

# Small Business and Local Government

# Welcome

**Dorian Grey**

Senior Director, Leadership, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation  
Detroit Regional Chamber

# Sustainable by Design: Small Business Leading Detroit's Green Shift

**Vincent Calimazzo**, Director, Operations, Riverwards Produce Detroit

**Kevin Johnson**, President and Chief Executive Officer, Detroit Economic Growth Corporation

**Brian Peterson**, Founder and President, Bees in the D

*Moderator:* **Sean Gray**, Senior Vice President, Small Business Services, Detroit Economic Growth Corporation

# Break

# Building Detroit's Future: City Leadership, Economic Growth, and Community Impact

**Amanda Elias**, Deputy Chief of Neighborhood Economic Development, City of Detroit

**Bryan Peckinpaugh**, Director of the Department of Neighborhoods, City of Detroit

*Moderator:* **Crystal Perkins**, Director, General Services Department, City of Detroit

An illustration in red showing four stylized human figures, a tree, and three buildings of varying heights, all resting on a curved line that forms the top of the word 'HUB'.

# NEIGHBORHUB



**MICHIGAN ECONOMIC**  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

**THE**  
**KRESGE**  
FOUNDATION





# Supporting Small Businesses, Strengthening Communities

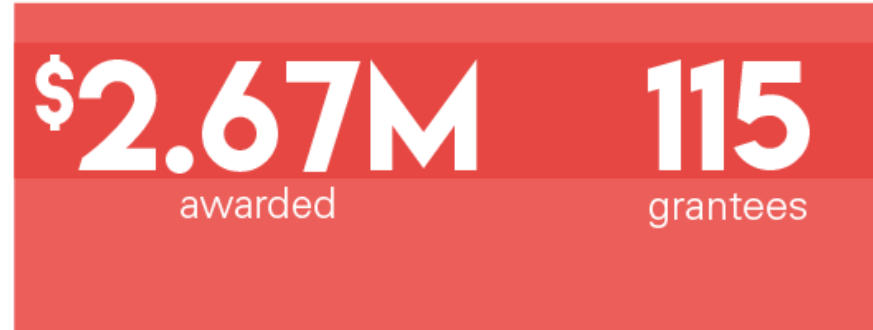
The 2026 NeighborHUB Grant Program, led by the **Detroit Regional Chamber** and powered by the **Michigan Economic Development Corporation**, was designed to empower residents to effect change in their neighborhoods by providing funding to small businesses working in communities throughout **Detroit, Highland Park, and Hamtramck.**



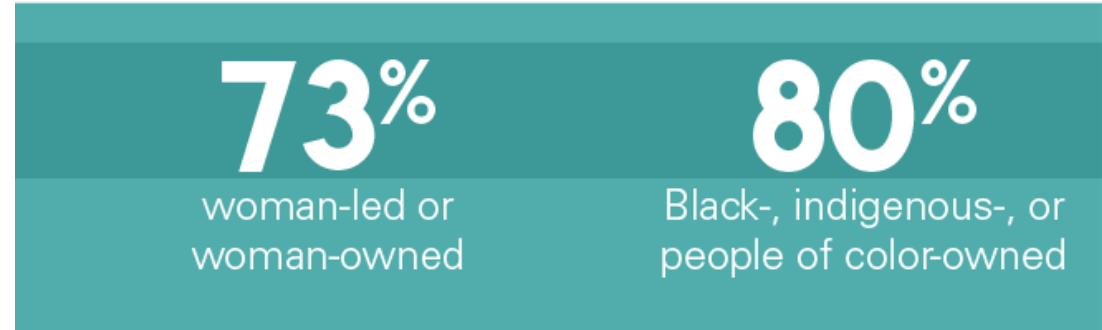
MICHIGAN ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

# NeighborHUB's Impact

## OVERALL



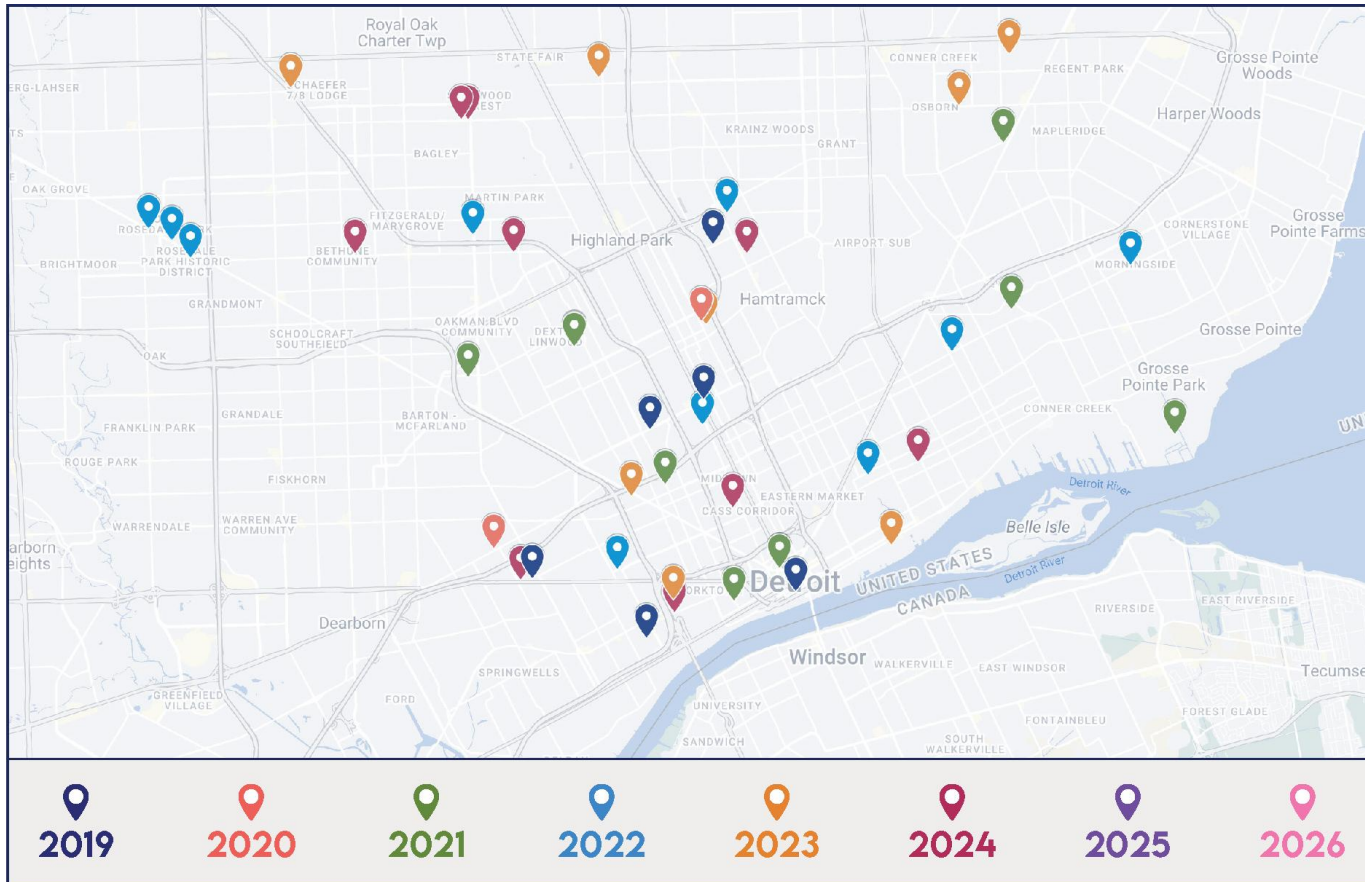
## DEMOGRAPHICS



## ACCOMPLISHMENTS



# NeighborHUB's Impact



*“NeighborHUB has demonstrated how targeted, enhancement-focused grants can strengthen existing businesses and create a ripple effect of neighborhood revitalization in communities.”*

**Amy Rencher**

Senior Vice President, Small Business,  
Michigan Economic Development Corporation

# 2026 NeighborHUB Small Business Grant Recipients



Autism in the D



City Bird, LLC



Come Play Detroit



Hamtramck Bazaar



Evelyn's Midtown Kitchen



Systems Unlimited, LLC



Hidden in Plain Sight



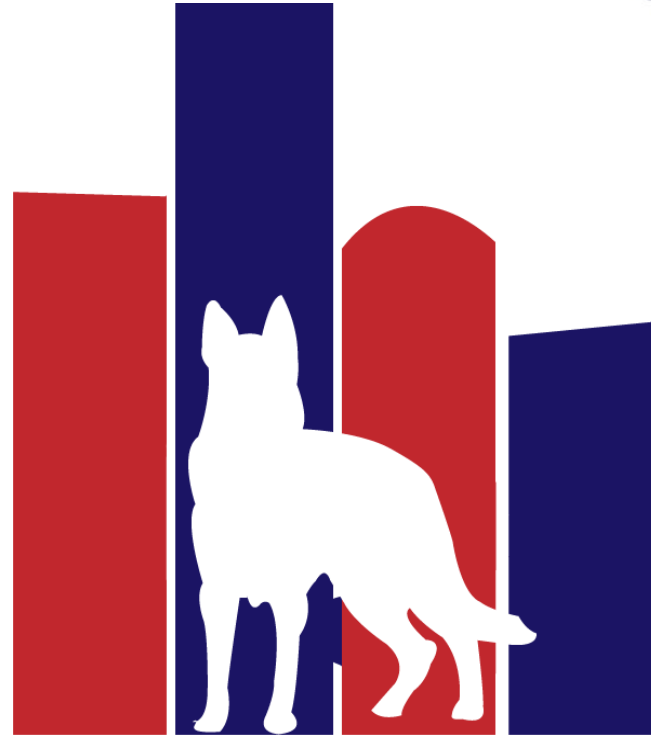
Webdroid, LLC



# NEIGHBORHUB



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DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION



# MOTOR CITY G.S.D.

THE  
KRESGE  
FOUNDATION

 *First Independence  
Bank*

# Tour of Detroit Athletic Club

# Lunch

Detroit Athletic Club

# Sponsor Remarks

**Lolita LeNoir**

Senior Commercial Loan Officer,  
First Independence Bank

# Energy, Equity, and Entrepreneurship

**Carla Walker-Miller**, Founder and Chief Executive Officer,  
Walker-Miller Energy Services; LD 33

# Break

# Regional Momentum: What's Next For Oakland County and Its Communities

**David Coulter**, County Executive, Oakland County

**Michael McGuinness**, Mayor, City of Pontiac

Moderator: **Madiha Tariq**, Deputy County Executive, Oakland County; LD 42

# Democracy Decoded: Navigating Misinformation and Voting with Confidence

**Aghogho Edebvie**, Deputy Secretary of State, State of Michigan

**Dan Gilmartin**, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer,  
Michigan Municipal League

**Anne Mervenne**, Chief Executive Officer, Mervenne & Company

Moderator: **Tiffany Ellis**, Partner, Peiffer, Wolf, Carr, Kane, Conway, &  
Wise, LLP; LD 42

# Break

# LD 46 Class Led Discussion

**Anthony Eid**, Director, Policy and Advocacy, Coalition on Temporary Shelter (COTS)

**Irma Hayes**, Deputy Director, Economic and Community Development, City of Harper Woods

# Wrap Up

# Leadership Detroit Day at the Pistons

Wednesday, March 25

Bring family and friends to connect with LD classmates and alumni while celebrating Pistons pride. **LD 46 participants receive one complimentary lower-level ticket.**



# Details for Next Session: *Arts and Culture*

**Date:** Thursday, April 16

**Location:** Detroit Public Theatre

**Time:** 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## *Talent Show Sign-Up*

You may choose to do a solo or group performance or bring in something to display (such as artwork).



# *LD Day at the Capitol Sign-Up*

**Thursday, April 23** | Public Sector Consultants

*\*Participants have the option to ride together on a chartered bus.*



# Submit a Quote

Participants may be featured in *Detroiter Magazine* and the LD 46 Yearbook.



**Missing a session?  
Fill out the absence form:**



### **Absence Policy Reminder:**

Absences are tracked in half-day increments, and missing any portion of a session counts as a half-day absence. Excused absences are available if participants submit the absence form and notify the Leadership Detroit team at least seven days in advance; otherwise, the absence is unexcused. **One unexcused absence or more than two total missed session days (excused or unexcused) may affect graduation eligibility.**

*Complete the session survey below:*



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