FOR INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS AND FUNDERS

Detroit's innovation capital is committed. The access infrastructure is not.

D-Unit is the civic intelligence layer between Detroit's life-sciences and innovation institutions and the residents, MWBE firms, and founders who should benefit from them. We index the institutions, publish the opportunities, run one intake for everybody, and stay with people until a job, a contract, or capital actually lands.

Founder and stewardship

Michael Wimberley, Founder & Executive Director, built D-Unit after documenting a repeating pattern across the city: capital announced, ribbon cuttings scheduled, and Detroit residents learning about the jobs and contracts after the doors had closed. D-Unit converts that gap into measurable civic infrastructure — a public, sourced index of 23 institutions, an auditable record of opportunities, and a single accountable intake path. Every figure we publish carries a dataset citation, and every corrected relationship is documented on our public sources page. Funders receive the same record the public does, with reporting attached.

Where funding goes

- Institution index and opportunity research
- Resident, MWBE, and founder intake navigation
- Published intelligence briefs and white papers
- Outcome tracking: placements, contracts, capital

Partnership levels

- D.Unit Partner — $15,000 / year, institutional ecosystem intelligence
- Custom Enterprise — by invitation, specialized requirements
- Program and philanthropic support — scoped with reporting

Open a funder conversation

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