

# COLLABORATIVE ACTION FOR TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE

Five-Year Impact



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## FROM THE FOUNDING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Co.Activists,

Leading Co.act for its first five years has been incredibly humbling, inspiring, and peppered with moments of sheer pride in what people who believe in each other can do together. As someone who whole-heartedly believes in our collective power, Co.act's mission aligns with the very core of my being. Because there is power in bringing together diverse perspectives, minds and ideas for innovation, we can transform the way in which we think, work, share resources, and more, all for the greater good. We can shift culture and redesign systems to be equitable.

Our approach to our work started on day 1 in 2019. Our name Co.act was created with community in our very first co-design sessions. Since then, the Co.act team has anchored ourselves at the intersection of philanthropy and the nonprofit community. We've convened groups that otherwise might be disparate in what I like to call "brave spaces." Together, we push the envelope regarding how we work collaboratively without competition, receive and disburse funding, and innovate at every opportunity.

This commitment to equity and innovation has resulted in realities that five years ago may have otherwise seemed out of reach. For example, Co.act invested \$75,000 in the Earned Revenue Accelerator, which was part of our Activate Fund, made possible with \$1.9 million in funding from the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation. The initial Accelerator investment yielded \$500,000 in earned revenue among six organizations.

For outcomes like this, Co.act serves as a conduit and champion for accelerating collaboration and innovation. The rest has been a result of the brilliant people we surround ourselves with – both in our beautiful physical space at 6568 Woodward Ave in the New Center neighborhood of Detroit and across Southeast Michigan.

I'd be remiss if I did not thank our funding partners who helped us triple our budget and nearly double our staff size in our first five years. And of course, the Co.act team who has been instrumental in ensuring we deliver on our mission, as well as challenge us to be and do better every day.

I've learned that together, we are abundant, adaptable, and resilient. I hope that the information you'll read in our five-year impact report brings you moments of pride as you reflect on your own role in the successes. And I hope it inspires you to think and act boldly about reimagining what's possible in the next five years.

In partnership,

Allandra Bulger  
Founding Executive Director



# HISTORY IN MOTION

Culture shift and systems change do not happen overnight, and the work is never static. Instead, these transformations happen when you create opportunities to break down barriers that may inhibit nonprofits from realizing their missions. These barriers are systemic, and they are rooted in social and racial inequities. To realize lasting transformational change, we foster collaboration across sectors, including nonprofit, philanthropic, government, corporate, and small business. We take calculated risks to pilot programs, leverage our knowledge, and listen to one another. On the following pages are a few key milestones in which, in collaboration with our funders, partners, and the nonprofit community, we've done just that.



**June  
2019**

**Doors open**

\$1.5M grant made to Co.act,  
launching the Activate Fund

**September  
2019**

Co.act presents at **Upswell 2019**

Allandra Bulger recognized in  
**Crain's Detroit 40 Under 40**

**March  
2020**

**Activate Fund** applications open

Office closed, pivots to remote

Nonprofit Wellbeing Series partners  
with Monica Breen and Healing By  
Choice to cultivate a virtual community  
of care through COVID-19

**June  
2020**

Allandra Bulger chosen  
as a **Fulcrum Fellow**

Reimagining the Workplace  
workshops launch

**August  
2020**

**COVID-19 Relief Fund** launches  
with Community Development  
Advocates of Detroit (CDAD)

**August  
2019**

Nonprofits in Action: The 2020 Design  
Showcase with Design Core Detroit

**Nonprofit Wellbeing Series** kicks off

**October  
2019**

Co.act presents at the **National Nonprofit  
Center Network annual conference**

Earned revenue workshop with Erb  
Foundation and Strategic Growth Group

**April  
2020**

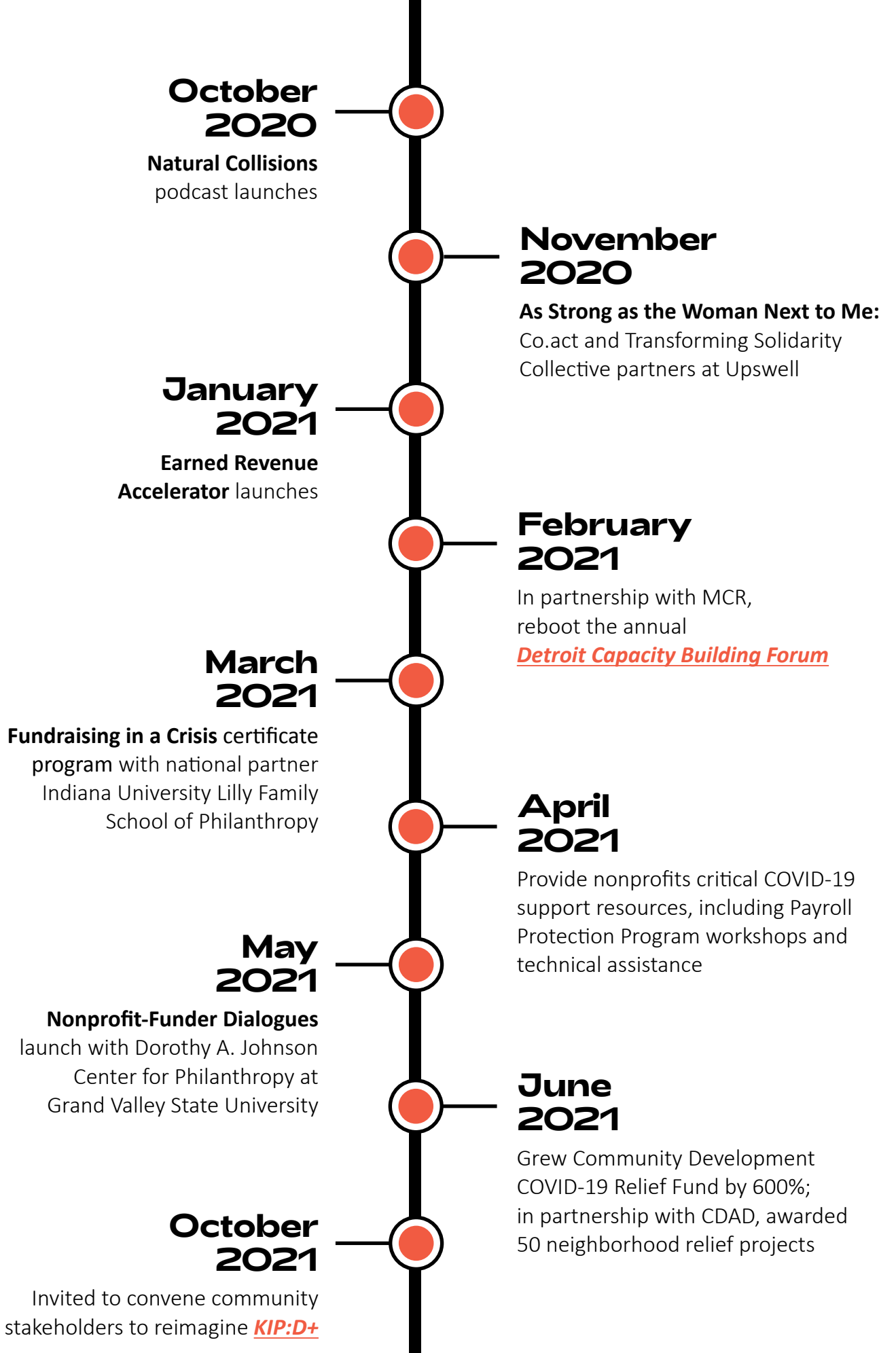
In response to the COVID-19 pandemic,  
***Transforming Solidarity Collective***  
launches with Co.act, Michigan Community  
Resources (MCR), Nonprofit Enterprise at  
Work Center, Michigan Nonprofit  
Association (MNA), and Community  
Development Advocates of Detroit (CDAD)

**July  
2020**

**Activate Fund** grantees announced

**September  
2020**

Co.act and Urban Consulate  
launch **Racial Equity Series**



## November 2021

Co-host with MCR, with support from the Knight Foundation, convenings to engage nonprofit leaders around the results of the **Detroit Nonprofit Leadership Census** report

## March 2022

Joins Candid as a **Funding Information Network** partner, a national network of partners providing access to philanthropic resources and training

## August 2022

Lead **Succession Planning & Leadership Pipeline** research initiative in partnership with Duke University and MCR

## March 2023

Launch **Fundraising Unpacked** training series in partnership with [Candid](#)

Form Strategic Advisory Board

## December 2021

Expand local, national and global partnerships and presence by joining national peer place-based intermediary cohort [CORE](#)

Host **Collaborative Leaders Learning Circle**

## May 2022

Co-host [Detroit Capacity Building Forum](#), which saw a 400% increase in year-over-year attendance

## February 2023

Allandra Bulger is awarded the [Miller Fellowship](#)

## April 2023

Launch [The WELL Fund](#), created in partnership with the Skillman Foundation, Black Executive Directors Alliance Detroit and the Youth Development Resource Center

**May  
2023**

Michigan Community Resources publishes the *Rest & Liberation Report*, in partnership with Co.act, as well as CDAD and NEW, with support from the McGregor Fund

**June  
2023**

Begin hosting **Consulting with Purpose** capacity-building network convenings

**August  
2023**

*Dovetail launches* in partnership with MCR

**November  
2023**

Publish the *Nonprofit Funder Dialogue Report*, in partnership with Johnson Center for Philanthropy  
Nonprofit Wellbeing Series introduces **Intergenerational Trauma and Healing** with global partner, The Wellbeing Project, and Georgetown University, growing program reach more than ten-fold

**January  
2024**

Launch peer participatory grantmakers community of practice

**August  
2024**

Launch R9 KipD+ awards, implement resident-led program design recommendations

**In 2024, we celebrate five years of impact.  
We can't wait to see what we do together next!**



# OUR APPROACH & IMPACT

Co.act accelerates transformational impact within nonprofits and across sectors in Southeast Michigan to advance equity through collaborative idea generation, cross-sector resources, and access to tailored programming and learning opportunities. To build a more equitable future, we work with partners to catalyze collaborative action and address systemic barriers so nonprofits can realize their missions and cultivate flourishing communities. We leverage a hybrid model to meet busy nonprofit leaders where they are and make global resources accessible to our community, while holding physical space for connection, community, and natural collisions.





# Collaborative Networks

To address systemic, complex issues we need innovation and diverse perspectives and experiences. We bring nonprofits, philanthropy, government, corporations, small businesses, and service providers together to dream of ways to tackle our region's most pressing concerns – ones that are too big for any one organization or sector to solve alone.

## Events

**95** organizations have hosted **205** events at Co.act's space serving **3,178** individuals.

Co.act has hosted **288** programs for **8,637** attendees.

## Connections

Approximately **75** partners, funders, sponsors, and program partners

Network includes **2,136** organizations and **9,255** people

Nonprofits have access to **320** service providers



*By February 2020, Co.act's physical space had seen 13,000 visitors and was host to 175+ convenings, equivalent to \$75k of in-kind (space rental) donations.*





# Social Media Followers



\*as of November 25, 2024





# co.act

## DETROIT

# #coactivist





# Innovative Resources

There are thousands of nonprofits working to facilitate change across Southeast Michigan. We provide access to world-class knowledge and learning opportunities that can strengthen their work and accelerate their impact.

**492**

Number of events hosted at Co.act

**11,067**

Number of attendees at events hosted at CoAct

**30**

Resources, available from the [Virtual Resources Library](#)

**20**

[Natural Collisions](#) podcast episodes

**1,109**

One-on-one capacity building hours



## Access Co.act's most loved reports and toolkits!

- [Wellbeing Toolkit](#), developed with support from University of Michigan Wolverine Pathways
- [Rest and Liberation Report](#), co-authored by Transforming Solidarity Collective partners
- [Nonprofit Funder Dialogue Report](#), in partnership with the Johnson Center & Eureka Group
- [Nonprofit Service Providers Ecosystem Map](#), in partnership with Data Driven Detroit
- [Dovetail Directory](#), in partnership with MCR
- [Dovetail Collaboration Playbook](#), in partnership with MCR
- [Dovetail Fund Development Wizard](#), in partnership with MCR
- Leadership Pipeline Report, in partnership with MCR and Duke Engage fellows. *Coming soon!*



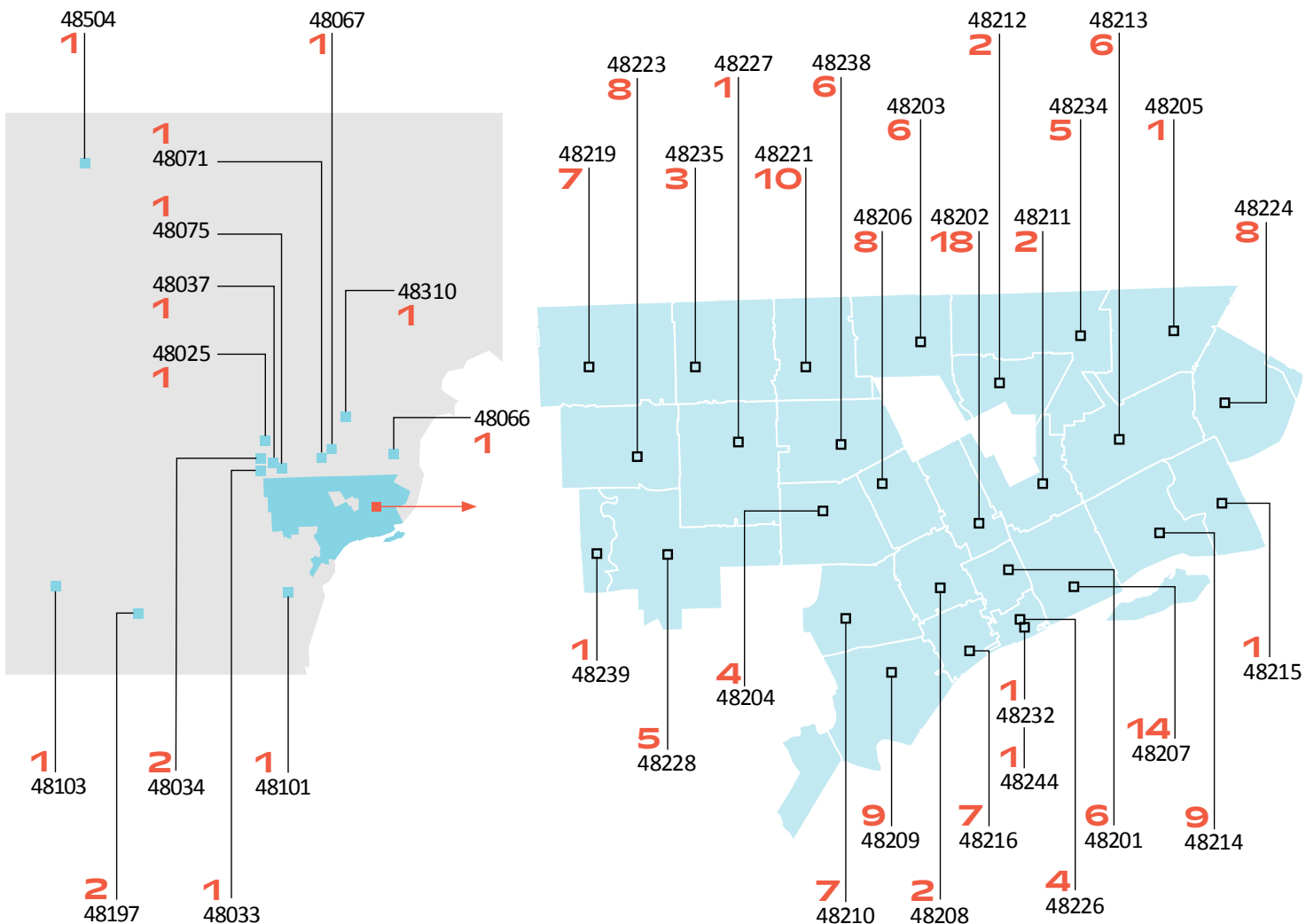
# Equitable Funding

Co.act is committed to promoting an equitable funding environment in Southeast Michigan by advancing best practices for participatory, community-centered grantmaking. We partner with philanthropy and nonprofits to increase access to capital, address funding disparities, and shift power in ways that center community voice and decision-making because we believe that those who are most impacted by an issue or challenge are best positioned to solve it.

**| \$6.2M to 177 grantees, with \$26.3M leveraged**

**Projects funded:** In at least **46** unique zip codes across Detroit, Hamtramck, and Highland Park

## Number of Projects in Southeastern Michigan by Zip Code







# HOW OUR APPROACH COMES TO LIFE: PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Co.act Detroit launched in 2019 to respond to systemic challenges within the nonprofit sector. We were conceived through a collaborative process that brought together diverse perspectives from Detroit nonprofits, funders, entrepreneurs, and service providers to explore innovative solutions.

As an initiative dedicated to piloting new approaches for elevating nonprofit capacity, Co.act opened its doors and quickly built a culture of collaboration. We've become a trusted member of the Southeast Michigan nonprofit ecosystem, working to advance equity and drive transformational change. Together, with our collaborators, we reimagine what's possible for our region by intentionally addressing systemic issues of inequity and driving action.





# Grant Programs

Co.act promotes an equitable funding landscape through piloting and modeling participatory grantmaking and convening cross-sector partners to amplify best practices and co-create recommendations. Beyond providing funding, Co.act connects all grant-seekers to an ecosystem of resources and support. We hope that our commitment to show up as a true partner – one that cares deeply about our grantees’ success and communities we serve – shines through during and after our grantmaking. We deliberately fund organizations that share our desire to build equitable futures through catalyzing collaboration and authentically engaging our communities.

## Activate Fund

With support from Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation, the Activate Fund strengthens nonprofit capacity and collaboration, recognizes peer learning, and builds cohorts. We operationalized this mission through five components: Nonprofit Fundamentals, Collaboration Pilot, Service Provider Network, Earned Revenue Accelerator, and Apparatus Cares.

The majority of grantees included organizations led by people of color and/or women with budgets of less than **\$1M.**

**25** awardees received a total of **\$1.18M.**

An additional **7** collaboratives, comprising **171** organizations, were awarded with in-kind services valued at **\$210K.**



**An intense, challenging but ultimately transformative experience that has reframed the way we both approach and plan to advance our work (products & services)."**

*– Activate Fund Grantee*



**100%**

*of grantees reported that the Activate Fund grant helped further the work and accelerate the mission of their organization.*

***Pacific Community Ventures' evaluation report (2021) found that Activate positively impacted grantees' organizations – including improving their financial health, expanding services, fundraising, and more.***





# Detroit Community Development Mini-Grants

In partnership with Community Development Associates of Detroit (CDAD), two rounds of Community Development mini-grants were hosted in 2020 and 2021, providing the opportunity for nonprofit organizations to apply for up to \$5,000 each from a fund total of \$350,000. The grants helped provide critical services, such as food and PPE distribution, to their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Launched in summer 2020, the initial fund of **\$50k** garnered nearly **\$700k** in funding requests.

Because of the overwhelming number of funding requests we received, Co.act secured two new philanthropic partners to help us meet the demand. This yielded a **600%** increase in grants, **50** additional critical relief projects were funded.

”

**It dignified the experience of living through a global pandemic. By providing essential items we know that we were able to help households offset their own expenditure on such things.”**

*– Auntie Na’s Village*







# KIP:D+

A partnership between the Kresge Foundation, Michigan Community Resources and Co.act, KIP:D+ incubates, accelerates, and provides funding for community and resident-led initiatives that will improve the quality of life and strengthen the fabric of community in Detroit, Hamtramck and Highland Park.

In 2023-2024, we received hundreds of applications, unearthing the need of nearly **\$85M** of funding requests for community-centered initiatives, most of which came from small nonprofits that have historically been excluded or hard to reach in grant application processes. We were able to fund a small percentage of the requests and are now actively looking for philanthropic partners to help us meet the community's needs and desire for innovation.



**This is an opportunity to bring our vision to life for teen moms and young girls in Detroit. We're creating a safe and supportive space where they'll feel valued and empowered to shape their futures. It's a meaningful step for our community, and we're eager to see the positive impact we can make together."**

*– Tyra Moore, Executive Director of A Girl Like Me, Inc.*



# WELL Fund

Built on several years of shifting status quo around nonprofit burnout, the WELL Fund launched in partnership with The Skillman Foundation, Black Executive Directors Alliance Detroit, and the Youth Development Resource Center, to support the wellness and capacity of BIPOC-led nonprofits that serve Detroit youth (ages 5-24). Grant awards supported general operating funding, technical assistance, capacity building and leadership development, and support for wellness activities.

5 grantees received a total of **\$325K** and one-on-one capacity building technical assistance.

An additional four awardees received community wellness stipends, totaling **\$50K.**



**The WELL Fund gave us as leaders in the community an opportunity to lead. And that makes a big difference. It allows people in the community – who are doing the work, who understand what the community needs, who know the people we work with – to thrive. We really are better together.”**

*– Camille Proctor, Executive Director, The Color of Autism*





***BIPOC-led nonprofits receive less funding though they are often more ingrained and attuned to the communities they serve. Our goal was to create a fund specifically to support the leaders of these organizations.”***

*– Terry Whitfield, Past Partnership Manager,  
The Skillman Foundation*



# SUCCESS STORY: DETROIT PAL

**Detroit PAL provides safe spaces for kids in the Detroit metro area's underserved neighborhoods to play, grow, and develop self-confidence. They do this by offering quality sports and youth enrichment activities, and since its founding in 1969, about 300,000 participants have participated in their programming.**

In the last five years, Detroit PAL has been an active member of the Co.act ecosystem, leveraging two grant opportunities that improved its physical space, youth programming, and fundraising strategies.

The **2020 Activate Fund** award allowed them to completely transform youth programming and fundraising tactics, strengthening its long-term impact and stability, as well as address the community's needs during the COVID-19 crisis.

## Programming

During stay-at-home orders, with the Activate funding, PAL staff redesigned their programming, which introduced virtual enrichment programs, such as literacy, mentoring, and athletic challenges and virtual drills to keep kids active and physically and mentally healthy. They hired expert program and youth development consultants to assist them with their virtual programming offerings, and they increased their capacity to train mentors around mental health and self-esteem, which was a community need. Finally, when it was safe to return to in-person activities, funds helped them rethink seasonal in-person programming.

## Fundraising

Detroit PAL completely rethought its fundraising strategies. With the Activate Fund, the organization built a Salesforce platform, which allowed them to create a robust individual donor database that could engage 400,000 alumni as potential new donors. They created and launched digital marketing campaigns to reach the alumni and increase their brand awareness.



## Space Renovations

The **KIP:D+ Fund** helped Detroit PAL to leverage community support and funding (financial + in-kind services) support to establish more programs to better serve residents. Specifically, they used this award to hold planning meetings with area nonprofits and community members, which informed the renovation of the new PAL Rec Center, which is used for activities and other community needs, including meetings, soup kitchen, food pantry, STEM classes for youth, digital literacy and job awareness training for adults, adult recreation classes, and more. Funding also helped pay for a PAL coordinator's time, community survey, postage and analysis, marketing flyers and social media outreach, and hospitality needs.



# Programs

## Fundraising Unpacked Training Series

Hosted in partnership with Candid, Fundraising Unpacked is an interactive training series that covers a range of fund development topics, including finding grants, using the Foundation Directory Online, individual giving, and more.

**68**

attendees per session, on average

## Natural Collisions Podcast

Once a month, Co.act staff and featured guests, who are nonprofit and social impact ecosystem leaders and community changemakers, have candid conversations about topics that are deeply relevant to the community, yet lie beneath the surface of public conversations. For example: Black leadership in a society where leadership is predominantly white, work and mental wellbeing, the digital divide and inclusion, and more. There have been 20 podcast episodes produced in partnership with Homemade Media.

**1,703**

downloads





# Drop-in Work Day

Once a month, Co.act provides a place for nonprofit professionals to connect with and work alongside each other – a physical embodiment of our mission as we work to accelerate equitable change through collaboration. We provide the space, food and drinks, and resources that nonprofits do not typically have access to like business experts and rentable audio-visual equipment.

Launched in 2019, attendance  
for drop-in workdays has grown

**200%** by 2024.

”

**The Co.act space is so welcoming, and after I attended just one time, I recognized names and faces at the next one! Every time I've dropped in, I've met someone who I otherwise likely would not and left with a nugget of inspiration or business connection.”**

*– Drop-in Work Day Attendee*





Esteria Rogan  
co.act  
DETROIT

# Co.Lab Connect

Nonprofits can book complimentary one-on-one sessions with experienced advisors in strategy, data strategy and management, fundraising and marketing, organizational assessments, and more!

**833**

appointments  
offered

**748**

individuals  
attended  
appointments

**641**

hours of service  
provisions

”

**MiVida was EXCEEDINGLY helpful. She listened to my status and concerns, gave tight suggestions that addressed where we are and what was most effective for us to do. She was just BRILLIANT!”**

*– Co.Lab Connect Nonprofit Participant*





# Dovetail

Hosted in partnership with Michigan Community Resources, Dovetail connects foundations, nonprofits, and service providers to the most crucial resource needed for flourishing communities – each other! With Dovetail, connections are made via a virtual platform and in-person events.

**78**

capacity-building  
service providers in  
the directory

”

**As someone relatively new to working in Detroit-metro, Dovetail has been an invaluable resource to meet like-minded professionals and learn about innovation happening all around me. It’s inspiring to know I can be part of that!”**

*– Dovetail Service Provider*





# Wellbeing Series

A 2024 study conducted by the Society for Human Resource Management found about half of U.S. employees feel burned out, "emotionally drained," from their work, or used up at the end of the workday. Compared to other sectors, the burnout rate in the nonprofit sector is significantly higher, and nonprofit organizations tend to have higher employee turnover.

To address issues like this, Co.act's Wellbeing Series uplifts the vital connection between self and community care in a way that pushes for a culture shift around wellbeing in the workplace.

Quarterly sessions are offered virtually and in-person to connect social impact professionals working across sectors with leading local and global practitioners and thought leaders to support individual wellness practices, cultivate stronger organizational cultures of well-being, and foster a deeper, sector-wide shift.

Launched in 2019 with **41** attendees.

By 2024, attendance increased to

**844** attendees.

Co.act has been recognized globally for our work in wellbeing. We were recognized at [\*The Wellbeing Summit for Social Change\*](#), and later that year were invited to join the [\*Wellbeing Project's Ecosystem Network\*](#).

”

**It felt good to be affirmed. Having 30 years of work experience both in corporate and nonprofit settings means I've seen it all. I've worked for many leaders who think their practices of work culture get the most productivity out of their people. I do not agree...These conversations are NEEDED! Today, this strengthens how I recognize my role in respecting other's time, as well as protecting my own.”**

*– Wellbeing Series Program Participant*





# BUILDING COLLABORATIVE NETWORKS

Co.act excels at providing space for organic meetings and discussions, facilitating impactful connections, and reimagining what's possible. The result? Accelerated change that is equitable and transformative across Southeast Michigan. Take a look at how Class Act Detroit has been part of Co.act's ecosystem for a few years, and read about the impact they have been able to have as a result of leveraging many of Co.act's resources and services.

Class Act Detroit, founded and directed by Rashard Dobbins, is dedicated to unlocking the vision and creativity of working families in Detroit through hip-hop culture. By offering free after-school programs centered around media composition, art, illustration, and youth development, Class Act Detroit provides young people with the tools to grow, develop self-confidence, and engage in their community. Dobbins, who is affectionately known as "Mr. D" by some of the kids, brings his entertainment and educational backgrounds to the forefront of the organization's programs.

Since its founding in 2017, Class Act Detroit has grown from a grassroots initiative operating in Dobbins' home to serving over 300 children across Detroit. Over the past five years, Class Act Detroit has become an active member of the Co.act ecosystem, where Dobbins has participated in workshops, drop-in workdays, and has been a grantee recipient. His journey started with a vision and limited knowledge, but through flexible investments and the collaboration within the Co.act community, he has transformed his initial idea into a thriving organization. Today, Class Act Detroit continues to leverage the connections and funding opportunities that have helped improve its physical space, programming, and fundraising strategies.

Dobbins expresses a deep sense of gratitude, crediting Co.act's support for giving his organization the "transformational capacity" it needs. Dobbins reflects "Class Act wouldn't be standing today, if not for Co.act Detroit."







**Co.act, thank you for using your superpowers. You have not only showed us, but enabled us to really have transformational capacity. Without the resources and support of Co.act, Class Act Detroit would not be sustainable and thriving today.”**

*– Rashard Dobbins, Executive Director, Class Act Detroit*

## Programming

Class Act Detroit’s youth programming focuses on nurturing creativity through hip-hop. The organization offers three core programs: media composition, art and illustration, and youth development. These programs provide students with opportunities to develop their talents, explore their interests, and gain skills that extend beyond the arts. In addition to its regular programming, Class Act Detroit also made adjustments during the COVID-19 pandemic, transitioning to virtual classes and activities to ensure that youth remained engaged and supported throughout the stay-at-home orders.

## Fundraising

Class Act Detroit has redefined its fundraising approach, investing in both long-term sustainability and community involvement. Through grants and local partnerships, the organization has increased its outreach, building a stronger donor base and creating opportunities for growth. The funds received have helped Class Act Detroit enhance its programming and establish its new cultural hub, the House of Hip-Hop. The organization’s focus on relationship-building and community engagement continues to drive its fundraising success.

## Space Renovations

The WELL Fund is the primary funding stream that is financing the transformation of its space. The WELL Fund has allowed Class Act Detroit to transform a historic church into the House of Hip-Hop, a 13,000-square-foot community center dedicated to arts education, mentorship, and creative expression. This space, which has been under renovation since 2022, will provide room for media creation, artist workshops, performances, and community events. This renovation is also supported by KIP:D+ funds and aims to create nine interior spaces and nine external lots for youth-focused activities. In addition to providing a platform for artistic expression, the House of Hip-Hop also supports the local community by offering programs that promote positive racial identity, entrepreneurship, and self-actualization.

# THE TRANSFORMATION CONTINUES

2024 simultaneously marks Co.act's 5-Year anniversary and the beginning of our next chapter of serving nonprofits and accelerating equitable change through collaboration. These past five years have shown us how important networks like this are to our humanity, community, and ability to thrive as people and organizations.

Today, Co.act provides exceptional in-person and virtual programs rooted in both local wisdom and national best practices. We aim to meet organizations where they are by providing tailored resources to help nonprofits achieve their missions. Fostering connections, sharing knowledge, and leveraging cross-sector resources remain central in our approach. As a catalyst and connector, our team works to transcend sector and power dynamics by bringing together funders, investors, practitioners, nonprofits, and community leaders to build a more equitable future.

## Co.act Current Initiatives

### Co.act Detroit Strategic Framework

Co.act's [\*Strategic Framework\*](#) has been a guiding document from 2022 - 2024. Co.act will refresh the existing Framework and elevate priorities for 2025. The Framework will continue to provide overarching guidance for Co.act.

### Convening & Collaboration

Our convening space at 6568 Woodward Avenue serves as a place for collaboration and inspiration, for which we're seeing a resurgent demand as many organizations in the nonprofit ecosystem continue to operate in remote / hybrid environments.

### Programs & Resources

Co.act has numerous active programs – which were highlighted in this five-year impact report – and prospective pilot initiatives in its pipeline, creating an opportunity to sustain and enhance our slate of offerings at the onset of our next five years.

## Commitment to Wellbeing

Co.act models its deep commitment to mental health, wellbeing, and wellness within the nonprofit sector and beyond. Co.act offers dedicated mental health days and professional development resources to enhance staff health and performance. Co.act also founded the Nonprofit Wellbeing Series to bring ecosystem leaders together to learn and practice wellness, serving as a leading innovator in Detroit and the Southeast Michigan Region.

Through our efforts, we have served more than 15,000 nonprofit leaders while co-designing and implementing more than \$6 million in grant support to Southeast Michigan nonprofits, serving as a convener for brave and critical community conversations for collective problem solving and developing innovative and adaptable programming that connect nonprofits to critical resources.

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*We will continue this work, grounded in our core values: transparency and trust, quality and excellence, collaborative learning culture, and disruption of the status quo.*

And, after five years of leadership, grantmaking and service delivery in the nonprofit space, Co.act is poised to move beyond the proof-of-concept stage toward a new operational model over the next 3-5 years. In 2025, Co.act will take a critical step toward advancing our organizational structure and governance under the leadership of the Strategic Advisory Board, with support from expert consultants, and collaborative insight from key partners and stakeholders.





# TEAM, PARTNERS, AND SUPPORTERS

Partnerships are essential to our work. We inspire collaborative action and call on organizations to come together to solve our region's most pressing challenges collectively.

Co.act was created to complement existing resources and support for the nonprofit community in Southeast Michigan. We work closely with intermediaries and cross-sector partners to drive transformative change.

## Core Partners



RALPH C. WILSON, JR.  
FOUNDATION



## Funders and Sponsors

Ballmer Foundation\*  
Chemical Bank  
Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan  
William Davidson Foundation\*  
Fred and Barbara Erb Family Foundation  
Frey Family Foundation  
Grand Rapids Community Foundation  
Hudson Webber Foundation

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation  
JP Morgan Chase Fund  
Kresge Foundation  
Lake Michigan Credit Union  
McGregor Fund  
Microsoft Philanthropies  
Steelcase Foundation  
The Skillman Foundation

*\*Transforming Solidarity Collective supporters*

## Program Partners

313creative  
Adaway Group  
Advancing Macomb  
Apparatus Solutions  
Art Experience  
BEDAD  
Beth Kanter  
Black Emotional and Mental Health  
Collective: BEAM  
Bold and Brilliant  
c.c.design LLC  
Candid  
Capacity Building Centers Network  
Capital Impact Partners  
CCS Fundraising

Community Development Advocates of Detroit  
Council of Michigan Foundations  
Crystal Castle  
CultureSource  
D.Cipher  
Data Driven Detroit  
Design Core Detroit  
Detroit Collaborative Design Center  
Dinner for 30 with Cornetta Lane  
Do More Good  
Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy  
Dr. Myrtle Means  
EarlyWorks, llc.  
Foresight Design  
Full Frame Initiative

## Program Partners *(Continued)*

George Johnson Company  
Georgetown University  
Gingras Global  
Google  
Healing by Choice!  
Homemade Media  
Insights<sup>3</sup>  
La Prima Group  
Laura Putnam  
Leah Weiss  
Lilly Family School of Philanthropy at  
Indiana University  
Madhavi Reddy  
Meliora Creative  
Michigan Community Resources  
Mondo Unlimited  
Monica Breen  
Network for Good  
New Detroit  
No Nonsense Fundraising  
Nonprofit Enterprise at Work  
Nonprofit Personnel Network  
Nonprofit Wellness  
Oakland University  
Praxis Matters  
Raul Echevarria  
Robin Floyd  
Sabina Nawaz  
Sally Dominguez  
Shelley Danner  
Strategic Growth Group  
The Wellbeing Project  
UHY LLP  
University of Michigan School of Social  
Work Technical Assistance Center  
Urban Consulate  
VVK PR + Creative  
YDRC  
Yoganic Flow  
Young Nonprofit Professionals- Detroit

## Strategic Advisory Board

**Kelley Kuhn**, President & CEO,  
Michigan Nonprofit Association  
**Kyle Caldwell**, President & CEO,  
Council of Michigan Foundations  
**Laura Trudeau**, Principal, Trudeau Consulting, LLC,  
Former Managing Director for Community  
Development, Kresge Foundation  
**Lesley Slavitt**, Executive Director, Johnson Center for  
Philanthropy, Grand Valley State University  
**Meredith Freeman**, Director of Alignment and Impact  
Investing, Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation  
**Susan Musinsky**, Working for Social Change,  
Former Executive Director, Social Innovation Forum

## Co.act Team

**Allandra Bulger**, Founding Executive Director  
**Asia Blaney**, Grants Program Manager  
**Charnae Sanders**, Program Manager  
**Esteria Rogan**, Executive Assistant  
**Jaclynn Loudon**, Community Manager  
**Kyla Carlsen**, Senior Director of Program Strategy & Innovation  
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