

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. U-M partners with the city to serve four roles:

1. ADVISE CITY OFFICIALS

ON EVIDENCE-BASED STRATEGIES TO ENHANCE ECONOMIC MOBILITY.

- U-M experts in urban planning are partnering with the Housing and Revitalization Department to identify Detroit housing units subject to losing Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) benefits and to identify strategies for preserving decent affordable housing.
- Poverty Solutions staff is working with the Office of Workforce Development to develop strategies to re-engage disconnected workers.

2. PROVIDE TECHNICAL SUPPORT

AND DATA ANALYSIS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ECONOMIC MOBILITY INITIATIVES.

- U-M's Detroit Metropolitan Area Communities Study (DMACS) team partnered with the Health Department to facilitate the city's community health assessment.
- Poverty Solutions staff is helping the Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation and city's Office of Workforce Development analyze employment outcomes for training providers.

3. EVALUATE CITY INITIATIVES

TO MEASURE BOTH SHORT- AND LONG-TERM IMPACTS ON ECONOMIC MOBILITY.

- U-M experts from the School of Social Work and Medical School are partnering with the Health Department on an evaluation of an infusion of community health workers in Cody Rouge, with the goal of reducing chronic emergency department utilization.
- Poverty Solutions staff, together with DMACS, is collecting data from neighborhood surveys and public sources to inform and evaluate the city's Strategic Neighborhood Fund investments.

4. OFFER EVIDENCE-BASED POLICY ANALYSIS

AT THE CITY, STATE, AND FEDERAL LEVEL.

- Poverty Solutions staff authored a policy brief detailing unaffordable auto insurance rates in Michigan, their impact on low-income households, and areas for reform, which was widely cited as the state considered and passed new legislation.
- Researchers from the School of Public Health studied the utilization of the city's Homeowner's Property Tax Assistance Program (HPTAP), identifying recommendations adopted by the City Council to make the program more accessible to residents.

PROJECT EXAMPLES

To see more projects or inquire about a partnership visit:
poverty.umich.edu/projects/projects-in-detroit

HOUSING

Evaluation of the Right of First Refusal (RoR) program.

U-M faculty are partnering with the City of Detroit and Quicken Loans/Rock Ventures on a multi-year evaluation of the Right of First Refusal program, which provides a pathway for low-income residents to purchase their homes following tax foreclosure.

Preserving Affordable Housing in Detroit. U-M faculty are working with a Detroit Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) task force to identify strategies for maintaining affordability.

Improving the Poverty Tax Exemption. Researchers studied the city's Homeowner's Property Tax Assistance Program (HPTAP), and identified application barriers for this program.

EDUCATION

Evaluation of a Collective Impact Strategy for Munger Leads when Munger Reads program.

Researchers are working with a range of partners to evaluate an early literacy collective impact model in Southwest Detroit, focused on improving kindergarten readiness and third grade reading.

DETROIT TEAM

The partnership is co-facilitated by a U-M team in collaboration with key city contacts.

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Ashleigh Johnon, *Community Engagement and Relationship Manager*

Amanda Nothaft, *Senior Data and Evaluation Specialist*

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WORKFORCE

DESC Workforce Research and Data Analysis. Poverty Solutions worked with the Corporation for a Skilled Workforce to provide research and data analysis in support of the Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation's workforce development efforts.

Outcome Analysis for Workforce Training Providers. Poverty Solutions is helping the DESC to automate the analysis of employment outcomes for individuals trained by one of the city's preferred providers.

HEALTH

Community Health Workers. U-M faculty researchers and the Health Department teamed up to pilot a new model for employing community health workers in the Cody Rouge neighborhood.

EVALUATE/INFORM

Detroit Metropolitan Area Communities Study.

U-M partners with city departments and community organizations to employ a new survey model leveraging state-of-the-art methods to provide insights across the entire city and in individual neighborhoods and help ensure that diverse voices are incorporated into decision-making.

DETROIT FELLOWS

A core part of the Partnership is the Detroit Economic Mobility Fellows program. The program places post-master's professionals directly in city departments to work on strategic objectives for two years. Fellows are supported by Poverty Solutions staff and U-M faculty mentors. Current fellows include: **Karen Otzen**, *Affordable Housing*; **Joshua Edmonds**, *Digital Inclusion* and **Laura Urteaga-Fuentes**, *Homelessness*.