



HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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:
LAHC -Leaders Advancing and Helping Communities
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
5275 Kenilworth, Dearborn MI 48126
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 Alabas Farhat – District 3
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.
Title: Empowering Southeast Michigan Residents: Enhancing Health and Well-being Programs

LAHC- Leaders Advancing and Helping Communities is a non-profit organization whose mission is to empower communities, one family at a time, by advancing the educational, social, health and economic well-being of Southeast Michigan Residents.

Project Description:

We are seeking a \$4.0 million grant to support LAHC's public health department to continue delivering impactful programs that address crucial health concerns prevalent in our community. The grant will enable us to continue providing the following programs focused on substance use prevention, obesity prevention, nutrition and physical fitness education, and behavioral health support for teens with autism, developmental disabilities, depression, anxiety, suicidal thoughts, and food disorders.

1. Substance Use Prevention:

LAHC's SUD program implements evidence-based interventions and educational campaigns to prevent substance use among Southeast Michigan residents, particularly among at-risk youth. The program raises awareness, provides early intervention strategies, and equips individuals with the necessary tools to make informed choices regarding substance use.

2. Obesity Prevention and Nutrition Education:

To combat the rising rates of obesity in our community, LAHC Healthy Living Program aims to promote healthy eating habits, increase physical activity, and provide nutritional education. This program target children, individuals and families, emphasizing the long-term benefits of adopting a balanced and healthy lifestyle.

3. Behavioral Health Support for Teens:

a. PATHWAYS empowers youth with developmental disabilities, autism spectrum disorder and related conditions on their journey to independence as a young adult. An emphasis is placed in assisting youth to develop life skills necessary for community integration and lifelong success based on their needs. Youth develop social & communication skills to promote vocational readiness, leisure enrichment and overall health.

b. BLOOMING MINDS is a Recreational Therapy Program utilizing evidence-based interventions to promote mental wellness through improving physical, cognitive, social, emotional, and spiritual functioning. Blooming minds aims to decrease feelings of stress, anxiety, and depression, suicidal thoughts, promote a healthy leisure lifestyle, and improve on one's overall quality of life.

Conclusion:

LAHC is dedicated to making a positive impact on the health and well-being of Southeast Michigan residents. With the requested \$4.0 million grant, we will further our mission by implementing comprehensive programs addressing substance use prevention, obesity prevention, nutrition and physical fitness education, and behavioral health support for teens facing various challenges. By investing in our initiatives, we can empower individuals, promote healthier lifestyles, and create a more resilient and prosperous community.

9. Attach documents here if needed:

N/A

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

4,000,000

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

[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.'

See attached.

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:

10/01/2025

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

Yes

LAHC
Board of Directors

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Director – At Large

Judge

Wayne County Circuit Court

Bridget Hurd

Director – At Large

Vice President, BCBS-MI