



For good. For ever.™

Grand Haven Area
community foundation

The Grand Haven Area Community Foundation Newsletter to the Tri-Cities Area

Fall, 2011

40
1971-2011
YEARS
FOR GOOD

Foundation Celebrates 40 Years for Good



More than 200 of the Foundation's closest friends shared a special evening celebrating the Foundation's 40th Anniversary at the Spring Lake Country Club on September 12th. The evening began with a Welcome Reception sponsored by current and former Trustees, followed by dinner, and a lively program that featured a video created through interviews with current and former Trustees (you can check out the video by clicking the link on our website: www.ghacf.org.) Two of the Foundation's founding Trustees, John Carlyle and

Dorothy Johnson were honored, and stories were shared about the history, growth, and impact the Foundation has made in our community.

What began with a dream and an investment of \$1,200 (\$100 from each of the founders) has grown to become one of the leading community foundations in the State of Michigan with assets of \$55 million. Today over 3,000 people give to the Foundation annually, making it a leader in per capita giving among the nation's community foundations. In its first year as a community grantmaker,

the Foundation awarded a total of \$1,000 in grants. Today more than \$3 million is awarded annually in grants and scholarships. Over the past forty years, grants totaling \$40 million have gone back out to the community.

"As we celebrate our 40th anniversary, we want to thank all who have shared the dream of strengthening and enriching our community through their support of the Community Foundation," said Ann Tabor. "We look forward to the next 40!"

Be sure to check out our 40th Anniversary Celebration video on our website: www.ghacf.org!



Welcome Reception Hosts – Current and former Trustees



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Foundation Makes Gift to the Community



At the conclusion of our 40th Anniversary Celebration, Foundation President Ann Tabor announced a \$100,000 grant to the Grand Haven Lighthouse Conservancy to help kick off their "Keep The Light On" campaign.

The gift, which is a Challenge Grant, will match each new gift to the Lighthouse Community Campaign up to \$100,000. To announce the grant, a giant "lighthouse cake" donated by Chuck and Ellen Vonesh of Desserts by Design, complete with sparklers was presented to representatives of the Lighthouse Conservancy.

"Our Board of Trustees wanted to make a gift that would not only honor the past, but also recognize the volunteer and philanthropic spirit of our community, and support a project that was an iconic symbol of our community," Ms. Tabor explained.

"We are very excited to have been selected for such a generous grant," states Dave Karpin, President of the Grand Haven Lighthouse Conservancy. "As the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation has been an ongoing and constant beacon of philanthropy in North Ottawa County, it is more than fitting that this challenge grant will kick off the Grand Haven Lighthouse Conservancy's fund raising efforts and will ensure that the Lighthouse will mark the entrance to our community for generations to come."



Wildeman Fund Buys Cool Green Beach Machine



Warren and Nancy Wildeman

Nancy and Warren Wildeman have a Community Foundation Donor Advised Fund – a type of Fund that is structured in a way that allows the donors to support their individual philanthropic wishes. Recently, the Wildemans recommended a \$10,000 grant for a Barber Surf Rake – that cool green machine in the picture. The surf rake was purchased exclusively for use at the Grand Haven State Park and will be used to clean the entire beach - as it is able to pick up large debris as well as tiny rocks and cigarette butts.

"We are very appreciative for the many contributions that the Wildemans have made to Grand Haven State Park – to have caring community citizens invest in beach recreation and upkeep is a very wonderful thing!" says Melissa VanderVelde, WOC Supervisor at the Grand Haven State Park.

We are so proud of our local beach and State Park, and we are so grateful to have community members, like Warren and Nancy, who care for it.

Youth Advisory Council Turns 20 Years Old!

During the past twenty years, over 140 youth have served on the Youth Advisory Council. Each year, the YAC engages approximately 20 teens from each of the local high schools and gives them the responsibility of evaluating proposals and recommending grants from the Youth Fund.

Our YAC started with a fund of \$1 million in 1991, and has granted just over \$1 million to nonprofit programs in the community, and still has a fund balance of \$1.9 million today!

Members of the 2011-2012 Youth Advisory Council (YAC) are excited to begin another year of making a difference in their community. In addition to grant making, the young people plan to engage in volunteer services projects that will help them to learn more about the problems and issues that face our community. YAC cultivates leadership and problem-solving skills among its members and lays the foundation for them to become tomorrow's philanthropists and community leaders.



Members of the 2011-12 YAC include:

Seated: Elinor Adams, Maya Denslow, Maddie Johnson, Alex Winegar, Sam Schurkamp

Standing: Roxane Strobel, Brendan Jennings, Hadlee Garrison, John Strainer, Faith Lee, Kayli Horne, Erica

Schiller, Morgan Gagnon, Nic Parnell, Samantha Olson, Jack McKeough, Carol Bedient, Grants & Program Director and YAC Advisor

Top: Samantha VanHoef and Sean Steffel

Missing from photo: Kyle Kendall and Alex Eidson



FINAL YEAR for the Michigan Community Foundation Tax Credit!

All good things must come to an end...changes to the Michigan tax code signed into law in this year will include the elimination of all charitable tax credits beginning in 2012. This means that Michigan residents and businesses have only a couple of months left to make a contribution to the Community Foundation and receive the added benefit of the Michigan Tax Credit. (Please note – all donations, to any Foundation Fund, are still eligible for Federal Tax Deductions.)

Just to remind you, when an individual, family or business invests in an Endowed Fund at the Community Foundation – like the Greatest Needs Fund here in Grand Haven - the current Michigan Income Tax or Michigan Business Tax codes allow for up to a 50 percent return on that investment.

If an individual contributes \$200 or more, the tax credit automatically will equal \$100. If filing a dual return, a gift of \$400 or more would yield a \$200 credit. If a business contributes \$10,000 or more, the credit will be for \$5,000 or 5 percent of the total tax liability for that business, whichever is less.

We have enjoyed this added giving incentive for 20 years and we certainly are sorry to see it expire. But, as we move forward, it is vitally important to remember that any support of the community through a Foundation donation continues to have as much value as ever - regardless of changes to the state tax code.

Do Not Delay - give now to any endowed Fund and take advantage of the Michigan tax credit one last time!

Foundation Welcomes New Trustees



Kennard Creason

We are thrilled to welcome Kennard Creason and Ed Hanenburg to our Board of Trustees. Kennard is a native of Grand Haven and shares a dental practice with Drs. Walt Weber and Elizabeth Curtis. He and his wife, Wendy, are familiar faces in our community, both being active and committed to a variety of local causes. Kennard has served on many professional and community committees, including the Loutit Foundation, the Ski Bowl, and Grand Haven Rotary where he recently served as president. Kennard and Wendy are long-time friends of the Community Foundation and not only have a Community Foundation Fund but are also members of the Legacy Society.

Ed Hanenburg is self-employed in Agra Business and his community activities include serving on the Boards of

the Grand Valley State University Foundation and the Stewardship Board of First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven. He was one of the original founders of the Coopersville Area Community Foundation, our first affiliate in 1992. Ed also founded the Coopersville Farm Museum as a special tribute to farming families in Coopersville. Ed and his wife, Nancy, have established several Community Foundation Funds and as members of the Legacy Society, hosted the annual Legacy Society event in 2010. **Welcome Kennard and Ed!**



Ed Hanenburg

College Access Director Named

We are pleased to welcome Kim Mercurio McLaughlin as our new director of the Tri-Cities College Access Network, a program to increase the number of Tri-Cities residents who have a college degree or post-secondary certificate. A native of Spring Lake, Kim comes from Chicago where she has been teaching for the past eight years.

Kim has extensive experience in education and community leadership. She holds a B.A. degree in Economics from the University of Michigan and a Master's in Education degree from DePaul University in Chicago. Her many accomplishments include being named Outstanding Teacher of the Year, creating and teaching a successful Math Summer Enrichment Program, serving as a member of the Principal's Advisory Team, developing a 6, 7, and 8th grade social studies curriculum, and coordinating service opportunities for students to explore "real world" experiences.



Kim Mercurio McLaughlin and Ann Tabor

A graduate of Spring Lake High School, Kim and her husband, Damon, are returning to her hometown to live.

For more information about the Tri-Cities College Access Network, please contact Kim at kimmclaughlintcan@gmail.com.

New Funds Established Since January 2011

Funds Designated for Organizations

David A. West Spirit of the Band Award Fund
College Access Fund

Organization Endowment Funds

Senior Resources of West Michigan Endowed Fund

Donor Advised Funds

Betten ArtWalk Fund
Julia Houle Advised Fund

Greatest Needs Fund

40th Anniversary Greatest Needs Fund

Community Service Funds

Grand Haven Lighthouse Community Service Fund



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Grand Haven Area Community Foundation 2011 Scholarship Committee

Committee Chair: Bonnie Suchecki – Human Resources Manager, City of Grand Haven and Foundation Trustee

Shirley Poulton – Former Educator, President and Owner of Teach the Traits, LLC and Foundation Trustee

Ann Runschke – Grand Haven High School Counselor

Ann Henke – Spring Lake High School Counselor

Sheila Steffel – Community Volunteer and Foundation Trustee

Lynne Sherwood – President, Marion A. and Ruth K. Sherwood Family Fund, Vice Chairman and Secretary, JSJ Corporation

Mary Keeton – Retired Principal, Holmes Elementary School and Community Volunteer

Nona Rycenga Boer – Representing the Charles and Eleanor Rycenga Education Fund

Mark Gauthier – President, Donald Engineering, Representing the Gauthier Family Scholarship Fund

Community Foundation Staff: Barbara Post, Carol Bedient, and Ann Tabor

Bonnie Suchecki, Trustee and Chair of Scholarship Committee



"I love being a part of the Scholarship Committee. The selection process is a match making experience. We help to match the generosity and dreams of the donors with the plans and dreams of the recipients. When both are realized, everyone benefits."

2012 Scholarship Timeline

January – Scholarship applications are available online at www.ghacf.org. Begin work on FAFSA by registering and completing form at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

February 12 – FREE FAFSA help! Tri-Cities College Goal Sunday–Loutit Library 2-4 pm (see information below.)

March 2 – All applications are due by 5 pm at the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation Office.

April-May – Application processing and selection meetings.

May-June – Notification and awards presentations at local high schools.

June 4 – Scholarship Agreement Forms are due at the Community Foundation Office.

August - October – Checks are mailed to Colleges.

Students Express Heartfelt Gratitude



Dear Ms. Wilsberg,
Thank you so much for establishing your scholarship, and I am so honored to be selected as its recipient. Not only is it wonderful to have some extra financial assistance, to be recognized for academic achievement and community involvement by someone with such a history of education like yourself is for what I am most glad.
Thank you again,
Dillon Horne

May 25, 2011

Dear David and Mary Race Vocational/Technical Scholarship Fund,

I am from the Early Childhood Education class, and I want to thank you for awarding me this scholarship. I am very grateful for the gift of \$2500 that you presented to me from your foundation. This money will be used for Muskegon Community College which I will be attending for the next two years. It is truly a blessing that I received this award and I am very appreciative.

Thank you for helping my dream of becoming a special education teacher come true and making it possible for me to attend college. I am the first in my family to attend college and this scholarship is providing me an opportunity to help make it financially possible. Due to my parents' financial situation, I was unsure how I was going to be able to pay for college. Along with my gratitude, my parents send their thanks to you as well. With this money, I will almost be able to pay for a full semester at Muskegon Community College! Thank You!

With utmost gratitude,

Kristin Henderson
Kristin Henderson



Dear Mrs. Victory Frantz,

I would like to express to you how much I greatly appreciate your gift to me of this scholarship. Going into the healthcare field requires a lot of time, money and hard work, and I am so grateful to you for helping me out in one of these ways. I am so honored to know that you have chosen me to receive this scholarship and I plan to use it to help fulfill my dreams of becoming a nurse. I plan on furthering my education at Muskegon Community College in the fall and to eventually become an RN. Once again, thank you so much for your thoughtfulness and generosity. You will be in my prayers.

Thanks and God bless,

Elizabeth Maierhauser

Need Help Filling Out the FAFSA? Tri-Cities College Access Network Offers College Goal SundaySM

College Goal SundaySM is a nationwide event where students and parents receive one-on-one assistance filling out the Free Application For Student Aid (FAFSA). In addition, students and parents will be able to get information regarding statewide student services, financial aid resources, and more!

When: Sunday, February 12, 2012

Time: 2 – 4 p.m.

Where: Loutit Library's Computer Lab

Why join us? Statistics indicate that 9 out of 10 students who complete the FAFSA will go on to pursue their post-secondary education. Students will use this application to apply for federal student grants, work-study money, and loans to help them pay for their post-secondary education. They will also be able to use this application to apply for most state and some private financial aid.

\$250,000 Awarded in Scholarships

The 2011 Scholarship recipients were recently chosen by the Foundation's Scholarship Committee after evaluating over 250 applications submitted by the March deadline. Several scholarship fund donors participated in the selection process and were delighted to be involved in helping these young people realize their dreams of a college education. This year, new and renewal scholarship awards totaled almost \$250,000 from 88 Funds established by donors within the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation.

The following new and renewal scholarships were issued from the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation funds for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Jack Feldt Ambucs Memorial Scholarship Fund

Lisa L. DeBone-Grand Valley State University

Charles (Charlie) A. Bassett Endowed Scholarship Fund

Louise M. Silverman-Kalamazoo College
Christian P. Yoshonis-Indiana Wesleyan University

Janet R. Briegel Scholarship

Jenna L. Ladd-Ferris State University

James W. Junior and Jane T. Brown Fund

Tiffany K. Krommendyk-Western Michigan University

Alex Crum Scholarship

Amy E. Potter-De Paul University

Dake Community Manufacturing Scholarship Fund

Austin J. Glerum-Ferris State University

Ken and Barb DeWitt Scholarship Fund

Kaila M. Nietering-Aquinas College

Erickson Education Fund

Erik G. Johnson-Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Lauren M. Kelso-Purdue University

Kevin Ernst Memorial Scholarship Fund

Nicholas S. Shenefield-Grand Valley State University

Bertha M. Fase Memorial Scholarship Fund

Allison M. Knopf-Grand Valley State University

Scott A. Flahive Memorial Scholarship Fund

Tyler J. Leonard-Grand Rapids Community College

Floto-Peel Family Fund

Alexander C. Hyde-Hope College

John L. and Victory E. Frantz Scholarship Fund

Lisa L. DeBone-Grand Valley State University
Kelsey L. Johnson-Grand Valley State University
Elizabeth E. Maierhauser-Oakland Community College
Sabrina L. Slack-Muskegon Community College
Katherine E. VanZytveld-Hope College

Gauthier Family Fund

Alexander Cotton-Michigan Technological University
Colin Veele-Michigan Technological University
Andrew C. Semrinec-Michigan Technological University

Spring Lake High School Social Studies Prize

Elizabeth McLaughlin-University of Michigan

Grand Haven Offshore Challenge Scholarship

Alexandria R. Vandervest-Hope College

Barbara and Nicole Heacox Foreign Study & Travel Fund

Jennifer L. Jones-Kendall College of Art & Design

Marjorie M. Hendricks Environmental Education Fund

Emily J. Peirce-University of Michigan

Michael Herman Scholarship Fund

James Y. Atchison-Grand Valley State University
Jonathan M. Kline-Kettering University
Sarah E. Kober-Purdue University
Travis M. Redman-Michigan Technological University

Hierholzer-Fojtik Scholarship Fund

Erik J. Groothuis-Hope College

J.R. Hilliard Memorial Scholarship Fund

Trevor J. Miller-Grand Rapids Community College

Hoffman Family Scholarship Fund

Elizabeth Krantz-Grand Valley State University
Austin M. Langlois-Grand Valley State University
Phoenix Vaster-Grand Valley State University
Elizabeth K. Wisman-University of Michigan

Hofma Trust Fund

Jordan S. Griggs-Michigan State University
Michael A. Hankinson-Hope College
Kelsey L. Johnson-Grand Valley State University
Jenna L. Ladd-Ferris State University
Sydney M. Miller-Grand Valley State University
Ryan P. Walling-Muskegon Community College
Luke A. Weavers-Grand Valley State University
Samuel H. Westhoff-Northwestern Michigan College

JARCS Fund

Nicole Hagen-Michigan State University
Michelle Michaels-Michigan State University

Seth Koehler Central High School Fund

Christopher J. Zuroske-Muskegon Community College

Paul J. Laninga Memorial Scholarship Fund

Tyler J. Vanstrien-Grand Valley State University

Rick and Beverly Lattin Education Fund

Alison A. Chapman-Grand Valley State University
Cody B. Johnson-Grand Valley State University

Jack W. Leatherman Family Fund

Alexa C. Fairfield-Ferris State University

Caesy LeMieux Central-Mary A. White Schools PTA Fund

Alyssa S. Adamovich-Grand Rapids Community College

Pat and John MacTavish Fund

Sabrina L. Slack-Muskegon Community College

Ross Patrick McBride Scholarship Fund

Katelyn E. Albright-Valparaiso University
Sarah E. Deal-Grand Valley State University
Lindsey K. Flaquer-Grand Valley State University

Kyle R. Moreland Memorial Endowment Fund

Spencer M. Krug-Michigan State University

Miller G. Sherwood Family Scholarship Fund

Sarah E. Kade-University of Michigan

P.E.O. Chapter DS Scholarship Fund

Emalie C. Kiebach-Muskegon Community College

Marvin R. and Pearl E. Patterson Family Fund

Chelsey A. Bassett-Muskegon Community College

Terry Linda Potter Scholarship Fund

Alida M. Boon-Muskegon Community College
Brittany L. Brown-Muskegon Community College
Jamie L. Jullie-University of Detroit Mercy
Elizabeth E. Maierhauser-Oakland Community College
Kelsie E. Taylor-Grand Valley State University

David and Mary Race Vocational/Technical Scholarship Fund

Samantha Bergeman-Grand Rapids Community College
Amber M. Corning-Baker College of Muskegon
Jasmine Daugherty-Baker College
Megan DeYoung-Ferris State University
Ashley D'Oyly-Baker College
McKenzie Green-Cornerstone University
Kristin Henderson-Muskegon Community College
Seth Nowak-Lake Superior State University
Kaylin Seeger-CareerLine Tech Center

Jacob L. Reinecke Memorial Scholarship Fund

Jordan P. Hoogerhyde-Hope College

Daniel L. Reiss Memorial Scholarship Fund

Trevor J. Miller-Grand Rapids Community College

Harold and Eleanor Ringelberg Scholarship Fund

Spencer M. Krug-Michigan State University

Charles and Eleanor Rycenga Education Fund

Abigail J. Duer-Trinity International University
Will R. Groenendyk-Calvin College
Cameron Hewitt-Central Michigan University
Kyle J. Martin-University of Michigan
Adam W. Poel-Muskegon Community College
Ryan L. Richert-Hillsdale College
Brett Weavers-Grand Rapids Community College
Erin A. Zelenka-Grace College and Seminary

St. Patrick's and St. Anthony's Church Scholarship Fund

Elizabeth K. Markovicz-Aquinas College
Noah I. Thelen-Grand Valley State University

Millicent Mary Schaffner Endowed Memorial Scholarship Fund

Alyssa S. Adamovich-Grand Rapids Community College
Katelyn E. Albright-Valparaiso University
Jessica R. Baker-Grand Valley State University
Samantha R. Baker-Northwestern Michigan College
Elise M. Boersema-Muskegon Community College
Lauren N. Brown-Muskegon Community College
Amy L. Buxton-Indiana Wesleyan University
Alicia M. Cadena-Grand Valley State University
Abrielle M. Case-University of Michigan
Melissa J. Cline-Grand Valley State University
Amber M. Corning-Baker College of Muskegon
Alecia M. Crouse-Central Michigan University
Alexa C. Fairfield-Ferris State University
Stephanie M. Guthrie-University of Michigan
Marissa J. Hintz-Michigan Technological University
Leighlyn P. Jacobs-Grand Valley State University
Jennifer L. Jones-Kendall College of Art & Design
Jessica M. Kelly-Muskegon Community College
Sara E. Laarman-Grand Valley State University
Chelsea E. Meloche-Muskegon Community College
RaeLyn A. Perysian-Baker College of Muskegon
Stephanie L. Poll-Kendall College of Art & Design
Kirsten M. Richards-Grand Valley State University
Sabrina L. Slack-Muskegon Community College
Amanda P. Sowa-Muskegon Community College
Anne M. Vander Veen-Central Michigan University
Jennifer M. VandeWaa-Grand Valley State University
Katherine E. VanZytveld-Hope College

David and Jinny Schultz Family Fund

Joshua J. Colville-Purdue University

David and Sharon Seaver Family Scholarship Fund in Memory of Timothy D. Seaver

Carrie A. Boeve-Baker College of Muskegon

Ken and Sandy Sharkey Family Scholarship Fund

Nathan R. Kelly-Valparaiso University

Marion A. and Ruth K. Sherwood Family Scholarship Fund-Business

Kelle Boers-Henry Ford Community College
Michelle Cammenga-Loyola University
David D. Cook-Ferris State University
Melissa A. Courtney-DePaul University
Eryn E. Gregory-Muskegon Community College
Brandon J. Griggs-Michigan State University
David M. MacLaren-University of Michigan
Joshua Peel-Aquinas College
Anthony C. Sabo-Michigan State University

Marion A. and Ruth K. Sherwood Family Scholarship Fund-Current College Student

Lauren C. Cior-Michigan State-University
Nicholas I. Kalejs-University of Notre Dame
Justine P. McGuire-Michigan State University

Marion A. and Ruth K. Sherwood Family Scholarship Fund-Education

Paige E. Deur-Calvin College
Victoria Holman-Grand Valley State University
Alex Jandernoa-Knox College
Laura J. Katt-Calvin College
Mary B. McCarthy-Hope College
Samantha Schneider-Albion College
Jeanne Sherman-Michigan State University

Marion A. and Ruth K. Sherwood Family Scholarship Fund-Engineering

Jeffrey Grant Baker II-Boston University
Devin A. Chan-University of Michigan
Meghan E. Ostermann-University of Michigan

Marion A. and Ruth K. Sherwood Family Scholarship Fund-Michigan Colleges Foundation

Samantha A. Brondyke-Calvin College
Lucas Giroux-Aquinas College
Kaitlyn M. Mulder-Hope College
Raysha Stacey-Albion College

Marion A. and Ruth K. Sherwood Family Scholarship Fund-Medicine

Matthew Beld-Grand Valley State University
Catherine Elmore-Grand Valley State University
Sarah J. Faubert-Baker College
Jacob R. Gray-Asbury University
Abigail M. Keizer-Kalamazoo College
Natalie R. Myers-Saint Louis University
Blake N. Shultz-Cornell University
Louise M. Silverman-Kalamazoo College
Alyson M. Smith-Muskegon Community College
Katie Stebbins-Michigan State University
Aaron W. Stebbins-Michigan State University
Jordan Straight-Grand Valley State University

Edward P. Suchecki Family Scholarship Fund

Mitchell R. Borchers-Albion College
Nicholas R. Whalen-Central Michigan University

Henry D. and Ruth G. Swartz Family Fund

Carolyn M. Coutre-University of Cincinnati
Caleb R. Hayward-Muskegon Community College
Jared M. Hayward-Grand Valley State University
Sarah M. Lisman-University of Michigan

H. Wayne VanAgmael Cosmetology Scholarship Fund

Carrie A. Boeve-Baker College of Muskegon

VFW Post 2326 Ward-Goff Memorial Scholarship Fund

Ryan P. Walling-Muskegon Community College

Louise Wachter Wickham Scholarship Fund

Kaytlin E. Lawrence-Muskegon Community College
Corey R. Van Schaik-Cornerstone University

Mary E. Wilsberg Scholarship

Dillon J. Horne-University of Michigan

West Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association Scholarship Fund

Anna K. Miller-Albion College

Paul Wolbrink Scholarship Fund

Jennifer C. Kalejs-University of Michigan

Woman's Club of Grand Haven

Tiffany K. Krommendyk-Western Michigan University

Zenko Family Fund

Kevin Z. Boyer-Grand Valley State University
Jake J. Carter-Grand Valley State University
Trevor C. Epplert-Alma College
Michael K. Gagnon-Aquinas College
James H. Schippers-Hope College
Adam L. Slater-Central Michigan University
Christian P. Yoshonis-Indiana Wesleyan University

Leo Zupin Memorial Scholarship Fund

Alexander C. Hyde-Hope College

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Ann Tabor

Dear Friends:

They said it couldn't be done and we did it! As Bill Creason reminds us, in the early years of the Foundation, the Board asked for advice from the national experts on community foundations and were immediately advised that "no community under 250,000 in population" could ever support a community foundation. Thank goodness that neither E.V. Erickson, Dottie Johnson nor John Carlyle paid any attention to this advice!

- Today the national Council on Foundations lists this Foundation as 6th out of the Top 100 Foundations in the country in "per capita giving."
- We are the 11th largest Foundation of Michigan's 56 Foundations.
- Last year, in the middle of one of the worst recessions in decades, contributions to all our Funds reached \$7.5 million.
- The Assets of the Foundation total \$55 million.

- Our Legacy Society is one of the largest in Michigan and the United States.
- Our flexible Greatest Needs dollars have helped hundreds of families in the Tri-Cities deal with unemployment, home foreclosures, family stress and basic needs such as food and shelter during this turbulent time in the world economy.
- \$3 to \$4 million a year is distributed each and every year in grants to the community.
- The endowment idea is working! Our Youth Fund started in 1991 with \$1 million dollars. The young people have granted out over \$1 million to youth programs and the Fund is now almost \$2 million in size.
- And, \$40 million has gone out in grants to the community in the last 40 years...

\$40 million back to the community in 40 years! That is quite an accomplishment for a community that was "too small to support a community foundation!"

So thank you to all of you for helping build the Foundation. This is a remarkable community and you've built an amazing vehicle for good. Won't it be fun to see where we go in the next 40 years? The Foundation is here For Good... For Ever!

Sincerely,

Board of Trustees

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 Tom Creswell, *Vice Chairperson*
 Tim Parker, *Treasurer*
 Cal Bosman, *Secretary*
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 Ed Hanenburg
 Lana Jacobson
 Steve Moreland
 Sheila Steffel
 Bonnie Suchecki

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Brendan Jennings	John Strainer
Madelynn Johnson	Roxane Strobel
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If you would rather read this newsletter on our website, please let us know. We are always happy to send you an e-mail notification that it is available online instead of mailing you a copy. You will be the first to see the newsletter and support the environment too! Please send your request to Holly Johnson at hjohnson@ghacf.org. Thank you for helping us to be environmentally friendly!



Grand Haven Area

community foundation

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