



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Hudson-Webber Foundation awards over \$3 million in new grants for economic & social recovery initiatives and long-term, sustainable transformation beyond the pandemic**

DETROIT – Hudson-Webber Foundation’s Board of Trustees has approved new grants totaling nearly \$3.2 million in May and June 2021, empowering organizations and initiatives that directly address new and existing challenges exacerbated by the pandemic, as well as awarding grants that implement forward-looking strategies to ensure economic stability for Detroit small businesses, contribute to the renewal of built environment and infrastructure, and enable community-focused organizations to implement long-term, sustainable solutions that foster equity and opportunity for all Detroiters.

The grants approved by the Board of Trustees this spring also commit resources to programs that offer community-based approaches to building safe and just neighborhoods, including targeted intervention programs for individuals suffering from mental health disorders, engagement with residents to create coordinated and complimentary approaches to reduce violent crime, and research and advocacy to support the development of policies that impact youth in the juvenile justice system. Additionally, new grants were approved to provide support for increased public participation and representation in research that informs public policy at the state level, and to drive engagement among Detroiters in the historic redistricting process currently in progress across Michigan.

In May and June 2021, the list of organizations receiving new and continuing support from Hudson-Webber includes: Chandler Park Conservancy, Community Development Advocates of Detroit, Council of Michigan Foundations, Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation, Detroit Public Safety Foundation, Enterprise Community Partners, FORCE Detroit/Faith in Action, Jefferson East, Inc., Michigan Center for Youth Justice, Michigan Non-Profit Association, Midtown Detroit, Inc., United Way for Southeast Michigan, TechTown, and Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation.

"As we’ve adapted to the pace of the pandemic, the Foundation has focused on investments that not only bring relief from the immediate impact of COVID-19 on the lives of Detroiters, but also those that seek to create sustainable, long-term impact," said Melanca Clark, president and CEO of Hudson-Webber Foundation. "As we move to the next phase of the recovery, we remain committed to helping support



new ways for people and organizations in Detroit to work together toward our shared desire for a more just and equitable future.”

The list of projects supported by this round of grants includes:

### **COVID-19 Relief Efforts**

- [United Way for Southeastern Michigan \(UWSEM\)](#) has been awarded \$100,000 to address low and racially disparate vaccination rates of Detroit residents. In partnership with [Faith Forward Fund](#) and [Henry Ford Health System](#), UWSEM has expanded mobile vaccination units and community clinics in targeted Black and Latino neighborhoods in order to boost confidence in vaccination efforts.

### **Community and Economic Development**

- [Community Development Advocates of Detroit](#) has been awarded \$200,000 to build its operational capacity to serve as the backbone organization for the Building the Engine of Community Development (BECDD) city planning process, and to facilitate system governance.
- [Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation](#) has been awarded \$400,000 to support the Friends and Family Choices Program which is intended to prevent violence and reduce poverty through employment services like job readiness, case management and placement assistance.
- [Enterprise Community Partners](#) has been awarded \$400,000 Partners to support the Emerging Community Development Organization Fund, which will provide general operating support and technical assistance to newer and smaller community development organizations and their leaders throughout the city.
- [TechTown Detroit](#) has been awarded \$300,000 to provide technical support to the small business borrowers of the Detroit Recovery, Opportunity, and Resilience Fund (ROAR) as they stabilize through the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Policy & Research**

- [Council of Michigan Foundations](#) has been awarded \$70,000 to support the Governor’s Office of the Foundation Liaison (OFL) in promotion of philanthropic-public collaboration at the state level by providing research and data to inform decision making for policy changes.



- [Michigan Nonprofit Association](#) has been awarded \$75,000 to support the nonprofit sector as they engage communities in Detroit during the historic, non-partisan, redistricting process to draw impartial district maps in Michigan.

### **Built Environment**

- [Chandler Park Conservancy](#) has been awarded \$200,000 in the revitalization of Chandler Park on the eastside of Detroit. This will provide support for economic development in order to accelerate capital improvements and community programming in the park.
- [Jefferson East Inc.](#) has been awarded two grants, one for \$450,000 to provide general operating support, and one for \$300,000 for the implementation of the Jefferson Chalmers Targeted Redevelopment Area. These grants will sustain JEI's community stewardship role while furthering community-informed redevelopment.
- [Midtown Detroit Inc.](#) has been awarded \$100,000 to support the completion of the Cultural Center Planning Initiative (CCPI). The CCPI aims to reimagine a nine-block neighborhood in Detroit in order to strengthen the local economy, create an enhanced sense of community, deepen local cultural capacity and increase the quality of life for the neighborhood.

### **Safe and Just Communities**

- [Detroit Public Safety Foundation](#) will be awarded \$400,000 to support the launch and implementation of a Mental Health Co-Response Partnership program in Wayne County. The program will provide systems capacity to better serve Detroiters and drive better utilization of law enforcement & emergency services.
- [FORCE Detroit/Faith in Action](#) has been awarded \$100,000 to provide community-based safety solutions with the purpose of addressing and reducing the number of violent crimes that happen in the Detroit Area. FORCE Detroit will advocate a holistic approach to violence prevention through Detroit neighborhoods and advocate for policy solutions.
- [Michigan Center for Youth Justice](#) has been awarded \$100,000 in operating support to advance research, training, and engagement on policy issues that affect youth in contact with the juvenile justice system.



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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 15-member board of trustees, with assets of approximately \$200 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).