

Girls on the Run Granted \$20,000 from Community Foundation

MT. PLEASANT- Mich. – The Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation gave out one of its largest grants on Wednesday, November 7, to Girls on the Run of Central Michigan. During the Women's Initiative annual Look Who's Talking Speaker Series luncheon, Girls on the Run of Central Michigan was awarded \$20,000 from eight funds within the Community Foundation.



The \$20,000 grant was made possible by several funds. The Kellogg Youth Fund was established in 1993 to benefit the young people of Isabella County. The Shepherd Community Fund was established in 1998 to support programs in the Shepherd community. The Women's Initiative Fund was founded in 2003 to provide for the needs of women and girls in

Isabella County. Five unrestricted funds also contributed: the Bandit Industries Community Fund, the Barbara A. Bissot Fund, the Fabiano Family Fund, the Hersee Family Fund, and the Jane McNamara & Louise Williams Fund.

This year's Look Who's Talking luncheon featured Girls on the Run founder Molly Barker. Barker created the organization in 1996 as a way to help girls recognize their extraordinary potential and thrive in a world that often sends young women unhealthy and unrealistic messages.

Girls on the Run of Central Michigan is one of 188 councils nationally and one of 20 councils in Michigan. In 2011, approximately 100,000 girls participated in Girls on the Run throughout the country. Girls on the Run of Central Michigan will use the Community Foundation grant to help fund tuition scholarships to Isabella County girls for the 2013 season. Tuition covers the ten-week curriculum, running shoes, two program t-shirts, 5K registration, and finishing medal. During the 2012 season, Girls on the Run of Central Michigan served nearly 700 girls between the ages of eight and thirteen. The program is active in every school district in Isabella, Gratiot, and Clare counties.