



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

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21 recognized for community contributions

EAST LANSING, Mich. — Twenty-one local companies and community organizations were recognized today for their collaborations with Michigan State University that are working to advance economic development and quality of life in mid-Michigan.

The 21 honored were Allen Neighborhood Center, Arts Council of Greater Lansing, Big Brothers Big Sisters Michigan Capital Region, Black Child and Family Institute, Capital Area United Way, Comprehensive Emergency Management Associates, Cristo Rey Community Center, Dykema Gossett, East Lansing Marriott at University Place, Elderly Instruments, Greater Lansing Business Monthly, Hasselbring-Clark, Impression 5 Science Center, Lansing Lugnuts, Lansing Symphony Orchestra, Message Makers, Mid-Michigan Physicians, Power of We Consortium, Red Cedar Technology, The Rehmann Group and UAW Local 652.

They comprised the second group of Community Builders recognized by the Lansing Economic Area Partnership (Leap Inc.) and MSU. They were honored at an award ceremony and reception at MSU's Spartan Club in the Spartan Stadium Tower.

"Everyone in this region gains because these entities are working with MSU, and the gains are synergistic," said Denyse Ferguson, Leap's President and Chief Executive Officer. "The benefits of these collaborations just build and build on each other. MSU improves, the organizations improve and the region improves. It's like a new kind of math, where one plus one equals three. Or 30. Or 300."

The Community Builders program was developed to bring visibility to the connections between MSU and mid-Michigan businesses and organizations—connections that play a pivotal role in making our region a great place to live, work and invest.

To be eligible for Community Builders recognition, collaborations with MSU must provide broad and enduring community impact; advance regional economic development and quality of life; have mutual benefits for both MSU and the business or community organization; and advance the public good.

"Michigan State University has a long history of establishing strong working relationships with businesses and organizations throughout the state and here in the mid-Michigan community," said MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon.

“The MSU Community Builders program recognizes some key local collaborations that aim to enhance community, economic and family life.”

An inaugural group of 53 Community Builders was honored in September 2008. To read more about the Community Builders program and the 74 Community Builders that have been recognized to date, please visit www.msucommunitybuilders.com.

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The Lansing Economic Area Partnership (Leap Inc.) is an innovative private/public partnership that was created to spearhead the Greater Lansing region’s economic development efforts and ensure they are cohesive and compelling.

Michigan State University has been advancing knowledge and transforming lives through innovative teaching, research and outreach for more than 150 years. MSU is known internationally as a major public university with global reach and extraordinary impact. Its 17 degree-granting colleges attract scholars worldwide who are interested in combining education with practical problem solving.