



# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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1. The sponsoring representative's first name:  
Karen
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:  
Whitsett
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.  
N/A
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
Communities First, Inc.
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
Communities First, Inc., 1112 W. Bristol Rd. Flint, MI 48507
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:  
Cynthia Neeley, District 70
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 Communities First, Inc. (CFI) Family Mobility Savings Program is a multi-layered approach to financial literacy and independence. In this program, CFI works to connect financial literacy and educational opportunities to financial support that allows individuals and families to build true, long-term security and wealth. Through their multi-layered approach, this program does the following:
  - Supports the establishment of a relationship between participants and a traditional banking institution

- Provides financial incentives for tasks designed to improve economic security
- Deposit funds into a savings account for the participant, building their ability to have an emergency savings account and prepare for unexpected expenses
- Supports for family emergencies, opportunities to customize goals and referrals to needed resources

The coaching component inspires participants to achieve goals and holds them accountable.

This program aligns directly with the stated goal of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program which states that funded activities should work to, “End the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage.” This program’s public benefit is that participants are both more psychologically and financially able to handle a financial emergency, something that occurs regularly throughout the life of many Michiganders. Additionally, beneficiaries are less likely to need to rely on public assistance when they can be more financially independent.

9. Attach documents here if needed:

N/A

10. The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item.

5,000,000

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

[Federal, State, Local, Private]

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.’

- Chair, Jason Paulateer
- President/CEO, Glenn Wilson
- Kathryn Moeller

- Carma Lewis
- Tiffany Hughes

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:

October 2025 – September 2026

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

Yes