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Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan awards more than \$3 million in grants to improve region's quality of life

Funds will help to improve the region by supporting organizations that work to strengthen families and stimulate economic development in communities.

Detroit – The board of trustees of the Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan recently awarded more than \$3 million in grants to nonprofit organizations working to improve the quality of life in the region. The following is a partial list of organizations receiving grant awards:

- **Detroit Symphony Orchestra**, *Detroit*, \$50,000 to support the re-launch of the Meadow Brook Summer Festival, which will enable the DSO to schedule more performances and market to broader audiences. The Rochester Hills-based festival features music for adults and children to enjoy in a family-oriented environment that includes an expanded picnic area. Selections offer a popular appeal while maintaining artistic integrity. Nine performances over three consecutive weekends in July and August will allow for more effective outreach to new audiences.
- **Greening of Detroit**, *Detroit*, \$50,000 to support a program for Romanowski Urban Farm Park to function as an educational and agricultural hub for the city of Detroit. Through the program, families living near Sgt. Romanowski Park in Detroit will learn the importance of gardening and nutrition, while having access to wholesome foods. The program will also provide teachers at nearby schools with materials and training hours necessary to educate youths and their families on gardening and proper nutrition.
- **Detroit Catholic Pastoral Alliance**, *Detroit*, a \$10,000 grant to support a master planning study for construction of three commercial and residential buildings at Gratiot Avenue near McClellan in Detroit's Gratiot Woods community. When completed, these buildings will provide valuable commercial retail and office space and much-needed affordable loft-style residential apartments for low- to moderate-income residents.
- **University of Detroit Mercy**, *Detroit*, \$10,000 to support the predevelopment analysis and study for infill affordable housing constructed in the Woodbridge neighborhood of Detroit (adjacent to Wayne State University). This project is part of a larger plan to revitalize the entire Woodbridge neighborhood with affordable homes and mixed-use buildings.

- **Children’s Hospital of Michigan Foundation, Detroit,** \$26,055 to support a program for perinatally infected HIV-positive youth. The grant will help to expand services offered to children and their families through Project Challenge, a program at Children’s Hospital of Michigan that provides medical, social and psychological services to assist families with loved ones coping with HIV and/or AIDS.
- **Project Compassion Ministries Inc., Detroit,** \$46,910 to help revive and expand “Vacation Program,” a recreational program for low-income residents of nursing homes. Residents will be able to enjoy storytelling, music, arts and crafts, massages, volleyball and more.
- **American Red Cross – Southeastern Michigan, Detroit,** \$50,000 to support a nurse assistant training and mentorship program in partnership with Mercy Education Project. This partnership will enable 25 low-income women working to enter and continue in the health care field.
- **Detroit Parent Network, Detroit,** \$47,500 to support “Padres Poderosos!” a parenting education program for Latino parents. The program will empower parents to become involved in their children’s education through support groups with other Latino parents, distribution of community resources and policies that impact education, leadership trainings, and by strengthening relationships with the school system. Approximately 150 Latino families will benefit from the program, including teen mothers and grandparents raising their grandchildren.

The **Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan**, founded in 1984, is a permanent community endowment built by gifts from thousands of individuals and organizations committed to the future of southeast Michigan. The Foundation works to improve the region’s quality of life by connecting those who care with causes that matter. The Foundation supports a wide variety of activities benefiting education, arts and culture, health, human services, community development and civic affairs. The Foundation has assets of \$484 million and, since its inception, distributed more than \$234 million in grants to more than 24,923 nonprofit organizations throughout Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Monroe, Washtenaw, St. Clair and Livingston counties.