



2017 HCCF Annual Report

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Friends of the Foundation,

We welcome you to our 2017 Huron County Community Foundation Annual Report. Inside these pages is a glimpse of the activities, grants, and projects of HCCF in 2017. We hope you enjoy the summary it provides. Along with the stories, we hope you notice the photography. All the photos you see throughout this year's report were provided by local, Huron County photographers. We are proud of the incredible talent in our county, and hope you enjoy their images. Thank you to Karen Murphy Photography (cover), Deneen Lebert (current page), Tyler Leipprandt of Michigan Sky Media (donor spotlight, special grants, and YAC), Business Soil (grant spotlight), and Shianne Nickerson of Shy Photography (closing) for allowing us to showcase your work.

During 2017, we continued our legacy of supporting local nonprofits, community projects, and aspiring scholars. This investment in our community is impossible without three key groups of people: our donors who give selflessly of their resources, our Trustees and volunteers who share their time and effort with us throughout the year, and our annual sponsors who support our operations.

Enjoy this look back at 2017 and thank you for your continued support of HCCF,

Mackenzie Price Sundblad - Executive Director

Chris Boyle - HCCF Board of Trustees - Chairperson



DONOR SPOTLIGHT: DR. EDWARD STEINHARDT

We lost an incredible supporter of the community foundation in 2017. Dr. Edward Steinhardt passed away in September 2017 but created a legacy during his lifetime that will live on, for good, forever. Two different funds bearing his name are currently managed by the Huron County Community Foundation. Dr. Steinhardt strongly believed in supporting the community and the causes close to his heart. The perpetual endowments in his name, with the help of his children, will continue to support those causes.

Dr. Steinhardt was committed to ensuring the education of future science-minded students. He, his late wife Alice, and all 5 of their children pursued careers related to science. To honor their family's legacy of science, in the late 1970's, the Steinhardt Family Science Scholarship Fund was established, and later transferred to HCCF in 2006. Since 2006, the scholarship fund has supported 15 students and awarded nearly \$82,500. In 2007, Dr. Steinhardt also established the Dr. Edward & Alice Steinhardt Sacred Heart Catholic Church Fund with HCCF which provides annual support to the Catholic Church. Over \$82,000 from this fund have been granted to the Church since the fund's inception in 2007.

We are proud to have these two funds as our spotlights for the year of 2017. Dr. Steinhardt's philanthropic efforts are shining examples of the importance and role of community foundations in creating permanent legacies and support systems for causes in our county. Dr. Steinhardt will be deeply missed.

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GRANT SPOTLIGHT: GRINDSTONE HARBOR

At our Annual Celebration in September we announced our Fall Grant Recipients. The Friends of Grindstone City DNR received one of the largest grants of the year, over \$2,000, to continue their project of revitalizing the Grindstone City Harbor. The Grindstone Harbor is the epicenter of the community and, in recent years, had been neglected, causing the peninsulas on either side of the harbor to overgrow. The view of Lake Huron was obstructed and people frequently commented that one could drive right next to the Harbor and the lake without even knowing due to the overgrowth. A group of citizens decided to act, forming The Friends of Grindstone City DNR. They began fundraising and restoring the Harbor to its former glory. HCCF provided them with their first ever grant in September 2017.

Both peninsulas have been cleared and the line of sight from the shoreline to the water has been restored, pictured here. Grindstones line the banks of the harbor, as a nod to the history of the area.

We are encouraged to see groups of concerned citizens driving change in their local community. This is just one of many community projects HCCF supported in 2017. Below is a full list of community supported projects:

Cross Lutheran Schools – Vex Robotics Club

Greater Port Austin Art and Placemaking Fund – Public Art in Port Austin





Senior Free Produce Project – New Greenhouse

Harbor Beach Community Connections – Multi-Generational Literacy Project

EPBP Laker School – Girl Powered STEM and Robot Roundup II

Huron Knights Building Association – K of C Defibrillator

Harbor Beach Softball – Field Maintenance Equipment

Ubly Little League – Field Improvement Project

Jr. Priscilla Club – Fit Park

Food Bank of Eastern Michigan – Laker Elementary Backpack Program

Harbor Beach Lighthouse Preservation Society Inc. – Lighthouse Painting Project

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BACK TO SCHOOL GRANTS

The phrase "back to school" can illicit a variety of responses, depending on who you ask. This year, HCCF decided to show our teachers how much we appreciate their efforts by offering grants specifically for Huron County classrooms. We asked teachers to respond to the following question -- "What would you do with an extra \$500 for your classroom?" We had over 60 "wishlists" submitted for the \$500 grant. The overwhelming response prompted an anonymous donor of the Price Family Fund to contribute funding for a second \$500 grant. Requests ranged from alternative seating to basic school supplies like paper and pencils and from STEM related requests to books.

The two grant recipients were Vicki Yackle of Bad Axe Public Schools and Amy Smithers of Laker Elementary School. Yackle, the Agriscience Teacher Bad Axe, used her grant to purchase classroom hydroponic equipment. Her students will use the hydroponic equipment to grow tomatoes in the classroom, year-round. After the tomaotes are ready to harvest, Yackle plans to teach her students to make and can their own salsa. This grant will allow students to create the farm to fork experience in their classroom while learning skills that they can utilize for the rest of their life.

Amy Smithers, a 3rd grade teacher at Lakers, is helping each of her students become a published author by the end of the school year! Each year, Smithers would create a classroom book that featured one page of writing and illustrating from each of her students. This year, every single student will be responsible for their own book, full of original writing pieces and illustrations. The excitement from her students will hopefully spark a lifetime love of reading and creating. At the end of the year-long project, the students will host a publishing party in their classroom to show of their hard work to family members and the community,

Our Huron County teachers constantly go "above and beyond" to develop our next generation. These Back to School grants were our small token of appreciation for all their hard work.

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Tyler Leipprandt
MICHIGAN SKY MEDIA



YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The YAC is the Youth Advisory Committee of the Huron County Community Foundation. Their role, as the youth component of HCCF, is to be the voice for our county's young people. The YAC is also responsible for the use of the Youth Activities Fund, a permanent endowment at HCCF. They use this endowment to fund the YAC operations and give grants to organizations impacting the lives of Huron County youth!

The YAC's year begins in August at their retreat. During a summer afternoon, the students participate in teambuilding activities, begin to schedule out their year, and elect officers. This year, the YAC chose seniors Halle Keim and Sara Wehner to represent their group as Co-Chairs.

Fund development, community service, and grantmaking are all projects that the YAC undertakes each year. This year's fund development project was piggy banks. Each student received a small piggy bank for their (and their parents'!) spare change. The change was then matched by an anonymous donor, yielding nearly \$2,000 to add to the endowment! In March, the YAC joined forces with Fleece and Thank You, a Michigan based nonprofit, that provides hand-tied blankets to children in hospitals throughout the state. The YACers worked together to make blankets during one of their monthly meetings to provide a pop of color, feeling of warmth, and piece of home to children receiving treatment in our state.

The YAC gave out grants two different times during 2017, in May and November. Their two largest grants went to the Huron County CAN Council to support the opening of a Child Advocacy Center and to Scheurer Hospital to support their Mental Health Matters program and THRIVE support group. See all of the YAC grant projects [here](#).

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Annual Sponsors

The Annual Sponsorship program allows us to continue our mission to improve the quality of life for all of Huron County. Our Annual Sponsors support Foundation operations, our Annual Celebration, the Annual Report, our E-Newsletters, and our golf outing with their gift. These businesses play an important role in ensuring HCCF is positively impacting the community for good, forever.

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Thank you to all our Sponsors!



WANT MORE INFORMATION?

Trustees and staff of the Huron County Community Foundation are humbled by the community support we receive each year. Thank you for helping us improve the quality of life in Huron County.

To learn more about the Foundation, we invite you to explore the resources below found on our website
huroncountycommunityfoundation.org

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