



HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

1. The sponsoring representative's first name:
Veronica
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:
Paiz
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.
Representative Joe Aragona
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
Sound Mind Sound Body Foundation
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
11433 Beaconsfield St, Detroit, MI 48224
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 Paiz - HD 10
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. To address the students and public's needs, the Community Engagement Center needs funds to support essential physical repairs. Specific projects already estimated involve installation of energy efficient HVAC systems, repairing and replacing windows, removing asbestos, plumbing repairs, and roof repairs. A comprehensive list is included with this form submission.

The Community Engagement Center serves not only as a resource hub for Sound Mind Sound Body programming but for the U.S. Department of Education-funded Talent Search college success program and Michigan's Department of Education-funded Out-

of-School Time Program. On top of outside programming, the center hosts Sound Mind Sound Body Youth Association, E.L.I.T.E. Student-Athlete Performance, and continues to be a safe place for athletes and teams to practice and compete in. Consequently, the Community Engagement Center serves neighborhood students attending Denby, King, East English Village, and Harper Woods schools. Overall, with all the programming and after school development, the center serves more than 3,000 students, which help develop students' academics, life skills, and character building.

9. Attach documents here if needed:

Attachments added to the end of this file.

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

500000

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

["State","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.'

Curtis Blackwell, Founder & President, Michelle Franklin, Turquoise Neal, Dr. Cecil Forbes, Deon Johnson, Dr. Latoya Thompson, Tamone Martin, Abdullah Muhammad, Keyonta Wilson, Francine Whu-Muhammad, Sirraaj Hasan, Guy Troupe, Dr. William Dunn, Caesar Nettle, Christopher Morman, Demeris Johnson, and Dr. Raphael B. Johnson

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:

Present - 04/2026

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

Yes

SOUND MIND SOUND BODY FOUNDATION
PROJECT BUDGET

Project Name:	Community Center Enhancement
Project Type:	Building Renovation / Repairs

Line Item	Vendor	Description	Amount
HVAC	Kaltec Heating & Cooling	Installation of energy-efficient HVAC to system to properly heat & cool building	440,000.00
Windows	M & S Commercial Windows LLC	Repair/Replace broken windows, remove asbestos	35,000.00
Plumbing	RKT Services LLC	Plumbing repairs to ensure hot and cold water properly functioning	12,500.00
Roofing	Wf Project Management	Repair roofing to prevent building leaks	12,500.00
GRAND TOTAL			\$ 500,000



Fact Sheet – 2025

Mission:

The Sound Mind Sound Body (SMSB) Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to increasing college readiness and scholarship attainment among students. Through innovative Out-of-School Time (OST) programming, SMSB uses sports and engaging activities as a vehicle to inspire youth to balance academics, athletics, and life skills—empowering them to excel in the classroom, on the field, and in life.

History & Growth:

- Founded in 2004 by four Detroit-area high school alumni as a one-day football camp for 100 students.
- Expanded to a year-round, nationwide program integrating academics, athletics, and life skills.
- By 2007: Programming in Washington D.C., Tulsa, and Tampa; by 2016, in six major U.S. cities.
- 2025 Milestone: Serves 8,000+ students annually; 40,000+ student-athletes reached nationwide.
- Facility: 50,000 sq. ft. Community Engagement Center in Detroit's District 4, opened in 2024.

Programs & Services:

- Out-of-School Time (OST) Programming: Year-round at 27 sites for grades 1–12, including mentoring, leadership development, STEM education, financial literacy, health and wellness, career exploration, and conflict resolution. This is Michigan's largest free OST program, serving 1,000 students annually.
- SMSB Elite: Comprehensive support for scholar-athletes, including SAT prep, mentoring, community service, college recruiting advising, yoga, nutrition, and specialized athletic training. Has facilitated over 2,000 college scholarships.
- SMSB Youth Association: Focuses on youth development through sports leagues and community engagement, fostering teamwork, discipline, and leadership for 3,000 student-athletes.
- Talent Search Program: Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, identifies and supports 500 talented students from underserved communities each year.

Kids Reached & Impact:

- Over 40,000 student-athletes served nationwide since inception.
- Currently reaches 8,000+ students annually in Metro Detroit.
- Facilitated more than 2,000 college scholarship offers.
- 33 SMSB alumni have reached the NFL.
- In 2024, OST students in our Beyond Basics Summer Program advanced an average of 1.1 grade levels.

School Partnerships & Regional Work:

- Partnerships with 11 school districts and 27 daily program sites across Michigan.
- Staff includes 20 full-time employees and over 100 contractual staff working in schools daily.
- Engages more than 800 volunteers each year through youth league programs.
- Hosts community health fairs, food giveaways, toy drives, and collaborative events with organizations such as DTE/THAW, Walmart, and LA Gear.
- Hosts camps, college fairs, and showcases with 100 college coaches in attendance annually.

Recent Achievements:

- Opened a 50,000 sq. ft. Community Engagement Center in Detroit (2024) with a \$750,000 grant from the Michigan Community Service Commission.
- Received the 2025 Community Engagement Award from MiLEAP.
- Curtis Blackwell, President & CEO, named a 2025 Afterschool Ambassador by the National Afterschool Alliance and received the President's Lifetime Achievement Award from President Joe Biden.
- Secured major grants from Ballmer Group/United Way, Wayne County, The National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Education, MiLEAP, and Footlocker/LISC.