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Let the Gratitude Begin!

Fall is in full swing and we're starting the season of gratitude early! We are beyond thankful for our Board of Trustees, partners, and of course, you. It is only with all of your support that we can make an impact on our community and a difference in the lives of all who live here. In appreciation, we tip our hats to our wonderful trustees (past and present!) and share the scoop on their recent retreat. We also want to give a shout out to our affiliate foundations in Coopersville and Allendale, as well as catch you up with the latest projects underway from our Wish List – the perfect place to connect with a charitable opportunity important to you.



Our Board of Trustees is the Best!

We're so grateful for our Board of Trustees – we wouldn't be where we are today without them! So, in mid-September, former and current board members alike gathered with us to celebrate all that we've accomplished together.



Just in this past year, we:

- Granted nearly \$11M back into the community
- Raised nearly \$12M in contributions
- Awarded over \$900K in scholarships
- Secured a 10-year rate of return of 8%

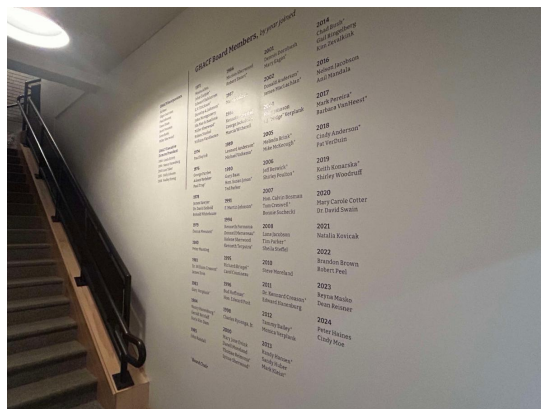


And according to the Council of Michigan Foundations annual data book for 2023, we ranked:

- 8th in overall asset size
- 5th in gifts received
- 6th in grants going back into our community

We can't thank our board enough for helping us with these achievements!

While we celebrated together, we also welcomed our newest board members, Peter Haines and Cindy Moe, who joined us this past May, and we thanked Cindy Anderson and Pat VerDuin who recently completed their terms.



Recently installed signage at the GHACF's new building, recognizing current and former Trustees.

Affiliate News: Looking Forward to Sharing Our Partners' Impact

We love to see the difference our affiliate foundations are making in their communities and are grateful for the generous support provided to our partners. Their final grant round is right around the corner and we can't wait to share the impact both the Allendale and Coopersville Area Foundations continue to make. Stay tuned!



Allendale

Community Foundation



Grand Haven Area

Community Foundation



Coopersville Area

Community Foundation

Board of Trustees Retreat: A Time of Reflection and Planning

While last month we gathered in gratitude for our incredible Board of Trustees, this month, many of the board members also attended a Board of Trustees Retreat dedicated to discussing our next strategic plan. Time was spent reflecting on our values and our work towards a culture of



innovation as they relate to our three strategic areas of focus: Impact Community, Inspire Philanthropy and Manage Investments. Mulligan's Lodge was a beautiful space to hold the retreat and provided us with the opportunity to support our partners at the City of Grand Haven and Mulligan's Hollow.

Team Members Taking Time to Learn & Grow

The GHACF encourages professional development, and two team members attended the Council of Michigan Foundation's 52nd Annual Conference: Common Humanity, Common Ground, Uncommon Solutions. The conference provided an opportunity to gather with other philanthropy leaders from across the state for compelling main stage events, courageous conversations, and interactive workshops.

The GHACF Wish List: It's a Win-Win!

Our Community Wish List makes it easy for you to find local charitable giving opportunities AND helps support our for-impact partners' projects and programs, like these:

AgeWell Services – generous donations helped fund a delivery van and kitchen supplies to ensure our local seniors stay nourished and live active and independent lives.

Gracious Grounds – wish list donations provided a bus driver and covered costs associated with weekly trips to in-person learning opportunities for residents.

Joyful Noise Childcare – with donations gathered through the wish list, early childhood education training helps Joyful Noise to provide loving and educational childcare to children in our community.

Visit our Wish List for other giving opportunities in the area by clicking [here](#). (Now's the perfect time to consider year-end gifts! 😊)

For nonprofits or for-impact organizations interested in learning more or submitting a project, please contact Adrienne Whisman at awhisman@ghacf.org.

Thanks as always for your support!

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

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