



Greetings!

Things are warming up around here, and we're not just talking about the weather! We have many announcements to share, including our most recent round of scholarships and grants, an important accreditation, a successful audit, and board member news. Now we're ready to bring on the summer and all that's in store!

Thank You to Keith & Shirley!

Two of our board members, Keith Konarska and Shirley Woodruff, have reached the end of their terms and we can't thank them enough for their contributions.



Shirley held leadership roles on our Impact Investment, Audit, and Scholarship committees and served on our Grants and Investment committees as well. She is also on the GH Supporting Organization Board where she will continue to serve, and she has graciously agreed to stay on our Impact Investment Committee as an at-large committee member.

Keith most recently served as board chair and held leadership roles on our Audit and Scholarship committees and also served on the Grants and Impact Investment committees while on the board. Keith will remain on the Governance Committee as past chair for the 2025-2026 board year.

We are grateful to both Shirley and Keith for their commitment to this community and all the hard work they put in while on the board, as well as the work they continue to do on their respective



GHACF Awards Over \$900k for Scholarships



This spring, the GHACF and its affiliates—the Allendale Community Foundation and Coopersville Area Community Foundation—awarded **\$907,749** in scholarships to help graduating students further their education and work toward their goals. Through the generosity of supporters like you, our next generation is on their way to a bright future. **Thank you!**

Nine Community Partners Awarded Grants

Our most recent round of grants, **totaling \$775,684** have been awarded to nine community partners!

Arbor Circle

- \$4,000 to support the coordination and administration of the 2025 Ottawa County Youth Assessment Survey which provides vital data on youth trends and challenges.

City of Grand Haven

- Up to \$15,848 will help the City of Grand Haven purchase ADA compliant picnic tables and shade coverings (including at least two that are ADA compliant) for the newly renovated Riverview Deck.

Girl Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore DreamLab

- \$20,000 to help complete a multi-use programming center designed to

provide a safe, and inclusive space for girls to connect, learn, and grow into confident leaders.

Gracious Grounds' Ability Way

- \$85,000 toward creating a Resident Engagement Department—an affordable housing complex for individuals with intellectual disabilities. The department will provide resources for residents to build meaningful lives and remain successfully housed long-term.

Grand Haven Charter Township

- \$36,766 will aid the modification of Schmidt Heritage Park's JoJo Jogging Trail to keep the area safe and free from parking issues.

Lakeshore Advantage

- \$200,000 over three years to support their economic growth campaign for Northwest Ottawa County.

Mary A. White Early Learning Center

- \$14,250 will support registration cost of a five-day nature-based certification course offered by the Outdoor Discovery Center for Pre-Kindergarten educators in preparation for the center's curriculum.

Read Muskegon

- \$150,000 for the purchase and transformation of a building in Muskegon Heights into a community-centered literacy hub that will serve over 800 individuals annually, including NW Ottawa residents and employees.

The Salvation Army's New Beginnings

- \$250,000 to support emergency housing in Grand Haven, for families of all compositions who are experiencing homelessness.

It's Official: Accredited and Clean

The National Standards of Community Foundations' accreditation of the foundation has officially been renewed, which means we have once again met the rigorous standards for legally-sound operational effectiveness and excellence in philanthropy. *We are committed to continuing this tradition of excellence in serving Northwest Ottawa County!*

We've also received another clean audit in partnership with Plante Moran. We take pride in ensuring you can count on us to manage our community's endowment, and the resources entrusted to us responsibly and with full

Youth Advisory Council "Caps" End of Year with Celebration



Graduating seniors who served on the 2024-2025 YAC. From left to right: Grace Humphrey, Kaia DeSchaaf, Madeline Meigs, James Friggens, Brody Bench, Leilani Teasley, Ally Bennick, Lily Frendt, Prithvi Multani, and Clara Streng. Not pictured: Brooklyn Verplank

Recently, the GHACF Youth Advisory Council (YAC) wrapped up a successful year and celebrated with pickleball fun! After enjoying lunch and celebrating twelve graduating seniors, the Lakeshore Pickleball Club provided a quick demonstration before YAC members hit the courts to play a few games.

Thank you, YAC members for all your hard work. We wish to offer those graduating all the best—and a special **thank you** to the Lakeshore Pickleball Club for their partnership.



Summer Staffing

With summer here, our team members may have engagements outside of the office more often. Walk-in visits are always welcome, however, if there is a specific person you wish to see, we encourage you to call ahead to ensure they are in the office and available. Thank you!

NOTE: In celebration of Juneteenth and Independence Day, we will be closed Thursday, June 19, and Friday, July 4. Also, on June 25, our offices will be closed in the afternoon for our team to attend a staff retreat.

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

For more information about establishing a Donor Advised Fund, joining the Legacy Society, or if you're simply interested in making a difference, email the VP of Advancement & Donor Services [Chris Riker](#) or Advancement & Donor Services Manager [Sarah Enlow](#).

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