Strengthening & Advancing Early Childhood Efforts in Michigan

- Collaborating with diverse stakeholders to create a strong foundation for the Office of Great Start to help it effectively support Michigan’s families and children
- Communicating regularly with philanthropic funders about state issues to facilitate the growth of public-private partnerships
- Convening public and private partners to support projects and initiatives to strengthen Michigan’s early childhood efforts
- Facilitating strategic discussions and mediating tough decisions to build consensus among cross-sector partners and hold them accountable

Addressing Chronic Absence in Michigan’s Schools

- Recognizing the potential for public-private partnerships to help strengthen Michigan’s education system
- Gathering important information about the issues grounding school absenteeism (such as poverty) to better educate both state and philanthropic partners
- Convening education partners from across the state and nation to launch Michigan’s first school attendance summit
- Keeping a finger on the pulse of work in both private and public sectors around school attendance improvement initiatives in Michigan

Improving Benefits Access for Michigan’s Families

- Connecting public and private partners to education opportunities
- Bridging public and private sectors to tackle a complicated state system
- Keeping government and philanthropic partners connected, accountable, and on mission
- Educating and inspiring funding partners about opportunities to leverage resources with the state
**GOVERNANCE**

The OFL is governed by an advisory committee of contributing funders; the Council of Michigan Foundations (CMF), its fiscal agent: the Michigan Nonprofit Association (MNA); and a member of the Governor’s executive staff. Current committee members are:

- Kyle Caldwell
  Council of Michigan Foundations
- Melanca Clark
  Hudson-Webber Foundation
- David Egner
  Ralph C Wilson, Jr. Foundation
- Neal Hegarty, Chair
  Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
- TBD (Appointment Pending)
  Office of the Governor
- Kate Levin Markel
  McGregor Fund
- Wendy Lewis Jackson
  The Kresge Foundation
- David McGhee
  The Skillman Foundation
- Donna Murray-Brown
  Michigan Nonprofit Association
- Faye Nelson, Co-Chair
  W.K. Kellogg Foundation
- Virginia Romano
  Vera and Joseph Dresner Foundation
- Cynthia Rowell
  Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation
- Diana Sieger, Co-Chair
  Grand Rapids Community Foundation

**Supporting Improvements to Michigan’s Child Care System**

- Engaging in strategic networking to connect funding partners to opportunities with state agencies
- Clarifying important budget vs. policy issues to ensure government and philanthropic partners are on the same page
- Facilitating collaboration between private and public partners to cultivate knowledge-sharing between sectors and inspire coordinated cross-sector action

**Bringing Flint’s Breakfast in the Classroom Program to Life**

- Identifying support gaps in operating a district-wide school breakfast program and understanding where private partners can step in to help
- Connecting the right public and private partners at the right time that would work together to implement an ambitious and successful district-wide school breakfast program in Flint

**Facilitating the Expansion of Double Up Food Bucks**

- Gathering important information about food access issues for funder education opportunities
- Facilitating conversations with government and philanthropic partners through OFL’s special position between the public and private sectors
- Connecting public and private partners to help Fair Food Network serve a greater number of Michigan’s low-income families

**Bringing Mental Health Resources to Flint Residents**

- Engaging in strategic collaboration to identify important public and private partners in providing vital crisis relief resources to Flint residents
- Bringing public and private sectors together to deliver, restore, and launch the operation of a mobile mental health unit in Flint in the wake of the Water Crisis

**Helping Flint Seniors Access Clean Water**

- Coordinating efforts with partners to find creative clean water access solutions for Flint’s seniors
- Expertly facilitating connections between the public and private sectors to ramp up food and water delivery to senior homes

**CONTACT US**

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