

Greetings!

At the Foundation, nothing we do is done alone. Every day, we are reminded how fortunate we are to work alongside generous community members and dedicated partners. As we reflect on 2025, we're incredibly proud of what we accomplished together—and deeply grateful for the continued support.

Our collective impact is made possible by extraordinary collaboration, shared commitment, and the time and talent of more than 100 community volunteers providing leadership, vision, and oversight to the Foundation and our affiliates.

Last year alone:

- **\$10.6 million** was returned to the community through all of our grant programs and scholarship awards.
- **\$12.7 million** was raised.
- **23 new funds** were opened.
- **5 new members** joined our Legacy Society.
- **17.6% rate of return** was achieved for our investment portfolio.

Thank you for helping make all this, and much more possible. From all of us at the Foundation, we wish you a happy, healthy New Year.

As we begin 2026, our work of **impacting community, inspiring philanthropy**, and responsibly **managing investments** is already well underway.

Impacting Community

Scholarship Season Has Begun

Scholarships help students pursue education, training, and certifications that strengthen our workforce and community. Last year, the Foundation **awarded more than \$900,000 in scholarships to over 230 students**. Applications for the 2025–2026 cycle are **open through January 30, 2026**. Our scholarship program is simple; students apply once and are eligible for all scholarships for which they meet the requirements. [Click here to learn more or apply.](#)

Youth Advisory Council Recruitment Underway

Our **Youth Advisory Council (YAC)** brings together high school leaders from across the region to explore youth focused issues, review grant proposals, and engage peers in philanthropy. Current high school freshmen and sophomores are encouraged to **apply by February 27, 2026**. [Learn more about YAC](#)

Inspiring Philanthropy

Granting Wishes

Our **Community Wish List** connects donors directly with meaningful local projects—making charitable giving easier, more accessible, and more impactful. This past year, 6 wishes were fully granted with 15 additional wishes partially supported, bringing the total grants facilitated through this program to more than \$23,000. [Explore or support a wish](#)

Opening a New Fund

In 2025, **23 new charitable funds** were created to honor loved ones, support causes, and strengthen community impact. Today, we proudly steward **more than 700 funds** on behalf of generous donors. [Learn more about opening a fund](#)

Managing Investments

2025 Financial Update

We are committed to responsible stewardship of all resources entrusted to us. The Foundation achieved a 2.5% rate of return for Q4, a 17.6% rate of return for 2025, and a **10-year average rate of return of 10.8%**.

Fund Statements

Quarterly earnings and fees have been applied and fund statements will be distributed to Fund Advisors later this month.

Growing our Team

Amirah Vosburgh, our new **EVP and Chief Operating Officer**, joins us following the Board's approval of a new Executive Vice President and COO role. Amirah brings extensive experience from Grand Valley State University and EQPD and will oversee internal operations—including marketing, HR, administration, operational efficiencies and facilities.

Ashley Ardell joins the Foundation as **Executive Administrative Assistant**, bringing strong experience from the Tri-Cities Family YMCA supporting leadership, board, events, and fundraising.



Amirah Vosburgh
EVP and Chief Operating Officer



Ashley Ardell
Executive Administrative Assistant

Recent News & Coverage

New Tax Credits for Charitable Contributions

Legislation reinstating a 50% tax credit for certain charitable contributions—aimed at encouraging philanthropy and supporting community foundations went into effect January 1, 2026. [Learn more](#)

Construction Begins at Spring Lake District Library

A new programming space is underway at the Spring Lake District Library. [Read more](#)

\$18.4M Housing Project for Adults with Disabilities

A Grand Haven nonprofit is building new housing to support independent living for adults with intellectual disabilities. [Read more](#)

Grand Haven Recycling Ministry Expands

After recycling more than **4.5 million pounds of metal** and raising over **\$600,000**, the ministry is moving to a larger facility. [Read more](#)

For **good**. For **all**. Forever.

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