



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LANSING

SUSAN CORBIN
DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 2, 2024


TO: Senator Mary Cavanagh, Chair,
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on LEO/MEDC

Representative Will Snyder, Chair,
House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Economic Development
and Lifelong Learning

Jen Flood, State Budget Director

Kathryn Summers, Director, Senate Fiscal Agency

Mary Ann Cleary, Director, House Fiscal Agency

FROM: Jonathon Smith, Senior Deputy Director 
Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity

SUBJECT: Public Act 119 of 2023, Section 304 - Notification

Pursuant to Public Act 119 of 2023, Section 304, this letter is to notify you that the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity, Office of Rural Prosperity (ORP), has received \$400,000 in private revenue from the Windward Fund in fiscal year 2024. This funding will fund the Organization's Michigan Rural Readiness Program project. This program will establish the Rural Readiness Network and support a Rural Readiness Coordinator that will work with communities in Michigan's most underserved regions in order to prepare communities for federal funding. The ORP will leverage philanthropic support to establish the Rural Readiness Network to convene communities and organizations through regular meetings, roundtables, and events that provide access to peer connections, targeted training and technical assistance, and connections to resource providers like state agencies and philanthropy. ORP will also hire a Readiness Coordinator that will work with communities in Michigan's most underserved regions to support strategic planning, the development of project pipelines, and resource navigation in order to prepare communities for access to federal funding.