# DETROIT PARTNERSHIP ON ECONOMIC MOBILITY

The *Partnership on Economic Mobility* between Poverty Solutions and the City of Detroit is a joint effort to identify and implement concrete, evidence-based strategies that significantly improve economic opportunity and reduce poverty in Detroit.

Partnership projects are already underway pairing dozens of U-M experts with the leadership of City departments including Health, Workforce, Housing and Revitalization, Jobs and Economy, and Police.

U-M partners with the City to serve three critical roles (examples in bullets):

**1.** ADVISE CITY OFFICIALS ON EVIDENCE-BASED STRATEGIES TO ENHANCE ECONOMIC MOBILITY OF DE-TROITERS.

- » U-M experts in urban planning are partnering with Housing and Revitalization to identify Detroit housing units subject to loss of Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) benefits, and identifying strategies for preserving decent affordable housing.
- » Poverty Solutions staff are working with the Detroit Housing Commission, and Departments of Housing and Revitalization and Workforce Development to enhance employment services to DHC residents.

**2.** PROVIDE TECHNICAL SUPPORT & DATA ANALYSIS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF MOBILITY INITIATIVES.

- » U-M's DMACS team is partnering with the Health Department to facilitate their community health assessment.
- » Poverty Solutions staff is working with the Detroit Police Department in their efforts to share data among first-responder agencies to identify individuals who interact frequently with health, social services, and justice agencies.
- » Poverty Solutions is sponsoring an affordable housing fellow working in the implementation of the City's multi-unit affordable housing plan.

**3.** EVALUATE CITY INITIATIVES TO MEASURE BOTH SHORT AND LONG-TERM IMPACTS ON ECONOMIC MO-BILITY, USING PUBLICLY AVAILABLE DATA, CITY ADMINISTRATIVE RESOURCES, AND RESIDENT SURVEYS.

- » U-M experts from the Medical School and School of Social Work are partnering with the Health Department on an evaluation of a major infusion of community health workers in Cody Rouge, with the goal of reducing chronic emergency department utilization.

## U-M DETROIT TEAM
The partnership will be co-facilitated by a U-M team in collaboration with key contacts within the City. Patrick Cooney serves as primary liaison between U-M and the City and oversees and manages the partnership and existing projects. He can be reached at cooneypb@umich.edu or 248-798-6421.



**PATRICK COONEY**
Assistant Director, Detroit Partnership
on Economic Mobility

**ASHLEIGH JOHNSON**
Community Engagement
and Relationship Manager
*In partnership with U-M's Ginsberg Center*

**JOSHUA RIVERA**
Data and Policy Advisor

**KAREN OTZEN**
Affordable Housing
Policy Fellow

# PROJECTS

## HOUSING

**Evaluation of the Right of First Refusal (RoR) program.** U-M researchers are evaluating the impacts of the Right of First Refusal program initiated by the City of Detroit with support from Quicken Loans/Rock Ventures and the United Community Housing Coalition, which enabled low-income tenants (renters) to purchase their homes following tax foreclosure. U-M leads: Prof. Harley Etienne, Prof. Marc Norman, and Prof. Margaret Dewar, Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, and Prof. Roshanak Mehdipanah, School of Public Health.

**Poverty Tax Exemption Proposals.** Poverty Solutions staff is working with the Assessor's Office to examine policies around the poverty tax exemption and provide recommendations for future improvements. U-M lead: Prof. Luke Shaefer.

**Preserving Affordable Housing in Detroit.** U-M researchers are working with a Detroit Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) task force to identify strategies for maintaining affordability in properties developed through a LIHTC. U-M leads: Prof. Margaret Dewar and Prof. Lan Deng,Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.

## WORKFORCE

**Developing a Program to Enhance Employment Outcomes for Detroit Housing Commission Residents.** Poverty Solutions staff is working with the Detroit Department of Housing and Revitalization and the Detroit Housing Commission to improve the integration of services, through best-practice research and technical assistance. U-M lead: Poverty Solutions staff member Joshua Rivera.

**DESC Workforce Research and Data Analysis**. Poverty Solutions is collaborating with Corp. for a Skilled Workforce to provide research and data analysis in support of Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation's workforce development system redesign effort. U-M lead: Poverty Solutions staff member Joshua Rivera.

**Outreach to Remove Barriers to Work.** Poverty Solutions is partnering with the City of Detroit to inform residents about opportunities to eliminate driver's responsibility fees and expunge criminal records as part of a broader effort to reduce barriers to employment. U-M lead: Poverty Solutions staff member Joshua Rivera.

## EDUCATION

**Evaluation of a Collective Impact Strategy for Munger Leads when Munger Reads program.** Poverty Solutions staff is working with a range of partners to evaluate an early literacy collective impact model in Southwest Detroit. U-M lead: Poverty Solutions staff member Kate Naranjo.

## HEALTH

**Community Health Workers.** U-M researchers and the Detroit Health Department teamed up to pilot a new model for employing community health workers in the Cody Rouge neighborhood. U-M leads: Prof. Michele Heisler, School of Public Health and Institute for Healthcare Policy and Innovation and Adrienne Lapidos, School of Social Work.

## EVALUATE/INFORM

**Detroit Metropolitan Area Communities Study.** U-M researchers are partnering with city departments and community organizations to employ a new survey model. It leverages state-of-the-art methods to provide deep insights across the entire city and helps ensure that diverse voices are incorporated into decision-making. U-M leads: Prof. Jeff Morenoff, Institute for Social Research, Prof. Elisabeth Gerber and Conan Smith, Ford School of Public Policy.

## TRANSPORTATION

**Reinventing Urban Transportation and Mobility (RITMO).** U-M researchers are working with the City's Transportation Department to design a data-driven, targeted transportation system to help residents of low-density areas access existing transit systems. U-M lead: Prof. Tawanna Dillihunt, School of Information and Michigan Engineering.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

**Data-Driven Justice in Detroit.** Poverty Solutions supported a graduate student research assistant to provide technical assistance to the Detroit Police Department in their efforts to share data among first-responder agencies to identify individuals who interact frequently with health, social service, and justice agencies.