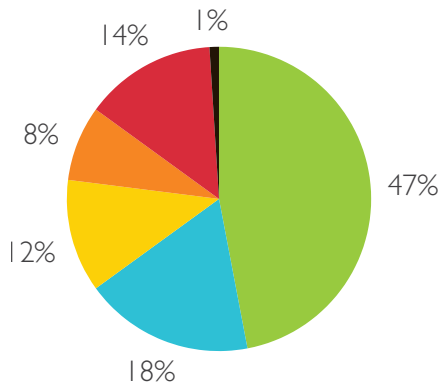
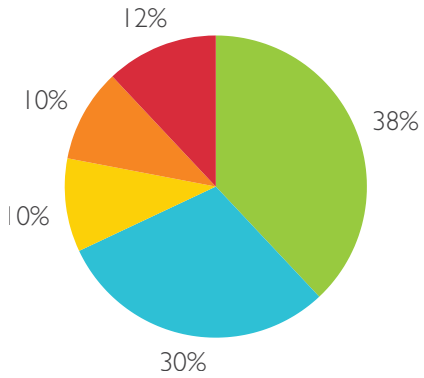
2025 FINANCES

OPERATIONAL INCOME: $329,542



- Grants & Foundations 47%
- Individuals 18%
- Events 12%
- Congregations 8%
- Poverty Education, 14%
- Other, 1%

OPERATIONAL EXPENSES: $470,454



- Good Food Systems 38%
- General 30%
- Congregations Connections 10%
- Annual Fund 10%
- Poverty Education, 12%

PASS THROUGH MONIES TOTAL: $622,487.61

**not included in operations*

Monies are passed through Access to partners via grant funding, congregation casework, and when we act as a fiduciary for local organizations. Examples of how this money is used include:

Congregation Casework
$329,621

Good Food Systems
$292,865.98

**these numbers are based on calendar year 2025, for audited fiscal year numbers for 2024-2025 please contact us.*

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2025 PARTNERS

GRANT PARTNERS

- WK Kellogg Foundation
- Michigan Health Endowment Fund
- Heart of West Michigan United Way
- Fairlife

BUSINESS PARTNERS

- Consumers Energy
- First Companies
- Trinity Health Michigan
- U of M Health West

TOP CHURCH PARTNERS

- LaGrave Avenue CRC
- Wyoming Park Bible Fellowship
- First Church
- Calvin Church
- Sherman Church

2025 ANNUAL REPORT EDITION

THE CULTIVATOR

THE NEWSLETTER OF ACCESS OF WEST MICHIGAN

OUR VISION:A COMMUNITY ROOTED IN EQUITABLE SYSTEMS

OUR MISSION: ACCESS STRENGTHENS AND DEVELOPS WHOLISTIC SOLUTIONS TO POVERTY BY CULTIVATING EQUITABLE SYSTEMS THROUGH EDUCATION AND COLLABORATION

ACCESS COMMUNITY WALK- 49 YEARS AND COUNTING

For the second year in a row, our annual Access Community Walk 2026 was held in various locations around the community, spearheaded by each fundraising walk team. This year we were delighted to walk with teams from Grand Rapids International Fellowship, Cathedral of St. Andrew and Don Heydens, and the Catholic Central boys lacrosse team. For the first time this year, walk teams paired a community service activity with their walk, and we were thrilled with the impact around our community. The lacrosse team of CC held a clothing drive for the Outreach Center at the Cathedral of St. Andrew, the GRIF team cleaned up the sidewalks on their walk along Kalamazoo Ave.

This walk is our largest fundraiser of the year, and we are so grateful to all of our partners who helped us make this year's walk a success. Our top three fundraising teams were Aldersgate UMC, lead by Dave and Marj Wiltse, the Dominican Sisters, and the Cathderal of St. Andrew, led by Don Heydens.

We were thrilled to have more youth engagement than ever before this year, with the support of the boys lacrosse team from Grand Rapids Catholic Central High School. With a total of eleven fundraising teams, we were able to raise $40,569 for our Spring 2026 Access Community Walk, well over our goal of $20,000. Thank you to our community for showing up! We can't wait for the 50th Annual Walk next spring. Stay tuned for more details.

2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Current:
Ashley Gross, Board Chair
Khara Dewit, Treasurer
Holly Jacobs, Secretary
Andrea Bradshaw
Amari Fuller
Kat Schultz
New in 2026: Alexandra Wilson

2026 STAFF

Tinley Kindy, Co-Executive Director of Operations
Gratia Lee, Co-Executive Director of Programs

PROGRAM UPDATES

CONGREGATION CONNECTIONS

- Over 441 families and neighbors served
- 25+ partner churches
- $329,621 distributed to meet neighbors needs through congregations

> We appreciate the role you and Access plays in connecting both people with resources they need and the different groups in the community that can work together to address those needs. It's bearing good fruit!
> -Deacon from partner church

POVERTY EDUCATION

- 22 workshops facilitated in 2025
- over 800 workshop attendees
- 15 community staffers employed
- Audiences included MDHHS offices, school districts, healthcare systems

> This was eye opening and heart breaking. Changed my perspective in so many ways. Definitely will be more compassionate and hopefully can help even one person due to the knowledge I gained.

GOOD FOOD SYSTEMS

- $76,000 invested in local food economy
- 8 trainings held with partner food agencies
- Notable achievement: Fresh Zone created at local boutique in Sand Lake, expanding access to local, fresh produce

COLLABORATION FOR TRANSFORMATION IN THE FOOD SYSTEM

With generous support and funding from the WK Kellogg Foundation, we are currently wrapping up a three year project with four partners around anti-racism and anti-oppression in the food system. Staff from SECOM, North Kent Connect, and Community Food Club formed a cohort and together we met roughly every other month from 2023-2025 for 5-hour workshops. We learned from community members with lived experience in topic areas such as the Indigenous Food System, Black Excellence in the Food System, Health Equity, Food Sovereignty, and more. We traveled to four different cities across Michigan and see best practices of food justice in Flint, Muskegon, Detroit, and Kalamazoo.