

MICAH 6 COMMUNITY



Your Support Makes it Happen

At Micah 6 Community, we make a point not to ask for money a whole lot. We'd rather tell you the stories about our work here and let individuals decide to support it on their own. But as the needs get bigger and bigger, it has become clear that we need to ask more directly. So, here we are.

We need your support. Micah 6 Community functions almost exclusively off of the generosity of individuals just like you. While a big foundation might jump in from time to time when we have a big project or initiative, but those are only a few times a year. The rest of the time it is donations of \$20, \$40, or \$100 from individuals who see our work, understand the need, and take action.

We are looking for more folks to join our monthly giving community. Donors get special perks, they are the most informed, and they are closer to our mission. We'd love for you to join us.

Monthly donors are especially valuable to us because it is monthly donors who provide the foundation of our budget, allowing us to make plans and decisions about what we are able to do, whom we can hire, and how big we can dream.

Consider joining us!

A Few Stories of Our Work This Year

Maria

Maria is one of our longest and most involved neighbors. We've told you stories in the past about her. She is superwoman, holding so much together. She is the primary care taker for her 80-year-old mother, as well as her grandchildren who have developmental disabilities.

She was having some issues with her house and after having a professional look at it, we found that the floor joists were giving out and her house was slowly sinking into the basement.

We put our heads together and agreed that we could afford to purchase the materials to repair her basement. She agreed to work off the balance of the materials by assisting us with translation help when we serve Spanish-speaking neighbors.

Last week she had her first day, assisting us with an elderly neighbor who was referred to us by another agency. As she was translating, she jumped right in and gave her good information that she already knew from helping her own mother.

Neighbors helping neighbors.

Gerrard

Several years ago, the city had prioritized the demolition of vacant homes in our community. Now these homes were only *officially* vacant. However, many of these homes had homeless friends squatting in them. They didn't have heat, water or electricity, but they were private spaces,



Ryan

Ryan came to us through the summer youth employment program where she thought she was signing up to be a mentor for young people not a young person in a mentor program.

We quickly recognized in her a quiet wisdom, desire to learn, and a kind demeanor that we really value. After the summer, she became an employee at Micah 6 Community and has really been the utility player we have needed. She's down to do whatever task you give her and is incredibly competent.

Ryan has been to Minnesota with us, was Coleman's right hand woman at the Michigan Renaissance Festival, and has kicked butt at any number of things in between.

Ryan is about to graduate high school and is eager to come back for her second summer in our Summer Youth Employment Program.

out of the weather. As these homes were knocked down, many of our friends relocated to a vacant lot in our community, living in tents and tarps. That's where we met Gerrard.

As we had neighborhood barbecues, meet up and eat up, group meals and leftovers from the gardens, we'd take food to our friends on the lot. Gerrard was the most reluctant at first-- "why are you helping us?" But over time, he warmed up, we built a relationship and we began to learn more about each other.

One day, Gerrard was telling us his birthday was coming up and that his mother used to make him yellow cake with chocolate frosting for his birthday. We put it to the team and Bethany volunteered to make him a cake. The next day when she gave it to him, he cried and said it was the best cake he had ever had. He shared it with the folks living in tents on the lot with him.

For more than five years now, Gerrard has come in and out of the neighborhood. He would move across the state, go away to jail for a time, get out, drop by Coleman's house at all hours.

Today, Gerrard is back in jail, likely for a long time. He and several members of the team are pen pals.



Andre

The other day, Andre was in our offices flipping through one of our mailers and said, "Why don't you ever feature me in any of your media? I'm your biggest fan!" And if you've ever met Andre, you know that's true.

Andre was one of our first friends in the neighborhood. He was initially skeptical, got to know us and bought in 100%. He has been our lawn guy, our handiman, our traffic control guy at Santa's Workshop, and dear friend for more than a decade now.

Andre is the first to defend us when someone is critical and loves showing up to tours and meetings to advocate for our work.

If you're new here, meet Andre!



Micah 6 Community
32 Newberry St
Pontiac, MI 48341
Email not displaying correctly?
[View it in your browser](#)