

Cycle 1 Grants: May 2023

Overcoming Persistent Poverty

- **Alabama Interfaith Refugee Partnership**, \$26,000 over three years to provide support for a new bilingual case manager that will increase infrastructure and capacity to provide direct support for an increasing number of vulnerable asylum seekers in Birmingham.
- **Blanket Fort Hope**, \$70,000 to support building a Restoration Home where child survivors of human trafficking will receive comprehensive trauma and restorative services, helping them transition into a productive new life.
- **Collat Jewish Family Services (CJFS)**, \$40,000 over two years to build capacity for CJFS's Senior Solutions, a proven model offering community-based case management and in-home care to low and moderate-income seniors, enabling them to age-in-place, enhancing safety and quality of life, and honoring dignity and self-determination.
- **Community Care Development Network**, \$25,000 over two years to support the Inspire Education Academy, a program that provides life skills, job skills, and access to education and employment for young people who have dropped out of school.
- **Community on the Rise**, \$24,000 to create three new positions (case manager, workshop manager, and outreach coordinator) as well as an advisory board of people with lived experience of homelessness. Services will include recovering identity documents, hiring survivors of homelessness for meaningful work, and providing safe, free housing for up to two years.
- **Cultural and Educational Advancement Foundation**, \$5,000 to provide 40 Power Packs weekly for sixty-five students during the 2023 school year. Power Packs are filled with non-perishable items containing food for breakfast, lunch and snacks
- **Kid One Transport**, \$39,000 over two years to support a project that will provide Medicaid eligible families with access to the Women's Infant and Children Nutritional Program by removing the transportation barrier to WIC services.
- **LegacyWorks**, \$8,000 to support the development and expansion of a paid apprenticeship program for urban youth.
- **Oak Mountain Missions Ministries**, \$9,000 to purchase utility carts, box trucks, storage boxes, and shopping carts to support Oak Mountain's healthy food distribution to low-income families and individuals.
- **PreSchool Partners**, \$5,000 to serve under-resourced families with children exhibiting disruptive or maladaptive behaviors. PreSchool Partners will provide consultation and training in managing behavior disruptions and will provide direct referrals to Mitchell's Place for families who do not have the

resources to access adequate services related to undiagnosed special needs.

- **Restoration Academy**, \$70,000 over three years to support the building of a cafeteria and creation of a school lunch program. Currently, students must bring lunch from home, and 90% of students live at or below the poverty line.
- **Second Shift**, \$13,000 to hire a Client Care Coordinator, a new position that will double the program reach and capacity. Second Shift assists at-risk and aging-out foster care youth to transition into sustainable and connected independence.
- **South Highland Mental Health Outreach Project (SHOP)**, \$9,000 to expand program services from one day a week to two days and to cover the cost of transportation and meals. SHOP provides a social support system and wrap-around services to low-income individuals who are struggling with mental illness.
- **St. Clair Community Health Clinic**, \$10,000 to expand mental services to diverse populations in St. Clair County, including formerly incarcerated individuals. After-hours and remote clinics will be offered to address barriers such as transportation.
- **The Flagstone Initiative**, \$30,000 to improve financial stability for 500 low-income families by offering rent splitting to better align with bi-weekly paychecks. If adopted widely, it offers a disruptive alternative to predatory payday lending.
- **Trinity United Methodist Church**, \$25,000 to create a new space for the Hub Store, which provides clothing and household items for refugees, immigrants, families referred by DHR and JBS, and Food Share guests.

Driving Regional Cooperation

- **Jefferson County Sheriff's Office**, \$80,000 to support the architectural and design work involved in the building of a new metro jail in Jefferson County, replacing the current, outdated jail and consolidating municipal jails. The new jail will provide wraparound services such as education, job training, mental health support, and more to promote rehabilitation and reduce recidivism.

Nurturing Thriving Communities

- **American Baseball Foundation Inc.**, \$8,000 to support a rewrite of Baseball and Academic Skills Instructional Course's (BASIC's) reading curriculum for their youngest readers as they learn basic literacy skills.
- **Blount County Education Foundation**, \$70,000 to support three playground projects in Blount County serving Hayden, Southeastern, and Cleveland communities. Each outdoor space to be developed is located on a school campus and will be utilized by children of the school daily and be accessible to community members beyond the school day.
- **Cahaba Medical Care Foundation**, \$50,000 to pilot a new autism diagnosis clinic, in partnership with United Ability, to create an additional access point for families with concerns about the social or cognitive development of their child.
- **Cahaba Valley Health Care**, \$7,000 to support completion of a new hygiene treatment room that will

provide an additional 300 patients with preventative dental care.

- **City of Cordova**, \$50,000 to rebuild and expand Mill Park, the only park available to families in Cordova. The park is in a central location for outdoor community activities.
- **D2B Mentoring and Leadership**, \$12,000 to support programming that builds character and teaches life skills to young men from underserved communities. D2B headquarters in East Lake provides a haven with educational resources, spiritual enrichment, and fellowship with peers and mentors.
- **Dance Levels**, \$8,000 to provide dance education and dance experiences to underserved youth in grades K-12. Dance Levels promotes an active lifestyle, provides access to performing arts classes and performances, and collaborates with local organizations to facilitate dance workshops in schools.
- **Empower Schools of Alabama**, \$31,000 for a new MakerSpace and sensory room, designed by professionals in collaboration with KultureCity. The sensory room will be tailored to provide a calming environment, while the MakerSpace will be equipped with top-of-the-line tools to enhance student engagement in STEM.
- **Levite Jewish Community Center**, \$15,000 to launch Swim School, a water-safety and swim lesson program for underserved students in local schools. The program aims to provide basic water safety, life-saving skills, and swimming ability through eight 50-minute lessons. The initial partnership with I3 Academy will benefit 90 students in grades 1-3 during the 2023-24 school year.
- **Miles College**, \$22,000 to address the need for mental health services at Miles College. The program will provide accessible and effective mental health services to support the well-being and success of college students. Services will include counseling and therapy, support groups, and an information campaign to link students to crisis hotlines, mental health education, and awareness programs.
- **Mothers' Milk Bank of Alabama**, \$50,000 over three years to expand donor outreach and education programs. Projects include a strategic marketing campaign, expanding the Milk Bank's donor recruitment department, creating a rural hospital onboarding program, and promoting certifications for lactation consultants in rural communities.
- **No More Martyrs**, \$25,000 to provide free counseling services and to expand partnerships with Alabama universities, which allows them to serve as an internship site for graduate students obtaining a master's degree in the field of counseling.
- **Shelby County Children's Advocacy Center**, \$9,000 to purchase a mobile forensic interview unit for child abuse victims at the children's advocacy center. Forensic interviews prevent the child from having to retell about their abuse, thus lessening the trauma experienced by the child.
- **Shelby Humane Society**, \$20,000 to purchase ten quarantine kennels, allowing Shelby Humane to provide better care for both vulnerable and healthy pets in their custody. New quarantine kennels will be critical in saving the lives of shelter pets by averting disease outbreaks, while also preventing unnecessary adoption delays for healthy pets in their care.
- **STAIR of Birmingham**, \$50,000 over two years to increase capacity by hiring a Program Director and Program Administrator to grow and improve the one-on-one, after school tutoring program.
- **The Cohill Foundation**, \$8,000 to support Self-Expression enrichment programs in Bessemer for the Summer, Fall, and Spring. Each program serves 50 at-risk youth employing art mediums and the creative process to help them explore emotions, resolve internal conflicts, and foster healing.

- **Titusville Development Corporation**, \$30,000 to continue renovations and replace old flooring in affordable housing units for low-income seniors in Titusville.
- **Vax 2 Stop Cancer**, \$20,000 to support a dental provider education program to prevent HPV-associated cancers. Oropharyngeal cancer is now more common than cervical cancer in relation to HPV. The program aims to increase dental care providers' knowledge of HPV and its link to oropharyngeal cancers, emphasize their role in HPV vaccination, and help them make effective recommendations for the HPV vaccine.

Fostering Equity and Inclusion

- **Balancing and Overcoming Life Adversities Inc.**, \$4,000 to support free events benefiting the public, including a Wellness and Financial mixer, their annual Juneteenth event, school supply drives, and events focused on mental health support.
- **Holy Family Cristo Rey Catholic High School**, \$40,000 over two years to hire a bilingual student enrollment and community engagement coordinator. This position will focus on strengthening connections with the Latino community.
- **Hoover-AHEAD**, \$4,000 to support their annual Juneteenth Celebration, offering the community an opportunity to learn about the history and significance of Juneteenth. The event promotes understanding, cultural exchange, and diversity, fostering a healthy engagement for all participants.
- **Sight Savers America (SSA)**, \$50,000 to support their Blind Program, which addresses health disparities faced by economically disadvantaged individuals who are blind. The program aims to increase access to blind aids for children and adults on the waiting list and expand the range of aids provided.

Economic Opportunity for All

- **Birmingham Corps**, \$50,000 to help fund a full-time position and program costs for the Talent Navigator Alumni program. This initiative provides personalized support to AmeriCorps members to help ensure that each corps member secures a high-quality, full-time economic opportunity after completing their year in the program.
- **Build UP**, \$75,000 over 3 years to support staffing, curriculum, partnerships, and expansion of their Student Success Program (SSP). SSP provides post-secondary guidance, support, and resources to help high school graduates achieve their post-secondary and career goals.
- **Hope Enterprise Corporation**, \$50,000 to establish HOPE Affinity Networks (HANs) in Birmingham. HANs aim to integrate underbanked residents into the financial mainstream and assist local businesses through lending and training. The program collaborates with employers, schools, hospitals, and nonprofits to provide on-site financial education, account opening, and services for their employees, customers, and stakeholders
- **IMPACT Family Counseling**, \$38,000 to provide case management and supplemental support to parents on government assistance, including assistance with GED, secondary, and vocational certifications; classes on healthy relationships and parenting; domestic violence risk assessments and classes; job referrals; and family and individual counseling.

- **InToto Creative Arts**, \$8,000 to support their weekly work with men from Firehouse Shelter, women from Pathways Shelter, and two public showcases. This funding will provide high-quality art opportunities for individuals facing hardships, allowing them to generate income through art sales.
- **Momentum**, \$15,000 to support the Momentum Works, making their approach accessible to underserved women in Greater Birmingham. Through quarterly workshops and virtual content, the program empowers diverse women to develop leadership skills that positively impact various aspects of life.
- **Studio By the Tracks**, \$25,000 over two years to establish an artist residency program benefiting local artists and individuals on the autism spectrum. The program offers paid opportunities, enhanced training, and art sales opportunities for participants. Each project will be unique, reflecting the artist's time at Studio By the Tracks, with public presentations and educational components.
- **YMCA Birmingham**, \$30,000 to support the training and certification of up to 1,500 lifeguards for free, regardless of their place of employment. This addresses the city-wide lifeguard shortage, ensuring safe swimming environments in pools, fitness centers, campgrounds, and country clubs. Participants will receive the American Red Cross Certificate of Completion for Lifeguarding, gaining marketable skills and valuable experience for future career paths.