



# 2023



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF  
LABOR & ECONOMIC  
OPPORTUNITY





#### MISSION

**Expand economic opportunity and prosperity for all.**

#### VISION

**Make Michigan a place where all people, businesses and communities have the economic means and personal freedoms to reach their full potential.**

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## Message from the Director

In 2023, LEO staff boldly committed their time and talents to help strengthen our state's economy, prioritize the closure of opportunity gaps and put Michigan residents at the forefront of all we do. Throughout the entire year, we collaborated across LEO's agencies, bureaus and commissions, and all our partners to achieve common goals and use real data to ensure we are making a difference in the lives of those we serve.



This year, we had no shortage of hard work and accomplishments to celebrate. To highlight just a few, the Michigan Poverty Task Force celebrated meaningful progress on several of its policy recommendations to reduce poverty in Michigan, including a boost in the state's earned income tax credit match from 6% to 30%. The task force also awarded \$50 million in grant funding to support nonprofits who help uplift at-risk Michigan families. Our MSHDA team assisted in the implementation of the first Statewide Housing Plan to overcome complex barriers and address the unique housing needs of residents across the state. Our Office of Sixty by 30 launched the expansion of the Michigan Reconnect program and the Michigan Achievement Skills Scholarship to help more Michiganders obtain the post-secondary credentials they need to pursue good and promising jobs



that result in significant wage growth. The MI Tri-Share Childcare Program continued to help more parents get back to work, with more than 300 families currently being supported by the program. Employment and Training awarded nearly \$65 million in Going PRO Talent Fund grants to support more Michigan employers in providing training to attract and retain employees.

Together, we pushed forward to fulfill our department's mission, with a focus on three key metrics: ALICE rate, household income growth and labor force growth. Thanks to the relentless efforts of every LEO employee, I'm excited to say that we have already reached our goal for labor force growth, with data released from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics this year ranking Michigan No. 1 in the Midwest, No. 3 in the nation in percentage of workers added to the workforce.

Internally, our department-wide diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) efforts remained to be an essential part of our work. This year, the DEI team launched two new internal Employee Resource Groups: The Women's Investment Network (WIN) for women employees and Pride+ ERG, for LEO employees who are members, allies and potential allies of the LGBTQIA+ community. The DEI team also hosted 10 Lunch and Learn sessions on topics ranging from aging in the workplace to National Coming Out Day.

All these efforts, and those celebrated throughout this report, have been critical to helping us drive the right outcomes for the state and accomplishing our strategic plan's goals to:

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## **01 Close equity gaps**

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## **02 Protect the health, safety and economic security of workers**

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## **03 Educate Michiganders and grow the middle class by removing barriers to employment**

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## **04 Create better jobs and support small businesses**

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## **05 Build strong communities and have great places to live**

I am proud of what we have accomplished for the people and businesses of Michigan, and I look forward to building on these successes as we move into 2024.



**Susan R. Corbin**

Director, Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity



## Close Equity Gaps

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Staff throughout the department remain committed to ensuring that our state is a place of opportunity for all by removing obstacles that prevent Michiganders from achieving true prosperity, prioritizing action through policy and legislative change, the expansion of resources and increasing representation and inclusion of marginalized groups.





This year, the **Black Leadership Advisory Council (BLAC)** saw movement on policy recommendations from its 2022 report, including passage of the **CROWN Act** that added protections against hair discrimination in the **Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act**. A bill that would cap interest on pay day loans at 36% has also been introduced and voting rights have been preserved and enhanced through a package of voting rights bills that were signed by the governor this year. State efforts to ban books and distort history in schools have waned and the Michigan State Board of Education adopted a Freedom to Read resolution.

**The Michigan Poverty Task Force also celebrated meaningful progress on several of its policy recommendations to reduce poverty in Michigan, including the passage of legislation that boosts the state's earned income tax credit (EITC) match from 6% to 30%.** Other wins supported by the Task Force included free breakfast and lunch for all Michigan school children, elimination of a five-year Medicaid eligibility waiting period for immigrants, repeal of the asset test for SNAP benefits, launch of a mobility wallet pilot to leverage technology to give low-income Michiganders access to transportation and the newcomer rental subsidy program.

The **Task Force** managed **\$50 million in grant funding to support nonprofits** this year through two programs:

- The **MI Nonprofit Relief fund** so far has rewarded **\$30 million to assist 1,373 of Michigan's smaller nonprofits** who served their communities throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The **MI Impact Grant fund** rewarded a **total of \$15 million to 10 of Michigan's larger nonprofits** who provide programming to lift people out of poverty.

The **Office of Global Michigan (OGM)** saw success this year as they advocated and received a **\$40 million increase in state funding** to support programs that provide legal assistance, housing, digital literacy and learning, and workforce development, services to Michigan's more diverse newcomer populations.

**OGM was able to partner with Global Detroit to launch its Global Talent and Retention Initiative statewide, launched a Newcomer Rental Subsidy program in partnership with MSHDA and began statewide language access planning across all state departments.**

The **Hispanic Latino Commission of Michigan (HLCOM), Michigan Asian Pacific American Commission (MAPAC) and Commission on Middle Eastern American Affairs (CMEAA)** continued to develop strategic priority alignment to **prioritize the work of making Michigan more welcoming and inclusive.** In March, representatives from each commission joined legislative leaders and the executive office for an inaugural convening to discuss the governor's policy roadmap and how it will impact our communities.

Collectively, **LEO's three commissions provided funding for at least 30 ethnic community-based organizations** doing grassroots work to drive equity across the state.

In February, the **Michigan Women's Commission (MWC)** announced the **new chairs of their bipartisan Women's Council.** Chaired by Sen. Michelle Hoitenga, Sen. Kristen McDonald Rivet, Rep. Julie Brixie and Rep. Sarah Lighter, the council unites legislators, regardless of political affiliation, to create policy language that will ultimately benefit the women of Michigan. The co-chairs and legislators agreed upon improving maternal health as its focus, an announcement made with Gov. Whitmer at her annual Galentine event.



## Protect & Enhance Health, Safety & Economic Security for Workers



We continuously worked hard to fulfill our commitment to the safety and well-being of Michigan workers by implementing measures to protect their rights and promote a healthy work environment. LEO's Labor Division went above and beyond their goal of improving timeliness in responding to workers' needs this year and has set an even more ambitious goal next year.

In January, we **launched a new [Workplace Mental Health Hub](#)** to share resources and strategies aimed at helping employees and employers across the state address mental health in the workplace.

We **hosted 17 public Mental Health in the Workplace webinars this year to discuss the importance of investing in mental health** to build stronger, more resilient workplaces, featuring insight from experts in the field.

During Mental Health Awareness Month in May, the **Women's Commission hosted a webinar around navigating menopause in the workplace.** The conversation introduced menopause as a topic that can and should be openly discussed in the workplace and how to encourage employers to create policies and cultures that support people during menopause. As a result, the MWC is now working with a PhD student,

who attended the webinar, to conduct a survey about menopause in the workplace, which will translate into a training for employers to best support those employees.

**MWC also co-hosted a webinar about how domestic violence affects employees** that may be experiencing it, their colleagues, and how to identify it in the workplace. The commission is now partnering with a domestic violence advocacy group to develop domestic violence awareness training for employers.

In August, the **Wage and Hour Division hosted its 59th Annual Interstate Labor Standards Association Conference in Detroit.** Attendees included 25 states, the United States Department of Labor (USDOL), plus Canada and Taiwan's labor departments, who were very impressed by all that Detroit had to offer.

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**I just wanted to thank you for being so fun and fantastic to work with! BY FAR the most organized, and well put together multi-day symposium I've ever done! You really knocked it out of the park, and absolutely made our job easier with how well planned, and organized everything was from beginning to end!**





**Wage and Hour investigated 4,514 wage claims, collected over \$2.5 million for Michigan workers, conducted 333 youth employment investigations and held 20 outreach events with 2,152 attendees in 2023.**

In September, Deputy Director Sean Egan was invited by the Consul of Mexico, Roberto Nicholas, to attend an event in Rochester to commemorate the 213th Anniversary of the Independence Day of Mexico. At the event, Director Egan spoke about the vital role that Mexicans and Mexican Americans play in the American culture and Michigan's economy.

In the same month, **Director Egan was awarded the Samuel Gompers Award** from the International Association of

Industrial Accident Boards and Commissions (IAIABC) for his commitment to improving working conditions for the masses.

This year, **the Labor Division worked with the governor's office and the legislature to develop and pass many pro-worker bills** including the restoration of prevailing wage, repealing right to work and restoring collective bargaining rights for public sector workers.

LEO provided funding to study a Paid Family and Medical Leave program for Michigan.

**Michigan Employment Relations Commission (MERC) staff expanded the agency's use of advancing technology** to provide access to an unlimited number of employees to observe actual hearings

of fact-finding and compulsory arbitration proceedings through its new MERC YouTube channel.

**MERC labor mediators successfully worked with employers and unions to obtain higher wages, enhanced fringe benefits and other improvements** that will attract new workers, help retain current workers and minimize disruptions in public and private sector workplaces across the state.

The **Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (MIOSHA) Consultation Education and Training Division performed over 800 onsite hazard surveys and over 1,000 consultations with employers and employees.** MIOSHA's Construction and General Industry enforcement divisions performed over 3,300 onsite inspections in Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23).

As a holistic transformation remains underway at the Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA), **the agency continues its efforts to create a national model for fair, fast and fraud-free service.** Most significantly, the agency **replaced its decade-old computer system** with one that is designed with the user in mind based on the latest technology.

The agency **established a new UIA Modernization Workgroup**, a unique collaboration with outside stakeholders tasked with solving problems and rethinking UIA processes. The transformation also includes new tools that provide equitable access to services for claimants and employers:

- The **UIA Claimant Roadmap and First-time Filer Coaching Sessions** ease the filing and certification process.
- The **Community Connect program puts UIA liaisons in communities** across the state to work directly with workers and employers.
- **Six new advocates** in the UIA's Advocacy Program brings the number of experts who can provide free legal aid to claimants and employers across the state to 32.
- **Customer service training** was available to all staff who work directly with the public and post-contact surveys show the agency has a nearly 86% satisfaction rating.





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**We have witnessed the steadfast commitment of Julia Dale and her team at UIA. They have worked to create efficient solutions that remove barriers and effectively address the challenges faced by Michigan residents. Civilla is extremely proud to partner with UIA on work that will make a lasting impact for claimants throughout Michigan.**

– Michael Brennan, CEO of Civilla, a partner with UIA in creation of the transformative UIA Claimant Roadmap

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**Our Community Connect program staff will work hand-in-hand with local organizations to identify specific barriers and challenges and provide solutions for expanding access to unemployment benefits. By focusing on each region's unique needs, we can better serve all residents across our diverse state.**

– Julia Dale, UIA Director

**Fighting fraud is also a priority for the UIA, which hired a Legal Advisor and created the Legal and Compliance Bureau to facilitate pursuing fraudulent cases.** More than 150 bad actors have been charged with crimes related to unemployment fraud, with more than 80 convicted so far. The UIA's Fraud division hired more than 30 staff to help clear backlogged fraud and intentional misrepresentation cases. Stopping fraud helps protect the unemployment Trust Fund, which businesses contribute to and from which benefits are paid. The Trust Fund continues to recover from pandemic-era lows and contains roughly \$2.3 billion.

**The Workers' Disability Compensation Agency continued in its efforts to handle numerous staffing changes** including filing long standing vacancies, job restructuring and retiree replacements. To enhance employee engagement, the agency continued to honor our devoted staff through our employee longevity awards, celebrated at our annual Tailgate Party, which had not taken place since the start of the pandemic.

**The long awaited "go live" phase of the new WORCS2 data system took place** enabling the agency to remove its old data system from the DTMB mainframe resulting in significant cost savings, increased customer access and improving overall efficiency.

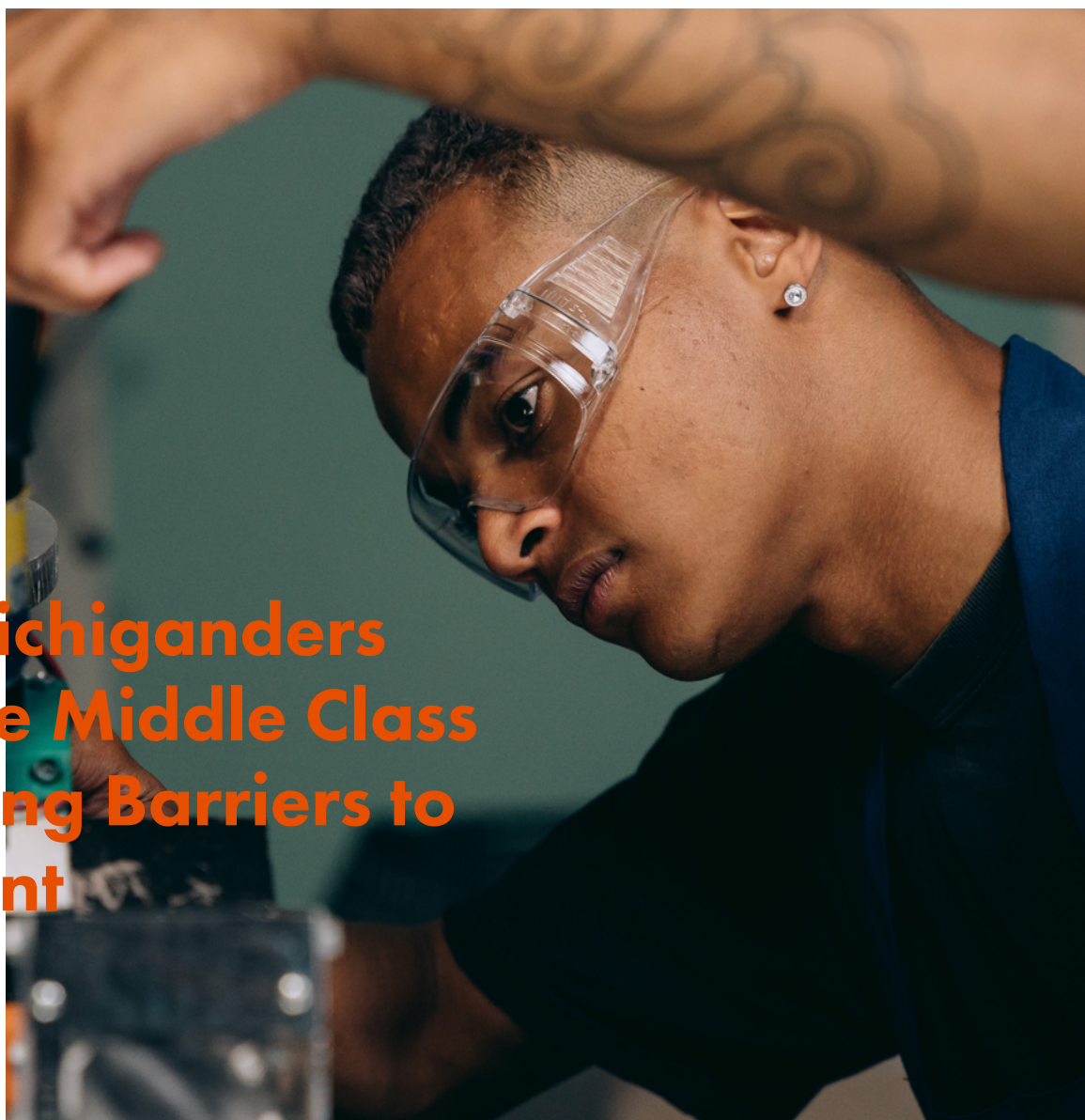
Work continues on the additional phases of the project. In the meantime, in the ten-month period, Jan 1, 2023 through Oct. 31, 2023, our mail room operation processed almost 345,000 pieces of mail in tandem with the system processing many electronic insurance filings automatically.

**The Christopher R. Slezak First Responder Presumed Coverage Fund provided workers' compensation benefits** for certain categories of first responders suffering from specified cancers. Since it began operations in 2022, the fund has provided \$6,179,000 to Michigan first responders covering claims including weekly wage loss benefits, medical care expenses and administrative costs, with the majority being for medical care expenses. Financial support for the fund is provided by sports betting and on-line gaming taxes.

Although the agency's most public functions involve claims processing and the resolution of disputed claims for benefits, over 23% of our staff is engaged in supporting the business community by making sure that all Michigan employers subject to the Workers' Disability Compensation Act, have appropriate insurance or are approved by the agency for participation in the self-insurer programs. This effort ensures that Michigan business has a level competitive field free from employers illegally cutting their costs.



## Educate Michiganders & Grow the Middle Class by Removing Barriers to Employment



This year, we made significant progress towards the rebuilding of Michigan's economy through our work to support Michigan businesses with the unique resources and opportunities they need to prosper, while attracting and retaining the talented workforce our state needs to grow and thrive. Michigan is No. 1 in the nation for helping those who have lost their job get re-employed and for participants served. On a national scale, we rank 6th in active apprentices, 8th in new apprentices and 9th in completions.

The **MI Tri-Share Child Care Program (Tri-Share)** continued to help more Michigan parents get back to work knowing that their kids are safe, cared for and have the opportunity to succeed. The program, facilitated by the Women's Commission, splits the cost of child care equally among an employee, their employer and the state of Michigan. As of August, there were 154 employers; 329 families; 479 children and 267 child care providers participating in Tri-Share.

The **Going PRO Talent Fund** proceeded in providing support to Michigan employers, helping them train, develop and retain current and newly hired employees. In FY23, LEO's Office of Employment and Training (E&T) awarded \$64,792,406 to 1,023 employers, and

the 1,103 total awards are anticipated to provide training for 37,428 workers. Through employer responsive training that enhances talent attraction, productivity and retention, the Going PRO Talent Fund supports an increase in credentials, certificates and degrees in alignment with the state's Sixty by 30 initiative.

**E&T was awarded a \$2.5 million, four-year, USDOL H-1B Rural Healthcare Grant to address healthcare staffing shortages in rural communities** through the Michigan Rural Enhanced Access to Careers in Healthcare (MiREACH) program. By the end of September, MiREACH participants reached more than 600, with over 500 having started training. These numbers have already surpassed the goal of the program. Most of these participants are





earning credentials as nursing assistants or registered nurses. Of the 280 individuals who have completed the program, 235 of them received a credential.

In September, we **partnered with Global Detroit to award \$1.5 million of grants to Michigan community colleges to adopt evidence-based practices for improving student success rates**, helping more Michigan students complete a degree despite all the obstacles. \$1 million went to schools to improve the success of adult students, and \$500,000 (from Global Detroit) went to schools to improve the success of immigrants, refugees, and children of immigrants. We believe that the grants around immigrants were the first of their kind in the nation.

In October, **LEO's Office of Sixty by 30 launched the expansion of the Michigan Reconnect program**, which temporarily opens the application window to Michiganders 21-24 to earn a college degree and accelerate progress toward our Sixty by 30 goal. At this point, more than 5,000 individuals have applied.

We also **launched the Michigan Achievement Skills Scholarship** in October to allow students who completed high school, or a high school equivalency, in 2023 or later up an opportunity to receive up to \$2,000 a year for two years to attend an eligible short-term training program.





**Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS)** served almost **32,000 individuals** during FY23, of which more than 25,131 were significantly or most significantly disabled. 17% of these individuals exited to competitive integrated employment. In addition, during the 2022-2023 school year, the Michigan Career and Technical Institute served 456 students with disabilities through vocational training or career assessment, which represents a 21% increase from the prior school year.



The **Bureau Services for Blind Person (BSBP)** continued to embrace **collaboration** this year, providing in-service trainings to Michigan Works! to educate and support the work of serving the blind, deaf-blind and severely vision impaired. These trainings also highlighted BSBP vocational services and supports. Given this increased collaboration, this past year BSBP increased successful competitive integrated employment placements by 32% (from 60 to 79), positively impacting LEO's employment goals.

**High school equivalency attainments from passage of the GED® or HiSET® exams rose 40% over the previous year** that allowed for 41% more vouchers to be processed in Program Year 2022 (PY22) (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023). This work is supporting efforts to educate Michiganders through upskilling and reskilling.





The **MiSTEM Network** saw a **399% increase in the number of students served directly by its regions** over the past year. There was also a 203% increase in participation from educators and students from underrepresented STEM groups. In total, 240 out of Michigan's roughly 900 public school districts participated in MiSTEM regional activities last year.

**MiSTEM's Advisory Council grants continue to align STEM activities and efforts across the state** and leveraged an additional \$994,040 in external funding sources from 36 organizations.

**In collaboration with the MDHHS Office of Child Support and three Michigan Works! Agencies, Workforce Development launched the Learn, Earn and Provide Pilot program to provide employment training and increase**

**employment attainment and retention for non-custodial parents (NCPs)** who have an arrearage in child support. The program's goal is to provide NCPs the opportunity to secure a quality job, thus supporting economic self-sufficiency and a reduction in child support arrearages. Of the 181 participants enrolled in the seven participating counties, 94 reduced their child support arrears balance by an average of \$5,077.13. This program is expanding in 2024.

The **Workforce Development Board developed a set of design principles to improve career navigation and exposure** across sectors, from high school career and tech education programs to colleges and the workforce system. These principles can be applied to ensure career navigation is focused on improving economic mobility.

## Create Better Jobs & Support Small Business



We remained steadfast in our efforts to help Michigan become the benchmark of economic development by implementing the state's first small business strategy that includes focusing on microbusinesses, securing highly competitive business growth opportunities and leveraging the power of collective problem solving to meet employer workforce needs.

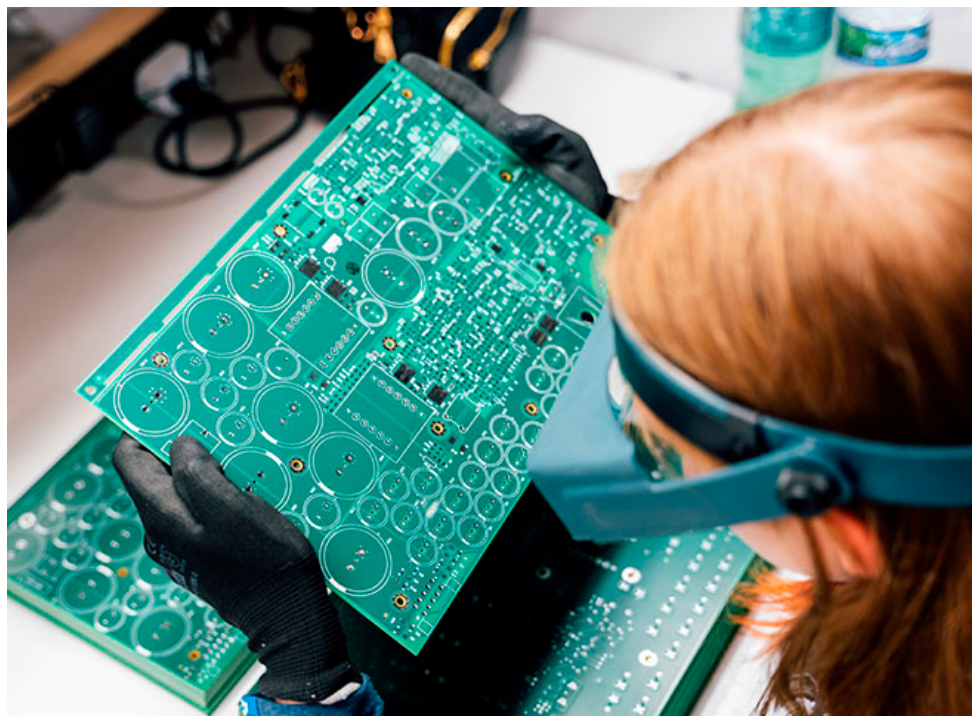




In 2023, we **assisted more than 10,000 small Michigan businesses** and provided \$172 million in follow-on funding for startups.

As a direct support of our department's advocacy efforts, **the legislature passed into law the \$75 million Small Business Smart Zones and Business Accelerators initiative** in February to create and operate programs to support small businesses disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.

The **Michigan Strategic Fund (MSF)** prioritized investments in opportunities that support small businesses, attract global companies, keep jobs in the state, develop affordable housing and grow vibrant communities in FY23, all of which are projected to create more than 26,000 jobs across the state and leverage nearly \$14 billion in total private investment.



In alignment with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation's (MEDC) goals to ensure every person can make it in Michigan and market the state as the place to do business, **MSF continued work this year to position Michigan as the global leader in the semiconductor supply chain.** Efforts and accomplishments include a launch of the state's largest-ever campaign to promote careers, recruit talent and attract new businesses to fill jobs in Michigan's core industry sectors, including the thriving semiconductor industry and the creation of a new Michigan Semiconductor Higher Education Grant for prospective higher education consortium members to apply for up to \$3 million in grants to implement programmatic solutions to grow the talent pipeline in Michigan.



The state also won a variety of semiconductor supply chain investments, including:

- Calumet Electronics' new factory for the manufacture of vital components for semiconductors, **a \$51 million investment that will retain and upskill 270 Michigan employees.**
- Global advanced materials manufacturer **Mersen**'s expansions in Bay City and Greenville, **a \$81.2 million investment that will increase semiconductor material production in the state and result in 115 jobs.**
- California-based **indie Semiconductor's expansion** in Auburn Hills, **a \$12.5 million investment to include a best-in-class semiconductor design and testing facility that will employ 180 high-wage jobs.**

MEDC and MSF also continue working to position the state as the global leader in the future of mobility and vehicle electrification and clean hydrogen development, efforts that can play a significant role in accelerating Michigan's clean-energy transition away from fossil fuels in the coming decades.

Accomplishments in the hydrogen space include:

- The announcement of Plymouth Charter Township as the location for Nel Hydrogen's new automated gigafactory to make electrolyze technology for green hydrogen production. The project, which **will create 517 good-paying jobs and invest \$400 million in the local community**, is supported in part by a Michigan Business Development Program performance-based grant approved by MSF.



- Plans for Plastic Omnium, a worldwide leader in fuel systems bumpers, fascias and integrated front-end modules, to bring what is projected to be North America's largest hydrogen storage manufacturing plant to Grand Blanc Township. This investment could **generate a total capital investment of \$171.2 million and create 175 jobs in the community.**
- An announcement that the [\*\*Midwest Alliance for Clean Hydrogen\*\*](#) (MachH2), a Michigan-backed clean hydrogen hub project, has been awarded up to \$1 billion by the U.S. Department of Energy to develop regional supply chains for the production, distribution, and use of hydrogen in trucks and heavy-duty vehicles. The project is anticipated to **create 13,600 direct jobs—12,100 in construction jobs and 1,500 permanent jobs.**

In 2023, the **Office of Future Mobility and Electrification (OFME)** maintained its lead in advocating for a culture of mobility innovation. OFME started the year with the launch of FLITE, the first airport-based initiative in the nation that encourages the design, development and piloting of new aviation products and services.

In the spring, **OFME announced the Fresh Maritime Challenge, which is focused on electrification of marinas and vessels,** including the first DC fast charger for electric boats.

In June, **OFME launched its Mobility Public Private Partnership and Programming grant program, awarding a total of \$2 million to help modernize the state's mobility offerings and massive outdoor recreation industry** as it transitions to more electric and technology-enabled vehicles and to assist in preparing Michigan's workforce for the increasing number of high-tech jobs in electric vehicles, infrastructure improvements, and related fields. OFME also launched the National Parks Services Mobility Challenge, which identifies and deploys new mobility and electrification technologies at Michigan's National Parks.

This fall, **OFME helped to showcase the nation's first wireless-charging public roadway in Michigan Central innovation district in Detroit.** Using technology from Electreon, a Michigan Central member company, 14th Street is now equipped with inductive-charging coils that will charge electric vehicles as they drive on the road.



## Build Strong Communities & Have Great Places to Live

This year, LEO made strong investments toward the building of a better Michigan, with a focus on housing, broadband, placemaking, enhancing community support systems and building welcoming communities where personal freedoms are protected and people want to live.



The **Michigan State Land Bank Authority (SLBA)** pushed forward in its efforts to facilitate the productive reuse of land throughout the state this year, administering \$150 million in blight elimination funding to revitalize Michigan communities.

Two dilapidated former state prison facilities and a former state hospital were demolished, and sites prepared for redevelopment.

**SLBA sold 43 individual lots from its inventory** this year, of those, 16 new single-family homes were built.

SLBA also **oversaw the creation of five new local land banks** in Alpena, Barry, Gratiot Macomb and Mason Counties, bringing the statewide total to 52.

To advance the governor's ambitious goal of creating or preserving 75,000 housing units over five years, the **Michigan State Housing Development Authority**

(MSHDA) worked tirelessly in 2023 to create new programs and financial and grant-making tools. This work has resulted in more than 12,000 housing units this year, and more than 22,000 houses over the previous two years.

**MSHDA worked with the governor and legislature this year to amend the 1996 Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Act to allow tax revenues captured through local brownfield redevelopment authorities to fund affordable housing costs.** The new Housing Tax Increment Financing (TIF) program encourages redevelopment and transformation of blighted and rundown properties and gives MSHDA oversight of work plans or combined brownfield plans if the development includes housing to be rented or sold below market rate or subsidized. As MSHDA works to address the housing crisis statewide, the TIF program will help increase attainable and affordable housing on a local scale.







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**The Tax Increment Financing program will transform underutilized properties into quality, affordable housing, help spearhead economic activity, aid in environmental protection and much more. We are ready to deploy this valuable resource across the state, creating more places of opportunity for Michiganders.**

– MSHDA Executive Director Amy Hovey

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**Every day that not enough Michiganders have a place to live is a problem. It's an urgent problem and we have to solve it. That's why the State of Michigan has now renewed that commitment to be partners in housing at a higher level than we ever have before. We know it takes all of our participation, all of our ideas, and all of our effort in order to make this happen.**

– Lieutenant Governor Garlin Gilchrist II

**MSHDA also joined state leaders to create a permanent funding source for the Housing and Community Development Fund (HCDF).** With its initial \$50 million allocation, MSHDA created several new programs to expand housing supports, primarily for low- and very low-income Michiganders. The flexibility of the HCDF has allowed it to be used to provide grants and loans to finance a wide range of housing-related

projects including: acquisition, rehabilitation, new construction, development and predevelopment, preservation of existing housing, community development projects, insurance, down payment assistance, security deposit assistance, activities that address homelessness, assistance to nonprofit and for-profit developers, municipalities, land banks, and community development financial institutions.

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**It is amazing to see not just Habitat working so close with MSHDA, but to meet a family who moved into one of these homes. I asked them ‘Where were you living beforehand?’ And they were living in an apartment with two children. It was very small and cramped, and now they’ve got three bedrooms and a lot of land around them. I think that’s one of the things that I love about Northern Michigan is when we build up this affordable housing stock, it’s really a very high quality of life for people. That’s why it’s so needed and it’s so important that we’re doing this work.**

– Governor Gretchen Whitmer, touring the Meadowlands subdivision in Alanson, a housing development site made possible with Missing Middle Housing Program funds from the HCDF administered by MSHDA.



In 2023, **MSHDA** led efforts to help **implement Michigan's first Statewide Housing Plan** by providing funding, coordination, and data support to **15 Regional Housing Partnerships (RHP)** across the state. RHPs worked with local governments, nonprofits, developers, businesses, local health departments, grassroots organizations, philanthropic organizations, and other partners to create action plans that address the unique housing needs of their regions in alignment with the plan. This collective work is vital to overcoming the complex barriers to attainable housing and helping build a healthy housing ecosystem in Michigan.

The **Michigan High Speed Internet (MIHI) Office** was allocated **\$1.559 billion** in funding for the **Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD)**

**Program**, the fourth largest allocation in the nation. MIHI will soon put these funds to work to ensure the universal availability of high-speed internet to every home, business and institution in the state.

**MIHI completed an eight-month, 43 stop community listening tour** from one end of the state to the other to listen to communities and residents about their connectivity needs. The office used the input of hundreds of Michiganders to craft the state's first comprehensive digital equity plan and five-year action plan for the BEAD Program.

The **Michigan Community Service Commission (MCSC)** hosted the **2023 Governor's Service Awards**, honoring 43 individuals, organizations and businesses for their commitment to volunteerism service and philanthropy. Nearly 1,000 people attend the event at the Fox Theatre in Detroit.



**MCSC administered 26 AmeriCorps programs and supported 1,000 AmeriCorps members.** Through these efforts:

**44,618** youth received support and services

**21,795** individuals received services to increase health access and knowledge

**337.62** acres of public land treated

**167.49** miles of rivers and trails treated

**2,428** individuals received education or training in environmental stewardship

**126,670** pounds of food distributed

**MCSC also supported three National Days of Service** including Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, Global Youth Service Day, and 9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance, to engage 5,367 volunteers in 17,090 hours of service.

The new **Growing Michigan Together Council (GMTC)** assembled a report **encompassing findings from a statewide survey and national poll** that will be used to inform the most robust population growth strategy in Michigan's history. Over 11,000 Michiganders provided honest feedback and ideas in the statewide survey that shine a light on challenges Michigan communities face, but also what they love most about calling



Michigan home. The national poll collected feedback from over 2,700 respondents in 15 metropolitan areas across the country to study the motivations behind young people choosing to relocate. All feedback from the public engagement effort is shared with the council as they prepare to submit final policy recommendations to the governor before the end of year.

**Over 60 GMTC workgroup members were appointed to generate and big and bold population growth-oriented ideas.**

They spent over 900 total hours collecting data, conducting research and collaborating to produce policy ideas for the council's consideration. Workgroups focused their efforts in four key areas: prek-12 education; higher education; jobs, talent and people as well as infrastructure and places.



**2024,  
here we  
come!**



MiDeptLEO



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