



HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

1. The sponsoring representative's first name:
Helena
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:
Scott
3. The cosponsoring representatives' names. All cosponsors must be listed. If none, please type 'n/a.' A signed letter from the sponsor approving the co-sponsorship and a signed letter from the member wishing to co-sponsor are required. Attach letters at question #9 below.
McKinney
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
Friends of the Children Detroit
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
2470 Collingham Suite 309 Detroit MI 48206
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:
N/A
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:
Helena Scott HD8
8. Purpose of the legislatively directed spending item. Please include how it provides a public benefit and why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funding. Please also demonstrate that the item does not violate Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution. Friends of the Children is a national nonprofit that has been disrupting intergenerational cycles of poverty, violence and trauma for over 30 years. The Detroit chapter is the only chapter in the state and launched 5 years ago. The mission is to create generational change by empowering youth who are facing the greatest obstacles through relationships with paid professional mentors from kindergarten through grade 12 no matter what. An eligible child must have at least two adverse childhood experiences or ACES. Most of our children have at least four ACES by the time they are 4 years old. A qualifying ACE

includes, abuse and neglect, drug use in the home, an incarcerated parent, witnessing domestic violence, etc). Once a child is deemed eligible from a referring entity (school district, Department of Health and Human Services, etc) the child is guaranteed a professional mentor from kindergarten through grade 12. The mentors are all degreed professionals, most coming out of schools of social work, education or psychology. The mentor supports the child 2 hours in the classroom every week and 2 hours outside of the classroom every week. The Friends model is two-generational, meaning the mentor supports not only the child but their family unit which is often struggling with housing insecurity, food insecurity, employment insecurity etc. The Friends model is evidenced based with irrefutable data that shows Friends participants: 83% of graduates earn a high school diploma or GED; 92% go on to enroll in post-secondary education, serve our country or find employment; 93% avoid the juvenile justice system and 98% avoid early parenting (national stats). The public benefit is the program is transformational for the child and their family (siblings are also eligible) ensuring a supportive professional is ensuring the child reads at grade level, excels in math, and stays in school. The cost savings to the state by ensuring these kids graduate, avoid the juvenile justice and prison system, avoid drug use and teen pregnancy (often ensuring a Medicaid dependency) are significant and indisputable.

9. **Attach documents here if needed:**

Attachments added to the end of this file.

10. **The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item.**

500000

11. **Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received any of the following types of funding? Check all that apply.**

["State"]

12. **Please select one of the following groups that describes the entity requesting the legislatively directed spending item:**

Non-profit organization

13. **For a non-profit organization, has the organization been operating within Michigan for the preceding 36 months?**

Yes

14. **For a non-profit organization, has the entity had a physical office within Michigan for the preceding 12 months?**

Yes

15. **For a non-profit organization, does the organization have a board of directors?**

Yes

16. For a non-profit organization, list all the active members on the organization's board of directors and any other officers. If this question is not applicable, please type 'n/a.'

Deborah Wahl, Chair; Eric Cunningham, Vic Chair; James Weakes, Treasurer; Tomika Moch, Secretary; Rachel Barra, Dre Clemons, Christine Feuell, Hollie Heikkinen, David Kelly, Jocelyn Lincoln, Mary Neyland Moore, Gargi Patel, Nora Staebler, Frederiek Toney, Rema Vassar, Harry Cohen

17. "I certify that neither the sponsoring representative nor the sponsoring representative's staff or immediate family has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the legislatively directed spending item."

Yes, this is correct

18. Anticipated start and end dates for the legislatively directed spending item:

October 1, 2025 - September 30, 2026

19. "I hereby certify that all information provided in this request is true and accurate."

Yes