

# HUDSON WEBBER FOUNDATION

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Hudson-Webber Foundation awards \$550,000 in new grants**

DETROIT – At their December meeting, Hudson-Webber Foundation’s Board of Trustees approved two new grants totaling \$550,000 for initiatives that provide legal assistance to remove barriers to employment for people with criminal records, and contribute to major renovations for a proposed community organization hub in the Woodbridge/Core City neighborhood.

Also at its final meeting of 2020, the board approved in-memoriam gifts totaling \$20,000 to the Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan (CFSEM), for its COVID-19 Relief Fund and the Michigan Justice Fund, created in 2020 with major seed funding and program development support from Hudson-Webber, to honor the memory of Joseph L. Hudson, Jr., former president, chairman and lifetime honorary trustee of Hudson-Webber Foundation, who passed away on Dec. 2. Hudson was also the founding chair of CFSEM from 1984 to 2003.

“During a year when so many of our friends and neighbors experienced loss and hardship, we remain focused and inspired to carry on Mr. Hudson’s lifelong commitment to the advancement of collaborations that build a more equitable future for all Detroiters,” said Melanca Clark, president and CEO of Hudson-Webber Foundation. “In reflecting on the breadth of Mr. Hudson’s legacy of bringing people together to take on the challenges that have defined the last six decades of our region’s history, we take great pride in continuing our support for institutions that bear the mark of his leadership.”

In accordance with his family’s wishes, memorial gifts in Joseph L. Hudson Jr.’s name can be made in any amount to the CFSEM’s COVID-19 Relief Fund at <https://cfsem.org/covid19-relief/>, and to the Michigan Justice Fund at <https://cfsem.org/initiative/michigan-justice-fund/>.

The organizations named by the Board of Trustees in December to receive support are:

**Safe & Just Communities**

- **Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation:** has been awarded a \$300,000 grant to support Project Clean Slate (PCS) the City of Detroit’s expungement initiative, to help Detroiters clear eligible criminal records to remove barriers to better employment, education, and housing opportunities.

**Built Environment**

- **Allied Media Projects** has been awarded a \$250,000 grant to renovate the LOVE Building in the Woodbridge / Core City neighborhood as a local-national hub for social justice that integrates community connectivity with restorative and universal design principles.

Previously in 2020, organizations receiving new and continuing support from Hudson-Webber include: The Detroit Public Schools Foundation, the Live 6 Alliance, United Way for Southeastern Michigan, the Southwest Detroit Business Association, Develop Detroit, Inc., Jefferson East, Inc., The Tuxedo Project, Invest Detroit Foundation, the Downtown Detroit Partnership, Wayne State University Center for Behavioral Health and Justice, the Detroit Justice Center, the Michigan Nonprofit Association, and Midtown Detroit, Inc.

**ABOUT the Hudson-Webber Foundation**

The Hudson-Webber Foundation’s 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 16-member board of trustees, with assets of approximately \$175 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](http://www.hudson-webber.org).

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