Poverty Solutions and faculty across the University of Michigan are actively developing new partnerships with the City of Detroit, community-based organizations, and residents to advance economic mobility and set new standards for poverty solutions nationwide.

In October of 2016, the University of Michigan launched Poverty Solutions—a major initiative dedicated to finding new ways to prevent and alleviate poverty in Michigan, the nation, and the world.

Despite the recent economic recovery in Detroit, there remain systemic challenges rooted in a history of racial discrimination and segregation in this city and many others across the U.S. As Mayor Mike Duggan emphasized in his 2017 Mackinac Policy Conference address, for Detroit to understand where it’s going, it must know where it’s been.

Detroit Has a Poverty Rate
Nearly 3 times higher
Than the national average—
Roughly 40%

The Child Poverty Rate
In Detroit is Even Higher,
Nearly 60%

*2015 American Community Survey

Looking Ahead
Poverty Solutions and faculty across the University of Michigan are actively developing new partnerships with the City of Detroit, community-based organizations, and residents to advance economic mobility and set new standards for poverty solutions nationwide.

Find out more about our work, stay up to date, and sign up for email updates by visiting poverty.umich.edu.

The University of Michigan supports a number of efforts and partnerships from a variety of disciplines that seek to promote economic mobility across Detroit. For more information and a full listing, visit poverty.umich.edu.
OTHER U-M PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS SUPPORTING ECONOMIC MOBILITY IN DETROIT

CONNER/CHALMERS
Data Science for Urban Mobility
More than 65,000 Detroit households lack access to a car. For these populations, a poor transit system can mean missed work and medical appointments, and a lack of access to healthy food options. This project aims to improve mobility in an area of Detroit with especially low car ownership. A partnership between the RITMO project at the University of Michigan, City of Detroit, Detroit Department of Transportation, and Southeast Michigan Council of Governments.

CITYWIDE
Economic Growth Institute
This institute leverages the University of Michigan’s resources, research, technologies, and expertise to foster innovation and create positive economic impact for local, state, national, and global communities and economies by working with small- and medium-sized enterprises, including several projects in Detroit. economicgrowth.umich.edu

CITYWIDE
Detroit Urban Research Center
The Detroit-URC supports several programs across the city focused on community-based participatory research and partnerships among community-based organizations, academics, and government institutions. detroiturc.org

CITYWIDE
Reducing Impacts of Housing Discrimination on Health
The Reducing Impacts of Housing Discrimination on Health is a Michigan Institute of Clinical Health Research-funded project exploring pathways linking housing discrimination, neighborhood characteristics, and health in the Detroit Metropolitan Area neighborhoods. A School of Public Health, Healthy Environments Partnership Project.

CITYWIDE
Community and Economic Development Clinic
The Michigan Law School’s Community and Economic Development Clinic (CEDC) is dedicated to promoting vibrant, diverse, and sustainable communities by providing transactional legal services to nonprofit and community based-organizations, neighborhood-based entrepreneurs and small businesses, social enterprises, and arts and cultural organizations. CEDC’s mission is to promote community and economic development in Detroit and other underserved urban areas of the region.

OSBORN, CODY-ROUGE, SOUTHWEST, CHADSEY CONDON, NORTHEND, CENTRAL WOODWARD, BRIGHTMOOR
Detroit Technical Assistance Center
The Detroit Technical Assistance Center was founded 11 years ago to strengthen neighborhoods and improve opportunities for children. It has deep roots in the community and relationships with CBOs that serve six neighborhoods within the city.

CITYWIDE
Detroit Neighborhood Entrepreneurs Project
This project aims to help Detroit neighborhood businesses and to engage U-M students (law, business, art and design, engineering) in an opportunity to learn how to solve real-life problems in a structured environment, and to foster what will hopefully be a lifelong commitment to service. Ross School of Business, Michigan Law School, Stamps School of Art + Design, Center on Finance, Law and Policy.

CITYWIDE
EAGER: Identifying Technical and Non-technical Feature Requirements to Generate Income-Earning Opportunities for Inexperienced Entrepreneurs
This School of Information project aims to address the research question: “What are the technical and non-technical, or ‘hidden’ requirements for technology-driven, shared-economy entrepreneurship?”

CITYWIDE
African Americans and Social Mobility in Detroit
This School of Information Project seeks to develop a better understanding of the experiences of the working-class African Americans of Detroit by exploring what it is like for members of this group to live and work in Detroit.

CITYWIDE
Designing Next Generation Digital Employment and Recruitment Intervention Tools: Identifying Technical Features to Support Underserved Job Seekers in the U.S.
This School of Information research project aims to understand the requirements for and to begin building next-generation information technology tools and applications that address the distinct needs of underserved U.S. job seekers who live in low-socioeconomic regions, have limited education, or have low income.

CORKTOWN
Lightweight Innovations for Tomorrow
Lightweight Innovations for Tomorrow (LIFT) occupies a 125,000-square-foot laboratory building that is a ‘proving ground’ for advanced lightweight metals with opportunities for training, education, and workforce development. LIFT is co-located in the facility with the Institute for Advanced Composite Innovation, which provides opportunities for synergistic collaboration in the lightweight materials sector that is highly relevant to automotive, aerospace, defense, and other sectors. An Economic Growth Institute and Michigan Engineering partnership.

EAST SIDE
Project Boost
This School of Information project helps support entrepreneurs giving neighborhood tours in Detroit.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND A FULL LISTING, VISIT POVERTY.UMICH.EDU