



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 15, 2023

Media Contact: Jessica Donahue

jdonahue@ourcommunity.org | 517-664-9856

Community Foundation Receives Grant to Champion Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiatives

LANSING, MICH. — The Capital Region Community Foundation has received a \$20,000 grant from the Consumers Energy Foundation to promote Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) throughout the Capital Region. Capital Region Community Foundation is one of ten community foundations in Michigan selected to receive the grant.

As part of this program, the Community Foundations will use these funds to advance DEI initiatives in their respective communities.

Lisa Bond Brewer, who serves on the Community Foundation's Racial Equity Committee, conveyed excitement about this grant. "Our Community Foundation is passionate about fostering vibrant and thriving communities within the capital region. The Consumers Energy Foundation entrusted us with these funds because our Community Foundation best knows the needs and nonprofits in our region. We carefully selected these four organizations because we believe in their missions to enrich our community, particularly through cultural enrichment and the support of children. We believe that cultural and educational empowerment is the essence of helping a community not only thrive but flourish."

"Our communities are strongest when every voice is heard," said Cathy Wilson, secretary/treasurer of the Consumers Energy Foundation. "In order to do that, it's important that we partner with organizations that are working hard to create lasting change by listening to the needs of those affected by inequities. We are proud to support the work that Capital Region Community Foundation is doing to advance DEI initiatives in their local area."

The Community Foundation's selected grant recipients for this regrant program represent a diverse range of initiatives, all dedicated to enriching our community with a focus on DEI:

1. **OurSpace517** - Supporting cultural awareness weekends such as Juneteenth and Hispanic Heritage and expanding Health Wellness and Financial Wellness Weekends in the heart of south Lansing.
2. **Casa De Rosado Galeria and Cultural Center** - Showcasing and preserving Chicanx, Indigenix, and Latinx cultures, with funds supporting annual programs such as the Cesar Chavez exhibit, Fiesta Monarca, and Folklorico.
3. **DreamWorld Studios for the Arts** - Providing affordable art and dance opportunities to underserved youth, with funds supporting costumes, shoes, and scholarships.

-more-

4. **Lansing Children's Choir** - Funds support an exposure field trip to Detroit, including a visit to the Museum of African American History, a worship service to experience the gospel choir at Christ Church Detroit, and a master class with the Community Chorus of Detroit.

Dominique Devereaux of DreamWorld Studios for the Arts expressed her gratitude, saying, "Receiving this grant is huge for our dance program and will definitely support our ability to bring quality arts experiences to youth and families in the Lansing area."

Theresa Rosado, founder of Casa de Rosado Galeria and Cultural Center, also shared her appreciation: "Your grant connects the Hispanic/Latinx community to invaluable cultural resources, allowing us more time to develop bilingual programming."

For more information about the Capital Region Community Foundation and its goal to promote DEI, please visit ourcommunity.org.

The [Community Foundation](#) is passionate about creating vibrant, thriving communities throughout Michigan's capital region. The Foundation serves donors to meet their unique charitable goals, supports area nonprofits with grants and coaching, and leads innovative projects that drive community growth. The Community Foundation (also known as the Capital Region Community Foundation) is a tax-exempt public charity whose mission is to lead philanthropic solutions that build vibrant communities in Ingham, Clinton and Eaton counties.

The [Consumers Energy Foundation](#) is the charitable arm of Consumers Energy, Michigan's largest energy provider. The Foundation contributes to the growth and strengthening of Michigan communities by investing in what's most important — our people, our planet and Michigan's prosperity. In 2022, the Consumers Energy Foundation, Consumers Energy, its employees and retirees contributed more than \$18.5 million to Michigan nonprofits.