

## A Message from Your Community Foundation

The Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation's Board of Trustees, staff, and many volunteers present The Legacy, an annual magazine highlighting the Foundation's work over the past year. Because of strong relationships with 54 generous sponsors (p.32), we are able to share stories of local philanthropists and the resulting community impact in publications like this that reach those in Isabella County and beyond.

Extending our strategic plan in 2022 has given us the opportunity to reflect on our challenges over the last five years and to look for our next opportunities. Critical to achieving our mission, successful fund development over the last six years has resulted in more than \$10+ million in contributions to Foundation funds (p.3). We launched Give Local Isabella, an annual day of giving benefiting local agency endowments (p.18). We distributed hundreds of Planned Giving Guides, and new families joined the Denison Legacy Society (p. 24). We celebrated 23 former board members as Emeritus Trustees.

Internal operations were made more efficient with the implementation of a new integrated software solution. We launched an improved online giving platform and a fund advisor/manager portal. In 2020, we were re-confirmed in compliance with National Standards for Community Foundations. We spent less on administrative expenses than was raised in revenue each year, further protecting our ability to function smoothly when our investments fluctuate.

The efforts of nearly 200 community volunteers (p.6) make our grantmaking and awarding of scholarships possible each year. We added dozens of community leaders aged 25-50 to our committee structure. We implemented a new application and review process for grants and scholarships, and provided more applicant technical assistance than ever before. We built relationships around the community that allow us to make proactive grants, to support capacity building among new nonprofit leaders, and to connect

local professionals with support from skilled volunteers pro bono (pg. 7).

We continue to work on broad understanding and awareness of our work in community through our website, e-newsletter Community Matters, and social media channels. We strive for transparency while also being mindful of stakeholder privacy. Recently, we added a fourth professional staff member to our team. Our Communication and Donor Stewardship Officer works to assure all information, education, promotion,



Amanda Schafer

development tools, and events communicate the story of the Foundation to key audiences in a clear, accurate, and compelling manner. We seek to provide consistent messaging and share the impact made through investment in our work.

Throughout 2022, the Foundation's Board and committees have been working to develop our next strategic plan. Like many charitable organizations, we are in the midst of evolution, re-focusing on our purpose and re-prioritizing the roles our community needs us to play--to bring people together, mindful of our differences but focused on common goals, to listen to one another, to identify strengths and opportunities, to encourage new and emerging leadership, to make data-informed decisions, and to try potential solutions to improve the quality of life in our community.

We look forward to engaging with you on this new plan in 2023. Stay tuned!

Stay up to date on your Community Foundation by reading our quarterly e-newsletter.



SUBSCRIBE AT WWW.MPACF.ORG TODAY!

#### Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation

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On the Cover: The children of Connie and Jack Harkins – Elizabeth Meade, John Harkins, and Christia Hitesman – embrace for a recent photo. Inset: Connie and Jack pose for a photo on their wedding day, June 14, 1965.

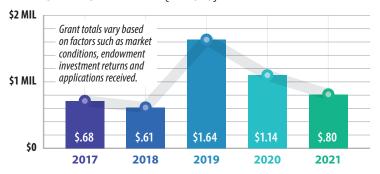
# Foundation assets exceed \$30 million, grants pass the \$10 million milestone in 2021

More than \$10 million in grants have been awarded since the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation was established in 1990. It is a notable landmark, achieved in the same year Foundation assets topped \$30 million.

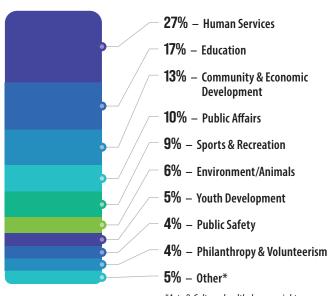
"Donor contributions the past 32 years are making our community better today and tomorrow," Foundation President Cheryl Gaudard said. "The \$10 million in grants — funded by investment earnings on donor-supported endowments — have touched tens of thousands of local lives."

The following data shows five-year results, affected by factors such as stock market fluctuations and the COVID pandemic.

#### **GRANTS AWARDED** (millions)

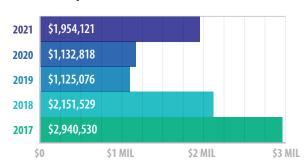


#### **GRANTS BY PROGRAM AREA, 2021**



\*Arts & Culture, health, human rights, science, social sciences, religious/spiritual

#### **GIFTS/DONATIONS RECEIVED**



#### **INVESTMENT RETURNS**



#### **FOUNDATION ASSETS**



# Your Community Foundation exists to support local residents forever

The Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation works to enhance the quality of life for all citizens of Isabella County, now and for generations to come.

We are a tax-exempt charity that enables individuals and businesses to establish their own charitable fund or contribute to an existing fund in support of the community. These donations are permanently endowed, which means they will exist forever.

All fund assets are comingled, invested and managed professionally. The earnings are used to award grants for programs and organizations that address the needs of local residents.

We have helped shape the future of Isabella County since 1990, helping people find and fund causes they love. We also support nonprofits, civic organizations, communities, businesses, leaders and area residents in their pursuit of bold solutions to build strong, vibrant and inclusive communities.

Your contributions are eligible for the highest combination of federal and Michigan tax incentives available. We are happy to help you explore the latest options to give back and pay it forward forever.

Call us at 989-773-7322 or email us at info@mpacf.org. We're here to support you!

# Epicenter: your source for what's new and good in Isabella County

Mt. Pleasant — in the middle of it all, with exciting news every week.

What? You want to know more?

That's why Epicenter exists. The online publication drops 100% good news every week, right to your inbox.

You'll find out about new businesses, restaurants and stores. Profiles of people choosing to move to or remain in Isabella County to raise their families and to work. Announcements about events and activities. And feature stories about efforts to improve our community.

Search for Epicenter Mt. Pleasant on the web. Subscribe for weekly delivery or follow on social media.



Epicenter is funded by the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation, along with Charter Township of Union, City of Mt. Pleasant, Isabella Bank, Mid Michigan College, Middle Michigan Development Corporation, Mt. Pleasant Convention and Visitors Bureau, MyMichiganHealth, and the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

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## Nonprofit Capacity Building: Catchafire

For the third year, several Isabella County nonprofit organizations are building their capacity through Catchafire. In May of 2020, Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation began a partnership with this virtual platform to leverage a network of more than 100,000 skilled volunteers who will help pro bono with needs such as website development, online marketing, strategic planning, professional development, and other areas of critical work in fundraising, program delivery, human resources, marketing & communications, finance, and technology & operations.

"To continue our support for capacity building among Isabella County nonprofit organizations, the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation is pleased to join with funders throughout the Great Lakes Bay Region to make use of Catchafire," said CEO/COO Amanda Schafer. "More than thirty organizations serving Isabella County residents have access to this incredible virtual platform at no cost," she added. "That means stronger, more efficient organizations serving our neighbors, allowing them to be that much more effective in meeting community needs."

This support from Catchafire empowers our nonprofit partners. Catchafire offers professional assistance from subject matter experts as nonprofits recover from the pandemic and plan for the future. To date, Isabella County nonprofit organizations have leveraged a total of \$131,495 in pro bono services as a result of utilizing Catchafire.

#### **Catchafire Spotlights:**

**Alicia Crowe**, Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Educator at Isabella County Child Advocacy Center Project: Visual Brand Guide

With the help of Catchafire, the Isabella County Child Advocacy Center developed a visual brand guide that provides a variety of design choices necessary for communicating consistent and coherent messaging. The organization saved \$4,212 by working with a Catchafire consultant.

**Kate Connors**, President & CEO at Life Choices of Central Michigan Project: Individual Donor Letter

Life Choices of Central Michigan appealed to individual donors with a well-written, persuasive letter thanks to the professional guidance offered by a pro bono consultant. The organization saved \$2,140 and the appeal letter was successful.

**Natalie VanDyke**, Fundraising and Development Specialist at R.I.S.E. Advocacy Project: Social Media Content Calendar

This project allowed R.I.S.E. Advocacy to launch on a new social media platform with 4 weeks of scheduled content, and provided the organization with a content calendar template that they can use for months to come. The organization saved \$4,212 and built a more succinct online presence because of the help staff received from Catchafire.



Alicia Crowe
Isabella County Child Advocacy Center



Kate Connors
Life Choices of Central Michigan



Natalie VanDyke RISE Advocacy







# Youth Advisory Committee: A Lasting Impact

## Members grow personally while supporting their community



Many members of the Youth Advisory Committee join when in 7th or 8th grade and stay involved through graduation. Some are involved longer if they stay in the area for college.

Through these years, their compassion, leadership skills and understanding of needs around them flourish.

"Many of these kids, when they first join the YAC, sit quietly in the back. Two years later, they're leading groups," said Nancy Wheeler, administrative officer at the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation and staff liason for the Youth Advisory Committee.

The committee — known as the YAC — is comprised of student leaders from each Isabella County school district. Twice a year, it advises the Foundation's Board of Trustees on the awarding of grants from the Kellogg Youth Fund, which supports charitable projects or

events that benefit local young people.

"Participation teaches self-awareness, empathy and provides an opportunity to see what's going on around them, building a true understanding of their community," YAC advisor Emma Powell said.

Wheeler said grantmaking is incredibly eye opening for YAC members as they learn to respect others' opinions, put themselves in others' shoes and look at issues from others' perspectives.

The Impact of Community Service When they're not grantmaking, YAC

members are actively engaged in community service and fundraising activities. They volunteer with Christmas Outreach, The Care Store and the Lion's Chicken Barbecue. They clean up parks. They even go Flamingo Flocking to raise money for the Kellogg Youth Fund.













Incoming YAC President Sam Powell, a student at Sacred Heart Academy, is required to complete 100 service hours to graduate from high school. Participation in the YAC has changed what service means to him.

"I remember how I used to think that service was however many hours I can write down and get a signature for after raking leaves," he said.

He has seen firsthand now that it is so much more.

"The first year we volunteered with Christmas Outreach, I saw a family come in in socks and leave in boots," he said. "It struck my heart, and I realized just how lucky I was and how YAC changes people's lives."

"This experience has opened my eyes to the good that's in the world," he said, noting it has solidified his decision to work for a nonprofit someday.

#### **Well-deserved Recognition**

This positive influence the YAC has in our community has not gone unnoticed.

Last year, it earned them a Mt. Pleasant Area Chamber of Commerce Eagle Award and an award for social media use from the Council of Michigan Foundations. This year, they received the Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy Award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals Mid-Michigan Chapter. Congratulations, YAC members!







#### 2022 Youth Advisory Committee

#### **Beal City Public Schools:**

Dylan Elias Ben Gottschalk Sophie Ludwig Avery Wilson

#### **Central Michigan University:**

Salma Abdelgawad Sammy McDonald

#### Mt. Pleasant Public Schools:

Salma Israr Miika Prout Andy Rowley Carter Rupe Kayden Weekley

#### **Sacred Heart Academy:**

Wyatt Browne Savannah Jones Katherine Latham Sam Powell

#### **Shepherd Public Schools:**

Ava Carroll Maggie Galan Alivia Kirchofer Marin Moeggenborg Abbie Powell

Emma Powell – Advisor Erin Ludwig – Adult Member Tony Rau – Adult Member









## Grants Awarded through

Amateur Hockey Association of Mt. Pleasant



AHAMP Youth Uniform and Safety Equipment Renewal \$2,500 – Fabiano Family Fund, Gilmore Family Fund for Youth, Connor J. Puhlman Memorial Fund for Youth

#### **Art Reach of Mid Michigan**

Art Walk 2022 \$1,682 – W. Sidney and Judith French Smith Community Fund

#### **Beal City Public Schools**

Annual Scholarships \$4,846 – Beal City Public Schools Education Foundation Fund

#### Central Michigan University

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences – 1st Year Student Success \$10,000 – Anonymous Fund

#### **CMU Research Corporation**

DOW Great Lakes Bay Invitational 2021 \$4,500 – Pass Through Fund

#### Chippewa River District Library

Build a Better Book Initiative \$2,144.88 – Eckersley Library Fund

## Chippewa Watershed Conservancy

DOW Great Lakes Bay Invitational 2021 \$9,500 – Pass Through Fund Conservation Projects and Annual Monitoring of Conservation Easements in Isabella County \$1,250 – Chippewa Watershed Conservancy Fund

Trail Building and Habitat Restoration on the Nature Preserves in Isabella County \$3,671 – Chippewa Watershed Conservancy Fund

Stewardship Projects and Maintenance of Preserves \$558 – Dyke and Phyllis Heinze Conservation Fund

Stewardship Projects, Maintenance of Trails and Removal of Invasive Species at Preserves \$1,407 – William Brehm Memorial/Chippewa Watershed Conservancy Stewardship Fund

Waterfront Preserve Signage \$3,000 – Barbara A. Bissot Fund, Ruth S. and Gerard R. Felter and Florence F. Battenfeld Family Fund, G. Charles and Janice L. Hubscher Fund

## Christian Counseling of Mid Michigan



Get Your Game On \$285.87 – Kellogg Youth Fund

Telehealth Technology \$3,100 – Women's Initiative Fund

#### **Christmas Outreach**



Supporting Women and Girls' Literacy and Physical Needs \$4,000 – Women's Initiative Fund

#### City of Mt. Pleasant



Mt. Pleasant Fire Department
– 800 MHZ Radios
\$26,281.84 – Community
Impact Fund, Denison
Unrestricted Fund, Hersee
Family Fund, Isabella Bank
Director Memorial Fund,
William and Janet Maar
Strickler Community Impact
Fund

Isabella County Cause and Origin Team – Camera \$650 – Isabella County First Responders Fund

#### **Clothing INC**

DOW Great Lakes Bay Invitational 2021 \$4,500 – Pass Through Fund

Socks and Underwear \$1,000 – Kellogg Youth Fund



Underwear, Socks, and Undergarments for Women and Girls \$2,500 – Women's Initiative Fund Undergarments for Women and Kids

\$5,000 – Bandit Industries Community Fund, Joanne Golden Family Community Impact Fund, Kellogg Youth Fund, Schafer Community Impact Fund

#### Community Compassion Network



CCN Food Pantry Automatic Generator

\$11,709 – Coyne Family Fund, Fabiano Family Fund, Jane McNamara and Louise Williams Fund, Dr. Leonard E. and Louise A. Plachta Unrestricted Fund

Infant Pantry Supplies \$2,225 – William Ellis Brockman Infant Assistance Fund

#### Cultural & Recreational Commission of Isabella County

General Operations for CRC \$7,555 – CRC Fund

#### **Eagle Village**

Scholarship Program 2021/2022 \$4,126 – Kellogg Youth Fund

## Endowed Funds

## First Church of the Nazarene



Handicap Accessibility – Platform Stair Lift \$5,000 – John P. and Ann S. Jensen Community Impact Fund, Michael D. and Dianne C. Morey Community Needs Fund, Tim and Mary Ann O'Neil Community Impact Fund, Sullivan Family Fund

#### Friends of the Broadway



Broadway Theater Roof Project \$20,000 – Community Impact Fund, L.A. and Marilyn B.

Johns Family Fund, Jane McNamara and Louise Williams Fund, John Neyer Family Fund, Kay Smith Family Fund, W. Sidney Smith and Judith French Smith Family Fund, Summit Petroleum Fund

## Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan



Girl Scouting through PEAK \$5,000 – Women's Initiative Fund

#### **Gratiot Isabella RESD -**

Great Start Collaborative Great Start Parent Café Project

\$1,500 – John P. ad Ann S. Jensen Community Impact Fund, Tim and Mary Ann O'Neil Community Impact Fund, Sherwood Family Fund

#### **HopeWell Ranch**



DOW Great Lakes Bay Invitational 2021 \$10,250 – Pass Through Fund



Hoppyness on the Go \$300 – Kellogg Youth Fund

## Humane Animal Treatment Society

Canine Play Yard \$6,900 – Bovee Family Fund, Hersee Family Fund, Missy and Doug LaBelle Family Foundation Community Impact Fund, Weisenburger Family Fund, Andy Wheeler Community Needs Fund

## Isabella Citizens for Health, Inc.



Children's Library \$3,000 – Kellogg Youth Fund

#### Isabella Community Soup Kitchen



6,000 Meals in 60 Days \$10,000 – COVID-19 Community Response Fund for Isabella County, Coyne Family Fund

## **Isabella County**Deerfield Park Improvements



\$5,000 - Rise Family Fund

Chippewa River Erosion and Canoe Launch Project \$10,000 – Barbara A. Bissot Fund, Community Impact Fund, Fabiano Family Fund, Jane McNamara and Louise Williams Fund

Operation Safe Seat – Isabella County \$1,500 – Coyne Family Fund

Chippewa River Erosion and Canoe Launch Project \$11,000 – Access to Recreation Fund, Mary Ellen Brandell Access to Recreation Fund, Brewster Family Access to Recreation Fund, Janet Marr Strickler Access to Recreation Fund

#### Isabella County Restoration House



DOW Great Lakes Bay Invitational 2021 \$4,500 – Pass Through Fund

Day Shelter Improvements \$1,500 – Olson Family Fund

Guest Transportation \$3,000 – Kay Smith Family Fund, Summit Petroleum Fund

Leadership Training \$2,760 – Olson Family Fund

## Isabella County Transportation Commission Computer System Upgrades

Computer System Upgrades \$5,000 – Rise Family Fund

## Isabella County Youth and Farm Fair Society



ICYFFS Horse Barn Interior Structure Painting \$20,500 – Ralph and Sonja Baumgarth Family Fund, Community Impact Fund, Denison Unrestricted Fund, Kimber and Judy DeWitt Family Fund, Isabella Bank Director Memorial Fund, David B. and Susan K. Keilitz Family Fund, Kellogg Youth Fund, Jerry M. and Marilyn A. Morey Community Fund, Rapaport Family Fund

#### **Issue Media Group**

Underwriting/Sponsorship Epicenter Mt. Pleasant \$49,000 – Pass Through Fund

## Life Choices of Central Michigan

RN Salaries \$13,072 – Life Choices Medical Clinic Fund

Additional RN Salaries and Blood Draw Chair for Medical Clinic \$7,625.14 – Life Choices Medical Clinic Fund

Brightcourse Online Access Parenting Curriculum \$1,429 – Life Choice Parenting Program Fund



Drive Thru Diapers Program \$3,750 – COVID-19 Community Response Fund for Isabella County

#### Mid Central Area Health Education Center

Health Careers Pipeline



Program \$4,000 – Ronald H. and Donna M. Cooper Family Fund, David B. and Susan K. Keilitz Family Fund, Kellogg Youth Fund

#### **Mid Michigan Industries**



DOW Great Lakes Bay Invitational 2021 \$4,500 – Pass Through Fund

#### Middle Michigan Development Foundation



Downtown Pitch – Mt.
Pleasant
\$5,000 – Jane McNamara
and Louise Williams Fund,
Elizabeth Z. Miller & Bruce
H. LaPointe Community
Needs Fund, Myler Family
Community Impact Fund,
Sherwood Family Fund,
Staples Family Fund

## Mt. Pleasant Community Church

Metal Pinewood Derby Track for Cub Scout Pack 3628 \$1,000 – Bob and Nancy Wheeler Fund for Scouting

## Mt. Pleasant Discovery Museum

DOW Great Lakes Bay Invitational 2021 \$4,500 – Pass Through Fund



Mortgage Payoff \$56,784.71 – Mt. Pleasant Discovery Museum Fund 3, 2, 1...Blast Off! Exhibit \$1,000 – Janice Cotter Endowment Fund

Teen Night \$5,000 – Kellogg Youth Fund, Jane McNamara and Louise Williams Fund, Weisenburger Family Fund

#### Mt. Pleasant Public Schools



Orchestra Room Storage \$1,000 – Kellogg Youth Fund

BPA National Leadership Competition 2022 \$4,274 – Mt. Pleasant Business Professionals of America Fund

CMU Wrestling Camp Scholarships \$665 – Chris Maniteau Memorial Wrestling Fund

#### MyMichigan Health Foundation

**Woodland Hospice House Uncompensated Care** \$105,623 – Dick and Mary Ellen Brandell Family Hospice House Fund, Hospice of Central Michigan Fund, Bob and Jeanne Long Hospice House Fund, Bill and Janet Maar Strickler Hospice House Fund, Lon Morey Family Hospice House Fund, Bill and Dolores Myler Hospice House Fund, Dennis and Sandra Olson Hospice House Fund, Jim and Naomi Stark Hospice House Fund

#### Nottawa-Sherman Township Fire Department

Equipment and Training for First Responders and Firemen \$500 – Thompson-Blackmer VFW Post 4106 Community Fund

## Presbyterian Villages of Michigan Foundation



Connecting Seniors to the World Wide Web \$8,753 – COVID-19
Community Response Fund for Isabella County, Healthy Youth Healthy Seniors Fund PACE CM OmniCycle \$6,000 – Isabella County Health Improvement Fund

#### **Project Weidman**

American Flags for Downtown Weidman \$1,000 – Thompson-Blackmer VFW Post 4106 Community Fund

#### RISE Advocacy



Shelter Upgrades \$4,992.41 – R.I.S.E. Advocacy Fund

## Ronald McDonald House of Western Michigan

Family Support Program 2021 \$3,500 – Kellogg Youth Fund

#### Rotary Charities of Traverse City

Leadership Learning Lab and Peer Learning Circle for 2022 \$3,250 – Community Impact Fund

#### **Sacred Heart Parish**



AthletiCo Soccer Backpacks for the Girls Soccer Team \$564 – McGuirk Family Fund

#### Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan



Protecting Mt. Pleasant's
Historical Indigenous
Collections
\$16,353 – Community
Impact Fund, Dr. Leonard
E. and Louise A. Plachta
Unrestricted Fund, Steve
and Sue Pung Family Fund,
Theunissen Family Fund,
William and Janet Maar
Strickler Community Impact
Fund

#### **Special Olympics Michigan**



DOW Great Lakes Bay Invitational 2021 \$4,500 – Pass Through Fund

#### The Care Store DOW Great Lakes Bay Invitational 2021 \$4,500 – Pass Through Fund



Female Hygiene Products \$2,500 – Women's Initiative Fund Caring for Our Youth \$5,000 – Darlene Bond Memorial Youth Fund, Kellogg Youth Fund, Connor J. Puhlman Memorial Fund for Youth



Stock Our Shelves \$5,000 – COVID-19 Community Response Fund for Isabella County

## United Way of Gratiot and Isabella Counties



Implementation of Volunteer Platform/Promote and Increase Volunteerism in Isabella County \$10,000 – Volunteer Center of Isabella County Fund

#### **Village of Shepherd**



Sensory Tower Rubber Mat at Splash Park \$6,897.57 – Kellogg Youth Fund, Shepherd Community Fund Honoring Robert H. Bates

Shepherd Christmas Parade \$1,477.56 – Shepherd Community Fund Honoring Robert H. Bates

#### William and Janet Strickler Nonprofit Center

Building Improvements \$8,598.73 – William and Janet Strickler Nonprofit Center Fund

Reopen/Refresh \$2,500 – Barbara L. and George W. Dunn Family Fund, Morning Sun Community Fund

## Special Grants Awarded without Restrictions:

**Community Compassion Network** \$3,000 – Mitchell Family Trust Fund

**Forgotten Eagles Inc.** \$500 – Mitchell Family Trust Fund

**Isabella County Restoration House** \$3,000 – Mitchell Family Trust Fund

**Life Choices of Central Michigan** \$2,000 – Mitchell Family Trust Fund

**Potter's House Global Network** \$1,000 – Mitchell Family Trust Fund

Potter's House Family Worship Center \$4,000 – Mitchell Family Trust Fund

## Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation

\$911 – Charles E. Anthony Leadership Fund \$2,112 – Hersee House Maintenance Fund \$16,890 – Leadership Fund \$720 – Ray and Georgia Martin Leadership Fund \$4,514 – Morey Foundation Leadership Fund \$635 – Richards Leadership Fund



## Grants allow organizations to grow. evolve to meet community needs

Forever is, well ... a long time. Yet, forever is a reality at the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation.

Part of the value of a community foundation is that its grants come from annual investment earnings on endowments, which then continue in perpetuity.

In this way, the MPACF and its donors are able to support organizations and initiatives as they grow and evolve to meet the needs of area residents, families and businesses.

"Our endowments have impact across generations," CEO Amanda Schafer said. "The foundation is a hub, helping donors address today's needs while also keeping an eye on emerging hardships and opportunities of the future."

More than \$10 million in grants have been awarded since the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation was established in 1990. Those grants have been generated by the earnings of what in 2021 surpassed \$30 million in assets.

The following stories profile three nonprofits that serve countless area residents of all ages by fulfilling the basic human need for food, fueling the creativity and knowledge of children, and giving all of us space to experience the great outdoors.

#### Donors support Discovery Museum from dream through newest exhibits

As the Mt. Pleasant Discovery Museum looks to its 10th anniversary in December, it also approaches the halfmillion milestone in visitors.

The play-based educational space is one of fewer than 10 children's museums in Michigan. Its red siding and red and white

striped silo foreshadow the brightly colored exhibits that set kids abuzz with the thrill of creative freedom and learning. (Shhh. That's a secret.)

Behind all of that are founding visionaries, volunteers, staff and donors. Many of the latter maximize their gifts through the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation. The museum has its own endowment at MPACF, and more than 15 individual endowment funds also have supported the museum.

Before the museum was built, the Foundation held donations for its construction and exhibits. Last year, the museum's endowment contributed nearly \$60,000



to pay off its mortgage. In between were more than 40 other grants for exhibits, supplies and projects such as a friendship field/ sound garden, a traveling beehive and the upcoming 3, 2, 1 ... Blastoff! exhibit.

"There's tremendous, unwavering support from donors and from the Foundation," Executive Director Lizzie Dilg said. "They believe in us and the work we're doing for kids."

While the museum was created for children through sixth grade, teens also became a focus last year. Social events like movie and game nights were coordinated through a partnership with CMU Health and a grant from the following Foundation Funds: Weisenburger Family Fund, Jane McNamara and Louise Williams Fund and Kellogg Youth Fund.

"All of this community engagement and support means we will continue to get bigger and better, changing out our exhibits and adding to them over time," Dilg said. "Donors and the Community Foundation are making sure we'll be here for a long, long time."

## Chippewa Watershed Conservancy responds to increased traffic at preserves

The 24 preserves in the Chippewa Watershed Conservancy are more popular than ever, especially those that draw hikers, trail runners, bird watchers, nature enthusiasts, snowshoers and cross-country skiers.

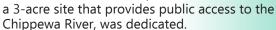
Executive Director Mike LeValley said the preserves welcomed an estimated 10,000 to 12,000 visitors in 2020. The growth continued in 2021, reaching as high as 20,000 people exploring the preserves, which cover 640 acres.

"The increased usage means a lot more time maintaining properties to keep trails safe," LeValley said. "We used grant money from the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation to increase signage. It's been a great amount of support. We strive to use the grants to keep the preserves accessible and well maintained."

One grant allowed the CWC to upgrade office technology. Another provided tools and equipment, including a generator. Foundation grants to CWC since 1997 have totaled \$89,521.

In 2022, the CWC opened its first urban natural area, a 17-acre site adjacent to Chipp-A-Waters Park in

Mt. Pleasant. This Mill Pond Natural Area — Walter and Frances Bolle Preserve provides habitat for mammals, resident and migratory birds, reptiles, amphibians and insects. Also in 2022, the Szok Riverbend Preserve,



The CWC organizes events, such as wildflower walks and sunrise hikes. It depends on volunteers to help with the removal of invasive species, tree trimming and trail cleanup. Volunteers also organize the annual fall fundraiser.

Beyond the preserves, the CWC manages 39 conservation easements on private lands — agreements between the landowner and conservancy about how the land will be preserved. The agreements cover 4,695 acres in five counties, including 2,494 acres in Clare and 1,006 acres in Isabella.



## Tackling the growing food insecurity issue MPACF grants help soup kitchen provide meals to those in need

Food insecurity is a significant concern and more prevalent than ever in the Mount Pleasant area.

Isabella Community Soup Kitchen Executive Director Sara Schafer said their need doubled when the pandemic hit in 2020.

"Prior to the pandemic, the soup kitchen was serving on average 100 meals per day. That number now is around 200," Schafer said.

The Soup Kitchen has shared free meals since 1990 in a warm, safe environment, where all community members are welcome.

"Feeding people is a basic need. While Mt. Pleasant has support and resources, there are a lot of people who need our services," Schafer said.

Soup Kitchen leaders strive to cultivate relationships and collaborate with community service entities and businesses to support unmet nutritional needs. Their partnership with the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation is pivotal.





Since 2003, the Soup Kitchen has received 47 grants totaling nearly \$90,000 from a variety of endowment funds within the Foundation. The grants have supported operational costs such as food and supplies, a major remodel in 2019, the kitchen renovation in 2021, and upgrades to parking lot safety and security lighting.

"The Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation has been a huge support to us — a safety net," Schafer said. "When I began my position earlier this year, they were incredibly supportive and have made the process (of

applying for grants) easy and less intimidating. We are really lucky to have them."

Schafer said the Soup Kitchen always needs grants not only to supply meals, but to offset operational costs as well. For example, she hopes to secure grant funding in the future for an emergency generator.

"It is critical that we have the resources to help people in our community," Schafer said.

## From one generation to the next

## Harkins Family find great joy



Elizabeth, Christia and John Harkins grew up in Mt. Pleasant, often hearing from their parents how important it is to "give more than you get — in your community, in school and college, at work, and in your volunteering."

Today, they live hours away — Elizabeth (now Meade) in Virginia, Christia (now Hitesman) in Illinois, and John in Georgia. Yet they're euphoric about their role in determining which Isabella County organizations and initiatives will receive grants from the endowment their dad, Jack, started in honor of their mom, Connie.

Jack was a fifth-generation Mt. Pleasant resident and met Connie at Central Michigan University. After they married in 1965, they opted to stay and raise their family in Mt. Pleasant.

Jack worked at Lease Management, which operated oil wells for private, individual owners; he eventually became co-owner of the company.

When Connie passed away in 2009, Jack memorialized her life by creating the Harkins Community Fund through the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation. It is a donor-advised fund, which gave Jack, and now his and Connie's children, the ability to recommend grants from the fund.

Jack also served as a trustee of the foundation from 2015 until he passed away in 2019.

"Dad wanted us to stay connected to this community," Elizabeth said. "His love for this community was boundless."

Grants from the investment earnings of the Harkins Community Fund began in 2014. In eight years, more than \$190,000 has been awarded to a number of organizations and initiatives.

This spring, the siblings were thrilled to become lead sponsor of Give Local Isabella, a high-energy, 24-hour, online community-wide fundraising event hosted by the Foundation. Their \$30,000 funded prizes and matching dollars for 21 local nonprofits. (See related story.)

"Dad would have loved this!" Elizabeth said. "He would have wanted to be at all the events that day and would have wanted to talk with all of the organizations. For him, it would have been like going to CMU's best football game!"



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## in grantmaking

John said the grants give him and his sisters — and their parents' seven grandchildren — a way to stay connected to Mt. Pleasant from afar.

"And Give Local Isabella is a good way to touch a lot of different causes," John said. "The community knows what it needs; Give Local Isabella addresses those needs."

"Amanda Schafer (CEO) and the staff of the Community Foundation are an amazing resource," Christia said. "They know so much about the area's nonprofits and do a tremendous job ensuring endowment funds meet local needs."











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# Give Local Isabella generates more than \$80,000 for local nonprofits





Mark your calendars for 2023: The second Tuesday in May brings exciting energy and social media hype as Isabella County nonprofits engage in fun competition to engage their supporters.

Give Local Isabella, a 24-hour online crowdfunding celebration, generated \$82,399 this spring for 21 organizations that have endowment funds held by the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation.

Donations ranged from \$10 to \$3,000. When the clock struck midnight, more than 450 donations worth \$52,399 had been given during the second annual, MPACF-coordinated event.

Ten \$500 prizes also were awarded through competitions such as most donations between midnight and 2 a.m and most gifts from first-time donors. The Isabella Community Soup Kitchen won \$500 by participating in training webinars. MMI won \$500 by sharing Give Local information on Facebook. View a prize list at https://www.givelocalisabella.org/prizes.

Participating organizations also received \$25,000 in matching funds based on their percentage of total dollars raised.

Renaissance Public School Academy and Chippewa Watershed Conservancy raised the most, receiving 19% and 13% of the match pool, respectively. View the results at https://www.givelocalisabella.org/leaderboards.

The Jack and Connie Harkins family generously provided the prize and matching dollars from their donoradvised Harkins Community Fund at the Foundation. (See related story.)

"The Harkins are role models of giving back," Foundation CEO/COO Amanda Schafer said. "They have huge hearts for our community and residents. Thank you so much, Harkins family!

"Give Local Isabella combines the power of donors and power of endowments. This is why the Community Foundation exists," she said.

Give where you live!









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## The Potters House Family Worship Center Fund



Vicki Travis has been a member of The Potters House Family Worship Center, a non-denominational fellowship, since 1998. It is where you'll find her closest friends, whom she considers family.

That's why, when Travis wanted to designate money to causes close to her heart, The Potters House was an easy choice. She established The Potters House Family Worship Center Fund in April 2022 to help church leaders carry out their role and mission and to empower their ministry for generations to come.

"This is a way to bless the church with monetary donations but also to encourage others to give back," Travis said. "I wanted to set up a fund that can accept contributions from others who also have been positively impacted by The Potters House."

The Potters House was established in 1986 and serves residents of Isabella County. It unites a diverse, charismatic body of believers pursuing the purposes of God through worship and other gatherings, prayer groups, life groups, seminars and conferences, ministry opportunities, and short-term mission trips.

Travis is a lifelong resident of Shepherd.

## Thomas A. Wittkopp Fund

When he approached the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation about establishing a fund to help fellow community members, Thomas Wittkopp wanted to focus on health care and wellness but was intrigued by the breadth of a Community Impact Fund.

The Thomas A. Wittkopp Fund, established in November 2021, may likely address health care and wellness but is designed to help those faced with any unforeseen circumstances.

"Donations have the most impact on community needs in situations that are often unforeseen," Wittkopp said. "The COVID epidemic is a great example; we never foresaw COVID until it hit us, then everyone had to gear up and many needed assistance."

Wittkopp's community impact fund makes grants to charitable programs, services or projects that help address the ever-changing needs of Isabella County residents. "This fund is spread across several community services and can help people of all ages," he said.

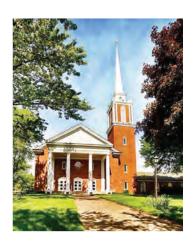
Wittkopp resides in Crystal, Michigan, in Montcalm County, but worked in Isabella County for several years. His support extends across the two counties and will soon expand into Gratiot County as well, where he also lived and worked.



## First Presbyterian Church Fund

In October 2021, Jim and Marilyn Bidwell created the First Presbyterian Church Fund in honor of the 150th anniversary of the establishment of the church, of which they have been members for 55 years. The endowment fund is designed to provide support to the First Presbyterian Church of Mt. Pleasant, Michigan to carry out its role and mission according to its governing documents.

Their pastor, Andrew Miller wrote, "First Presbyterian Church, Mt. Pleasant MI (FPCMP) was established in 1871. As a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), we do not see ourselves as a building but as a group of diverse people who are a part of the body of Christ. FPCMP glorifies God through meaningful worship, music, and service. We strive to shape disciples of Jesus Christ through a variety of Christian formation and fellowship opportunities for all ages.



Outreach is also an important part of the life of FPCMP as we put our faith into action. A few ways that we do inward and outward outreach is hosting the Isabella Child Development Center, Classics at the Presby, Isabella County Restoration House, and AA. Additionally, we serve and support the Isabella Community Soup Kitchen, Community Compassion Network, The Care Store, and Vowles Elementary School. As we live out God's Word, FPCMP has, and will continue to, look outward as we, part of the body of Christ, build relationships with groups and agencies throughout the community."

## Humane Animal Treatment Society (HATS) Fund



The Humane Animal Treatment Society (HATS) Fund was established to support the animal welfare services they provide in our community, both for homeless pets and for community members and their beloved companion animals. This endowment fund will support their mission to empower the community to support the compassionate treatment of all animals.

In 1999, HATS was founded by a small group of dedicated, animal-loving volunteers that came together with a common goal: to save the lives of countless homeless animals in Isabella County. Over the course of the next two decades, that small group would transform into a

powerful team of board members, staff members, volunteers, donors, foster homes and supporters that worked tirelessly to combat companion animal overpopulation, promote animal adoption, and provide quality care and safe housing for the homeless pets at the Isabella County Animal Shelter.



With a renovated shelter and a new veterinary clinic, HATS is able to safely care for hundreds of homeless pets each year, along with providing thousands of low-cost sterilization surgeries for community members. Because of generous community support, HATS has increased adoptions and drastically reduced euthanasia reaching "no-kill" status, and they continue to educate the public on animal welfare issues and offer support services to community pet-owners.

As HATS heads full force into a brighter future for companion animals, it sets its sights on further reducing shelter intakes, increasing long-lasting adoptions, providing low-cost medical services to community pet owners, helping other shelters in greater need, and combating the massive population of unowned community cats in order to increase the quality of human and feline life.

The support of this fund will help tremendously in accomplishing future goals for compassionate animal care in the community by helping save lives, reducing unnecessary suffering and increasing the quality of life of humans and animals alike!

## Isabella County Restoration House Fund

The Isabella County Restoration House opened in 2012 to provide temporary shelter and empower a pathway to self-sufficiency for people experiencing homelessness in Isabella County. Recently, an endowment fund was created to provide support and help carry out ICRH's mission.

ICRH began as a seasonal, rotating shelter that relied mostly on volunteers. Each week, a different church site would welcome guests in the evening and serve as a warm, safe place until the next morning. Now, the organization also coordinates a seasonal day shelter in Isabella County. The staff at ICRH works to connect those experiencing homelessness with local resources to meet immediate personal needs and with a path to greater independence.

The Isabella County Restoration House and staff also work to advocate for a solution to homelessness in Isabella County. Through the power of endowment, this fund held by the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation will help ICRH continue its mission.





## Jim and Joan Hornak Family Christian Counseling Fund

As a counselor at Midland Bullock Creek Schools, then as a counselor and professor at Central Michigan University, Joan Hornak saw the difference her profession makes. After she retired from CMU, she went to work part-time at Christian Counseling of Mid Michigan (CCMM).



"No one is turned away," Joan said. "As a consequence of the pandemic, demand for counseling has skyrocketed, and we are seeing so many more children as well as adults. I deeply admire what is happening at CCMM — the dedication and love for clients."

The Jim and Joan Hornak Family Christian Counseling Fund, new in 2022, assists CCMM in continuing to serve everyone, including those who are limited financially. The family's desire is to help assure affordable counseling remains available for years to come.

Both Jim and Joan have endowed funds in their names at CMU to help students. The Hornak Family Christian Counseling Fund, though the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation, is an extension of their giving.

The fund reminds Joan how she made it through college when an anonymous family friend provided financial help at a critical time.

"That action changed my life," she said. "When someone is in financial crisis, it's meaningful to me to help them."

## Gene A. Kunst Gold Star Family Scholarship Fund



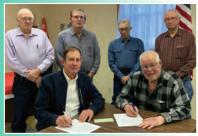
Terry and Diane Kunst are longtime supporters of many charitable organizations in our local community, particularly those associated with veterans. In December 2021, they established an endowment fund in memory of Terry's brother Gene, who served his country valiantly in the Vietnam War.

Gene is memorialized on both the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington DC and Island Park Vietnam Memorial in Mt. Pleasant. "The grief and sadness felt by so many loved ones are overwhelming, each one matters. We were honored to meet a Vietnam Veteran one day at the wall who was there the day the attack happened and narrowly escaped with his life," said Terry and Diane Kunst.

Gene was the eldest son in a family of five children and grew up in Blanchard, attending Montabella Schools during his high school years. The Gene A. Kunst Gold Star Family Scholarship Fund will support graduates of Montabella High School with financial need who intend to pursue careers in the skilled trades.

## Rosebush Veterans Community Fund

Assets of the Rosebush Veterans Club have grown significantly since the group started in the 1950s. And no matter what happens to the club in the future, members have taken action to ensure its property and financial resources benefit the Rosebush community in perpetuity.



The Rosebush Veterans Community Fund was established in 2021. Each year, earnings from the endowment will go to initiatives and activities in the Rosebush area. Club Finance Officer Jim McConnell said the possibilities are endless, depending on what residents and community leaders need.

"It could be something for the parks, the township or village, fireworks, a Christmas party at Rosebush Manor, something for our Memorial Day Service or for military funerals," McConnell said. "It's up to the community to be creative."

"It's nice to live someplace where there's strong community spirit," he said. "Most club members are lifelong residents here. We want to ensure, even when we are no longer around, that our nearly 70 years of assets always benefit the Rosebush community."

## Jim and Marilyn Bidwell Fund for Basic Human Needs

The Jim and Marilyn Bidwell Fund for Basic Human Needs was established in October of 2021. The fund will support the efforts of organizations in Isabella County meeting basic human needs, including but not limited to food, clothing and shelter. Thanks to the Bidwells, an example is being set for legacy giving through the establishment of their endowment.



Jim and Marilyn have been perennial fixtures in the Mt. Pleasant community for more than 50 years. Jim is a retired CMU faculty member and Marilyn is a CMU alumna, a retired elementary school teacher, and a life member of the League of Women Voters. They are both charter members of Art Reach and Friends of the Library, in addition to being supporters of Chippewa Watershed Conservancy, Morey Cancer Center, and the Humane Animal Treatment Society.

## Sherman C. and Shirley J. Rowley Family Fund



The Sherman and Shirley Rowley Family Fund is a community impact fund to support the efforts of charitable organizations in Isabella County. Sherman and Shirley married on March 4, 1973 in Lansing, Michigan. They moved their small but growing family to Mt. Pleasant in December 1979.

Sherm worked for Stinson Helms, then Helms Funeral Home as a Licensed Funeral Director for over 30 years. In July 2010, he and Shirley purchased it and changed the name to Rowley Funeral Home. Shirley was an LPN and worked at the Medical Care Facility for 5 years, became a Registered Nurse and then worked 28 years at Central Michigan Community Hospital—now known as McLaren Central Michigan. She worked on the Mental Health Unit and Obstetric Unit with new moms and babies, which was her passion. Sherm was active in Kiwanis for 43 years, helping with the Special Olympics Carnival and could also be found playing a kangaroo to pass out dictionaries in local elementary schools. He also was a proud and active board member in the Isabella Community Soup Kitchen, Pardee Cancer Fund, John H. Goodrow Fund, and Christmas Outreach. He loved to give

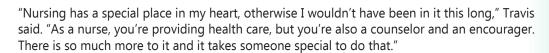
back to his community by volunteering. He had a love for woodworking and could often be found building things in his own workshop. He helped to build pavilions for the Boy Scouts and floats and props for MPHS Marching Band for several years.

Sherm and Shirley have three children; Sarah, Ann, and Jacob, who all chose to marry and stay in the Mt. Pleasant area to raise their families. The funds from the Sherman and Shirley Rowley Family Fund will continue to impact our community for future years.

## Vicki L. Travis Nursing Scholarship Fund

Vicki Travis of Shepherd graduated from high school on a Friday and began her career as a nurse the following Monday. That was more than 50 years ago and she's still impacting people's lives through health care.

Her love for her career led her to establish the Vicki L. Travis Nursing Scholarship Fund in April 2022. It will provide educational funding to an aspiring nurse each year.



The demand for nurses is great, and Travis encourages those who have a passion for it to give it a try.

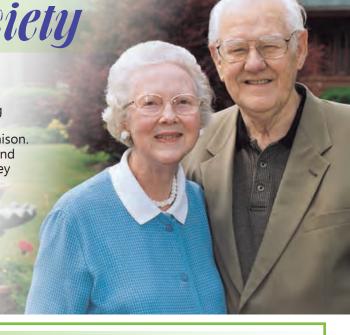
"If people say they may want to go into nursing, I encourage them to do so and share with them things I've learned over the years," Travis said. "It takes a special person to be a nurse, and, through this fund, I can give back to someone who is interested in going into the field."



Denison Legacy Society

The Denison Legacy Society recognizes those who have named the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation as the beneficiary of any type of planned or deferred gift. These gifts are arranged during a donor's lifetime but take place only after a donor has died, creating a permanent resource in our community. The Legacy Society was established to honor community members like Rollie and Olga Denison. They gave so bountifully to our community during their lifetimes, and continue to do so now and forever because of the planned gifts they made to endowment funds held by the Community Foundation.

To join this esteemed group, arrange for a planned or deferred gift to the Community Foundation for an existing or new endowment fund. You decide the type of gift, the amount or percentage to be gifted, and the cause or causes in our local community to be supported. Visit mpacf.org for more information about planned giving options. To request a planned giving guide, or to discuss how you want your gift to benefit our community, please contact CEO/COO Amanda Schafer.



## Legacy Society Members

as of June 30, 2022

**Anonymous** \*Barbara Bissot Sue and John Bradac \*Mary Ellen Brandell Mary Ann and Howard Breuer \*Gerald C. Carter \*Donna J. and \*W. Larry Collins Joneil and William Cook \*Melva K. Covne Mary Elizabeth and Timothy Curtiss Patricia and Mark Cwiek \*Olga and \*G.R. (Rollie) Denison Sarah Douglas Barbara and George Dunn \*Betty and \*J. Dean Eckersley \*Ada Jean and Norman C. Eifler Jena Eisenberger Evangeline and James Fabiano Julie and Kurt Feight \*Rose Marie Fisher Cheryl and Steve Gaudard James Goodrich

Marie K. Green Cindv Hales

\*Connie and \*Jack Harkins \*Velma and \*I.W. "Bucky" Hartman

Phyllis and Dykstra J. Heinze

\*Idonea Hersee

Donna and David Hinks

\*Sally and \*James Hodgins

Ronald Hodgson

Janice L. and G. Charles Hubscher Catherine and Robert Janson

Ann and John Jensen Kathy and Alan Johns \*Marilyn and L.A. Johns Linda and Albert Kaufmann Sue and Dave Keilitz Karen and J. David Kerr \*Maredda Magnus Eleanor and William Martin Deborah and Steven Martineau Louise and Bill McCracken \*Jane McNamara Elizabeth Miller and Bruce LaPointe Linda Morey

Lon Morey Marilyn and Jerry Morey

Dianne and Mike Morey

Pamela H. and William C. Myler, Jr.

Dorothy and Mick Natzel

Virginia Nelson

Laura and Tad Richards Eileen and Bill Rush

Amanda A. Schafer

**Donald Schuster** 

**Doris Sherwood** 

\*Kay Smith

Shelly and Mark Smith

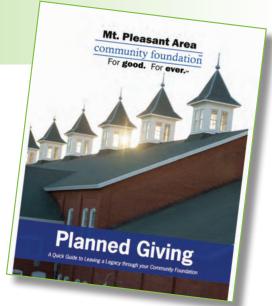
Dr. Martha L. Smith

Judith French and W. Sidney Smith

Gertrude A. and Samuel W. Staples Naomi and Jim Stark

Nolan Stilgenbauer

Janet Maar and \*William Strickler



Judith D. and Thomas R. Sullivan \*Nancy L. Theisen E. Diane Tope \*Elizabeth and \*Andrew Tschappat Charles Walmsley Gerald R. Watson Maurine and Bob Weisenburger \*Sally and \*Jack Weisenburger \*Louise Williams Carol and Jim Wojcik Terrie and Mark Zitzelsberger

\*deceased

## 2021 Gifts In Memory

Charlie Anthony Michael Anton Mark W. Beard Ruth Benjamin-Utter Mamba Bennett Justine Bernard Virgie Bigard Tyler Bill Matthew J. Boles Carl Boog

Mary Ellen Brandell

Richard and Mary Ellen Brandell

Richard Brandell

Norma Ilene Gilmore Brien

Margie Bristol Gary Brown Pablo G. Calderon Nancy J. Carey Rex Carsalot

Dr. Ray and Kay Chamberlain

Larry Collins William Collison

Ronald and Donna Cooper

Carolynn Cosan Janice Cotter Nancy Cotter Dawn Doublet Dreamer

Thomas J. Endres James Dale Ervin Beverly Feight Rose Marie Fisher C. Fitzpatrick

Bill Foster

Art Fountain

Neill Franks Ruth Fransted Henry Fulton Ethel J. Gallagher Grant Gauld Norman J. Geasler Mak'yo George-Dye Georgia Grace Grandma Joe James Grashaw Dawn Gray John Gross

Raymond Gross Christopher D. Gruss Harold Gruss Jason Gruss Chloe Hampton Michael Handlin Marie Hardy

Alice Helms Russ Herron

The Hersee Family Floyd and Peg Heydenburg Margaret "Peg" Hicks

Howard P. Himes Stephen Holder Barbara Ann Ingram

Steve Inman

Jake the Golden Retriever Adalynn Mae Jessen

Marilyn Johns

Bonna Kay Crawford Johnson

Justice

John and Rosemary Kasel Albert and Louise Kaufmann, Sr. Ann M. Keenan Anna Marie Klumpp Kenneth Kopke

Harold and Marie Krapohl Robert and Geraldine Krapohl

Gene A. Kunst Mark Langlois Phil Langlois Aaron Jacob Latham Tove Lavagnino Penny Lezan Lou Mantho

Mildred Mak'yo Marshall

Vivian Marston Darlys McCarthy Jonny McCarthy Kathleen McIntosh Ed McQuaid Matt Mertz Paul Moeggenberg

Mom

Mom and Dad George Moreno Michael Boyd Morey

Mother Joe Nelson Amy Otteman

Leonard and Louise Plachta

Gary Rau Jeff Reedy Ron and Ingrid Roed Terry Lee Ross

Timothy Ross Casee Loomis Sackett

Julia Sauter

Bonnie Lou Schaeffer Harv and Marge Schafer Harvey J. "Harv" Schafer Kyle Robert Schafer Marjorie Christine Schafer

Tom Shepard Jean A. Shepherd Kara Shirley Kay Krapohl Smith

Bernice "Bun" (Karcher) Snyder

Cathy Springstead

Harold W. and Nancy J. Stegman

Valerie Stephens

Gary, Nancy and Cindy Stilgenbauer

Robert (Bobby) Sullivan Joseph Sweeney Suzi Tengen Shirley Totten Mike Tuma Mike Turner

Dr. Carolyn Van Cleave

Ervin Vogel Janice Vogel Dorothy Warden Doris Watson Tommy Watson

Sue Ann and Ollie Watters Sally Weisenburger Ruth Wentworth Andy Wheeler

Joanne Witte Duane J. Wonsey John Zeien

Bonnie Lou Zingery

## 2021 Gifts In Honor

Auntie Ev Tom Bailey Janice Barnett Glen Blystone Norma Gilmore Brien

Eunice Burgess Blake Buzard

CMU Alumni

Cris and Gail Cone

Nicole (Butcher) Crawford

Norman Eifler Jeff and Cam Ellis Ganiard School Project Kristina Rose Garafalo Carole Heydenburg Elizabeth Husbands Linda Kaufmann

Dr. Thomas and Jayne Keating

Bart and Sarah LaBelle Michael Libbee

Lucille

Tim and Dave Maness

Beth Miller

Jerry and Marilyn Morey

MPACF staff, board, and volunteers Mt. Pleasant High School Class of 1959 Mt. Pleasant High School Class of 1965

My children, grands and greats

Jack Never The Olson Family Jodie Percha **Bob Peters** 

Abbie Powell, YAC Secretary

Renaissance Public School Academy teachers

and staff

Amanda Schafer Kristin Sheridan Debbie Skinner Judy Smith

Mark, Shelly, Alec, Sam and Hayden Smith

Joseph Sowmick Laura (Butcher) Stadtfeld

Jan Strickler Christie Thielen Thrift Shop Volunteers

Heidi Tracy Mary Ann Tuma Bob and Nancy Wheeler

Nancy Wheeler Val Wolters

YAC and YAC Advisors Mary Lu Yardley

Youth Advisory Committee

## 2022 Scholarships

The Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation (MPACF) awarded 102 scholarships totaling \$139,500 to local students in 2022. The endowment funds generating these scholarships were established by individuals, businesses, and organizations that want to help local students pursue their educational goals. Each scholarship is unique and reflects the values and interests of those who established it. Most of the scholarships support high school students planning to attend an accredited college, university or trade school in the fall. The scholarships also empower students to gain the skills and experiences to better serve their community.

#### Recipients:

#### Christopher John Andera Memorial Scholarship

Oliver Ettinger

**Art Scholarship** 

**Avery Gibbs** 

Blystone & Bailey CPAs Scholarship
Hillary Prout

Matthew J. Boles Memorial Scholarship Sophia Lewis

#### Keisha Y. Brown Angel Wings Scholarship

Elizabeth Herron • Anna Terwilliger Peyton Updegraff

Nancy Carey Memorial Scholarship

Kaitlyn Brennan

## Joyce and Gerry Carter Memorial Scholarship

Sophia Watters

Donna J. and W. Larry Collins/ GFWC Scholarship

Sara Peltier

Carolynn Cosan Memorial Scholarship

Kiersten Judge

**Denison Family Scholarship**Brody Riesberg

Susan K. & Ďouglas Ĕ. Dodge Scholarship

Haley Bendele

C. Jane (Dubay) & Dwight D. Dodge Memorial Scholarship

Linzi Wiley

Richard C. Dubay Memorial Scholarship Hanna Fiting

Brenda Echelbarger Memorial Scholarship

Amanda Sinclair

**J. Dean Eckersley Scholarship**Calvin Keyes

Governor John Engler Scholarship

Evan Devenney

Feight Family Business Scholarship

Dana Hayes

Ganiard History Project Scholarship

Abbie Dziuk • Kennedy Gurski Mackenzie Millard

Garland-Schilling Scholarship
Greenlee Jones

Goenner Family Scholarship
Elizabeth Henson

Emerson W. Green Memorial Scholarship

Darren Flannery

Earl G. Hartman, Sr. and Caroline Millar Hartman Scholarship

Riley Hacker • Madison Munley

Jim Hartman Study Abroad Scholarship

Camille Weindorf

Phyllis A. Heinze Mathematics Education Scholarship Kelly Ryan

James R. Hodgins Memorial Scholarship

Nola Boyle • Kelsey McDonald Isabella Bank Scholarship

Kathlyn Allmacher • Samantha Farnum Lydia Grossnickle • Macey Novak

Carlie Peterman • Trista Perkins Malarie Pinwar • Sarah Storey

Konnor Wilson • Grace Wolf

## Isabella Community Credit Union Members' Scholarship

Max Evans • Carly Judge Nicholas Papenfus

Isabella County Retired School
Personnel Scholarship
Logan Pritchard

Robert A. and Catherine A.
Janson Scholarship
Javlinn Johnson

John P. and Ann S. Jensen Scholarship

Esme Bailey

Dr. Thomas M. & Jayne Keating Scholarship

Natalie Jones

Carol Huber Konwinski and Jerel Konwinski Scholarship

Laura Goenner

Konwinski Construction Scholarship

**Hunter Conner** 

Harold and Marie Krapohl Scholarship

James Backus

Thomas W. Lavoie Memorial Scholarship

Paige Antcliff

Scholarship

Paige Walters

Herbert H. Lueth Scholarship

Madison Arens • Kaylynn Budreau Carra Eagen

Kasey Wallace • Chassadee Winters

Maness Family Scholarship Erica Brown • Breanna Onstott

Martin Family Scholarship

Morgan Conner • Annabelle Smith

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James D. and Karen A. McConnell Family Scholarship

Matilda Graham

McGuirk/Ganiard West Side School Scholarship

Jayde Harnick • Lindsay Uzarski

Scottie Miller Memorial Special Education Scholarship

Maddison McBride

Mercantile Bank of Michigan Scholarship

Taylor Cotter • Karlie Misenhelder Alice Roberson • Logan Romatz

Gary Moe Memorial Scholarship
Maggie Murphy

Michael and Dianne Morey Manufacturing Skilled Trades Scholarship

Lyra Brown

Norval Morey Leadership Scholarship

Logan Loya-Magallanes

Mt. Pleasant High School "Class of 1959" Legacy Scholarship

Quentin Couturier • Hunter Maxon Carter Norris

Mt. Pleasant High School "Class of 1965" Scholarship

Hailey Burrows

Robert F. Murray & Company CPA's Scholarship

Kaylee Bushong

Myler Family Scholarship

**Delaney Scully** 

Jason Parrott Scholarship Rylee Fike

Leonard E. and Louise A. Plachta Scholarship

Emma Koch dy Memorial Schola

Jeff Reedy Memorial Scholarship Logan Loya-Magallanes

> Mt. Pleasant Rotary Club Scholarship

Cade Block • Carly Dole

George and Frances P. Rouman Mental Health Education Scholarship

Clarrissa Klein

Kenneth and Hilda Schmeck Memorial Nursing Scholarship Vanessa Lapham

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Tara Sexton



## Permanently Endowed Funds of the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation

Gifts to the following funds will be invested, and the return on investments will be used to award grants and scholarships that benefit the residents of Isabella County...now and forever!

**Community Impact Funds:** 

The following funds were established to make annual grants to charitable programs, services or projects that help address the ever-changing needs of Isabella County residents.

Community Impact Fund Andy Wheeler Community Needs Fund **Bandit Industries Community Fund** Barbara A. Bissot Fund Barbara L. and George W. Dunn Family Fund **Bovee Family Fund** David B. and Susan K. Keilitz Family Fund **Denison Unrestricted Fund** Dr. Leonard E. and Louise A. Plachta Unrestricted Fund Elizabeth Z. Miller and Bruce H. LaPointe Community Needs Fund Fabiano Family Fund Fisher Companies Community Impact Fund G. Charles and Janice L. Hubscher Fund Hersee Family Fund Howard P. Himes Fund

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#### Field of Interest Funds:

The following funds were established to target support at specific areas of community life as defined by their founders.

Access to Recreation Fund Autism Advantage Fund Brewster Family Access to Recreation Fund Connor J. Puhlman Memorial Fund for Youth Darlene Bond Memorial Youth Fund Eunice A. Sutherland Burgess Fund for Youth Gilmore Family Fund for Youth Glen and Kathy Blystone Learn to Swim Fund Healthy Youth/Healthy Seniors Fund Isabella County Health Improvement Fund James and Marilyn Bidwell Fund for

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Women's Initiative Fund

#### **Donor Advised Funds:**

The following funds were established to make grants according to the charitable interests of their

Bob and Nancy Wheeler Fund for Scouting Boge Family Fund

Carnel Chamberlain Memorial Fund Central Michigan Veteran's Endowment Fund Cindy E. Hales Fund

Coyne Family Fund

Feight Community Improvement Fund Gail E. Gorton Women in Sports Fund Gladys and Donald Mitchell Family Fund Harkins Community Fund

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James Dale Ervin Memorial Fund

Lon Morey Family Fund McGuirk Family Fund Mid-Michigan Chapter of Safari Club International Fund Morey Foundation Fund Mt. Pleasant Jaycees Fund Olson Family Fund Optimist Club of Mt. Pleasant Fund Paula Arndt Women's Fund Richard and Adonna Kennedy Memorial Fund Richard and Mary Barz Family Fund Rise Family Fund Shamrock Invitational Fund Stegman Fund Thomas R. and Judith D. Sullivan Fund Thompson-Blackmer VFW Post 4106 Community Fund Tim and Teresa Coscarelly Family Fund Tumbl Track Fund for Youth Fitness W. E. Martin Fund W. Sidney and Judith French Smith Community Fund Wybenga Family Fund

Organization/Designated Funds:

Zitzelsberger Family Fund

The following funds were established by an organization, individual or family to support the operational, administrative and programming costs of their designated organizations.

Amy Otteman Nursing Education Fund Art Reach of Mid-Michigan Fund Beal City Public Schools Education Foundation Fund

Bill and Dolores Myler Hospice House Fund Bill and Janet Maar Strickler

Hospice House Fund Bob and Jeanne Long Hospice House Fund Brattin Memorial Art Fund Breast and Cervical Cancer Fund Charles E. Anthony Leadership Fund Chippewa Watershed Conservancy Fund Chris Maniteau Memorial Wrestling Fund Community Cancer Services Fund Community Compassion Network Fund Continuum Homelessness Grant Fund

Dave and Sue Keilitz Family MCM Fund Dennis and Sandra Olson Hospice House Fund Dick and Mary Ellen Brandell Family

Hospice House Fund Dyke and Phyllis Heinze Conservation Fund **Eckersley Library Fund** Ed and Marcia Schmidt Memorial Fund First Presbyterian Church Fund Friends of the Broadway Fund Friends of the Library Fund Greg Baderschneider Memorial Fund Hersee House Maintenance Fund

Hopewell Ranch Fund
Hospice of Central Michigan Fund
Humane Animal Treatment Society Fund
Isabella Child Development Center Fund
Isabella Citizens for Health Fund
Isabella Community Soup Kitchen Fund
Isabella County Commission on Aging Fund
Isabella County First Responders Fund
Isabella County Restoration House Fund
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Life Choices of Central Michigan Parenting Program Fund

Listening Ear Child Sexual Abuse Treatment Fund

Listening Ear's Consumer Needs and Dreams Fund

Listening Ear Crisis Center Fund
Lon Morey Family Hospice House Fund
McCracken Family Fund
McLaren Central Michigan Fund
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Renaissance Public School Academy Fund
Richard Brandell and Joseph Sweeney
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Ridley Leadership Fund

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Library Fund Youth Health and Fitness Fund

#### **Scholarship Funds:**

The following funds were established to provide scholarships in accordance with the guidelines set by the donors who established them.

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## Special Project Funds of the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation

Temporary, non-endowed funds established to support special projects.

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