



Lenawee
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

25
YEARS
1997 - 2022

IMPACT REPORT



POWERED BY GIVING

Letter from President & CEO

Joseph R. Williams

LCF Celebrating 25 Years

The Lenawee Community Foundation (LCF) is excited to celebrate its 25th anniversary in 2022. For 25 years, LCF has been guiding charitable efforts with donors, strengthening nonprofits, and improving the Lenawee community through philanthropy. In 1997, most people in the county had no idea what a community foundation was. However, a few pioneer community leaders (Dave Hickman, Charles Gross, and Merlyn Downing) with a vision for our community opened the Lenawee Community Foundation. The young organization operated with only volunteers until the first Executive Director, Suann Hammersmith was hired in 2000.

While the Lenawee Community Foundation was established in 1997, the community foundation concept was born over one hundred years ago! Cleveland lawyer and banker, Frederick H. Goff established the very first community foundation in 1914, giving rise to a new philanthropy, a new way of participating in community, and a new vision for the future.

Today, there are more than seven hundred community foundations across the United States that invite everyday people with a vision and a passion for community to create something together: For good. Forever.

Over the past few years, our board and staff have engaged in a thoughtful strategic planning process that reaffirmed the courageous and caring spirit that has come to define the Lenawee Community Foundation. Collectively, we feel a greater sense of responsibility today than ever before, as our assets and grants have grown tremendously. We also recognize that our community is constantly changing, and health needs are becoming more complex. Therefore, we believe the best way to lead in the future is to leverage our strengths and become even more strategic and focused.

We look forward to our continued investment in Lenawee County. We exist to improve the **Health** and **Happiness** of everyone living in Lenawee, while also giving **Hope** for a better tomorrow. We could not do what we do without a dedicated staff and board of directors.

What began in 1997 as a dream by a few Lenawee community leaders has grown to be the community's number one trusted resource for philanthropy. We celebrate the past but are even more excited about the future. We sincerely appreciate and love our community and look forward to growing our assets so that we can have an even bigger impact on our community.

LENAWEE IS BEST SERVED WHEN WE ALL WORK *TOGETHER!*

Sincerely,
Joe Williams
President and CEO



POWERED BY GIVING

Letter from Board Chair

David S. Hickman

The Lenawee Community Foundation was formed in 1997 for the county's health, happiness, and hope, both now and forever. At year end 1997 we had total assets of \$19,532 and watched them accumulate to \$36 million 25 years later. The story of why and how we got there is interesting. In the beginning we had been blessed for decades by local donors. A few families and their businesses or foundations could always be counted on to support worthwhile projects. At one time three of the largest ten Michigan private foundations were governed in Lenawee County. However, it was evident that as new generations of family members took control, we would most likely lose some of that funding and it would not be sustainable.

In the mid 1970's my late father, Charles, and I attempted to gain the interest of other area businesses to combine our charitable contributions with hopes of forming a new local foundation so that we could make an even larger impact together. Sadly, that effort was unsuccessful.

Later in the mid 1990's former President & CEO Sue Hammersmith and I were part of a local ad-hoc committee investigating creating a community foundation. We had heard of the Council of Michigan Foundations (CMF) partnership with the W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF) that offered fund challenge grants to strengthen Michigan community foundations. They required that community foundations would have to involve youth in philanthropy. The W.K. Kellogg Foundation offered a grant of \$1 million if we could raise \$2 million and develop endowed youth philanthropy programs. We succeeded and the Lenawee YOUTH Council and the Foundation were established.

Local leaders: banker Merlyn Downing, attorney Charles Gross and I founded the new community foundation, and its story began. We had purposely stressed stability as we created community trust. Merlyn Downing served as our first executive director on a volunteer basis, followed by long time President & CEO Sue Hammersmith, and now current President & CEO Joe Williams. The Foundation board of trustees has been consistent with very modest turnover, with Charles Gross serving since inception. Charles Gross, Bob Vogel, and I have been the only board chairs, and we are honored to share how your support over the first 25 years has made a difference in our Lenawee community.

In the following pages, you will see some incredible stories of impact.

Thank you for helping to celebrate our 25th anniversary and working with us to build a better today and tomorrow for Lenawee County. Here's to the next 25 years of impact!

With extreme gratitude,
David S. Hickman
Board Chair

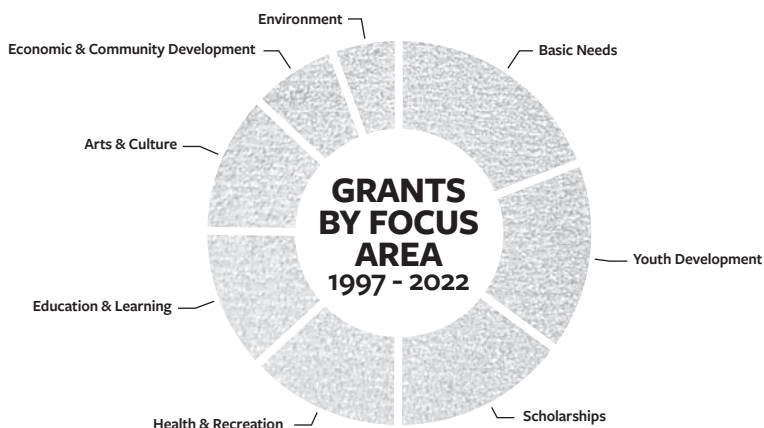
25 YEARS OF IMPACT



8,760
Donors

\$26.7 MILLION
Granted

365
Funds



EDUCATION & LEARNING

The Community Foundation funded **645** education & learning grants.

Examples include:

- Leave a Legacy training
- Keeping Your Nonprofit Legal
- Basic Volunteer Management training
- LCAN ~ Lenawee College Access Network
- Child Passenger Safety training, ensuring our youngest citizens traveled safely
- Volunteer Response Center, preparing volunteers to assist our community in times of disaster



Recognizing that early childhood development efforts can significantly affect success in school, graduation rates, and workforce readiness, the Community Foundation has invested more than 1.9 million in early education.

INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES

ProMedica Adrian EBEID Neighborhood Promise

ProMedica, All About Adrian Resident Coalition and Lenawee Community Foundation have a new partnership to foster economic opportunity and improved health outcomes by establishing the ProMedica Adrian Ebeid Neighborhood Promise (ENP). The \$20M investment over 10-years is dedicated to scaling and implementing solutions addressing health disparities and inequities in east Adrian.

The vision and voice of community is guiding strategic planning, partnerships, and design of the Adrian Ebeid Center. This co-designed physical space within the neighborhood will be operated by a diverse workforce and contain a continuum of services supporting health, jobs and finances, education and training and housing related needs.



The Community Foundation funded 195 grants benefiting individuals & families.

Examples include:

- Building & providing for wheelchair ramps
- Department on Aging handicap assessable van
- Funding for the ProMedica Veggie Mobile

HEALTH & RECREATION

The A.J. Smith Recreation Center funded by the Ruth V. and Ruth Anne Thompson Fund. There is only one remaining principal payment of \$200,000 and it will be made in January 2023. As a result of the fund at the Lenawee Community Foundation, this community asset will be completely debt free and a gift to the Tecumseh community!

"We are so fortunate that the Lenawee Community Foundation is committed to continuously improving the future of our community. Thank you for this fantastic gift."

~Tecumseh Parks and Recreation Advisory Board



- **Frank & Shirley Dick YMCA**, Scholarships for Childcare and Youth Programs, Health Education Programs, & Sports & Recreation Programs
- **Catholic Charities**, Telemed Operations, Roadmap to Graduation 12-Step for Youth, & Funding for Mental Health
- **ProMedica Farms**, grants for the ProMedica Farm facility & Veggie Mobile, and participation in Healthy Lenawee Grant
- **ProMedica Charles and Virginia Hickman Hospital**
- **Hospice of Lenawee**, Bereavement & Children's Grief Services, Hospice Home, & the Peace Garden

ARTS & CULTURE

The Community Foundation funded **800** grants benefiting the arts.

Examples include:

- **Adrian Symphony Orchestra** for ASO Youth Educational Programs that support discovering new music genres, Young People's Concert: Beyond the Stage, & Operations.
- **Croswell Opera House** Operations.
- **Tecumseh Center for the Arts** Operations & Performing Arts Projects, Wheelchair Ramp Project, & YOUTH Council Garden Art Project.
- **Adrian Center for the Arts** for Artists Reimagining Tomorrow Project, the Glass Blowing Studio and Teen Art Club so teens can explore the concept of turning negative into positive in terms of space and form.



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

The Community Foundation funded **425** youth development grants.

Examples include:

- Boys & Girls Club of Lenawee operating cost grants to help with lights & heat, YOUTH council support for art mural, funding for their endowment.
- Imagination Library investing in our youngest citizens, providing over 225,000 books in 12 years.



YOUTH Council - For 25 years, the Lenawee YOUTH Council has empowered Lenawee youth to grow into leaders, advocates, and philanthropist. Lenawee YOUTH Council members are good stewards of their fund, they have invested **\$900,000** in grants and programs back into our youth community, they provide college visits, volunteer, and teach philanthropy. With help from the Community Foundation, they have grown their original **1 million** endowment to **1.5 million** endowment.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

The Community Foundation funded up to **111** scholarships annually!

We are proud to award scholarships to more than **225** individuals each year to pursue continuing education, develop their unique potential, and enhance their ability to contribute to community and society as citizens.



Grants

The Community Foundation also distributes grants from over 35 designated and 20 donor-advised funds every year. Nonprofits may use grants from these funds to support their charitable operations in any way they feel appropriate.

Because you gave, the Foundation has supported nonprofits doing incredible things in Lenawee County.

COVID INITIATIVES

While no one could have predicted the unprecedented changes and challenges that COVID-19 brought in 2020, several of our board members were able to connect with our community and within days YOU stepped up, together we were able to raise **\$220,000**, and within 8 days donations were distributed back into our community. In response, the Community Foundation deployed more than **\$347,000** in 2020 to support emergency COVID-19 relief and nonprofit sustainability in Lenawee County. Currently, the funds raised for the COVID-19 relief fund total **\$676,480**, and grants paid out of the fund total **\$420,000**. **We are grateful for our community partners and collaborations that enable us to assess needs rapidly.**



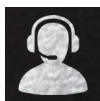
Child Care Scholarships

\$15,000 to aid front line workers unable to afford childcare.



Technology

\$6,000 for adult educational services, and to expand Internet access in rural areas.



Telemed and Counseling

\$4,730 to enhance remote work technology for health support.



Utilities

\$23,520 to keep residents warm and their light on.



Housing

\$79,000 for emergency shelter, supplies, equipment, rent, eviction aid, and mortgage assistance.



Unmet Needs

\$91,677 for PPE, food, medical care, quarantine care packages, gift cards to Meijer for holiday help, backpack program and holiday food baskets.



Food

\$127,498 for masks, thermometers, cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer, the ProMedica Veggie Mobile, and food to all local pantries.



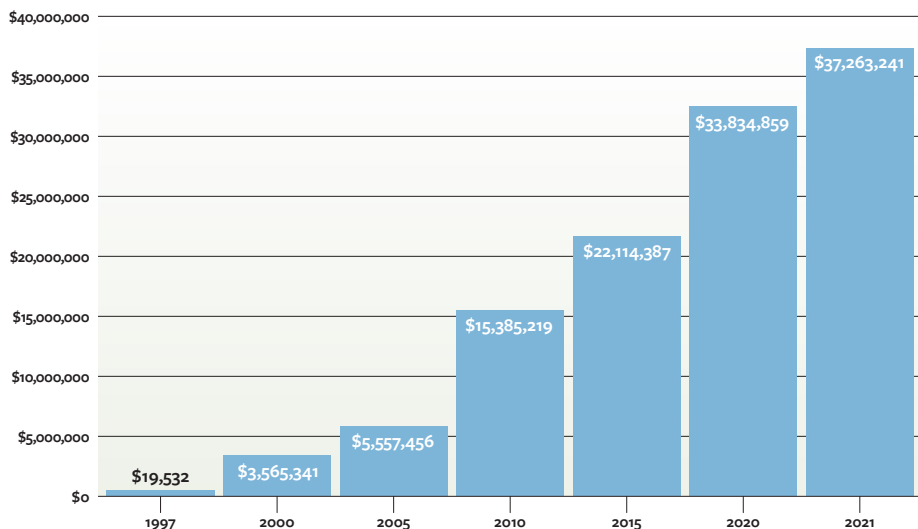
On-Going COVID Grants

\$82,800 in continued support for emerging COVID-19 needs in 2021 & 2022.

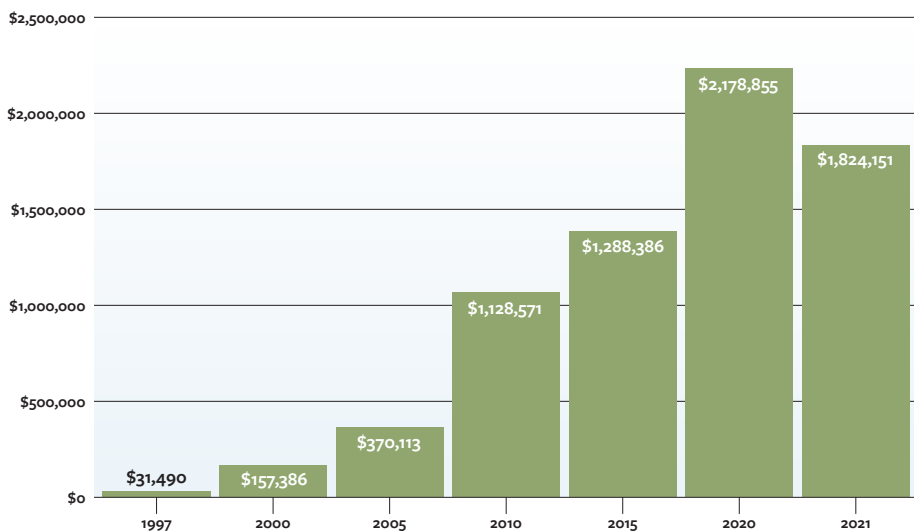
These grants would not have been possible without the generosity of donors, including those who responded as needs emerged, and that have trusted us for 25 years to address pressing needs and compelling opportunities in Lenawee County. The Lenawee Community Foundation is profoundly grateful that so many of our Lenawee residents exemplify the willingness to share their blessings with others.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

ASSET GROWTH

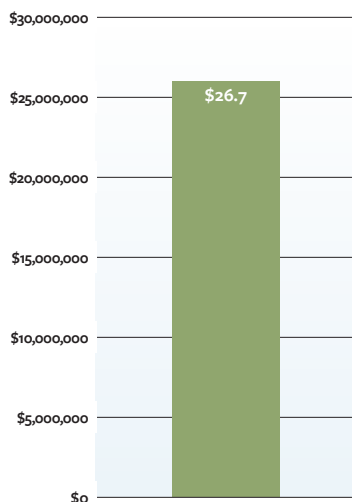


GRANTS MADE

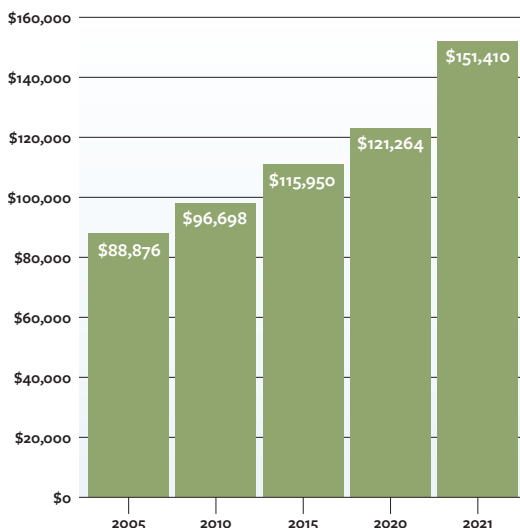


COMMUNITY IMPACT

TOTAL GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS MADE



SCHOLARSHIPS



CHARITY BALL FESTIVAL OF TREES

For eleven years the Lenawee Community Foundation partnered with Kappa Kappa Epsilon Sorority to hold a premier fund raiser celebrated in December. Sharing universal goals for our community the partnership flourished and raised just under 1 million dollars. Funds raised were used to carry on the charitable work of both organizations including preschool literacy, assisting homeless youth, shoes & boots for kids, local food pantry programs, and funding grants to benefit our community. The support from our sponsors, donors, and community has left us feeling grateful and appreciative because we could not have done it without YOU!

THE POWER OF GIVING

**Powerful giving is not about great wealth,
it's about great passion for our community.**

Gifts of every size create impact. By giving to one of the Community Foundation's **237** existing fund's or by creating a new fund, our donors address our communities most pressing needs and compelling opportunities for today and our future. That's why we are grateful for everyone of the **8,760** donors who have generously donated gifts big and small to make a difference in Lenawee County. We are proud to recognize every donor who has made our first 25 years a success. **Thank you for helping us to make a lasting difference in Lenawee County!**

To see a complete list of donors, visit:

<https://lenaweecommunityfoundation.com/about-us/annual-reports/>



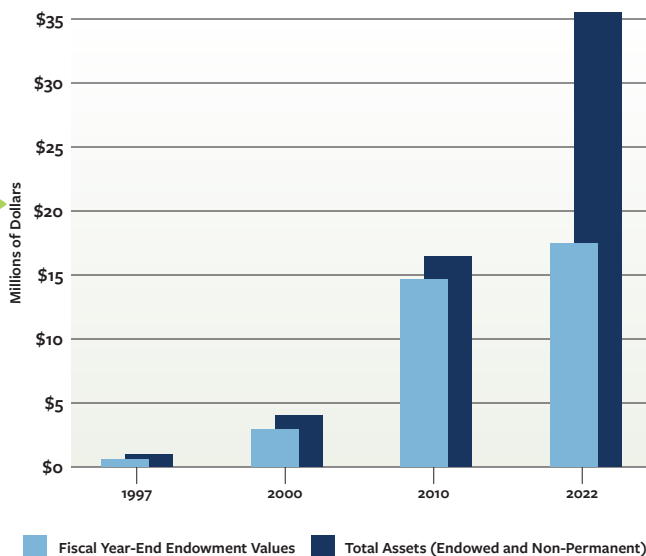
Lenawee Cares originated in 2016 as a community based annual fund and corporate campaign focused on addressing basic needs of food, shelter, clothing, and related programs through funding to local non-profit organizations. Pledges are made each fall and funds are disbursed the following spring. During the past five years, more than **\$2.5** million in grants and designation funding has been disbursed to local non-profit organizations. The 2021-22 fundraising effort resulted in a **\$573,305** campaign, the highest total to date. Thank you to the **800** generous individuals and corporations participating in Lenawee Cares!

TOP CAMPAIGNS

Each year, there is friendly competition among businesses to aid in campaign growth. Some companies match the employee donations, others offer a percentage of annual sales or gift cards. Some throw a "giving" party. The work of campaign administrators at the participating companies is appreciated. In a repeat performance of the previous campaign, both Brazeway LLC and Gleaner Life Insurance Society exceeded expectations, raising **\$107,628** and **\$100,000** respectively. Thank you to the following businesses for setting such a great example of what can be accomplished collectively.

THE POWER OF ENDOWMENT

The majority of funds at the Community Foundation are endowed. **Through the power of endowment, grants can be made now to address causes you care about most while your gifts grow over time to do good for many years to come.**



Gifts to the fund represent the principal, or seed of the endowment.



The endowment fund grows over time through investment interest and earnings.



Fund earnings are used by the organization to make a difference in the community.

Create your dream for Lenawee County! Whether it's an endowment to address the community's most pressing needs or supporting a cause you care about most, the Community Foundation can help you make a positive impact that endures **forever** in our community.

25 YEARS OF GIVING

The Community Foundation is here for you – and because of you.

In our first 25 years, generous individuals, families, and businesses who share a passion for Lenawee County have generously donated **\$36 million to make a difference today and a lasting impact in our community forever!**

“We believe in what LCF does for our community and we trust that they will honor our wishes.” “We also know that our gift will grow and that we can make a positive, lasting impact on our community forever.”

**Charlie and
Marianne Steffens**
*Charlie & Marianne Steffens
Family Fund & Legacy Society*



“As a family, we appreciate all the opportunities which LCF has allowed us to give back to our community. Our participation as student representatives on the LCF Board and Scholarship Committee and our philanthropic experience as YOUTH council members has shaped our hearts and minds as adults. We hope to continue our family mission to live, love, laugh, and leave a legacy through the Coberley Legacy Scholarship for generations to come.”

Coberly Family
*Coberley Legacy
Scholarship Fund*

“Through the Community Foundation you can support any dream you have for Lenawee County. We loved teaching for over 30 years and our Tecumseh community and wanted to provide the opportunity for others to pursue the field of education. Working with the Foundation the Thomas H. & Jeanette C. Meyer Educator Scholarship hopes to encourage educators of excellence.”

Tom & Jeanette Meyer
*Thomas H. and
 Jeanette C. Meyer
 Educator Scholarship*



“Long after we are gone our gift to the Lenawee Community Foundation will continue to make an impact to our community. It gives us great joy to know that we are supporting the Foundation and its committed work to Lenawee County for years to come.”

Rick and Jan Gurdjian
*Gurdjian Family Fund
 & Legacy Society*

Lenawee County gave the young doctor and his family a new home, career, and purpose in life. In return, he gave it his complete devotion—the totality of his life was dedicated to the care of his new community and adopted home. To continue his love for Lenawee County in perpetuity Dr. Padmaja Mouli and their sons created the Dr. Konda B.C. Mouli Scholarship for Medical Education at the Lenawee Community Foundation.

Dr. Padmaja Mouli & family
*Dr. Konda Mouli Educational
 Scholarship Fund*



LEGACY SOCIETY

We are grateful to our Legacy Society members!

Membership in the Legacy Society is open to anyone who names the Foundation in their estate planning documents, often done through a will bequest or a trust distribution. You can also name the Community Foundation as a beneficiary of your IRA, retirement account, or life insurance policy. We sincerely thank all of those who have left a legacy to benefit Lenawee County in perpetuity.



Current Legacy Society Members

Stan & Bridget Ames
Broderick Ames
Anonymous
Earl E. & Lenore C. Bedore
Mitchell P. & Dawn M. Blonde
Irene Boltz
Richard P. Boyd
Morris & Angela Breakstone
Florence M. Bridleman
Patricia A. Brosamer
Lillian Buttolph
Dr. Carlton & Lynn Cook
Frank & Shirley Dick
Bernice I. Duncan
Graham & Lois Fleming
Donald W. Garmon
Jan & Rick Gurdjian
Sam Hamilton
Dr. Ralph & Harriet Helzerman

Thomas & Ellen Hummel
Eleanor Johnson
Leland & Hazel Kayner
Bertha M. LaPointe
Max Larsen
David A. & Linda A. Lips
David E. & Jeanette Maxwell
Walter J. & Leota ("Tom") R. McNeil
Marian J. Meier
Gerald Nelson
Mark Prielipp & Kathryn Mohr
Russell Spalding
Charles & Marianne Steffens
Ruth V. & Ruth Anne Thompson
Glenna M. Tipton
Cindy Tomlin
Willard D. VanTuyle
Joseph & Paula Williams

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

The Community Foundation is governed by our Board of Directors. Made up of local leaders from diverse backgrounds, the board provides stewardship by establishing policies, setting priorities, and guiding decisions in grant making and community endeavors. This dynamic group of volunteers provides expertise, management, guidance, and financial support that drives the success of the Foundation. Thanks to all who have served on our board and committees. Our success as an organization would not be possible if it weren't for your leadership and commitment to creating a strong community.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David S. Hickman

– Chair

Scott Hill

– Vice Chair

Kris Schmidt

– Secretary

Jim Kapnick

– Treasurer

Merri Jo Bales

Frank Dick

Pat Gilpin

Julie Goll

Doug Gray

Charles H. Gross

Rick Gurdjian

Dave Herriman

Paula Holtz

Ben Negron

Dave Pray

Nicki Underwood

Bob Vogel

Ilsiia Shakirova

– Youth Representative

Gabrielle Stringer

– Youth Representative

FOUNDATION STAFF

Joe Williams

President & CEO

Paula Trentman

Vice President & Director of
Grants & Programs

Cynthia Heady

Director of Development &
External Engagement

Jim Southard

Director of Operations/
Technology & Lenawee Cares
Campaign



Former Board Chairs Charles H. Gross, David S. Hickman and Robert Vogel



Confirmed in Compliance with the National
Standards for U.S. Community Foundations.

FORMER BOARD MEMBERS

Past Board of Directors

Jackson Baker

Laura Bell

Rochelle Bird

Michele Buku

Dr. Carleton Cook

Merlyn Downing

Sue Goldsen

Ernie Groeb

Ann Hughes

Dave Maxwell

Ruth Merillat

Kathryn Mohr

Jack Patterson

Jeff Patterson

Sheila Rivait

Claude Rowley

Brett Shelton

Amy Stamats

Joe Williams



Past Youth Representatives on Board Of Directors

Christina Frost

Breinne Reeder

Andrew Kapnick

Eli Francouer

Alissa Reeder

Spencer Warren

Charlotte Coberley

Alison Carpenter

Carson Musolf

Emma Coberley

Rose Perkins

Jace Carpenter

Amy Higgins

Raina Lohr

Ilsiia Shakirova

Gabrielle Stringer



Community Foundation's Former Executive Director Merlyn Downing



David S. Hickman, Board Chair & Suann D. Hammersmith, former President & CEO

We are so
grateful
to our **25th** anniversary
sponsors

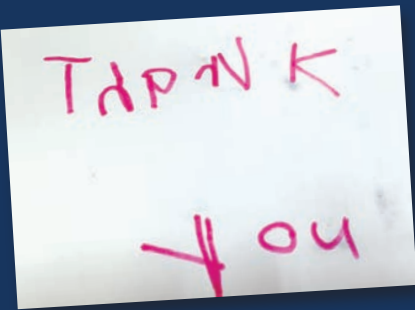
Old National Bank,
thank you!

**OLD
NATIONAL
BANK®**



Thank you to *all-star*
businesses that have provided
extra ordinary generosity,
for office space & furnishings!

**United Bank & Trust/
Old National Bank
& ProMedica!**



An **enormous**
thank to our
you donors &
volunteers,

we would not exist
if it were not *for you!*





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