



# ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022

# President's Letter



Dear Community Members,

In two years of operation, AQUME Foundation is boldly breaking barriers, shattering existing norms, and re-imagining the faces of philanthropy by centering the contributions of the BIPOC community. It is truly an honor to serve as the Founder and President of this groundbreaking organization!

We are thrilled to share our mission, vision, values and achievements with you. We know community transformation of the existing economic ecosystem is attainable – if we all work together. It is my sincerest hope that you will join the movement with us!

Warm regards,  
**Ciarra C. Adkins, JD**  
Founder + President



# About Us!

## Board of Trustees

Chris Jackson - *Chair*  
Alvin Hills IV - *Vice Chair*  
Wenika Chivis - *Treasurer*  
Chantal Pasag - *Secretary*  
Jamie Ferrell  
Mario Adkins  
Marcus Jackson

## Our Mission

AQUME Foundation  
will center economic  
justice and racial  
equity in  
philanthropy.

## Our Values

Equity  
Financial Investment  
Community  
Transformation  
Accountability

*I am no longer  
accepting the  
things I cannot  
change,  
I am CHANGING the  
things I can NO  
LONGER ACCEPT.  
Angela Y. Davis*

## Staff Team

**Ciarra C. Adkins**  
President

**Tonya Adkins-Mckeever**  
Chief Operating Officer

**Jamari Pickens**  
IT Director

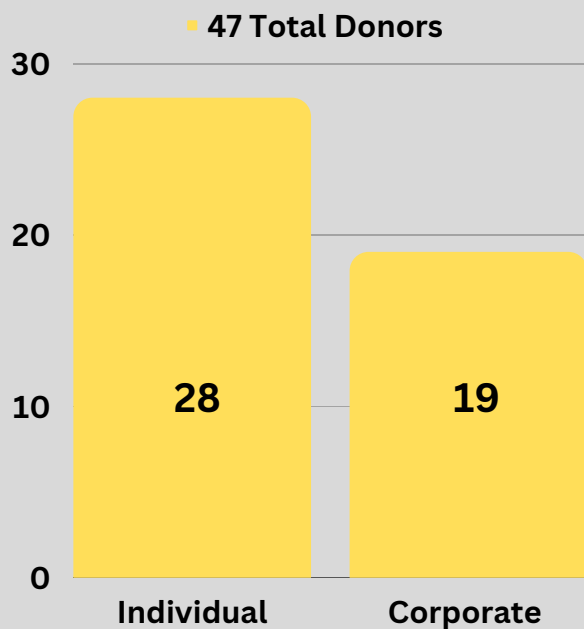
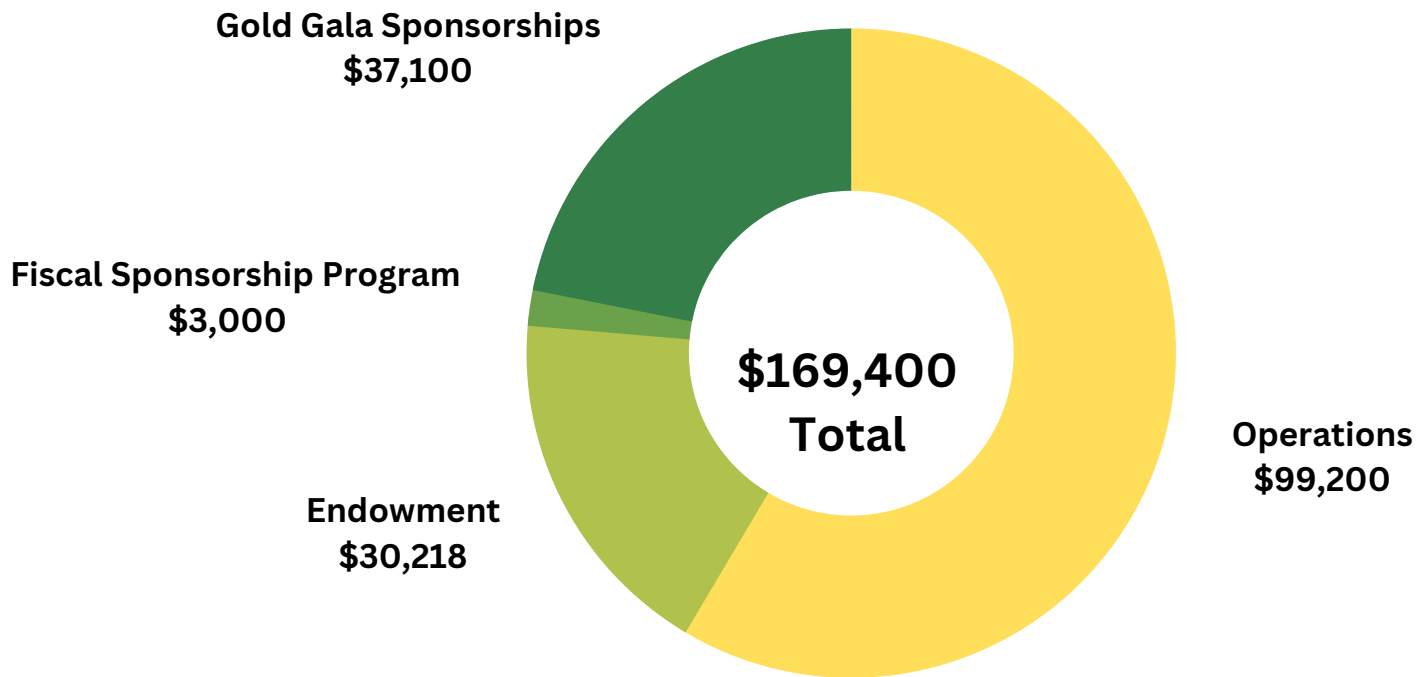
**D'Angelo Bailey,**  
Chief Development Officer

**Tamara Monteon**  
Administration Assistant

## Our Vision

AQUME Foundation  
will be an innovative,  
sustainable, and  
trusted philanthropic  
steward of resources  
for the advancement  
of BIPOC communities  
throughout Michigan.

# 2022 Financial Achievements



**\$2000**  
**Awarded in**  
**College Scholarships**





# AQUME FOUNDATION

## OUR STORY - THE MOVEMENT

Founded in 2021, AQUME Foundation is Black-founded and led, established as a systemic level response to the glaring national disparities in wealth and resources between White and BIPOC communities. Unlike many other foundations, AQUME Foundation was not seeded with start-up funds from wealthy donors, yet we saw the gap and need for greater BIPOC presence in our philanthropic community and we stepped up to fill this gap. As a grassroots foundation we need your financial support to be successful!



Held 63 meetings  
with community  
leaders



Received 2 Black Philanthropy  
Month Proclamations  
City of Grand Rapids &  
State of Michigan

# 2022 Inaugural Gold Gala



COMMUNITY  
TRANSFORMATION



RACIAL &  
ECONOMIC  
EQUITY!



# 2022

## Individual Donors

Monica  
App

Karrie  
Brown

Elly & Ray  
Barnette-  
Dawson

Micheal &  
Dr. Rhae-Ann  
Booker

Angela  
Burke

Tina  
Carney

Sarah  
Chartier

Wendell &  
Bertha Chivis

Keli  
Christopher

Shannon  
Cohen

Matthew  
Cook

Carl  
Erickson

Courtney  
Faler

Tiffany Falcon-  
Ewigleben

Amanda  
Hentsch

Ken & Sandy  
Hofman

Steve  
Heacock

Sonny  
Hoogendoorn

Marcus  
Jackson

Jessica  
Johns

Joseph  
Jones

Mandice  
McAllister

Meryn  
McClelland

Chantal  
Pasag

Wende  
Randelll

Leslee  
Rohs

Stacy  
Stout

Ericka  
VanDyke

Daniel  
Veldman

Sarah  
Wilson

***Will you join the  
movement?***

**2022**

## **Corporate Donors**

Blue Cross  
Blue Shield

Eastern  
Floral

Fifth Third  
Bank

Frey  
Foundation

Grand Rapids  
Community  
College

Grand Rapids  
Community  
Foundation

Heart of  
West MI  
United Way

Kellogg  
Foundation

Lake  
Michigan  
Credit Union

Mary Free Bed  
Rehabilitation  
Hospital

Mercantile  
Bank

Mezcla  
Mosaic

Miller  
Johnson

Palladian  
West

Plante  
Moran

PNC  
Bank

Sunday  
Bakeday

Varnum LLP

Wege  
Foundation

Warner  
Norcross +  
Judd

# Thank You



*We could not do this work without the  
support of our generous donors!*

*[aqumefoundation.org/donate](http://aqumefoundation.org/donate)*

