

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **McGregor Fund Announces Grants to End Homelessness in Detroit**

**Detroit, MI, July 6, 2010** – The McGregor Fund has awarded three grants totaling \$776,000 that support efforts toward ending homelessness in Detroit, with particular emphasis on supportive housing. Grants to the Corporation for Supportive Housing and the Homeless Action Network of Detroit (HAND) will strengthen the entire continuum of care for the homeless city-wide, while a grant to Southwest Counseling Solutions will support Piquette Square, a new permanent supportive housing project for 150 homeless veterans, opening this month.

“We see real momentum among agencies serving the homeless, as they pursue proven strategies for housing chronically homeless Detroiters and keeping them housed with appropriate services,” said C. David Campbell, President of the McGregor Fund. “We believe the time is right for making system-wide investments that will greatly improve outcomes for homeless people.”

The three grants were approved by the McGregor Fund board of trustees at its June meeting, at which 14 grants totaling \$2,838,500 were approved for non-profit agencies working in the areas of human services, education, public benefit and arts and culture (Full list attached.)

Supportive housing is a successful, cost-effective strategy for housing chronically homeless persons, who cycle from living on the streets to living in shelters, jails, hospitals and other institutions. It combines affordable housing with comprehensive, integrated services and is intended for homeless individuals and families who have very low incomes and face serious, persistent barriers to staying housed, such as substance use, mental illness, and HIV/AIDS. Studies have shown the net public cost of providing permanent supportive housing for homeless people with mental illness and/or addictions is the same or less than allowing them to remain homeless. [Supportive housing is a key strategy in *Opening Doors*, a new Federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness, announced on June 22, 2010. See the websites for Corporation for Supportive Housing ([www.csh.org](http://www.csh.org)) and National Alliance to End Homelessness ([www.naeh.org](http://www.naeh.org)).]

The McGregor Fund awarded a one-year grant of \$184,000 to the Homeless Action Network of Detroit (HAND), the organization charged with preparing consolidated funding

applications to HUD and the Michigan State Housing and Development Authority (MSHDA) for housing and programs serving homeless persons, and overseeing the data system that tracks housing and services provided to the homeless in Detroit, Hamtramck and Highland Park. The grant will support HAND's plans to build its capacity in the areas of fiscal operations, program evaluation, inter-member and external communications, and advocacy. These capacity building plans are consistent with evolving policy at both HUD and MSHDA.

\$328,000 has been awarded over two years to Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) to continue its work in Detroit. With previous McGregor support, CSH has developed a strong Detroit presence and provided training, technical assistance and project financing to Detroit-area agencies serving the homeless, and worked closely with HAND to build HAND's capacity. The new grant will allow CSH to continue its partnership with HAND to update and monitor Detroit's 10-year Plan to End Homelessness; complete a first-ever inventory of all emergency shelter capacity in Detroit, Highland Park and Hamtramck; and improve employment-related services for the homeless. CSH will also work with HAND to continue building HAND's capacity to monitor and evaluate certain publicly funded programs carried out by non-profit agencies.

The McGregor Fund has also awarded \$264,000 over two years to Southwest Counseling Solutions to provide services at Piquette Square, a new permanent supportive housing center in Detroit's New Center area that will house 150 homeless veterans. The \$22.5 million project will be the first in Michigan and one of only a few in the entire US devoted to veterans, who comprise a disproportionate share of chronically homeless persons suffering from mental illness and other serious barriers to maintaining housing. The Fund's grant will support the Resident Support Services Team, which will provide case management of residents' physical and behavioral recovery plans and coordinate services for substance abuse treatment, life skills coaching, computer classes, rehabilitation services, job readiness training, VA benefits counseling and other benefits and services. A grand opening for Piquette Square is scheduled for July 15, 2010.

The McGregor Fund is a private foundation established in 1925 by gifts from Katherine and Tracy McGregor "to relieve the misfortunes and promote the well-being of mankind." The foundation awards grants to organizations in the following areas: human

services, education, health care, arts and culture, and public benefit. The area of principal interest of the foundation is the city of Detroit and Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties. The McGregor Fund has granted over \$190 million since its founding and had assets of \$141 million as of June 30, 2009. Visit [www.mcgregorfund.org](http://www.mcgregorfund.org) for additional information.

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**McGREGOR FUND**

**GRANTS APPROVED**

**JUNE 2010**

**HUMAN SERVICES**

**Alternatives for Girls**

\$220,000

June 2010

To provide \$180,000 to support general operations and \$40,000 for the Safe Choices and New Choices programs for girls and women engaged in dangerous street activities.

**The Baldwin Center, Inc.**

\$50,000

June 2010

To support food, clothing, educational programs and cultural opportunities for economically disadvantaged individuals and families.

**Corporation for Supportive Housing**

\$328,000 over 2 years

June 2010

To continue its work building the capacity and infrastructure of the Homeless Action Network of Detroit, a consortium of service providers, local government and other stakeholders that provide housing and services to the homeless), and assisting with updating and implementing Detroit's 10-year plan to end homelessness.

**HAVEN, Inc.**

\$20,000

June 2010

To support a one-time Business Process Management Project in collaboration with Turning Point, Inc.

**Homeless Action Network of Detroit**

\$184,000

June 2010

To assist with building its capacity to administer public funding for, and evaluate the performance of, housing and services for homeless persons in Detroit, Highland Park and Hamtramck.

**Michigan Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence**

\$360,000 over 2 years

June 2010

To support the second phase of Building the Safety Net, a comprehensive capacity building initiative to work with Detroit-based agencies to increase the availability and quality of services for area survivors of domestic violence and sexual abuse.

**Michigan's Children**

\$54,000 over 2 years

June 2010

To support the KidSpeak Neighborhood News Project.

**Southwest Solutions, Inc.**

\$264,000 over 2 years

June 2010

To support services for homeless veterans at Piquette Square, a new permanent supportive housing center that will house 150 homeless veterans.

**PUBLIC BENEFIT**

**Belle Isle Women's Committee**

\$10,000

June 2010

To support the costs associated with creating a Belle Isle Conservancy through the merger of the Belle Isle Women's Committee, the Belle Isle Botanical Society and the Friends of Belle Isle, the organizations working for the improvement of Belle Isle.

## **ARTS AND CULTURE**

### **Detroit Science Center, Inc.**

\$100,000

June 2010

To support general operations.

### **The Detroit Institute of Arts**

\$300,000

June 2010

To support general operations.

## **EDUCATION**

### **Kenyon College**

\$248,500

June 2010

To support Rural By Design, a multi-faceted program focusing on rural sustainability across the curriculum and rural community service, both domestically and abroad.

### **Teach For America**

\$300,000 over 2 years

June 2010

To support to bringing 100 Teach For America corps members as teachers to the Detroit Public Schools and charter schools beginning in Fall 2010.

### **The College of Wooster**

\$250,000

June 2010

To support the creation of a new Undergraduate Research Center, providing new educational supports and technological tools to help students integrate the research process from literature reviews through the presentation of findings.