

2021-22 Opportunity and Recovery Fund Overview and Highlights

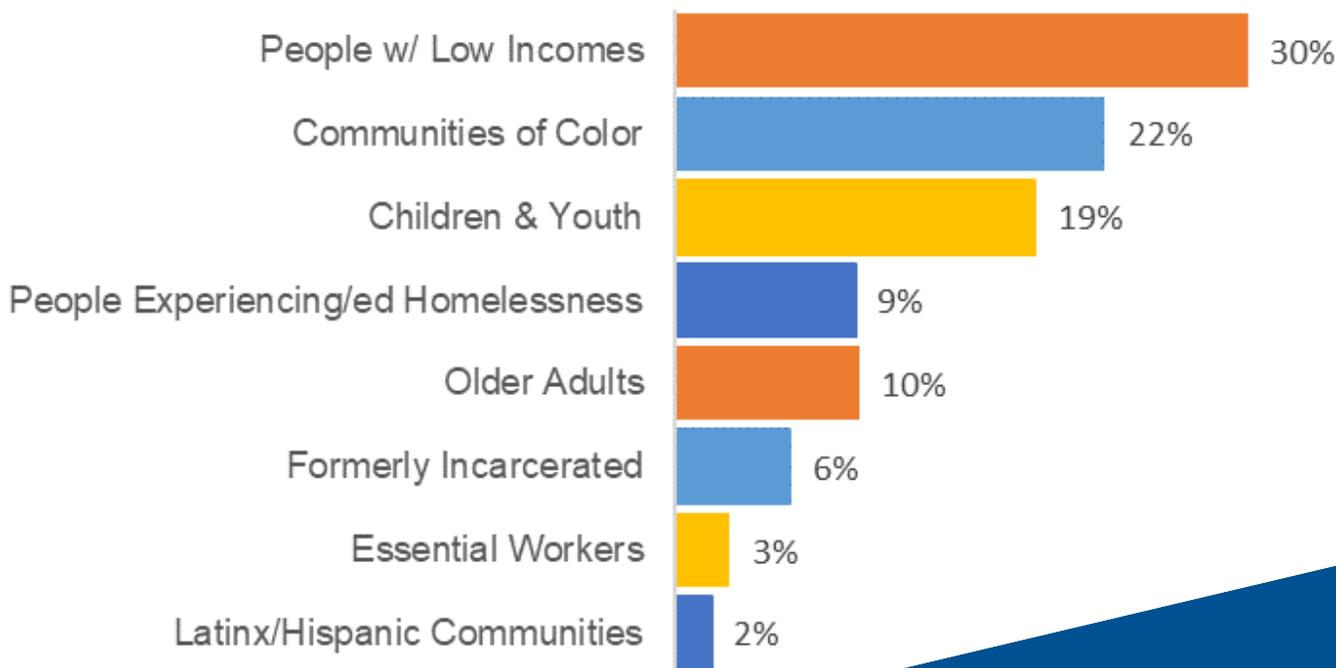
The Opportunity Fund is an annual fund to support projects benefiting people with low incomes, communities of color and groups deemed to be marginalized.

The Recovery Fund meets the critical and emergent needs of populations impacted by the pandemic, including support to individuals who have experienced a loss of income and/or employment, and continuity of community services to families.

Quick Facts

- **\$440,000**: Total awarded
- **32**: # of grants awarded
- **50%**: Grants to agencies led by people of color
- **59%**: Funding to Ypsilanti zip codes 48197/98
- **31,711**: # of people impacted through United Way funding

52% of grant funding supported People with Low Incomes and Communities of Color



**Populations may overlap, e.g. Older adults who have low incomes*

United Way
of Washtenaw County



For additional information about our grant funds & impact,
please visit uwgive.org.

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Narrative Questions

Qualitative Analysis and Summary

At the end of the project period, United Way staff meets with grantees to understand the impact of the funding that was granted. Below are the the primary and secondary themes:

55% Built capacity to deepen or expand services

"United Way's funding allowed us to deliver our programming in a much more holistic way and allowed us to lay the foundation of belonging and community."

-Mentor2Youth



"While unprecedented numbers of childcare centers have gone out of business because of the pandemic, its impact on the economy, and the loss of childcare employees to other industries, the Y has managed to keep our doors open and continue to feed kids. We are even in the process of expanding our services at the Ypsilanti YMCA Child Development Center to provide infant and evening care, so more parents can pursue higher education at Eastern Michigan University and Washtenaw Community College or maintain or attain employment to support their families." **-YMCA**

"Feonix is proud of the many lives we were able to impact with this program through increased access to employment, education, appointments, and much more. With the realization that transportation needs go beyond traditional business hours, we are lucky to have brought community members access to opportunities and empower them to access opportunities that they would otherwise not be able to take advantage of." **-Feonix, Mobility Rising**

31% Supported Staff

"The other most significant change was the addition of a part-time program specialist at Girls Group. This was monumental in ensuring we were equipped to provide programming across 20 sites for the first time in-person. We will be continuing to hire part-time program specialists to support our programming that continues to grow each year." **-Girls Group**



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14% Innovating and problem solving

"Working with diverse community leaders has helped NEW practice more equitable ways of partnership. For example, we learned to share the demographic make-up of the audience with potential speakers. This helps them honor their personal boundaries while sharing in the conversation. While this is a small change, it makes a difference and builds more trust between NEW and our community members."

-NEW| Solutions for Nonprofits

"In addition, we developed an in-house pre- and post-test that measured math proficiency and reading and comprehension skills. Each student took a pre-test that aligned with their grade level and covered concepts for a grade level before and a grade level above. Our team wanted to have an accurate understanding of our youth's skills (below, at, or above) grade level so that we could provide differentiated tutoring to meet their individual needs." **-Community Family Life Centers**

31% Creation of deeper connection in their communities

"We are proud of the strong relationships we've established with the families of our young scholars. The grant allowed us to do work that garnered the attention of families in the community by being able to do multiple Pop-Up events, giving away free books, doing story time and talking to families about what they can do at home to cultivate learners."

-Our Community Reads



"The most significant change experienced is the building of relationships not only with the Estabrook school personnel, but also the students and families that attend Estabrook. We have established a strong working relationship with the school social worker. She has been the champion for programming within the school...She has also been the trusted relationship that introduced us to families to enroll in the program and ensure its success." **-Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Washtenaw County**

For a full listing of 21-22 Opportunity and Recovery Fund grantees with descriptions of their work, please [click here](#) and [here](#).

For Opportunity and Recovery Fund Stories of Impact, please [click here](#).

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