Detroit Partnership for Arts Education Initiative to support youth

PRNewswire/ -- The Detroit Partnership for Arts Education (DPAE), catalyzed and coordinated by the collective impact initiative Detroit Excellence in Youth Arts (DEYA), officially launched in July. DPAE is a cross-sector collaborative supporting arts education access for all Detroit youth, emphasizing its benefit and application across a wide array of industry sectors.

Supported by the Detroit Mayor's Office and the Superintendent of Detroit Public Schools Community District (DPSCD), DPAE brings together a powerful coalition of leaders in healthcare, youth services, philanthropy, workforce development, education, community development and the

Founding members include healthcare pioneers Robert Riney, CEO, Henry Ford Health and Dr. Herman Gray, former CEO of Detroit Medical Center and United Way for Southeastern Michigan; foundation stewards Angelique Power, President and CEO of the Skillman Foundation and Andrew Stein, President and CEO, The Children's Foundation; arts visionaries Jessica Care Moore, Detroit's Poet Laureate and Mike Banks, Detroit Techno pioneer, along with many others from Detroit's civic, corporate, and cultural communities.

"Detroit is building an innovative model that demonstrates what can happen when healthcare, schools, and grassroots organizations join forces to support our young people in arts education," said Bob Riney, CEO of Henry Ford Health. "Arts education enriches individual lives, but it cannot

thrive as an isolated silo. From community health, economic development, educational outcomes, and more, arts education impacts every facet of our community. So many industry sectors benefit when a child has access to the arts."

Launch Highlights

The public launch of DPAE marks the release of three major initiatives developed through this collaboration: The Detroit Youth Arts Navigator, A Vision for Arts Education in Detroit report, and the Detroit Arts and Education Data Project. Both the Vision and Data Project were funded by The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and The Kresge Foundation.

Detroit Youth Arts Navigator

Developed with Digital Detroit Media and Data Driven Detroit (D3), the Navigator centralizes Detroit's arts education offerings for the first time ever. The free and comprehensive online hub at deyayoutharts.com helps families, students, and educators discover and access youth arts programs citywide.

'The arts are the best way we find our voice. We learn that our ideas are our currency, we practice critical thinking, and we learn to connect deeply with others and ourselves," said Angelique Power, President and CEO of the Skillman Foundation. "We want every Detroit youth to have access to all of this and to shape their own artistic journey. It's how we ensure Detroit term benefits for Michigan and our econoremains a creative and entrepreneurial hub for generations to come.

SNAP helps reduce poverty, supports jobs, improves health and economic outcomes in the community

LANSING, Mich. - This month, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) raised awareness of the important role the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) plays in helping many Michigan individuals and families supplement their grocery budget so they can afford nutritious food essential to their health and well-being. SNAP, the nation's largest food assistance program, helps bridge food insecurity gaps, reduces poverty, supports Michigan jobs, improves health and economic outcomes, and in FY24, supported 1.4 million Michigan residents.

Federal cuts to SNAP will reduce the amount of money available for individuals and families, leading to increased food insecurity and poverty in Michigan.

"There is a direct connection between hunger and health, so it's critical that we work together to ensure that our families and communities have equitable access to healthy, safe and affordable food," said Elizabeth Hertel, director of MDHHS. "Families shouldn't be forced to choose between buying nutritious foods or paying their bills. By supporting families' basic needs, SNAP helps families stay healthier, which can lead to reduced healthcare costs. SNAP is an investment in the health and well-being of our residents with long-

"The impact of households losing SNAP benefits will be felt around the state. which demonstrates the urgency for the passage of the state budget to ensure that we can begin to prepare for an increased number of families in need and brace for the economic impact," said Hertel.

AUGUST 2025

Ensuring everyone has access to healthy food isn't just the right thing to do, it's an investment in our economic strength and shared future," said Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity Director Susan Corbin. "SNAP dollars go right back into the community, supporting small farms, grocers and regional supply chains. Reducing this support weakens both food security and local economies that feed Michigan families.'

SNAP helps lift families out of poverty by allowing them to spend money that would otherwise have been used for food on other goods and services, including health-related activities. A 2021 study shows that infants and children in SNAP families are more likely to see a doctor for periodic check-ups. Additionally, older adults using SNAP are more likely to take the full dosage of prescription medications because they have enough income to afford food and medicine, compared to other older adults not participating in SNAP

For more information on food assistance, please visit: Michigan.gov/mdhhs/ assistance-programs/food.

