

Take Action on Air Quality Mini-Grant Program **APPLICATION**

2022/2023



Sponsored By:

Community Action to Promote Healthy Environments (CAPHE)

CAPHE partners include: Community Action Against Asthma, Community Member-at-Large, Theresa Landrum, Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center, Detroit Health Department, Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation, Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice, Ecology Center, Green Door Initiative, Healthy Environments Partnership, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, Southwest Detroit Community Benefits Coalition, Southwest Detroit Environmental Vision, University of Michigan School of Public Health, University of Michigan-Dearborn, & University of Detroit Mercy School of Law.

Support for this collaboration was provided by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (#R01ES032389), and the Fred A. And Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation, with additional support from the National Institutes of Health Michigan Center on Lifestage Environmental Exposures and Disease (M-LEEd) #P30ES017885

For more information about CAPHE, please visit our website at caphedetroit.sph.umich.edu

Take Action on Air Quality Mini-Grant Program Application Form

Application Deadline: January 27th, 2023

What is the mini-grant program?

Mini-grants will fund community-identified projects that work to:

- improve air quality, including monitoring to provide information about air quality,
- improve indoor environmental quality, for example, cleaner air indoors, **raise awareness about environmental health, and/or**
- support other actions, based in scientific evidence, that improve environmental health

For project ideas and information about promoting air quality, go to:

caphedetroit.sph.umich.edu. Projects should be based on recommendations included in the Community Action to Promote Healthy Environments Public Health Action Plan (available on the CAPHE [website](#) and also listed in this document).

Note: If the project requires a permit or special permission (e.g., building permit, permission from a property owner), applicants must have this prior to submitting their grant application.

Who is eligible to apply?

Any Detroit area resident, neighborhood group or organization may apply, including but not limited to block clubs, art groups, service organizations, churches, parks and recreational organizations, professional associations, and school-based groups.

Limit of one application per applicant.

Priority will be given to:

1) projects that benefit Detroit area communities most affected by poor air quality, have long term benefits and have the ability to build on resources with other community projects; and 2) applications from individuals, community groups or organizations interested in building their capacity to impact air quality in the Detroit area.

About the funding:

You may request up to \$5,000. Awards may be less than \$5,000 and/or less than the amount requested. Up to 5 grants will be awarded each year.

Payments in the total amount of up to \$5000 will be made to funded organizations in two

installments. If you are funded \$5000, the first payment will be given in the amount of \$2500 for the startup phase. The second installment of \$2500 will be given in the later phases of the project. The timing of the second installment will be negotiated based on your project's progress. Payment will be made when an invoice is submitted with a short description of planned activities for the later phase and, if appropriate, activities from the previous phase of the program.

A 2-page final report is required at the end of the project.

Who is sponsoring the mini-grants?

Community Action to Promote Healthy Environments (CAPHE) is a community-based participatory research partnership. The partnership includes community-based organizations, the health practice community, environmental organizations, and academic researchers. CAPHE developed a [Public Health Action Plan](#), a research-backed list of recommendations to reduce exposure to air pollutants and improve health in Detroit. Many of those recommendations are related to air quality monitoring, promoting better air quality in child serving and other organizations, and for supporting community engagement in improving air quality and promoting health. A list of these recommendations is on the next page.

Optional Grant Writing Workshops:

CAPHE will host three workshops for those interested in applying for a mini-grant. We will review CAPHE Public Health Action Plan recommendations, offer technical assistance, and answer questions as you prepare your mini-grant application. Attendance at the workshops is optional. If you cannot attend any of the workshops but have questions please contact Alison Walding at walison@umich.edu. The workshops will be held on:

Wednesday, December 7, 2022 @ 7:00pm **(Zoom)**

Link: <https://umich.zoom.us/j/91486081474>

Thursday, December 15, 2022 @ 7:00pm **(In-person)**

Location: Eastside Community Network, 4401 Conner St, Detroit, MI 48215

Tuesday, January 10, 2023 @ 5:30pm **(In-person)**

Location: Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation, 1211 Trumbull, Detroit, MI 48216

Friday, January 20, 2023 @ 1:00pm **(Zoom)**

Link: <https://umich.zoom.us/j/95009599356>

Final notification of award:

You will be notified in writing and by phone of the decision on your application by **February 28, 2023.**

APPLICANT AND PROJECT INFORMATION

Applicant	Sanctuary Farms	
Street Address	3171 Lakeview St.	
City:	Detroit Zip Code:	48215
Phone	313.681.9757 Website:	sanctuaryfarming.com
Project Contact (Name, Title): jø n kent, Co-Founder		

Phone
(if different from above):

313.681. 9757
E-Mail:

jonkent@sanctuaryfarmi
ng.com

Project Name:	Democratizing Air Monitoring in Southeast Detroit
Total Project Cost	\$ 5000
Proposed Project Start and End Dates:	May 1st - October 31st

May we share your contact information and project description with other grantees? Yes No

Community Action to Promote Healthy Environments (CAPHE)

Public Health Action Plan Recommendations to Improve Air Quality and Health in Detroit

The CAPHE Mini-Grant Program supports projects to improve air quality in Detroit, based on recommendations included in the CAPHE Public Health Action Plan. Please mark which recommendation(s) your project falls under by checking the appropriate box(es).

Are you working to improve air quality? Are you not sure which of these recommendations your project relates to? Feel free to attend one of the grant writing workshops or contact Alison Walding at walison@umich.edu. We welcome all proposals and can assist with working through the grant process.

Point Source Controls

Recommendation 1-1. Improve emissions controls and monitoring at point sources.

Recommendation 1-2. Require quantitative and qualitative health impact assessments (HIAs) and equity assessments when developing air quality management strategies.

Recommendation 1-3. Improve safety and awareness of industrial facilities and air emissions.

Renewable Energy

Recommendation 2-1. Increase the use of renewable energy sources (e.g. wind and solar) and transition away from polluting sources.

Recommendation 2-2. Use renewable energy and green and sustainable practices for new and renovated buildings and infrastructure. (e.g. solar panels, rooftop garden)

Diesel Engine Retrofits

Recommendation 3-1. Expand diesel retrofit and fleet and engine replacement efforts.

Idling Controls

Recommendation 4-1. Increase awareness of existing anti-idling efforts through an education and outreach campaign.

Recommendation 4-2. Increase enforcement of existing anti-idling ordinances.

Recommendation 4-3. Encourage and incentivize trucking, delivery and bus companies and their drivers to minimize idling.

Clean Fuels

Recommendation 5-1. Increase use of the clean fuels best suited for Detroit and Michigan by (1) increasing use of clean fuels in vehicles (e.g., cars, buses, trucks, ships), construction equipment and industry; (2) converting transit vehicles operated by DDOT, SMART, QLINE and schools to clean fuels; and (3) improving the electric vehicle and clean fuels infrastructure.

Recommendation 5-2. Increase local production of second generation clean fuels, particularly advanced biofuels and biodiesel from waste oil.

Transportation Controls Measures

Recommendation 6-1. Increase public transit ridership by improving regional transit systems (e.g. buses and trains) and incentivizing their use across southeast Michigan.

Recommendation 6-2. Encourage higher vehicle occupancy (carpooling, buses), expand existing roads capacity where needed, and improve traffic flow.

Recommendation 6-3. Encourage active transit (walking and cycling) and mixed-use

("20-minute") neighborhoods by improving planning and the built environment.

Indoor Air Filters

Recommendation 7-1. Install, use and maintain enhanced filters in schools. Recommendation 7-2. Use filters in homes and businesses.

Buffers and Barriers

Recommendation 8-1. Adopt regulations to create consistent and appropriate minimum setbacks between sensitive land uses and pollution sources - such as a wooded area or park between a highway and a school.

Recommendation 8-2. Plant vegetative buffers and/or install sound walls where current minimum setbacks are not met

Recommendation 8-3. Increase tree canopy throughout the City of Detroit.

Enhanced Compliance and Enforcement of Air Quality Rules

Recommendation 9-1. Increase the coverage, transparency, timeliness and stringency of facility inspections and enforcement activities, and assure compliance with existing permits and regulations.

Recommendation 9-2. Require the use of qualitative and quantitative health impact assessments (HIAs) and cumulative impact assessments as part of the air quality management process, including enforcement actions, state implementation plan (SIP) development and permitting.

Recommendation 9-3. Increase public input in air quality management, including the development of regulations, permitting and enforcement activities (e.g. Invite residents to take part in decisions at each step, have longer periods for public comment).

Enhanced Air Quality Monitoring

Recommendation 10-1. Increase the number of monitoring sites, and use mobile and transportable monitors.

Recommendation 10-2. Identify and implement targeted air quality monitoring projects, such as installing air monitors in neighborhoods where residents are concerned about air quality. These projects can investigate exposures, air quality trends, health risks, pollutant hot-spots, fugitive emissions, source apportionment, monitoring system adequacy, efficacy of controls, epidemiology, health impact analyses, health interventions, and/or other public health concerns.

Recommendation 10-3. Increase public engagement with air quality monitoring activities.

NARRATIVE RESPONSE: Respond to the following questions in 300 words or less per question:

- 1. Project Description.** Describe what you plan to do to improve air quality in Detroit and how your proposed project connects to recommendations in the CAPHE Public Health Action Plan.

- Our organization plans to purchase a mobile air quality monitor and develop a system to rotate the monitor between various community selected sites within the Southeast of Detroit. This project will enhance air quality monitoring in a cost effective manner, extending its reach into various communities and creating a foundation for community members to use the monitoring system. Apart from the sites the unit rotates to, it could be requested to focus on areas that are most impacted by pollution at that moment.

2. Project goals. Describe your project goals and outcomes you want to achieve.

- Our goal is to empower Eastside residents and community-led organizations with the means to collect data supporting their concerns regarding air quality conditions and resulting health issues they experience. Historically, residents cite air quality issues through their senses and effects on their health, which is combated by industry and sometimes regulatory agencies. Often, for action to be taken, outside organizations must come into our neighborhoods to test and analyze the air quality, thereby reaffirming and bolstering the testaments of residents. Our work is to implement a new model, which prioritizes community centered air quality monitoring, and provide them with the means to empirically prove what they have been voicing all along.
- We will create a map of Eastside satellite sites and a schedule to interchange the air quality monitor. We understand developing a schedule on when to move the air quality monitor will be the most difficult task of this project. Still we are confident we will develop a system that is conducive for all parties. We hope this will create a network where we are consistently gathering air quality data to evaluate, while also being able to host and educate more community members on the processes of monitoring, and the mitigation of poor and polluted air.

3. Applicant capacity.

- 1) Please describe your and/or your organization's qualifications for completing the proposed project, including any previous work to improve air quality in Detroit. If you are new to working on air quality issues, please describe how this project would improve your ability to address air quality issues.
 - Sanctuary Farms, a sustainable business focused on three main objectives: 1) cultivate organic produce, 2) create nutritious compost and 3) provide equitable green spaces to historically disadvantaged communities. With these aims we want to foster a thriving community on the lower eastside of Detroit where people are safe, healthy and connected to their local environment and food by actively being involved in closing the food loop.
 - In this work, we are stewards of the air. All three of our main objectives work to sequester carbon from the air and create a healthier environment for all life. We believe that our endeavor to monitor the air quality is a part of that mission. By following the quality of the air on our premises and sharing our monitor with other areas around the southeast side extends our work in ensuring a better environment for a greater number of Detroit residents and ecologies through data collection. We understand the importance of data and want our residents to have access to their own data to utilize from their safety.

2) Indicate who will carry out or manage the project and why they are qualified for this role.

- Jørn Kent and Tony Johnson, of Sanctuary Farms will be working with Jeff Gearhart of the Ecology Center to set up the air quality monitoring system. Jeff has worked for over 20 years on a wide range of environmental issues, including air quality, pollution prevention, life cycle assessment, consumer product testing, and green chemistry. Then they will map out an outline of satellite sites (areas impacted by air pollution) around the southeast area of Detroit to host the mobile air quality monitor.
- Once the satellite sites are chosen we will be working with occupants of the land to share data and create matrices to show how their air quality data intersect or differ from others in the area.

3) Describe any individuals or groups you will collaborate with, and their role in the project. If needed, please let us know what technical support our team can provide to you.

- Jeff Gearhart of the Ecology Center will be guiding and assisting us with the construction of the air quality monitor, as well as recommended placement around the southeast side based on conditions near each organization which will host the air quality monitor.
- Corresponding with other fellow sustainable organizations, we have received interests to host the air quality monitor at Freedom Freedom Growers, Jefferson Chalmers Water Project, Canfield Consortium and even by some nearby residents.
- As far as technical support, if we would greatly appreciate receiving any assistance synthesizing and interpreting data we gather as this would greatly boost our own capacity to understand the data and teach the information more effectively. As well as any flyers and or pamphlet packs regarding air quality awareness and mitigation we could use to disseminate to community members and organizations

4. Project Impact and Sustainability. Describe the community or communities that would benefit from your project. How might you support this work or its impacts after the funds are spent?

- According to the Detroit Metro Times article entitled, *Environmental racism in Detroit takes center stage at congressional hearing*, Steve Neavling cites that "Pollution is a widespread problem in the majority-Black city of Detroit. The University of Michigan School of Public Health estimates that air pollution kills more than 650 Detroiters a year — more than twice the number of residents killed by gun violence annually. Thousands more are hospitalized, and children miss a disproportionate number of days at school because of illnesses and asthma." Communities on the southeast side of Detroit, not unlike other areas in Detroit, are enduring environmental racism which manifest into

potentially fatal health conditions. This is particularly true where we are because we are walking distance from the 300 acre Mack Stallantis plant. This is the same plant that has been fined numerous times by EGLE for VOC emissions. One resident states to the Detroit News, "It's burning eyes, a cough," Shobe said he feels when he is outside. "My nose burns. It has been bad enough to send me to the bathroom" (Noble, Breana 2021).

- We know our community would benefit from this project by gaining more awareness and agency to effect change by having access to the air quality monitors in their immediate neighborhood. The next step after the funds have been dispensed to set up the Southeast side air monitoring infrastructure is educating folks on data collecting to empower residents to find possible solutions or routes of action leading to healthier air quality conditions. Data collected can provide support against further industrialization, clarify to the public which diseases are more prevalent in order to promote proper treatment and prevention. Working with the Ecology center to host workshops teaching satellite sites on data interpretation, giving residents and community organizations more agency to evaluate the data.

-

5. Evaluation. Describe how you will know you met your goals for the project. ● Surveys and learning accurate data collection will be key aspects of knowing our goals have been met. The Ecology center will teach data interpretation to community organizations and residents at the satellite sites.

- The surveys of residents and community organizations will assess the level of knowledge and understanding of data collection within the community, as well as giving us a count on the number of residents who have engaged with air quality monitoring in the area.
- A finished map of the Eastside satellite sites and a schedule to rotate the air quality monitor will be markers showing that we have established a common goal with our partners to accurately collect data and interpret the findings on the air quality within the Eastside satellite sites area.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Include 1-2 letters of support with your application. Letters should be written to support this specific project and application. **Letters should explain why you and your team are well-prepared to successfully carry out this project.** Letters should not come from personal contacts, participants involved in the proposed project, or from members of the applicant's organization.

OPTIONAL - SUPPORT MATERIALS

We encourage you to submit up to three more attachments that could help reviewers

understand your project. Materials might include, but are not limited to: brochures, annual reports, critical reviews, newspaper clippings, promotional materials. (Please do not send your originals; these support materials will not be returned.)

MINI-GRANT REQUIREMENTS:

- Any changes to budgets must be approved in advance. Please contact Alison Walding, CAPHE Project Manager at walison@umich.edu with budget changes. • **Projects should be completed between May 1, 2023 and October 31, 2023.** • Final reports are due 2 weeks before project completion. For the final report, In 1-2 pages, describe project outcomes, any project highlights, and include photos or other documentation of your work, as useful.
- Please acknowledge CAPHE support in all project publicity and media materials. This is a requirement of CAPHE's funder, the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences. Please use this language ~ Support for this collaboration was provided by Community Action to Promote Healthy Environments, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (#R01ES032389).

ASSURANCE SIGNATURE:

By signing this application form, you understand that, if a grant is awarded to you, 1) grant funds will be managed by you,
2) funds received under this grant will be used only for approved mini-grant activities, and 3) you have read the mini-grant requirements and will work to meet them.

Assurance Signature: _____ Date: _____

SUBMISSION DIRECTIONS:

Application deadline is January 27, 2023. No application will be accepted after the deadline. Incomplete applications will be less likely to receive funding.

Include with your submission:

- 1) A fully completed application form,
- 2) At least one letter of support
- 3) Up to 3 optional support materials

We strongly encourage applicants to type applications. Please contact us if you need support accessing a computer to complete the application.

Mail or email your application packet to:

ATTENTION: Alison Walding
Community Action to Promote Healthy Environments
University of Michigan
1415 Washington Heights
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
Email: walison@umich.edu
Phone: 515-240-7904