

Organization Name	Award Amount	Description
Aid in Milan (AIM)	\$40,000	<p>Funding will support Aid in Milan's Food Pantry, which is accessible to anyone in need within Washtenaw County, and grocery delivery services for those that are unable to visit the pantry. Funding will also support the agency's Direct Aid program and is limited to established clients at 200% poverty level and within Milan School District borders. Clients are eligible for monthly gas cards, up to \$400 in emergency cash assistance annually, and other interagency services.</p> <p>Programming address poverty, especially generational poverty, and its root causes, including mental illness, substance use disorders, rural living environments, and more. Offering financial assistance and food assistance can disrupt the cycle of poverty.</p>
Community Family Life Centers, Inc.	\$40,000	<p>Funding will support a comprehensive set of services and programs aimed at addressing educational disparities among BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) communities.</p> <p>Services include educational support services, such as academic tutoring and mentoring and homework assistance; enrichment programs, such as STEM initiatives and workshops and arts and cultural programs; mental health and trauma support through trauma-informed counseling services; family and community engagement services such as parent workshops to support academic success for students.</p> <p>Programming address racism, poverty, and trauma in the following ways:</p> <p>Poverty: By providing academic support and enrichment programs with the aim to empower BIPOC student with the skills and opportunities necessary to break the cycle of poverty through education and career advancement.</p> <p>Racism: The educational programs help address systemic racism by providing support and resources to BIPOC families in the community.</p> <p>Trauma: Through trauma-informed practices, counseling services, and supportive programming, CFLC creates a safe and nurturing environment where participants can heal from past traumas and build resilience in the face of adversity.</p>
Educate Youth	\$40,000	<p>Funding will support the H.O.P.E. after school program which provides academic support to students in Ypsilanti during the school year. Program staff respond to transportation needs of students and provide a hot meal to students as a transition period between school and after school academic support.</p> <p>Funding will also support summer programming which includes academic support, social time with peers, volunteer activities, and day trips for enrichment activities at local museums, college tours, and more. All Educate Youth programs address racism, poverty, and trauma in direct response to the under education and low graduation rates that Ypsilanti students face and aim to disrupt the school-to-prison pipeline by supporting students in earning their high schools diplomas and developing a post high school plan.</p>
Growing Hope, Inc.	\$40,000	<p>Growing Hope's programming is designed to educate, equip and advocate to build systemic adjustments to address racism, trauma, and poverty within the food system. Funding will support the organization's community-led gardening programs to build food sovereignty and ensure the community's collective right to food. Growing Hope has a number of programs to engage the community and provide systemic support to eradicate hunger in the community including the Teen Leadership Program that employs Ypsilanti teenagers to learn gardening, cooking and nutrition skills and facilitate youth gardening camps and community workshops; the Home Vegetable Garden Program that partners with 20+ households to install garden beds and offer garden support; the Power of Produce Club that provides weekly events at the farmers market for youth ages 5-12; and more. With this funding, the organization also aims to amplify more local, regional, and national community voices through advocacy so that localized solutions to poverty and hunger can be institutionalized and help build a just food system.</p>
		<p>Mini-grant funding will support the expansion and ongoing development of occupational therapy (OT) programming for justice-involved individuals and fill a gap in care for this population via developing a community-based group. The organization will use the funding to develop a weekly group for community members that are justice-involved to translate skills into their everyday lives and build life skills such as stages of change, goal setting, habits and routines, time management, health management, communication, and more.</p> <p>One of the core missions of LAITR is to target structural and perpetual racism, trauma, and poverty in the criminal legal system by offering effective, accessible, and relevant opportunities and skills needed to build and/or rebuild lives and break the cycle of incarceration.</p>

Organization Name	Award Amount	Description
Life After Incarceration: Transition and Reentry (LAITR)	\$40,000	
Stand with Trans (SWT)	\$40,000	<p>Funding will provide parents/caregivers in Washtenaw County with trans-related education about mental health, navigating systems, stigma, and other topics that help adults better support their children. Within the grant period, the organization will design, plan, and implement two in-person events with presenting experts in fields such as mental health, endocrinology, and education who will speak to the needs of transgender youth, and in particular, youth of color. Trauma is built into trans identities regardless of any extenuating circumstances. Once you layer in racial factors, cultural norms, and income concerns, the mental health toll on trans youth skyrockets. These programs will teach parents/caregivers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How to recognize the signs of anxiety, depression, and suicidality in your trans teen 2. How to understand gender, what it means, how to support the coming out process 3. What is social transition vs medical transition: when and how does that happen and how to support <p>Programming aims to address trauma faced by trans and nonbinary youth with opportunities to build community, greater understanding for parents on how to support their children, and connections to mental health services relevant to their gender identity. In addition to the events being free (which creates no financial burden), it also connects families to free services and resources of which they may be unaware.</p>
Washtenaw Literacy	\$40,000	<p>Funding will support adult literacy programming for adults 16 and older who need support with reading, writing, speaking, and understanding English, math, and digital literacy. By helping learners build skills in democracy and civic literacy, Washtenaw Literacy works to break down barriers to equity for individuals and their families. Programming helps adults gain skills in reading, writing, math and digital literacy, and allows their families to benefit as well through gains in employment, education, housing, healthcare and more. The agency is working to address institutional inequity by providing opportunities for people who never had them. In addition to the improvements in their individual lives, learners who develop democratic and civic literacy skills can have an impact on the entire community by voting and participating in the democratic process.</p>
We the People Opportunity Farm (WTPOF)	\$40,000	<p>Mini-grant funding will support organizational capacity building to allow WTPOF to continue to provide its core services.</p> <p>Operating in a primarily Black community, WTPOF addresses the entangled issues of poverty, racism, and trauma by providing resources, support, and access to successfully returning home. Our paid internship program provides access to housing supports, transportation access, technology assistance, communication skills, and workforce development. These opportunities and skills support individuals as they return home and find their communities.</p> <p>In addition to the internship program, WTPOF also recognizes that access to fresh and healthy food is uniquely tied to quality of life. Providing food back into the community allows poverty to be addressed through the lens of racial equity. Ensuring families have basic needs covered provides opportunities for families to thrive and succeed.</p>
Youth Arts Alliance (YAA)	\$40,000	<p>Mini-grant funding will support capacity-building investments to expand low and no barrier art programming offerings for youth and families in the summer of 2024. Funding will support the expansion of the Summer of HeART expansion – in partnership with the Ypsilanti District Library, the program will offer a 3 day per week camp series. This program includes structured activities in a myriad of artistic disciplines and engaging programming both indoors and outdoors under the leadership of intensively trained, experienced arts instructors. Additionally, in partnership with Food Gatherers and Meet Up! Eat Up, youth will be provided with nutritious lunches each day.</p>
		<p>Funding will launch the YHC's Caregiving Corps (CC), which will provide the means for the agency to hire and train up to 3 YHC residents to perform 'light touch' resident service coordination, adding another layer of support for residents. Often the broader social service community fails to understand those it serves; the greatest strength of the CC is that the service providers will be YHC residents, putting their knowledge and expertise directly back into their communities.</p>

Organization Name	Award Amount	Description
Ypsilanti Washtenaw Housing Commission	\$40,000	This provides those hired the opportunity to leverage their lived experience to the benefit of their neighbors: coaching residents in navigating property management processes, welcoming new residents to the community, familiarizing residents to existing services and resources, developing community events and activities, and to staff our innovative 'Self-Sufficiency Shop'. Residents earn 'shop dollars' through participation in beneficial activities like parenting workshops, community bingo, and resident-led health conversations. Dollars can be exchanged for essential household items, encouraging engagement, and rewarding positive community involvement.