

<u>Give</u> <u>Grants</u> <u>Scholarships</u> <u>Contact</u>

#### Warm Wishes!

After a cold and snowy January, this month we extend our warmest wishes to team members taking on new roles. We also look forward to reviewing the many scholarship applications we received, and we shine a light on Donor Advised Funds. February is the perfect time



to learn more about these funds and how they can benefit charities of your choice while providing a tax benefit to you as well. It's a great way to give!

#### **Team Member Changes**

Congratulations are in order for our staff members who recently made a shift! We are happy to share that Nancy Dykstra (pictured above) has moved into our Accountant role. With her background and bookkeeping experience, we know she'll hit the ground running! We are also pleased to announce that Lexi Kennedy (pictured below) will be transitioning from Administrative Assistant to the Executive Assistant position Nancy just vacated. Rest assured however, while we search for a new Administrative Assistant, you will continue to see a friendly and familiar face at our front desk. If you see Nancy or Lexi, be sure to say congrats!





#### **Welcome Sarah**

Please join us in welcoming Sarah Enlow

(pictured to the right). We are excited to have Sarah join us as Advancement Services & Donor brings significant Sarah Manager. development and marketing experience to the team. She most recently served as the Assistant Director of Advancement Communications at the College of Human Medicine at Michigan State University.



### **Giving Spotlight: Donor Advised Funds**

Donor Advised Funds allow an individual, family, or company to establish a charitable fund with a single gift, which you can add to at any time. Donors can recommend grants to charities of their choice, then have our expert staff administer those grants.

Donors can also enjoy cost savings and tax advantages -- good to know with tax season just around the corner! You get an immediate tax deduction for the full market value of your gift, so you actually save money while helping charities you care about most!

In addition, the GHACF has a proven track record of growing funds, and that potential growth could mean the ability to multiply your charitable contributions!

In short, Donor Advised Funds are an easy, flexible, and tax-advantageous way to give to your favorite charities with a single donation.

If you'd like to learn more about establishing a Donor Advised Fund, contact Chris Riker at <a href="mailto:criker@ghacf.org">criker@ghacf.org</a>.

# Youth Advisory Council Tours Library

The GHACF Youth Advisory Council (YAC) recently gathered at the Spring Lake District Library for their February Meeting. During their meeting they received a tour from



Maggie McKeithen, Library Director, of the recently renovated library including the updated Teen Space that the group supported with a grant. Thank you SLDL for hosting and providing such a wonderful tour.



#### **Application Window Closed. Doors Will Soon Be Opened!**

The Foundation is thrilled with the great response we had from scholarship applicants! A large number of applications were received, and we look forward to the upcoming review process now that the window to apply has officially closed. We also look forward to celebrating all the scholarship recipients and can't wait for this year's Excellence in Education Event. We love to see our community's youth strive to be their best, and thoroughly enjoy helping them open new doors to reach their goals!

## Looking Ahead...

- We are moving into audit season and looking forward to sharing where the monies with which you've entrusted us have gone and exactly how much impact was made with your support.
- We are also excited to soon renew our National Standards of Community Foundations accreditation once again as we continue our commitment to effective and excellent philanthropy.

We are here for **you**. For **good**. For **all**. For**ever**.

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