



OUR
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

2017 SPECIAL REPORT
& 2016 Annual Report

C a p i t a l R e g i o n C o m m u n i t y F o u n d a t i o n



330 Marshall Street | Suite 300 | Lansing, MI 48912
(517) 272-2870 | ourcommunity.org

A Letter from our Leadership

As we mark our 30th anniversary, we celebrate our Community Foundation's transformation.



If you noticed our new logo on the cover, you may have suspected our Community Foundation has made some significant changes recently. After a year of strategic planning, we have transformed our grantmaking to make a bigger impact with our nonprofit partners, and have expanded our leadership role in the economic development of the Capital Region.

We are most proud of the remarkable grantmaking changes we've made this year. Launching our first "capacity building" program, we're supporting 18 nonprofit partners to strengthen their infrastructure through fundraising training, board and staff development, strategic planning and much more. At the same time, we raised the bar with our "Impact Grants," awarding a record number of larger grants to support projects that will truly move the needle in our communities. In total, we awarded nearly \$1 million this year for capacity building and impact projects, and those grantees are highlighted in this report. In addition, we expect to grant approximately \$3 million this year from funds that support specific charities and causes.

Within the broad economic development arena, our Community Foundation recognized that we are in a unique position to play a leadership role in building vibrant communities to attract and retain the talent so critical to our workforce. Currently we are leading several "placemaking" initiatives in our region's urban core. By reimagining and investing in public spaces like riverfronts and parks and the activities within them, our Community Foundation will create the kind of vibrant communities in which people want to live and work. You can read more about our placemaking work on pages 15 and 16.

Since 1987, our Community Foundation has improved countless lives in the tri-county area by matching individual donors with causes that speak to their passions, and turning those passions into grants that support local nonprofits. We are proud of the trust we have established with our donors and with professional advisors who confidently refer their clients to our Community Foundation. We look forward to our continued partnership with each one of you, and we invite new partners to join us as we transform the possibilities of our region into vibrant realities.

Dennis Fliehm
President & CEO

Christina Ferland
2016 Board Chair

Joe E. Pray
2017 Board Chair

Table of Contents

Donor Services

Six Reasons Donors Partner with Us.....	1
Find the Fund for You.....	2
For Professional Advisors.....	3-4
Legacy Society.....	5-6

Nonprofit Support

Agency Fundholders.....	7-8
New Capacity Building Program.....	9-10
Record Number of Impact Grants.....	11
2017 Impact Grants.....	12
2016 Impact Grants.....	13
Youth Action Committee Grants.....	14

Leadership Projects

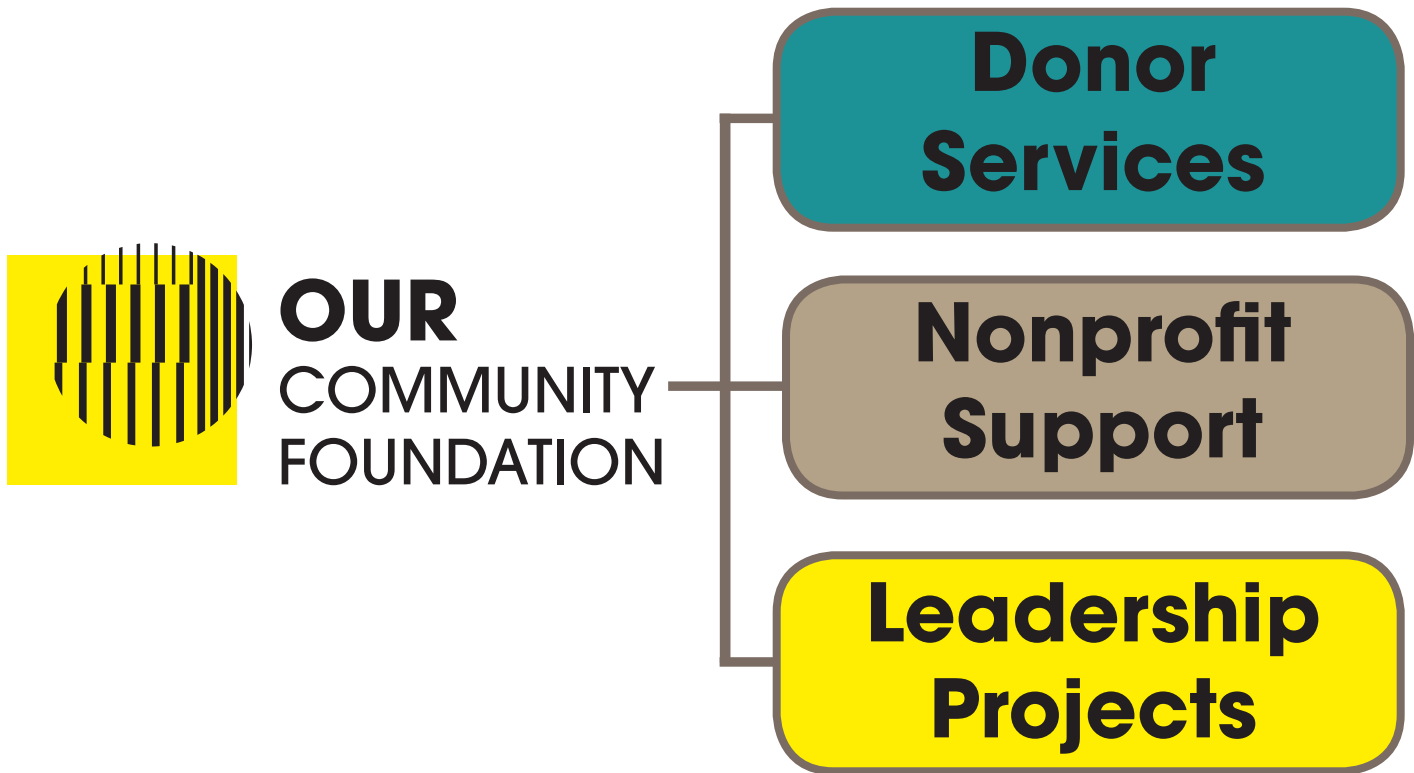
Placemaking.....	15-16
------------------	-------

2016 Annual Report

2016 Audited Financial Report.....	17
2016 By the Numbers.....	18
2017 Board of Trustees and Staff.....	19-20

How to Read This Report

You will notice colored ribbons running along the top of the pages within this report. These will help guide your reading so you know which of our areas of focus corresponds to the content on the page.



Who We Are

Our Community Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public charity, established in 1987 by the community, for the community. We are governed by a volunteer Board of Trustees and have seven full-time and two part-time dedicated staff members who are passionate about our community. We are located in the Marshall Street Armory in Lansing.

What We Do

The mission of the Capital Region Community Foundation is to serve the charitable needs and enhance the quality of life in Ingham, Clinton and Eaton counties. The Community Foundation's three priorities are donor services, nonprofit support and strategic projects to make our region vibrant. We currently manage over 400 named funds and hold over \$90 million in assets.

Six Reasons Donors Partner with Us

1. Creative and Easy Ways to Give

We offer abundant choices to make current gifts, deferred gifts and gifts that provide you with income. We will work with you and your professional advisor to identify your best giving option.

2. Maximum Tax Benefits

Your contributions qualify for the maximum allowable deduction for income, gift and estate tax purposes.

3. Strong Investment Stewardship

Your gift will be placed in our highly diversified asset pool, benefiting from the guidance of experienced professional investment managers. **As of June 30, 2017 our annualized rate of return over the last five years has been 8.6%, net of all investment management fees.**

4. Leaving Your Legacy

Through an endowment fund at the Community Foundation, your gifts work to benefit the causes you care about, today and forever.

5. Leadership and Community Knowledge

Our staff is familiar with the challenges and opportunities in Ingham, Clinton and Eaton counties. We can help you make the most informed decisions possible about your giving.

6. Recognition or Anonymity

The Community Foundation appreciates the generosity of our donors! Stories of charitable giving can inspire others to give, although anonymity is also available for donors who prefer that option.

Find the Fund for You

The key to having a rewarding philanthropic experience is finding the best fit for your charitable priorities, goals and personal preferences. Our Community Foundation offers a variety of fund types so you can select the option that matches your needs. How will you make an impact in our community?

Leadership Fund

To support our Community Foundation's strategic initiatives, proactive grants and related Community Foundation capacity needs.

Community's Endowment

Undesignated fund to support charitable projects and activities that best meet the community's current needs.

Donor-Advised Fund

Eliminate the cost and work of a private foundation. You focus on giving to nonprofits of your choosing; we take care of the paperwork.

Field of Interest Fund

Concentrate your giving on a particular issue or geographic area such as ending hunger, protecting the environment or supporting the arts. We direct your giving to the nonprofits addressing your concerns.

Designated Fund

Support your charitable organizations of choice.

Underground of Good

Donations and grant recommendations for this fund come from a giving circle of young professionals who wish to invest in their community to help it thrive today and forever.

...or start a special fund!

An example of a special fund through our Community Foundation is the newly established "Someone's Watching Over Me" fund, started by a donor to help meet immediate needs of individuals in crisis. Nonprofits that work with these individuals contact the Community Foundation to advise us on who might benefit from the fund's distributions.

“ I feel our family has been truly blessed, due to a combination of hard work and faith in God. It has been a family tradition to set aside a portion of our earnings to help those less fortunate than ourselves. My father taught me that sometimes helping someone in seemingly small ways at a point of transition (divorce, death of a spouse, turning from drugs or alcohol) can change lives for generations. For a long time I had a vision of starting a fund to help others in an anonymous way, yet make it tax deductible so that more people could be helped. From time to time I would work on my idea, but ran into roadblocks.

One day I told my friends at the Community Foundation of my dream, and they talked through the logistics, helped me set up a plan, and showed me how this could work. The paperwork was simple, and soon I was in a position to not only help others right away, but also to set up a plan to continue the work after I am no longer around. If you have a charitable dream, I encourage you to let the Community Foundation show you how to make that dream a reality. **”**

New Donor-Advised Fundholder

For Professional Advisors

When estate planners and tax advisors partner with the Community Foundation, they get the benefit of our in-depth knowledge of our region's nonprofit landscape. When their clients give through the Community Foundation, they have the benefit of working with one organization that covers all of their charitable interests. Giving through the Community Foundation is flexible according to each client's needs, providing options for both current and deferred gifts depending on a client's preference.

The Community Foundation is here to support you as you seek solutions to put a client's philanthropic vision into action. We can help advise you on the benefits of working through a community foundation and local needs that fit with each client's charitable interests. Our community- and service-based approach sets us apart from private foundations and commercial institutions, providing maximum tax benefits at the lowest cost to your clients.

We can accept a full range of assets including cash, publicly-traded or closely-held securities, limited liability companies and limited partnership interests, as well as real estate.

A fund at our Community Foundation also can be the beneficiary of bequests, charitable remainder and charitable lead trusts, retirement accounts and insurance policies.

After a fund has been established, our staff works with your client to fine-tune their charitable goals and make their philanthropy as meaningful as possible. We can do research, set up site visits and introduce your clients to other like-minded fundholders.

“If my clients give any indication that they have charitable interests, I recommend the Community Foundation. I especially like the option of creating endowment funds.”

New for our Professional Advisors!

Everything your clients need to know about giving through our Community Foundation. Our updated brochure – created at the request of advisors – outlines giving opportunities based on your client's desired impact, areas of interest, preferred method of giving and more.

If you're interested in obtaining a supply of our brochures for your office, contact Dennis Fliehm at dfliehm@ourcommunity.org or call our office at (517) 272-2870.



Meet John and Jewel Bos

With endowment, the funds get maintained to provide benefits to charities for eons, for infinity. I like that concept. ”

John Bos, Estate Planning Attorney
Chalgian and Tripp, PLLC



John Bos is an estate planning attorney. He and his wife, Jewel, are advocates for endowment and members of our Legacy Society.

John Bos has been practicing law in the Lansing area for 53 years. Currently with Chalgian and Tripp, PLLC in East Lansing, he often recommends that his clients establish an endowment with the Community Foundation.

“If clients give any indication that they have charitable interests, I recommend the Community Foundation,” John said. “I especially like the option of creating endowment funds. With endowment, the funds get maintained to provide benefits to charities for eons, for infinity. I like that concept.”

Diversity of giving options is another thing the Bos’s like about the Community Foundation.

“There are so many diverse things you can do through the foundation,” Jewel said. “You can direct your contribution or endowment to certain areas.”

The Bos’s have established both the East Lansing Public Library Endowment Fund, benefiting the East Lansing Public Library, and the John E. and Jewel T. Bos Charitable Fund, benefiting multiple local charities.

“We believe in the charities that provide tangible benefits to our community,” John said. “We like to know what they do with our contributions.”

Through the estate planning process, John helps clients maximize benefits to families as well as the charities they support. Our Community Foundation is most grateful to John and Jewel for all they do for our community and to John for believing in the Foundation as a way to help his clients realize their charitable goals.

Legacy Society

Ensure your charitable spirit will last forever.

When you make a bequest or other planned gift to our Community Foundation, you are invited to join our Legacy Society with others who want to ensure a future for the causes they care about. You can fulfill your own legacy through:

- Wills, trusts or estate plans
- Charitable gift annuities
- Life insurance policies
- Retirement fund assets
- Charitable remainder trusts
- Charitable lead trusts

After you have made your planned gift, please notify us of your plan so we can include you in our Legacy Society. It costs you nothing today!

As a beneficiary of your planned gift, our Community Foundation is entrusted with the responsibility of carrying out your wishes when you are gone. We have an ongoing commitment to recognize and address community needs and take advantage of high-impact funding opportunities while staying true to your charitable vision.

You are welcome to remain anonymous in your giving should you wish to do so. However, participation in the Legacy Society can be a rewarding experience and inspire others to give.

Legacy Society Members

The Arens Family
 Sam M. and Mary E. Austin
 Jim and Nancy Ballard
 Margaret J. Bates
 Joan Bauer
 Laurie and John Baumer
 Kenneth C. Beachler
 Dana and Kim Beaman
 Robert H. and Jane M. Becker
 John and Jewel Bos
 Ted and Maureen Buda
 Ryan Robertson and Kira Carter-Robertson
 Eleanor A. Doersam
 David and Connie Donovan
 Ron and Susan Eggleston
 Thomas S. Eveland
 Vincent Ferris, Jr.
 Dennis and Linda Fliehmman
 Betty Giuliani
 Camron and Lisa Gnass
 Mark D. and Cheryl M. Grueneberg
 Alan and Mary Lou Harr
 Michael G. and Deborah L. Harrison
 C. Richard and Susan Herrold
 Thomas E. and Lynne M. Hoffmeyer
 Meegan Holland
 Mark and Marcia Hooper
 Beth M. Hubbell
 Charley and LeaAnne Janssen

Robert Kolt and Sue Wagner
 Nancy L. Little
 Gary and Jenny McCampbell
 Paul and Evie McNamara
 Thomas J. Messner
 Charles and Helen P. Mickens
 Betsy and Robin Miner-Swartz
 Carol Monroe
 Mike and Midge Morrow
 Patricia K. Munshaw
 Gerald L. Olson
 Richard and Lorayne Otto
 Jeff and Kathleen Padden
 Nancy Passanante
 Pamela and Paul Shaheen
 Joe E. and Lori Pray
 Frank H. and Patricia Reynolds
 Jack and Peggy Roberts
 John and Debbie Serrine
 Stuart D. Sleight
 Kathleen M. Soltow
 Heather Spielmaker
 Peggy A. Parke and Dennis W. Sullivan
 Jesusa Vasquez and Gary Heilig
 Abraham Wheeler and Rachel Minkin
 Ronald W. Whittaker
 Gary L. Witzenburg
 Raymond R. Ziarno

Joan Bauer's Legacy

Joan Bauer is a Lansing icon. It would be tough to find someone who doesn't know and love her. She's the kind of person others aspire to be: caring, generous and helpful to all.

Her resume may as well be titled, "Life of Service to Others," including Director of Women's Programs at the YWCA, Director of Volunteer Services at Ingham Medical Center (now McLaren), member of the Lansing City Council, Michigan House of Representatives, and now part time at Lansing Community College. In addition, Joan has served as a dedicated volunteer, board member and philanthropist for countless area nonprofits through the years.

The apple doesn't fall far from the tree. Joan's parents were teachers and stressed giving back to the community, caring about other people and being a good citizen.

"There wasn't a huge value on getting more money to get more things," Joan said. "We appreciated how fortunate we were. Charity comes from a sense of gratitude for what you have – and compassion for others who don't."

While her passion for helping the less fortunate is paramount, she cares about everyone in her community. It's no wonder she's philanthropic and values charitable planning.

"My late husband, Doug Langham, and I lived our entire married life in Lansing," said Joan. "I love this community and wanted the organizations I care about to be supported beyond my lifetime. My estate plan gift to the Community Foundation will make sure that happens."

Joan's history with the Community Foundation started when we were founded 30 years ago, as she served on the grant review committee and later on the Board of Trustees. She knows and trusts the Foundation.

"When I thought about leaving my legacy, it meant a lot to me that the Community Foundation would benefit my community forever," Joan said. "The Foundation meets immediate needs in the community, and makes an even bigger impact through an endowment that protects my gift forever. With some organizations, you don't know that's going to be the case."

The death of her husband reiterated the importance of having an estate plan and revisiting it often.

"You don't know what's going to happen," Joan said. "If you care where your assets go when you die, take the time to plan."

“The Foundation meets immediate needs in the community, and makes an even bigger impact through an endowment that protects my gift forever.”

*Joan Bauer
Legacy Society Member*

Agency Fundholders

Why create one?

When a non-profit organization establishes an endowment fund at our Community Foundation, the agency is taking a big step toward financial sustainability. Earnings and appreciation from the fund create a source of perpetual support the agency can count on, year after year.

Why fund one?

Donors to the fund rest assured that their own cash gifts, bequests and other planned gifts to the agency's endowment are protected by the Foundation, helping to ensure the organization lasts for generations to come.

American Legion Brewer Scholarship
Endowment Fund

American Red Cross Mid-Michigan Chapter
Endowment Fund

Arc Michigan Endowment Fund, The
Arts Council of Greater Lansing Endowment
Fund

- Arts Advancement Fund
- Suzanne B. Mills Fund for the Arts

Autism Society of Michigan Endowment
Fund

Big Brothers Big Sisters Michigan Capital
Region Endowment Fund

Boys & Girls Club of Lansing Endowment
Fund

- The Dr. Carl Bradford and Rhea May
Bradford Endowment Fund

Burcham Hills Endowment Fund

- Center for Health and Rehab Fund
- Lenna M. Keith Benevolent Care Fund

Camp Grayling Officers Club Fund

Capital Area Humane Society Endowment
Fund

- Glassen Memorial Endowment Fund for
Humane Education
- Harold Levy Charitable Fund

Capital Area Literacy Coalition Endowment
Fund

Capital Area United Way Endowment Fund

Carol J. Greer Community Learning Center
Endowment Fund

CAUW Volunteer Center Endowment Fund

Chief Okemos Council, Boy Scouts of
America Endowment Fund

- J. Michael Warren Campership Fund

Child and Family Charities Endowment Fund

City of East Lansing Endowment Fund

Community Mental Health Endowment Fund

Cristo Rey Community Center Fund

DeWitt Area Community Fund - Endowment

- All Kids Playground
- Japanese Garden Project

DeWitt Public Schools Foundation
Endowment Fund

- David Cutler Endowed Scholarship Fund

East Lansing Educational Foundation
Endowment Fund

- Jason Wildman Scholarship Fund
- Asa and Calder Bromley Memorial
Library Fund

- Class of 1963 Endowment Fund

- Class of 1971 Endowment Fund

- Corey Cafagna Fund for Special
Education, Jazz and Choral Music

- Discretionary Fund for Professional
Development

- Dorothy McDonald Endowment Fund for
Orchestral Music

- Draggoo Family Endowment Fund for
High School Band

- East Lansing Alumni Association Fund

- High School Music Directors'
Discretionary Fund for Music Students

- Jason Wildman Scholarship Fund

- Jodi Piper Bappert Fund for Student
Leadership Development

- John Ropp Endowment Fund for
Outside-the-Box Learning

- Mary Anne Sternberg Marshall Fund for
High School Theater

- Sally McClintock Endowment for

- Elementary Music

- Shrewsbury Sisters-Whitmer Family
Endowment for Civic Engagement

- Spartan Village G.L.O.B.A.L. Endowment
Fund

- Staton Family Endowment Fund

- Endowment for Academics

- Endowment for Athletics, Clubs and
Activities

- Endowment for STEM (Science,
Technology, Engineering & Math)

- Endowment for the Arts

East Lansing Public Library Endowment Fund

Eaton County Community Foundation

Administrative Endowment

- Charlotte Public Schools Education
Foundation Endowment Fund

- Courthouse Square Association Fund

- Dart Bank Grand Ledge Literacy
Endowment Fund

- David and Betty Morris Fund

- Eaton Area Senior Center Endowment
Fund

- Eaton County United Way Endowment
Fund

- Eaton Rapids Area Historical Society
Roger Hoopingarner Endowment Fund

- Eaton Rapids Education Foundation
Endowment Fund

- First Congregational Church of
Vermontville Endowment Fund

- Friends of the Charlotte Performing Arts
Center Endowment Fund

- Grand Ledge Education Foundation
Endowment Fund

- Grand Ledge Opera House Endowment
Fund

- Hayes Green Beach Memorial Hospital
Endowment Fund

- Heart and Hands Endowment Fund

- Housing Services Mid Michigan
Endowment Fund

- Josh Spalsbury Endowment for the Social Sciences
- Winstanley Endowment for Mathematics and Science Scholarship
- Greater Lansing Food Bank John and Diane Dodge Endowment Fund
- Greater Lansing Homeless Resolution Network Fund
- H.O.L.T. (Helping Others Learn Together) Scholarship Endowment Fund
- Habitat for Humanity of Michigan Endowment Fund
- Haven House Endowment Fund
- Helene Tzitsikas Holy Trinity Scholarship Fund
- Highfields Inc. Endowment Fund
- Hospice of Lansing Endowment Fund, The
- Impression Five Science Center Endowment Fund
- Jack Bates Rotary Club of Lansing Foundation Fund, The
- Jayne E. Rabeler Mathematics Memorial Endowment Fund (Lansing Christian School)
- Jean M. Harte Scholarship Fund (St. Johns Schools Foundation for Excellence)
- Junior Achievement of Mid-Michigan Endowment Fund
- Laingsburg Educational Advancement Foundation Endowment Fund
- Lansing Concert Band Endowment Fund
- Lansing Public Schools Educational Advancement Foundation
 - Beekman Fund
 - Cecil H. Nickel Scholarship Endowment
 - Clayton and Ann Kowalk Fund
 - Dr. E. Sharon Banks Education Scholarship Fund
 - Dr. Laurence MacQueen Education Scholarship Fund
 - Eva Evans Fund
 - J Mark Mehaffey Art Education Scholarship Fund
 - John Aldinger Scholarship Fund
 - John C. & Joan M. Weaver Scholarship Fund
 - Kiwanis Scholarship
 - Mrs. Maria Velasquez Scholarship Fund
 - Richard J. Halik Endowed Scholarship
 - Sparrow Hospital/Dr. W. E. Maldonado Endowment Fund
- Lansing Symphony Orchestra Endowment Fund
- Legacy Endowment for Catholic Spartans (St. John Church)
 - Father Jake Fund
- Library of Michigan Foundation Endowment Fund
- Loaves and Fishes Ministries Endowment Fund
- Lucinda Means Bicycle Advocacy Fund
- Mason Promise Scholarship Fund
- Meridian Township - Meridian Dog Park Fund
- Meridian Township Fireworks Fund
- Meridian Volunteer Council Fund
- Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence Endowment Fund
- Michigan Community Service Commission - Commission Development Fund
 - Education Resources Fund
 - Governor's Service Awards Fund
 - Mentor Michigan
 - Program Development Fund
- Michigan Disability Rights Coalition Jim Francis-Bohr Memorial Fund
- Michigan Historical Center Foundation Endowment Fund
- Michigan Nurses Foundation Fund
 - Goddeeris Scholarship Fund
 - Margaret Louise Miller Leipold RN Scholarship Fund
- Michigan Physical Therapy Institute Fund
- Michigan Physician Assistant Foundation Endowment Fund
- Michigan Public Power Agency Fund
- Michigan Wildlife Conservancy Endowment Fund
- Michigan's Children Fund
- Mikey's Eye Care Fund
- MNA Connect Michigan Alliance Fund
- MNA George W. Romney Endowment Fund
- MNA Michigan Campus Compact Fund
- MNA Russell G. Mawby Endowment Fund
- mParks - Raymond C. and Katherine E. Davis Access to Recreation Endowment Fund
- MRPA - Timothy J. Doyle Memorial Fund
- National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Michigan Endowment Fund
- Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project Endowment Fund, The
- Okemos Community Church Endowment Fund
- Okemos Education Foundation Endowment Fund
- Old Town Commercial Association Robert P. Busby Memorial Fund
- Opportunity Resource Fund Endowment Fund
- Ovid-Elsie Athletic Fund
- Ovid-Elsie Band Fund
- Ovid-Elsie Future Farmers of America Alumni Fund
- Ovid-Elsie Information Center Fund
- Paine-Gillam-Scott Museum Endowment Fund
- Peckham Endowment Fund
- Portland Foundation for Public Education Fund
 - Alyce Dowling Scholarship Fund
 - Bradley Foltz Scholarship Fund
 - Class of 1959 Scholarship Fund
 - Robertson Family Fund
 - Shirley Storz Smith Scholarship Fund
 - Suzanne J. Buche Memorial Scholarship Fund
- School-Community Health Alliance of Michigan Endowment Fund
- Southside Church of Christ - Barbara Surine Memorial Scholarship Fund
- St. Johns Area Community Fund
 - The Sirrine Family Heritage Fund
- St. Johns Schools Foundation for Excellence Endowment Fund
 - Terry Cornwell Award Fund
- St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church Fund
- St. Thomas Aquinas Faith Fund
 - Church Music Ministry Fund
- St. Vincent Catholic Charities Fund
 - Children's Home Fund
- State Bar of Michigan Access to Justice Endowment Fund
- Todd Martin Development Endowment Fund
- Tri-County Office on Aging Endowment Fund
- Williamston Area Beautification Fund Endowment
- Williamston Schools Foundation Endowment Fund
- Woldumar Nature Center Fund
- Women's Center of Greater Lansing Endowment Fund
- YMCA of Lansing Endowment Fund

New Capacity Building Program

Our Community Foundation made a bold decision this year to invest in 18 nonprofit partners with grants totaling almost \$300,000 to help them build capacity. The term “capacity building” refers to initiatives that help build the infrastructure of nonprofit organizations, increasing their ability to better meet their mission.

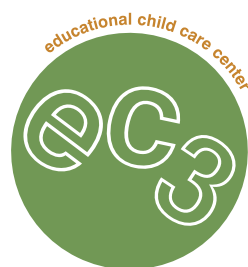
Many of our nonprofit partners expressed that their greatest need is help with fundraising – learning how to raise funds more effectively in order to provide greater services and organizational stability. We recognized the opportunity to help these agencies “learn to fish” for sustainable funding, and rely less on short-term grants.

Other nonprofit partners received capacity building grants for board or staff development, strategic planning, information technology, human resources and marketing plans.

Our Community Foundation also provided our 18 nonprofit partners with an additional grant for a holistic organization assessment by a consultant from Nonprofit Network¹. Based on a lengthy organizational survey, the assessment highlighted both strengths and opportunities for improvement of each organization.

Monetary grants are just the beginning of the Foundation’s capacity building support of our partners. Our staff has established personal relationships with each nonprofit’s staff, and we will continue to be a resource and provide coaching throughout the grant year and beyond to ensure success!

¹Nonprofit Network – itself a nonprofit organization – specializes in providing management support and capacity building services for nonprofits throughout Michigan and beyond.



“The Community Foundation’s support with a capacity building grant will help us raise the funds we need to increase education and programs for the community.”

*John Stauffer,
Executive Director
Helping Hands Respite Care*



“The capacity building grants of the Community Foundation go beyond financial support. They are investing in the future of nonprofits. Their expert guidance and support will allow us to grow our organization in a way otherwise not possible.”

*Yvonne Fleener,
Business Development Manager
Origami Brain Injury Rehabilitation Center*



Improvements Lead to Record Number of Impact Grants

In 2017 our Community Foundation awarded a record number of larger “Impact Grants” for strategic projects that will move the needle at nonprofit organizations and in communities throughout the region. Our 2017 Impact Grants are listed on the facing page.

We work with hundreds of donors who trust us to make an impact with their philanthropic dollars, and our Board of Trustees is passionate about creating transformative, lasting change for nonprofits and the communities we serve.



Our Community Foundation must do more than simply fill a gap in a nonprofit’s operating budget. We want to help the nonprofit meet its strategic goals.



To accomplish this, we applied our “impact criteria” to all regular grantmaking, increased our minimum grant to \$10,000, and maintained our maximum grant of \$75,000. Every grantee needed to use the grant to fulfill or leverage a 1:1 cash match, and their project had to meet at least one of our impact criteria:

- Increase the long-term impact of an organization or program, not to provide cash assistance for ongoing operations;
- Help nonprofits significantly increase their ability to reach underserved populations, not simply serve more people;
- Support innovative, collaborative efforts that have the potential for transformative and sustainable change.

Our Community Foundation still helps small organizations get stronger.

We recognize that many small organizations are young and need help just to stabilize and grow. That’s why we created a new Mini-Grant opportunity (\$2,500-5,000), which we then submitted to our Donor Advised Fundholders and Youth Action Committee for consideration. Mini-Grants can support regular, ongoing programming, but projects that meet Impact Criteria have a greater chance of funding.

2017 Impact Grants

Arts Council of Greater Lansing

Strategic Plan for cultural economic development
\$31,000

Burcham Hills Foundation

New Volunteer-to-Employee Pathway program
\$20,000

Capital Area College Access Network/Capital Area United Way

Expand Pathways to Potential program
\$36,000

Asset Independence Coalition/Capital Area United Way

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Expansion to Underserved Areas
\$30,000

CASA For Kids, Inc. - Barry And Eaton Counties

Expand CASA to Ingham County
\$54,000

CASA - The Voice For Clinton County's Children

Create Child Advocacy Center (CAC) for Clinton County
\$62,340

Greater Lansing Food Bank

Leadership Grant for warehouse capital campaign
\$75,000

Lansing Community College Foundation

Create a high-tech tour of the new Center for Manufacturing Excellence
\$75,000

Meridian Charter Township

Development of a new Farmer's Market and adjoining community space
\$75,000

Old Town Commercial Association

Create Chavez Plaza performance stage
\$75,000

Peckham, Inc.

Create skilled trades education program, earning CORE certification
\$32,000

Potter Park Zoological Society

New zoo outreach programs in neighborhoods
\$16,500

St. Luke Lutheran Church

Renovate community kitchen
\$40,000

Young Men's Christian Association

Create Healthy Living Mobile Fitness Bus
\$10,000

2016 Impact Grants

Impression 5 Science Center

\$75,000 for phase two of a facility improvement plan, including various family comfort amenities and a café to encourage visitors to extend their visits.



Hayes Green Beach Memorial Hospital

\$75,000 to pilot a community paramedic program in Charlotte, which aims to keep patients in control of their own healthcare management and out of emergency rooms.



Youth Action Committee

The Youth Action Committee (YAC) is a youth grantmaking body of our Community Foundation. YAC members serve their community by awarding grants from revenue earned by the youth endowment fund and by engaging in community service projects.

Since YAC's inception in 1992, it has distributed more than \$900,000 in grants.



In 2017, YAC awarded 16 grants totalling \$33,170 to:

- Capital Area United Way
- Child and Family Charities
- Eaton Rapids High School Interact Club
- Give-a-Kid Projects
- Habitat for Humanity Capital Region
- Highfields
- Junior Achievement of Mid Michigan
- Muscular Dystrophy Association
- Reach Studio Art Center
- Shared Pregnancy Women's Center
- SierraRose Farms Healing Hearts with Horses Foundation
- Sunny Crest Youth Ranch
- The Firecracker Foundation
- Vermontville Township Library
- VFW National Home for Children
- Woldumar Nature Center



Greater Lansing Food Bank



2017 Special Olympics



Volunteers of America Community Kitchen

Placemaking

We're listening to residents to make our region vibrant.

Placemaking is a collective community vision and process of re-imagining public spaces and the arts and activities that create culture and a social environment.

Public spaces can include waterfronts, parks, plazas, markets, etc. Placemaking helps create attachment to our community and is proven to have a “multiplier effect” that attracts a talented workforce, employers and jobs.

In February 2017, the Community Foundation launched our Penny for Your Thoughts campaign - a community-wide contest to make our region's urban core more attractive.

We asked residents of the Greater Lansing area to submit their ideas to improve public spaces along the Michigan Avenue corridor, from the Capitol to Abbot Road and a quarter mile north and south of the avenue.

Residents submitted 59 ideas in our six categories:

- Arts, culture and entertainment
- Parks and outdoor structures
- Public buildings and destinations
- Land and building development/rehabilitation
- Waterfront
- Streetscapes and landscaping

**PENNY
FOR YOUR
THOUGHTS**

OurCommunity.org

Riverfront Development, Urban Market and More

Our committee of urban planners and placemaking experts screened 59 ideas from our Penny for Your Thoughts contest, then made recommendations based on the feasibility, creativity and potential impact of the projects.

Plans for developing the downtown Lansing riverfront are underway and include improved watercraft access and docking, enhanced parks and fishing areas, artwork and creative lighting, public seating areas with fireplaces, and an outdoor “classroom” on the riverbank. Other ideas for improvements are encouraged from the public. The foundation will focus on areas between the Cherry Hill boat launch and the Brenke Fish Ladder.

A new urban market is a potential project being explored and may be modeled after similar markets in downtown Grand Rapids and Flint. The foundation is currently exploring business models and possible locations on or near the Michigan Avenue corridor.

Our committee also recommended several smaller projects along the avenue including twinkle lights, painted crosswalks, murals, and a portable parklet. Stay tuned!



2016 Audited Financial Report

Assets

	2016	2015
Cash and cash equivalents	1,399,448	999,143
Investments	89,132,351	82,336,237
Accounts receivable	2,105	3,055
Deposits	9,770	7,194
Property donation - cemetery lots	30,440	32,600
Furniture and equipment - less accumulated depreciation of \$115,399 and \$103,657 in 2016 and 2015, respectively	62,314	79,150
Total Assets	90,636,428	83,457,379

Liabilities And Net Assets

	2016	2015
Accounts payable	44,264	53,497
Accrued salaries and related	9,599	13,340
Grants payable	555,129	411,240
Funds held in agency endowments	8,584,318	8,217,630
Liabilities associated with gift annuities	191,255	148,691
Total Liabilities	9,384,565	8,844,398
Net assets - unrestricted	81,251,863	74,612,981
Total Liabilities And Net Assets	90,636,428	83,457,379

The accounting firm of Maner, Costerisan & Ellis, PC, annually audits the Capital Region Community Foundation's financial statements and has once again expressed an unqualified favorable opinion. A complete copy of our audited financial statement is available online at www.ourcommunity.org.

2016 By The Numbers

Gifts Received.....\$5,483,461

Grants Awarded.....\$3,490,089

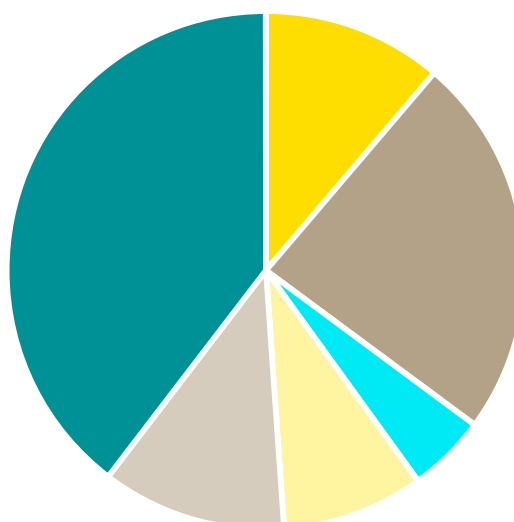
Total Assets As Of December 31, 2016.....\$90,636,428

Fund Categories

Undesignated funds.....\$9,116,410 Donor advised funds.....\$7,178,045

Field of interest funds.....\$19,436,942 Scholarship funds.....\$9,365,848

Designated funds.....\$3,983,891 Agency funds.....\$32,170,727



■ Undesignated funds ■ Field of interest funds ■ Designated funds
■ Donor advised funds ■ Scholarship funds ■ Agency funds

2017 Board Of Trustees



Joe E. Pray
Board Chair
Pray Funeral Home



Jack Roberts
*Vice Chair/
Secretary*
Michigan High School
Athletic Association



Christina Ferland
*Treasurer
Governance Chair
Investment Chair*
Plante Moran



Rachel Lewis
*Program &
Distribution Chair*
Bethany Christian Services



Michael Flowers
*Human Resources
Chair*
Lansing Board of
Water & Light



Katie Lynwood
Audit Chair
Buhl, Little,
Lynwood & Harris, PLC



Meegan Holland
Marketing Chair
Michigan Retailers
Association



Kira Carter-Robertson
Sparrow Health System



Tim Daman
Lansing Regional
Chamber of Commerce



Bo Garcia
Lansing Community College



Kurt Guter
Granger



Lee Reimann
Willingham & Cote, PC



Danielle Robinson
Jackson National
Life Insurance Co.



Kate Snyder
Piper & Gold
Public Relations



Marlaine C. Teahan
Fraser Trebilcock



Robert L. Trezise, Jr.
LEAP, Inc.



Thomas Burns
Student Trustee '16-'17
Lansing Catholic
High School



Logan Jackson
Student Trustee '17-'18
East Lansing
High School

Our Staff



Dennis Flielman
President & CEO



Laurie Strauss Baumer
Executive Vice President



Richard Comstock
Vice President of Finance



Pauline Pasch
Senior Program Officer



Mara Wolke
Administrative Assistant



Kristin Rogers
Finance & Operations
Associate



Heather Carrigan
Program Associate



Katlyn Lindstrom
Marketing & Communication
Specialist



Robin Lynn Grinnell
YAC Advisor

Community Foundation Act

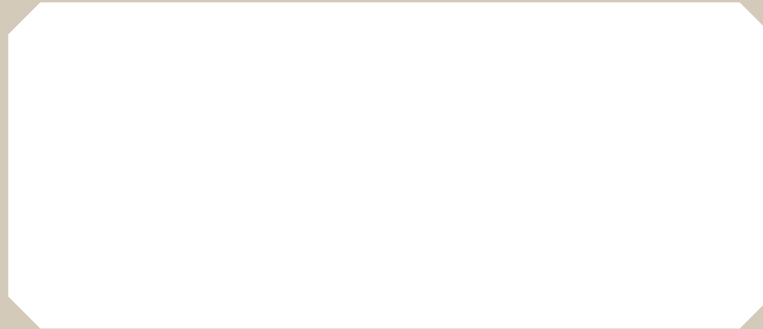
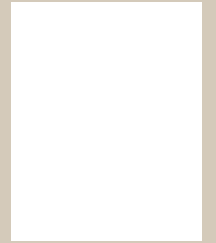
Our Community Foundation is pleased to have partnered with the Council of Michigan Foundations in supporting the introduction and passage of Michigan's Community Foundation Act. This act authorizes municipalities, school boards and public libraries to transfer assets to a community foundation in order to establish an endowment fund. For example, after selling an unused asset, such as a closed golf course, a city can now use the sale proceeds to establish an endowment fund with the community foundation that will provide ongoing financial support for the city's parks and recreation.





OUR
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

330 Marshall St., Suite 300
Lansing, MI 48912



Our annual report is generously brought to you by

