



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Vera and Joseph Dresner Foundation Awards \$200,000 Grant to Wayne Metro to Support Energy and Water Bridge Fund Program

Funding will expand Wayne Metro's Basic Needs program, providing emergency financial assistance to families facing rising utility costs

Detroit, Mich. — October 1, 2025 — Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency (Wayne Metro) announced today that it has received a \$200,000 grant from the Vera and Joseph Dresner Foundation to support and expand its Energy and Water Assistance Bridge Fund.

The grant will strengthen Wayne Metro's Basic Needs program, which provides emergency financial assistance to families experiencing acute financial crises due to rising utility costs, including water, gas, and electric.

This gift will allow Wayne Metro to broaden its reach, helping more families in need while continuing to support those already served during the program's pilot year.

The Vera and Joseph Dresner Foundation is committed to supporting families, addressing urgent community needs, and promoting stability for Detroit residents. "Wayne Metro is grateful to the Vera and Joseph Dresner Foundation for its leadership in addressing critical needs of residents," said Louis Piszker, Chief Executive Officer of Wayne Metro.

Wayne Metro has also been named the anchor organization at the Dresner Community Center — Gilbert Street, where it provides critical services such as water and utility assistance, income and property tax support, and general resource navigation.

"Wayne Metro is honored to steward the operations of the Dresner Community Center — Gilbert Street, creating a welcoming space where residents can access the tools and resources they need to thrive," Mr. Piszker added. "Together, we are building a foundation for lasting impact and equitable growth in neighborhoods throughout Wayne County."

For information about supporting Wayne Metro's Energy and Water program, click here: [Wayne Metro](#)

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About Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency

For more than 50 years, Wayne Metro has worked to eliminate poverty in Wayne County by providing economic independence programs that nurture families and build communities. The organization serves as a lifeline for residents by providing assistance to those in need with rent, utilities, home repairs, food and other essentials, education, childcare and more. For more information, visit www.waynemetrol.org or follow Wayne Metro on Facebook (@waynemetrol), Twitter (@WayneMetroCAA) or Instagram (@waynemetrol).'