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TO: The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director 
Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: April 2, 2024

RE: **RESOLUTION URGING THE MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE TO SUPPORT A
SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR MICHIGAN 2-1-1 IN THE FISCAL
YEAR 2025 BUDGET**

Council President Mary Sheffield requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) provide a resolution urging the Michigan legislature to support a significant increase in funding for United Way's Michigan 2-1-1 in the FY 2025 budget.

Please contact our office if we can be of any further assistance.

BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT MARY SHEFFIELD

RESOLUTION URGING THE MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE TO SUPPORT A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR MICHIGAN 2-1-1 IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET

WHEREAS, Michigan 2-1-1 is a service that the United Way provides at no cost to Michigan residents, connecting them quickly, easily, and confidentially with thousands of health and human services agencies and resources right in their communities; 24 hours a day, 365 days a year via phone, email, live chat, and online databases; and

WHEREAS, The United Way for Southeastern Michigan is the operator of Michigan 2-1-1 for Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw and Lapeer Counties; and

WHEREAS, Michigan 2-1-1 has supported the City of Detroit during natural disasters, including regional flooding, power outages, extreme weather conditions and global crises, including providing information about COVID-19 testing and vaccination locations; and

WHEREAS, At the start of the pandemic, the United Way's Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) report showed that 40% of the households in the region were already struggling to cover the cost of basic needs;¹ and

WHEREAS, More than 60,000 individuals from the City of Detroit have contacted Michigan 2-1-1 for assistance with housing, utility costs, transportation, food, and other resources in the last year alone; and

WHEREAS, The City of Detroit recognizes United Way for Southeastern Michigan's 2-1-1 service as an essential part of our human service infrastructure, connecting individuals and families in need with critical assistance in times of crisis; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED, That the Detroit City Council requests the Michigan Legislature to support an additional \$7 million in funding for Michigan 2-1-1 in the FY2025 budget; **BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, This increased investment will boost capacity, grow community awareness of 2-1-1, expand social navigation support, strengthen coordination with state and local governments, and ensure that the system is properly resourced to continue to provide this essential service for anyone who needs it at any time; **NOW BE IT FINALLY**

RESOLVED, That the City Clerk forward copies of this resolution to the United Way for Southeastern Michigan and the Detroit Delegation in the Michigan Legislature.

¹ <https://www.uwmich.org/alice-report>