/LIFE REMODELED
together w/ you!



LIFE REMODELED ANNUAL REPORT 2025

MESSAGE FROM CEO







Dear Life Remodeled Communities members, Supporters, and Friends,

It is a privilege to serve alongside children, students, families, communities, and supporters who are committed to long-term change in Detroit neighborhoods.

This annual report marks an important milestone for Life Remodeled. It is our first comprehensive look at the work we are building together and the impact taking shape across the communities we serve.

We believe the future of the Detroit region is directly connected to the future of Detroit neighborhoods. That belief continues to shape how we invest, partner, and measure progress.

Through our E3M model–Economic, Educational, and Environmental Mobility–we are creating access points where residents can engage with workforce development, education, healthcare, and environmental revitalization within their own neighborhoods through our Opportunity Hubs.

In 2025, more than 23,000 Detroiters accessed services at the Durfee Innovation Society on Detroit's west side. Residents secured more than 850 job placements, generating $16.5 million in new annual income. More than 250 individuals received on-site primary care, a majority of K-12 students attending schools surrounding the DIS participated in after-school programming designed to strengthen academic achievement and long-term readiness.

We also launched a program called Future Firsts' at Denby High School, connecting students to STEM learning, Esports, and technology career pathways. One student, Mykell, began the year uncertain about his future after graduation. Today, he is the first Detroit Public Schools Community District student to receive a collegiate Esports scholarship and will attend the University of Olivet this fall. His story reflects what we believe at our core: Detroiters already possess incredible talent. When access and opportunity are present, lives and neighborhoods are transformed.

Beyond our campuses, thousands of volunteers participated in the Six Day Project, improving neighborhood conditions and strengthening community pride across Detroit.

At the same time, we made major progress on Anchor Detroit, our new Opportunity Hub on Detroit's east side. Phase 1 is nearly fully funded and opening this year, with strong demand already emerging from mission-aligned partners. We are also advancing plans for Phase II of the Anchor Detroit Campus, Tech Remodeled, a $5 million, 26,000 square foot technology center that will expand access to digital skills and workforce pathways aligned with today's economy.

None of this happens alone. Residents, community leaders, program participants, donors, corporate partners, and foundations all play a role in sustaining this work. Together, more than 30,000 partners are helping drive one of the largest neighborhood revitalization movements in Detroit.

Thank you for your continued trust, partnership, and belief in what is possible for our city. Let the movement continue.



Mayor Mary Sheffield speaks at Anchor Detroit ribbon cutting ceremony.

Diallo Smith

President & CEO



END OF AN ERA:
A FOND FAREWELL TO OUR FOUNDER, CHRIS LAMBERT







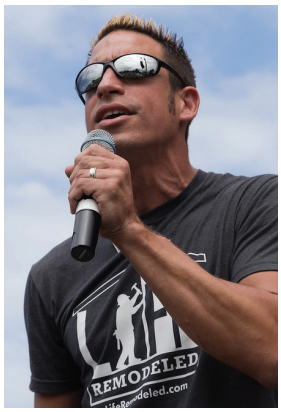
Fifteen years ago, Chris Lambert stepped out in faith with a vision many believed was impossible: transforming communities not simply through projects, but through people, relationships, and hope. What began as a bold dream became Life Remodeled.

Through Chris' leadership and belief in the power of community, Life Remodeled became far more than an organization. It became a movement that united residents, churches, businesses, nonprofits, civic leaders, and volunteers around the shared belief that equitable and lasting neighborhood transformation is possible.



From 2014-2024, Life Remodeled helped generate more than $56 million in Detroit neighborhood investment and mobilized more than 87,000 volunteers. Together, those partnerships helped renovate Cody High School, Osborn High School, and Skinner Park across from Denby High School, while also transforming vacant school buildings into thriving Opportunity Hubs serving Detroit families every day.





Projects like the Durfee Innovation Society and Anchor Detroit now stand as lasting examples of what happens when communities are invested in holistically. Yet perhaps the greatest transformation cannot be measured by buildings or numbers alone. The neighborhood surrounding Life Remodeled's flagship project evolved from one of Detroit's highest crime areas into the safest neighborhood in the city, reflecting years of consistent collaboration, trust, and shared commitment.

Under Chris' leadership, Life Remodeled was recognized twice as one of Crain's Best Managed Nonprofits and developed a 117 page implementation guide to help communities across the country



replicate its vacant school revitalization model.

Beyond the accomplishments, Chris' greatest impact may be the culture and values he embodied every day. He lived out Community First by elevating the voices of residents and local leaders, ensuring transformation happened with neighborhoods, not to them. He modeled Always Find a Way through economic uncertainty, complex redevelopment projects, and a global pandemic, refusing to accept "impossible" as an answer. And he led with Bold Humility, balancing courageous vision with servant hearted leadership that consistently put mission above personal recognition.

In 2025, leadership officially transitioned to Diallo Smith following three years serving as Chief Operating Officer. Chris was deeply intentional about the transition and confident in the future of the organization.

As Founder and CEO of Next Level Nonprofit, Chris will now help nonprofit leaders around the world maximize their impact by sharing the strategies and leadership principles developed throughout his journey at Life Remodeled.

Chris leaves behind more than renovated buildings or successful programs. He leaves behind a legacy of hope, collaboration, and thousands of transformed lives because he was willing to say yes to a vision bigger than himself.











WHO WE ARE
LESS TALK. MORE ACTION.

Life Remodeled exists to ensure every Detroiter has access to the opportunities they deserve. Our work is guided by E3M, Life Remodeled's comprehensive neighborhood revitalization strategy focused on Economic Mobility, Educational Mobility, and Environmental Mobility. Through this integrated approach, we partner with Detroiters and community stakeholders to help neighborhoods move toward becoming thriving-class communities where families experience opportunity, stability, health, dignity, and pride.

Since 2014, more than $73 million has been invested into Detroit neighborhoods through this model. Two former school buildings have been transformed into Opportunity Hubs, mobilizing over 92,000 volunteers to serve nearly 3,000 city blocks.

At our flagship Durfee Innovation Society, the impact is clear. In 2025, the Durfee Innovation Society connected more than 23,000 Detroiters with opportunities too often difficult to access within their own neighborhood. In a city where many families face barriers to economic mobility, more than 850 job placements generated $16.5 million in new annual income. More than 250 residents received on-site primary care, helping address persistent gaps in healthcare access. And as Detroit students continue to face significant academic inequities, 55% of K-12 students attending schools surrounding DIS participated in after-school programming that strengthened academic achievement and career readiness. Together, these outcomes reflect why Life Remodeled exists: to ensure Detroiters have access to the opportunities they deserve to move beyond surviving and truly thrive.

This integrated model is transforming entire neighborhoods. The 10th Precinct, where Life Remodeled actively revitalizes seven Detroit neighborhoods, once experienced some of the highest crime rates in the city and now ranks number one for the lowest crime rates since 2024. According to a Gallup study, Durfee neighborhood residents report the second highest perception of thriving opportunities citywide. Central High School maintains a graduation rate above the district average and has experienced 35% enrollment growth since 2017.

EDUCATION



88% of 3rd grade students in Detroit read below grade level

ECONOMY



Detroit residents' median household income is **50% less than suburban residents**

HEALTH & WELLNESS



30% of Detroiters cannot access the healthcare they need

Black Detroiters have **A LIFE EXPECTANCY 5 YEARS LESS** than their **suburban peers**









IMPACT

5
SCHOOLS RENOVATED OR REPURPOSED

$73M INVESTED
SINCE 2014

852
JOB PLACEMENTS IN 2025

23,000
DETROITERS SERVED ANNUALLY

$16.5M
IN NEW WAGES IN 2025



ECONOMIC MOBILITY

At the Durfee Innovation Society, our Workforce Development Impact Partners plays a central role in advancing Life Remodeled's E3M model by activating Economic Mobility at the neighborhood level. By embedding workforce development within the Opportunity Hub, our Impact Partners eliminates traditional barriers and meets residents where they are, replacing fragmented systems with proximity, trust, and consistency. Through personalized career coaching, job-readiness training, and direct connections to employment opportunities, their team removes barriers that often prevent residents from accessing stable, living-wage careers. This proximity matters. Through the Opportunity Hub model, this builds consistent relationships, responds in real time to community needs, and creates clear, accessible pathways to employment for Detroiters ready to move forward.

The impact extends beyond job placement. It strengthens the entire neighborhood ecosystem. As families gain stable income and economic mobility, students at nearby schools, including those on the Central High School campus, benefit from increased stability at home. Our Impact Partners presence within the DIS reinforces a broader, coordinated model of support where workforce development, education, and family resources are aligned under one roof. This integrated approach ensures that opportunity is not a one-time intervention but a sustained, connected pathway that helps individuals secure employment, build long-term resilience, and contribute to a thriving, future-ready Detroit.

Building Economic Mobility Early

220
YOUTH JOB PLACEMENTS

$324K
IN WAGES



Impact Partners at Durfee Innovation Society providing economic mobility through workforce development.

To see a full list of impact partners visit, liferemodeled.org/dis/tenants



EDUCATIONAL MOBILITY

On Detroit's Durfee - Central K-12 campus, Principal LaToyia Webb leads with a clear and unified vision: two schools, one mission, where everyone succeeds. Serving more than 1,000 students from neighborhoods across the city, Central High School and Durfee Elementary-Middle School are deeply rooted in a community full of potential–and real barriers that can stand in the way of student success. Through partnership with the Durfee Innovation Society and Life Remodeled, the equation is changing. is changing that equation.

Principal Webb's connection to the Durfee Innovation Society dates back to its earliest days, when her eighth-grade students helped name the building itself–an early sign of the ownership and pride this space would inspire. Since then, the partnership has become a critical extension of the school's ability to support students and families beyond the classroom. As Principal Webb shares, "Through the partnerships connected to the DIS, we have been able to connect families with critical resources. The partnerships help ensure that students come to school ready to learn by addressing challenges that may exist outside of the classroom. When families feel supported and connected to the school, it has a positive impact on overall engagement." This alignment of support is helping remove barriers that directly impact attendance, academic performance, and student behavior.

That impact is already visible. The Durfee-Central campus has seen meaningful progress, including reductions in chronic absenteeism and increases in graduation rates. More importantly, the partnership has enabled a proactive, holistic approach to student success–one that recognizes education does not happen in isolation. Looking ahead, Principal Webb sees the Durfee Innovation Society continuing to serve as a powerful hub where schools and community partners align, ensuring that every student has consistent access to the opportunities they need to stay engaged, achieve academically, and graduate prepared for what comes next.

"Through the partnerships connected to the DIS, we have been able to connect families with critical resources."

LaToyia Webb, Principal
Durfee-Central K-12 Campus







EDUCATIONAL MOBILITY continued

Future Firsts is a scholastic technology and esports initiative designed to strengthen academic achievement while preparing Detroit students for success in college, careers, and the rapidly evolving digital economy. By integrating competitive esports, technology education, and creative media production, students develop skills in teamwork, problem solving, digital literacy, leadership, and career exploration, all essential for success in STEM and creative industries.



During the 2025-2026 school year, Future Firsts launched at Denby High School on Detroit's east side. Students participate through two tracks: Competitors and Creators. Competitors represent Denby in organized esports competitions against other Michigan high schools, building strategic thinking, collaboration, and leadership. Creators manage live broadcasts and produce digital graphics, gaining hands-on experience in media production, branding, and communication. All activities take place in a dedicated Esports & Tech Education Lab.



Future Firsts prioritizes academic progress alongside technical development. Participants increased their GPAs by an average of 9.78%, from 2.8 to 3.1. These outcomes are reflected in students like Mykel. When he joined the program, college was not yet a defined part of his future. After his talent and leadership were recognized at a competition, The University of Olivet recruited him for its esports team. He accepted a scholarship, becoming the first Detroit Public Schools Community District student to earn a college esports scholarship and the first person in his family to attend college.

"Thank you, coach. This couldn't have been possible without you and Life Remodeled. I'm going to be a first gen college student, and my mom is so proud."



Mykel's story is one example of what happens when talent meets access. Fellow senior Devin also earned a scholarship and will study Information Technology at Wayne State University.

Partnerships with CODE 313 and Wayne State University provide coding instruction and graphic design mentorship, while college and career experiences expose students to new possibilities. Denby also became the first DPSCD school to qualify for the Michigan High School Esports Federation State Championship. Looking ahead, Life Remodeled envisions expanding Future Firsts citywide, helping more Detroit students turn their interests into academic achievement, college opportunities, and pathways to high-demand careers.


Queen



ENVIRONMENTAL MOBILITY

2025 SIX DAY PROJECT

In 2025, thousands of volunteers once again came together through Life Remodeled's annual Six Day Project to demonstrate what is possible when a community unites around a shared vision of hope, dignity and transformation.

For six powerful days, volunteers from businesses, block clubs, churches, schools, and nonprofit organizations from across Metro Detroit worked side by side to remove blight, beautify public spaces and invest in the future of Detroit neighborhoods. The project served as a visible reminder that revitalization is not simply about cleaning up spaces but also restoring pride, improving health outcomes, creating safer environments and reminding residents how much their community matters.

This work is a direct reflection of one of Life Remodeled's key focus areas: Environmental Mobility, creating physical environments that reinforce dignity, safety, and health.

Through large-scale volunteer revitalization efforts like the Six Day Project, Life Remodeled continues to address blight reduction, environmental hazard mitigation and public space activation in ways that create lasting impact for residents and families. Cleaner neighborhoods contribute to lower-stress environments, improved physical and mental health, stronger community connection and increased resident pride. These efforts help create communities that actively support wellbeing and improve quality of life for generations to come.

Throughout the week, volunteers completed projects including mowing overgrown lots, removing trash debris, trimming trees and bushes and removing hundreds of illegally dumped tires.

None of this work would be possible without the incredible generosity and partnership of our sponsors, corporate partners, churches, community organizations, volunteer groups and individual volunteers. From those who gave financially to those who gave their time, energy, and heart on the ground, every contribution matters!

2025 SIX DAY PROJECT IMPACT

5,200+	volunteers engaged
140	volunteer groups
960	cubic yards of trash removed
1,200	cubic yards of brush cleared
270	city blocks
373	tires recycled





We are deeply grateful to our major sponsors and community partners whose investment made this transformational work possible. Their support continues to fuel neighborhood revitalization efforts that create tangible and lasting change throughout Detroit

Most importantly, we thank every volunteer who showed up ready to serve. Whether you gave one afternoon or multiple days, your willingness to work alongside our community helped create spaces that communicate dignity, care and hope.

The Six Day Project is more than a volunteer event. It is a reflection of what can happen when communities come together to believe in one another and invest in a better future together.

Since 2014, Life Remodeled has invested $73 million into five Detroit communities. Together, we have:

Beautified 2,922 city blocks
Boarded up 2,062 houses
Engaged 92,903 volunteers

These numbers represent far more than physical transformation. They represent thousands of people choosing to invest in neighborhoods, build relationships, and create healthier, safer and more hopeful communities for Detroit families.













ENVIRONMENTAL MOBILITY continued

Detroit Lions Inspire Change

Life Remodeled was honored to serve as a Detroit Lions Inspire Change Partner in 2025. This partnership represented a shared commitment to investing in Detroit's youth and creating opportunities that strengthen neighborhoods while inspiring hope and possibility. The Detroit Lions we're ALL IN and demonstrated what it means to give back to the city they call home.

Through this meaningful partnership, we were able to:

1. Take a group of Central High School football players to Detroit Lions Training Camp.
2. Bring Durfee Elementary-Middle School students to a youth football camp at Ford Field.
3. Provide four Durfee students with a memorable holiday experience through the Lions' "Shop with a Lion" Christmas shopping spree at Meijer.
4. Welcome Lions Legends to the Durfee neighborhood during Lions Homecoming weekend, where they rolled up their sleeves to mow lawns, clear debris and beautify the alleys surrounding the Durfee Innovation Society.
5. Represent Life Remodeled during the Detroit Lions Inspire Change Game, where our CEO, Diallo Smith, and Philanthropy Director, Brooke Adams, had the privilege of walking through the tunnel and onto the field alongside fellow community partners.

We are deeply grateful to the Detroit Lions organization for choosing to invest in our mission and our community. Their remarkable season on the field was matched by their impact off the field, and we were proud to partner with them in creating lasting change throughout Detroit.













"One of the main reasons I have supported LR and will continue to support LR is that I learned of the phrase "Talent is equally distributed, but opportunity is not" at an event I attended while volunteering for LR.

LR has proven over and over again that they are doing something about providing and nurturing opportunities for all. LR doesn't just think about it or talk about it. They are doing something with purpose and passion.

I am exceptionally grateful to volunteer and support LR and their efforts."

Jeff Lane

Thank you to our corporate supporters

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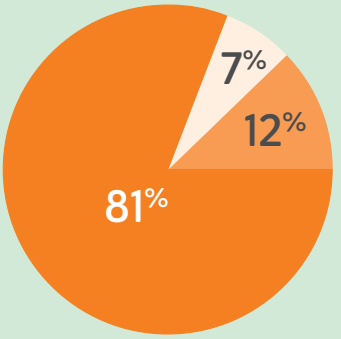
FINANCIAL REPORT





TOTAL REVENUE	
Anchor Detroit Capital Campaign	$2,181,116.00
Community Contributions	$1,300,304.00
Corporate & Business	$934,385.00
Individual Contributions	$249,531.00
Foundation Grants	$59,377.00
Third-Party	$30,511.00
Clubs and Faith-Based Organizations	$26,500.00
Fundraising Events	$130,081.00
Earned Revenue	$1,156,685
Other Revenue	$135,509
In-Kind Goods and Services	$1,507,491
Total Revenue	$6,411,186

EXPENSE BREAKDOWN PROGRAM SERVICES:	
Economic	$1,062,514
Environmental	$1,346,732
Educational	$1,303,490



Total Program Expense	$3,712,736
Administration:	$334,195
Fundraising:	$529,549

Total Expenses	$4,576,480

2025 OPPORTUNITY IN ACTION

Throughout 2025, Life Remodeled brought students, families, residents, partners, and supporters together in meaningful ways. From educational experiences to neighborhood celebrations, these moments connected Detroiters with resources, strengthened relationships, and created new opportunities for individuals and families to thrive.

15 Years of Life Remodeled | Celebrating Our Impact

Life Remodeled celebrated 15 years of investing in Detroit neighborhoods, transforming vacant school buildings into Opportunity Hubs, and bringing people and resources together around community priorities. This milestone celebrated what Detroiters, partners, volunteers, and supporters have made possible together.

Count Day | 400+ Students Engaged

More than 400 students participated in programming that made Count Day engaging while reinforcing school attendance, academic consistency, and connection to their school communities.

Career Vision Day | Nearly 1,000 Students Inspired

Nearly 1,000 students explored career pathways, college readiness, STEM, and hands-on learning experiences, helping young Detroiters connect their interests and talents with possibilities for their futures.

Parent Teacher Conferences | 500+ Served

More than 500 students, parents, and educators received meals through the Little Caesars Love Kitchen while families connected with teachers and additional resources, creating a welcoming environment centered on student success and family engagement.

DIS & Anchor Community Fairs | Connecting Neighborhoods to Opportunity

Community fairs at both the Durfee Innovation Society and Anchor Detroit brought residents, families, and community partners together for resources, activities, food, and connection. These gatherings introduced more Detroiters to the opportunities available through each Hub, strengthened relationships with surrounding neighborhoods, and created welcoming spaces where families could connect with organizations committed to their success.

Prom Remodeled | $500,000+ Raised

More than 1,000 supporters partied with a purpose and raised over $500,000 to advance neighborhood revitalization and Opportunity Hub programming. Their generosity provided critical resources to sustain and expand opportunities for Detroiters.

Pajama Jam | 175+ Children & Adults Celebrated

More than 100 children and 75 adults came together for a joyful holiday celebration filled with gifts, connection, and community, creating a memorable experience for Detroit families during the Christmas season.

Together with YOU, these milestones represent a growing movement of opportunity, investment, and transformation across Detroit.











LEADERSHIP

Executive Leadership Team



Brooke Adams
Philanthropy Director



LaVar Charleston
Chief Operating Officer



Rochelle Cole
Vice President of Opportunity Hubs



Christine Rogers
Youth & Community Engagement Director

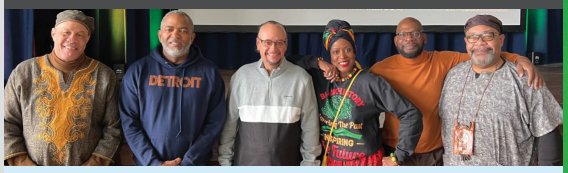


Diallo Smith
President & CEO

Board of Directors

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Holly Betke - *Senior Director People Development + Engagement*, StockX
Chuck Binkowski - *Board Chair - COO*, Barton Malow
Dwan Dandridge - *Founder + CEO*, Black Leaders Detroit
Vito Gioia - *Managing Partner*, Solyco Wealth
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Earl Newsome - *CIO*, Cummins, Inc.
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Darrin Schultz - *Partner*, KPMG
Diallo Smith - *President and CEO,* Life Remodeled
Sandra Turner-Handy - *President*, Denby Neighborhood Alliance
LaToyia Webb - *Principal*, Central-Durfee K-12 Campus
Terence Willis - *Owner*, IC Data Communications

LIFE REMODELED COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNSEL (LRCAC)



The Life Remodeled Community Advisory Council (LRCAC) determines the collective voice of the community residents, students and stakeholders located within the defined Life Remodeled geographic boundaries and advises Life Remodeled according to the community's hopes, desires and concerns. The LRCAC exists to hold Life Remodeled accountable to hear and respect community voice in its decision making processes.

Gina Peoples, *Chair*
Melvin Chuney, *Vice Chair*
Joyce Moore
Clarence Harrell
Tahlib Barnes
Jeff Jones

LIFE REMODELED YOUTH ALLIANCE (LRYA)

The Life Remodeled Youth Alliance (LRYA) is a group of Central High School students who serve as a direct liaison between the students at the neighboring schools, Life Remodeled and the Durfee Innovation Society. These students are tasked with informing programming at the DIS, influencing the work done during the Six Day Project and holding Life Remodeled accountable to community priorities.


NEIGHBORHOOD
REVITALIZATION THAT LASTS.
BE A PART OF SHAPING
DETROIT'S FUTURE.



ANCHOR DETROIT VISION



In 2025, Life Remodeled advanced the development of Anchor Detroit, our second Opportunity Hub on Detroit's east side. This work reflects a continued commitment to expanding access to opportunity and supporting long-term stability for Detroit residents.

Anchor Detroit builds on the foundation established at the Durfee Innovation Society, where aligned partnerships and consistent access to services have contributed to measurable progress for families and students. These lessons continue to inform how we approach being in partnership with other communities across Detroit.



Located in the former Dominican Catholic High School and Winans Academy campus, Anchor Detroit extends a model that has demonstrated results and applies it in a way that increases reach across Detroit's east side. The transformation of this long-vacant building into an active community space also contributes to neighborhood stability and renewed use of a historically significant site.



At its core, Anchor Detroit brings together three areas of focus through our E3M strategy:

Economic Mobility
Connecting residents to workforce training, employment opportunities, and entrepreneurship resources that support stable income and long-term financial progress.

Educational Mobility
Providing youth and families with access to learning environments, after-school programming, and pathways that strengthen academic performance and future readiness.

Environmental Mobility
Improving the physical environment through the redevelopment of the facility and continued neighborhood beautification, including blight removal and green space activation.



This work is developed with the community. The services and resources within Anchor Detroit–including health and wellness, youth programming, workforce development, technology access, and arts and culture–have been shaped by input from residents and local stakeholders.

By co-locating high-performing nonprofit partners, this model simplifies access to essential services and supports more consistent engagement over time. It also expands access to technology and career pathways that reflect current workforce demands.

Phase I of the campus is nearly 50% pre-leased ahead of opening, with partners including Grand Valley State University, United Way, Detroit College Access Network, and Diplomas & Careers Institute. This early commitment reflects strong alignment around the work and the role Anchor Detroit will play in the community.

Anchor Detroit is designed to serve tens of thousands of Detroiters each year while strengthening connections between local schools, families, and community-based organizations. Its doors are set to open in Fall 2026.

As this work continues, Anchor Detroit reflects a broader direction for Life Remodeled. With two Opportunity Hubs operating in different parts of the city, we are building a clearer understanding of how coordinated, place-based investment can support long-term progress in disinvested communities. That experience will continue to inform how this model evolves and where it can contribute beyond Detroit.







To learn more about Anchor Detroit, visit liferemodeled.org/anchordetroit for updates.





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