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The BSU Philanthropy Initiative Welcomes a New Partner for the 2025-26 Philanthropy Fellowship: The Grand Victoria Foundation is Latest to Join.

The Grand Victoria Foundation (GVF) is the latest foundation to become a hosting partner for the BSU Philanthropy Fellowship.



Sharon Bush, President and CEO, The Grand Victoria Foundation

Founded in 1996, by the Grand Victoria Casino, the Grand Victoria Foundation (GVF) is a \$166 million foundation, headquartered in Chicago, IL. Geographically, GVF's work focuses on communities across the State of Illinois that have experienced longstanding underinvestment and systemic racism. Many of those communities have significant Black populations and supporting them is at the core of GVF's grantmaking, reflecting GVF's commitment to addressing needs where they are most pressing and where their investments can have the most significant impact.

"At Grand Victoria Foundation, we are dedicated to leading the charge in advancing racial justice across Illinois. Our grantmaking prioritizes community power-building, supporting organizations that are deeply embedded in and accountable to Black communities and other communities of color," says Sharon Bush, GVF President and CEO. "Because of the urgency and importance of furthering these investments, we are very pleased to be joining with Bowie State University in training more people of color to take on this work with us."

"GVF will be a perfect partner for providing the kind of training and real-world, in-the field experience that we are looking for in our BSU Philanthropy Fellowship," adds Dr. James Hyman, Founder of the Fellowship Program. "Our goal, at the BSU Philanthropy Initiative, has always been to expose our Fellows to the existential challenges facing Black and Brown communities so they can become better equipped to be catalysts for change. We look forward to working in this exciting new partnership."