



1 Tuscola, Suite 100 • Saginaw, MI 48607  
 (989) 755-0545 • Fax (989) 755-6524  
 saginawfoundation.org

## GENERAL SCF GRANT APPLICATION

**HOW TO APPLY:**

- Review information & FAQs located on the SCF website.
- Contact SCF to discuss proposal and receive an editable grant application.
- Submit completed application electronically to [Kendra@saginawfoundation.org](mailto:Kendra@saginawfoundation.org) no later than 11:59 p.m. on the due date or via mail postmarked by the due date.
- General SCF grant application due dates are February 1, May 1, August 1, November 1

**COMPLETED APPLICATIONS SHOULD INCLUDE:**

- 1) This completed & signed grant application form
- 2) Program/Project Narrative (*See Program Narrative Guidelines*)
- 3) Organizational Background (*up to 2 pages*)  
 - Include a list of governing board members & a brief bio on key project/program staff.
- 4) Financial Information:
  - a. Most recent IRS 990 (first 2 pages only)
  - b. Applicant's current operating budget
  - c. Most recent year-to-date financial statement
  - d. Documentation substantiating project expenses (quotes, bids, etc.)
- 5) If appropriate, any additional attachments you feel would establish your organization's credibility or help clarify your program/project (letters of support, news articles, etc.)

**E.I.N.**

#: 88-0762118

**Legal name of organization applying**

: ROOTEDin HOPE  
*(This should be the same name as the one on the IRS tax determination letter)*

**Your organization's common name** (if different than above): \_\_\_\_\_

**Chief Executive Officer** (name & title): \_\_\_\_\_

Joshua A. McMillon, Chief Executive Officer

**Address:** 120 N 15th St (physical address)  
107 S. Washington Ave #410  
 (mailing address)

**City, State, ZIP Code:** Saginaw, MI 48601

**Phone:** (989) 964-9659

**Email:** joshmcmillon@rootedin.info

**Website:** https://rootedin.info/

**Facebook Page:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact person for this application** (name & title): \_\_\_\_\_

Joshua McMillon - Chief Executive Officer

**Address:** 107 S Washington Ave #410

**City, State, ZIP Code:** Saginaw, Michigan 48607

**Phone:** (989) 964-9659

**Em:** joshmcmillon@rootedin.info



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- Has your governing board approved a policy which states your organization will not discriminate as to age, race, religion, sex, handicap or national origin?  No  Yes (date approved by board: Feb. 24, 2022 )
- Has your governing board formally approved this project and authorized you to submit this application for funding?  No  Yes (date approved by board: Oct. 7, 2022)

**APPLICATION AUTHORIZATION:**

Chief Executive Officer

(Printed): Joshua A. McMillon

Signature: DocuSigned by: Joshua McMillon Date: 10/31/24

Board Chair (Printed): Gwendolyn Thompson-McMillon

Signature: Signed by: Gwendolyn McMillon Date: 10/31/24

**PROGRAM/PROJECT INFORMATION**

Your Organization's common name:

ROOTEDin HOPE

Program/Project title:

Read Lead Succeed Literacy Program

Amount requested:

\$20,000

Total project cost: \$127,500

Project start date: January 6, 2025

Project end date: December 31, 2025

Geographic area served by this project (neighborhood/township/city/county):

City of Saginaw, Carrollton, Bridgeport, Buena Vista, Saginaw Township, and Bay City

1a. Estimated # of direct recipients this project will serve:

250

1b. Who are the direct recipients?

Explain. (No more than one sentence):

K-6 graders at Francis Reh and area churches

2a. Estimated # of indirect recipients this project will serve:

375

2b. Who are the indirect recipients?

Explain. (No more than one sentence):

Parents and siblings of K-6 grade participants

**Executive Summary**

Provide a brief program/project overview answering the following:



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*What is the project; why is it necessary; who is coordinating the efforts; where is the project located; who will the project impact; and what impact will the project have on the community (no more than a paragraph in length).*

Answer here:

The *Read, Lead, Succeed* Literacy Program (RLS) will provide support for students, parents, and teachers at Francis Reh Public School Academy and Saginaw Valley Baptist District Association churches, as well as other area churches. RLS will engage students with authentic, culturally responsive, reading, writing, and oral language activities utilizing multimodal literature, including an online library with relevant characters, stories and contemporary soundtracks. The program will: 1) help students develop an intrinsic motivation to read; 2) teach foundational reading skills that reinforce in-school, standards based requirements using cutting-edge, evidence-based practices; and 3) provide mentorship from community role models who build healthy relationships with students and share practical, real-life examples that emphasize the importance of reading in their personal and professional lives. Reading scores for African American students in Michigan are the lowest in the U.S., and Saginaw County scores are consistently low across grades and schools for African American students, who were disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. Tutors and community mentors will be trained to provide after-school and summer support for students. Tutors are students from Saginaw County high schools, colleges, and churches. Including high school and college students as tutors provides a critical 3-Generational perspective to teaching and learning and increases the probability of sustainability for the program. RLS also provides professional development opportunities for teachers who often struggle with finding culturally responsive materials and implementing culturally relevant instructional strategies. The RLS program helps strengthen school-community and teacher-parent relationships by helping them make connections through their common desire to improve the literacy lives of their children/students. The project will ultimately increase reading scores of student participants, and teach parents strategies that reinforce literacy learning at home, thereby improving the literacy lives of students, parents, and the Saginaw Community.



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**BUDGET INFORMATION**

- In the tables below, itemize any pending or confirmed sources of revenue & estimated expenses relating to this request.  
 Add additional lines if necessary.
- Total revenue *must* equal total expense to show how you plan on funding the project.\*
- Answer the *Budget Questions* on the following page regarding funding and sustainability.
- Attach the following financial information when submitting the completed grant application:
  - 1) Most recent IRS 990 (first two pages only)
  - 2) Applicant's current operating budget
  - 3) Most recent year-to-date financial statement
  - 4) Documentation substantiating expenses (bids, quotes, etc.)

**REVENUES FOR PROJECT:**

| FUNDING SOURCE                                  | AMOUNT           | STATUS: CONFIRMED OR PENDING                  |   |
|---|------------------|---|---|
|   |                  | CONFIRMED                                     | PENDING                                     |
| Saginaw Community Foundation (amount requested) | \$20,000         | <input type="checkbox"/> Confirmed            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pending |
| Organizational Funds Committed (in kind)        | \$20,000         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Confirmed | <input type="checkbox"/> Pending            |
| City of Saginaw ARPA (\$150,000 for 2 years)    | \$75,000         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Confirmed | <input type="checkbox"/> Pending            |
| Saginaw — Block Grant                           | \$30,000         | <input type="checkbox"/> Confirmed            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pending |
| Nexteer   | \$2500           | <input type="checkbox"/> Confirmed            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pending |
|   |                  |   |   |
|   | \$               | <input type="checkbox"/> Confirmed            | <input type="checkbox"/> Pending            |
|   |                  |   |   |
| <b>TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECT REVENUE*:</b>          | <b>\$147,500</b> |   |   |

**EXPENSES FOR PROGRAM/PROJECT:**

| ITEM (MATERIALS, SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT, ETC.) | ESTIMATED COSTS |
|---|-----------------|
|---|-----------------|



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|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Building usage (cost of facilities for events and sessions)   | \$3000          |
| Cost of major events (4 family literacy/parent workshop sessions)<br>*includes food & materials for students, their parents, and families | \$5000          |
| Cost for online books, videos, resources for students, parents and tutors   | \$2500          |
| Stipends for tutors during after-school & summer sessions)  | \$5000          |
| Training: Facilitation of tutor training sessions, parent workshops, and teacher professional development sessions                        | \$2500          |
| Classroom materials   | \$2000          |
| <b>TOTAL PROGRAM/PROJECT EXPENSE*:</b>  | <b>\$20,000</b> |



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## **BUDGET QUESTIONS**

**How will funding from the Saginaw Community Foundation be used?  
Explain specific items and/or areas of the program/project that SCF funds would support.**

*Limit to 120 words.*

Answer here:

Funds will support materials needed to carry out the project, building usage for all major sessions and summer sessions, cost of all major events (which includes food and materials), online book subscriptions for 1 year for all participants, stipends for tutors who will work with students, parents, and teachers, and a deeply discounted cost of training and program evaluation.

**How would this program/project be impacted if awarded *partial grant funding* from SCF?  
How would this program/project be impacted if not awarded *any grant funding* from SCF?**

*Limit to 120 words.*

Answer here:

Partial funding will make it difficult to complete the project and will impact the number of students. Funding from ARPA and the Community Block Grant program only allows us to support children who reside in the City of Saginaw. Without SCF funding, we will have to turn away children that need RLS support. simply because of where they live.

**Describe the amount and source of any internal funds dedicated to this project.  
Have you secured or do you plan on securing additional funds to support this program/project? Who have you contacted or plan on contacting?**

*Limit to 120 words.*

Answer here:

Tutor training, professional development sessions with teachers, parenting workshops, the cost of the RLS curriculum and assessments, as well as data collection, data analyses, and program evaluation are provided at deeply discounted rates totaling \$20,000 (in-kind).

We have applied for support from Nexteer and expect to hear from them soon.

1. Most recent IRS 990 (first 2 pages only);
2. organizations current operating budget;
3. most recent year-to-date financial statement;
4. any other documentation substantiating your program/project expenses and/or your organizations expenses.

## ROOTEDin HOPE - 2024 SCF Grant Application

### III. PROGRAM NARRATIVE

#### A. Statement of Purpose and Community Issue it Addresses

The purpose of ROOTEDin HOPE's *Read, Lead, Succeed* Literacy Program (RLS) is to engage Kindergarten through sixth grade (K-6) students in authentic, culturally responsive, reading, writing, and oral language activities that will: 1) help students develop an intrinsic motivation to read; 2) teach reading skills that reinforce in-school, standards based requirements using cutting-edge, evidence-based practices; 3) provide opportunities for mentorship from community role models to build healthy relationships with students and share practical, real-life examples that emphasize the importance of reading in their personal and professional lives; and 4) support teachers and parents in their effort to improve literacy learning for students.

In the Technology Enabled Girl Ambassador (TEGA, 2019) Social Supports Executive Summary, education was reported as one of Saginaw Community's concerns (p. 3), and TEGA recommended "literacy programs for youth and adults" as a Community Solution (p. 11). The Mentors & Role Models Executive Summary highlights the necessity of mentors for Saginaw County youth and discusses the challenges of recruiting mentors/role models. In response to this need, TEGA recommends that recruitment for mentors should include "churches and community groups to expand reach to individuals" (p. 7). TEGA's findings verify that members of the Saginaw Community need and want programs such as the *Read, Lead, Succeed* Literacy Program.

#### Documentation of Need

According to Annie Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center, African American children in Michigan have the lowest 4th grade reading scores in the United States. Data shows that African American fourth graders who scored below proficiency in reading were: 92% in 2007, 88% in 2009, 92% in 2011, 88% in 2013, 91% in 2015, 87% in 2017, 85% in 2019, and 90% in 2022. A closer look at Saginaw County students reveals a dire need for additional support. Table One below shows recent M Step data disaggregated by race. The data illustrates exceptionally low reading scores for Saginaw County African American students across grades and school districts (Data Source: Saginaw Intermediate School District).

|                  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> | 4 <sup>th</sup> | 5 <sup>th</sup> |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Bridgeport       | 12.2%           | 20.3%           | 8.6%            |
| Carrollton       | 28.1%           | 5.3%            | 13.8%           |
| Saginaw City     | 15.5%           | 21.5%           | 18.4%           |
| Saginaw Township | 14.5%           | 26.8%           | 16.4%           |

**Table One: 2018-19 M Step Reading Proficiency Percentages for African American Students**

In Table One, all three grade cohorts have low scores, which manifest the need to work with students across grades, rather than targeting one or two specific grades. Fifth grade scores are especially concerning, because the students are likely to also struggle in middle school. The implications of low reading scores create a compelling case for supporting innovative reading

initiatives. Third grade reading research shows that children who do not read at a proficient level by the third grade are four times more likely to drop out of high school, and six times more likely to leave school without a diploma if they are poor readers and live in poverty.

This is not a new project in our agency or community. Previously, the RLS Literacy Program has focused on Saginaw Public School students, but we need to expand the program and offer it to all K-6 students in need. For example, the 2023-2024 school rankings show that only 15% of Francis Reh Public School Academy students are reading at a proficient level. Our other funding sources limit us to work with children in the City of Saginaw, but many students who reside in the outskirts of the city need literacy support, as well. By partnering with area churches, ROOTEDin HOPE will be able to include children from across Saginaw County. Based on the data in Table One, literacy support is needed throughout Saginaw County.

### Project Impact

Approximately 250 Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students from Francis Reh Academy and scholars from churches in the Saginaw community will receive direct services from ROOTEDin HOPE. According to greatschools.org, 98% of Francis Reh students are at a low income level. Student participants’ parents and siblings will also be included in parent workshops and family literacy activities. Many parents have limited resources and may not understand how to reinforce their child’s learning at home. The *Read, Lead, Succeed* Literacy Program will offer sessions during the academic school year and throughout the summer, designed to improve student’s reading achievement, as well as writing and oral language skills. Also, parent training sessions will teach them strategies to help their children through reinforcement activities at home.

### C. Implementation Plan & Timeline Specify the activities to be undertaken and the timeline for their implementation.

| Timeline | Sessions/Events   | Activities  |
|----------|---|---|
| Jan 2025 | Training & collaborative planning with tutors                     | Professional development sessions for tutors  |
| Jan 2025 | Training sessions for tutors                                      | Tutors will be trained to implement the RLS curriculum.   |
| Jan 2025 | Tutors will visit classrooms to get to know the students.         | Tutors will participate in relationship-building activities with students   |
| Jan 2025 | Pre-assessments for students                                      | Students will be assessed by tutors to collect baseline data.   |
| Feb 2025 | <i>Read, Lead, Succeed</i> Opening Event for students and parents | Parents will meet tutors and volunteers, learn about the curriculum, and make Family Vision Boards that include reading goals for 2025. |
| Feb 2025 | Weekly project begins   | Tutors will work directly with students two days per week   |



|                   |  |  |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Feb, 2025         | Relationship-building sessions                                 | Tutors, volunteers, and students will participate in team building and relationship building games and activities. Mentors will share personal stories and engage students in activities based on student interest.  |
| Feb - Mar         | RLS Session 1  | RLS sessions will be implemented after school Mondays and Wednesdays   |
| March, 2025       | End of RLS Session 1   | Post-assessments   |
| April - May, 2025 | Data analysis for RLS Session 1                                | Evaluation of RLS at Francis Reh to determine areas of improvement in preparation for next RLS session   |
| May, 2025         | Tutor training for community summer literacy program           | Support community summer literacy programs by training their tutors to implement RLS program   |
| June 2025         | Additional tutor training for summer session                   | Tutors and volunteers will receive additional training based on the areas that they have been assigned to work with students. They will also have a chance to ask specific questions and receive assistance with particular concerns.  |
| June 2025         | <i>Let's Get ROOTEDin Reading!</i><br>Family Literacy Event    | Parents will learn how to support their child's summer learning & prevent a summer learning gap.   |
| June 2025         | Pre-assessments for students                                   | Students will be assessed by tutors.   |
| June 2025         | RLS summer session begins                                      | RLS sessions will be implemented 2 days per week   |
| July 2025         | <i>Super Saturday</i><br>Family Literacy Event                 | Parents, students, and siblings will work with tutors and volunteer mentors at literacy stations   |
| August 2025       | Back-to-School Celebration<br>& Awards Ceremony                | Students will receive back-to-school materials that encourage/motivate learning. Parents will learn how to support their child during school (critical conversations with teachers, questions to ask during parent-teacher conferences, etc.) Families will revisit Vision Boards and establish goals for the new school year (2025-2026). |
| Sept - Dec 2025   | Finish data collection and analysis, and evaluation activities | Compile data and submit final report   |

#### **D. Collaboration**

ROOTEDin HOPE has connected with several Saginaw County collaborators to support the efforts of the project, including Nexteer, Delta College, Saginaw Valley State University, and Saginaw Valley Baptist District Congress of Christian Education which includes 21 area

churches located in the City of Saginaw, Saginaw Township, Bridgeport, Buena Vista, Carrollton, Burt, and Bay City, along with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Eta Upsilon Omega. Nextccr and area churches offer volunteer opportunities for their employees and members. Delta and SVSU students, as well as students from Saginaw United participate as tutors for the project. Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority members also volunteer as community mentors.

### **E. Future Plans**

We have collaborated with area churches in Saginaw County since 2019 and plan to continue to connect with member churches across the State of Michigan. Because of the need for reading initiatives in Michigan, the plan is to continue the project in Saginaw, and support member churches across the state in their efforts to implement reading initiatives that serve students in their communities. ROOTEDin HOPE has secured City of Saginaw ARPA funds, which will help provide support for 2025 and 2026. We have also secured block grant funding for 2024-2025 and applied for funding for 2025-2026. As previously stated, both grants limit support to children who live in the City of Saginaw, and many of the children who attend city schools and attend community churches live in surrounding areas such as: Saginaw Township, Bridgeport, Buena Vista, and Carrollton. We do not want to turn children who need literacy support away because of their address. Future plans to apply for additional funding sources include proposal submissions to Kellogg Foundation, and the U.S. Department of Education.

### **F. Evaluation**

Evaluation of the project will be quantitative and qualitative, and will include students, parents, tutors, and community mentors. Tutors will complete pre- and post-assessments, as well as pre-project and post-project evaluation surveys. Based on survey responses, individuals will be interviewed for more detailed discussions about their experience. Tutor focal groups will convene to assist with project improvements. It is important to collect data on tutor training and their experience, to improve future training sessions.

Baseline assessments will be completed for students at the beginning and end of each tutor session period. For example, Francis Reh winter sessions will be assessed in January and March; however, summer tutoring sessions will be assessed in June and August. Report cards will also be collected to determine how and if project efforts are transferred to in-school classroom learning. Student focal groups will be interviewed for more details concerning their experience in the project.

Parents will also be asked to complete pre- and post-project surveys, as well as evaluations for each parent training session. A parent focal group will be interviewed to collect data about their experience, as well as their perspective of their child's experience in the project. Parent data will be used for project improvements.

Data will be used to provide a final progress report, and to prepare proposals for additional support. The goal is to determine the most effective way to support classroom literacy teaching and learning, train community tutors and mentors, and implement instructional strategies with students and parents. Evaluation information will be used for continuous improvement of the project.

## **IV. YOUR ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND**

### **A. Organization's Purpose and History**

ROOTEDin HOPE seeks to improve the literacy skills of K-6 grade children and their families (especially historically underserved groups) by providing them with direct services, including

culturally responsive, innovative, engaging materials, parent training sessions, and professional development for teachers at school, church, and in their communities. In 2019, we collaborated with the Wolverine State Missionary Baptist Convention and Saginaw Valley Baptist District Association to sponsor a summer literacy program at the Wolverine Headquarters Building in Saginaw. Forty-two students participated in the six-week program facilitated by 35 community volunteers from 17 area churches. Our project in 2019 was extremely successful and the students, parents, and volunteers were looking forward to participating in the program during Summer 2020, but Covid-19 stay-at-home mandates prevented an in-person program. The project director immediately transitioned to online training for volunteers to ensure that children and families could receive the support needed during Summer 2020.

One of the main obstacles that occurred in implementing online tutoring was the limited number of culturally responsive books available online. Thus, ROOTEDin was launched to provide K-6 students with culturally responsive online eVideos and eBooks that highlight contemporary characters and teach character building traits, including the importance of giving back to the community. The eVideos and eBooks were utilized during the Summer 2021 session with positive results.

For 2022, we chose to utilize the summer months to prepare to launch a project during the 2022-2023 school year that continued through Summer 2023. Due to attrition, we recruited three of our volunteer tutors who are classroom teachers to implement *I Read, I Lead, I Succeed* in their classrooms during the 2022-2023 school year, which worked well also. We continued to work with students at Arthur Eddy and Loomis during Summer 2023. During the academic year 2023-2024, we expanded our project to include Jessie Rouse and Herig Elementary (2 additional priority schools), and continued to work with Herig and Loomis Elementary through Summer 2024 reaching 59% increased average scores for word recognition across schools.

## **B. Description of Community/Constituency Served**

*Read, Lead, Succeed* (RLS) focuses on supporting schools and churches in Saginaw County. A disproportionate number of families in many Saginaw County schools and churches are ranked at low SES level, and have limited resources to support their children's educational experiences.

**C. Organization Affiliations.** The *RLS* Literacy Program is a collaborative effort of area churches including churches from the Saginaw Valley District Association, an affiliate of the Wolverine State Missionary Baptist Convention, as well as Victorious Believers Ministries, World Outreach Ministries, Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, and area schools.

## **D. Saginaw County organizations that provide the same or similar**

**activities. How is RLS different?** READ Association provides volunteers for Saginaw County schools to help students develop a love for reading. The SVSU Writing Center Butman Fish Project assists students and families with writing letters, completing applications, and working on school writing assignments. Sylvan Learning Center and Kumon are similar to the *I Read, I Lead, I Succeed* Literacy Program in that they engage students in activities that teach reading skills; however, the cost of participating in their sessions makes their support inaccessible to many Saginaw County students, and their instruction is not implemented from a culturally responsive perspective. RLS engages K-5 students in authentic, culturally responsive, reading, writing, and oral language activities that will teach foundational reading skills that reinforce in-school, standards-based requirements using cutting-edge, evidence-based practices. Mentor texts (books and materials) are carefully chosen that mirror the lived experiences of students, and classroom teachers and volunteers are trained to coach the teaching of standards-based skills in this rich literature. The *I Read, I Lead, I Succeed* project may have a much higher level of buy-in from

parents, because parents know most of the project volunteers from their participation in church activities, and/or community involvement.

### **E. ROOTEDin HOPE Governing Board Members:**

Joshua A. McMillon, President, ROOTEDin HOPE  
Mrs. Jacqueline Jackson  
Dr. Emily Caylor  
Dr. Yong Zeng  
Dr. Gwendolyn Thompson McMillon

### **F. Key Staff Members and Qualifications** include: **Gwendolyn Thompson**

**McMillon, Ph.D.**, Professor of Literacy in the Dept of Reading & Language Arts at Oakland University. Her research examines students' literacy experiences in- and out-of-school to develop data-driven instructional strategies that improve teaching and learning. She has 25 years of experience as director for literacy projects with varied funding sources (\$2 million+). She is doctoral coordinator for the Literacy, Culture & Language program and teaches graduate courses in reading research, diagnostic evaluation, and literacy instruction for students studying to become literacy coaches, reading specialists, and professors. She is a member of St. Paul MBC. **Joshua A. McMillon, B.S.** (Oakland University – Biology major, SVSU – teacher certification), CEO and founder of ROOTEDin HOPE, previously taught in Brooklyn, NY at Achievement First Bushwick Middle School and founder of Brother-to-Brother mentoring program for BIPOC Boys, also, previously taught at Arthur Hill High School. **Regina Alford, M.Ed.**, a member of Prince of Peace MBC and youth ministry teacher, is in her 29th year of teaching for Saginaw Public Schools. She teaches 1<sup>st</sup> grade at Arthur Eddy, and previously participated in grant-funded projects at Houghton Elementary and Houghton-Jones Resource Center. **Ola McMillan, B.A.** is a 3rd grade teacher at Zilwaukee Elementary. She previously taught at Coulter, Houghton, and Loomis Elementary, and has taught Reading Foundations courses at SVSU as an adjunct professor; She has been teaching for 19 years and is a member of Bethel AME. **Arwanda Conner, M.A.**, retired educator (37 years). Worked as a BV School District special education teacher consultant, and Special Education Supervisor. She works in the music and youth ministries at St. Paul MBC. **Jannis R. Corley**, retired assistant office coordinator from Saginaw County, and is a member of Prince of Peace MBC, where she serves in the Youth and Christian Education Ministries. She is Vice President of the Wolverine State MB Convention Woman's Auxiliary. **Ceylon Williams-Bettis**, retired from General Motors as Finance Director for Engineering Department, and is currently a K-12 substitute teacher for Saginaw County, Donna Sullivan, —**Tania Hopgood, M.A.** Logistical Manager at Nexteer, pastor's wife at Newer Dimensions Fellowship Church, and a RLS tutor. **Ava E. Lewis, PhD, RN, FNP-BC**, retired Professor of Nursing at SVSU (30 years). She is a member of Prince of Peace MBC, a Sunday School teacher, youth bible study teacher, and Dean of the Prince of Peace Christian Leadership Institute, Dean of Saginaw Valley Baptist District Congress of Christian Education, and Director of Christian Education of the Wolverine State Missionary Baptist Convention. **David B. McMillon, Ph.D.** Assistant Professor of Economics, Emory University, has 10 years of experience in statistical analysis, including teaching Stats at University of Michigan and University of Chicago. He will lead program evaluation efforts.

### **G. Additional Staff, Consultants & Outside Resources**

**Mark Rogers**, Website developer, skilled in multiple programming languages including Python, javascript and C++. Mark serves as our liaison for troubleshooting any issues with the standard operating procedures involving website usage e.g. onboarding users onto the ROOTEDin HOPE website database, access to online library, and statistical data.

**Scott Stinard**, Certified public accountant and owner of SAS Assurance accounting firm, specializes in non-profit accounting. Scott is responsible for financial and compliance reviews.

**ROOTEDin HOPE - Read Lead Succeed**

| <b>Operating Budget Line Items</b>                  | <b>Operating Budget Totals</b> |
|---|--------------------------------|
| <b>Personnel</b>                                    |                                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$5,750.00</b>              |
| <b>Consultants &amp; Contracted Services</b>        |                                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$16,650.00</b>             |
| <b>Tutor stipends</b>                               |                                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$44,000.00</b>             |
| <b>Online Library</b>                               |                                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$16,100.00</b>             |
| <b>Classroom Materials</b>                          |                                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$17,500.00</b>             |
| <b>Family Literacy Sessions/Major Events</b>        |                                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$15,000.00</b>             |
| <b>Space/Building Usage</b>                         |                                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$6,000.00</b>              |
| <b>Staff Training/Devt &amp; Program Evaluation</b> |                                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$6,500.00</b>              |
| <b>OPERATING BUDGET TOTAL</b>                       | <b>\$127,500.00</b>            |

# ROOTEDin HOPE

## Balance Sheet

As of October 31, 2024

|                                     | TOTAL              |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                       |                    |
| Current Assets                      |                    |
| Bank Accounts                       |                    |
| Checking                            | -60,922.73         |
| Primary Accounts                    | 12,153.23          |
| Savings                             | 75,711.29          |
| <b>Total Bank Accounts</b>          | <b>\$26,941.79</b> |
| Accounts Receivable                 |                    |
| Accounts Receivable (A/R)           | 23,000.00          |
| <b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>    | <b>\$23,000.00</b> |
| <b>Total Current Assets</b>         | <b>\$49,941.79</b> |
| Other Assets                        |                    |
| EQUIPMENT                           | 3,812.65           |
| <b>Total Other Assets</b>           | <b>\$3,812.65</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                 | <b>\$53,754.44</b> |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>       |                    |
| Liabilities                         |                    |
| Long-Term Liabilities               |                    |
| Personal Loan - Team One            | 20,000.00          |
| <b>Total Long-Term Liabilities</b>  | <b>\$20,000.00</b> |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>            | <b>\$20,000.00</b> |
| Equity                              |                    |
| Opening Balance Equity              | 10,953.71          |
| Retained Earnings                   | -11,549.59         |
| Net Income                          | 34,350.32          |
| <b>Total Equity</b>                 | <b>\$33,754.44</b> |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b> | <b>\$53,754.44</b> |

# ROOTEDin HOPE

## Profit and Loss

January - October, 2024

|                             | TOTAL              |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Income                      |                    |
| Consulting                  | 30,627.50          |
| Grants                      | 37,000.00          |
| <b>Total Income</b>         | <b>\$67,627.50</b> |
| GROSS PROFIT                | <b>\$67,627.50</b> |
| Expenses                    |                    |
| Community Outreach/Events   | 209.30             |
| Contractual                 | 7,939.94           |
| Employee Benefits           | 126.92             |
| Entertainment meals         | 79.27              |
| EQUIPMENT1                  | 8,464.19           |
| Office Supplies             | 248.49             |
| OPERATIONAL COSTS           | 2,439.15           |
| Professional Services       | 3,699.00           |
| Rent or Lease of Buildings  | 575.47             |
| Salaries & Wages            | 3,407.49           |
| SOFTWARE1                   | 2,365.19           |
| STUDENT SUPPLIES            | 410.58             |
| Travel                      | 2,468.84           |
| Travel Meals                | 26.52              |
| Uncategorized Expense       | 141.82             |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>       | <b>\$32,602.17</b> |
| NET OPERATING INCOME        | <b>\$35,025.33</b> |
| Other Expenses              |                    |
| Professional Development    | 675.01             |
| <b>Total Other Expenses</b> | <b>\$675.01</b>    |
| NET OTHER INCOME            | <b>\$ -675.01</b>  |
| NET INCOME                  | <b>\$34,350.32</b> |





## FRANCIS REH ACADEMY

2201 Owen St.  
Saginaw, MI 48601  
Tel: 989.753.2349  
Fax: 989.753.1819  
www.francisreh.com

### Mission Statement:

Francis Reh Academy educates and empowers all students to excel academically and positively impact our community.

### Vision Statement:

Francis Reh Academy is a community of focused, engaged and responsible achievers.

### Our Core Values:

*All students deserve a quality education.*

*All students can achieve at high levels.*

*Our inclusive learning environment meets the needs of each and every student.*

*Our staff is committed and confident in their ability to educate our students.*

*Our protected instructional time, in cooperation with families, maximizes student achievement.*

October 30, 2024

Saginaw Community Foundation Grant Reviewers:

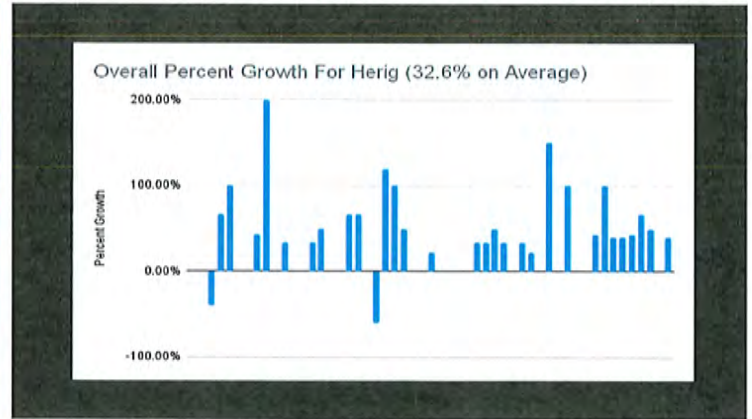
We are excited about working with our community partner, ROOTEDin HOPE, who will provide community tutors and mentors for middle elementary Francis Reh students and their families. Their one-on-one and small group tutoring will support our literacy curriculum and assist us with our goal of improving literacy outcomes at school.

We also believe that community partners such as ROOTEDin HOPE, which offers activities for parents and families, can help us reinforce ongoing learning at home. Ensuring literacy for all of Saginaw's children is essential and we know it takes a village!

We look forward to working with ROOTEDin HOPE and support their effort to seek funding sources to help our Francis Reh students and their families.

Respectfully,

Kate Scheid Weber  
Superintendent



## RLS Data Collection

144 Scholar pre-assessments

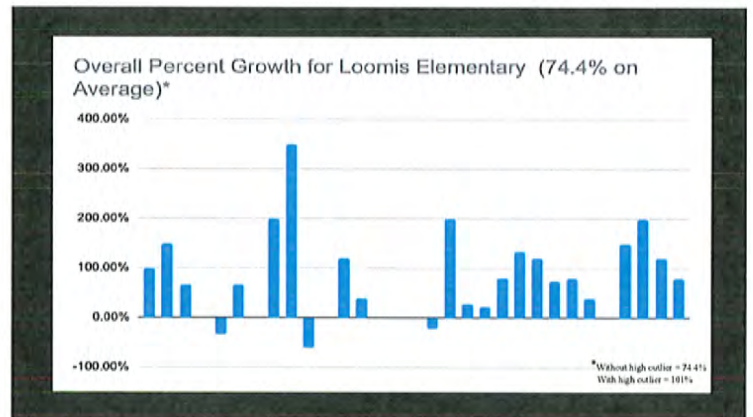
95 Scholar post-assessments

### Herig

53 Scholars took pre & post assessment

### Loomis

32 Scholars took pre & post assessment



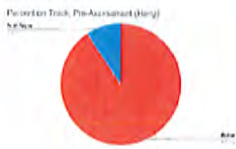
### Brief Explanation of RLS Data

- Histograms reflect average growth at both schools (32.6% and 74.4% respectively). These numbers represent scholars who took both pre and post assessments.
- Pie charts highlight the % of scholars at grade level when pre and post assessments were conducted.

#### Highlights

- Scholars who remained in RLS until the end experienced improvement (with the exception of 5 scholars)
- Greatest improvement occurred for Loomis 5<sup>th</sup> graders who were divided into 2 groups, met at the same time every day, for the same amount of time (smaller groups, consistency, structure). \*14 of the 32 Loomis scholars are from this 5<sup>th</sup> grade group who spent more time with RLS curriculum.

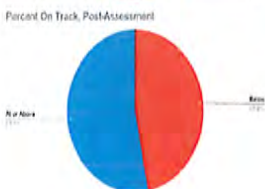
### Herig % Scholars at or above Grade Level



Pre = 9.4%

Post = 20.8%

### Loomis % Scholars at or above Grade Level



Pre = 12.5%

Post = 53.1%



Saginaw Valley Baptist District Congress of Christian Education  
120 N. 15<sup>th</sup> St., Saginaw, MI 48601

October 30, 2024

Saginaw Community Foundation  
One Tuscola Street, #100b  
Saginaw, MI 48607

Saginaw Community Foundation:

The Saginaw Valley District Congress of Christian Education has been involved with the Read, Lead, Succeed Literacy Program (RLS) since its inception in 2019, and we have continued to partner with ROOTEDin HOPE to support literacy learning for K-6 students and their families. I am writing this letter as the President of the Saginaw Valley District Congress of Christian Education on behalf of the Saginaw Valley District Association, in full support of RLS.

ROOTEDin HOPE has collaborated with the Saginaw Valley District to train Christian educators and affiliated community gatekeepers to implement the RLS curriculum in various contexts. Community tutors and mentors from our churches have graciously served children in the Saginaw community, and many of the children and families from our churches have benefitted greatly as RLS participants. In fact, several of our members began as student participants and have become RLS high school and college tutors. The cross-generational, assets-based approach to learning utilized by RLS mirrors the biblical values taught and practiced in our churches. We are grateful for ROOTEDin HOPE's expertise, professionalism, and commitment to prepare teachers, students, and parents in their educational pursuits and improve their quality of life.

We wholeheartedly endorse ROOTEDin HOPE's RLS Literacy program and look forward to a rich and expanding relationship. Please see attached a list of the current participating churches of the Saginaw Valley Baptist District Association. Member churches are in various geographic locations including Saginaw, Bay City, Buena Vista, Bridgeport, and Carrollton. Children in these neighborhoods depend on churches to serve their communities and provide safe spaces to grow and learn, especially during the summer. We support ROOTEDin HOPE in their efforts to fund activities for our children.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call me at (989) 933-1050 or email me at [stpaul2@yahoo.com](mailto:stpaul2@yahoo.com).

Sincerely,

*Rev. Dr. Vincent D. McMillon*

Rev. Dr. Vincent D. McMillon, President  
Saginaw Valley District Congress of Christian Education

Cc: Rev. Dr. Delwin C. Tatum, District Moderator

## Saginaw Valley Baptist District Association

Rev. Paul Broadus  
Truevine Baptist Church  
2930 Janes Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48601

Rev. Travis Buckley  
Mount Sinai Baptist Church  
1210 North 8th Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601

Rev. James Hodge  
St Johns Missionary Baptist Church  
1309 N 6th Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48601

Rev. Cedric Nickson  
United Baptist Church  
4290 Lamson Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601

Rev. Marcell Smith  
Second Baptist Church  
1770 W Youngs Ditch Road  
Bay City, MI 48708

Rev. Delwin Tatum  
Shiloh Baptist Church  
295 Grant Street  
Saginaw, MI 48604

Rev. Larry Camel  
New Birth Baptist Church  
3121 Sheridan Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48601

Rev. Ben Smith  
Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church  
1200 N Johnson Street  
Bay City, MI 48708

Rev. Ernest Reed  
Greater Solid Rock Ministry  
605 Meade Street  
Saginaw, MI 48602

Rev. Johnie Edwards  
Mount Moriah Baptist Church  
130 N 11th Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601

Rev. Albert Haynes  
Mt Zion Missionary Baptist Church  
12741 East Road  
Burt, MI 48417

Rev. Robert Corley  
Prince of Peace Baptist Church  
825 North 24<sup>th</sup> Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601

Rev. Murray Culberson  
Rosehill Missionary Baptist Church  
2403 E Remington Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601

Rev. Willie Mills  
Candlelight Baptist Church  
3305 Ruckle Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601

Rev. Rodrick Smith  
Zion Baptist Church  
721 Johnson Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601

Rev. Craig Tatum  
New Life Ministries  
1401 Janes Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48601

Rev. Blake Strozier  
Tabernacle Baptist Church  
810 Cathay Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601

Rev. Roy Manning  
Corinthian Baptist Church  
104 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Saginaw, Michigan 48601

Rev. Charles Levy  
Greater Renaissance Baptist Church  
1535 S Warren Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48601

Rev. Otis Washington  
Messiah Baptist Church  
2615 Williamson Road  
Saginaw, MI 48601

Rev. Joshua Daniels  
Mount Olive Baptist Church  
1114 North 6th Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48601

Rev. Dr. Vincent D. McMillon  
St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church  
120 N. 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601