

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 16, 2021

Morgan Pokora, morgan@usgbcwm.org, 616-691-1243



Michigan Battle of the Buildings Announces 2020 Awardees

GRAND RAPIDS, MI—Michigan Battle of the Buildings is pleased to announce the awardees for 2020. Commercial Building Owners and Managers have had to balance significant changes in energy, water, health & safety measures since the onset of the pandemic. Through these tough times, we see innovation and leadership rise from those challenges. This year, the Michigan Battle of the Buildings recognized 6 local organizations who've managed their buildings under dynamic conditions and shared their stories of stewardship, resilience, opportunity, collaboration, and community service. Here are the 2020 awardees:

TCF Center, *Detroit, MI* - Community Safe Haven

University of Michigan, Office of Campus Sustainability, *Ann Arbor, MI* - Campus Collaborator

Emmanuel Episcopal Church, *Hastings, MI* - Solar Steward

Fifth Third Bank, *Kentwood, MI* - Energy Opportunist

Spectrum Health, *Grand Rapids, MI* - Frontline Energy Hero

General Motors, *Detroit, MI* - Resilient Manufacturer

“When faced with a crisis, the competitors of Michigan Battle of the Buildings were quick to adapt to a changing world”, said Cheri Holman, Executive Director of USGBC West Michigan. “The energy strategies of this year’s awardees are ingenious and emulated how they put public safety at the forefront of their operations. We are extremely grateful for all of their efforts.”

The honorees accepted their awards at the 7th Annual Michigan Energy Summit on August 12, 2021. The 2021 Michigan Energy Summit recognized and celebrated competitors of the Michigan Battle of the Buildings 'biggest loser' competition. This year, the summit was hosted under the Grant Pavilion at beautiful Millennium Park in Grand Rapids, one of the nation's largest city parks with 1400 acres of natural landscape. The event featured **Cheri Holman**, Executive Director, USGBC WM, **Brian Rich**, Senior Vice President and Chief Customer Officer, Consumers Energy, **H.J. Decker**, Sales and Marketing - DTE Gas, **Webly Bowles**, Project Manager New Buildings Institute, **Alison Sutter**, Sustainability and Performance Management Officer at City of Grand Rapids who delivered educational elements - with an outdoor twist. Guests participated in a hands-on day of interactive energy and carbon problem solving, fun yard games, and valuable in-person networking.

For more information about the Michigan Energy Summit, please visit <https://michiganbattleofthebuildings.org/mes2021/>

About Michigan Battle of the Buildings

Michigan Battle of the Buildings is a program of the [U.S. Green Building Council of West Michigan](https://www.usgbc.org/west-michigan). It is the largest voluntary biggest-loser-styled energy competition in the country. The program is organized by the U.S. Green Building Council of West Michigan along with partners including Consumers Energy, DTE Energy, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes & Energy, Detroit Lions, Hedrick Associates, Founders Brewing, and Boxed Water. For more information please visit: <https://michiganbattleofthebuildings.org/>

###