

United Way of Washtenaw County Community Investments 2021-22

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

United Way of Washtenaw County (UWWC) invests in solutions that improve lives. Grants to organizations that support solutions which mitigate and disrupt the intersectional impacts of poverty, racism and trauma are a key strategy in our work. Why? Because these are root causes of systemic oppression and three forces which hold opportunity at bay for all people in Washtenaw County. During our last fiscal, community volunteers invested **over \$2.2 million dollars** to foster a more equitable community.

Quick Facts

- **\$2,204,614:** FY22 UWWC total grant investments
- **56:** # of community partners in FY22
- **18:** # of new community partners in FY22
- **99:** # of grants awarded
- **36:** # of organizations led by individuals who identify as Black, Indigenous, or people of color

UNITED WAY OF WASHTENAW COUNTY PRIORITY AREAS	
PRIORITY AREA	DESCRIPTION
Cradle to Career	Supports for children and school aged youth (ages 0-18) and their families through strategies such as building parenting skills, providing high quality childcare, strengthening social emotional health, academic success, school engagement, out of school programming, youth-adult relationship building, and on-site school programming.
Financial Stability	Services and supports that increase the economic wellbeing of Washtenaw County people.
Housing & Homelessness	Efforts that reduce the number of individuals and families that experience homelessness through prevention, emergency shelter, transitional housing, outreach, rapid rehousing, and permanent supportive housing.
Human Service Sector Supports	Strengthening local human service organizations and the networks which support them throughout Washtenaw County through capacity building and technical assistance.
Older Adults Supports	Increase or maintain independent living factors for older adults with low incomes.
Safety Net Health & Nutrition	Increase access to health services through benefits advocacy and referral coordination, and accessing care services; decrease food insecurity through hunger relief, nutrition education enhanced produce distribution, and home-bound food distribution.
Wraparound Services	Delivering comprehensive supports that meet the basic needs of individuals and families.

For additional information regarding United Way of Washtenaw County's grant investments, please visit our website at www.uwgive.org or contact Bridget Herrmann, Vice President of Impact and Advocacy, bherrmann@uwwashtenaw.org

Opportunity Fund (\$200,000)

Supports programs, projects, or initiatives benefiting priority populations in Washtenaw County—people with lower incomes, communities of color, and historically excluded populations.

AGENCY	PROGRAM NAME	PRIORITY AREA	AWARD AMOUNT
Aid In Milan	Launching a mobile and pop-up food pantry to more equitably serve eastern Washtenaw County.	Financial Stability	\$16,000
Bethany Christian Services of Michigan	Expansion of foster and adoptive services to Washtenaw County.	Wraparound Supports	\$5,000
Come Unity Move, Inc.	Media production skill building for Black youth in eastern Washtenaw County.	Cradle-to-Career	\$14,000
Educate Youth	Allows for the hiring of a math tutor to increase academic success for youth in eastern Washtenaw County.	Cradle-to-Career	\$25,000
Faith in Action	Collaboration with Avalon Housing to provide case management to residents of a new permanent supportive housing complex in Dexter.	Financial Stability	\$14,000
Friends In Deed	Supports organizational diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) capacity building.	Wraparound Supports	\$7,500
Growing Hope	Supports organizational diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) capacity building and community engagement work.	Safety Net Health & Nutrition	\$10,000
Hands Across The Water, Inc.	Supports organizational diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) capacity building.	Wraparound Supports	\$10,000
Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County	Supports organizational diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) capacity building and community engagement work.	Wraparound Supports	\$7,500
Journey of Faith Christian Church	Support to the West Willow Health and Wellness Initiative to deliver free community-based program designed with and by residents and volunteers to improve the health and wellness outcomes of older adults in the West Willow neighborhood.	Financial Stability	\$16,000
Mentor2Youth	Funds the pilot launch of the Raising Royalty character building program for youth attending Ypsilanti Community Schools.	Cradle-to-Career	\$18,000
Michigan Ability Partners	Supports organizational diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) capacity building.	Wraparound	\$10,000
Our Community Reads	Literacy and character building activities for youth attending Ypsilanti Community Schools and their families.	Cradle-to-Career	\$10,000

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Ozone House	Supports organizational diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) capacity building.	Housing & Homelessness	\$10,000
We The People Opportunity Farm	Expands the Food Distribution program and pilots new community building activities in the Sugarbrook neighborhood of Ypsilanti Township.	Safety Net Health & Nutrition	\$12,000
Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels	Supports the expansion of YMOW's Personal Care Pantry and covers costs of piloting a new inventory tracking system.	Safety Net Health & Nutrition	\$15,000
Total UWWC Opportunity Fund Investments			\$200,000

Basic Needs Grants (\$14,114) <i>Supports the immediate, most basic needs of individuals, children and families in need (e.g. food, shelter and clothing)</i>			
AGENCY	PROJECT/PROGRAM NAME	PRIORITY AREA	AWARD AMOUNT
Friends In Deed	Support for FID's Furniture Donation Program	Wraparound Supports	\$9,114
Mighty Oak Project	Meals and Snacks for Youth Program Participants	Cradle-to-Career	\$5,000
Total UWWC Basic Needs Fund Investments			\$14,114

Power of the Purse Fund (\$50,500) <i>Supports existing and emerging agency programs and initiatives that increase the financial capability of people who identify as women.</i>			
AGENCY	PROJECT/PROGRAM NAME	PRIORITY AREA	AWARD AMOUNT
Buenos Vecinos	Provide direct emergency financial assistance for immigrant families with low incomes to assist with expenses for housing, utilities, transportation, childcare, healthcare services, and food assistance.	Wraparound Supports	\$5,000
Destiny and Purpose Community Outreach	Provides new mothers with low incomes baby supplies and support.	Financial Stability	\$5,000
Dress for Success	General Operating Support	Financial Stability	\$3,000
Habitat for Humanity Huron Valley	General Operating Support	Housing & Homelessness	\$6,500
Kekere Freedom School	A homeschool co-op community and that seeks to decolonize childhood and liberate learners of all ages.	Cradle-to-Career	\$5,000
SafeHouse Center	Building communities free of domestic violence and sexual assault in Washtenaw County.	Housing & Homelessness	\$10,000
WCC Entrepreneurship Center	A resource hub for individuals in developing their entrepreneurial capacity.	Financial Stability	\$6,000

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Women's Center for Southeast Michigan	Women's resource center which offers counseling, supportive services, financial and job coaching, support for moms, and more.	Wraparound	\$10,000
Total UWWC Power of the Purse Fund Investments			\$50,500

Justice Fund (\$380,000) <i>Disrupt systems, policies and practices that perpetuate poverty, racism and trauma by coming alongside historically excluded communities in Washtenaw County as they build power, agency and resilience.</i>			
AGENCY	PROGRAM NAME	PRIORITY AREA	AWARD AMOUNT
A Brighter Way	Executive leadership will help train and inspire select mentors and mentees representing the next generation of advocates. ABW will train these individuals in public speaking, civics, general life skills, and career development so that they can affect systemic and generational change.	Wraparound Supports	\$25,000
Coalition to Re-envision Our Safety	Advocating for an unarmed public safety program to respond to behavioral health crises, people struggling with homelessness and other crises that people may face such as evictions.	Cradle-to-Career	\$50,000
Friends In Deed	Analysis of systems problems, where things are going wrong and how we might creatively fix some of those problems.	Wraparound Supports	\$50,000
Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice	Create stronger grassroots network to observe, analyze, and share information about local decision-making; increase participation in local decision-making by empowering and tooling community members to know how to make genuine impacts to move the county toward greater equity and justice.	Wraparound Supports	\$25,000
Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County	Ensure that all immigrants whose native language is other than English can access countywide services, resources, and programs through the expansion of a Countywide Language Access	Wraparound Supports	\$40,000

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	Taskforce; identify and work to diminish systemic barriers for immigrants.		
Mentor2Youth	Pilot Study Circles for parents of youth affiliated with M2Y, a process of community building and problem solving. People work on an issue of shared concern, then connect the ideas from the dialogue to outcomes that range from changes in an individual's attitudes, behaviors, and beliefs, to new projects and collaborations, and to institutional and policy change.	Cradle-to-Career	\$15,000
Survivors Speak	Amplify voices of all of our community members, with particular attention to the most marginalized, by combining direct services and large-scale advocacy efforts. Through our utilization of an adaptable, grassroots "boots on the ground" approach, our services are able to grow and change to meet the evolving needs of our communities.	Cradle-to-Career	\$50,000
The Dispute Resolution Center	Building a Restorative Justice Team and Center. The program is survivor-centered and based in restorative justice values, principles, and approaches. Includes hiring community members that identify as returning citizens and/or BIPOC from the neighborhoods we serve most and delivering free and voluntary deflection and diversion programs for youth and adults charged with misdemeanors and low-level felonies. Our efforts are in service of criminal justice reform for a safer and more just Washtenaw County.	Financial Stability	\$50,000
Washtenaw Housing Alliance	Build upon our recent advocacy successes in order to implement our advocacy and public education work in more meaningful ways that involve more people with lived homelessness experience, to	Housing & Homelessness	\$25,000

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	expand access and units of affordable housing and supportive housing; advocate for increased tenant/renter protections at the state and local levels; preserve existing, and secure new, resources for the homeless system of care; and, build the public and political will to end homelessness through advocacy and public education, including client / tenant storytelling opportunities.		
Youth Arts Alliance (in collaboration with Staying Power Staying Home)	Building capacity through a coalition of our youth-serving agencies so that both organizations, and partners, can support each other in building a community of thriving, engaged youth in the Ypsilanti/Ypsilanti Township area. As the two organizations collaborate and learn each other's best	Cradle-to-Career	\$50,000
Total UWWC Justice Fund Investments			\$380,000

Community Impact Fund (\$1M)

*Multi-year funding to organizations that are actively mitigating and disrupting the Impacts of Racism, Poverty and Trauma among UW priority populations and communities (3 year grants).
Funding awards listed below reflect annual award amounts, for three years.*

AGENCY	PROGRAM NAME	PRIORITY AREA	AWARD AMOUNT
A Brighter Way	General Operating Support	Wraparound Supports	\$30,000
Aid In Milan	General Operating Support	Financial Stability	\$18,750
Ann Arbor YMCA	General Operating Support	Cradle-to-Career	\$45,000
Bad Credit Is Childish	General Operating Support	Financial Stability	\$30,000
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Washtenaw County	General Operating Support	Cradle-to-Career	\$10,000
Buenos Vecinos	General Operating Support	Wraparound Supports	\$30,000
Care Seats of Michigan	General Operating Support	Cradle-to-Career	\$18,750
Child Care Network	General Operating Support	Cradle-to-Career	\$45,000
Community Action Network	General Operating Support	Cradle-to-Career	\$37,500
Community Family Life Centers	General Operating Support	Wraparound Supports	\$15,000
Community Resource Center	General Operating Support	Financial Stability	\$15,000
Elevation Youth Corp	General Operating Support	Cradle-to-Career	\$18,750
EMU Foundation-Family Empowerment Program	General Operating Support	Wraparound Supports	\$30,000
Fair Housing Center of Southeast & Mid Michigan	General Operating Support	Housing & Homelessness	\$37,500

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Food Gatherers	General Operating Support	Safety Net Health & Nutrition	\$30,000
Foundations Preschool of Washtenaw County	General Operating Support	Cradle-to-Career	\$37,500
Friends In Deed	General Operating Support	Wraparound Supports	\$30,000
Girls Group	General Operating Support	Cradle-to-Career	\$37,500
Girls on the Run of Southeastern Michigan	General Operating Support	Cradle-to-Career	\$10,000
Growing Hope	General Operating Support	Safety Net Health & Nutrition	\$25,000
Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice, Youth Arts Alliance and Staying Power/Staying Home (SP/SH)	General Operating Support	Wraparound Supports	\$37,500
Interfaith Hospitality Network of Washtenaw County	General Operating Support	Housing & Homelessness	\$10,000
Journey of Faith Christian Church	General Operating Support	Housing & Homelessness	\$12,500
Mentor2Youth	General Operating Support	Cradle-to-Career	\$30,000
Michigan Advocacy Program	General Operating Support	Housing & Homelessness	\$30,000
Our House	General Operating Support	Housing & Homelessness	\$30,000
Parkridge Community Center @ Washtenaw Community College Foundation	General Operating Support	Cradle-to-Career	\$30,000
Peace Neighborhood Center	General Operating Support	Cradle-to-Career	\$15,000
SOS Community Services	General Operating Support	Housing & Homelessness	\$30,000
Stand with Trans	General Operating Support	Cradle-to-Career	\$15,000
Student Advocacy Center of Michigan	General Operating Support	Cradle-to-Career	\$37,500
Telling It	General Operating Support	Cradle-to-Career	\$10,000
The Family Learning Institute	General Operating Support	Cradle-to-Career	\$15,000
The Mutual Aid Network of Ypsilanti	General Operating Support	Basic Needs	\$15,000
The Women's Center of Southeastern Michigan	General Operating Support	Wraparound Supports	\$26,250
Washtenaw Alliance for Children and Youth (SOS)	General Operating Support	Cradle-to-Career	\$10,000
Washtenaw Area Council For Children	General Operating Support	Cradle-to-Career	\$12,500
Washtenaw Intermediate School District TRUSTED ADVISORS	General Operating Support	Cradle-to-Career	\$15,000
Washtenaw Literacy	General Operating Support	Cradle-to-Career	\$15,000

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We the People Opportunity Farm	General Operating Support	Safety Net Health & Nutrition	\$15,000
Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels	General Operating Support	Safety Net Health & Nutrition	\$37,500
Total UWWC Community Impact Fund Investments			\$1,000,000

Community and Nonprofit Capacity Building Fund (\$320,000) <i>Direct investments made to support the Washtenaw County human service sector through capacity building projects and programs.</i>			
AGENCY	PROGRAM NAME	PRIORITY AREA	AWARD AMOUNT
Buenos Vecinos	General Operating Support	Human Service Sector Supports	\$25,000
Catchafire	General Operating Support	Human Service Sector Supports	\$50,000
Nonprofit Enterprise at Work	Champions for Change	Human Service Sector Supports	\$55,000
Nonprofit Enterprise at Work	Learning Communities	Human Service Sector Supports	\$55,000
UpTogether	General Operating Support	Human Service Sector Supports	\$125,000
Washtenaw County Black Farmers Fund	General Operating Support	Safety Net Health & Nutrition	\$10,000
Total UWWC Community and Nonprofit Capacity Building Fund Investments			\$320,000

COVID Recovery Fund <i>One-time support to meet pandemic-related needs of ALICE Asset-Limited, Income-Constrained and Employed households -- those that earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living-- and those experiencing poverty in Washtenaw County</i>			
AGENCY	PROGRAM NAME	PRIORITY AREA	AWARD AMOUNT
Ann Arbor YMCA	Expansion of feeding programming on the east side of Washtenaw County which will provide healthy meals and snacks to families and youth.	Cradle-to-Career	\$15,000
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Washtenaw County	Enhancement of School- and Site-Based Mentoring within Ypsilanti Community Schools YCS to support young people and address social, emotional, and academic impacts caused by COVID.	Cradle-to-Career	\$25,000
Buenos Vecinos	Employment and navigation supports to the Latinx community in response to pandemic-related stressors.	Wraparound Supports	\$5,000
Community Family Life Centers	Pilot tutoring program to support learning and academic success for youth in the Sugarbrook community in East Washtenaw County.	Wraparound Supports	\$23,000
Dawn Farm	Enables provision of temporary housing supports for people in recovery who test positive for COVID and need to quarantine safely.	Wraparound Supports	\$5,000
Feonix - Mobility Rising	Free transportation assistance in collaboration with Vaccinate Washtenaw to increase uptake on the COVID-19 vaccine among Washtenaw County people.	Wraparound Supports	\$5,000
Food Gatherers	Support for Carrot Credits for fifteen (15) Black, Indigenous or People of Color-led community partners located in 48197/48198. Funds are for unrestricted food purchases and basic personal hygiene supplies for individuals and families who visit these pantries. .	Safety Net Health & Nutrition	\$50,000
Girls Group	Allows for the temporary expansion of one-to-one tutoring and mentoring to support young women as they transition back to school.	Cradle-to-Career	\$20,000
Jewish Family Services	Provides wraparound supports to Afghan refugees relocating to Washtenaw County	Wraparound Supports	\$15,000

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NEW: Solutions for Nonprofits	Continued community convening and learning related to the COVID 19 pandemic to center racial justice and BIPOC community members.	Human Service Sector Supports	\$10,000
Ozone House	Allows for the purchase of an agency van to meet increased transportation needs for youth created by the pandemic.	Housing & Homelessness	\$15,000
Samaritas	Provides wraparound supports to Afghan refugees relocating to Washtenaw County	Financial Stability	\$10,000
The Family Learning Institute	New part-time reading specialist whose virtual tutoring efforts are tailored to the unique needs created by continued distance learning.	Cradle-to-Career	\$5,000
We The People Opportunity Farm	Allows for the purchase of an agency vehicle to meet increased food distribution needs created by the pandemic.	Safety Net Health & Nutrition	\$5,000
Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels	Funds case management and wraparound services for medically homebound adults under the age of 60.	Safety Net Health & Nutrition	\$17,000
Ypsilanti Mutual Aid	In collaboration with Beautiful Gate International Church, deliver food and personal care supplies to older adults and people with disabilities in Eastern Washtenaw County.	Financial Stability	\$15,000
Total UWWC COVID Recovery Fund Investments			\$240,000
Total UWWC 2021-22 Grant Investment			\$2,204,614

United Way of Washtenaw County is proud to welcome the following community partners in 2021-22:

+ Denotes groups whose staff and volunteer leadership self-identify as Black, indigenous, or people of color.

Bad Credit Is Childish+
Bethany Christian Services of Michigan
Care Seats of Michigan+
Coalition to Re-envision Our Safety+
Come Unity Move, Inc.+
Elevation Youth Corp+
Hands Across The Water, Inc.
Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice+
Mighty Oak Project+
Our Community Reads+
Samaritas
Survivors Speak+
UpTogether
Washtenaw Alliance for Children and Youth
Washtenaw County Black Farmers Fund+
Youth Arts Alliance and Staying Power/Staying Home (SP/SH)+
The Mutual Aid Network of Ypsilanti+

To learn more about our 2021-22 Grant Investments, please read our [FY22 Funding Recap Report](#), which takes a deeper dive into our investments by priority area and our commitment to equity.