



HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

1. The sponsoring representative's first name:
Veronica
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:
Paiz
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.
Representative Donovan McKinney
Representative Joe Tate
Representative Tyrone Carter
Representative Stephanie Young
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
Samaritan Center
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
5555 Conner St., Detroit, MI 48213
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:
Representative Paiz - House District 10
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 Samaritan Center. In 2024, SER completed a full acquisition of the Samaritan Center by entering into and consummating the sale agreement with Holy Cross Children's Services in exchange for buying their 50% of the ownership interests, committing to furthering the mission of the Samaritan Center of providing access to businesses and community services that build a strong and bright future for Detroit. More than 90 businesses and community-based agencies are housed at the Samaritan Center providing

mental health, food, clothing, workforce development, day care, education and economic development services, all under one roof, to 50,000 individuals annually. No other facility in the area offers the same quantity and diversity of services and resources. This project addresses longstanding social, health, and economic inequities by improving access to essential services in a historically underfunded and marginalized neighborhood. By addressing critical infrastructure needs of the Samaritan Center including energy efficiency upgrades and customers experience, safety enhancements, roof and other improvements, this project will benefit public in the following ways:

- The newly renovated and updated facility will attract new tenants, thereby improving the range of services offered while employing dozens of new employees.
- The addition of new tenants and services will alleviate the pressure, wait lines, and "ease of" access to other services, from already resource-strained community providers in the area.
- The Center will continue to serve as a catalyst for attracting new businesses in the area (due to increased foot traffic), which in return will create new employment opportunities and additional income tax revenue for the City of Detroit.
- Residents will continue to have access to services that have not been readily available to them in the past, helping them gain access to upward economic opportunities, health care and other support services.
- The community will benefit by having a premier community hub in their neighborhood, which may help spur additional affordable housing and other investments in the area.

This proposal/project will comply with the Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution by being subject to approval by two-thirds of the members elected to and serving in each house of the legislature required for the appropriation of public money or property for local or private purposes.

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.

2000000

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.'

Chairperson: Mr. Raymond Lozano, Executive Director Treasurer: Mr. Rojelio Padilla, President Secretary: Ms. Shelly Norman-Hill Members: Mr. Mark C. Carter, Mr. Robert Jones, Ms. Shawn Hill, Ms. Patricia S. Blount, Ms. Estrella B. Crawford, Mr. Jose Oxholm, Ms. Lisa Carter, and Mr. Felipe Torres

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:

Anticipated start date is Q4, 2027

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

Yes

Inspiring opportunity

A CAMPAIGN FOR THE SAMARITAN CENTER

Located on Detroit's eastside in one of the city's most challenged neighborhoods, Samaritan Center has proven to be a crucial catalyst for community health and economic opportunity. Situated on the former campus of Mercy Hospital, the Center offers educational, healthcare, and community services in one central location – a one-of-a-kind facility that meets the needs of Detroiters while simultaneously spurring economic growth in the city.

In 2001, after a generous donation from Trinity Health, SER Metro-Detroit and Holy Cross Children's Services entered into a joint ownership of Samaritan Center and turned the facility into a hub of vital community services. In 2024, SER Metro Detroit assumed full ownership of the Center, with plans to make significant upgrades to the facility so that it can continue its long tradition of serving citizens on the eastside of Detroit.

With more than 95 community providers located across the 27-acre campus, more than 50,000 Detroiters are served annually at the Center. Indeed, the facility has been recognized as a national model for a wellness-centered community, with a focus on improving employment outcomes, resident incomes, housing, educational attainment and home ownership in the surrounding neighborhoods.

To ensure that the Samaritan Center can continue its long legacy of service the community now and into the future, the leadership team of SER Metro- Detroit worked with key community partners to identify needed capital improvements and facility enhancements. As a result of this process, the organization has identified significant renovation needs and has developed a comprehensive modernization plan.

To achieve this goal, SER Metro Detroit has initiated a community fundraising campaign that will raise \$15.2 million to fund the construction of the building and to support the operations and services necessary to make the project successful. This \$15.2 million campaign will make our vision for the future of Detroit possible. It includes three key components:

1. Completing capital improvements and facility enhancements to the entire Samaritan Center campus to ensure
2. Modernizing the Samaritan Center's technological and communication infrastructure
3. Establishing an endowment fund to ensure that key children's programming at the Samaritan Center continues in perpetuity.

Inspiring opportunity

A CAMPAIGN FOR THE SAMARITAN CENTER

Samaritan Center		
FY 2026 State of Michigan Appropriation Request Budget		
ENERGY/UTILITIES EFFICIENCY SYSTEMS		
Pneumatic System/New Compressors	\$	28,000
Heat Pumps (Pavilion Building)	\$	15,007
Replace Boiler/Water Heater in Pavilion Building	\$	7,940
New Stormwater Drainage System (Matrix)	\$	61,620
Decommission 2 Dumb Waiter Systems	\$	70,000
Repair Exhaust Fans (Main)	\$	30,000
Replace Drain Lines - Main Building	\$	100,000
Install High Efficiency Water Fixtures	\$	35,333
Total Energy/Utilities Systems	\$	347,900
TENANTS & CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE		
Parking Lot Replacement	\$	117,028
Concrete Sidewalk and Curbs	\$	162,000
Beautification	\$	74,010
Build ADA Bus Stop and Rebuilt Main Drive Entry	\$	179,424
Replace Lighting Posts in Parking Lots	\$	64,000
Tunnel Moisture Mitigation	\$	28,750
Repair Exterior Fencing and Gates	\$	100,000
Common Area Flooring (Main)	\$	36,000
Pavilion Building Common Area Upgrades	\$	26,000
Common Area Corridors (Main)	\$	24,000
Re-Key Master Key System	\$	17,000
Total Tenants/Customers Experience	\$	828,212
SAFETY		
Repair Fire Damper System (Main)	\$	32,500
Demolition of Pavilion Arch	\$	8,500
Total Safety	\$	41,000
ROOF and OTHER IMPROVEMENTS		
New Lawn Sprinkler System and Controllers	\$	65,000
Replacement of Roofing Systems (Main/Pavilion)	\$	536,070
Total Roof/Other Improvements	\$	601,070
Administrative oversight @10%	\$	181,817
TOTAL:	\$	2,000,000



DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

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April 14, 2025

Eva Garza Dewaelsche, President and CEO
SER Metro-Detroit, Jobs for Progress, Inc.
9301 Michigan Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48210

Dear CEO Dewaelsche:

On behalf of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, I am pleased to provide this letter of support to SER Metro-Detroit, Jobs for Progress, Inc. in your efforts to secure the congressionally-directed spending request for the Samaritan Center through the office of State Representative Veronica Paiz in the FY 2026 appropriations bill.

The Samaritan Center is a primary community resource hub on the east side of Detroit that has provided critical programs and services for the past 24 years for low- and moderate-income community residents. With over 80 organizations under one roof, the Samaritan Center is a vital "One Stop" site that is conveniently located and accessible to our residents. It cannot be overstated how essential the Center is for underserved and underrepresented individuals and families who lack the income, healthcare, insurance, education, food, child-care services, behavioral/mental health services and other critical resources needed to help them become and thrive as self-sufficient, contributing members of society.

I wholeheartedly support SER Metro's efforts to secure much-needed funding to improve and enhance the Samaritan Center to ensure it continues to serve our residents most in need during today's challenging economic times.

Sincerely,

Darryl Woods, Chairman
Board of Police Commissioners



5555 Conner, Suite 2097
Detroit, MI 48213
(313) 579-9160
www.JacketsforJobs.org

April 16, 2025

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to provide this letter as a support to SER Metro-Detroit, Jobs for Progress, Inc. in its efforts to secure the legislatively directed spending request for \$2,000,000.00 for improvements to the Samaritan Center in the FY 25-26 state budget.

The Samaritan Center is a primary community resource hub for east side Detroit's low- and moderate-income residents. Hosting over 80+ organizations under one roof, the significance of services provided in one place to the impoverished Detroiters who lack the income, healthcare education, food services and other resources they need to become contributing members of society cannot be overstated.

Any secured funding for this project will help to make necessary physical improvements to the facility including energy efficiency upgrades, utility systems, tenant and customer experience improvements and health and safety improvements. Some examples include parking lots and roof upgrades, ADA access to the front entrance, replacement of external lighting and new storm water drainage. This will help to ensure that this vital resource remains a beacon of hope for the community and that the Samaritan Center can still play host to the numerous non-profits, and small businesses that call it home.

I lend my full support to securing much-needed funding to improve the Samaritan Center and help the underrepresented residents of Detroit with the essential means to secure their successful lives in today's challenging economic times and develop a strong platform for their futures, families, and communities. I truly consider it an honor to support the SER Metro-Detroit's efforts in their vision for a better tomorrow for all Detroiters in need.

Sincerely,



Alison Vaughn, CEO
Jackets for Jobs



Recreation • Conservation • Education

CHANDLER PARK CONSERVANCY
5555 Conner, Suite 2017
Detroit, MI 48213

April 17, 2025

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Chandler Park Conservancy, a nonprofit organization located within the Samaritan Center, I am pleased to offer this letter in strong support of SER Metro-Detroit, Jobs for Progress, Inc. in its efforts to secure a legislatively directed spending request of \$2,000,000 for critical improvements to the Samaritan Center in the FY 2025–2026 state budget.

The Samaritan Center serves as a central community resource hub for Detroit's east side, especially for low- and moderate-income residents. With over 80 organizations operating under one roof, the center provides vital, wraparound services that address a range of needs—from healthcare and education to food access and workforce development. Its impact on the lives of Detroiters, particularly those facing economic hardship, cannot be overstated.

The requested funding will support essential physical upgrades to the facility, including but not limited to:

- Energy efficiency improvements
- Upgrades to utility systems
- ADA-accessible front entrance enhancements
- Parking lot and roof renovations
- Stormwater drainage improvements
- Enhanced external lighting for safety

These improvements are not only necessary for health, safety, and operational efficiency—they are vital to ensuring that the Samaritan Center continues to be a beacon of hope and opportunity for the individuals and families who rely on its services daily.

I fully support this funding request and believe these investments will enhance the quality of life for Detroit residents, uplift underrepresented communities, and ensure a stronger, more resilient foundation for the future of our city. It is an honor to stand alongside SER Metro-Detroit in their commitment to equity, access, and community advancement.

Sincerely,

Alex J. Allen III
President & CEO
Chandler Park Conservancy

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April 14, 2025

Eva Garza Dewaelsche
President and CEO
SER Metro-Detroit, Jobs for Progress, Inc.
9301 Michigan Ave.
Detroit, MI 48210

Dear Mrs. Dewaelsche:

On behalf of DWIHN, I am pleased to provide this letter of support to SER Metro-Detroit, Jobs for Progress, Inc. in your efforts to secure the congressionally directed spending request for the Samaritan Center through the office of State Rep. Veronica Paiz (10th House District) in the FY 2026 appropriations bill.

The Samaritan Center is a primary community resource hub on the east side of Detroit that has provided critical programs and services for the past 24 years for low- and moderate-income community residents. Housing over 80 organizations under one roof, it cannot be overstated how significant it is having a "One Stop" community resource center for underserved and underrepresented Detroiters who lack the income, healthcare, insurance, education, food, child-care services, behavioral/mental health services and other critical resources needed to help families become self-sufficient, contributing members of society.

I wholeheartedly support SER Metro's efforts to secure much-needed funding to improve and enhance the Samaritan Center to ensure it continues to serve the residents of Detroit most in need during today's challenging economic times.

Sincerely,

James E. White

Board of Directors

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