



# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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1. The sponsoring representative's first name:  
Karen
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:  
Whitsett
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.  
N/A
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
LAHC -Leaders Advancing & Helping Communities
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
5275 Kenilworth, Dearborn MI 48126
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:  
Alabas Farhat – District 3
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.  
Title: Workforce Development: Enhancing Michigan's Economic Future

#### Introduction:

LAHC- Leaders Advancing and Helping Communities is a non-profit organization whose mission is to empower communities, one family at a time, by advancing the educational, social, health and economic well-being of Southeast Michigan Residents. We are seeking a \$2.5 million dollar grant to fund Workforce Development Programming. Our

Workforce Development Hub serves as a central resource for individuals seeking essential skills training, vocational programs, and career advancement opportunities, ultimately strengthening Michigan's workforce and economic viability.

**Project Description:**

LAHC offers a comprehensive range of programs and services to address the evolving needs of Michigan's labor market. LAHC provides the following programs and services:

1. **Vocational Training:** Our workforce development center offers industry-specific vocational training programs, equipping individuals with practical skills and knowledge to secure employment in high-demand sectors such as healthcare, IT, advanced manufacturing, and renewable energy.
2. **Job Placement and Coaching:** To bridge the gap between training and employment, we have established a dedicated job placement and coaching center. Trained professionals assist individuals in job searches, resume building, interview preparation, and connecting with potential employers.
3. **Entrepreneurship Incubation:** Our workforce Development Center fosters innovation and self-employment by providing resources, mentorship, and workspace for aspiring entrepreneurs. It facilitates the development of business plans, access to capital, and networking opportunities, empowering individuals to start their own enterprises and contribute to Michigan's economic growth.
4. **Continuing Education:** Recognizing the importance of lifelong learning, the hub offers continuing education programs, promoting upskilling and career advancement. Courses and workshops cover emerging technologies, leadership development, and other relevant topics to ensure individuals remain competitive in the evolving job market.
5. **English Language Acquisition:** LAHC recognizes the significance of language proficiency for successful integration into the workforce. The hub provides English language classes tailored to the specific needs of immigrants, focusing on essential communication skills, workplace terminology, and cultural understanding.
6. **Professional Development Workshops:** LAHC understands the importance of continuous skill development. The workforce development hub hosts workshops and seminars aimed at enhancing immigrants' professional competencies. Topics may include digital literacy, computer skills, leadership development, networking, and cultural competency in the workplace.
7. **Legal Aid and Immigration Services:** To address the unique challenges faced by immigrants, the hub collaborates with legal professionals and immigration experts to provide valuable services such as legal consultations, expungement, driver license reinstatement, assistance with immigration documentation, and support in navigating the immigration system. This holistic approach will ensure that immigrants have access to the necessary legal resources and guidance.

Conclusion:

LAHC believes that investing in our workforce development program will have a transformative impact on Michigan's economy by equipping individuals with the skills necessary to excel in today's workforce. By partnering with the State of Michigan, we can provide dire programs that benefit individuals from diverse backgrounds and strengthens the state's economic resilience. We kindly request the State's support and funding to bring this vital project to fruition and pave the way for a brighter future for Michigan's workforce.

9. Attach documents here if needed:

N/A

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

2,500,000

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

[Federal, State, Local, Private]

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.'

See attached.

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:

10/01/2025

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

Yes

LAHC  
Board of Directors

Ali Jawad  
Founder  
Chief Operating Officer Armada Oil & Gas Company

The Honorable Hassan Ahmad  
President  
Council Chair Pro Tem- City of Dearborn Heights  
Associate Broker  
Remax Leading Edge

Khalil Rahal  
Vice President  
Economic Development  
Director  
DTE Energy

Allie Berry  
Treasurer  
Vice President  
Armada Oil & Gas Company

Velma Jean Overman

Secretary

Pastor-Christ Temple

City of Refuge Inkster

Executive Director- Operation Refuge INC

The Honorable Mariam Saad Bazzi

Director- At Large

Judge

Wayne County Circuit Court

The Honorable Sam Salamey

Director – At Large

Chief Judge

19th District Court

Hassan Sheikh

Director – At Large

Economic Development

Director

Wayne County

Sam Hussein

Director-At Large

President & CEO

MetroTech Automotive Group

Zenell Brown

Director – At Large

Region 1 Administrator State Court Administrative Office

The Honorable Sam Baydoun

Director – At Large

Wayne County Commissioner

Associate Broker Century 21

The Honorable Helal Farhat

Director – At Large

Judge

Wayne County Circuit Court

Bridget Hurd

Director – At Large

Vice President, BCBS-MI