

IMPACT REPORT 2024



LETTER FROM THE CEO



**DEANNA L.
STEWART**

Executive Director

Dear Friends and Supporters,

I am thrilled to present Equity Alliance of Michigan's bi-annual impact report, highlighting our 2024 achievements and the progress we have made in our mission to promote equity and improve the quality of life for all residents of Detroit and surrounding communities. This past year has been transformative, and none of it would have been possible without the unwavering support of our community, partners, and dedicated team.

Through our community engagement initiatives, we have fostered stronger connections with residents, empowering them to voice their needs and aspirations. Our community meetings, workshops, and volunteer programs have been instrumental in creating a sense of unity and shared purpose. These efforts have not only brought us closer together but have also driven meaningful changes in our neighborhoods.

In the realm of community development, we have made significant strides. From the community garden to the enhancement of public spaces, our projects have provided safe and vibrant environments for families to thrive. We are particularly proud of our Future Focus Workforce training initiative and Senior Drone Program, which have equipped numerous residents with the skills needed for better job opportunities and economic stability.

Our economic programs have also seen remarkable success. By supporting local businesses and entrepreneurs with grants, loans, and mentorship, we have stimulated economic growth and job creation in our community. The entrepreneurship drop-in sessions have empowered many to take control of their financial futures and contribute to Detroit's economic resilience.

None of these accomplishments would have been possible without your generous contributions. Our fundraising efforts, including grants, corporate sponsorships, and community fundraisers, have enabled us to sustain and expand our impact. We are deeply grateful for your continued trust and investment in our mission.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to building a more equitable and prosperous Detroit. We will continue to innovate, collaborate, and work tirelessly to ensure that every resident has the opportunity to succeed. Thank you for being a part of this journey and for your steadfast support

With gratitude,

Deanna L. Stewart

Deanna Stewart
Executive Director
Equity Alliance of Michigan

COMPANY OVERVIEW

VISION

At Equity Alliance of Michigan, our vision is to cultivate communities where every individual has the tools, support, and mindset to thrive in the entrepreneurial landscape, flourish in the workforce, and prioritize their emotional well-being. Through holistic empowerment, we envision a world where innovation, opportunity, and personal fulfillment intersect, driving sustainable change and prosperity for all.

MISSION

Our mission is to foster opportunities for all individuals, regardless of background or circumstance. We strive to dismantle systemic barriers, promote diversity, and create environments where every person can contribute meaningfully to society. We aim to empower individuals to realize their full potential, driving collective prosperity throughout our communities.

3 PILLARS OF EQUITY



ENTREPRENEURSHIP

We provide a platform that allows individuals to bring their dreams to life through educational programs that equip them with the knowledge, skills, and resources necessary to start and grow their own businesses.



EMPOWERMENT

Our team focuses on developing inclusive communities where individuals feel valued, respected, and supported through awareness campaigns, advocacy efforts, and community-building initiatives.

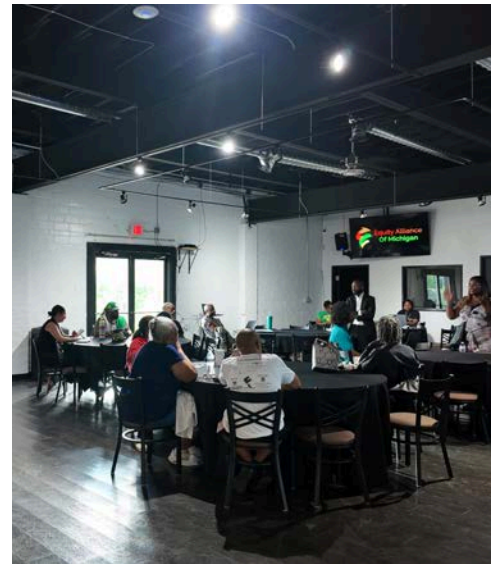


EMPLOYMENT MOBILITY

We provide comprehensive skills development and training programs tailored to the needs of job seekers, equipping them with the knowledge and expertise required for in-demand careers and industries.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

ENTREPRENEUR DROP-IN



ENTREPRENEUR DROP-IN:

- Provides a welcoming and collaborative environment for new business owners.
- Offers access to valuable resources, expert advice, and networking opportunities.
- Tailored guidance on business planning, marketing strategies, and financial management.
- Fosters a community of like-minded individuals.
- Empowers new business owners with essential tools and knowledge.
- Strengthens the local economy through innovative and inclusive business practices.



ENTREPRENEUR DROP-IN STATS

OVER
\$200,000
IN GRANTS

MORE
THAN **700**
BUSINESS OWNERS HELPED

25+ NEW BUSINESSES
REGISTERED

EMPOWERMENT

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S
HISTORY MONTH

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Equity Alliance of Michigan and Black Leaders Detroit celebrated Women's Month by recognizing the contributions of exceptional Women Leaders. This year we honored Sheri Burton for her impactful work in the Midwest Tireman Community, where she has advocated for economic development and social justice.

As part of this celebration, we also presented a \$5,000 check to one lucky entrepreneur. This grant was intended to help kickstart their business and promote economic empowerment. By supporting minority-owned businesses, the initiative aims to foster growth and create opportunities within underserved communities.





EMPOWERMENT

MIDWEST COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT

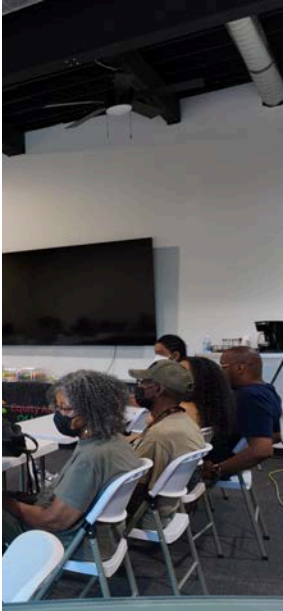
MIDWEST COMMUNITY MEETING

The Midwest Community meetings are a mission-critical gathering that convenes community leaders, residents, block clubs, and community business owners to strategize on regional development issues.



- Incorporates direct input from residents to guide actionable plans.
- Focuses on creating solutions for economic growth, housing, and safety.
- Enhances partnerships across businesses, nonprofits, and government bodies.







EMPOWERMENT

COMMUNITY GARDEN

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Equity Alliance of Michigan has built and cultivates a community garden that serves as both a green space and a hub for social and educational activities in Detroit.

The garden is part of the organization's initiative to promote sustainability and community well-being.



COMMUNITY GARDEN



Offers the opportunity of:

- Education and Engagement:
Workshops on gardening, sustainability, and healthy living.
- Food Security:
Produces fresh produce that is distributed among community members, improving access to healthy food.



EMPOWERMENT

BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE



BACK 2 SCHOOL DRIVE

Equity Alliance of Michigan recently celebrated the children heading back to school with a vibrant community event. Over 250 backpacks filled with school supplies, along with clothing and new shoes were provided to ensure the kids were well-prepared for the school year.

To add to the excitement, hair stylists were on-site offering fresh haircuts and styles for both boys and girls. The event also featured books, food, and fun games, creating a joyful atmosphere for the entire community. Families came together to enjoy the day and take advantage of the resources available to support their children's education.

This celebration reflects Equity Alliance of Michigan's ongoing commitment to empowering local families and fostering success for the next generation.





EMPOWERMENT

COMMUNITY EQUIFEST



EMPOWERMENT

SENIOR WELLNESS
WEDNESDAYS



WITH **Wellness WEDNESDAY** WITH **FREE HEALTH CHECKUPS**

ACTIVITIES:

- "SEE, I DID IT!" VISION BOARD SESSION
- FITNESS & EXERCISE W/AMY (COME DRESSED)
- IT'S IN THE CHAT - INTERACTIVE GAME
- LIFE SAFETY TIPS
- FOOD, FUN & GIVEAWAYS

MOLINA HEALTHCARE



Equity Alliance of Michigan, in collaboration with Second Ebenezer Church, hosted Senior Wellness Wednesdays to promote health and well-being among seniors.

These events offered free health checkups and engaging activities designed to foster both physical and mental wellness. Additionally, there were life safety tips, food, and giveaways to encourage participation and community connection.

Equity Alliance of Michigan is dedicated to fostering wellness and empowerment through initiatives like this, focusing on the holistic health of Detroit's senior community.





EMPOWERMENT

COMMUNITY BABY SHOWER



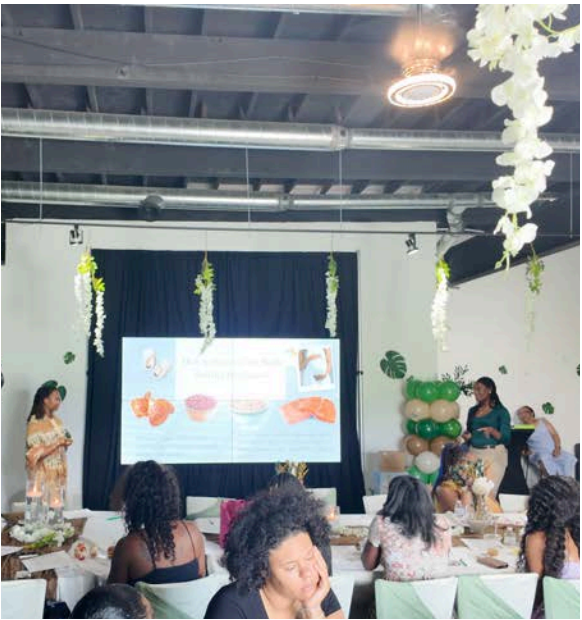
COMMUNITY BABY SHOWER

Equity Alliance of Michigan recently celebrated over 25 mothers and their babies with a joyful Community Baby Shower. The event was a heartwarming occasion, filled with food, gifts, and fun games, all aimed at making the mothers feel appreciated and supported.

Each mother received thoughtful gifts to help them on their journey into motherhood, creating a sense of community and connection. In addition to the celebration, the event included educational sessions, providing valuable resources and information to help the mothers navigate the early stages of parenthood.

The goal was to empower these women with the tools and knowledge they need for a healthy and confident start. This event reflects the Equity Alliance of Michigan's commitment to supporting families and fostering strong, vibrant communities.







EMPLOYMENT MOBILITY

FUTURE FOCUS



FUTURE FOCUS

Future Focus is a flagship program of Equity Alliance of Michigan. Designed for those that are: economically disadvantaged, ready for change, committed to growth, and community-minded.

This program equips participants with critical skills and knowledge through mentorship and educational activities.



FUTURE FOCUS

Our comprehensive workshop covers:

- Basic Computer Skills
- Effective Communication
- Interview Skills
- Resume Building
- Dressing for Success
- Understanding Microsoft Software
- Job Search Strategies



FUTURE FOCUS

FIRST COHORT STATS

30+ PARTICIPANTS

MORE
THAN **600+**
HOURS OF
EMPLOYMENT TRAINING

LAPTOPS GIVEN TO
EACH GRADUATE

The background of the image is a heavily blurred photograph of a large indoor event, possibly a trade show or conference. Numerous people are visible, some standing and others walking, creating a sense of a busy, crowded environment. The lighting is bright, and the colors are somewhat muted due to the blur.

EMPLOYMENT MOBILITY

DRONE PROGRAM



DRONE PROGRAM

The Drone Training Program at Equity Alliance of Michigan is designed to equip participants with the skills and knowledge necessary to operate drones, emphasizing the potential for career opportunities in this rapidly growing field. This program is part of the organization's commitment to promoting technological skills and employment mobility among community members.



DRONE PROGRAM

Our comprehensive workshop covers:

- Drone Operation Basics
- Safety Regulations
- Legal Requirements
- Flight Practice
- Aerial Photography
- Aerial Videography
- Mapping and Surveying



DRONE PROGRAM

FIRST COHORT STATS

25+ PARTICIPANTS

4 HOURS OF WEEKLY
DRONE TRAINING
PER STUDENT

MORE THAN 80%
OF PARTICIPANTS ARE
OVER THE AGE OF 50

1 DRONE PHOTOGRAPHY
COMPANY ESTABLISHED



SIGNATURE EVENT

REAL LEADERS SERVE

On February 24th, 2024, Equity Alliance of Michigan hosted the inaugural Real Leaders Serve Brunch: Over 100 Women, a transformative event celebrating the virtues of community, service, and leadership.

This gathering fostered a network of current and future professionals dedicated to service-oriented leadership.

During this special occasion, Faye Nelson was honored as the recipient of the 2024 Real Leaders Serve Award, with the keynote address delivered by the esteemed April Ryan.



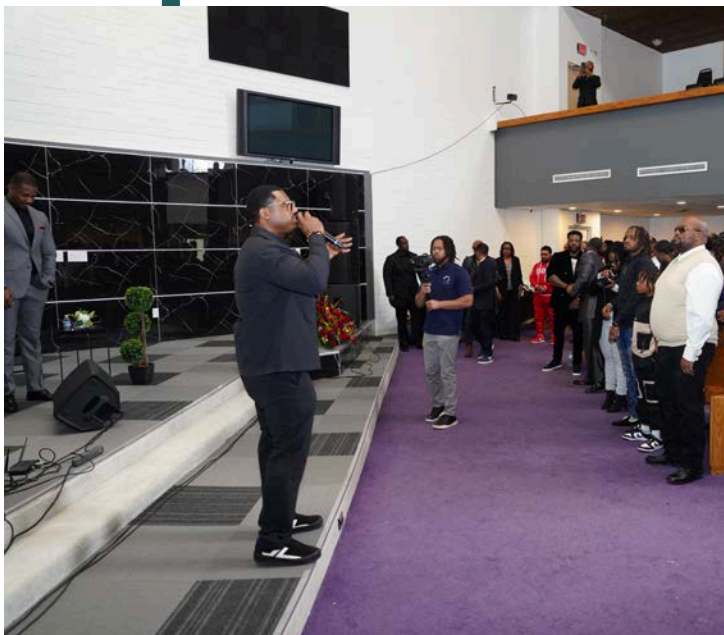
The Real Leaders Serve Brunch brought together over 100 women, fostering a dynamic network of current and future professionals committed to service-oriented leadership.





SIGNATURE EVENT

1K BLACK MEN



On April 20th, 2024,
Equity Alliance of
Michigan hosted its
signature event,
1K Men Conference,
dedicated to
promoting the holistic
well-being of men
within the community.


**Equity Alliance
Of Michigan**

LES BROWN & FRIENDS

A conversation for **1,000 BLACK MEN**
on physical, financial and spiritual well
being

SATURDAY APRIL 20, 2024
12 PM - 3 PM
(DOORS OPEN AT 11AM)

LOCATION: GREATER FAITH ASSEMBLY
Pastor Raphael Williams
9760 Woodward Ave, Detroit, MI 48202

RSVP
WWW.1KBLACKMEN.COM

THIS IS A MENS ONLY EVENT





Michael Vick



Hill Harper

**Additional
Guest
Speakers
to Include:**



Usama Young



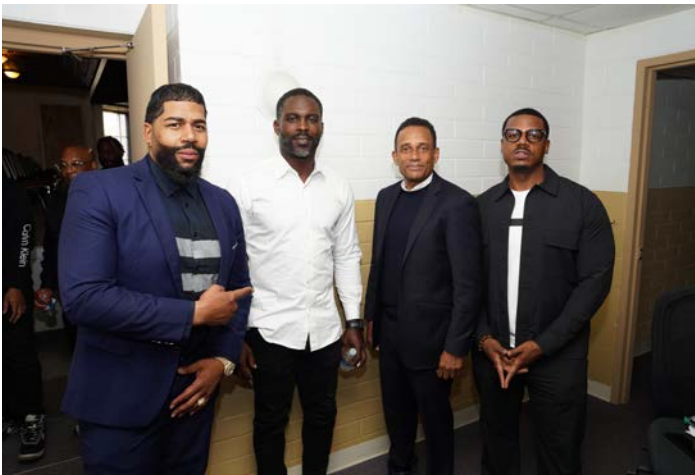
Romero Williams

***RAFFLE FOR TICKETS TO THE 2024 NFL DRAFT ***

A photograph of a group of men in suits sitting in an audience. The man in the center is looking towards the left. He has a beard and is wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and red tie. To his right, another man with grey hair is looking forward. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people in the audience.

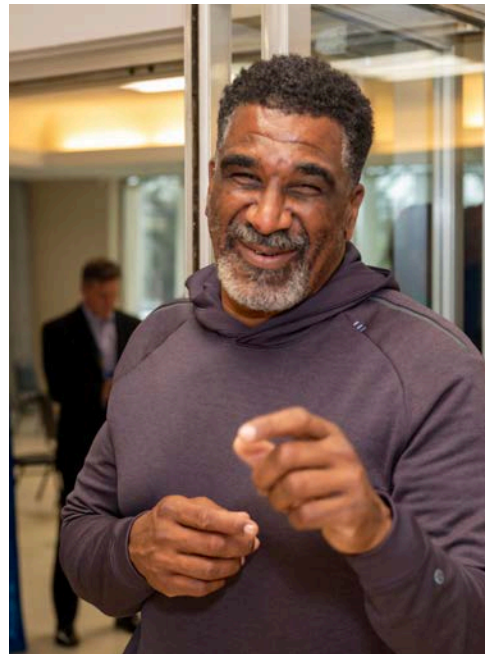
The event featured a special message to the men from keynote speaker Les Brown, along with a panel discussion with Michael Vick and Hill Harper, who shared valuable insights on overcoming challenges and achieving success.

We gathered over 500 men, encouraging them to support one another and work collaboratively toward common goals, thereby strengthening community bonds.



SIGNATURE EVENT

**NFL
DRAFT
COMMUNITY
WATCH
PARTY**



The background of the image is a blurred photograph of a large crowd of people, likely at a conference or event. The colors are predominantly purple, blue, and pink, suggesting a festive or themed atmosphere. The text is centered and reads:

2024 MACKINAC POLICY CONFERENCE

During the 2024 Mackinac Policy Conference, Delta Dental of Michigan hosted a panel discussion on how justice demands are reshaping philanthropy dynamics.

Our very own Executive Director, Deanna Stewart, was invited to participate, bringing her valuable insights to the conversation.

Key takeaways from the discussion included:

- Trust is the cornerstone of modern philanthropy.
- Successful philanthropy requires the active inclusion of communities in the work being done around and for its residents.
- Philanthropy leaves a lasting legacy, impacting not only the donors but also the nonprofits and the communities they serve.



TESTIMONIALS

“Equity Alliance has helped me overcome isolation. I was in a depression from my mother’s passing and the pandemic, **it’s refreshing to be around good people**”
Equifest participant, age 74

“Everyone who works at Equity Alliance has been very **helpful, insightful**, and they give **great advice to advance us**”
Entrepreneur Drop in participant, age 17

“This program is **inclusive for all generations**. I’m now better prepared for what the **future of employment** holds”
Future Focus participant, age 61

“**I feel more prepared** to understand terminology in the workplace I wouldn’t otherwise know without **Equity Alliance and the Future Focus program.**”
Future Focus participant, age 18

**With the support of
our volunteers,
partners, funders, and
staff, Equity Alliance
of Michigan has had
the honor of serving
over 5,000 Detroit
Metropolitan residents
in 2024.**

SPIRIT OF DETROIT

The Spirit of Detroit Award is a prestigious recognition presented by the Detroit City Council. It honors individuals, groups, and organizations that have made outstanding achievements or provided significant services to the citizens of Detroit.

The award seeks to acknowledge those who embody the spirit of Detroit through their commitment, dedication, and contributions to improving the community.



Here are some key aspects of the Spirit of Detroit Award:

- **Recognition of Excellence:** Celebrates exceptional contributions to the community's welfare and image.
- **Diverse Recipients:** Can be awarded to anyone who has significantly impacted Detroit, including local heroes, activists, businesses, and organizations.
- **Symbolic Significance:** Represents the spirit and resilience of Detroit and its citizens, reinforcing pride and unity in the community.

The award is not only a token of appreciation but also serves as an inspiration for others to strive for community improvement and civic engagement.

**Fundraising
Campaign:**

Building Expansion

Development Plan



We're Expanding!

Equity Alliance of Michigan is excited to announce that we are transforming our space to accommodate more residents and small businesses. Our plan will expand existing banquet and meeting space, incorporate private office space and introduce our Entrepreneur Hub!

We need your help! Ask how you can support today! OurFundraisingGoal: \$1,000,000



6602 Walton Street in Detroit, MI, currently houses the Equity Alliance of Michigan Community Center, a facility that serves the local community by offering various programs and activities. The building is an industrial warehouse structure built in 1929, with a total area of about 4,537 square feet. This location has been involved in community initiatives like the Midwest-Tireman Framework, which focuses on neighborhood development and revitalization

Development Plan

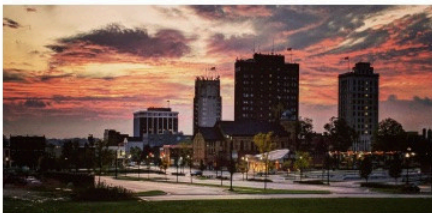
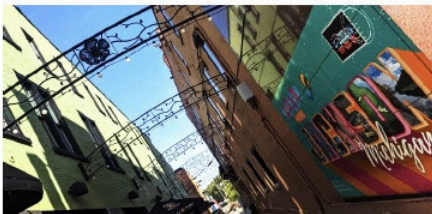


DESIGN INSPIRATION: COMMUNITY

CONTEXT

URBAN
ACTIVE
CONTEMPORARY
UNIQUE

This development is conveniently situated within walking distance to the Joe Louis Greenway. Street level activity is an important aspect of this development and a critical component for building a vibrant neighborhood. The convenience store and service kitchen will be a destination within the neighborhood.



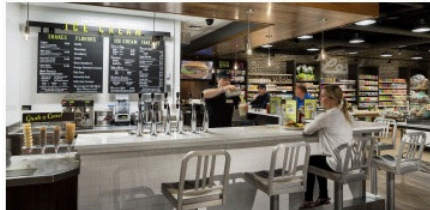
CONCEPT

Equity Alliance of Michigan

PLACE

NEIGHBORHOOD ORIENTED
NEIGHBORHOOD AMENITY COMMERCIAL ANCHOR
ACTIVE STREET PRESENCE
WELCOMING

This development will help to reinforce the revitalization of Midwest Tireman. It will add pedestrian traffic along Walton and spark other investments in the area. The small cafe and co-working space will be a local gathering place that will continue to provide a much needed amenity to the surrounding neighborhood.

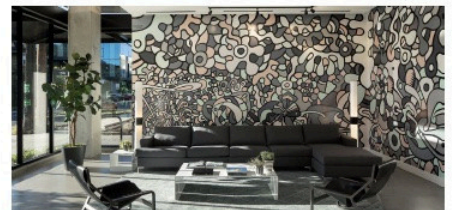


VISION | FRAMEWORK

RESIDENCE

EFFICIENT LOBBY
PET FRIENDLY
ELEGANT BUT APPROACHABLE
COMFORTABLE

This development will be easily accessed with ample, well-lit and secure parking. The entrances fronting Walton and the parking lot across the street will provide access for either pedestrian or vehicular traffic.

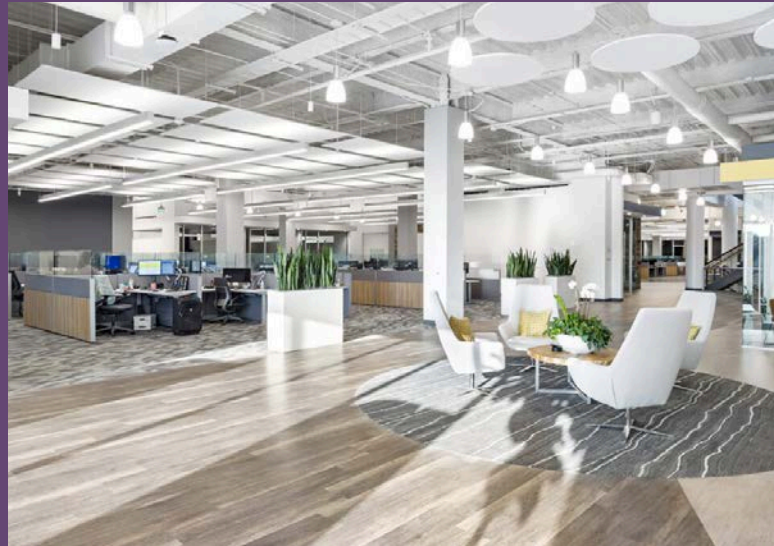


Our center will be a destination space, for businesses and residents throughout Detroit, who seek a space that integrates neighborhood, safety, technology and innovation in lone location.

Development Plan



FOCUS AREA: THE ENTREPRENEUR HUB



The Hub will provide training and resources to entrepreneurs through a combination of direct services, remote services, and referral relationships. Host to "Entrepreneur Drop-In" Wednesdays, the new space will allow participants to build meaningful partnerships with organizations and individuals while fostering an environment of collaboration and thought leadership.

Sponsorships



There are a variety of ways in which you can support Equity Alliance of Michigan including corporate donations, in-kind engagement and general operating support. Your tax deductible donation allows our team to provide access to resources that best serve and grow the communities we support.

Support Category	Description & Use of Funds	Minimum Sponsorship
Events & Programs	Speakers, purpose driven workshops and more	\$5k+
Special Projects	Community based projects that support the mission of the organization	\$10k+ & In-kind gifts
Operating Support	Capacity building and resource support to continue organizational growth	\$25k+
Building Expansion Project	Renovation and expansion of existing space to meet the needs of the community	Fundraising Goal: \$1M

Perks of your support:

- Brand and logo recognition on website and marketing materials
- Networking opportunities
- Tickets to events and programs
- Social media acknowledgement

Current Funders + Support Partners

Ballmer Group
Barton Malow
Bedrock Detroit
CDAD
City of Detroit

Detroit Sports Commission
Joe Louis Greenway Partnership
Kresge Foundation
Microsoft
Midwest Civic Council of Block Clubs

Motor City Match
New Economy Initiative (NEI)
St. Vincent De Paul
Wayne Metro Community Action
Agency

THANK YOU

ballmer
GROUP®



new
economy
initiative



Barton
Malow

THE
KRESGE
FOUNDATION

Midwest
Civic Council of
Block Clubs



Wayne Metropolitan
Community Action Agency

