland Workforce Training Center. CareerWise Greater Buffalo is also one of several pillars of the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo's Racial Equity Roundtable and its Youth Employment Coalition (YEC).

**OUR ROLE:**

To set the stage for the creation of a modern apprenticeship program in Buffalo and Western New York, we provided support to Washington DC-based New America, which founded the national Partnership to Advance Youth Apprenticeship (PAYA) network. In 2019 and 2020, New America conducted an initial readiness assessment and subsequent planning support with Say Yes and regional stakeholders to develop high quality, high-school youth apprenticeship. With a shared vision and plan embraced by stakeholders and employer partners, we provided a \$2.5 million grant to Say Yes to launch the CareerWise Greater Buffalo pilot.

**HOW DOES IT WORK:**

CareerWise apprenticeships involve a three-way partnership between the apprentice, the employer, and the higher-education education and training provider. Apprenticeships provide hands-on, work-based learning experiences to youth and young adults, allowing them to develop technical skills and gain real-world work experience while earning a wage. In its pilot phase, apprenticeships are offered in three career pathways: Advanced Manufacturing, Business Operations, and Information Technology. Upon completion of the three-year youth apprenticeship, successful students will be offered the opportunity to move into full-time employment with participating employers with starting salaries averaging \$45,000. This new program continues to evolve to meet the needs of the students and employers.



“CareerWise is a game-changer for Buffalo students, and soon, other students across our region. For nearly 10 years, we’ve provided college tuition assistance and supports for Buffalo students pursuing higher education. This program creates new pathways to prosperity for students who aren’t taking a traditional college path. In this first year, where we validated our proof of concept, we saw an overwhelming desire from students to compete for these positions. Students want access to high-quality careers, and our employers have vast workforce needs. We’re honored to bridge the gap between the two and make our economy and our community stronger for it.”

**DAVID RUST, CEO OF SAY YES BUFFALO**

# DETROIT DRIVES DEGREES COMMUNITY COLLEGE COLLABORATIVE

## WHAT IT IS:

The Detroit Drives Degrees Community College Collaborative (D3C3) is a post-secondary success initiative aimed at maximizing credit attainment, credential completion, and employment outcomes for young adults and others across our Southeast Michigan region. D3C3 is being led by the Detroit Regional Chamber and will contribute to goals and objectives of the Detroit Regional Talent Compact, a 10-year strategic plan, launched in 2020, that seeks to achieve the goal of having 60% of region's residents having a postsecondary credential or degree by 2030 and to simultaneously reduce the racial equity achievement gap by half and lead to high quality jobs.

## WHY IT'S IMPORTANT:

Because almost two-thirds of all future jobs will require postsecondary education or training, it's crucial to foster a more educated and equitable region, which we believe is most effectively accomplished through coalition-building and a shared vision. By coming together across sectors, D3C3 can make strides toward increasing education attainment and completion rates, which will improve quality of life for the region.

## WHO'S INVOLVED:

At the forefront of this initiative is the Detroit Regional Chamber, working closely with a dynamic group of seven community college partners, including Henry Ford College, Macomb Community College, Monroe Community College, Oakland Community College, Schoolcraft College, Washtenaw Community College, and Wayne County Community College District. Together, they are joined by many other committed stakeholders and technical assistance partners.

## OUR ROLE:

Sharing an aligned focus on improving economic mobility for young adults and families, and modeling the collaborative effort of D3C3, we teamed up with the Ballmer Group to jointly support this initiative through \$30 million in combined grant support to the seven community colleges and the Detroit Regional Chamber as the coordinating organization. By investing together, we were able to expand our reach and impact, bringing the colleges from across the region's seven counties under one umbrella to learn, share best practices, support, and hold each other accountable for outcomes and results.

## HOW DOES IT WORK:

Over a nine-month planning phase that began in 2022, the colleges have worked together to produce innovative, systemic approaches at the institutional level and across all colleges that focus around three clusters: student success, K-12 alignment, and sector-based pathways. With grant support, the colleges are making investments that will improve technology to produce better data to support students, and adding advisors and career navigators. To provide students with earlier access to community college, they are building stronger relationships with K-12 school districts and offering more dual enrollment and high-quality career and career tech education programs. And critically important, the colleges are working with local employers to build and share curriculum for the region's most in-demand career pathways, such as mobility. The colleges are also committed to replicating and sustaining the approaches that work.







“There is no path to meeting our educational attainment goals without focusing on retaining current college students, attracting new college students, and re-enrolling former college students. Community colleges have a critical role to play in meeting these attainment goals and strengthening our talent pipeline.”

GREG HANDEL, VICE PRESIDENT OF EDUCATION AND TALENT AT THE DETROIT REGIONAL CHAMBER

## YOUNG ADULTS & WORKING FAMILIES

Alfred State College  
Development Fund, Inc.

**\$90,000**

*Western New York*

To support a regional collaboration between Alfred State College, Jamestown Community College, and Genesee Community College to increase awareness of education and training pathways to middle-skill, middle-wage jobs in Western New York.

Detroit Regional  
Chamber Foundation

**\$1,700,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the Detroit Drives Degrees Community College Collaborative (D3C3).

Economic Development  
Group DBA Northland  
Workforce Training Center

**\$3,000,000**

*Western New York*

To support education and training in middle-skill, middle-wage advanced manufacturing and clean energy careers.

Eric 2-Chautauqua-  
Cattaraugus BOCES  
Educational Foundation

**\$20,000**

*Western New York*

To support a needs assessment of career and technical education (CTE) programming for young adults in the Southern Tier.

Focus: HOPE

**\$750,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support workforce training programs in IT and advanced manufacturing.

Michigan Future, Inc.

**\$50,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support research and analysis on the economy and the economic well-being of Michigan households.

Monroe Community  
College Foundation

**\$665,000**

*Western New York*

To support the planning for programs and administration at the Finger Lakes Workforce Development Center (FWD Center).

National Skills Coalition

**\$25,000**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To support the National Skills Coalition's work in 2022 to advance skills equity, industry engagement, public accountability and high-quality, job-driven investments in the workforce development sector.

Neutral Zone

**\$240,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the Future Corps workforce development program, serving youth ages 18-24 with postsecondary support including mentoring, education, and on-the-job training and experience.

New America Foundation

**\$500,000**

*Western New York*

To support the launch and implementation of the pilot phase of the CareerWise Greater Buffalo youth apprenticeship initiative.

NY Association of  
Training & Employment  
Professionals

**\$50,000**

*Western New York*

To support workforce development sector activities and issues in Western New York in 2022.

Regents of the University  
of Michigan

**\$750,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the expansion and evaluation of the SummerWorks youth employment and mentorship program serving youth ages 16-24 in Washtenaw County.

Say Yes Buffalo  
Scholarship, Inc.

**\$2,468,000**

*Western New York*

To support the launch and implementation of the CareerWise Greater Buffalo youth apprenticeship initiative.

## YOUNG ADULTS & WORKING FAMILIES

### Alfred State College Development Fund, Inc.

**\$90,000**

*Western New York*

To develop and pilot test the WNY Works online platform to raise awareness and increase enrollments of manufacturing training pathways offered at Alfred State, Genesee Community College, and Jamestown Community College.

### Assembly House 150

**\$700,000**

*Western New York*

To support the SACRA workforce development training program in the construction skilled trades and the launch of AH CRAFT, an advanced skills apprenticeship program.

### Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo

**\$300,000**

*Western New York*

To support the implementation of the Buffalo Youth Employment Coalition's (YEC) strategic action plan to connect youth ages 16-24 to pathways leading to family-sustaining careers.

### Corporation for a Skilled Workforce

**\$48,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support Corporation for a Skilled Workforce in providing consulting and advisory services to the Southeast Michigan Regional CEO Group to develop a structure and strategy to increase intermediary capacity in the workforce development sector.

### Detroit Regional Chamber Foundation

**\$1,600,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the intermediary functions of the Detroit Drives Degrees Community College Collaborative (D3C3) and MICHauto Phase I mobility cluster activities.

### Erie 2-Chautauqua- Cattaraugus BOCES Educational Foundation

**\$240,000**

*Western New York*

To complete a comprehensive needs assessment to improve career and technical education (CTE) programs for young adults in the Southern Tier.

### Funders Together to End Homelessness

**\$120,000**

*Southeast Michigan/ Western New York*

To support the Workforce Matters Fund for Workforce Equity.

### Henry Ford Community College Foundation

**\$1,989,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the implementation of student success, K-12 alignment, and mobility sector talent pipeline development strategies as part of the Detroit Drives Degrees Community College Collaborative (D3C3).

### Macomb Community College Foundation

**\$1,736,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the implementation of student success, K-12 alignment, and mobility sector talent pipeline development strategies as part of the Detroit Drives Degrees Community College Collaborative (D3C3).

### Michigan College Access Network

**\$40,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support a strategic and organizational planning process within the LEO Sixty by 30 office.

### Michigan Future, Inc.

**\$50,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support Michigan Future's research on the state's economy and the economic well-being of Michigan households.

### Monroe Community College Foundation

**\$3,200,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support start-up operational and capital equipment costs for the Finger Lakes Workforce Development Center.

### Monroe County Community College

**\$2,921,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the implementation of student success, K-12 alignment, and mobility sector talent pipeline development strategies as part of the Detroit Drives Degrees Community College Collaborative (D3C3).

### Multi-Craft Apprenticeship Preparation Program, Inc.

**\$700,000**

*Western New York*

To support a community-based union pre-apprenticeship in Rochester, NY designed to increase equitable access to careers in construction and the skilled trades.

### National Skills Coalition

**\$25,000**

*Southeast Michigan/ Western New York*

To support the National Skills Coalition's work in 2023 to advance skills equity, industry engagement, public accountability and high-quality, job-driven investments in the workforce development sector.

## YOUNG ADULTS & WORKING FAMILIES

NY Association of Training  
& Employment Professionals  
**\$50,000**

*Western New York*

To support NYATEP's workforce development sector activities and issues in WNY in 2023.

Oakland Community  
College  
**\$3,445,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the implementation of student success, K-12 alignment, and mobility sector talent pipeline development strategies as part of the Detroit Drives Degrees Community College Collaborative (D3C3).

Pay It Forward NY, LLC  
**\$1,500,000**

*Western New York*

To launch a Pay It Forward Fund that will support income share agreements with eligible training providers in nine counties in Western New York (Erie, Wyoming, Allegany, Monroe, Genesee, Orleans, Niagara, Cattaraugus, and Allegany).

Per Scholas, Inc.  
**\$800,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the expansion of Per Scholas in Southeast Michigan.

Schoolcraft College  
**\$1,607,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the implementation of student success, K-12 alignment, and mobility sector talent pipeline development strategies as part of the Detroit Drives Degrees Community College Collaborative (D3C3).

SER Metro-Detroit,  
Jobs for Progress, Inc.  
**\$500,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support capital costs for a new construction lab and training classroom.



## YOUNG ADULTS & WORKING FAMILIES

Talent 2025, Inc.

**\$50,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support a landscape scan of adult basic education practices in Michigan.

The Aspen Institute  
Economic Opportunities  
Program

**\$250,000**

*Southeast Michigan/ Western New York*

To support and build the capacity of organizations in Western New York (WNY) and Southeast Michigan (SEMI), as part of a national cohort, to develop and implement the Workforce Leadership Academy model.

W.E. Upjohn Unemployment  
Trustee Corporation

**\$25,000**

*Southeast Michigan/ Western New York*

To support workforce development and employment-focused research.

Washtenaw  
Community College

**\$2,049,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the implementation of student success, K-12 alignment, and mobility sector talent pipeline development strategies as part of the Detroit Drives Degrees Community College Collaborative (D3C3).

Young Adults Manufacturing  
Training Employment  
Program (YAMTEP)

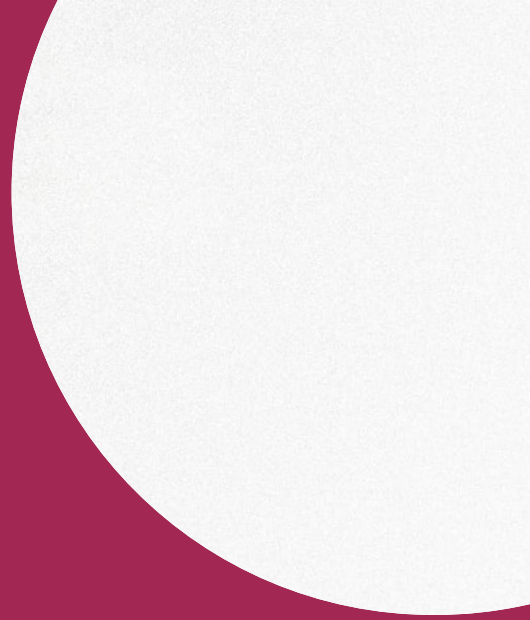
**\$400,000**

*Western New York*

To support the expansion of middle-skill, middle wage training pathways in advanced manufacturing for both young adults and adults in Rochester, NY.



IMAGE COURTESY OF PER SCHOLAS





## CAREGIVERS

# EXPANDING CAREGIVER RESOURCES

We believe that caregivers of older adults should be valued and respected, and their role should be revered in our culture. To raise awareness and point people to resources, we're supporting efforts like the Any Care Counts NY campaign in partnership with ARCHANGELS and the NY Office on Aging. Across both our regions, our support of the New York and Michigan Solutions Journalism Collaborative is producing rigorous reporting on successful responses to challenges experienced by caregivers of older adults. We've also joined alongside national caregiver movements with the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers that are looking at opportunities to get caregiver voices and needs in front of difference-makers and employers across New York, Michigan and nationwide. While work to improve the infrastructure around caregivers advances, initiatives like Exhale support new and hopefully long-lasting solutions to support caregivers more directly, solutions that we hope other communities and regions can also adopt.

CAREGIVERS SPOTLIGHT

# PROVIDING CAREGIVERS THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXHALE

**WHAT IS IT:**

Exhale, the Family Caregiver Initiative, is dedicated to offering innovative solutions that give caregivers an opportunity to breathe a little easier. The initiative first launched in Western New York and has since been piloted in Washtenaw County, Michigan with plans to further expand across the Southeast Michigan region.

**OUR ROLE:**

We lead and co-fund this initiative in partnership with the Health Foundation for Western & Central New York and Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation, along with management support from The Philanthropic Initiative (TPI) and other partners.

**HOW DOES IT WORK:**

Exhale has three components: First, it brings nonprofits and other service organizations together for training in creative problem solving around caregiver respite needs and project management. Next, grant opportunities are provided to pilot collaborative projects. And finally, grantees are supported with a learning community around effective implementation and sustainability.

**WHY IT MATTERS:**

According to AARP, in 2021 about 38 million Americans spent 36 billion hours caring for older adults with chronic, disabling, or serious health conditions. A period of rest or relief, known as respite, can play a key role in reinforcing caregiver well-being and effectiveness, leading to better health, improved social engagement, and lower costs of care for family caregivers and older adults they care for. And according to the ARCHANGELS Caregiver Intensity Index, simply knowing respite services are available can lower caregiver stress by 70%.

**WHO'S INVOLVED:**

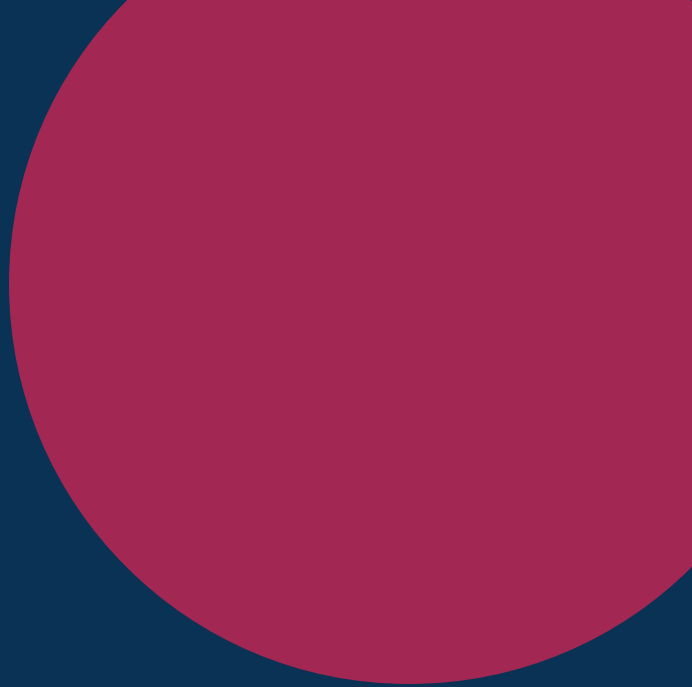
The second cohort of Exhale respite programs launched in early 2023 and represent 58 partner organizations across Western New York and Washtenaw County, MI, who will work in teams led by the 13 grantees. These pilot programs include neighborhood respite centers, a “mystery trip” program, care support to improve healthy living with chore support, home modifications, mobile respite care and more.

**WHAT'S NEXT:**

Visit [ExhaleForCaregivers.org](https://ExhaleForCaregivers.org) for the latest initiative information and opportunities.







“BASED ON ‘WORKING WHILE CARING:  
A NATIONAL SURVEY OF CAREGIVER STRESS  
IN THE U.S. WORKFORCE KEYFINDINGS.’

600%

OF CAREGIVERS  
EXPERIENCE WORK  
DISRUPTION

WORK DAYS A  
MONTH MISSED BY  
CAREGIVER EMPLOYEES

17.2

OF EMPLOYEES HAD TO  
LEAVE A JOB BECAUSE  
OF CAREGIVING

CAREGIVERS SPOTLIGHT

# ROSALYNN CARTER INSTITUTE “SEIZES THE MOMENT”

**WHO IS RCI:**

The Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers (RCI) was established in 1987 by former First Lady Rosalynn Carter to promote the health, strength, and resilience of America’s 53 million family caregivers. RCI fulfills its promise to champion the family caregiver by building cross-sector partnerships, leading research projects and strategic initiatives, developing and implementing evidence-based programs, and advocating for public policy.

**OUR SUPPORT:**

In the last few years, we’ve provided a series of grants to RCI to work with employers to design, pilot and evaluate innovative programs to better support caregiver employees. RCI’s Working While Caring (WWC) initiative addresses caregiver-employee needs by conducting research, engaging employers, and promoting communication. Additionally, we support RCI’s efforts in amplifying the voice of caregivers to focus on policy, research, and awareness-raising to impact caregivers both nationally and within our own communities.

**WHY IT MATTERS:**

The systems in place to support caregivers are fragmented, inaccessible, and oftentimes nonexistent. With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, it seemed as though caregivers would finally receive the recognition and support they deserve, but significant action has yet to be taken. In the words of Mrs. Carter, we must “seize the moment” to create meaningful, systemic change.

**WHAT’S NEXT:**

At the urging of Mrs. Carter, RCI has called for the establishment of an Office of Caregiver Health to elevate and focus unprecedented federal representation, investment, and coordination of caregiver support across federal agencies. Leadership at this level will ensure that family caregivers are represented in health policy, regulation, program, and budget negotiations across the department and other agencies. A centralized office would dismantle silos that are barriers to progress by creating ways to consider the universal needs of caregivers, regardless of care recipient condition and payor. To drive this work forward, RCI recently launched the 4Kinds Network, its first-ever national family caregiver advocacy network. Through the 4Kinds Network, RCI mobilizes former and current family caregivers to fundamentally change the way caregivers are seen and supported.



“There are only four kinds of people in the world - those who have been caregivers, those who are currently caregivers, those who will be caregivers, and those who will need caregivers.”

ROSALYNN CARTER



# CAREGIVERS

## AARP Foundation

**\$175,000**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To support the creation of a new series of videos to educate family caregivers nationwide about pain management.

## Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

**\$2,554,000**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To support the capacity expansion of the OurNotes component of OpenNotes by identifying family caregiver needs and connecting them to resources as part of standard clinical visits.

## Coalition to Transform Advanced Care

**\$50,000**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To develop and operate a national hub of resources and practices for faith leaders to support family caregivers with opportunities to pilot practices in SEMI and WNY.

## Coalition to Transform Advanced Care

**\$25,000**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To provide sponsorship support for the 2021 Coalition to Transform Advanced Care (C-TAC) National Summit on Advanced Illness Care, held on November 9–10, 2021.

## Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan

**\$3,000,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To endow a full-time position at the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan dedicated to caregivers for older adults.

## Generations United

**\$33,265**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To support an addition to Limelight's successful theater performance program through a monograph titled "Solo Acts," to be focused on "elder orphans" – people who are often socially isolated and without a caregiver, living in Western New York and Southeast Michigan.

## Grantmakers in Aging

**\$50,000**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To provide sponsorship support for the 2021 Grantmakers in Aging (GIA) annual conference held virtually from Oct. 13–15, 2021.

## Grantmakers in Aging

**\$150,000**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To support the launch of a 10-state National Caregiving Coalitions Initiative, which will support statewide family caregiver advocacy, including in New York and Michigan.

## Kadima

**\$50,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the merger of JVS and Kadima, including career opportunities for direct care workers.

## Lifespan of Greater Rochester Inc.

**\$27,625**

*Western New York*

To support a planning process between Lifespan and CaringWire to assess the feasibility of a partnership for providing family caregivers of older adults legal, financial, and other support.

## National Association of Black Women Entrepreneurs

**\$234,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the development of culturally competent faith community advocates that proactively assist caregivers with strategies to be mentally and physically well while executing caregiving responsibilities.

## National Domestic Workers Alliance

**\$80,000**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To support the production of a video series featuring first-person caregiver perspectives, to accompany the American Society on Aging's Fall 2021 issue of Generations Journal.

## Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers

**\$160,000**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To support virtual caregiver coaching and technical assistance in Western New York and Southeast Michigan.

## Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers

**\$750,000**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To support engagement with employers to catalyze the private sector in developing and advancing effective supports for employee caregivers, including, among other activities, surveys of employee caregivers in Western New York and Southeast Michigan and the formation of a national employer coalition with representatives from Western New York and Southeast Michigan.

## Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers

**\$379,500**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To support the development of a national family caregiver policy agenda, statewide policy planning in Michigan, New York and Georgia, and corresponding awareness campaign.

# CAREGIVERS

Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers

\$5,140,520

Southwest Michigan/Western New York

To support the Amplifying the Voice of the American Caregivers initiative to focus on policy, research, and awareness raising to impact caregivers both nationally and in Michigan and New York.

Solutions Journalism Network

\$127,000

Southwest Michigan/Western New York

To support the Connecting with Caregivers pilot program to further amplify the New York & Michigan Solutions Journalism Collaborative with an innovative community engagement effort to reach elusive caregivers and develop a Caregiving Coverage Data Center.

The Boston Foundation, Inc. DBA The Philanthropic Initiative

\$4,000,000

Western New York

To support the expansion of the Exhale Family Caregiver Initiative, focused on respite for family caregivers of older adults, into Erie, Niagara, Genesee, Orleans, Wyoming, and Monroe counties.

The Boston Foundation, Inc. DBA The Philanthropic Initiative

\$720,000

Southwest Michigan

To support the expansion of the Exhale Family Caregiver Initiative, focused on respite for family caregivers of older adults, into Washtenaw County, Michigan.

United Way of Greater Rochester

\$50,000

Western New York

To support the Rochester COVID Vaccine Volunteer Force project office and the Finger Lakes COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force's Equity Plan.



[CLICK HERE](#) to learn about the challenges of caregiving and the available solutions.



# CAREGIVERS

## AARP Foundation

**\$82,000**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To support promotion of the family caregiving educational videos and other AARP caregiver resources in Southeast Michigan and Western New York.

## Association on Aging in New York

**\$110,000**

*Western New York*

To provide the Association on Aging in New York with funding to support the launch of the ARCHANGELS Any Care Counts campaign in New York.

## Chaldean Community Foundation

**\$50,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the Direct Care Worker Apprenticeship Pilot.

## Coalition to Transform Advanced Care

**\$25,000**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To support the 2022 Coalition to Transform Advanced Care (C-TAC) National Summit on Advanced Illness Care, held in October 2022.

## Detroit Area Agency on Aging

**\$226,039**

*Southeast Michigan*

Develop and pilot the Living Well program for faith and lay leaders to support family caregivers of older adults in Detroit-based faith communities.

## FrameWorks Institute

**\$30,000**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

Provide bridge funding to continue qualitative and quantitative research to understand the ways in which the public thinks about caregivers and how direct care is changing because of COVID-19.

## FrameWorks Institute

**\$185,500**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To support FrameWorks to continue research on changing public perceptions of direct care work.

## Grantmakers in Aging

**\$317,000**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To support the Grantmakers in Aging Family Caregiving Funders Collaborative which will coordinate funding activities related to caregiving and align philanthropic funding with federal and state caregiving investments nationally as well as in Michigan and New York.

## Healthcare Industry Grant Corporation

**\$425,000**

*Western New York*

To support Healthcare Workers Rising (HWR) to provide career training and peer support programs for home care workers in Western New York.

## National Domestic Workers Alliance

**\$87,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support Caring Across Generations (CAG) to engage a coalition of partners to develop a statewide strategic plan to expand long-term services and supports and to improve jobs for care workers in Michigan.

## Solutions Journalism Network

**\$582,585**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To support the continuation of the New York & Michigan Solutions Journalism Collaborative.

## Solutions Journalism Network

**\$166,250**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To support the second year of the Connecting with Elusive Caregivers program to further amplify the New York & Michigan Solutions Journalism Collaborative with an innovative community engagement effort to reach elusive caregivers and further develop and operate the Caregiving Coverage Data Center across both regions.

## WETA-TV

**\$250,000**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To support The Caregiving Project, a four-part PBS documentary focused on caregiving, which will also include a national engagement campaign and educational content.







## NONPROFIT SUPPORT & INNOVATION

# ENCOURAGING IMPACTFUL EFFORTS

The nonprofit sector is a key driver of positive change and community well-being. We are encouraged to see the dedicated efforts being made to strengthen the support network for nonprofits in Southeast Michigan and Western New York. Both regions' grantees focus on increasing capacity, promoting collaboration, and addressing inclusive leadership and investment gaps. While the work of ecosystem-building and support may only sometimes be visible, it is crucial for achieving lasting impact. In the context of regional challenges and tragedies, such as those experienced by Buffalo in 2022, we are grateful to have the flexibility to respond to community needs through thoughtful nonprofit partners.

NONPROFIT SUPPORT & INNOVATION SPOTLIGHT

# BUFFALO TOGETHER COMMUNITY RESPONSE FUND

**WHAT IS IT:**

The Buffalo Together Community Response Fund (BTCRF) was created to work together toward a more just and equitable community after the horrific mass shooting in Buffalo, NY, on May 14, 2022. A person filled with hate and racism targeted a thriving local grocery store in a historically Black neighborhood and killed 10 members of our community because of the color of their skin. Three others were injured and countless others in our community were traumatized.

**WHO IS INVOLVED:**

The BTCRF is a collaboration of 14 local funding organizations coordinated by the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo and United Way of Buffalo & Erie County with support from 100 local and national foundations and corporations, as well as more than 2,000 community members.

**HOW DOES IT WORK:**

To date, \$6.3 million has been raised for the BTCRF. The first priority was to support Black-led organizations mobilizing resources in the neighborhood to enable them to respond to immediate critical neighborhood needs utilizing \$655,000 in grants distributed to 86 organizations.

**WHAT'S NEXT:**

The BTCRF is turning its focus on addressing conditions resulting from long-standing structural racism and lack of investment that have harmed communities of color and blocked investment in East Side neighborhoods. A steering committee of 15 community members hired Minneapolis-based Rainbow Research, with separate funding from local philanthropy, to develop priorities and a plan of action. The investment strategy is expected to be shared in early 2024.



Celestine Chaney  
Roberta Drury  
Andre Mackneil  
Katherine Massey  
Margus Morrison  
Heyward Patterson  
Aaron Satter  
Geraldine Talley  
Ruth Whitfield  
Pearl Young

**Buffalo Together**  
Community Response Fund

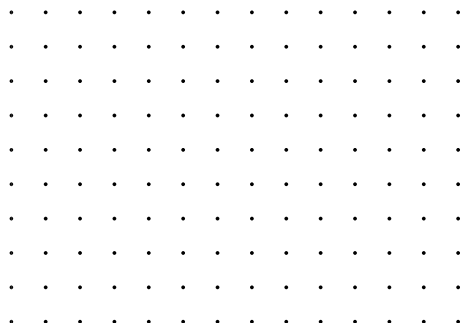
NONPROFIT SUPPORT  
& INNOVATION SPOTLIGHT

# NONPROFIT SUPPORT GROUP (NSG)

**WHAT IS IT:**  
What is it: The Nonprofit Support Group (NSG) in Western New York supports coordination and delivery of capacity-building services to nonprofits and facilitates collaboration among philanthropic partners. The group has filled gaps and needs in the sector through initiatives and services identified by community input and feedback from nonprofits.

**WHO'S INVOLVED:**  
Comprised of the Health Foundation for Western & Central New York, the John R. Oishei Foundation, Peter & Elizabeth Tower Foundation, Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation, the Western New York Foundation, ESL Charitable Foundation and 1.5 staff members, the work of the NSG is inspired and informed by the community.

**WHAT IS HAPPENING:**  
NSG concluded the Coaches of Color Initiative, launched a yearlong Institute for Nonprofit Practice cohort-based program, continued to support the Catchafire program, and provided support for the Equity through Development Project for BIPOC fundraising professionals. In addition, NSG, along with nine intermediary organizations, launched the Impact HQ collaborative effort to support nonprofits during the pandemic.





## NONPROFIT SUPPORT & INNOVATION SPOTLIGHT

# TRANSFORMING SOLIDARITY COLLECTIVE

### WHAT IS IT:

The Transforming Solidarity Collective is a group of five intermediaries working together to support nonprofits during the pandemic and into recovery.

### WHO'S INVOLVED:

Co.act Detroit, Community Development Advocates of Detroit, Michigan Nonprofit Association, Michigan Community Resources and Nonprofit Enterprise at Work.

### WHAT IS HAPPENING:

The collective has provided resources and guidance to hundreds of nonprofits in the Southeast Michigan region and have developed strategies to support them in becoming stable and sustainable. They have also launched a nonprofit journal storytelling project and helped secure \$50 million in American Rescue Plan funds to support Michigan nonprofits with a budget of \$1 million or less. The collective work has helped increase coordination and impact among the intermediaries and has focused their efforts on what is best for the sector. Ecosystem partners are also helping to inform the deployment of the rescue plan funds.



IMAGE COURTESY OF MCR



"I HAVE THE AUDACITY TO BELIEVE THAT PEOPLES EVERYWHERE CAN HAVE THREE MEALS A DAY FOR THEIR BODIES, EDUCATION AND CULTURE FOR THEIR MINDS, AND DIGNITY, EQUALITY AND FREEDOM FOR THEIR SPIRITS."

BE CHANGE

CITY INSTITUTE

WELCOME TO CO.ACT'S DROP-IN WORK DAY!  
PLEASE SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS  
WHAT KINDS OF PROGRAMS/RESOURCES WOULD MOST BENEFIT YOUR ORGANIZATION?



IMAGES COURTESY OF CO.ACT DETROIT

# NONPROFIT SUPPORT & INNOVATION

## Causewave Community Partners

**\$175,000**

*Western New York*

To conduct research and program design for the attraction and retention of nonprofit leaders in Western New York.

## Causewave Community Partners

**\$450,000**

*Western New York*

To support capacity-building programming for nonprofits in Orleans, Genesee, and Monroe counties with programs that align with RCWJRF's areas of focus.

## Chautauqua Region Community Foundation

**\$108,000**

*Western New York*

To continue support of a collaborative approach to nonprofit capacity-building in Chautauqua County.

## Citizens Research Council of Michigan

**\$50,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support Citizen Research Council's ongoing research and policy work.

## Community Development Advocates of Detroit

**\$100,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the pilot of a leadership pipeline program for community development in Detroit.

## Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo

**\$75,000**

*Western New York*

To support the development of strategic opportunities.

## Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo

**\$750,000**

*Western New York*

To support the Western New York Moving Forward Together Initiative's grantmaking in 2022 and 2023.

## Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo

**\$1,208,212**

*Western New York*

To provide additional support for the 2021 Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Legacy Funds.

## Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan

**\$75,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the development of strategic opportunities.

## Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan

**\$1,114,315**

*Southeast Michigan*

To provide additional support for the 2021 Ralph Wilson Legacy Funds.

## Council of Michigan Foundations

**\$100,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the work of the Office of Foundation Liaison.

## Council of Michigan Foundations

**\$250,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the Council of Michigan Foundations' statewide efforts to aid in establishing equitable approaches to disseminating federal resources throughout communities most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Council of Michigan Foundations

**\$25,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the 2021 Council of Michigan Foundations' Annual Conference held October 17-19, 2021

## Council of Michigan Foundations

**\$1,114,055**

*Southeast Michigan/Western New York*

To support three Philanthropy Fellows working with the Council of Michigan Foundations to advance the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation's work in both Southeast Michigan and Western New York, and to build a talent pipeline for the nonprofit and philanthropic sectors.

## Michigan Community Resources

**\$300,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the operations and organizational capacity of Michigan Community Resources.

## Michigan Nonprofit Association

**\$63,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the Nonprofit Journal Project, a collaborative editorial series focused on the impact of COVID-19 on the nonprofit community and the transition of the sector beyond the crisis.

## NEW

**\$600,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support Nonprofit Enterprise at Work (NEW) for their (1) shared nonprofit workspace and (2) support programs and services – all designed to equip regional nonprofits with innovative tools and the space to collaborate.

## NONPROFIT SUPPORT & INNOVATION

### NY Funders Alliance

**\$94,500**

*Western New York*

To provide continued access for Western New York nonprofits to capacity-building resources through the Catchafire online platform.

### NY Funders Alliance

**\$10,000**

*Western New York*

To support the NY Funders Alliance Signature Series.

### TechTown Detroit

**\$4,768,890**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support Co.act Detroit's ongoing operational and programmatic costs to support nonprofit capacity-building and collaboration in Southeast Michigan.

### United Way Services Corporation

**\$600,000**

*Western New York*

To support the WNY Intermediary Collaboration and Nonprofit Support Project.

### Western New York Library Resources Council

**\$50,000**

*Western New York*

To support the underwriting of the primetime television special "The Buffalo Story: History Happens Here," which will also be used as an educational resource across the region.

### WNED | WBFO

**\$150,000**

*Western New York*

To support the Donald K. Boswell Legacy Chair for Excellence.

## NONPROFIT SUPPORT & INNOVATION

### Chautauqua Region Community Foundation

**\$750,000**

*Western New York*

To support the staff and programming of the Capacity Lab, a new shared nonprofit capacity-building initiative in Chautauqua County.

### Citizens Research Council of Michigan

**\$50,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

Support Citizens Research Council ongoing research and policy work.

### Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo

**\$75,000**

*Western New York*

To provide programmatic support for strategic activities in 2023.

### Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo

**\$250,000**

*Western New York*

To support the facilitation of the Buffalo Together Community Steering Committee to create a community investment plan for East Buffalo.

### Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo

**\$250,000**

*Western New York*

To support the Clotilde Perez-Bode Dedecker Changemaking Endowment Fund to honor Clotilde for her years of service to the Western New York community.

### Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo

**\$500,000**

*Western New York*

Continue support of Moving Forward Together, a regional funder initiative advancing COVID-19 recovery work and strengthening the nonprofit ecosystem in Western New York.

### Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo

**\$100,000**

*Western New York*

To support the Buffalo Together Community Response Fund, a collaborative fundraising effort in response to the tragic violence that took 10 lives on May 14, 2022.

### Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo

**\$1,020,035**

*Western New York*

To support sidecar funding for the 2022 Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Legacy Funds.

# NONPROFIT SUPPORT AND INNOVATION

## Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan

**\$75,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support ongoing strategic opportunities.

## Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan

**\$1,188,918**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support sidecar funding for the 2022 Legacy Fund applications.

## Council of Michigan Foundations

**\$500,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support build-out expenses of the third floor of 3101 E. Grand Blvd. which is necessary for transitioning Council of Michigan Foundations' (CMF) headquarters from their founding site in Grand Haven to their central office to Detroit.

## Council of Michigan Foundations

**\$100,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

Support for the Office of Foundation Liaison.

## Council of Michigan Foundations

**\$50,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the Governor's Office of Foundation Liaison to conduct and analyze a 2045 population research study.

## Council of Michigan Foundations

**\$50,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To provide sponsorship support for the 2022 Council of Michigan Foundations (CMF) Annual Conference at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, Michigan on Nov. 14-16.

## Data Driven Detroit

**\$350,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support regional data capacity, programming, and infrastructure for SE Michigan's nonprofit sector.

## Michigan League for Public Policy

**\$50,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the Michigan League for Public Policy in their policy, research and analysis work.

## Michigan Nonprofit Association

**\$63,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the continuation of the Nonprofit Journal Project, a collaborative editorial series focused on the transition of the sector beyond the COVID-19 crisis.

## NY Funders Alliance

**\$25,000**

*Western New York*

Sponsorship to support the New York Funders Alliance for their 2022 New York State Funders Conference in September 2022 in Rochester, NY.

## NY Funders Alliance Initiatives Fund

**\$138,000**

*Western New York*

Support for the Nonprofit Support Group to improve the functionality of the Impact HQ online communication and resource hub.

## NY Funders Alliance Initiatives Fund

**\$750,000**

*Western New York*

To support the operations and staffing of the Western Nonprofit Support Group (WNYNSG) for regional capacity-building.

## Partnership for the Public Good

**\$250,000**

*Western New York*

To support collaboration efforts and capacity-building for nonprofit organizations in Western New York.

## Rochester Area Community Foundation

**\$25,000**

*Western New York*

To contribute to the Jennifer Leonard Fund for a Vibrant Future to provide ongoing support for the staff of the Rochester Area Community Foundation.

## The Center for Michigan

**\$200,000**

*Southeast Michigan*

To support the Center for Michigan's continuation of Bridge Michigan's nonpartisan statewide public service journalism and continuing growth of BridgeDetroit's community-engaged, community-focused, journalist-led newsroom.





IN MEMORY OF LIFE TRUSTEE

# EUGENE DRIKER

1937-2022

As one of Detroit's most prominent attorneys and civic leaders, the board and staff of the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation are forever grateful that Eugene Driker accepted Ralph Wilson's invitation to serve as one of the four life trustees of the Foundation. After several years of working together and developing a special bond and friendship, Mr. Wilson recognized how valuable Eugene's empathy, humility, and wisdom would be in guiding the mission, values, and direction of the Foundation.

A lifelong Detroit, and the proud son of Ukrainian immigrants, Eugene also brought an incredible lived experience to all aspects of his work and philanthropy. Eugene has been a tireless advocate for the Southeast Michigan and Western New York communities. The Foundation team will continue to honor the wisdom of Eugene Driker as it seeks to advance the strategies that he so thoughtfully and wisely helped shape.



EUGENE DRIKER PICTURED AT THE SITE OF THE EUGENE & ELAINE C. DRIKER TRAIL ON BELLE ISLE PARK IN DETROIT - A SPECIAL PLACE HE ENJOYED AS A CHILD WITH HIS PARENTS.



RALPH C. WILSON, JR.  
FOUNDATION