

## Grants provide assistance to Portage residents in need

The City of Portage has awarded annual grants for over 25 years to human service agencies that provide housing, food, clothing and other critical assistance to Portage citizens in need. As part of this long-standing partnership with local agencies, the FY 2025-26 Budget includes grants from the General Fund and the Community Development Block Grant Fund for the following activities:

| Community Partner Agency                          | Grant Award | Services to Portage Residents  | Website   |
|---|-------------|--|---|
| Portage Community Center                          | \$63,000    | Youth development, health care, education & supportive services. Emergency Assistance programs include food pantry, free clothing, transportation & financial assistance. Youth recreation scholarships. | <a href="https://portagecommunitycenter.org">https://portagecommunitycenter.org</a>         |
| Housing Resources, Inc.                           | \$23,000    | Housing stabilization program keeping people in their existing housing or finding other suitable units that may prevent homelessness.  | <a href="https://www.housingresourcesinc.org">https://www.housingresourcesinc.org</a>       |
| Catholic Charities                                | \$11,000    | Emergency support, counseling, shelter & outreach for homeless and at-risk youth at the ARK Shelter & Community Services. Healthy fresh food assistance.   | <a href="http://ccdok.org">http://ccdok.org</a>   |
| Gryphon Place                                     | \$2,000     | 2-1-1 Information & Referral, 24-hour hotline & crisis lines.  | <a href="https://www.gryphon.org">https://www.gryphon.org</a>                               |
| Disability Network                                | \$10,000    | Ramps and home modifications for people with disabilities.   | <a href="https://www.dnswm.org">https://www.dnswm.org</a>                                   |
| Kalamazoo Literacy Council                        | \$5,000     | Literacy assistance to improve English supporting housing, schooling and job growth in addition to everyday life skills; Instruction, books & supplies at two locations                                  | <a href="https://www.kalamazooliteracy.org">https://www.kalamazooliteracy.org</a>           |
| Community Living Options                          | \$5,000     | Support for adult life skills at the Alcott center.  | <a href="http://www.clomi.org">http://www.clomi.org</a>                                     |
| First Day Shoe Fund                               | \$4,500     | Provides new shoes to school age children.   | <a href="https://firstdayshoefund.org">https://firstdayshoefund.org</a>                     |
| Prince of Peace Lutheran Church                   | \$15,000    | Food program, free store supplying personal care items, closing and household items for clients and good Samaritan assistance.   | <a href="https://popportage.org">https://popportage.org</a>                                 |
| Community Healing Centers                         | \$6,000     | Children's early intervention counselling services and case management   | <a href="https://www.communityhealingcenter.org">https://www.communityhealingcenter.org</a> |
| Senior Services, Inc. (Milestone Senior Services) | \$15,000    | Portage critical minor home repairs and modifications.   | <a href="https://milestoneseniorservices.org">https://milestoneseniorservices.org</a>       |
| Kalamazoo Valley Habitat for Humanity             | \$15,000    | Critical Home Repairs for low-income homeowners  | <a href="https://habitatkalamazoo.org">https://habitatkalamazoo.org</a>                     |

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| Lending Hands              | \$3,500  | Temporary lending of medical equipment   | <a href="https://lendinghandsmi.org">https://lendinghandsmi.org</a>                       |
| Ripple Effects             | \$2,000  | Foster and Community Closet provides provisions of bus tokens to families that rely on public transit enhancing accessing to their additional services | <a href="https://www.rippleeffectinclusion.org">https://www.rippleeffectinclusion.org</a> |
| Shepards Center            | \$10,000 | Transportation for seniors to and from medical appointments.   | <a href="https://shepherdscenterkalamazoo.org">https://shepherdscenterkalamazoo.org</a>   |
| St. Barnabas Church        | \$4,000  | Diapers for children newborn through size 6.   | <a href="https://stbarnabasportage.org">https://stbarnabasportage.org</a>                 |
| Twelve Baskets Food Pantry | \$22,000 | Food pantry and free store supplying personal care items, closing and household items for clients in need.   | <a href="https://www.twelve-baskets.org">https://www.twelve-baskets.org</a>               |
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For additional information regarding the services provided by these agencies, please contact the Department of Community Development at 269-329-4477, or visit the links to these partner agencies on this table (above right).