

# FINDING NEW WAYS TO PREVENT AND ALLEVIATE POVERTY

IN MICHIGAN, THE NATION AND THE WORLD



The University of Michigan has a proud tradition of research and teaching on poverty, and a growing network of top experts in the field. Poverty Solutions at the University of Michigan takes this legacy to the next level by informing and testing innovative solutions for the prevention and alleviation of poverty.

## A UNIQUE APPROACH FOSTERING POSITIVE CHANGE

Poverty Solutions is unlike any other poverty initiative in the country. Its primary emphasis is on cultivating action-based research partnerships with community stakeholders and policy makers to build knowledge about what does and does not work in confronting poverty.

## OUR PLAN

- » Take a highly interdisciplinary approach, with researchers from across campus
- » Foster partnerships that engage faculty and students, communities and policymakers
- » Inform the national and international discourse on poverty
- » Increase the number of students with core knowledge on poverty and broaden experiential learning and advanced training opportunities
- » Be in close communication with communities and policy makers to share and exchange cutting-edge findings

## RESEARCH FOCUS

- » Expanding economic opportunity to reduce poverty
- » Reducing educational disparities to promote social mobility
- » Addressing the health consequences of poverty

The initiative is already supporting U-M faculty engaged in poverty research through new programs, and will engage in a few large-scale interdisciplinary projects that draw on the expertise of faculty across campus.

## TEACHING THE NEXT GENERATION

Poverty Solutions will increase the number of U-M students introduced to core content on poverty, and expand experiential learning opportunities for those who want to deepen their knowledge. There is great interest in poverty and related issues on campus already—with dozens of poverty-related courses offered across the University's 19 schools and colleges.

## PUTTING KNOWLEDGE INTO PRACTICE

Forming new partnerships and building on U-M's longstanding community connections, we will collaborate closely with policy makers and community stakeholders to build knowledge about the most effective ways to address the many challenges of poverty. Community engagement will enhance the research and teaching of the initiative, and make the research accessible to policy makers and community leaders.