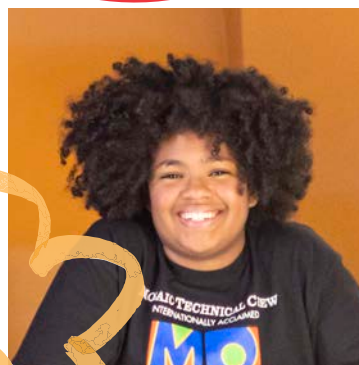




Impact Report 2023-2024







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Introduction

The Foundation's mission is to enrich humanity by strengthening and empowering children and families in need.

Our shared work and commitment are centered in the legacy of Mr. and Mrs. Fisher, their core values, passed from generation to generation of the Fisher family, as well as their partners' impact work.

We concentrate on ensuring the vitality, success and future of our Jewish community here and in Israel. We work to ensure children have the most equitable start to their lives through early childhood development. We work with partners to ensure children and families have access and exposure to arts and culture to bring color, creativity and passion to their lives. We do this through traditional grantmaking in addition to critical investments to for-impact organizations of all sizes and stages.

But what is far more important than simply what we are known for — is how we are known. How the Foundation is known emphasizes the aspirational culture of our organization. The Foundation believes that working with partners for justice (*tzedakah*) will repair our world (*tikkun olam*).



WE DO THIS WORK WITH FOUR SETS OF PARTNERS:

- 1. The Fisher family who stewards these resources for the community
- 2. The Foundation staff team
- 3. Professional partners in the field
- 4. Neighbors who live closest to the issues being faced





Mission
Max M.



Vision
Marjorie S. Fisher Legacy



THE MAX M. & MARJORIE S. FISHER FOUNDATION'S core philosophy is grounded in the beliefs of our founders and the family's shared Jewish values that life's purpose is found in service to others. The mission of the Foundation is to enrich humanity by strengthening and empowering children and families in need. In the Jewish tradition of *tzedakah*, the Foundation works to repair the world (*tikkun olam*) alongside those who share our mission.

Tzedakah, derived from the Hebrew language, conveys fairness and justice. This is the closest term in Hebrew to the word charity, and stems from a fundamental belief that donors benefit from philanthropy as much as recipients. More than a financial transaction, philanthropy in the tradition of *tzedakah* builds trusting relationships. The Foundation is guided by *tzedakah* and driven by a desire to work in partnership with those inside the issues we seek to address.

The Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation was formed in 1955 and endowed following the death of Mr. Fisher in 2005. Together as partners in life, love, family and philanthropy, Mr. and Mrs. Fisher worked side-by-side to create meaningful impact in communities.

Mrs. Fisher was a partner in Mr. Fisher's transformational philanthropy and was known to often encourage him to give more in times of critical need. Beyond their many contributions, Mr. and Mrs. Fisher will long be remembered for their love and commitment to their family, and for truly finding joy in their service with others.





LETTER FROM OUR CHAIR:

Moving Forward



"We will continue to partner together in the months and years that lie ahead, determined to move forward with the same determination that has brought us this far."



DEAR PARTNERS,

We are so glad you have found our 2023-2024 biennial report. This report is a welcome opportunity to pause and reflect, to celebrate the accomplishments of our grant partners, and to share these successes with our broader community.

But even more importantly, this biennial report is a chance to set the stage to move **forward**. While there is much to celebrate and feel pride in, we must not become complacent. We are proud of progress being made on some of society's most pressing issues, including the continued safety and wellbeing of the Jewish people, access to early childhood education, lack of equitable arts education and unequal distribution of capital. But we know that so much more must be done.

The stories detailed here represent so much hard work by our incredible grant partners. We have been particularly moved in recent months by the stories of resilience, heartbreak, and hope, shared by our partners amid global conflict in Israel, which you will hear about in the following pages. This report also symbolizes joy and hope for a better future for all and provides an outline of how we might move forward in brighter days.

More than a decade and a half has passed since my family was first invited into the Brightmoor neighborhood of Detroit. Many of our partners have been with us for nearly as long. Over the years, our energy and enthusiasm for this work has not waned. The Foundation is honored to play a small role in the success of our partners and we hope to continue to do so for as long as we are welcomed. Inspired by their strength, my family and the Foundation's staff team share this biennial report with a renewed energy for moving the needle on the progress we can continue together.


We will continue to partner together in the months and years that lie ahead, determined to move forward with the same determination that has brought us this far.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie F. Cummings".

Julie Fisher Cummings
CHAIR

LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:
Acting Together



*“While the world around us is shifting,
we remain steadfast in our belief in the
power of coming together.”*



DEAR PARTNERS,

In the midst of unprecedented global challenges and deepening divisions here at home, we hope these pages inspire you with a sense of gratitude and connection. The entire Fisher family is immensely grateful for the dedicated work highlighted in this report.

Our work has always been driven by four essential partners: the Fisher family, our professional staff team, the Foundation’s grant partners, and our neighbors. This partnership has been the heart of our culture for many years.

You may have heard us speak of this partnership before, but today it feels more essential than ever. Our commitment to honoring each partner reflects a simple truth: the work of repairing the world (*tikkun olam*) and moving us closer to justice (*tzedakah*) can only be done **together**.

Within these pages, you’ll find stories of hard-won success and perseverance demonstrated by our partners. You’ll see extraordinary images capturing the resilience and warmth of our neighbors. And, finally, you’ll get a closer look at our financials and how we responsibly invest the resources we hold in the community’s trust.

I hope each story conveys just how essential each of us is to this work. None of these achievements — or the lessons learned along the way — would be possible without the unwavering leadership of the Fisher family, the insight and dedication of our professional team, the boldness and vision of our grant partners, and the generosity of our neighbors in welcoming us into their lives.

While the world around us is shifting, we remain steadfast in our belief in the power of coming together.

With gratitude,



Douglas Bitonti Stewart
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Hillel of Metropolitan Detroit

On the morning of October 7, 2023, Jewish students across Southeast Michigan awoke to horrifying news from Israel. As brutal details of slaughter, hostage-taking, and destruction emerged, these young people turned from thoughts of a weekend of socializing and study to fears for loved ones and for their own future. Even if they hadn't felt a significant connection to their Jewish faith and heritage before this day, a profound shift was at hand.

For many students, Hillel of Metro Detroit (HMD) — responsible for Jewish life at Wayne State University, Oakland University, Oakland Community College, Lawrence Technological University, University of Detroit Mercy, and the University of Michigan-Dearborn — was the logical place to turn. Stunned, anxious, and yearning for safety, Jewish students and supporters flooded HMD's activities. The weight of the ongoing horror was intensely felt, and programming changed dramatically.

Long before this day, Hillel of Metro Detroit had welcomed Jewish and non-Jewish students alike to build community, encounter faith, embrace social action, and participate in immersive experiences, including educational trips to Israel. Annually, more than 1500 students participate in Hillel programming, from bagel or ice cream hangouts to discussion groups and Shabbat dinner gatherings.

Hillel's Israel Fellows program, funded by the Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation, brings Israel directly to the student body. Fellows build relationships, educate students, and empower them to respond to anti-Israel rhetoric on campus. The program fosters alliances with other non-Jewish students by presenting educational opportunities for students who might not otherwise be connected to Israel.

Hired directly by HMD, Israel Fellows are often Israelis already living in Metro Detroit or Americans who have extensive Israeli connections or experience, perhaps at university, on kibbutzim, or in the Israel Defense Forces. The Foundation also funds this important work on other campuses throughout Michigan, including at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor and Michigan State University. Most important for this full-time position is their ability to speak with confidence about the dynamics of life in Israel.

The Fellows' enthusiasm for sharing all things Israel also draws students into wider HMD activities and sometimes shapes their career plans. For instance, Wayne State University student and HMD participant Jeremy Soper first encountered the Israel fellow assigned to Wayne State at an Artists 4 Israel event, where custom graffiti t-shirts were being designed. After making this connection, Soper started going to the majority of Israel events on campus, became the president of Students for Israel, and now serves as Program & Engagement Coordinator for the Isaac Agree Downtown Synagogue in Detroit.

Since October 7th, the Fellows' — and all of Hillel of Metro Detroit's — work has become both more important and far more difficult. After the initial surge of students, many continued to attend programming, and a portion were just happy to know it was there if and when they wanted to connect again. Some students, feeling unsafe, were reluctant to continue a visible relationship at all. Indeed, following a substantial influx of people loitering and observing the movements of students and HMD staff, a police presence had become necessary. Still others, like Soper, felt that Hillel's support helped them understand "it was time to be more outwardly proud of ourselves and our people."

As events continue to unfold, Hillel of Metro Detroit staff will continue to meet students where they are, supporting students as they begin or further deepen their Jewish experience and inspiring them to embrace *tikkun olam* as they journey into adulthood.

The Foundation works with partners and leaders to provide for the needs of and ensure the ongoing vitality, success, and well-being of the Jewish People.

Together with our partners, the Foundation's work will lead to more:

- Jews feeling a lifelong connection to their Jewish identity, Israel, and other Jews throughout the world.
- Children and families having a greater connection to *tzedakah* (justice) and *tikkun olam* (to repair the world).
- Jewish youth in need being empowered to achieve their goals leading to personal success.



"The Fisher Foundation actually listens to what the critical needs are and also works with us to come up with something to address these needs. This work is the face of Israel on campus. It was always important and is now crucial."

MIRIAM STARKMAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
HILLEL OF METRO DETROIT



"Organizations like Hillel help students create lasting connections to Israel and help build strong and lasting Jewish identities. Whether engaging Jewishly for the first time or already deeply enmeshed in the Jewish community, the power and pride of students discovering who they are will ultimately and positively impact the community and perhaps even the world."

LISA SOBLE SIEGMANN
PROGRAM PARTNER
MAX M. & MARJORIE S. FISHER FOUNDATION



"We are all Trustees of our Jewish Heritage, with an obligation to cherish it, improve it, and guard its future."

—MAX M. FISHER



We Are All Trustees of Our Jewish Heritage

Kol yisrael aravim zeh ba zeh. (All of Israel is responsible for one another.) The October 7th terrorist attacks were traumatic, on both personal and collective levels. This trauma — deeply felt among the Jewish people scattered around the world, though forever connected — also impacted, in varying degrees, each one of The Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation's partners in Israel.

Foundation Trustees and professional staff quickly mounted a comprehensive emergency response, maintaining existing grant commitments, expanding them where needed, and adding considerable crisis funding.

Feeling shared trauma and a need for shared action, the Foundation immediately reached out to grant partners and friends in Israel. The goal was to listen, learn, comfort, support and to assure grant partners that staff, Trustees and committee members would continue to walk alongside them as they recover. Foundation staff also visited partners in Israel to learn first-hand about what they had experienced.

Within 48 hours of the attack, the Board also moved to provide immediate financial support, sending additional resources to address urgent needs. Staff connected with grant partners to better understand their individual situations, and the Board met repeatedly to approve additional funding.

At the same time, the Foundation also maintained its existing grant commitments to its partners in Israel, expanding them where needed. While the emergency response was essential, Trustees and professional staff recognized that partners also had to sustain their ongoing work in their communities at a time when needs were not only continuing but expanding in importance.

Among these grant partners was Heartbeats, which offers resources and supports parents of infants and young children. Many Heartbeats clients who were already experiencing challenges were now being displaced with nowhere to go. Emergency funding by the Foundation met critical needs for more than 200 families who had lost loved ones, employment, and/or their homes during the attack. Needs included bottles, diapers, and formula, as well as developmental games and supplies for young children to help mitigate their exposure to trauma.

The Foundation also supported partners like Orr Shalom for Children & Youth at Risk, which provides family group homes as well as an overnight camp for some of its young residents without a safe place to go during holidays and summer breaks, and the Ethiopian National Project, which expanded its academic and social-emotional support to 60+ additional Ethiopian Israeli students. To bolster survival for small business owners facing considerable financial hardship, the Foundation increased its support for SparkIL, a lender-borrower program offering interest-free loans.

Another partner, Kiryat Yearim Youth Village, is a boarding school for children who require a non-traditional learning environment in order to thrive. A grant from the Foundation was used to purchase five bomb shelters, which made it possible for the students to safely return to school. Along with Heartbeats and SparkIL, this school is a program of the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI).

This experience of collective trauma and its aftereffects, including a growing tide of antisemitism on campus and in public life, has also been shared by students in the U.S. The Foundation has responded by expanding support for Jewish youth participating in Hillel programming at both Michigan State University and The Ohio State University, Mr. Fisher's alma mater. To date, this has included partial funding for a three-year grant for a campus rabbi to serve students at OSU, as well as the addition of an MSW at Michigan State to tend to the substantially increased mental health needs of Jewish students and staff.



This support aligns with Mr. and Mrs. Fisher's commitment to ensuring the vitality, success and well-being of the Jewish people, with a particular emphasis on Jewish youth in need. Mr. Fisher's very existence in the U.S. was the fruit of his parents' decision to flee persecution, and he spent decades helping his fellow Jews emigrate from the Soviet Union and beyond. Throughout his life, he worked closely with multiple organizations in both the U.S. and Israel to attend to humanitarian needs, a mission that the Foundation continues today.


The decision to expand funding also connects directly to Mrs. Fisher's wishes. In 2009, when the financial crisis hit and the Foundation's assets decreased dramatically, she urged the Trustees to not only maintain but also expand their grantmaking. "We have to give more," she said, and the Foundation did, honoring its existing commitments while adding new grants. The Board repeated this action in 2020, during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, in support of grant partners working on the ground amidst the ongoing crisis.

"The Jewish people are intrinsically connected to one another. Through thousands of years of unimaginable crisis, heart-breaking sorrow, and immense joy, we are one people. We mourn and celebrate together. We will continue to lift up our grant partners and all those they serve. Our partnerships go far beyond a financial transaction."

LISA SOBLE SIEGMANN
PROGRAM PARTNER
MAX M. & MARJORIE S. FISHER FOUNDATION

In the wake of the October 7th attacks, the Trustees again voted to provide what was needed. As before, these resources extended beyond the Foundation's annual grant budget. They include both the additional grant partner support as well as \$5.4 million in funding to JAFI's Fund for Victims of Terror. This grant was made within a week of the attacks, and came from the Foundation's corpus, i.e. the assets or investments that create a return it uses to fuel annual grantmaking. The response continues, with another slate of grants recently approved to further address partners' ongoing needs.

According to Executive Director Douglas Bitonti Stewart, "recognizing the gift that the Foundation's partners are and the importance of our shared efforts to repair the world, we will continue to walk alongside them, shoulder to shoulder. The family's and Foundation's commitment is stronger than ever."



The Trustees and staff of the Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation join the family of Hersh Goldberg-Polin ז"ל (may his memory be a blessing) in mourning his loss.

Hersh was badly wounded and taken hostage by Hamas terrorists on October 7th, 2023, while attending the Nova Music Festival in southern Israel with friends. He remained alive in captivity for nearly 11 months, until he was murdered. He was later recovered in a tunnel in Rafah on August 31, 2024. He was 23 years old.

Born in Berkeley, California, Hersh immigrated to Israel with his family in 2008. Known as a compassionate, highly intelligent, justice-oriented and fun-loving son, brother and friend, Hersh was also an avid soccer fan who loved music and travel. Hersh's father, Jon Goldberg-Polin, is a friend to the Foundation and was the Founding General Manager of SparkIL, a peer-to-peer, interest-free lending platform for small businesses based in Israel, and a Fisher Foundation grant partner.

To his parents, Jon and Rachel Goldberg-Polin, his sisters Leebie and Orly, his family and friends, and all who knew and loved him, may Hersh's memory be a blessing.

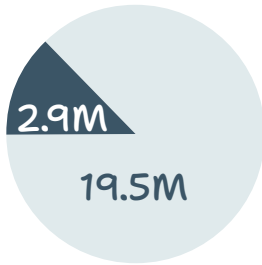
"Now, my Hersh I ask for your help. As we transform our hope into grief and this new unknown brand of pain, I beg of you, please do what you can to have your light shine down on me, Dada, Leebie and Orly. Help shower us with healing and resilience. Help us to rise again. I know it will take a long time, but please may G-d bless us that one day, one fine day, Dada, Leebie, Orly and I will hear laughter, and we will turn around and see...that it's us. And that we are ok. You will always be with us as a force of love and vitality, you will become our superpower."

—FROM RACHEL GOLDBERG-POLIN'S
EULOGY FOR HER SON, AT HIS FUNERAL
IN JERUSALEM, SEPTEMBER 2, 2024



Grantmaking

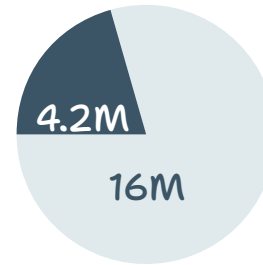
IMPACT AREA: JEWISH



2023

- PAID
\$2,947,500
- TOTAL GRANTMAKING & PRIs*
\$19,514,643

*PRI – Program-Related Investment



2024

- PAID
\$4,225,687
- TOTAL GRANTMAKING & PRIs*
\$16,086,891

*PRI – Program-Related Investment

New Commitments

GRANT PARTNER ORGANIZATION	PROJECT TITLE	AMT GRANTED 2023	AMT GRANTED 2024
American Friends of Orr Shalom Inc.	Support for Grant Partner Staff in Israel: Orr Shalom, Self-Care for Staff		\$3,000.00
Birthright Israel Foundation	Birthright Israel: Strengthening Jewish Identity and Connection to the Jewish Homeland		\$900,000.00
B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at OSU	Building Leaders of Tomorrow	\$174,000.00	
B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at OSU	A Strong Campus Rabbi at OSU Hillel		\$180,000.00
CLAL The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership Inc	Fisher Flight 15		\$285,408.00
Congregation B'nai B'rith Hillel	MSU Hillel/HCAM Mental Health - Social Worker		\$150,000.00
Fresh Air Society	Jewish Artist in Residence Program (referred to as J-AIR)	\$200,000.00	
Hillel of Metro Detroit	Hillels of Michigan - Israel Fellow/Staff Program (Renewal)		\$450,000.00
Imagination Productions Inc.	OpenDor Media's Unpacked for Educators Digital Resource	\$300,000.00	
ImpactIsrael	Village Way	\$13,150.00	
ImpactIsrael	Therapeutic Support		\$11,000.00
Isaac Agree Downtown Synagogue	Building Renovation and Shared Workspace Collaboration	\$200,000.00	
Jewish Agency for Israel-North American Council	Heartbeats	\$79,160.00	
Jewish Agency for Israel-North American Council	Kiryat Yearim	\$85,000.00	
Jewish Agency for Israel-North American Council	Planning Grant to Study Israeli Philanthropy		\$30,000.00
Jewish Agency for Israel-North American Council	Additional Staff Support to SparkIL		\$30,000.00
Jewish Agency for Israel-North American Council	Coronavirus Emergency Loan Fund		\$500,000.00
Jewish Agency for Israel-North American Council	Support for Grant Partner Staff in Israel: Heartbeats Self-Care for Staff		\$4,000.00
Jewish Agency for Israel-North American Council	Alma Pre-Army Academy for Women's Leadership		\$150,000.00
Jewish Community Center	PJ Library Detroit		\$375,000.00
Jewish Community Center	Sharing Shabbat		\$25,000.00
Jewish Federation of Detroit	JLive	\$350,000.00	
Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County	PJ Library in the Greater Palm Beaches		\$300,000.00
Jewish Funders Network	Honeycomb - Jewish Youth Philanthropy	\$250,000.00	
Moishe House	Moishe House (MH) in Detroit: Strengthening Local Jewish Life Through Peer-Led, Pluralistic Community Building for Young Adults		\$50,000.00
Ono Academic College	Full Spectrum Academic and Economic Services for Post-Army Ethiopian Youth		\$450,000.00
Orr Shalom for Children and Youth at Risk	Camp Safe Haven	\$360,000.00	
Orr Shalom for Children and Youth at Risk	Emergency & Other Needs	\$149,800.00	
Orr Shalom for Children and Youth at Risk	Beating the Odds	\$480,000.00	
Orr Shalom for Children and Youth at Risk	Financial Stipends for 28 Women Serving in the IDF		\$28,000.00
ORT America, Inc.	Support for Grant Partner Staff in Israel: ORT, Self-Care for Staff		\$4,000.00
ORT America, Inc.	YOUiversity Robotics: Technological Thinking Begins in Kindergarten		\$371,369.00
The Jewish Fund	The Teen Board Alumni Engagement Program		\$48,600.00

New Commitments Continued

GRANT PARTNER ORGANIZATION	PROJECT TITLE	AMT GRANTED 2023	AMT GRANTED 2024
The National Project for the Ethiopian Community in Israel Ltd (PBC)	ENP SPACE Scholastic Assistance		\$450,000.00
The National Project for the Ethiopian Community in Israel Ltd (PBC)	Space Program		\$90,000.00
University of Michigan Hillel	Israel Engagement Manager-IACT		\$270,000.00
Village Way Educational Initiatives	IsraElite Young Women's Leadership Program		\$100,000.00

"The personal relationships associated with activities helped further my Jewish identity by making me prouder to be Jewish. The amount of support that they offer Jewish students on campus is amazing...and helped shape my participation in campus life and my career."

JEREMY SOPER
GRADUATE
WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY



Committee

David Fisher Sherman
CHAIR

Amanda Cummings

Julie Fisher Cummings

Scott Kaufman

Andrew C. Sherman

D. Larry Sherman

Jane F. Sherman

Robbie S. Sherman

Sylvia Wolf



Brightmoor Alliance | 6-A-DAY ONESIES PROGRAM

Hug Me. Read to me. Speak to me. Encourage me. Sing with me. Play with me. Six loving and beneficial actions anyone can do, in their own way, for every young child, starting right at birth. That's the power of 6-A-Day, the campaign for newborns, young children and their caregivers sparked by leaders in Detroit's Brightmoor neighborhood, integrated into Detroit's Hope Starts Here (HSH) family engagement strategy, and now spreading far beyond the city's borders.

In 2018, the Brightmoor Alliance joined Hope Starts Here Detroit's parents, caregivers, and community members to design an early childhood engagement and advocacy network for Detroit. At that time, more than 28,000 children had no licensed childcare slot available to them. The community sought no-cost, barrier-free interventions that would be practiced immediately by families. They believed that ensuring children are loved, cherished, and on track during the crucial early childhood years is everyone's responsibility. Accessible, straightforward, research-based guidelines, reinforced by community support and visual reminders, are the tools to make it happen.

Detroiters developed the 6-A-Day campaign knowing ownership and accessibility for families would be essential. They also knew that their neighbors already possessed the wisdom and understanding to develop and implement an approach that would be loving and effective. Through a series of meetings, they identified 50 individual actions parents could take, eventually refining them to six key messages grounded in early child development research. The 6-A-Days could be implemented at home, by caregivers working to help their young children thrive and improve their educational outcomes and overall quality of life.

The 6-A-Day directives are revolutionary in their simplicity. Anyone can do them. "You don't have to remember a whole spinning wheel of stuff; you don't have to buy anything; you didn't have to go to college. You can invent your own way to build on these statements," according to Reverend Larry Simmons, Brightmoor Alliance Executive Director, and chief 6-A-Day advocate.

The Brightmoor Alliance 6-A-Day team works to engage Brightmoor's 3000+ households, alongside HSH, which aims to reach more than 20,000 households across the city. The hope is that caregivers self-conceive their own activities that work for their children and life situations, then share the 6-A-Day ideas with others. Then, through direct conversation and social media sharing, they will then spread these experiences and ideas to additional friends and family members.

While this campaign is fully homegrown, the Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation provided a practical boost to its implementation efforts. With this support, an additional 5,500 6-A-Day onesies, translated into Spanish, Arabic and Hebrew, are being given to newborns in Detroit annually through the Brightmoor Alliance, Sister Friends, Black Mothers Breastfeeding, Birth Detroit, Great Start Collaborative, Mothering Justice, Wayne Metro Detroit Diaper Bank, Detroit Champions for HOPE, Brightmoor Childcare Quality Initiative (BQI), Safe Sleep Program, Detroit Medical Center and Henry Ford Health System; some are also shipped overseas to parents of children enrolled in Israel's Heartbeats program.

The Brightmoor Alliance also shares the 6-A-Day statements through coloring books, book bags and other materials at block club and pop-up neighborhood meetings, and in person via door-knocking and food distribution events. Reverend Simmons celebrates how the 6-A-Day messages are "manifesting and spreading in many different ways throughout the ecosystem of childbirth and are influencing how we talk about social and emotional ways to interact with not just young children, but with people of all ages." He has presented the ideas at a national social welfare symposium and shares the principles at every opportunity.

The Foundation's relationship with the Brightmoor Alliance throughout the development of 6-A-Day has been "startling in its candor and its mutuality," according to Rev. Simmons. Since the Foundation's first entry into Brightmoor, it has focused on partnerships of mutual, respectful learning, including the Brightmoor Alliance and BQI. Their common mission is to walk alongside neighbors to ensure parents have the tools they need to be their children's first teachers and champions.

The Foundation works with partners and leaders to provide children ages 0 to 8 and their families the opportunity to access and engage with high quality early childhood development resources that meet their needs, leading to success in school and throughout life.

Together with our partners, the Foundation's work will lead to:

- **Healthy, thriving children and families:** Children are developmentally on track.
- **Parent and family leadership:** Families are strengthened, and parents and caregivers are better equipped to be children's first teachers and champions.
- **High-quality programs and professionals:** The early childhood system adheres to exceptional standards.
- **Safe and inspiring environments:** Early childhood learning facilities are designed specifically for children.
- **Better system alignment:** The early childhood system magnifies impacts for families and children.
- **Increased and aligned funding:** Aligned funding leads to better use of resources in the early childhood system.



"Once we start practicing 6-A-Day with our young children, it becomes part of you and everything that you do. It supports our community's work to navigate the social emotional trauma of poverty, and it helps caregivers realize they themselves have the tools and capability to improve their children's lives."

REV. LARRY SIMMONS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
BRIGHTMOOR ALLIANCE

"Developed by and for Detroiters, 6-A-Days have become a powerful and simple way for households to intentionally support their child's development – for free. It is an amazing, comprehensive partnership that helps validate that parents are their children's first teacher and champion."

CAMARRAH MORGAN
PROGRAM PARTNER
MAX M. & MARJORIE S. FISHER FOUNDATION





The Brightmoor Childcare Quality Initiative

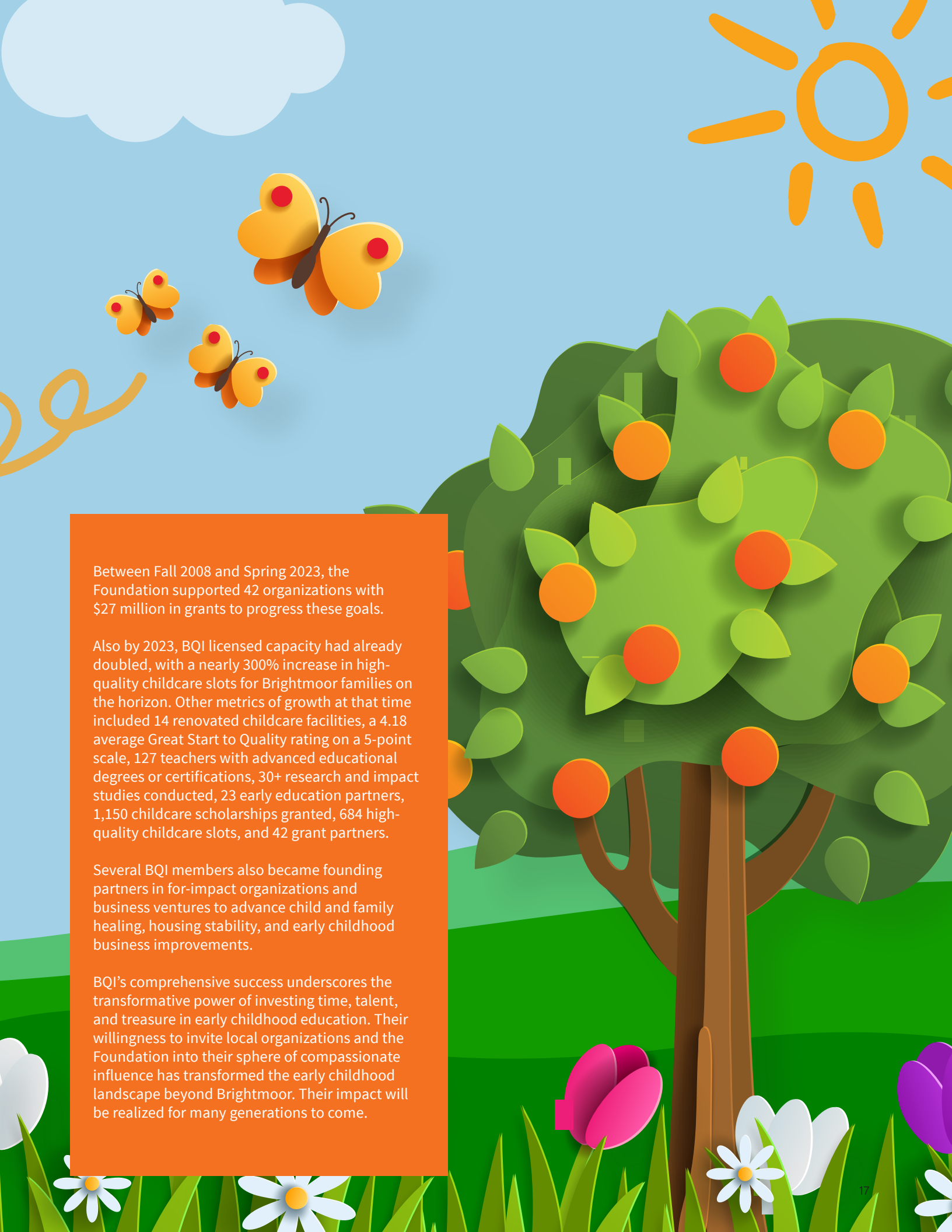
In 2023, the Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation celebrated 15 years of partnership with the Brightmoor Childhood Quality Initiative (BQI), with a gathering of childcare leaders and a retrospective impact report. In 2008, twenty-three women began welcoming Development Centers, Inc. (DCI dba MiSide) and the Foundation to join their work, giving birth to BQI. Over those 15 years and today, these early learning pioneers have devoted themselves to nurturing the endless potential and healthy development of young children across Brightmoor.

Detroit's Brightmoor neighborhood has a significant percentage of residents with low incomes living in neighborhoods with poor housing, a high crime rate, and a large amount of vacant land. In 2010, around BQI's founding, one third of households had incomes under \$15,000, and half under \$25,000. About 73% of families were African American and approximately 54.9% of the neighborhood's children were living in poverty. Eighty percent of children birth to five were receiving care in unregulated settings from family, friends, and neighbors.

As BQI members grew high-quality childcare options for early learners, they worked to improve their average state quality rating from 1.67 to 4.18 on a five-point scale. Childcare business staff pursued formal education and created additional high-quality, full-day childcare slots for working parents in Brightmoor, increasing the network's licensed capacity by 204%.

The Foundation's place-based initiative goals were to support a multi-generation approach to ensure kindergarteners are reading proficiently by third grade; support access to high-quality early care and education for low-income Brightmoor families; and align with broader initiatives to advance an early education ecosystem. In addition, BQI members contributed to the comprehensive Hope Starts Here (HSH) early childhood framework for Detroit, helping identify six strategic imperatives and providing a road map for the Foundation's early childhood grantmaking.

These imperatives are: (1) to promote the health, development, and well-being of all Detroit children; (2) to support parents and caregivers as children's first teachers and champions; (3) to increase the overall quality of Detroit's early childhood programs; (4) to guarantee safe and inspiring learning environments for Detroit's children; (5) to create tools and resources to better coordinate systems that impact early childhood; and (6) to find new ways to fund and better ways to use early childhood resources.



Between Fall 2008 and Spring 2023, the Foundation supported 42 organizations with \$27 million in grants to progress these goals.

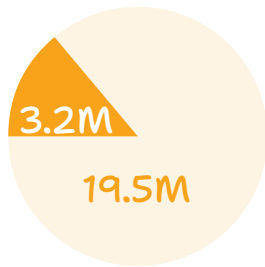
Also by 2023, BQI licensed capacity had already doubled, with a nearly 300% increase in high-quality childcare slots for Brightmoor families on the horizon. Other metrics of growth at that time included 14 renovated childcare facilities, a 4.18 average Great Start to Quality rating on a 5-point scale, 127 teachers with advanced educational degrees or certifications, 30+ research and impact studies conducted, 23 early education partners, 1,150 childcare scholarships granted, 684 high-quality childcare slots, and 42 grant partners.

Several BQI members also became founding partners in for-impact organizations and business ventures to advance child and family healing, housing stability, and early childhood business improvements.

BQI's comprehensive success underscores the transformative power of investing time, talent, and treasure in early childhood education. Their willingness to invite local organizations and the Foundation into their sphere of compassionate influence has transformed the early childhood landscape beyond Brightmoor. Their impact will be realized for many generations to come.

Grantmaking

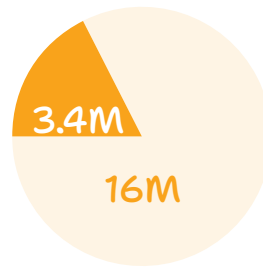
IMPACT AREA: EARLY CHILDHOOD



2023

- PAID
\$3,243,242
- TOTAL GRANTMAKING & PRIs*
\$19,514,643

*PRI – Program-Related Investment



2024

- PAID
\$3,429,427
- TOTAL GRANTMAKING & PRIs*
\$16,086,891

*PRI – Program-Related Investment

New Commitments

GRANT PARTNER ORGANIZATION	PROJECT TITLE	AMT GRANTED 2023	AMT GRANTED 2024
313Reads	Detroit 0-8 Collective Impact Alignment	\$25,000.00	
A Girl Like Me Inc.	Rise Up: Empowering Young Mothers for Success		\$30,000.00
Brightmoor Alliance Inc.	Brightmoor uP!	\$417,028.00	
Brightmoor Alliance Inc.	Early Childhood Wage Analysis & Sub-Pool Planning	\$92,500.00	
Brilliant Detroit	Continuing Kid Success in Brightmoor	\$300,000.00	
Center for Child Counseling Inc.	General Operations	\$5,000.00	
Children of the Rising Sun Empowerment Center	Mom Circles - Children of the Rising Sun		\$106,492.00
City Year Detroit	Whole School Whole Child: K-8 Literacy Program Support		\$260,000.00
Class Act Detroit	Class Act - BOOKS + BEATS	\$61,875.00	
Detroit Parent Network	Detroit Parent Network Brightmoor Quality Improvement Early Childhood Enrichment and Engagement BQI Field Trips Program	\$200,000.00	
Detroit Public Media	Educational Support in Brightmoor: Detroit PBS KIDS and Michigan Learning Channel	\$200,000.00	\$300,000.00
Development Centers, Inc. dba MiSide	Brightmoor Childcare Quality Initiative	\$918,043.00	
Development Centers, Inc. dba MiSide	Head Start Quality Continuity	\$195,171.00	
Development Centers, Inc. dba MiSide	Social Emotional Learning Intern Support	\$563,000.00	
Development Centers, Inc. dba MiSide	Visit to Center for Child Counseling, West Palm Beach Florida	\$1,553.38	
Development Centers, Inc. dba MiSide	MiSide Social Emotional Learning for BQI 2025 Palm Beach Travel for PD		\$44,429.00
Development Centers, Inc. dba MiSide	Head Start/Early Head Start Continuation Grant		\$200,000.00
Early Childhood Investment Corporation	True Cost of Care Media and Communications Plan	\$39,375.00	
Everybody Ready	Brightmoor Quality Childcare Initiative	\$1,921,730.00	
Grandparents Parenting Again	Grandparents Parenting Programming		\$59,169.00
Living Arts	Living Arts' Brightmoor Quality Initiative (BQI)		\$150,000.00
Michigan Association for Infant Mental Health	Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Focused Professional Development for Detroit Early Childhood Educators	\$145,500.00	
Michigan State University	Rx Kids	\$25,000.00	
Pajama Program, Inc.	Supporting Healthy Sleep in the Brightmoor Quality Initiative Community	\$202,868.00	
Palm Beach State College Foundation, Inc.	Hello Tree It's Me	\$4,435.00	
Redford Brightmoor Initiative	2024 Holiday & Capacity Building		\$50,000.00
The Color of Autism Foundation	Color of Autism - Brightmoor Inclusive Childcare Initiative	\$27,500.00	\$27,500.00
The Policy Equity Group	GSRP Expansion Analysis and Recommendation to Governor	\$50,000.00	
Wellspring	Literacy & Increased Capacity	\$420,000.00	
Wellspring	Capacity Grant for Expansion		\$30,000.00

"I can testify as a parent and also as a community advocate how 6-A-Days shaped my life. I practiced 6-A-Days daily with my children and am witnessing its positive effects on them. I encouraged other families as well, and they are now community advocates for the 6-A-Days program too!"

LAQUITTA BROWN
6-A-DAY PROGRAM PARENT

Committee

Julie Fisher Cummings
CHAIR

Alissandra Aronow

Regina Bell

Amanda Fisher

Blake Fisher

Phillip Wm. Fisher

Sonya Hickey (2022-2023)

Allie N. Sherman

Andrew C. Sherman

Kai Young (2024 - 2025)



Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit

That moment before you step on stage, before the lights come up, before the first note sounds. Over countless afternoons, you've prepared for this. You are young and talented. Self-propelled but also fully supported. You're overcome with nervousness and joy and promise and fear and you taste freedom all in one quick, stomach-churning, heart-fluttering, mind-focusing second. And then you begin.

Thousands of young people have lived this moment because of Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit. Since 1992, Mosaic has provided professional-quality performing arts training and mentorship to youth around the city. Whether in the classroom, after school, or in summer programs, Mosaic students explore the arts, from singing and acting to playwriting and stagecraft. Programs are high-quality and intense, and artistic excellence is the goal. The talented teaching artists are both gifted at their craft and highly skilled at engaging young people.

As early as second grade, youth can explore the arts through Mosaic's in-school and after-school residency programs with Mosaic teaching artists. Students read, write, develop stories, and collaborate to bring their ideas to performance. At the same time, Mosaic staff work closely with educators to align their curriculum with academic sequencing, classroom activities, and social-emotional learning goals. Summer programs build on this, welcoming elementary and middle school students for immersive two-week sessions that add in dance and movement. Mosaic's work with high school students further incorporates intensive workshop and training sessions and opportunities for original playwriting and public performance.

Though internationally known and locally lauded for its students' exceptional craft, Mosaic's focus on the humanity and development of each young person it encounters is its true mission. Staff create and maintain a safe and supportive environment while empowering young people to actively participate in their own intellectual and character development. A culture of trust and prioritizing student-led decisions are foundational, and expectations are consistent and high. The familial atmosphere nurtured by the team also provides crucial support for youth who experience limited safety or acceptance outside their time at Mosaic.

"This is my family, this is my home, and these are my cousins, nieces, and nephews. I'm an alum who came home to Mosaic two years ago...and this is just how we treat our former students — like family," according to Andaiye Spencer, Mosaic Programs Manager. Mosaic's Executive and Artistic Director DeLashea Strawder, herself a program alumna, embraces this warm work style, all while facilitating summits for young artists across the country and growing the organization's regional and international award-winning performance reach.

At Mosaic, young artists learn to read critically, visualize, imagine, interpret, and compose their own original works. Along the way, they attend field trips to live performances at the Detroit Institute of Arts and can engage in playwriting workshops and competitions. While immersed in creative activities, their future is always in mind — a career in the performing arts for some and positive youth development leading to a flourishing adulthood for all.

The Foundation works with partners and leaders to provide children and youth in need with enrichment, exposure, and instruction in arts and culture.

Together with our partners, the Foundation's work will lead to more:

- Children and youth pursuing opportunities in arts and culture.
- Vibrant opportunities for arts and culture exposure and enrichment in neighborhoods.

Over many years, the Fisher Foundation's close work with Mosaic has supported the organization's powerful, youth-centered work with students across Detroit, particularly its First Stage teaching artist residencies and summer camp programs in Brightmoor. At least a hundred Brightmoor students in grades 2-8 participate in Mosaic's transformative programming each summer. Spencer added that "Fisher helping us bring in a performance program further opened up Brightmoor as a place to see and be, a connection that brings good attention to a place that doesn't get it. They're not just throwing green space at us; they've made it possible for us to grow stronger relationships within the community."



“Every Mosaic young artist is welcomed with high expectations, a safe and supportive environment, and constant opportunities for empowerment and growth. If you’re a young person here, we will fight for you, we will stand with you, we’ve always got your back.”

ANDAIYE SPENCER

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY PROGRAMS SPECIALIST
MOSAIC YOUTH THEATRE OF DETROIT



“Mosaic wraps its arms around young people — caring for them as students, as artists, and as human beings. Their work is centered around theater but is actually an all-encompassing experience that caters to the youth as individuals. Mosaic acknowledges the complexities of what it is to be a young person in society today and serves their students with great empathy.”

CHELSEA LANDRY

PROGRAM PARTNER
MAX M. & MARJORIE S. FISHER FOUNDATION





Our Poetjournalist-in-Residence

The Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation is proud to share the work of Aaron Dworkin, our first Poetjournalist-in-Residence. A world-class multi-media artist, social impact entrepreneur and educator, Aaron is helping us translate our feelings of gratitude for being allowed into the joy and hard work of our partners and neighbors.

Whether it is in Israel with opportunity youth, on stage with performers sharing their art, or seeing the smiles on the faces of kids and their families in an early childhood education center in Brightmoor, we wanted to find a way to share the emotion and depth of the commitment and love emanating from the people who dedicate their lives to impact.

By taking the phonics of data, the grammar of reports, the trust in our relationships, and melding them into Aaron's poetry, our shared hope for you is to accept this gift by reading his piece — "The Arts" — so that you can feel the meaningful struggle and joy of our partners.



The Arts

Scraps otherwise cast
Aside by society
Repurposed with intent
Become prisms
Of balance transforming
Our progeny's perspective
On a world of disarray
In adolescence.

The technique through which
Bodies otherwise transport our minds
Between necessary locations
Reengineered to become a foundation
Of dance that inspires through motion
Giving us a sense of space
In communities
Of those displaced.

Words otherwise used
To order food at drive throughs
Matured by intellect of youth
From the inside out
Manifest poems
That serve as lampposts
Illuminating alternate passage
Unseen on city streets
Darkened by dominance
And disregard.

Sound otherwise cascading
Through a cacophony
Of daily routines cuts
Through disparities in access
Like the Sphinx across a history
Of young minds
A mosaic expressing music
Programs of pearls
Depict an ocean of opportunity.

Skill and imagination cooperate
Fueled by the spirit of those
Viewing basic needs as a right
Beyond the barriers
Built by birth and finance.

Enrichment, exposure, and instruction
Bringing beauty of expression
Revealing the ideas and feelings
Of those whose voice
Fills the opportunity
Permitted by the power of the arts
To unveil our humanity.

Grantmaking

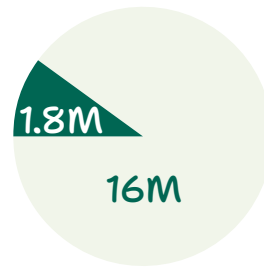
IMPACT AREA: ARTS & CULTURE



2023

- PAID
\$1,578,855
- TOTAL GRANTMAKING & PRIs*
\$19,514,643

*PRI – Program-Related Investment



2024

- PAID
\$1,834,789
- TOTAL GRANTMAKING & PRIs*
\$16,086,891

*PRI – Program-Related Investment

New Commitments

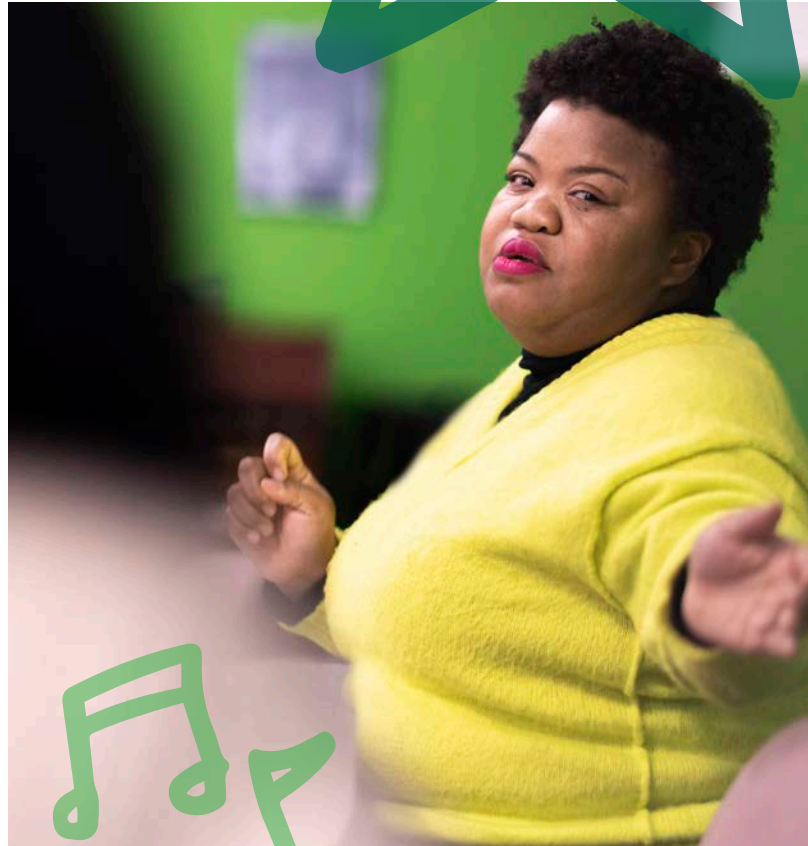
GRANT PARTNER ORGANIZATION	PROJECT TITLE	AMT GRANTED 2023	AMT GRANTED 2024
826michigan	Wee-bots	\$180,000.00	
Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens	ANSG Capacity Support		\$13,867.00
Arts & Scraps	2023 General Operating Support	\$5,000.00	
Arts & Scraps	STEM Through Creativity for Brilliant Brightmoor	\$60,000.00	
Cass Technical High School	Cass Tech Harp & Vocal Ensemble's Festival at Carnegie Hall		\$16,500.00
Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History	Expanding History and Culture Programming for Children and Youth		\$100,000.00
Coaching Detroit Forward	2023 General Operating Support	\$5,000.00	
Coaching Detroit Forward	Beginner and Advanced Photography Camps	\$45,227.00	\$47,846.60
Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties	Arts & Culture Regrant Fund		\$152,250.00
CultureSource	2024 Arts & Culture Grant Partner Professional Development	\$25,000.00	
Detroit Opera	Alvin Ailey Residency		\$19,825.00
Detroit Opera	Storybook Opera 2024-2026		\$57,000.00
Detroit Public Theatre	Detroit Public Theatre 2023-24 Education Programming	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
Detroit Symphony Orchestra	Whole Child Program		\$200,000.00
Detroit Zoological Society	Nature Tots Eco Artists	\$40,000.00	
Developing Kingdoms in Different Stages	The Art Makers of Developing K.I.D.S.	\$25,000.00	\$90,000.00
Far Therapeutic Arts and Recreation	Expressive Engagement - Music and Movement Therapy for Individuals with Special Needs	\$113,475.00	
Heritage Works	Drum Roll		\$150,000.00
Live Coal	Live Coal Educational Programming	\$80,000.00	
Living Arts	Strengthening Detroit Educators, Families, & Young Children through the Performing Arts	\$100,000.00	
Mission:City	2023 General Operating Support	\$5,000.00	
Mission:City	2024 Holiday Party		\$1,803.00
Mission:City	Afterschool Club		\$84,000.00
Motor City Street Dance Academy	2023 General Operating Support	\$5,000.00	
Motor City Street Dance Academy	Detroit Pistons Latino Heritage Night	\$4,455.00	
Motor City Street Dance Academy	S.E.E.D. Program		\$185,400.00
Motown Historical Museum Inc.	Motown Museum Summer Programs	\$100,000.00	
Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts Inc.	Introduction to Music for Grades K-4 at The School at Marygrove	\$100,000.00	
Shakespeare in Detroit	Scaling STEAM - New Strategies, More Students and, As Always, Shakespeare	\$195,000.00	
Shakespeare in Detroit	2023 General Operating Support	\$5,000.00	
Shakespeare in Detroit	2023 Summer Youth Conservatory	\$8,295.00	
Sphinx Organization	2024 Conference Performance Support	\$15,000.00	

New Commitments Continued

GRANT PARTNER ORGANIZATION	PROJECT TITLE	AMT GRANTED 2023	AMT GRANTED 2024
Sphinx Organization	Sphinx Futures Fund		\$100,000.00
The Arts League of Michigan	Carr Center Debbie Allen Dance Academy Summer Dance Intensive 2023-2024	\$120,000.00	\$120,000.00
The Pewabic Society, Inc.	Ceramic Arts Apprenticeship Program	\$10,000.00	
The Yunion, Inc.	Keys 2 Life Mentoring Through Music		\$171,000.00
The Yunion, Inc.	Additional Support for Keys 2 Life Performing Arts Summer Camp		\$7,400.00
Vista Maria	Expressive Therapies for At-Risk Foster Youth	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00

“For over 30 years, we have been honored to be allies of young people and their families — to walk alongside them, uplift their voices, and co-create space for them to thrive. This work is about ensuring young people have the support, opportunities, and community they need to flourish today, while building a foundation for the world they are inheriting. It is both a privilege and a responsibility to stand with them, knowing that together, we are shaping a world that is more beautiful, more joyful, and more just. We are deeply grateful for every young artist, family, and community member who has entrusted us with this work. The future is bright because we are building it together.”

DELASHEA STRAWDER
EXECUTIVE & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
MOAIC YOUTH THEATRE OF DETROIT



Committee

Caroline Cummings Rafferty
CHAIR

Peter D. Cummings

Aaron Dworkin

Marjorie M. Fisher

Sigal Hemy

David Fisher Sherman

Ellen J. Sherman

Jessica K. Sherman

IMPACT AREA: IMPACT INVESTING

SPOTLIGHT:

Detroit Food Commons

Lack of access to healthy food in some Detroit neighborhoods has persisted for many years. In the city's North End, a long-time vision for altering this reality has finally come to fruition with the opening of the Detroit Food Commons (DFC). Designed by the Detroit Black Community Food Sovereignty Network (DBCFSN) and housing the recently opened Detroit People's Food Co-op, the modern 31,000-square-foot building also has space for small food businesses, classes, and community gatherings. The DFC is off to an exciting start.

The Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation was fortunate to work with several local foundations to fund this much needed and greatly anticipated project. In 2021, the Foundation made a \$750,000 program-related investment (PRI) to ensure DFC had sufficient access to flexible capital to realize its goals and grow its organizational capacity and sustainability. With this PRI, the Foundation is supporting access to healthy food, job creation, and a variety of services for small food enterprises and Black-owned businesses.

Already well-known for food sovereignty activism in Detroit and beyond, Malik Yakini spent several years visiting and studying food cooperatives around the country. He envisioned a multi-use community space and a beautiful gathering place where residents would be proud to shop. DFC also has several licensed commercial kitchens for rent, so food entrepreneurs finally have a place to safely produce their products. Sonya Mays of Develop Detroit, which serves as co-developer of the project, says, "we knew DBCFSN were absolute leaders in the food policy space, with intimate knowledge of what worked and what didn't...they had done the work and thought it through, and had come to this solution in alignment with the neighborhood."

While considering this investment, the Foundation understood that community residents already knew what they needed and that its own role would be to act as a partner to support the neighborhood's efforts. It also allowed the Foundation to work with several philanthropic peers who "aligned seamlessly with our commitment to economic development, opportunity, and community engagement," according to Meredith Freeman, the Foundation's Director of Alignment and Impact Investing.

DBCFSN and Develop Detroit formed an excellent partnership, each bringing their strengths to the project. Develop Detroit offered real estate development expertise, while DBCFSN worked closely with the community to develop architectural, organizational, and sustainability plans. Gi'Anna Cheairs, Chief Financial Officer

for DBCFSN, projects that "profit will come from our state-of-the-art kitchen and banquet hall spaces, and we already have people knocking down the door to get into both." Over the next several years, as the cooperative adds members, food enterprises thrive in the commercial kitchens, and the community rooms are filled with programs and activities, self-sustainability is expected.

According to Freeman, investing in the DFC "validates the Foundation's approach and commitment to following the lead of our community partners, encourages creative and collaborative funding approaches, and promotes community-led initiatives. This project is also a powerful model for similar initiatives in Detroit and beyond, highlighting the transformative power of community-led, philanthropic-supported projects."

In the end, the goal for the Detroit Food Commons is simple: food sovereignty and neighborhood-based economic development.

The Foundation works with partners and leaders to ensure organizations focused on social and environmental impact have access to growth capital to expand innovation and grow organizational capacity and sustainability.

Together with our partners, we:

- Lead alongside others by investing in individual deals to build the field of impact investing.
- Learn through participating in collaborative investments with seasoned impact investors.
- Accelerate the field by investing in opportunities that create on-ramps for new impact investors.
- Align Foundation assets to further our mission and increase impact.

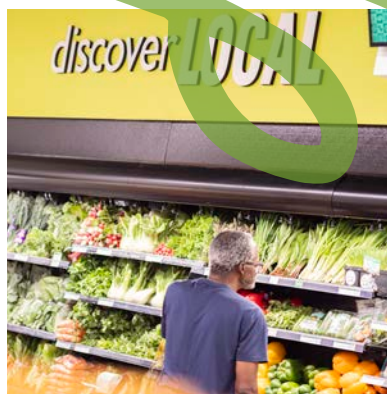
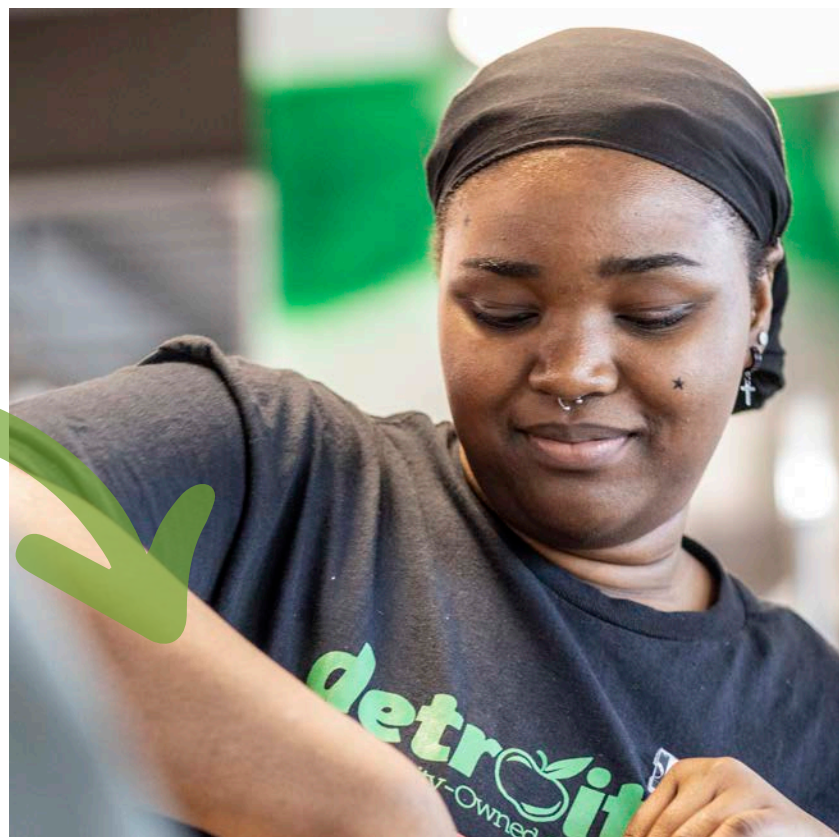


"Having autonomy and control over our own food system is the first step in building an ecosystem that circulates opportunities and money within our community."

GI'ANNA CHEAIRS
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
DETROIT BLACK COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY NETWORK (DBCFSN)

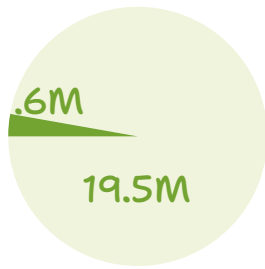
"The Foundation's investment in the Detroit Food Commons challenges traditional investment biases, promotes equity and inclusion, catalyzes economic empowerment, and provides a successful, replicable model for other communities."

MEREDITH FREEMAN
DIRECTOR OF ALIGNMENT AND IMPACT INVESTING
MAX M. & MARJORIE S. FISHER FOUNDATION



Grantmaking

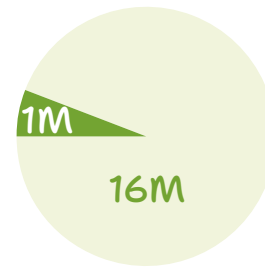
IMPACT AREA: IMPACT INVESTING



2023

- PAID
\$659,369
- TOTAL GRANTMAKING & PRIs*
\$19,514,643

*PRI – Program-Related Investment



2024

- PAID
\$1,022,000
- TOTAL GRANTMAKING & PRIs*
\$16,086,891

*PRI – Program-Related Investment

New Commitments

GRANT PARTNER ORGANIZATION	PROJECT TITLE	AMT GRANTED 2023	AMT GRANTED 2024
Black Leaders Detroit	Honorariums for The ImPact Detroit Tour	\$500.00	
Black Leaders Detroit	Black Leaders Detroit Legal Redevelopment for Mission Protection		\$20,000.00
Brightmoor Alliance Inc.	Honorariums for The ImPact Detroit Tour	\$2,000.00	
Brightmoor Alliance Inc.	Honorariums for The ImPact Detroit Tour	\$500.00	
CultureSource	Honorariums for The ImPact Detroit Tour	\$500.00	
Detroit Blight Busters Inc.	Honorariums for The ImPact Detroit Tour	\$500.00	
Detroit Development Fund	Honorariums for The ImPact Detroit Tour	\$500.00	
Detroit Food Commons LLC	Honorariums for The ImPact Detroit Tour	\$2,000.00	
Develop Detroit	Honorariums for The ImPact Detroit Tour	\$500.00	
Eastern Market Partnership	Scaling Regional Farmers with Eastern Market	\$50,000.00	
Fair Food Network	Honorariums for The ImPact Detroit Tour	\$500.00	
Industrial Sewing and Innovation Center	Honorariums for The ImPact Detroit Tour	\$2,000.00	
Isaac Agree Downtown Synagogue	Samantha Woll Rooftop	\$25,000.00	
Keshet Donor-Advised Fund	Kol Echad Mimkomo (dba The Social Space) Capacity Building		\$52,000.00
Kol Echad Mimkomo (dba The Social Space)	Loan for Social Space	\$150,000.00	
Maryland Philanthropy Network	Detroit Recoverable Grant and TA Expansion	\$50,000.00	
Northend Christian CDC	General Operation Dollars		\$25,000.00
Ogen	General Operations	\$25,000.00	
Ogen	General Operations		\$50,000.00
ProsperUs Detroit	Honorariums for The ImPact Detroit Tour	\$500.00	
ProsperUs Detroit	Micro Lending	\$25,000.00	
ProsperUs Detroit	Micro Lending	\$250,000.00	
TEA	Honorariums for The ImPact Detroit Tour	\$2,000.00	

The new commitments listed above are included as part of the Foundation's \$12 million active Impact Investing portfolio.

"We're about long-term stewardship. The fact that the Detroit Food Commons is community-owned, growing in a neighborhood that capitalism has failed, aligns with what we want our work to be. We're attracted to structures that mitigate that market failure."

SONYA MAYS
PRESIDENT & CEO
DEVELOP DETROIT



Committee

Alissandra Aronow
CHAIR

Julie Fisher Cummings

Erika Seth Davies

Amanda Fisher

Phillip Wm. Fisher

Ben J. Hubert

Cynthia Muller

David Fisher Sherman



Above: Malik Yakini, Co-Founder and former Executive Director, DBCFSN



IMPACT AREA: LEGACY

SPOTLIGHT:

City Year Detroit

“I can’t stand this school or this world!” The anger and sadness driving this young student’s words were obvious. Kyra Woodley, A City Year Detroit (CYD) corps member, was passing by the classroom at the moment the third grader’s frustration exploded and immediately stepped in. Instead of accompanying the third grader and a classmate to the office where additional discipline measures loomed, Kyra invited them into a restorative circle discussion.

The students then had the opportunity to speak their feelings aloud and to make their own agreements to respect both their new teacher and their classmates. This experience of being heard created a change in attitude in both students and helped bring calm to their classroom. Interventions like this, which are personal, relational, and kind, are what CYD does best.

When students’ words or behavior disrupt a busy class, consequences of varying types and levels of severity often follow, the effects of which can be lasting. However, it is nearly impossible for even the most dedicated, skilled educators to navigate instructional plans and the varying needs of a classroom full of students, while also interrupting instruction for heart-to-heart conversations with individuals.

In these classroom situations, the kind and informed intervention of a trusted adult can be profoundly valuable, especially for the students themselves.

City Year’s national service program trains young adults to support students’ social, emotional, and academic development in 350 schools in 29 cities across the country. Corps Members work to expand educational equity, particularly for those students experiencing the effects of structural racism and systemic barriers to education. At the same time, City Year offers these young leaders informed, skilled leadership training, building them into future educators and advocates for the communities they’re serving as well as their own communities of origin.

In Detroit, highly trained City Year Corps Members serve as Student Success Coaches, providing intervention sessions while building strong relationships, working to reduce chronic absenteeism, and ensuring students are on track to graduate from high school. As young adults, Corps Members are well-positioned to connect with students navigating life challenges and who are at risk of falling one or more grade levels behind in math and ELA. They provide one-on-one instruction, add to classroom capacity, and contribute to small-group sessions and whole school activities that enhance learning and engage students and their families.

In Detroit’s Brightmoor neighborhood, where the Foundation has built deep, long-term partnerships with educators and for-impact organizations, CYD works in Gompers Elementary. With Foundation support, CYD fosters an environment of thriving and enrichment for 3rd-8th grade students. According to Foundation Program Partner Connor McLaughlin, CYD “meets students where they are and compliments the suite of other programs that the Foundation funds...from early childhood through after-school and summer programming.”

CYD’s human interventions are intended to empower youth while engaging the young adults working alongside them. These dual, concurrent missions are why the Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation has partnered with the organization since 2016, including targeted support for CYD’s Whole School Whole Child (WSWC) program. WSWC’s team members serve full-time at Gompers and in other Detroit Public Schools Community District (DPSCD) schools, supporting classroom lessons and offering math, literacy, attendance, and social-emotional skills interventions.

Mrs. Fisher told the Foundation that “you are here for a reason — to help people.” She passionately supported education and youth empowerment and also believed in engaging young adults to directly and courageously address challenges within their communities. CYD’s work directly aligns with Mrs. Fisher’s personal mission, as it encourages students’ educational and emotional thriving and builds up its corps members’ present and future work as community advocates and leaders.

The Foundation supports opportunities which respect, preserve, and advance the philanthropic passions and legacy of Max and

Marjorie Fisher and family.

We support grant partners and other organizations who:

- Live out missions that align with those supported by Max and Marjorie Fisher during their lifetimes.
- Contribute to the perpetuation and preservation of the Fisher family philanthropic legacy for future generations.
- Engage, educate, and enhance the capacity of future generations to become philanthropic leaders.

In reverence to their memory, the Foundation also invests in institutions and partners that bear their names and which are working to keep Mr. and Mrs. Fisher’s legacy at the forefront of society alive. These include The Max M. Fisher College of Business at The Ohio State University, the Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Music Center (home of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra) and the Max M. Fisher Federation Building of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit.



"Together, we are making a tangible impact across 14 Detroit Public Community Schools, reaching over 7,000 students. Through the dedicated service of our AmeriCorps members, we provide crucial academic support and mentorship, helping students unlock their full potential. This partnership goes beyond collaboration; it represents a shared commitment to creating lasting change and opening doors of opportunity for Detroit's youth to thrive both academically and socially."



DE'ANDRE L. SHEPARD, PH.D.
MANAGING DIRECTOR OF IMPACT
CITY YEAR DETROIT

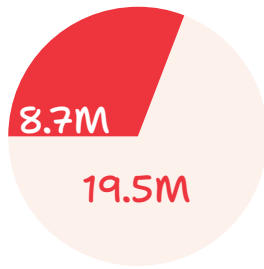
"The academic impact of the City Year Detroit program on students is undeniable and incredibly important, but the work goes beyond that. CYD addresses the needs of both students and corps members and is a continuous source of positivity and compassion within the school building."

CONNOR MCLAUGHLIN
PROGRAM PARTNER
MAX M. & MARJORIE S. FISHER FOUNDATION



Grantmaking

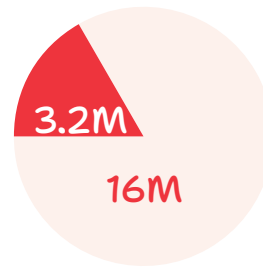
IMPACT AREA: LEGACY



2023

- PAID
\$8,773,328
- TOTAL GRANTMAKING & PRIs*
\$19,514,643

*PRI – Program-Related Investment



2024

- PAID
\$3,247,804
- TOTAL GRANTMAKING & PRIs*
\$16,086,891

*PRI – Program-Related Investment

New Commitments

GRANT PARTNER ORGANIZATION	PROJECT TITLE	AMT GRANTED 2023	AMT GRANTED 2024
A Girl Like Me Inc.	Streamlined Success in Finance, Safety, Online Presence, and Leadership with QuickBooks Mastery, Car Seat Installation Expertise, Seamless Website Hosting, -and Personalized Business Coaching by Monica Marie Jones	\$4,810.00	
A Girl Like Me Inc.	Bookkeeping, Board Training, Operations Support		\$3,500.00
Alice in Wonderland Childcare	Child Care Success Summit & Executive Coaching	\$4,480.00	
Alice in Wonderland Childcare	Childcare Conferences for the Director		\$10,000.00
Anti-Defamation League	General Operations	\$100,000.00	
B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at OSU	BUCK-ID, Hillel Security/Immediate Needs Post-October 7, 2023		\$12,000.00
Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County Inc.	Marjorie Club Air Conditioner	\$240,000.00	
Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County Inc.	Marjorie S. and Max M. Fisher Boys & Girls Clubs Organic Gardens		\$141,340.00
Brightmoor Alliance Inc.	Supporting Brightmoor Leaders Administration	\$2,462.50	
Brightmoor Alliance Inc.	Brightmoor Food Table - Pre-planning	\$48,400.00	
Brightmoor Alliance Inc.	Supporting Brightmoor Leaders Administration		\$4,571.00
Brightmoor Artisans Collective	Board & Staff Training		\$4,950.00
Brightmoor Makerspace	Woodworking Theory & Practice	\$10,000.00	
Brightmoor Makerspace	Design Thinking Integration for Creative Empowerment: Expanding Brightmoor Maker Space Programming Across Carpentry, Technology, and Arts		\$10,000.00
Children of the Rising Sun Empowerment Center	Reggio-Inspired Study Group		\$4,400.00
City Year Detroit	DEI Training - Creating Fires for Justice	\$5,000.00	
Class Act Detroit	Professional Audit Preparation Assistance	\$4,750.00	
Cross Pollination Corridor Project	North American Farmers' Direct Marketing Association NAFDMA Annual Conference & Expo	\$4,940.00	
Cross Pollination Corridor Project	North American Farmers' Direct Marketing Association NAFDMA Annual Conference & Expo		\$2,750.00
Crystal Swann Child Care LLC	Business Coaching with ChildCare Tax LLC	\$4,450.00	
Crystal Swann Child Care LLC	Business Coaching with ChildCare Tax LLC		\$4,250.00
Detroit Opera	2023-2025 General Operations	\$100,000.00	
Detroit Regional Chamber Foundation	Leadership Detroit Legacy Grant		\$50,000.00
Detroit Symphony Orchestra	Annual Operations 2023/24	\$100,000.00	
Detroit Symphony Orchestra	Annual Operations 2024/25-2027/28		\$1,000,000.00
Development Centers, Inc. dba MiSide	Supporting Brightmoor Leaders Administration	\$3,741.80	
Development Centers, Inc. dba MiSide	John Maxwell, Day to Grow Conference	\$1,500.00	
Development Centers, Inc. dba MiSide	Supporting Brightmoor Leaders Administration		\$5,310.00
Encourage Me I'm Young, Inc.	QPR - Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper Trainer Training		\$5,000.00
Executive Management Solutions, LLC	Executive and Administrative Assistants: the 30th Annual Conference for Administrative Excellence		\$4,800.00
Executive Management Solutions, LLC	Administrative Professionals Conferences	\$4,895.00	
Friends of United Hatzalah	General Operations	\$200,000.00	
Good Grief Detroit's: Where Do Black Women Go to Grieve?	Building Brightmoor Leaders	\$10,000.00	
Good Grief Detroit's: Where Do Black Women Go to Grieve?	Grief Counseling Training		\$8,000.00

New Commitments Continued

GRANT PARTNER ORGANIZATION	PROJECT TITLE	AMT GRANTED 2023	AMT GRANTED 2024
Grandparents Parenting Again	Grandparents as Parents Conference		\$2,000.00
Greater Ebenezer Christian Child Care Center	Boss Flix; NFCC Conference; Child Care Success Summit	\$5,000.00	
Gwen's Heaven's Angels	Association for Early Learning Leaders Annual Conference	\$2,910.00	
Gwen's Heaven's Angels	Childcare Staff Professional Development		\$5,000.00
Infants & Tots	Annual RIE Infant-Toddler Conference	\$2,660.00	
Infants & Tots	National Training Institute on Effective Practices		\$3,845.00
Jewish Agency For Israel-North American Council	Unrestricted Support	\$5,040,000.00	
Jewish Agency For Israel-North American Council	Emergency Undesignated Support	\$180,000.00	
Jewish Agency For Israel-North American Council	Emergency Undesignated Support	\$180,000.00	
Jewish Federation of Detroit	2024 and 2025 Annual Campaigns	\$2,580,000.00	
Jewish Funders Network	Youth Village Giving Circle		\$120,000.00
Jill's Creative Learning, LLC	Boss Flix; Childcare Success Summit; NFCC Conference	\$9,786.00	
Jill's Creative Learning, LLC	Early Childhood Leaders Citywide Conference		\$5,000.00
KDN	Association for Early Learning Leaders Annual Conference	\$2,910.00	
Kiddie Corner	Association for Early Learning Leaders Annual Conference & Executive Coaching	\$4,910.00	
Kristy's Early Childhood Development Center	Childcare Staff Professional Development	\$5,000.00	
Leland Community Affairs, Inc.	Board Training & First Aid Recertification	\$7,675.00	
Leland Community Affairs, Inc.	Board & Staff Training		\$3,250.00
Little Scholars	Emotional Intelligence and Workplace Culture Wellness	\$5,000.00	
Little Scholars	Two-Day Staff Training & Retreat		\$5,000.00
Live Coal	Visual Arts Certification		\$800.00
Mission:City	Christian Community Development Association Conference	\$5,000.00	
Mission:City	Christian Community Development Association Conference		\$4,050.00
Ohio State University Foundation, Max M. Fisher College of Business	Dean's Innovation Fund: Investing in Leadership		\$250,000.00
PattiCake's Early Learning Center	Early Childhood Professional Development		\$5,000.00
Rainbow Haven	Child Care Success Summit & NAEYC Conference	\$4,835.00	
Rainbow Haven	Childcare Staff Professional Development		\$5,000.00
Squiggles & Giggles Child Care LLC	Boss Flix; NFCC Conference	\$8,000.00	
Squiggles & Giggles Child Care LLC	Childcare Conferences for the Director & Staff		\$10,000.00
Superhero Training Academy	Curriculum Crystallization	\$5,000.00	
Superhero Training Academy	Placemaking + Communications		\$4,965.00
Urban Link Village	J & F Advisors -Financial Management Training	\$4,750.00	
Urban Link Village	Audit Preparation		\$4,750.00
Village of Shiny Stars Child Care Center	Association for Early Learning Leaders Annual Conference	\$10,000.00	
Village of Shiny Stars Child Care Center	Childcare Conferences for the Director		\$5,000.00
Wellspring	Next Step Adventure	\$10,000.00	
Wellspring	Project Growth		\$10,000.00
Wellspring	Lift As We Climb		\$204,000.00
YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit	YPPI Team Training	\$5,000.00	
YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit	YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit - Supporting Brightmoor Leaders		\$10,000.00

Committee

Amanda Fisher
CHAIR

Marjorie M. Fisher

Alissandra Aronow

Julie Fisher Cummings

Phillip Wm. Fisher

Caroline Cummings Rafferty

Andrew C. Sherman

David Fisher Sherman

Jane F. Sherman





TRUSTEES



STAFF

Trustees

Julie Fisher Cummings
CHAIR

David Fisher Sherman*
VICE CHAIR/TREASURER

Alissandra Aronow
SECRETARY

Amanda Fisher
TRUSTEE

Marjorie M. Fisher
TRUSTEE

Phillip Wm. Fisher
TRUSTEE

Caroline Cummings Rafferty
TRUSTEE

Andrew C. Sherman
TRUSTEE

Jane F. Sherman
TRUSTEE

*Elected Vice Chair, December 2024; Chair-Elect 2025

Staff

Douglas Bitonti Stewart
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jennifer Riker Fahnestock
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS AND
GRANTS MANAGEMENT

Meredith Freeman
DIRECTOR OF ALIGNMENT AND
IMPACT INVESTING

Kenya C. James
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Chelsea R. Landry
PROGRAM PARTNER

Connor McLaughlin
PROGRAM PARTNER

Camarrah Morgan
PROGRAM PARTNER

Cynthia K. Rowell
DIRECTOR OF LEARNING AND IMPACT

Lisa Soble Siegmann
PROGRAM PARTNER

Margaret Tapert
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

The nonprofit sector is the only sector described by what it is not, and the term “for-impact” is used throughout this document as a replacement. We feel for-impact is a more appropriate name for the sector, as its chief aim is to make a social or environmental impact on our world, not to break even or avoid profit. The term also places the sector within the context of its sister sector, for-profit.



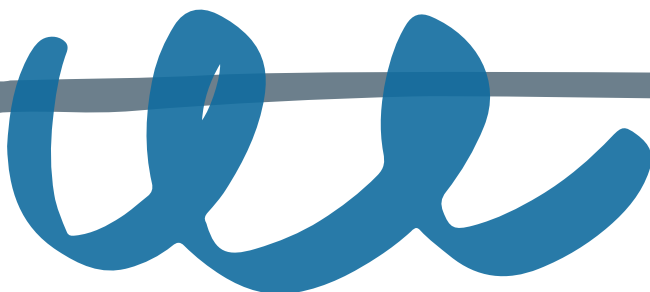
FINANCIALS

Balance Sheet

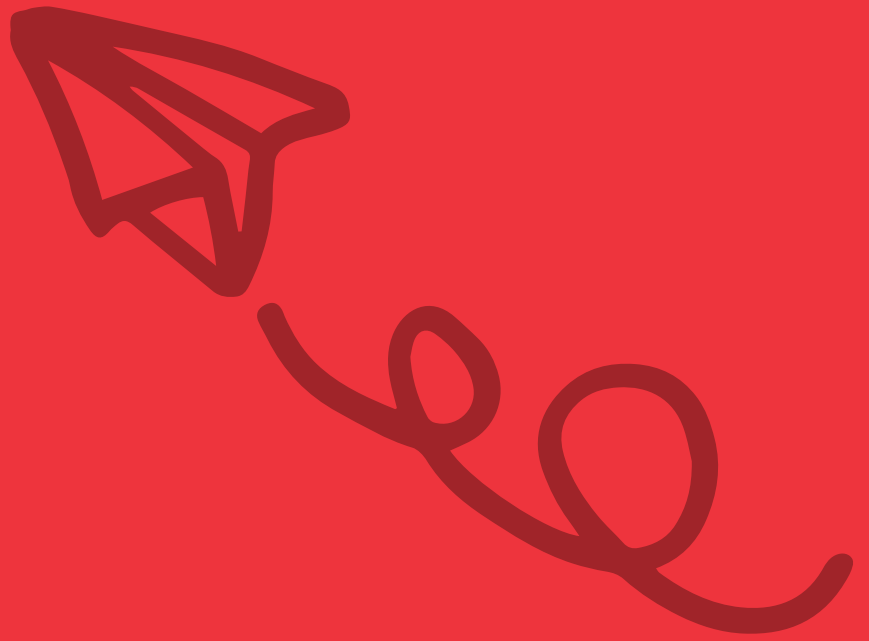


December 31, 2023 and 2024

ASSETS	2023	2024
Cash and cash equivalents	\$292,709	\$529,699
Investments	\$272,431,922	\$269,791,478
Mission-related investments	\$722,689	\$859,877
Program-related investments	\$5,953,340	\$6,775,224
Other receivables	\$525,438	\$468,011
Other assets	\$87,500	\$160,502
Right-of-use asset	\$219,007	\$146,005
Property and equipment	\$11,591	\$10,965
Total Assets	\$280,244,196	\$271,741,761
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Accrued liabilities	\$541,422	\$368,533
Grants payable	\$9,203,430	\$9,224,806
Office lease liability	\$233,253	\$160,440
Total liabilities	\$9,978,105	\$9,753,779
Net Assets - Unrestricted	\$270,266,091	\$268,987,982
Total liabilities and net assets	\$280,244,196	\$278,741,761







"Everything in life is based on love and what you can do to help others."

—MARJORIE S. FISHER



REPORT PHOTOGRAPHY BY: ARA HOWRANI AND ALY DARIN

REPORT DESIGN BY: MEMORA

M&MFisher
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