

Program Overview

The Michigan Central/Church Street Fund supports neighborhood improvement efforts in three Detroit communities: **Corktown, North Corktown, and Hubbard Richard**.

This fund is designed to support a broad range of projects that enhance quality of life for residents. We prioritize initiatives that are community-informed, responsive to local needs, and contribute to the long-term vitality of these neighborhoods.

Proposals may reflect a wide range of focus areas, including community and economic development, arts and culture, environmental and public space improvements, social services, and public health.

Funding Priorities

Competitive proposals will:

- Address critical community needs within the three target neighborhoods
- Demonstrate clear benefit to residents and neighborhood quality of life
- Build on existing efforts or neighborhood planning priorities
- Introduce innovative or creative approaches to local challenges

Key Details

- **Grant Amount:** \$2,500 – \$10,000
- **Grant Term:** Typically, 12 months (up to 24 months may be considered)
- **Type of Support:** Project, program, capital, or limited general operating support*
- **Geographic Focus:** Corktown, North Corktown, and Hubbard Richard

*General operating support is only available to organizations that have received funding from the Community Foundation within the last five years.

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, or have a fiscal sponsor with 501(c)(3) status
- Be located in, or primarily serves residents of, the three target communities
- Schools, government entities, and universities are eligible

Additional notes:

- In limited cases, organizations not physically located in the target communities may be considered if their work directly serves residents
- Grants will not be made to individuals

What We Fund / Do Not Fund

We support:

- Community-based programs and services
- Neighborhood improvement and public space projects
- Arts, cultural, and community-building activities
- Capital improvements tied to community benefit

We do not prioritize:

- Capital campaigns
- Annual fund drives
- Conferences or event sponsorships

Application Process

Applications are submitted through the Community Foundation's online portal (MyCF).

Applicants will be asked to provide:

- A description of the proposed project or request

- Organizational goals and expected outcomes
- A grant budget and key organizational information

Visit the [Community Foundation website](#) for current application timelines and deadlines.

Required Documents

Applicants should be prepared to submit:

- Current board list
- Most recent financial documents within 3 years (audit, financial review, or IRS Form 990/990-EZ)
- Current year organizational operating budget

Review Process & Criteria

Applications are reviewed by advisors representing the City of Detroit, Michigan Central, and the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan.

Proposals are evaluated based on:

- Alignment with fund priorities and neighborhood needs
- Strength and feasibility of the proposed work
- Potential impact on residents and community quality of life
- Organizational readiness and capacity

Additional Information

- Organizations may submit **one application per funding round**
- Previous applicants and grantees may reapply in future cycles
- Funding is competitive and not guaranteed year-to-year

Michigan Central/Church Street Fund

Grant Guidelines



Contact

For questions about this opportunity, please contact: impact@cfsem.org