



HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

1. The sponsoring representative's first name:
Ron
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:
Robinson
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.
Rep. Mark Tisdell
Rep. Joe Aragona
Rep. Jay DeBoyer
Rep. Denise Mentzer
Rep. Kelly Breen
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
Dutton Farm
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
Dutton Farm's headquarters are located at 2290 Dutton Rd, Rochester Hills, MI 48306 however this project will be used for the Macomb County location at 34354 Moravian Dr, Sterling Heights, MI 48312
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:
Ron Robinson, District 58
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.

The public purpose of this legislative directed spending is to cover the one-time capital costs related to the creation/expansion of the Macomb facility. In 2023, Macomb County approached Dutton Farm about a possible expansion in Macomb County to help serve individuals with developmental disabilities locally. While Medicaid offers reimbursement for specific services, the non-profit agency cannot access Medicaid dollars for capital costs and capacity building. This funding will help to pay off the recently acquired property and make capital improvements to the facility so that Dutton Farm can serve more individuals locally and ensure that every dollar from fundraising and insurance reimbursements goes into directed services and programming for the participants. There are no ongoing programmatic costs associated with this request, and the expansion is 100% sustainable by the non-profit moving forward. This item does not violate Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution.

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.

850000

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

["None"]

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.'

Jerry Brown, Tom DeAgostino, Mike Spisz, Mike Webber, Laura Murphy, Chris Barnett, Cheryl Boodram, Ken Dallafior, Laura Kozerski, Jim Lambrecht, David McClelland, David Mingle, Aimee Spurlock, Katie Stark, Jaymes Vettraino

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:

In other attachment

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

Yes



63RD DISTRICT
STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 30014
LANSING, MI 48909-7514

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JAY DEBOYER
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

PHONE: (517) 373-1787
FAX: (517) 373-9119
JayDeBoyer@house.mi.gov

March 14, 2025

Dear Representative Robinson,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my strong support for Dutton Farm's legislative directed spending request of \$850,000.00 to assist with the capital costs associated with the expansion of their Macomb program. I would be honored to join as a co-sponsor of this important initiative.

Dutton Farm's mission is to empower and support adults with disabilities to live a life of purpose, inclusion, and dignity. Their vision of creating a just world where individuals can better access and participate in schools, workplaces, government, communities, churches, and beyond is both inspiring and essential. This expansion will significantly contribute to making that vision a reality in Macomb County.

Macomb County Community Mental Health is actively working to increase the availability of provider choices for residents. As a newly approved provider of Community Skill Building and Supported Employment services for Macomb County CMH, Dutton Farm is uniquely positioned to fill critical gaps in our community. Establishing and growing a physical presence in Macomb County is a crucial step toward meeting the pressing need for these services.

Currently serving over 150 individuals through two locations, Dutton Farm offers both site-based and community-based skill-building programs aimed at equipping developmentally disabled adults with essential life and workforce skills. The planned improvements to their Sterling Heights facility will not only allow them to serve more individuals but also provide current participants with enhanced space to learn, grow, and lead more purposeful lives.

I am confident that supporting Dutton Farm's expansion will yield lasting benefits for our community by empowering adults with disabilities. I appreciate your consideration of this legislative directed spending request and would greatly value the opportunity to collaborate with you in advancing this critical cause.

Please feel free to reach out if you would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Jay DeBoyer
State Representative
District 63



innovative *by* nature

Bryan K. Barnett
Mayor

March 19, 2025

City Council

Carol Morlan
District 1

David J. Blair
District 2

Jason Carlock
District 3

Ryan J. Deel
District 4

Theresa Mungoli
At-Large

Marvie Neubauer
At-Large

David Walker
At-Large

To Whom It May Concern:

As Mayor of the City of Rochester Hills, I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for appropriation of state funds to Dutton Farm. I have had the pleasure of working with Jenny Brown and Dutton Farm over the last several years and have witnessed firsthand the tremendous work they do. Dutton Farm has significantly improved the quality of life for the individuals utilizing their services and has created awareness and partnerships throughout Southeast Michigan.

Ms. Brown and her team actively work to provide meaningful work opportunities for individuals with disabilities. They support the evolving needs of our population through community engagement, skill-building and workforce development. They are able to invest in a talent pool that can fill necessary positions in industries experiencing staffing shortages, building talent pipelines.

Dutton Farm has proven to be an incredible service provider in Oakland County, and they desire to expand into Macomb County to help more individuals. Their commitment to supporting people with intellectual and development disabilities is unmatched, and the positive impact they have on our community is indispensable.

Thank you for your consideration. I cannot stress enough the value this organization brings or the commitment the leadership has to our disabled population. We are a better community because of them, and they deserve the opportunity to expand their services and help more Michiganders.

I welcome the opportunity to answer any questions you may have. Please feel free to contact me at my office anytime (248-656-4664).

Sincerely,

Bryan K. Barnett, Mayor
City of Rochester Hills

February 10, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of support for Dutton Farm's appropriations request from the State of Michigan. Advancing Macomb was excited to learn of Dutton Farm's expansion of services with a new location in Macomb County and have been delighted to provide early support to their efforts.

Dutton Farm serves over 150 individuals through their two locations, offering site-based and community-based skill-building programs to equip developmentally disabled adults with essential life skills and providing workforce skill-building programs. Their expansion plans include improvements to their Sterling Heights facility which will allow the organization to serve more individuals and allow current participants more space to learn and grow, empowering them to live more inclusive lives with dignity and purpose.

As a champion for Macomb County nonprofits, Advancing Macomb recognizes the importance that organizations such as Dutton Farm play in making our communities places that people love, not just places they live. Access to services and support for all members of our communities is critical to ensuring a high quality of life for participants, their families, and our communities.

We are happy to support Dutton Farm in their request and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Phil Gilchrist
Executive Director



21ST DISTRICT
STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 30014
LANSING, MI 48909-7514

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

KELLY BREEN
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

PHONE: (517) 373-2575
FAX: (517) 373-5939
KellyBreen@house.mi.gov
5-785 House Office Building

April 9, 2025

Dear Representative Robinson,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my strong support for Dutton Farm's legislative directed spending request of \$850,000.00 to assist with the capital costs associated with the expansion of their Macomb program. I would be honored to join as a co-sponsor of this important initiative.

Dutton Farm's mission is to empower and support adults with disabilities to live a life of purpose, inclusion, and dignity. Their vision of creating a just world where individuals can better access and participate in schools, workplaces, government, communities, churches, and beyond is both inspiring and essential. This expansion will significantly contribute to making that vision a reality in Macomb County.

Macomb County Community Mental Health is actively working to increase the availability of provider choices for residents. As a newly approved provider of Community Skill Building and Supported Employment services for Macomb County CMH, Dutton Farm is uniquely positioned to fill critical gaps in our community. Establishing and growing a physical presence in Macomb County is a crucial step toward meeting the pressing need for these services.

Currently serving over 150 individuals through two locations, Dutton Farm offers both site-based and community-based skill-building programs aimed at equipping developmentally disabled adults with essential life and workforce skills. The planned improvements to their Sterling Heights facility will not only allow them to serve more individuals but also provide current participants with enhanced space to learn, grow, and lead more purposeful lives.

I am confident that supporting Dutton Farm's expansion will yield lasting benefits for our community by empowering adults with disabilities. I appreciate your consideration of this legislative directed spending request and would greatly value the opportunity to collaborate with you in advancing this critical cause.

Please feel free to reach out if you would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Kelly Breen
State Representative
21st District



DUTTON FARM

PROJECT TIMELINE DUTTON FARM MACOMB EXPANSION

Project Duration: 12 Months

Phase 1: Pre Construction (Month 1-3)

- Project Kick off
- Site Analysis
- Design Development
- Obtain Permits and Approvals
- Finalize Plans
- Line up Contractors

Phase 2: Site Preparation (Month 4)

- Site Clearing
- Demolition

Phase 3: Structural Framework and MEP (Month 5-7)

- Install walls, windows and trusses
- Rough in Plumbing, electrical, HVAC

Phase 4: Exterior and Interior Finishing (Month 8-11)

- Installation of drywall
- Painting
- Install Flooring
- Landscape and Site Finishing

Phase 5: Final Inspection (Month 12)

- Final Building Inspection
- Final Cleaning
- Project Closeout



60TH DISTRICT
STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 30014
LANSING, MI 48909-7514

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JOSEPH A. ARAGONA

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

PHONE: (517) 373-1785
FAX: (517) 373-5762
JosephAragona@house.mi.gov

April 7th, 2025

Dear Representative Robinson,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my strong support for Dutton Farm's legislative directed spending request of \$850,000.00 to assist with the capital costs associated with the expansion of their Macomb program. I would be honored to join as a co-sponsor of this important initiative.

Dutton Farm's mission is to empower and support adults with disabilities to live a life of purpose, inclusion, and dignity. Their vision of creating a just world where individuals can better access and participate in schools, workplaces, government, communities, churches, and beyond is both inspiring and essential. This expansion will significantly contribute to making that vision a reality in Macomb County.

Macomb County Community Mental Health is actively working to increase the availability of provider choices for residents. As a newly approved provider of Community Skill Building and Supported Employment services for Macomb County CMH, Dutton Farm is uniquely positioned to fill critical gaps in our community. Establishing and growing a physical presence in Macomb County is a crucial step toward meeting the pressing need for these services. Currently serving over 150 individuals through two locations, Dutton Farm offers both site-based and community-based skill-building programs aimed at equipping developmentally disabled adults with essential life and workforce skills. The planned improvements to their Sterling Heights facility will not only allow them to serve more individuals but also provide current participants with enhanced space to learn, grow, and lead more purposeful lives.

I am confident that supporting Dutton Farm's expansion will yield lasting benefits for our community by empowering adults with disabilities. I appreciate your consideration of this legislative directed spending request and would greatly value the opportunity to collaborate with you in advancing this critical cause.

Please feel free to reach out if you would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Joseph A. Aragona", is located below the "Sincerely," text.

Joseph A. Aragona
State Representative
60th House District



7243 Miller Drive, Warren, MI 48092

email: csr@jomar.com

phone: (586) 268-1220

fax: (586) 979-8315

March 19, 2025

To Whom it May Concern,

This letter is pertaining to our full support for Dutton Farm's appropriations request from the State of Michigan. Our company has had the pleasure of working with Jenny Brown and Dutton Farm over the last several years as a partner of their Supported Employment Program. We have witnessed first-hand the impact that they have made in empowering and giving a voice to those within the disability community.

What we love about Dutton Farm is their passion and desire in providing choices, options, and opportunities for individuals with disabilities who are waiting for services. Because of their continued growth and expansion into other communities including Macomb County, they are helping meet the evolving needs of our state as well as addressing several areas central to building strong communities. This includes community engagement, skill building, and workforce development. As their partner, we have seen how their Workforce Development focus and building of talent pipelines have helped fill necessary positions in a variety of industries experiencing staffing shortages.

By providing transferable job skills training, community access, along with competitively paid and integrated employment, Dutton Farm has already proven themselves to be a great service provider in Oakland County. We are positive the grant funds that they receive will help continue in their fight to advocate for the inclusion and rights of adults with disabilities.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Renta Varghese

Renta Varghese

Global Human Resources Manager

Direct: (586) 268-1220

Mobile: (248) 990-3006



MARK A. HACKEL
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

MACOMB COUNTY
OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

MARK F. DELDIN
CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE

January 24, 2025

To Whom it May Concern,

It is my pleasure to offer this letter of support for Dutton Farm's appropriations request for an enhancement grant from the State of Michigan. Macomb County Community Mental Health (CMH) is actively working to expand choices and options of providers in our community. Dutton Farm has recently become a provider of Community Skill Building and Supported Employment for Macomb County CMH, and they are looking to have a physical presence in Macomb County. Macomb County has needs in these areas and I fully support their planned expansion. Dutton Farm has already proven themselves to be a great service provider in Oakland County, an active member of their communities, and they have demonstrated their commitment to supporting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. I am positive they would put your grant funds to good use with great outcomes.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MAH', is written over a horizontal line.

Mark A. Hackel
Macomb County Executive



61ST DISTRICT
STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 30014
LANSING, MI 48909-7514

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DENISE MENTZER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

PHONE: (517) 373-1774
FAX: (517) 373-8872
DeniseMentzer@house.mi.gov

Representative Ron Robinson
N-992 House Office Building
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909

April 8th, 2025

Dear Representative Robinson

I am writing to express my support for Dutton Farm's legislative directed spending request of \$850,000.00 to assist with the capital costs associated with the expansion of their Macomb program. I would be proud to join as a co-sponsor of this initiative.

Macomb County Community Mental Health is actively working to increase the availability of provider choices for residents. As a newly approved provider of Community Skill Building and Supported Employment services for Macomb County CMH, Dutton Farm is uniquely positioned to fill critical gaps in our community. Establishing and growing a physical presence in Macomb County is a crucial step toward meeting the pressing need for these services.

Currently serving over 150 individuals through two locations, Dutton Farm offers both site-based and community-based skill-building programs aimed at equipping developmentally disabled adults with essential life and workforce skills. The planned improvements to their Sterling Heights facility will not only allow them to serve more individuals but also provide current participants with enhanced space to learn, grow, and lead more purposeful lives.

Supporting Dutton Farm's expansion will yield lasting benefits for our community by empowering adults with disabilities. I appreciate your consideration of this legislative directed spending request and would greatly value the opportunity to collaborate with you in advancing this critical cause.

Sincerely,

Denise Mentzer
State Representative
District 61



55TH DISTRICT
STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 30014
LANSING, MI 48909-7514

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARK A. TISDEL

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

PHONE: (517) 373-1792
FAX: (517) 373-7757
MarkTisdell@house.mi.gov
www.RepTisdell.com

April 7, 2025

Representative Ron Robinson
N-992 House Office Building
Lansing, MI 48933

Representative Robinson,

I'm writing to express my strong support for Dutton Farm's legislative directed spending request of \$850,000 to help cover the capital costs associated with expanding their Macomb County program. I would be honored to join as a co-sponsor of this important initiative.

Dutton Farm's mission—to empower and support adults with disabilities to live lives of purpose, inclusion, and dignity—is both inspiring and essential. Their vision of a just world where all individuals can fully participate in schools, workplaces, communities, and faith institutions reflects the core values of public service. This expansion represents a meaningful step toward realizing that vision in Macomb County.

Currently serving more than 150 individuals across two locations, Dutton Farm provides both site- and community-based programs designed to help adults with developmental disabilities build essential life and workforce skills. I've seen the incredible impact Dutton Farm has had in my own community of Rochester Hills. They are a professional, compassionate organization deeply committed to the success and well-being of their participants. I've been proud to support their work for many years, and I'm excited to see their reach extend to serve more families in Macomb County.

Thank you for considering this request—I would welcome the opportunity to work with you in advancing this important cause.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark A. Tisdell".

Mark Tisdell
State Representative, District 55
Chairman, House Finance Committee