



**Lenawee**  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



HEALTH

HAPPINESS

HOPE



2023  
ANNUAL  
REPORT

FOR THE  
**LOVE**  
OF  
**LENAWEE**





For Lenawee's  
**health, happiness,  
and hope.** Now and forever.



**From Your Board Chair**  
**DAVID S. HICKMAN**

## From Your Board Chair

I am pleased to share with you the remarkable achievements and milestones of the Lenawee Community Foundation throughout 2023. It was a year of significant progress and meaningful impact.

Welcoming Bronna Kahle as our new CEO has been a high point the past year. Her leadership style, rooted in genuine care and strategic insight, has been a perfect fit. Bronna has swiftly moved to exceed the high expectations we envisioned, further energizing our work and mission to build Lenawee's health, happiness, and hope, now and forever.

In tandem with Bronna's leadership, we witnessed a notable turnaround in our investment performance. Following a challenging year in 2022, the markets rebounded positively in 2023. Our investments yielded a 17.8% return, significantly above our benchmarks, with the endowment portfolio now delivering a five-year average return of 9.61%. These aren't just numbers—they represent our enhanced capacity to support our community. Coupled with \$3.1 million in fresh donations, your Foundation's assets have grown substantially, setting us up to do more good in the years to come.

Under the guidance of board member Merri Jo Bales, an experienced planning executive, significant enhancements were made to our strategic plan. These improvements, which will gradually unfold in 2024 and beyond, are assured to make a visible and lasting impact on our community.

In addition to strategic planning, we reinforced our team with the addition of two exceptional staff members. Through training initiatives, procedural development, and a concerted effort towards fostering a culture of excellence, we have cultivated a workplace environment that we are proud of.

A particularly exciting development was securing a \$10 million MEDC grant for a new workforce development center in Adrian. This project is not just about economic growth but about real people—helping our residents gain new skills and opportunities right here in our backyard.

I take great pride and gratitude in the dedication and commitment of our exceptional board of directors. Their support and tireless efforts have been instrumental in advancing our mission and serving as a pillar of strength for our organization, representing every corner of Lenawee County.

It is with great pleasure that I continue to serve your Foundation, witnessing firsthand the profound difference we are making in our community.

**David S. Hickman**

Chair, Board of Directors



**From Your President & CEO**  
**BRONNA KAHLE**

## From Your President

In Lenawee County, hometown pride runs deep, and taking care of our neighbors is a way of life. As Lenawee's Community Foundation, we have a tremendous opportunity to work side-by-side with neighbors of every age and all backgrounds to nurture our community, forever. It is a big commitment, but our amazing staff, board of directors, volunteers, and donors are all in! We embrace the hard-working, neighborly values of Lenawee County in our daily work, doing our part to lend a hand, contribute resources, and collaborate with others to make sure our community has what it needs to thrive.

Looking back on this past year, I'm grateful to all who have joined in the work to uplift our community and help make Lenawee County a better place for everyone. Your dedication and generosity remind me daily why I love serving as your Foundation's president.

In 2023, Lenawee's community fund, the Lenawee Health, Happiness, and Hope Fund, flourished, thanks to you. We are more than 60% of the way to the \$2 million goal because of the caring hearts of so many across Lenawee. Remember, every dollar you contribute or pledge this year is being matched by an anonymous donor, doubling the impact of your generosity.

As we step into 2024, I am excited about what we can achieve together. Our commitment is stronger than ever to connect people who care with causes that matter. This is not just about meeting needs; it is about empowering each other and making Lenawee County a better place for everyone who calls it home.

Thank you for joining in the work to uplift our community in 2023. Without your caring hearts and unwavering commitment to building a better Lenawee, none of the impact you see in the following pages would be possible. Thank you for investing directly in the health, happiness, and hope of everyone around you. I look forward to even greater things ahead for our community in 2024!

**Bronna Kahle**

President & CEO

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## OUR MISSION

We connect people who care with causes that matter, bringing **HEALTH**, **HAPPINESS**, and **HOPE** to our community, now and forever.

## OUR VISION

In partnership with donors, the Lenawee Community Foundation is recognized as a leader and catalyst, improving the quality of life for everyone in Lenawee County, ensuring our community is safe, viable, and thriving.



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

The Lenawee Community Foundation is a public charity that focuses on supporting Lenawee County, primarily by collecting donations and investing them for lasting impact to address community needs and support local nonprofits. The Lenawee Community Foundation offers numerous types of grantmaking programs, including donor advised funds, endowments, scholarships, field of interest funds, and more. The Lenawee Community Foundation is funded by donations from individuals, families, businesses and organizations, and foundations.





# col.lab.o.ra.tion

We believe in the **transformative power of partnership** around shared passions and objectives.

We **encourage and celebrate** teamwork, pooling of resources, open communication, and trust.

## SERVING LOCAL NEEDS

We work closely with donors and partners to connect generosity with need. This effort aligns with our Community Foundation's mission to link those who care with local causes that matter, growing the health, happiness, and hope of our community, now and forever.

In partnership with donors, your Lenawee Community Foundation is also a major scholarship provider for hundreds of students pursuing a higher education.

**Inclusion** – We continue to look inward on our organizational journey to incorporate diversity, equity, and inclusion into our business practices.

We are committed to excellence, compassion, and innovation, we diligently manage funds to provide personalized support to our donors, we go beyond to ensure that your philanthropic goals are realized and that our community continues to thrive.

Your trust in us fuels our passion, and we are honored to serve alongside you in making a meaningful difference in the lives of others. Together, we are building a legacy of compassion and hope that will endure for generations to come.

As we reflect on the past year, we are deeply grateful for your unwavering support and generosity towards our shared mission.

Lenawee Community Foundation is the community's foundation. It belongs to you, the community members who entrust the Foundation with your legacies and count on it to make our communities better for all.

Thank you for your continued partnership and for entrusting us with your philanthropic journey.



## FOR THE LOVE OF LENAWEE





## WHO WE ARE

Driven by our caring hearts and unwavering commitment to community-building, we are a philanthropic leader, a trusted giving partner, and a lasting support system for Lenawee County. As hometown champions, we are dedicated to making Lenawee County a better place for everyone who calls it home.

**Caring hearts build strong communities.**

## WHAT WE DO

By collecting donations from individuals, businesses, and organizations and investing contributions for lasting impact, we are able to fund grants, scholarships, and local initiatives to address community needs, support nonprofits, and enhance the wellbeing of our neighbors. Since every gift, no matter the size, is pooled and invested forever, everyone can contribute to the health, happiness, and hope in Lenawee County, now and for generations to come.

**Giving today makes a difference, now and forever.**

## HOW WE DO IT

We embrace the hard-working, neighborly values of Lenawee County in our daily work, doing our part to lend a hand, contribute resources, and collaborate with others to make sure our community has what it needs to thrive. From stewarding donor gifts and educating nonprofit and youth philanthropy leaders to operating our county's volunteer center and publishing a local resource guide, we look for every opportunity to maximize our impact and extend our reach to help our community.

**Collaboration brings health, happiness, and hope to all.**

## WHY WE DO IT

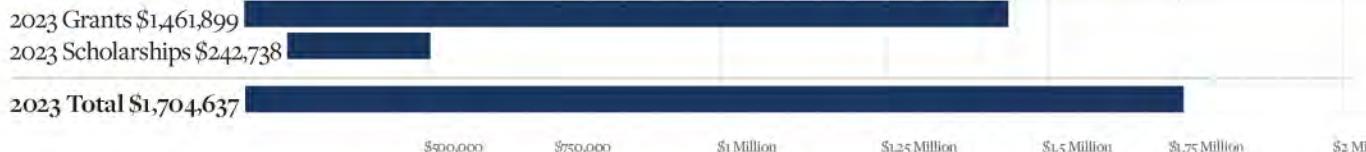
Simply put, we care deeply about our community and the people who call it home. In Lenawee County, hometown pride runs deep, and taking care of our neighbors is a way of life. As a community foundation, we have a tremendous opportunity to work side-by-side with neighbors of every age and all backgrounds to nurture our community, forever. It's a big commitment, but we're all in.

**For the love of Lenawee.**

There are **over 700** community foundations in the world.



## GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED



Once again, I cannot fully express our gratitude to you, LCF, its donors, and sponsors. Without your support, there are so many of our Lenawee County friends and neighbors who might not have food to eat.

~ Susan Bunch, Director  
NewSong WeCare

## TOTAL GIFT AND GRANTS RECEIVED



## FUND VALUES BY FUND TYPE

At the Lenawee Community Foundation, donors have the flexibility to utilize existing funds or establish new ones tailored to their charitable interests and financial capabilities. Funds are categorized into five distinct areas: Field of Interest, Donor Advised, Designated, Lenawee Community Projects, and Scholarships, ensuring a diverse range of giving options.

Whether you're an individual, business, or organization, there are multiple pathways to establish a fund aligned with your philanthropic vision. While a commitment of \$10,000 is required to establish a new endowed fund, we warmly welcome gifts of any amount to support existing funds, fostering a culture of inclusivity and generosity within our community.

You have the opportunity to create a lasting legacy through a named fund. Whether in your own name, that of your business or organization, to honor a loved one, or to preserve the memory of someone special, a named fund allows you to make a meaningful impact that resonates for generations to come.

**Field of Interest - \$11,132,787 (32.04%)**

**Scholarship - \$9,012,845 (25.94%)**

**Designated - \$6,393,656 (18.40%)**

**General Unrestricted - \$2,418,914 (6.96%)**

**Donor Advised Fund - \$2,170,148 (6.25%)**

**Agency Funds - \$2,106,207 (6.06%)**

**Special Project - \$1,075,694 (3.1%)**

**Charitable Gift Annuity - \$381,815 (1.10%)**

**Real Estate/Insurance - \$54,347 (0.16%)**

**TOTAL FUNDS VALUE  
\$34,746,413**

Following is a description of each type of fund and a list of the funds. Gifts to the Lenawee Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization, and any of its funds qualify for federal tax deductions, according to the Internal Revenue Code.

# A Community Fund for the Love of Lenawee

**LIKE YOU, WE LOVE LENAWEE AND WANT TO SEE THE PEOPLE AND PLACES HERE THRIVE, FOREVER**

As your Community Foundation, we are looking for opportunities to enhance the quality of life for all people who live, work, and play here in Lenawee County. We work with donor and community partners like you to address ongoing and unexpected needs, now and forever, and to support and build our community's health, happiness, and hope.

At the Lenawee Community Foundation, we envision our county as a place where we care for our people and towns; where families achieve economic stability, earn competitive wages, and have access to education and training, health services, and wellness opportunities, and where we invest in our arts and cultural assets.



## UNTIL NOW, WE'VE MISSED AN OPPORTUNITY

In Lenawee County, no one is alone—we are all part of a caring, connected community. By supporting each other and working together, we can ensure everyone has the opportunity to experience health, happiness, and hope. Achieving community vitality will be a challenge. But together we can respond strategically to our county's most pressing issues, meet critical needs as they emerge, and leverage promising possibilities.



## SIMPLY PUT, WE ENVISION A HAPPIER, HEALTHIER, AND EVEN MORE HOPEFUL LENAWEE

But many people across our County today still do not have access to the resources they need to thrive—stable jobs, quality daycare options, strong educational foundations, homes for their families, and opportunities to enjoy the natural beauty of this area we call home.





## THE LENAWEE HEALTH, HAPPINESS, AND HOPE FUND IS THE BEST WAY TO ENSURE THAT LENAWEE COUNTY IS GETTING THE FUNDING IT NEEDS, WHERE IT IS NEEDED, AND WHEN IT IS NEEDED. NOW AND FOREVER

Your support will build a community asset that will provide a flexible response to current, immediate needs as well as a permanent funding resource for the future.

**RAPID, FLEXIBLE IMPACT** In times of urgency or unanticipated need, we can lead and initiate a response, much like we did with the COVID Response Fund during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**STRATEGIC, LONG-TERM INVESTMENT** With caring hearts and unwavering commitment to community-building, we focus on catalytic opportunities to affect change on our county's greatest challenges. As hometown champions, we are dedicated to making Lenawee County a better place for everyone who calls it home.

**LOCAL SOLUTIONS** With local resources, we are nimble and responsive to unique needs and opportunities at a very local level, supporting nonprofit partners across Lenawee County in delivering their missions.



## HOW TO INVEST IN LENAWEE'S COMMUNITY FUND

The Lenawee Health, Happiness, and Hope Fund has launched with the bold goal of raising \$2M for our community's fund by December 31, 2024. To help make this vision a reality, a generous donor has stepped forward and committed to match every donation to our community fund up to \$1M. The Foundation Board of Directors has personally committed over \$200,000 and we are now asking you to join us. We are here to talk with you about how to create the greatest benefit to our community and meet your philanthropic goals.

Communities that are healthy, happy, and filled with hope for the future are not built in an instant. They are built with time, love, commitment, investment, collaboration, and action.

that's why we  
**MUST ACT NOW, TOGETHER**

Let's not miss this opportunity to support our county and the people and places we care about most.

**JOIN US IN HELPING OUR LENAWEE COMMUNITIES THRIVE,  
NOW AND FOREVER.**



## AGENCY FUNDS

Agency funds are like a bank account set up by the Community Foundation for another nonprofit. The nonprofit establishes the fund with an initial contribution, and we handle the money, invest it, and make sure it's used according to the mission of the nonprofit. This helps the nonprofit focus on its work and mission.

- Boys and Girls Club of Lenawee Endowment Fund
- Catholic Charities of Lenawee Agency Endowment Fund
- Clinton Community Schools Endowment Fund
- Community Action Agency Endowment Fund
- Goodwill SEMI Agency Endowment Fund
- HOPE Community Center Endowment Fund
- LCEF Endowment Fund
- Tecumseh Area Historical Society Endowment Fund



## COMMUNITY FUNDS

A Community Fund ensures our community will always have philanthropic resources available to respond to local needs and opportunities as they arise. The flexibility of a Community Fund allows the Foundation to use the expertise of staff and widely representative board to make the best possible community investments for generations to come. The Lenawee Community Foundation is trusted for its wise stewardship of local resources and since a Community Fund is not tied to a single cause or mission and invests in a broad range of community issues, it is always relevant to the needs of the day.



Lenawee Health, Happiness, and Hope Fund



## FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS

Field of Interest Funds let you support a specific cause that is close to your heart, like the arts, environment, youth, or elderly support. When you give, you pick the area you wish to support. Then, the Community Foundation gives grants to nonprofits working on that cause. Your donation helps make a real difference where it matters most to you.

- Adrian Area Fund
- Blissfield Area Fund
- Britton-Macon Area Fund
- Clinton Area Fund
- Jeremy Colburn Fund
- Deerfield Area Fund
- Frank & Shirley S. Dick Endowment Fund
- Cheryl Ann Duval Legacy Fund
- Patrick Gill Empty Bowls Fund
- Healthy Youth Healthy Seniors Fund
- Ralph F. Helzerman, M.D. Endowment Fund
- Herrick Fund
- Hudson Area Fund
- Thomas & Ellen Hummel Adrian Area Fund

- The Dennis C. and Debora A. Kayner Fund
- Kellogg Youth Fund
- Daniel A. Hanks and Janet S. Kjoller Fund
- V.C. & Velma Knight Memorial Fund
- Lenawee Cares Campaign
- Lenawee Cares Endowment
- Lenawee County Farm Bureau
- Agricultural Legacy Fund
- Morenci Area Fund
- Onsted Area Fund
- Romney Fund
- Gary & Donna Service Fund
- The Frank T. Stanley Fund
- Ruth V. & Ruth Anne Thompson Fund
- Jack Wikle Bonsai Legacy Fund



## DESIGNATED FUNDS

A Designated Fund at the Community Foundation lets you give to a specific cause or nonprofit that means a lot to you. Whether it's helping a senior center, preserving a museum, or supporting any nonprofit you believe in, your gift helps to provide regular support for the organization for a set number of years, or in perpetuity.

Addison Kiwanis Club Endowment Fund	Anonymous for the Imagination Library Fund
Adrian Symphony Orchestra Endowment Fund	Kayner Family Building Trades Education Fund
The Julia and George Argyros Croswell Endowment	Lenawee County Fair & Event Grounds Endowment Fund
Blissfield Foundation for Educational Excellence	Anonymous for the Lenawee Humane Society Fund
Britton Deerfield Schools Endowment Fund	Lenawee Community Mental Health Authority Endowment
Colton Sulier Fund	Ralph & Hazel Leonard Charitable Fund
Community Learning Connections Fund	Madison School District Endowment Fund
COVID-19 Response Fund	Onsted Community Schools Foundation Fund
Daybreak Adult Day Services Fund	Raisin Valley Land Trust Fund
The Frank & Shirley Dick Croswell Endowment Fund	Rotary Club of Adrian Morning Fund
Grandma Dull's Kindergarten Fund	Sand Creek Community Schools Endowment Fund
Friends of the Southern Michigan Railroad Society Endowment Fund	Stubnitz Endowment Fund
Friends of the Lenawee District Library Fund	Tecumseh Center for the Arts Endowment Fund
Herrick Endowment Fund for the Tecumseh Center for the Arts	Tecumseh District Library Endowment Fund
David & Shelley Hickman Endowment Fund for Lenawee Community Foundation	Tecumseh Pops Orchestra Fund
S. L. Hickman Family Croswell Endowment Fund	Tecumseh Schools - Endowment Fund
Robert & Marjorie Hodapp Fund	Robert and Albert Ward Todd Endowment
HOLA Endowed Fund	Mary Kilgore Vallad Fund
Imagination Library Fund - Endowed	Joseph Wildberg Fund for Veterans
Imagination Library Fund - Unendowed	

## DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

A donor-advised fund at the Community Foundation gives you control over how your donations are used to help nonprofit organizations. You can suggest which nonprofit should receive grants based on what matters most to you. Our team can help you find charities that match your interests, and we make sure they're doing great work in Lenawee County. Your suggestions are reviewed by our board, and we send the money to the nonprofit in the name of your fund.

Adrian Diversity Parade and Community Event Fund
Brazeway, LLC Fund
Morris & Angela Breakstone Fund
Carver Family Fund
Dr. Carlton and Lynn Cook Charitable Fund
Dorothy Delker Donor Advised Fund in Memory of Melvin Neuendorf
John & Janis Foss Fund
Gleaner Life Gives
Ernest Groeb Charitable Fund
Gurdjian Family Fund
Suann D. Hammersmith Fund
Hill Family Donor Advised Fund
The Scott and Cynthia Hill Charitable Fund
Kapnick Family Charitable Fund
Jim & Debbie Lawson Fund
Michael and Maribeth Leonard Donor Advised Fund
Kevin A. and Korinne K. Marti Donor Advised Fund
Maxwell Family Fund
The Brenda Ross Fund
Roto-Durst Charitable Fund
William R. and Sarah Southard Donor Advised Fund
Charles & Marianne Steffens Family Fund





## COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDS

Community Project Funds are non-endowed and serve as vital resources for temporary or special projects within Lenawee County, spanning from essential capital improvements to enriching youth programs and fostering artistic endeavors.

- Adrian Dirtbags SDC Community Project Fund
- Adrian Orbit Disc Golf Club Fund
- An Gorta Mor Irish Famine Monument Fund
- Artalicious Fund
- Athena Lenawee Fund
- Britton-Deerfield Schools - Capital Projects Fund
- Britton-Deerfield Schools Capital Projects Technology Fund
- Blissfield Community Playground Fund
- Blissfield Foundation for Educational Excellence Operating Fund
- Blissfield Scout Cabin Fund
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Lenawee Capital Project Fund
- BrodyStrong Fund
- Brookside Cemetery Civil War Monument
- Community Arts of Tecumseh Fund
- Deerfield American Legion Fund
- Friends of Historic Blissfield Fund
- Friends of Tecumseh Schools Orchestra Fund
- Hidden Lake Gardens Tower Project Fund
- Housing Lenawee Fund
- Hunters Helping Lenawee Fund
- The Kappa Kappa Epsilon Community Project Fund
- Martin Luther King Jr. Community Celebration Fund
- KRTA Tecumseh Connection Fund
- Launch Lenawee Fund
- Lenawee County Veterans Coalition Fund
- Lenawee Lifelong Learning
- Lenawee Mental Health and Sobriety Court Fund
- One Lenawee Fund
- Re-Tree Tecumseh Fund
- Riverview Terrace Response Fund
- Southeast Michigan Migrant Resource Council Fund
- Joe Ann Steele Walkway Project Fund
- Tecumseh Historic Carnegie Library Fund
- Tecumseh Schools Orchestra Operating Fund
- UpStart! Adrian
- Zonta Service Fund



# YOUR BIG HEARTS ENABLE GRANTS

The Lenawee Community Foundation awards grants from a variety of funds that reflect the charitable interest of its donors and the diverse needs within our community. From January 1 through December 31, 2023 the following organizations received grants.

Adrian Area Fund	Child Care Network	Hudson Foundation	Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
American Bonsai Society	Christ Child Society of Detroit	Hudson Senior Center	The Ohio State University Foundation
Addison Senior Center	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints	Hudson Wesleyan Church	Onsted Area Fund
Adrian Center for the Arts	City of Adrian	Hunters Helping Lenawee	Onsted Chamber of Commerce
Adrian City Band	City Of Refuge Ministries International	I-92 Ministries, Inc	Onsted Community Schools
Adrian College	City of Tecumseh	Imagination Library	Patriot Youth Sports
Adrian Community Preschool	Clinton Area Fund	Jasmynn's Voice	Phantom Regiment Drum and Bugle Corps
Adrian District Library	Clinton Community Schools	Kappa Kappa Epsilon Sorority	Points of Light Foundation
Adrian Dominican Sisters	Clinton Summerfest	Kellogg Youth Fund	ProMedica Charles & Virginia Hickman Hospital
Adrian Morning Rotary Club	Clinton Township Public Library	Kiwanis Club of Addison	Releaf Michigan, Inc
Adrian Public Schools	Clinton United Church of Christ	Kiwanis Club of Hudson	Right to Life
Adrian Rea Literacy Center	Coberley Legacy Scholarship Fund	KRTA Tecumseh Connection	Romney Fund
Adrian Schools Educational Foundation	Community Action Agency	Lawrenceville Community Church	Brenda Ross Fund
Adrian Symphony Orchestra	Community Learning Connections	Legal Services of South Central Michigan	Sacred Heart Catholic School
Agricultural Society of Lenawee County	Croswell Opera House	Lenawee Community Mental Health Authority	Salvation Army
Ahimsa Safe Haven	Daily Bread of Lenawee	Lenawee County	Sand Creek Community Schools
Aid in Milan	Daybreak Adult Day Services	Lenawee County Education Foundation	SCUFFY
American Farm Museum & Education Center	Deerfield American Legion	Lenawee County Veterans Coalition	Share the Warmth
American Legion Post #97	Doctors Without Borders	Lenawee Department on Aging	Siena Heights University
Brittany E. Ames Knights of Columbus Scholarship	Dollywood Foundation	Lenawee's Health, Happiness, and Hope Fund	Southeast Michigan Migrant Resource Council
Artalicious	Educational Foundation for Columbia Schools	Lenawee Historical Museum	St. John's Lutheran Church
Athena Lenawee	Engle Foundation	Lenawee Humane Society	St. Mary's Food Pantry & Dire Needs
Blissfield Area Fund	First Presbyterian Church	Lenawee Intermediate School District	St. Vincent de Paul, Food Pantry
Associated Charities of Lenawee	First United Methodist Church	Lenawee PREP Academy	Stair Public Library
Blissfield Ministerial Association - Food Pantry	Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan	Lenawee Public Transportation Authority	Tebo Family Scholarship
Blissfield Community Schools	God's Helping Hands Mission	Light of Christ Parish	Tecumseh District Library
Blissfield Preschool Co-op Nursery	Goodwill Industries of SE Michigan	Little Indian Preschool	Tecumseh High School
Blissfield Rotary	Gratitude for Veterans	Lutheran Church of the Lakes	Tecumseh Pops Orchestra
Boy Scouts of America	Habitat for Humanity of Lenawee County	Martin Luther King Jr. Community Celebration	Tecumseh Service Club
Boys & Girls Clubs of Lenawee	Hidden Lake Gardens	Maurice Spear Campus	Tecumseh Youth Theatre
Bridge Builders Community Foundation	Hillsdale College	Milan Swim Club	Tranquil Studio, Inc
Britton Deerfield Schools	Holy Family Catholic Youth	Morenci Area Fund	Turning Point Church
Britton Macon Area Fund	Hope Baptist Church	Morenci Church of the Nazarene - Food Pantry	United Church of Christ Congregational
Brooklyn Food Pantry	HOLA Endowed Fund	NAMI of SE Minnesota	United Way of Pennyrile
Sam Brooks Memorial Scholarship Fund	HOPE Community Center	Naples Emmanuel Lutheran Church	Venice-Nokomis Elks Lodge #1854
Care Pregnancy Center of Lenawee	Hospice of Lenawee	Neighbors of Hope	Weber Retreat and Conference Center
Catherine Cobb Safe House	Housing Help of Lenawee	NewSong WeCare	Joseph Wilberg Fund for Veterans
Catholic Charities of Jackson	Housing Lenawee	North Adams-Jerome High School Marching Band	Frank & Shirley Dick Family YMCA
Lenawee Hillsdale Counties	Hudson Area Fund		Zonta Service Club
	Hudson First United Methodist Church		



# SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Your generosity can pave the way for students to reach their educational aspirations, supported by the personalized assistance and expertise of the Community Foundation. Collaborating with our team, you can tailor the criteria for the scholarship you wish to establish, ensuring that it aligns perfectly with your vision and values.

Once the criteria are set, we take care of the entire process, from managing applications to facilitating scholarship awards. With our dedicated support, you can make a profound impact on the lives of deserving students while streamlining the administrative tasks involved in managing a scholarship program.

Brittany E. Ames Knights of Columbus Scholarship Fund

C.J. (Junior) & Marcella Barricklow Scholarship Fund

Bob Behnke, Adrian City Commissioner, Scholarship Fund

G. Chandler Bond Post 275 Scholarship Fund

Florence Bridleman Scholarship Fund

## Britton Deerfield Schools

Educational Foundation Scholarship Fund

John & Louise Eisley Memorial Scholarship Fund

General Scholarship Fund

Golden Apple Scholarship Fund

Sam Hamilton Scholarship Fund

Shirley Todd Herrick Scholarship Fund

Cathy Ann Maples Scholarship Fund

Charles Komon Memorial Scholarship Fund

Mary & Joseph Kormos Memorial Scholarship Fund

Peter Krzyzewski Memorial Scholarship Fund

Max Larsen Scholarship Fund

Ray Morarity Memorial Scholarship Fund

Russell & Johann Spalding Scholarship Fund

Amanda Stevens Scholarship Fund

Jim & Joan Wood Scholarship Fund

Sam Brooks Memorial Scholarship Fund

Citizens Gas Scholarship Fund

## Clinton Community Schools

Danelle's Scholarship Fund

Mike Mieduch Scholarship Fund at Clinton High School

Robison Scholarship Fund

Truesdale/York Scholarship Fund

Willard & Mary VanTuyle Scholarship Fund

Maria Voorhees Memorial Scholarship Fund

Coberley Legacy Scholarship Fund

Patricia Ann Driskill Memorial Scholarship Fund

Bernice, Harry, & Marda Gene Duncan Scholarship Fund

Keith Eisenmann Memorial Agricultural Scholarship Fund

Russ & Carol Fenner Family Scholarship Fund

Brody Fry Scholarship Fund

Don & Becky Fry Scholarship Fund

The Kathy Goetz Tribute Fund

Steve Gonzalez Class of 1979 Memorial Scholarship Fund

Erin Christine Groeb Scholarship Fund

Ernest Groeb Scholarship Fund

Jay & Jean Isley Memorial Scholarship Fund

Lawrence & Wilma Johnson Scholarship Fund

Kayner Family Scholarship Fund

Kindinger Fund

LandS Aviation Scholarship Fund

Becky and Stephanie Lay Scholarship Fund

## Lenawee County Education Foundation

Adrian Women's Club - Thelma Swigert Memorial Scholarship Fund

Eric Brandedberry Memorial Scholarship Fund

Jacqueline Long Carson Scholarship Fund

Lucy Wolcott Barnum Chapter D.A.R. Scholarship Fund

Frank and Shirley Dick Memorial Scholarship Fund

Fab 4 Scholarship Fund

Fairfield Chapter #224 OES, Thelma Swigert Memorial Scholarship Fund

Fleur De Lis Scholarship Fund

Francoeur Scholarship Fund

Richard Germond Scholarship Fund

Patricia & Joseph Koszka Memorial Scholarship Fund

Lawn Family Scholarship Fund

Lenawee County Association of Realtors Scholarship Fund

Matthew D. Lips Memorial Scholarship Fund





The Vincent E. Lysaght, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund  
 Bradford and Bronson Mansfield Scholarship Fund  
 Rex and Mary Martin Scholarship Fund  
 Walter J. & Leota (“Tom”) R. McNeil Scholarship Fund  
 Pauline & Sebastian Pizana Memorial Scholarship Fund  
 Poppink Scholarship Fund  
 Lloyd W. Ruesink Memorial Scholarship Fund  
 Stubnitz Arts Scholarship Fund  
 Stubnitz Engineering Scholarship Fund  
 Charles H. & Glenna M. Tipton Scholarship Fund  
 John Wyatt Sr. Memorial Community Service Scholarship Fund  
 Joan and Lysle Yeutter Scholarship Fund

Thomas E. Marvin Scholarship Fund  
 David E. and Jeanette M. Maxwell Scholarship Fund  
 Otto & Marian Meier Scholarship Fund  
 Thomas H. & Jeanette C. Meyer Educator Scholarship Fund  
 Dr. Konda Mouli Educational Scholarship Fund

#### Onsted Kiwanis

Class of 2023 Scholarship Fund  
 Class of 2024 Scholarship Fund  
 Class of 2025 Scholarship Fund  
 Class of 2026 Scholarship Fund  
 Class of 2027 Scholarship Fund  
 Class of 2028 Scholarship Fund  
 Class of 2029 Scholarship Fund  
 Class of 2030 Scholarship Fund  
 Laura Freeman Scholarship Fund  
 Kiwanis Scholarship Fund  
 Charles VanWagner Scholarship Fund  
 Edward & Roberta Osburn Memorial Scholarship Fund  
 Jeffrey C. & Mary W. Pardee/MGFOA Scholarship Fund  
 Dr. Michael Pratt Scholarship Fund  
 Jack & Edith Ries Memorial Scholarship Fund  
 The James and Gladys Robideau Memorial Scholarship Fund

#### Sand Creek Community Schools

Bailey/Ries Memorial Scholarship  
 Harley & Velma Benfield Scholarship  
 Leland & Mary Buckles Memorial Scholarship  
 John T. Keenan Memorial Scholarship  
 Sand Creek Communications Scholarships  
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 Isiah Stephens Memorial Scholarship Fund  
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 Tecumseh Area Soccer Club Fund

#### Tecumseh Schools Foundation

Earl E. and Lenore C. Bedore Scholarship Fund  
 Irene Boltz Scholarship Fund  
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 Eleanor Johnson Scholarship Fund  
 Kayner Family Scholarship Fund  
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 The Mensing Scholarship  
 Gerald D. Nelson Scholarship Fund  
 Mary Kilgore Vallad Nursing Scholarship  
 Wildcat Athletic Boosters Memorial Scholarship Fund  
 Kassie Wingerd Scholarship Fund  
 Zuhairah Sader Fund

Making a planned gift to the  
**Lenawee Community Foundation**  
 is your opportunity to create a lasting legacy,  
 perpetuating your personal impact and values  
 on the community for years to come.



# TRANSFORMING LIVES

## THROUGH GENEROUS SUPPORT

The following individuals received scholarships from January 1 through December 31, 2023 from the Lenawee Community Foundation.

Jayden Ables	Amelia Danley	Violet Hunt	Dalay Ojeda	Bailee Shankleton	Tyson Tennyson
Caleb Albright	Natalie Delmotte	Evan Hunter	Caden Oliver	Ruby Sierer	Alex Voll
Sarie Alcock	Vera Denison	Arienette Kane	Olivia Onago	Breslyn Sikkenga	Lillian Wager
Keira Armstrong	Zach Duford	Emily Kedziorek	Arielle Osstifin	Grace Slusarski	Christopher Warren
Caden Arntz	Jacob Eagling	Kyle Kilbarger	Audrey Owen	William Slusarski	Sarah Wheeler
Anthony Arredondo	Elizabeth Erway	Riley Kina	Eden Palmani	Alyssa Sniegowski	Chesney Wilke
Madelena Arriaga	Emmalee Fair	Trevor Lakatos	Kaylee Paulette	Brandon Sparks	Jorden Wilson
Kylie Balent	Griffin Faulkner	Lucas Lange	Nathaniel Peroff	Hannah Spohn	Faith Wilt
Aldo Barba	Brynn Federick	Levi Lange	Emma Reckner	Emily Stevenson	Kelsey Wiser
Emily Bella	Katie Fischer	Hanson Lilly	Claire Rhames	Samantha Stiger	Karlee Witte
Zach Bella	Courtney Flaws	Wyatt Loar	Brynn Richardson	Morgan Stimpson	Emily Wright
Lyndsey Benschoter	Camryn Fore	Grant Long	Andrew Rowe	Lauren Stimpson	Joscelyn Yape
Annika Berg	Olivia Foster	Logan Loudermilk	Ben Scheffka	Abigail Stiver	Mistik Young
Olivia Berner	Aubree Fox	Jaden Lubinski	Aden Schmidt	Ciel Stolberg	Ethan Younts
Audrey Bindus	Ruth Fults	Brandon Mannlein	McKenna Schmittlein	Braylon Stover	Chelsi Zyla
Lara Boike	Matson Garza	Emily McMullen	Cadence Schuette	Easten Strodtman	
Hannah Brenke	Jacob Gilson	Cassandra McNatt	Jessica Scott	Mia Struck	
Kendall Brown	Shayna Glase	Madeline McRoberts	Zackary Shadley	Kyleigh Suydam	
Jacob Buchanan	Kaitlyn Goody	Hailie Medley			
Natalie Bullinger	Ella Graves	Leanne Mercier			
Landon Busz	Lucas Gray	Chloe Miller			
Taylor Cadieux	Brenton Hanni	Ava Mitchell			
Haley Carter	Nicole Harrah	Claire Molner			
Brett Comar	Emily Haselschwerdt	Noel Nelson			
Brendan Cross	Clayton Hauser	Emma Newlove			
Emerson Crysler	Parker Hedrick	Willow Newman			
Mariela Cueto	Cooper Hernandez	Jalen Nieto-Smith			

# \$1,704,637

Invested in Grants & Scholarships

“Thank you! Because of scholarships like yours, you give a small-town girl the chance to make impossibilities, well possible! Thank you for everything, and I share with you my excitement for my next chapter.”

— Annika Berg





## The Lenawee Leadership

— Charles H. Gross

Charles H. Gross was selected to receive the 2023 Lenawee Leadership Award. Gross is a lifelong resident and active in many areas of advocacy throughout Lenawee County. He has shown exemplary community leadership and volunteerism through his participation in city government, nonprofit organizations, and as a longtime business owner. Gross and his wife Margaret have been married for 39 years and together they have raised 3 sons. Gross has served on numerous boards and committees, such as the Tecumseh Chamber, Tecumseh DDA, Herrick & Bixby Hospital Boards, Stubnitz Foundation, Lenawee Chamber, and HOPE Community Center. His roles as Chair of the Committee to build the Canopy Walk at Hidden Lake Gardens and Chair of Community to Build the Center for the AJ Smith Recreation Center inspired others to make donations and bring these projects to reality. Gross has served on the Lenawee Community Foundation's Board for 25 years, serving on the Executive Board for 24 of those years, and 2 years as Chairman of the Board. Gross leads by example, wears his heart for our community on his sleeve, and inspires others to follow and act.



## Stubnitz

— Harry "Dusty" Steele

Harry "Dusty" Steele is the 2023 recipient of the Stubnitz Award. The Stubnitz Award is presented annually to a person or couple demonstrating exemplary commitment to Lenawee Cares, our community, and volunteerism in Lenawee. The award is named in memory of Lenawee's philanthropist and businessman, Maurice Stubnitz<sup>†</sup>. In addition to running his business, HB Steele Interactive Financial Planning, Steele gives of his time, talents, and treasures. Steele's Board of Director seats include Siena Heights University, City of Adrian Downtown Development Authority (Adrian Main Street), Kiwanis Club of Adrian (also the Finance Committee), Lenawee Development Finance Authority of the City of Adrian and Tecumseh, and Kiwanis Regional Trail Authority. Steele's leadership has helped the growth of Siena Heights University's campus and student body, the YMCA of Lenawee County's capital campaign success, adding bike lanes to the Downtown streets, the establishment of Launch Lenawee and so much more. Steele has an innate ability to help businesses and organizations realize their vision as an organization and, in many ways, becomes a part of that vision and work. Steele is an incredible example of a servant leader who takes pride in his hometown community.



## Incito

— Austin See

The 2023 Incito Award recipient is Austin See. The Incito Award was established in 2011 to recognize a young person, age 40 or under, who has emerged as a community leader and demonstrates a commitment to volunteerism, philanthropy, and leadership with Lenawee Cares and other organizations in our community. See currently is employed at Share the Warmth of Lenawee where he is an amazing role model for the guests of the shelter, and in 2018 became a City Councilman for the City of Tecumseh. See can be found volunteering most days for the City of Tecumseh, the Tecumseh Farmers Market, numerous positions on the Tecumseh American Legion Color Guard, helping build a Lenawee County Veteran Coalition, as a member of the Tecumseh Kiwanis, and the Tecumseh American Legion. See volunteers for the Lenawee Community Foundation and is running the Share the Warmth Cares Campaign with shelter staff. He continuously reaches out to share what an amazing community we have in Lenawee County. He is a positive influence, a role model for us all and his tireless boots on the ground attitude makes a difference in our community.



**Thank you** *for your*  
**CONTINUOUS SUPPORT.**

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## LENAWEE YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Carrianne Ausmus  
Riley Ausmus  
Aubrey Baur  
Brandon Bemis  
Audrey Bindus  
Izzy Brooks  
Kyle Brooks  
Adriannah Cooper  
Fei Dominguez  
Wesley Dove  
Gavin Eisenhardt  
Valeria Garcia  
Wade Garza  
Lucas Goetting  
Elliana Gutierrez  
Lylah Gutierrez  
Kristen Kaszebski  
Caleigh Kosarue  
Brayden Kosino  
Allison Marks  
Ivy McClelland  
Conner McGee  
Dylan Mommers  
William Ocha  
Zoe Ostermyer  
Adelina Ramirez  
Lucas Ries  
Taylor Robinson  
Sienna Rodriguez  
Elizabeth Rowan  
Nalani Schanz  
Ilisia Shakirova  
Teresa Sines  
Cayden Staib  
Kyleigh Suydam



## LEADERS OF TOMORROW

The Lenawee Community Foundation's Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) is a group of students from our local schools entrusted with the pivotal task of reviewing funding requests and providing recommendations for grants aimed at benefiting youth in our area. Additionally, the Lenawee YOUTH Council (LYC) actively engages in volunteer work throughout our community, embodying a spirit of service and commitment to bettering the lives of our youth. LYC members meet twice a month during the school year for volunteering, career exploration, college visits, grantmaking, and learning about community needs and philanthropy. The LYC is enriched by the unique perspective and experiences each member brings. The YAC program was established in 1991 through a challenge grant from the Michigan Community Foundation Youth Project (MCFYP) funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. The mission of the YAC program is to empower young people, involve them in the community and teach them about philanthropy while serving as stewards through granting. Each year, a critical responsibility entrusted to our members is the thorough review of grant proposals and deciding together where to allocate funding.



## Lenawee YOUTH COUNCIL

LYC members volunteered for Adrian Community Preschool, Catherine Cobb Domestic Violence Shelter Program, Associated Charities of Lenawee, Lenawee Community Foundation, Imagination Library, LUX Closet, The Daily Bread, St. Mary's and St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantries, and more in 2023.

Members also learned about leadership, fostering impactful changes within our community and among their peers. The Lenawee Community Foundation takes great pride in our YAC members, applauding their unwavering enthusiasm, steadfast dedication, and thoughtful deliberation as they serve as both youth grant makers and community leaders!

*Any young person ages 12-21  
is invited to join us!*

**“Children are not only *our future*; they  
are the architects of a *better tomorrow*.”**





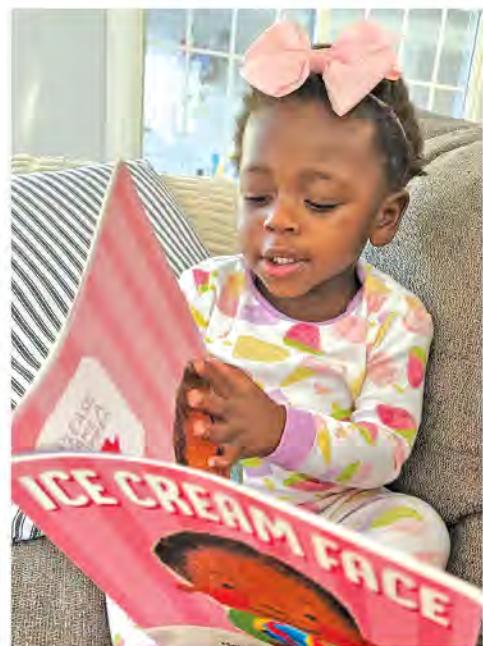
## LENAWEE IMAGINATION LIBRARY

The Lenawee Imagination Library made a significant impact last year, delivering 12,121 books to children age birth to five. Enrolled Lenawee children eagerly awaited their monthly delivery, receiving a new book mailed directly to their homes each month. This initiative plays a pivotal role in enhancing school success by providing the fundamental tools for a strong start in life to all children across our county. Literacy stands as a cornerstone of achievement, empowering individuals to navigate the complexities of the world with confidence.

By the age of four, children from poor

families will have heard a staggering 32 million fewer words than their peers whose parents have attained post-secondary education. Additionally, 61% of low-income children lack access to books within their homes.

With an approximate annual cost of \$30 per child, the program caters to the needs of 1,379 young learners, ensuring they can keep the books they receive. This vital program is made possible through the generosity of local civic clubs, individuals, foundations, corporations, and families, all of whom play a vital role in shaping a brighter future for our community's children.



**228,431**  
books delivered since 2010

**\$571,078**  
invested in books

**90%**  
of brain development  
occurs between ages 0-5

**12,121**  
books delivered in 2023

**1,318**  
children served in 2023

## HUNTERS HELPING LENAWEE



Established in 2010, Hunters Helping Lenawee is a program of the Lenawee Community Foundation, dedicated to supplying local food pantries and

meal programs with venison. In 2023 alone, the program facilitated the delivery of 2,387 pounds of venison to various food pantries across the county, equating to approximately 9,546 meals made available to those in need. Since its inception, the program has been instrumental in providing a vital source of protein for our community, accounting for nearly 60,000 meals. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the hunters who generously donated their deer for processing at Kasper's HickoryHouse, Palmers Processing, and Exact Wildlife Creations, as well as to the donors whose contributions cover the processing costs.



## VOLUNTEER LENAWEE!

VOLUNTEER Lenawee! receives its support from the George W. Romney Fund for Volunteerism at the Lenawee Community Foundation, Michigan Nonprofit Association, and generous individual donors.

- Updated, produced, and disseminated hundreds of copies of the Lenawee Resource Guide.
- More than 150 organizations have partnered with us through VOLUNTEER Lenawee!
- Volunteers served nearly 3,135 hours in the Foundation office and on the board, and committees.
- Empowering individuals to engage and discover valuable community resources or avenues for involvement.



To get involved or find community resources:

E-Mail: [paula@lenaweeacf.com](mailto:paula@lenaweeacf.com) Call us at: 517.263.4696 Visit: 1440 W. Maumee St., Adrian

# LENAWEE CARES

In 2016, Lenawee Cares was established as a community-driven annual fund and corporate campaign, dedicated to addressing fundamental needs such as food, shelter, clothing, and related programs by providing financial support to local nonprofit organizations. Each autumn, pledges are made, and in the subsequent year, funds are collected and distributed.

During the past eight years, more than \$3.5 million in grants and designation funding has been disbursed to local non-profit organizations. The 2023-24 fundraising effort resulted in a \$442,279 campaign. Thank you to the 448 generous individuals and corporations participating in Lenawee Cares!



## TOP CAMPAIGNS

Each year, it is exciting to witness businesses engage in friendly competition to foster the growth of the campaign. Some companies generously match employee donations, while others contribute a percentage of their annual sales or distribute gift cards. And let's not forget those who throw lively "giving" parties to celebrate their collective impact! The dedication of campaign administrators at these participating companies is truly commendable and deeply appreciated. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the following businesses for exemplifying what can be achieved when we come together with purpose.

### Lenawee Cares Top 13 Business Contributors

Brazeway	Gurdjian Insurance Group
Kapnick Insurance Group	ProMedica
Lenawee Intermediate School District	American 1 Credit Union
County National Bank	S.L. Hickman Family Foundation
Kemner Iott Benz	Gleaner Life Insurance
Old National Bank	Gray Institute
Clift Buick - GMC	

## LENAWEE CARES ADVISORY BOARD

Supporting our community involves countless individuals who go above and beyond their usual roles. The Lenawee Cares Advisory Board plays a pivotal role in facilitating fundraising efforts, delivering presentations, and offering recommendations for the allocation of unrestricted funds. Meeting monthly throughout the year, this group ensures the smooth operation of our initiatives.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to Jacob Cooper, Chair and Deb Elliott, Vice Chair of the 2023-24 campaign, whose unwavering dedication led to yet another successful fundraising effort. Their commitment ensures that vital funding remains available, enabling local nonprofit organizations to consistently assist residents of Lenawee County.

Traci Anderson  
Sarah Bayles  
Amanda Brooks  
Cary Carrico

Jacob Cooper  
Deb Elliott  
Haley Entmaa  
Kim Hedrick

Dave Herriman  
Katheryn Lee  
Katie Mattison  
Janis Montalvo

Londa Pickles  
Jaime Reynolds  
Jose Salazar  
Dan Solis

Bill Southard  
Janelle Stewart  
Alison Thompson



## TOMORROW'S PILLARS

Tomorrow's Pillars represent the future of philanthropy, comprising individuals under 40 years old who demonstrate a commitment to supporting Lenawee Cares. They not only pledge age-respective contributions but also engage in networking and collaborative efforts at social and service events.


 Broderick Ames


 Sarah Bayles


 Jessica Cole Jackson


 Jacob Cooper


 Kendra Cuthbertson


 Grace Francoeur


 Brendan Howard


 Katheryn Lee


 Julia Marshall


 Jim Southard


 Jacob & Hannah Trentman



## PILLARS CLUB

Each year, Lenawee Cares is uplifted by the generosity of individuals who contribute \$1000 or more, forming the Pillars Club—a cornerstone of each campaign. We extend our sincere appreciation to Dave Herriman of Acrisure, and Londa Pickles of Gurdjian Insurance Group for their invaluable service as Pillars Club Co-Chairs, leading a vital aspect of the annual campaign. It is truly uplifting to witness the commitment of donors like them who recognize the profound impact of their support on our community.

**\$15,000+**

In Memory of Frank &amp; Shirley Dick†

Dan &amp; Billie Hupp

**\$10,000 - \$14,999**

John and Janis Foss

Dave &amp; Shelley Hickman

Stephen &amp; Sally Hickman

Jim &amp; Deb Lawson

Terry &amp; Michelle Sheehan

**\$5,000 - \$9,999**

Mike &amp; Rita Adams

Scott &amp; Angie Atkin

Mike &amp; Jodi Clay

Garry &amp; Su Clift

Pat &amp; Deb Farver

Chuck &amp; Michelle Force

Gary &amp; Cindi Gray

Jim &amp; Susie Kapnick

Doug &amp; Londa Pickles

Joe &amp; Paula Williams

**\$2,500 - \$4,999**

Stanley &amp; Bridget Ames

Dr. Steve &amp; Connie Benz

William Blackerby

James &amp; Carolyn Feldkamp

Judith Francoeur

Lester &amp; Diane Herr

Dave &amp; Sara Herriman

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Glenn Law

Kevin &amp; Korinne Marti

David Pray† &amp; Julie Johns

## Lance &amp; Elly Sager

Brent &amp; Amanda Schedeler

William Southard

John &amp; Jeanne Thurman

John &amp; Anne Walker

**\$2,000 - \$2,499**

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Lisa &amp; Mark Haag

Jim &amp; Deanna Hartley

Scott &amp; Cynthia Hill

Mike Kapnick

Joshua &amp; Katie Mattison

**\$1,500 - \$1,999**

Mark Boehman

Frank &amp; Brenda Baker

Allan &amp; Julie Brittain

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Brian Cytlak

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Jeff Ing

James Laarman

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Daniel &amp; Anna Solis

Paula Trentman &amp;

Bryan Reeder

**\$1,000 - \$1,499**

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Sharron Sheridan

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Jay VanBuren

John &amp; Sue Wanke

Brad Watson &amp; Family

Greg &amp; Michelle Zimmanck

# With gratitude to our donors, who made gifts from

January 1 through December 31, 2023

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Bonnie-Jean Dyer

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Barbara Eisenmann  
Noel & Dorothy Eisenmann  
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Gregory Elliott  
Scott Elliott  
Deb & Terry Elliott  
Meredith Elliott  
Dale Embry  
Grant & Rachel Emery  
Sandy Emmons  
Ed Engle, Jr.  
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## ZELL EISENmann

Zell Eisenmann, a Blissfield native and Michigan State University alumnus, has deep roots in local agriculture, managing a 1,300-acre farm specializing in corn and soybeans. He also works as a crop insurance claim adjuster for RCIS Crop Insurance. Married to his high school sweetheart Rita Reau since 1985, Zell is a dedicated family man with two children and four grandchildren. Active in his church and on various agricultural boards, Zell enjoys RV trips and fishing in his spare time. His extensive experience in agriculture and community service make him a valuable addition to the Lenawee Community Foundation Board of Directors.

*Welcome Zell to the Lenawee Community Foundation Board of Directors.*



## ELLIANA GUTIERREZ

Elliana Gutierrez is a senior at Madison High School. She has been on her school's student council for three years. She has been a member of Lenawee YOUTH Council since 2017 and takes great joy in the activities she participates in. Among her favorite activities are the monthly shopping for local needs, painting murals, and bringing awareness of the Imagination Library to the community and state. She has also been a member of the Lenawee Community Foundation's board for the past two years. She has also been a leader at YOUTH Leadership Camp for the past two years.

*Welcome Elliana to the Lenawee Community Foundation Board of Directors.*



## SIENNA RODRIGUEZ

Sienna is a third-year Academy student at the JC/LISD Regional Middle College. She has volunteered with the Lenawee YOUTH Council for three years, helping to organize grants for local youth-supportive nonprofits, aid local businesses, and guide peers as a Lenawee YOUTH Leadership Camp leader. Sienna enjoys illustration, writing, and science outside of her academic pursuits.

*Welcome Sienna to the Lenawee Community Foundation Board of Directors.*



**Lenawee Community Foundation Staff (l-r):**  
Bronna Kahle, Paula Trentman, Cynthia Heady, Deb Salenbien, Laura Lilly.



**Board of Directors (l-r):** Top Row: Zell Eisenmann, Doug Gray, Scott Hill, Chuck Gross. Bottom Row: Elliana Gutierrez, Merri Jo Bales, Dave Hickman, Pat Gilpin, Julie Goll, Rick Gurdjian, Bob Vogel, Dave Herriman, Bronna Kahle. *Not pictured:* Paula Holtz, Jim Kapnick, Dave Pray†, Sienna Rodriguez, and Kris Schmidt.

# Did You Know?

An endowment fund, quite simply, is money set aside (invested) to earn revenue to fund some type of charitable activity. Unlike a typical investment fund, the beneficiary of an endowment fund is a nonprofit organization or charitable cause instead of individual investors. The principal value of the endowment fund is kept intact, while the investment earnings can be distributable dollars used for charitable grants to nonprofits. Thus, an endowment fund can be held permanently, allowing donors to support causes they care about in perpetuity.

## Permanent Guardianship of Gifts

A gift to the Foundation may establish, or be added to, an endowment fund. Endowment funds are structured to serve their charitable purpose(s) in perpetuity. The amount available for distribution is carefully established by the Foundation to ensure the preservation and long-term growth of each endowment fund. Donors appreciate knowing that their contributions will extend beyond their lifetimes and will be carefully safeguarded to serve the community as originally intended.

## Choice of Charitable Beneficiaries

Donors are able to realize most charitable intents by designating the organizations or the philanthropic purposes to be served by their fund. Through the Foundation, donors have the freedom to structure funds to accomplish their charitable objectives.

## Economies of Scale

We strive to offer a better investment return to each participating fund within the Foundation through: (1) the pooling of assets, (2) the diversification of investments and (3) the reduction of costs to any one fund through shared expenses.

## Recognition

Funds may be established in the name of the donor, the donor's family, a friend, a business, a charitable purpose, or another organization. Those establishing endowment funds are guaranteed perpetual recognition through publications and through the annual distributions of grants in the name of the fund. Conversely, the Foundation understands and respects a donor's wish for anonymity and will administer such gifts accordingly.

## Flexibility

The Foundation carefully adheres to the terms of all gifts entrusted to its care. If the original purposes of a fund become obsolete or incapable of fulfillment, the Foundation has the responsibility to redirect the fund to other related purposes. That power is used sparingly, and donors may rest assured that the spirit of their charitable objectives will be represented in perpetuity.

## Accountability

Annual reviews through board oversight, filing of tax returns, public disclosure of all grant activity, and careful selection of board members ensure continued use of funds in the public interest.

## Foundation within a Foundation

Affiliation with the Foundation offers the advantages of a private foundation without the attendant expense and time commitment. We relieve donors of the complications of administering their own foundations by assuming full responsibility for the efficient, prudent management of each fund entrusted to our care.

## Maximum Tax Deductibility

The Community Foundation is classified as a public charity under Section 501(c)(3) and Section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) of the Internal Revenue Code. This status affords donors tax deductions for income and estate tax purposes to the maximum extent permissible under current tax law.

**For questions or to learn more about building your fund for our community:**

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We celebrate our legacy donors, generous individuals, and families who have chosen to support the cause that matters to them through gifts that are planned today and will be realized beyond their lifetimes. While we honor those named below, we also appreciate the gifts of those who wish to remain anonymous. Endowed gifts entrusted to LCF through a will or trust leave a lasting legacy that benefits both current and future generations, forever.



## YOUR KINDNESS CHANGES LIVES IN LENAWEE COUNTY

Starting a legacy with the Community Foundation is a great way to make sure your values and passions help people long after you're gone. By giving to the Community Foundation, you support causes you care about now and in the future, making a lasting difference in your community.

Additionally, the Foundation has caring experts who manage your donations wisely, ensuring your contributions have the biggest impact. This means your giving is not only effective but also helps build a strong and resilient community that benefits everyone for years to come.



## ESTABLISHING YOUR LEGACY

The Lenawee Legacy Society consists of members who have chosen to leave planned gifts to the Lenawee Community Foundation. They specify how their legacy will be used, with their wishes preserved in the Foundation's permanent records. We extend our deepest gratitude to our Lenawee Legacy Society members.

*Stan & Bridget Ames*

*Broderick Ames*

*Anonymous*

*Anonymous*

*Mitchell P. & Dawn M. Blonde*

*Morris & Angela Breakstone*

*Patricia A. Brosamer*

*John T. Dustin*

*Graham & Lois Fleming*

*Donald W. Garmon*

*Jan & Rick Gurdjian*

*Scott & Cynthia Hill*

*David A. & Linda A. Lips*

*Dennis & Debora Kayner*

*David E. & Jeanette Maxwell*

*Mark Priell & Kathryn Mohr*

*Charles & Marianne Steffens*

*Cindy Tomlin*

*Joseph & Paula Williams*



## LEAVING YOUR LEGACY

The Lenawee Community Foundation offers options to leave a lasting legacy while meeting your personal and financial goals. We are grateful to those who have passed and left a bequest, establishing funds or giving unrestricted gifts to benefit our community's future.

*Earl E. & Lenore C. Bedore*

*Irene Boltz*

*Richard P. Boyd*

*Florence M. Bridleman*

*Lillian Buttolph*

*Dr. Carlton & Lynn Cook*

*Frank & Shirley Dick*

*Bernice I. Duncan*

*Sam Hamilton*

*Dr. Ralph & Harriet Helzerman*

*Thomas & Ellen Hummel*

*Eleanor Johnson*

*Leland & Hazel Kayner*

*Bertha M. LaPointe*

*Max Larsen*

*Walter J. & Leota ("Tom") R. McNeil*

*Marian J. Meier*

*Gerald Nelson*

*Russell Spalding*

*Frank T. Stanley*

*Ruth V. & Ruth Anne Thompson*

*Glenna M. Tipton*

*Willard D. Van Tuyle*

To learn more about the benefits of partnering with the Lenawee Community Foundation, and to see how we can work together to help you achieve your philanthropic goals contact Bronna Kahle, President & CEO at 517.263.4696 or [bronna@lenaweeacf.com](mailto:bronna@lenaweeacf.com).



## GIVE A PRICELESS GIFT TODAY THAT COSTS YOU NOTHING NOW!

You can preserve your assets during your lifetime and give a priceless gift to the Lenawee Community Foundation in your estate plan. Maximize your impact by giving a tangible gift to sustain Lenawee County for generations by joining The Legacy Society. Your gift will ensure that Lenawee County remains a thriving community now and forever.

What organization would you like to assist? There are local organizations right here in Lenawee County and they need you! Leaving a gift to the Community Foundation to help your favorite nonprofit ensures that your donation is expertly managed and maximized to support the causes you care about most effectively. As your attorney and you create or update your will or trust, please remember the Lenawee Community Foundation.

It's easy to leave a gift in your will. Simply share one of the examples below with your attorney or financial planner.

### GENERAL OR SPECIFIC BEQUEST

"I give, devise, and bequeath to the Lenawee Community Foundation the sum of \$\_\_\_\_ (or \_\_\_\_ %) from my estate."

### REMAINDER OF ESTATE

"After all specified bequests have been made, I give, devise and bequeath to the Lenawee Community Foundation all (or \_\_\_\_ %) of the remainder of my estate."

### CONTINGENT BEQUEST

"I give the residue of my estate to \_\_\_\_\_. If that person does not survive me, I give the residue of my estate to the Lenawee Community Foundation."



## WHERE IS YOUR WILL?

Do you know where your will is? More importantly, do your loved ones know? Having a will or trust in place is the most loving gift you can give to your heirs. They will seek out your official instructions at a time of great sadness and stress. Here is how you can make a difficult time easier for them:

- Make sure you have an up-to-date will or trust that reflects your values and your relationships with family, friends, and causes close to your heart.
- Keep the original signed document, along with a copy, in a secure and easily accessible location like a fireproof safe (not a safe—deposit box-banks have strict rules on who gets access). Your estate planning attorney may also offer to store it at their office, as they have the means to safeguard your confidential information.
- Tell your executor or personal representative the location of your will or trust. Share the location of your safe and its combination or key or give them the contact information for your attorney.

More than half of Americans do not leave a will or trust.

That means frustrating legal hurdles, unanswered questions, and hurt feelings for family members who are also mourning a profound loss.

Don't be one of them.

To make a future impact that costs you nothing today, please email [ForLenawee@lenaweeacf.com](mailto:ForLenawee@lenaweeacf.com) or call 517.263.4696.

*If you have planned for the Lenawee Community Foundation in your will, you qualify for The Lenawee Legacy Society.*

***Please let us know so we can thank you!***



**Front row (l-r):** Pat Gilpin, Elliana Gutierrez, Bronna Kahle, Dave Hickman

**Second row (l-r):** Scott Hill, Chuck Gross, Rick Gurdjian, Kris Schmidt, Jim Kapnick

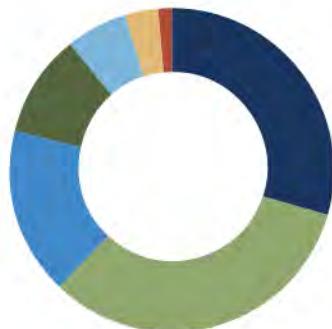
The investment objective of the Lenawee Community Foundation is to preserve or enhance the real (inflation adjusted) purchasing power of its funds, while producing a relatively predictable and stable payout stream that is maximized over the long run to support charitable distributions.

The Foundation maintains a long-term investment portfolio invested 70% in equities and 30% in fixed income. The chart illustrates the Lenawee Community Foundation long-term portfolio.

### AVERAGE ANNUAL RETURNS



### ASSET ALLOCATION



The Lenawee Community Foundation is a nonprofit corporation exempt from income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The financial statements are prepared on an accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred.

A certified audit, for the December 31, 2023, fiscal year end, which documented a 'clean opinion', was conducted by Seber Tans, PLC. For a copy of the audit report, contact the Lenawee Community Foundation at 517.263.4696.

## ASSETS

### CURRENT ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,448,527
Grants & pledges receivable	220,180
Total Current Assets	2,668,707

### LONG-TERM ASSETS

Investments	31,777,607
Pledges Receivable	166,818
Net cash value of life insurance policies	56,615
Prepaid insurance, charitable gift annuities	239,131
Property & equipment, net	896,832
Total Long-Term Assets	33,137,003
Total assets	\$ 35,805,710

## LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

### CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accrued expenses	\$ 13,837
Designations payable	111,494
Charitable gift annuity payable	21,800
Total current liabilities	147,131

### LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

Charitable gift annuities payable, net of current	185,202
Funds held as agency endowments	726,964
Total Long-Term Liabilities	912,166
Total liabilities	1,059,297

### NET ASSETS

Without donor restrictions	33,338,674
With donor restrictions	1,407,739
Total Net Assets	34,746,413
<b>Total liabilities &amp; net assets</b>	<b>\$ 35,805,710</b>

## REVENUES & OTHER SUPPORT

Contributions & grants	\$ 3,049,091
Net investment income	4,454,406
Other income	68,701
Agency fees	7,274
Total revenue, gains, & other support	7,579,472

## EXPENSES

Program Services	
Grants & scholarships	2,181,807
Supporting Services	
Management & General Fundraising	176,723
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>2,358,530</b>
Change in Net Assets	5,220,942
Net assets at Beginning of Year, Restated	29,525,471
<b>Net assets, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 34,746,413</b>



# Lenawee COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



Thank you *to everyone*  
*who makes* Lenawee *a GREAT Community*

## Community, Program & Grant Committee Volunteers

Stan Ames	Jacob Cooper	Mike Houghton	Jaime Reynolds
Traci Anderson	Deb Elliott	Gail Johnson	Sienna Rodriguez
Carrieanne Ausmus	Haley Entmaa	Jim Kapnick	Theresa Rupley
Holleigh Baker	Graham Fleming	Jeff Kuhman	Jose Salazar
Dawn Bales	Lois Fleming	Katherlyn Lee	Jaxon Salenbien
Merri Jo Bales	Courtney Fry	Sharese Shannon	Tyler Salenbien
Sarah Bayles	Doug Gray	Mathis	Jessica Sattler
Bob Behnke	Chuck Gross	Katie Mattison	Kris Schmidt
Luana Bixler	Rick Gurdjian	Suzanne Miller	Austin See
Bill Blackerby	Elliana Gutierrez	Ed Montalvo	Donna Service
Chelsey Boss	Lylah Gutierrez	Janis Montalvo	Dan Solis
Jennifer Brooket	Teresa Gutierrez	Ian Moran	Bill Southard
Amanda Brooks	Jim Hartley	Ben Negron	Janelle Stewart
Kyle Brooks	Eva Hawley	Gary Owen	Jamie Taylor
Gerry Burg	Kim Hedrick	Hannah Phair	Alison Thompson
Stan Caine	Dave Herriman	Londa Pickles	Nicki Underwood
Cary Carrico	Dave Hickman	Linda Polter	Bob Vogel
Cindy Carver	Scott Hill	Dave Pray <sup>†</sup>	Taylor Williams
Sarah Church	Paula Holtz	Bryan Reeder	

## Board of Directors

Dave Hickman, *Chair*  
 Scott Hill, *Vice Chair*  
 Doug Gray, *Secretary*  
 Jim Kapnick, *Treasurer*  
 Merri Jo Bales  
 Zell Eisenmann  
 Pat Gilpin  
 Julie Goll  
 Charles H. Gross  
 Rick Gurdjian  
 Elliana Gutierrez – *Youth Representative*  
 Dave Herriman  
 Paula Holtz  
 Dave Pray<sup>†</sup>  
 Sienna Rodriguez – *Youth Representative*  
 Kris Schmidt  
 Bob Vogel

## Executive Committee

Dave Hickman, *Chair*  
 Merri Jo Bales  
 Doug Gray  
 Scott Hill  
 Jim Kapnick

## Audit Committee

Bob Vogel, *Chair*  
 Dave Hickman  
 Scott Hill  
 Gary Owen

## Development Committee

Rick Gurdjian, *Chair*  
 Dave Hickman  
 Scott Hill  
 Jim Kapnick

## Governance Committee

Scott Hill, *Chair*  
 Merri Jo Bales  
 Doug Gray  
 Charles H. Gross  
 Dave Hickman  
 Dave Pray<sup>†</sup>  
 Kris Schmidt

## Investment Committee

Jeff Kuhman, *Chair*  
 Stan Ames  
 Stan Caine  
 Dave Hickman  
 Bob Vogel

## Lenawee Community Foundation Staff

**Bronna Kahle**, President & CEO  
**Paula Trentman**, Vice President & Director of Grants & Programs  
**Deb Salenbien**, Office Manager  
**Laura Lilly**, Executive Coordinator

20  
23



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