



COMMUNITY
IMPACT
INCUBATOR

Quarterly Impact Report

August - December 2020

Founding Partners



STRATEGIC
COMMUNITY
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THE KRESGE FOUNDATION



The Community Impact Incubator

Launched in 2020 as a partnership between Strategic Community Partners and the Marygrove Conservancy, with financial support from The Kresge Foundation, the Community Impact Incubator provides capacity-building support and facilities to a cohort of nonprofit organizations during a 12-month incubator experience. This opportunity creates an environment for the participants to develop their missions and further scale their services to children and families in Detroit's Fitzgerald neighborhood.

In addition to monthly programming sessions focused on strategic planning, financial management, talent development, and other organizational leadership topics, participating organizations also receive a suite of resources to help scale their work:



One year of subsidized rent



One-on-one mentor matching



Monthly meetings with a community of practice cohort



Professional development workshops and training



Technical assistance and support



2020-2021 PARTICIPANTS



Detroit City Lions Youth Club

Detroit City Lions Youth Club helps at-risk youth develop healthy bodies and minds. Children aged 3 to 15 can participate in sports programs such as football, soccer, basketball, swim, dance, lacrosse, and more. Detroit City Lions also provides tutoring and mentoring services, STEM programming, leadership development, financial literacy, youth employment, and wraparound services for families.



Detroit Phoenix Center

Detroit Phoenix Center is a low-barrier resource center for young people between the ages of 13 and 24 who are experiencing housing insecurity. Homeless and high-risk youth can drop in to take a shower, access laundry services, receive meals or other basic need items. The center also offers career readiness, life skills, and educational workshops, as well as a computer lab for schoolwork or job searching.



Detroit Youth Choir and Performing Arts Company

Detroit Youth Choir and Performing Arts Company offers the youth of Detroit a performing arts experience to develop creative skills and talents through music education, dance, and theater.



JOURNi

JOURNi is dedicated to building an inclusive technology ecosystem in Detroit, equipping individuals with the education and skills to jumpstart their careers and thrive in the local economy. JOURNi provides immersive courses and youth-centered programming in technology and entrepreneurship.



Pure Heart Foundation

Pure Heart Foundation aims to empower and embrace children of incarcerated parents to help break the cycle of generational incarceration. Children enrolled in the Pure Heart program receive access to mental health care and counseling, mentorship, academic support, and recreational activities.

QUARTERLY IMPACT

913



Youth and community members served

\$50,000



Saved in facilities and space rental costs

\$100,000+



Additional grants awarded to participants from local and national funders

6



Local and regional media placements

- Model D
- Nonprofit Quarterly
- Second Wave Michigan
- Corp! Magazine
- Crain's Detroit Business
- Detroit Free Press

3



Grammy award nominations for Detroit Youth Choir's rendition of "Glory"

50+



Hours of group programming and one-on-one coaching

ORGANIZATIONAL EVALUATION

According to quarterly participation data:



Participants say that the Community Impact Incubator has positively impacted youth in their program.

"[The Incubator] has allowed us to offer more programs continuously due to the spaces that we were granted. Capacity building was a huge need in regards to space and development, which this program has given our youth."



Participants say that the Community Impact Incubator has positively impacted their organization's staff

"Being apart of the program has granted my staff room to grow. I say grow because we now have office space for our staff to be productive, have a greater impact on our youth, but most importing a consistent place to program and grow."



Participants say that the Community Impact Incubator has helped their organizations to scale.

"[The Incubator] has given us office spaces, rehearsal space, a place of dignity, and a place of pride."



Participants say that the Community Impact Incubator has helped meet their facility needs.*

"Because of the Impact Incubator, our organization was not placed in a financial strain due to overhead bills. Being awarded in the midst of COVID saved our organization"

*State of Michigan COVID-19 safety protocols limited some access to Marygrove facilities in order to ensure proper social distancing.

LEADERSHIP REFLECTIONS

The 2020-2021 Community Impact Incubator cohort features five nonprofits founded by Black leaders. The resources and opportunities provided through the program not only strengthen the organizations' development, they also support these passionate Black leaders and provide opportunities for their continued professional and personal growth.

"Being apart of the Incubator has been an eye opening experience, however it has given our organization a place to grow, a safe environment, the incubator has brought our organization back down to earth from the cloud that we were on. The incubator has brought office space, rehearsal space, dignity and pride to our organization. As a Black leader in our community it's been amazing."

Anthony White

Artistic Director , Detroit Youth Choir and Performing Arts Company



"As a Black leader, being apart of the Community Impact Incubator has allowed me to be in a space with other leaders who understand the challenges of navigating the nonprofit sector and glean resources, knowledge and support. Additionally, the learning opportunities have helped me moved my organization forward, in the areas of capacity building and reimagining service delivery. I've also been challenged through this process to lean more on my team so I can grow as an executive leader."

Courtney Smith

Founder and CEO, Detroit Phoenix Center



"Participating in the program had meant the world to me, where I can not put a value on the opportunity. The opportunity is priceless. To be afforded the opportunity to to learn from industry experts that look like me, come from similar places and have likeminded missions and visions are priceless. To be apart of a legacy is huge, but to be developed as a Black leader is something else. "

Devon Buskin

Founder and President, Detroit City Lions Youth Club



"It's meant a lot to be supported and re-affirmed on things related to my org. Sometimes in the past I haven't necessarily known how I was doing. "

Richard Grundy

Co-Founder, JOURNi



"As a Black leader apart of the first cohort in the Community Impact Incubator not only did I feel honored, I felt seen. It is obvious that oftentimes Black leaders aren't recognized, and unfortunately, we are not recognized by our own people. To be selected by other Black leaders and for the impact work we do at Pure Heart to one of the powerful five made me incredibly happy knowing that our purpose carries value and influence."

Sherelle Hogan

Founder, Pure Heart Foundation



THE FOUNDERS

The Community Impact Incubator is operated through a partnership between the Marygrove Conservancy and Strategic Community Partners. Additional financial support is provided by The Kresge Foundation.

Founding Partners



Established in 2018, the **Marygrove Conservancy** is a nonprofit organization that manages operations and stewards the 53-acre Marygrove College campus in northwest Detroit as a resource for high-quality uses in the community.



Strategic Community Partners is a national firm that works with organizations by advising, designing, and managing projects and initiatives that advance equity with and for communities. SCP partners with organizations to build capacity by pairing strategy with community and cultural context to drive forward powerful and equitable missions.

Funding Partner

THE KRESGE FOUNDATION

The Kresge Foundation is a private, national foundation that works to expand opportunities in America's cities through grantmaking and social investing in arts and culture, education, environment, health, human services and community development, nationally and in Detroit, Memphis and New Orleans.