



2023 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION INVESTMENT: FUNDED INITIATIVES

The Gordie Howe International Bridge project is a once-in-a-generation undertaking. Not only will the project deliver much-needed transportation improvements for international travellers, it is providing jobs and opportunities for growth to the Windsor, Ontario, and Detroit, Michigan region. A key project element is the inclusion of a Community Benefits Plan.

The \$20 million Neighbourhood Infrastructure Strategy of the Community Benefits Plan includes the Community Organization Investment, an annual commitment to provide a \$200,000 (CDN) investment allowance for community organizations located in or serving Sandwich/west Windsor or Delray/Southwest Detroit (the host communities). Funds are provided between 2020 and 2024 to support events, programming and/or infrastructure improvements that benefit the host communities and align with one of the community investment priorities: community partnerships, community safety and connections, economic benefits, and/or aesthetics and landscaping.

From November 2022 to January 2023, registered non-profit and charitable organizations were invited to apply for the program's fourth year of funding. Thirty-six eligible applications were reviewed and prioritized by members of the Local Community Group, which includes 16 stakeholders representing various perspectives from Windsor and Detroit. The prioritized applications were reviewed by senior project representatives from Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority (WDBA), Bridging North America (BNA) and the State of Michigan to determine funding recipients.

In July 2023, the Community Organization Investment will divide \$200,000 (CDN) to seven organizations in Canada and seven in the US.

CANADIAN INITIATIVES

ENHANCING QUALITY OF LIFE

Organization: Journey Home Hospice Windsor, Saint Elizabeth Foundation

Funding: \$25,000

Initiative Type: Programming

Providing opportunities for patients experiencing homelessness and vulnerable housing to access the healing benefits of art and music therapies during their end-of-life journeys.

GREEN SPACE RECLAMATION

Organization: Les Amis Duff-Bâby

Funding: \$16,000

Initiative Type: Infrastructure

Reclamation of the former garden area/orchard of the Bâby and Beasley families. This work includes improving the grading, removing or relocating materials, reinstating the lawn, tree maintenance and control of invasive species.

NOISE REDUCTION AT THE HELPING HANDS FRIENDSHIP CENTRE

Organization: Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Funding: \$20,000

Initiative Type: Infrastructure

Installation of a drop ceiling at the Helping Hands Friendship Centre to enable program participants to feel comfortable sharing their stories in a more private, safe environment.

BRIDGING THE GAP: THE SANDWICH DEMENTIA SERIES

Organization: Alzheimer Society of Windsor and Essex County

Funding: \$15,000

Initiative Type: Event

Hosting three public events in Sandwich/west Windsor to share relevant information on Alzheimer's and related dementias. Events will include qualified guest speakers sharing up-to-

date research, information and best practices on caring for people living with dementia.

SPAYING AND NEUTERING COMMUNITY CATS IN SANDWICH

Organization: Windsor/Essex County Humane Society

Funding: \$10,000

Initiative Type: Programming

Funding will be provided to support the spay and neuter program for community cats in Sandwich, helping to control the community cat population and improving the environment for residents as well as their owned cats.

RAINBOW PAINTINGS ON PAVEMENT

Organization: John McGivney Children's Centre

Funding: \$5,500

Initiative Type: Infrastructure

Painting two pavement areas at the John McGivney Children's Centre in the colours of the Progressive Rainbow Flag in honour of the LGBTQ2S+ community to celebrate equality, inclusion and compassion and signal that all diversities are safe and welcome.

WOMEN CAN SUMMIT

Organization: Border City Athletics Club

Funding: \$8,500

Initiative Type: Event

Funding will support a multi-day, three-part series that encourages and empowers Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) young women in coaching, mentorship and leadership in sports.

US INITIATIVES

CHASS MERCADO SUMMER PROGRAM

Organization: Community Health and Social Services (CHASS)

Funding: \$25,000 (CDN)

Initiative Type: Programming

A new produce voucher program will be included in the Mercado summer program helping Southwest Detroit households to access fresh and culturally appropriate food at a discounted rate as well as offering culturally inclusive on-site cooking classes for youth.

FOOD FOR UNHOMED INDIVIDUALS

Organization: Trinity St. Mark's Pantry and Gardens

Funding: \$15,000 (CDN)

Initiative Type: Programming

Funding will help to provide lunches to unhomed individuals three times weekly. Funding will also be used to provide shelf stable, fresh, or frozen food to local residents.

THE SOUTHWEST DETROIT PORTRAIT STUDIO

Organization: Capturing Belief

Funding: \$21,000 (CDN)

Initiative Type: Programming

Southwest Detroit youth will be mentored to learn the basics of operating a photography business through a series of pop-up studios where mentees will photograph and gift free family portraits to Southwest Detroit residents. The family portraits will be incorporated into a public mosaic exhibited in Southwest Detroit.

CINCO DE MAYO PARADE AND FIESTA

Organization: Mexican Patriotic Committee of Metro Detroit

Funding: \$13,000 (CDN)

Initiative Type: Event

Funding will support the 2024 Cinco de Mayo Parade and Fiesta in Detroit, part of a weekend program filled with local entertainment and artisans.

GRANTS FOR YOUTH SPORTS IN SOUTHWEST DETROIT

Organization: Hispanic Police Officers' Association of Michigan - Detroit Chapter

Funding: \$12,000 (CDN)

Initiative Type: Programming

Funding will support grants for Southwest Detroit youth who desire to participate in group sports but face financial challenges to participate. Grants can be used to subsidize team registrations, fees, equipment, uniforms, travel and related expenses.

DELRAY-SOUTHWEST ENGAGEMENT AND FAMILY DAYS

Organization: Southwest Detroit Community Benefits Coalition

Funding: \$10,000 (CDN)

Initiative Type: Programming

Funding will be provided to support outreach efforts and deliver programming at the Delray Neighborhood House through new Family Activity and Support Days, the purchase of sports equipment for the center and providing regular public access to the computer room and library.

SUMMER PROGRAM KICKOFF AND WINTER CARNIVAL

Organization: Clark Park Coalition

Funding: \$4,000 (CDN)

Initiative Type: Event

Funding will support the 2023 Summer Program Kickoff and the 2024 Winter Carnival. The events will include programming and activities in Clark Park, enrollment of community youth in recreational programming and recruiting residents to engage in community service projects throughout the year.

The 2024 Community Organization Investment will launch in late fall 2023, with funding released to successful applicants in July 2024. Learn more about the program at www.GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com.

PUBLIC REPORTING

The Community Benefits Plan includes a robust documenting, tracking and reporting structure that demonstrates accountability to the region. The Community Benefits Plan is posted on www.GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com, along with quarterly reports on initiative progress and results. Updates on initiatives funded through the 2023 Community Organization Investment will be provided during the respective project's delivery period.

For more information about the Gordie Howe International Bridge project visit

www.GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com or call 1-844-322-1773. Follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/GordieHoweBrg, like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GordieHoweBridge and connect with us on LinkedIn at www.linkedin.com/company/wdba-apwd.