

DETROIT FOR LIFE



FALL
2024

The Detroit for Life newsletter provides information on City programs and initiatives funded through the federal government. Because you live in Detroit, you can get help with housing issues, home repairs, neighborhood improvements, buying a home, opening a business, gaining employment and so much more! **Learn more inside.**



HELP AT HOME

THOUSANDS FIND HOUSING THROUGH CITY'S NEW DETROIT HOUSING SERVICES OFFICE

Spread the word! There are resources and help available for the unhoused. Detroit Housing Services (DHS) is a new City office that helps Detroiters get connected to stable housing. Since opening, DHS has placed 3,284 residents in permanent housing and stabilized 764 households with temporary housing.

The office provides residents facing housing emergencies with the following services:

- Assistance with collecting vital documents like birth certificates and IDs
- Assistance with finding, applying to, and moving into stable, affordable, and permanent housing
- Financial assistance to cover moving costs
- Assistance with employment so residents can remain housed once successfully relocated



To get assistance,
contact the
**Detroit Housing
Resource Helpline**
866-313-2520



CITY HELPS IMPROVE SAFETY AND ACCESS FOR DETROITERS

Detroit residents will move a little easier inside and outside their homes with safety and access improvements made by the City of Detroit, in partnership with CHN Housing Partners and Detroit Housing Network (DHN).

The Detroit Home Accessibility Program, announced in August, improves living conditions of residents, who are disabled or low-income seniors, struggling with basic access to and inside their own homes. This groundbreaking initiative is funded with \$6.6 million from the federal government.

It is estimated the Detroit Home Accessibility Program will provide upgrades to at least 230 homes, depending on individual needs. The program has currently reached capacity.

DETROITERS AVOID EVICTION WITH RIGHT TO COUNSEL PROGRAM

During the pandemic, Kandice Lambert was at her wit's end. She was injured, denied disability and had fallen behind on her rent. Then came the eviction notice. She learned about the Right to Counsel Law, which gives tenants facing eviction the right to have a lawyer for free in court.

Lambert, who took advantage of the legal assistance twice, said the process was quick and easy and helped her stay in her home. "It was a blessing from the heavens," she said. "That's awesome that they did that."

The Office of Eviction Defense (OED) received \$18 million from the federal government. The Gilbert Family Foundation also pledged \$12 million to provide legal defense for 6,000 low-income Detroit families with children facing eviction.

Since its opening in March 2023, OED has provided full legal representation to 5,898 households through September 2024, with an average service rate of about 481 families/households per month.

Learn more here:

<https://detroitmi.gov/righttocounsel>

To file a complaint about your property conditions, contact BSEED at **(313) 628-2451, press 1**



DWSD HELPS TO GET THE LEAD OUT

The Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) estimates there are more than 80,000 lead service lines delivering water to homes in Detroit.

The water leaving the treatment plants that serve the city does not contain lead, but lead can be released into drinking water from corrosion in lead service lines and household plumbing that contains lead.

Detroit's drinking water is safe and there is **no** contamination in the water supply.

Since 2018, DWSD has been working to verify and replace lead service lines as part of the Asset Management Program. In total, 11,335 lines have been replaced since then, with 6,838 replaced so far in 2024 (as of mid-November).

The massive increase in line replacement was made possible thanks to \$90 million DWSD received in funding from state and federal governments in 2022 to dramatically speed up the Lead Service Line Replacement Program.

To learn more, go to <https://detroitmi.gov/lslr> or call **(313) 267-8000**.

DETROITERS REALIZE AMERICAN DREAM OF HOMEOWNERSHIP

DID YOU KNOW?

644 Detroiters became new homeowners in the last year through the City's Down Payment Assistance program

2012-2022 Detroit has seen an increase in mortgage loans and since 2018 most have gone to Black home buyers.
Source: Detroit Future City

0% The City offers a 0% Interest Home Repair Loan program for residents to make vital repairs.
www.detroitloans.org/



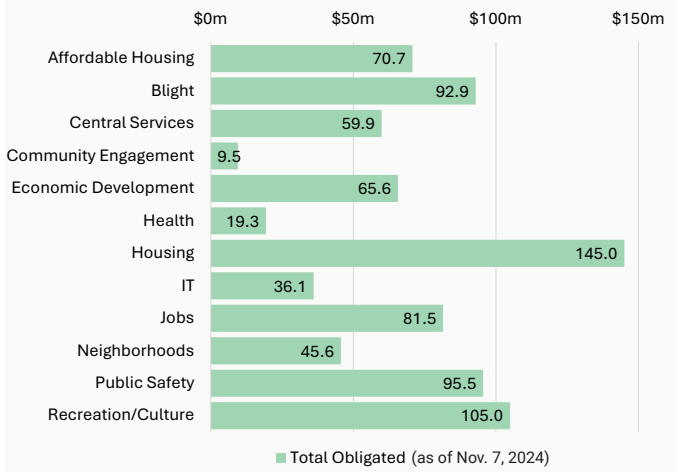
DETROIT PROMISE PROVIDES TUITION-FREE COLLEGE

Every graduate of a high school in Detroit – whether it's a public, private or charter school – could have a tuition-free path to a higher education under the Detroit Promise.

The program, launched in 2016, ensures that Detroit residents that attend high school in the city won't have to pay to get an associate or bachelor's degree or technical certificate at participating academic institutions.

For requirements and other details on how to qualify for the Detroit Promise, go to detroitpromise.com.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT SPENDING



The City of Detroit received \$826.7 million from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and has created a variety of programs, projects and initiatives that improve the quality of life for Detroiters.
Learn more at detroitmi.gov/arpa.

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE COMMUNITY



NEIGHBORHOOD SIGNS COMING TO 65 DETROIT COMMUNITIES

City crews are installing the first of 195 new gateway signs to identify and welcome residents and visitors to 65 neighborhoods across the city. The first signs were installed on Detroit's east side in the Mohican Regent area.

The City Council approved a \$512,500 contract with Space Lab Development earlier this year to fabricate and install the signs. The funding came through the federal government.

Community representatives are excited about the signs coming to their neighborhoods. "I like these signs," said George Preston, the president of Mohican Regent Homeowners Association. "It shows that the community is engaged. People outside of the community can see there is cohesiveness in that community. Hopefully people will see those signs and want to get involved."

The sign contains the community's name, slogan, year the group started, and City logo and flag to provide consistency across all neighborhoods. Each neighborhood will receive three signs – two gateway signs and a third sign highlighting a neighborhood amenity. Installation began in November and will continue through spring 2025.

For a list of the areas receiving signs, go to detroitmi.gov/news.

PROJECT TRANSFORMS ALLEYS INTO GATHERING SPACES

For years, the alley near Artist Village in the Old Redford neighborhood was full of illegal dumping and abandoned cars. Roughly 15 years ago, Motor City Blight Busters led by John George began cleaning up the alley from Lahser Road to Greydale, just north of Grand River.

But now, the Old Redford alley is taking on a whole new look as one of nine arts alleys selected by the Detroit Office of Arts, Cultural and Entrepreneurship (ACE).

The City announced plans in July 2022 to transform alleys into community gathering spaces where residents can exhibit and experience art. The project is part of the Mayor's Blight to Beauty campaign and funded with \$3 million from the federal government and supported by the Ford Foundation.

"It is one thing to clean up and fix up something. That is good," said George. "But when you add art, that makes the difference.

Art really adds value and beauty."

The Old Redford project includes new concrete, additional murals, benches, kiosks, fences and lights, George said.

Although the program is closed, residents can learn more at detroitmi.gov/ace.



ADDRESSING CRIME

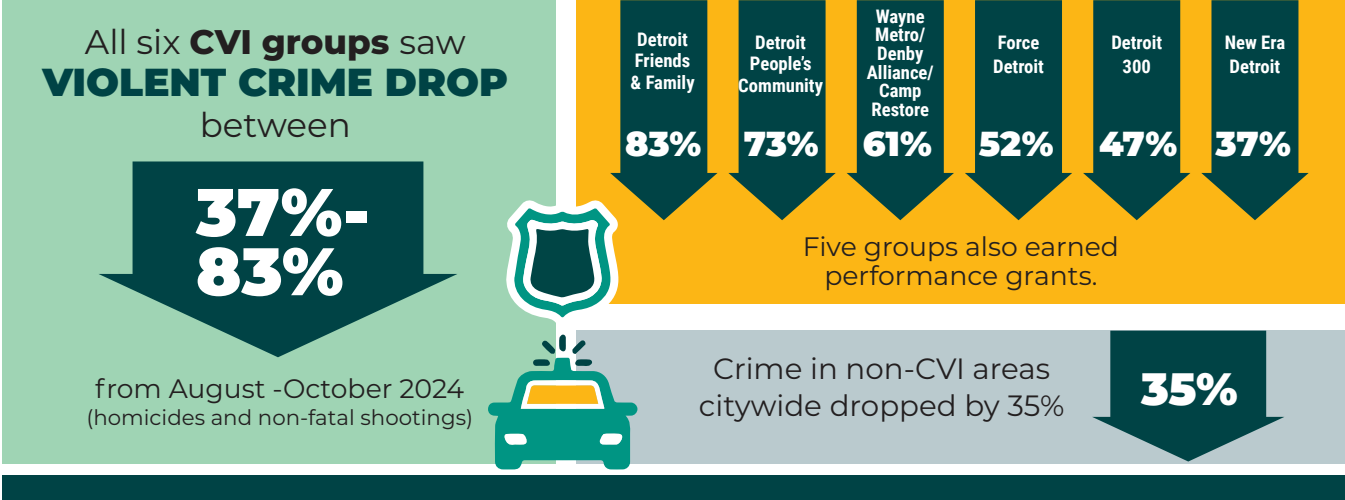


COMMUNITY VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM PUTS A DENT IN CRIME

Over the past year, the City of Detroit has given six community organizations the opportunity to reduce homicides and shootings using their own violence prevention strategy as part of the ShotStoppers initiative.

Well, the strategy is working. For the first time since the program began in 2023, all six partner groups have achieved reductions in shootings and homicides in their zones that exceed the citywide average reduction – several of them by huge margins. From August through October, Detroit saw a citywide average drop in shootings and homicides of 35% outside of the ShotStopper zones compared to the same time frame during the two prior years. Inside the respective ShotStopper zones, however, violent crime plummeted from 37% to an incredible 83% during the same time frame.

The \$11-million initiative, made possible by federal funding, is a new way to approach Community Violence Intervention (CVI) work, one that is used by many other U.S. cities. However, Detroit pays CVI groups based on the outcomes they achieve in reducing homicides and shootings.



DPD GETS NEW HELICOPTER



The Detroit Police Department unveiled its new \$2-million helicopter, the third addition to its fleet. The department will use the helicopter, equipped with a thermal camera, for high-speed pursuits, cracking down on drag racing and drifting, and pursuing violent felons.

FOLLOW THE CITY ON SOCIAL MEDIA



@cityofdetroit



@cityofdetroitofficial

YOUR VOICE, OUR FUTURE!

The City is updating its Master Plan of Policies and wants it to reflect the priorities of Detroiters. Visit plandetroit.com or scan the QR code to get involved today!



MOTOR CITY MATCH GIVES DETROIT RESIDENT SUPPORT TO GO FROM HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUT TO ENTREPRENEUR

The situation wasn't promising for Annette Anderson. As a mother at 15 and a dropout, she had no idea of what her future would hold. But with the encouragement of a

mentor, she got her GED, became a certified nursing assistant, and then a registered nurse.

"I was really a ninth-grade dropout who had no education, but I was determined to make something of myself for my baby," said Anderson, 33. And that she did.

In January 2024, she moved from nursing to open First Step Health Care Training to train individuals as nursing assistants and in phlebotomy, CPR, and basic life support. A \$20,000 matching grant and business support through Motor City Match made it all possible. "I stumbled upon Motor City Match and that was the best thing I could have ever done because it has helped me throughout my entire entrepreneurial journey."

She added, "It feels amazing to know that I was able to turn my life around. I can't wait to see the impact I leave on so many people."

To learn more about Motor City Match, the program that helps individuals develop their business and provides financial support, go to motorcitymatch.com.



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NEED HELP? Your Councilmember can assist!

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Learn more about City services by visiting detroitmi.gov/neighborhoods or scanning the QR code to download the *Department of Neighborhoods Resource Guide*.



Learn more at detroitmi.gov/detroitforlife