



Coopersville Area community foundationSM

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2021

Chairperson's Letter

Dear Friends,

Summer is well underway and it's exciting to see restaurants open to capacity, businesses working, and people enjoying each other's company. Over the past year, our community has pulled together and demonstrated why this is such a wonderful place to live. We've lived by the mantra to "hold each other up" and invite you to do the same.

This past spring, we granted \$3,200 to area for-impact organizations, awarded \$30,574 in scholarships to graduating high school seniors, and honored the top 10% of the graduating class through Excellence in Education.

If you are looking for ways to help, please consider making a gift to the Community Action Fund, which addresses the areas of greatest need in our community. We also appreciate your gifts to existing funds that support specific needs across our community. If you would like to explore creating a fund specific to your interest or passion, we're here to support you. Every gift matters.

On behalf of the foundation and board, thank you for your commitment to this community. We are here for good, for ever, for Coopersville.

Sincerely,

Ira Engeltjes

Chair, Coopersville Area Community Foundation Advisory Board



Ira Engeltjes, Chair

Community Foundation Spring Grants

This past spring, the Coopersville Area Community Foundation grants committee awarded two grants totaling \$3,200 to two area nonprofits.

The **Coopersville Area District Library** is working to meet a need in the Coopersville Community and the community foundation has jumped in to help. According to Elyshia Hoekstra, the library director, "There is a need for reliable Internet access in the wider Coopersville community. Due to changes brought about by the COVID pandemic, there is an even greater need for this reliable connection, as more and more people are working or taking classes virtually."

Katie VanHuis, the library assistant, adds, "I have seen patrons sit in our parking lot to use the WiFi. We know

the need is there, and we are grateful to have the ability to loan out these hotspots."

This huge need of reliable Internet access, for telehealth appointments to virtual classes and meetings, has become a vital undertaking the Coopersville Library is trying to improve for our community.

Additionally, the **Ottawa Community School Network** received \$1,200 for programming for children, ages 5-12, after school.



Foundation Awards Scholarships to 29 Area Students

We are pleased to announce the recipients of our Foundation Scholarships, with awards totaling \$30,574. Thank you to the donors who have established funds that support the educational dreams of our local students. If you would like to start a scholarship fund, please call Kari Fuller at 616-842-6378. Visit our website for more information on each scholarship and their heartfelt stories.

Chris Bradley Endowed Memorial Scholarship Fund: Annabelle Kober, Samuel Owen, Gabrielle Olin, Vincent Bennett, Jake Lutz, Andrew Baker, and Abby Schuilling

Jack & Libby Bush Scholarship Fund: Collin Thompson

Ronald C. Bush Memorial Scholarship Fund: Tessa Olthoff

David & Mary Jo Busman Family Scholarship Fund: Adrianna Stevens

Staci Cheadle Memorial Scholarship: Mallory Rozema

Coopersville Endowed Scholarship Fund: Makyla Nelson, Tess Anthony, Anna Rolfe, Gabrielle Olin, Jordan Winters, Megan Pearce, Natalie Perrin, Colton DeVos, Abby Schuilling, Mallory Rozema, Rachel Cushway, and Azura Robertson

David Day Eppelheimer Scholarship Fund: Mara Lauer

S.J. Hecksel Memorial Scholarship Fund: Alexa Davis, Gabrielle May, and Kristina Lothschutz

Randal & Marilyn Mergener Scholarship Fund: Colton DeVos

Nelson Family Scholarship Fund: Nicole Kulicamp

David A. Reeves Scholarship Fund: Vincent Bennett and Andrew Baker

Del Shannon Memorial Scholarship Fund: Tessa Olthoff, Elise Abbg, Bradley Maycroft and Connor Reilly

Daryn Renee Worpel Scholarship: Elizabeth Burgess, Gabrielle Olin, Abby Schuilling, and Azura Robertson

Excellence in Education – Congratulations to the Top 10

Congratulations to the Coopersville High School seniors graduating in the top ten percent of their class, along with the educators that supported them. In its 19th year, this special recognition is made possible by the Ed and Nancy Hanenburg Fund, which is held at the Community Foundation of Coopersville.



Hayley J. Andersen
Educator: Jessica Beebe



Tess T. Anthony
Educator: Bill Breen



Andrew J. Baker
Educator: Mike Fritz



Daniel Barr Jr.
Educator: Jim Nicolas



Vincent B.
Educator:



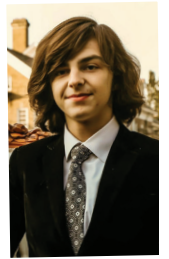
Ryan A. Edwards
Educator: Alice Humble



Kaitlyn E. Greer
Educator: Josh Duram



Jasmine N. Hill
Educator: Kelly Post



Mara R. Lauer
Educator: Pete VanKempen



Gabriell
Educator: Kat



Tessa L. Olthoff
Educator: Denise Lampe



Samuel P. Owen
Educator: Ryan Freehling



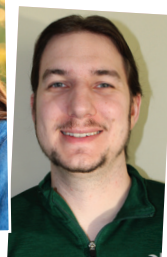
Connor J. Reilly
Educator: Sara Heacox



Madison L. Ruwersma
Educator: Eric Flagg



Emily K.
Educator: Rya



CACF Grant Program



Arts & Culture



Diversity & Inclusion



Economic & Community Betterment



Education



Environment



Health & Human Services

Are you part of a nonprofit organization, a unit of government, an educational institution, or a church? If so, your organization might be eligible to apply for a Community Foundation grant.

Our next grant deadline is: September 24, 2021.

Past projects include: concussion safety for children, band uniforms, soccer nets, preschool equipment, recreation equipment, education after trauma, Feeding America food trucks, CAPS school trails, COVID-19 assistance, mental

health assistance, etc.

If your 501(c)3 project impacts the community in the Coopersville Area, please contact Kari Fuller at kfuller@coopersville-cf.org or call 616-842-6378 x107 with questions or to start your grant application.

Welcome New Advisors

The Community Foundation is able to grow because of the dedicated leadership of many community citizens. We are pleased to welcome **LaVonne Marshall** and **Kurt Meinders** to our Advisory Board.

Lavonne Marshall is the retired Coopersville Library Director. Along with being a committed community member, she is spending more time creating art in her Little House Studio and doing physical exercise, including yoga and bicycling. You can find her volunteering with the Friends of the Library or selling her lovely art at the Fulton Street Artisans Market.

Kurt Meinders has lived in Coopersville area for 28 years. He spent over 20 years as the Director of Customer Support at Grand Rapids Community College, served on the CAPS board, and is the owner of Pints and Ponies.



LaVonne Marshall



Kurt Meinders

of the Class of 2021!

sted who contributed most to their academic achievements.
on. Congratulations, seniors!



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oft



Jack A Castenholz
Educator: Heather Mekkes



Kelley M. Chase
Educator: Kent Bollinger



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Katelyn M. Messock
Educator: Katie Fitzpatrick



Abby Olin
Educator: Jeremy Annen



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Jennah K. Spencer
Educator: Michaelen Gulch



Adriana N. Stevens
Educator: Amy Matzen



Farewell to Jen, Leo, & Sue

Thank you to **Jen Breen**, **Sue Buth**, and **Leo Rapp**, who completed two terms on the board this past spring. We appreciate their dedication to the Coopersville community and wish them the best in their retirements.



Jen Breen



Sue Buth



Leo Rapp

Coopersville Area community foundationSM

182 East Street, Rm 112
Coopersville, MI 49404

For good. For ever.SM



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Why I Give: Wright Tallmadge Firefighters Association

We welcome our new organizational fund from the Wright Tallmadge Firefighters Association. These passionate men and women strive to save lives when disaster strikes. They have started a fund for rescue tools and trainings to save lives.

“We are saving up for the next piece of technology we need to save another life—as that life is priceless. Investing the funds makes sense as it has a larger investment return than a regular savings account.”

—Brian Leale, Wright Tallmadge Firefighters Association

As their funds grow, they will be able to train their association and promote safety for all citizens in, around, and traveling through the West Michigan area. We hope they never have to come to our rescue, but when they do, we are glad they are there.

If you would like to help the firefighters, please go to www.coopersville-cf.org and click the Donate Now button. Write in the Wright Tallmadge Firefighters Association Fund.



2021 – 2022 Advisory Board

Ira Engeltjes, Chair
Marty Alexander, Vice Chair
Cori Conran, Secretary
Cheryl Annen, Treasurer
Matt Hehl
LaVonne Marshall
Kurt Meinders
Kelley Monterusso
Kathlene Sheridan

182 East Street, Rm 112,
Coopersville, MI 49404
(Community Services Building)

616-842-6378
www.coopersville-cf.org



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