



Coopersville Area
Community Foundation

Scholarships

Scholarships are organized by last name or organization. Select from the list below or go to the relevant page to learn more.

Chris **Bradley** Endowed Memorial Scholarship Fund 1

Jack and Libby **Bush** Scholarship Fund 1

Ronald C. **Bush** Memorial Scholarship Fund..... 1

David and Mary Jo **Busman** Family Scholarship Fund 2

Staci **Cheadle** Memorial Scholarship Fund 2

Coopersville Scholarship Fund..... 2

Del Shannon Memorial Scholarship Fund 3

David Day **Eppelheimer** Fund 3

S. J. **Hecksel** Memorial Scholarship Fund 3

Randal and Marilyn **Mergener** Scholarship Fund 4

Nelson Family Scholarship Fund 4

David A. **Reeves** Scholarship Fund 4

Arlyn J. **Walt** Memorial Scholarship Fund 5

Daryn Renee **Worpel** Scholarship..... 5



For more information about our scholarships, please reach out to the Foundation at 616-842-6378 or email Kim McLaughlin at kmclaughlin@ghacf.org.

For Good. For All. Forever.

PO Box 242, Coopersville, MI 49404



Coopersville Area
Community Foundation

**Chris Bradley Endowed
Memorial Scholarship Fund**



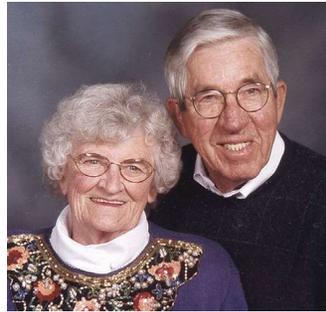
The American Speed Association Women’s Auxiliary established this fund in 1999 in loving memory of Christopher Bradley who died tragically at 40. Chris Bradley worked as a mechanic and crew chief for a sport he was very passionate about – car racing. He was injured while adjusting the sway bar on a race car and later died of his injuries. This scholarship is designed to provide qualifying graduating seniors of Coopersville High School with a one-time award for the purpose of post-secondary education.

ghacf.org/coopersville



Coopersville Area
Community Foundation

**Jack and Libby Bush
Scholarship Fund**



Jack and Elizabeth (Libby) Bush were longtime residents of Coopersville who loved the community and chose to raise their family of five children there. They were loving, devoted parents who worked hard to give their children a set of good values, including the importance of a good education. Each of their children graduated from Coopersville High School and then furthered their educations. Jack and Libby were quietly proud that all five completed their degrees and went on to successful careers in a variety of fields. The Bush family opened this scholarship in 2005, after the death of Libby. With Jack’s death in 2012, their family hopes that this will be a lasting memorial to two wonderful people. Jack and Libby understood that educated citizens are needed to build strong communities, and they wanted to help other young people to realize their dreams for a good education.

ghacf.org/coopersville



Coopersville Area
Community Foundation

**Ronald C. Bush Memorial
Scholarship Fund**



This scholarship was established by Ronald’s wife, Karen Bush, as well as friends and family. The fund offers a scholarship to a graduate of Coopersville High School where Ron was a member of the basketball and football teams and National Honor Society. After graduating from Grand Valley State University, Ron was a State Farm Agent in Coopersville until 1994 when Multiple Sclerosis forced his retirement. He and his wife Karen lived in Grand Haven, but a piece of his heart remained in Coopersville. Ron instilled in his four children the importance of a close-knit family, Christian faith, education, and the enjoyment of sports.

ghacf.org/coopersville



Coopersville Area

Community Foundation

**David and Mary Jo Busman
Family Scholarship Fund**



This fund was established in 2014 as a lasting tribute to Mary Jo, who passed away in 2005. David, Mary Jo, and their children Jonathon, Jennifer, and Jessica all graduated from Coopersville High School. The Busman children furthered their education and earned their college degrees. Recognizing the value of higher education, the Busman family established this scholarship to benefit a graduating Coopersville High School senior who demonstrates academic excellence and has been involved in extracurricular activities. Additional consideration is given to a student who has demonstrated a strong work ethic outside of school by securing part time employment or by participating in voluntary community service.

ghacf.org/coopersville



Coopersville Area

Community Foundation

**Staci Cheadle Memorial
Scholarship Fund**



Staci Cheadle was a young woman who grew up in Nunica and attended Coopersville High School. She was a very active member of the Church of the Saviour and dreamed of working in the field of X-Ray Technology after completing college. She constantly gave to others and that same care and concern caused her to have a love for animals, especially horses. She worked on a horse farm and was very active in the Future Farmers of America (FFA) Club and the Equestrian Team. The summer before her Senior year at Coopersville High School, she was tragically killed in an accident while watering her horse. This fund was started as a result of an outpouring of community and family love for Staci. Over the years, this permanent Legacy to her life helps support many young people from the Coopersville area.

ghacf.org/coopersville



Coopersville Area

Community Foundation

**Coopersville Endowed
Scholarship Fund**



This scholarship fund opened in 2000 and was formerly a student loan program. It now offers scholarship opportunities to students who wish to continue their education beyond high school.

ghacf.org/coopersville



Coopersville Area

Community Foundation

**Del Shannon Memorial
Scholarship Fund**



Charles (Del Shannon) Westover, a 1953 graduate of Coopersville High School, got started in music at the age of 14 when he discovered the guitar. He continued to develop his innovative skills with the guitar, which eventually became legendary in the music industry. Chuck Westover began writing songs and, by 1961, had become the international rock star, Del Shannon. He contributed significantly to the careers of Bob Seger, Brian Hyland, Gayle McCormick, and Tom Petty. Del Shannon continued to write, produce, and perform music until his death in 1990. Shirley Westover, Del Shannon’s wife of 30 years, and his family opened this fund in hope that the memory of Del Shannon will continue to live on through the recipients.

ghacf.org/coopersville



Coopersville Area

Community Foundation

**David Day
Eppelheimer Fund**



The David Day Eppelheimer Scholarship fund was started after his death in 2017. Mr. Applesauce, as some kindergarten students called him, taught life lessons by using song, music, puppets, animals, guest speakers, and family members. His passion for education lives on through this scholarship’s support of the next generation choosing to be educators themselves.

ghacf.org/coopersville



Coopersville Area

Community Foundation

**S. J. Hecksel Memorial
Scholarship Fund**



Sherman and Ruth Hecksel established this fund in 2000 in memory of their only child, Sherman “S.J.” who died in a tragic accident at the age of 23. “S.J.” graduated from Coopersville High School and attended Grand Rapids Community College. “S.J.” had a great enthusiasm for life and a desire to meet others. His natural curiosity was reflected through his interest in travel, and his good nature and kindness helped bring people together. This scholarship is offered to students from Coopersville High School who plan to attend a program of higher education and demonstrate a concern for others and possess a strong faith and values.

ghacf.org/coopersville



Coopersville Area
Community Foundation

**Randal and Marilyn Mergener
Scholarship Fund**



This fund was created by Marilyn’s family to honor her memory. She was an elementary teacher in the Grand Haven area for 37 years who loved all her students and shared her passion of reading with them. The family started the scholarship fund to help students who worked hard to follow their dreams in continuing their education.

ghacf.org/coopersville



Coopersville Area
Community Foundation

**Nelson Family
Scholarship Fund**



The Nelson siblings and their partners – Raymond and Barbara Nelson, David and RuthAnn Nelson, and Linda (Nelson) and James Brigham – were born and raised in Coopersville. They know the meaning of hard work and know the burden of poverty. All of the Nelson children have worked hard and have had successes in their lives. However, formal education was not something they were privileged enough to have. They established this scholarship to help send a Coopersville High School student to college and realize the gift of higher education.

ghacf.org/coopersville



Coopersville Area
Community Foundation

**David A. Reeves
Scholarship Fund**



David Reeves was a Coopersville community leader, business owner, and entrepreneur. When David passed away in 2015, his wife, Sharon, and family started the David A. Reeves Scholarship Fund. This scholarship fund will forever support a graduating senior from Coopersville High School who is pursuing postsecondary studies in manufacturing or engineering. This scholarship serves as one of Dave’s many legacies in Coopersville.

ghacf.org/coopersville



Coopersville Area

Community Foundation

Arlyn J. Walt Memorial Scholarship Fund



Arlyn J. Walt was a farmer who worked hard to provide, a husband who loved his wife, Kathy, and a good neighbor – always willing to help a friend. He was a third-generation dairy farmer and was known for his kindness and generosity, his love for God, and his passion for the farm. He was a member of the Farm Bureau and active in the Michigan Milk Producers Association. Kathy hopes to continue to inspire future farmers to enable their work to nourish generations with this scholarship. This scholarship is awarded to students from the Coopersville area interested in studying agriculture.

ghacf.org/coopersville



Coopersville Area

Community Foundation

Daryn Renee Worpel Scholarship Fund



This scholarship fund was created in memory of Daryn and through an outpouring of love and generosity from her family and friends in the Coopersville community after her untimely death. It began awarding scholarships in the year 2015 – the year Daryn would have graduated High School. Daryn was a 5th grade student at Coopersville East Elementary School when she was taken from her family and put into the arms of Jesus. Daryn loved everything! She especially loved the Lord, her family, and her friends. She was adventurous, talented in art and music, bright, and truly loved to read. She also had a passion for animals. This scholarship helps students pursue a college education and it will forever honor an awesome girl who was taken far too early.

ghacf.org/coopersville