Hudson-Webber Foundation Announces $825,000 in Grants Towards its Mission to Achieve Shared Prosperity for All Detroiters


These five grants come on the heels of the foundation announcing a new approach to its philanthropic investments in Detroit. The Hudson-Webber Foundation is focusing investments on helping achieve sustainable, broad-based prosperity in the city by creating opportunities for residents to access quality jobs, housing and safe, thriving neighborhoods.

The Hudson-Webber Foundation’s new grants include a $500,000 grant to support the Motown Museum’s 50,000-square-feet renovation and expansion project to create high quality exhibit, entertainment and educational space.

“The Motown Museum project will increase the vitality of the surrounding neighborhood and will expand the museum’s ability to serve as an educational and cultural amenity for the city and beyond,” said Melanca Clark, president and CEO, Hudson-Webber Foundation. “We’re so proud to support an iconic Detroit institution that connects our city to the world.”

Additionally, a $150,000 grant was made to United Way for Southeastern Michigan to decrease barriers to economic stability of low-income families. The $150,000 grant will support programs that connect unemployed and underemployed Detroiters to job opportunities and connect families to resources that improve financial stability.

CultureSource received a $75,000 grant to help strengthen the nonprofit arts and culture sector by addressing the organization’s members shared needs for capacity building, advocacy and marketing resources.

There are also two grants that reflect the foundation’s support for policy and research activities aimed at moving local, state and federal policy, as well as aligning public-sector resources to improve the quality of life in Detroit. The Center for Michigan is receiving a $50,000 grant to support statewide engagement efforts that support an informed citizenry, responsive government and supportive policy environment to improve Michigan’s business,
economic, political and cultural climate. Additionally, Citizens Research Council of Michigan is receiving $50,000 to support the research of topics important to understanding the major economic challenges and restructuring issues facing Michigan governments.

The Hudson-Webber Foundation grants approximately $7 million annually in the areas of community and economic development, arts and culture, built environment, and safe and just communities, with an interest in policy and advocacy activities.

Grants previously approved by the foundation in 2017 include Community Reinvestment Fund, Develop Detroit, Downtown Detroit Partnership, Eastern Market Corporation, Invest Detroit, Jefferson East, Inc., Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, Midtown Detroit, Inc., and Wayne State University.

The Hudson-Webber Foundation origins date back to 1939 with major contributions from Mr. and Mrs. Richard H. Webber, other members of the Webber family and The J.L. Hudson Company. The foundation is governed by a 13-member board of trustees, with assets of approximately $170 million and has contributed over $200 million to improve the quality of life in Detroit. The mission areas of the foundation include support of community and economic development, built environment, safe and just communities, and arts and culture.

To learn more about the Hudson-Webber Foundation, visit www.hudson-webber.org.

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