



Four County
Community
Foundation



2015 | Report to the Community

Chairperson & CEO Message

Four County Community Foundation has a proud heritage of service to our Communities. In our twenty-eight year history, our assets have grown over five times our original endowment of \$2.5 million to over \$13 million. At the same time, we have awarded over \$7.5 million in grants which is three times our initial endowment.

Last year, we launched our fourfold strategy, entitled Vision 20/20, to increasingly communicate with our six core communities: Almont, Armada, Capac, Dryden/Metamora, Imlay City and Romeo/Washington. We are delighted to report that progress has been made and we have impacted each of these communities in various ways.

Our first order of business was to freshen our message. We updated our logo and motto for use in our publications, website, social media and other marketing materials. We hope you like our tree logo, which features limbs outstretched as a show of support, and our new motto, Helping Our Community Grow.

Secondly, we continue to share our mission and tell our stories through newspaper articles, website updates, social media, and our annual Report to the Community. Please visit our website, 4ccf.org, and our Facebook page, [4CountyCommunityFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/4CountyCommunityFoundation).

Our third goal is an ongoing objective to increase localized charitable giving to each of our six core community funds by offering dollar-for-dollar match for donations made to any of these six funds. This match will be in place until \$5,000 in new funds has been raised. This means an endowment of at least \$10,000 for each community fund! Visit our website to make a contribution to your favorite community fund, or to any of our other 109 funds.

Our fourth initiative is to host, sponsor, or participate in community events. Board members, Emeritus members, volunteers and staff have been engaged in Community outreach at such events as: Imlay City's Blueberry Festival, Almont's Homecoming, Romeo's gatherings at Starkweather Arts Center, Moonflowers Afterglow and Night Under the Stars at the Romeo-Washington Chamber of Commerce, Capac's Historical Society Harvest Dinner and Football Homecoming and Armada's Concert in the Park.

We encourage all of our constituents, whether you are a donor, professional advisor, grant beneficiary or volunteer, to share our story. Together we can make a difference!

*President/CEO Janet Bauer and
2015 Chairperson Sean O'Bryan*





Armada Concert in the Park

2015 Trustees

Dr. Clif Clendenan
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2015 YAC Members

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AJ Geoit
Shelby Husovsky
Natalie Jankowski
Bailey Knuth
Carly Livingston
Caelan O'Bryan
Mitchell Shafer
Nick Sienkiewicz
Hanna Szydlowski

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Chairperson
Sean O'Bryan



Vice Chair
Dr. Jennifer Parker-Moore



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Joe Worden



Secretary
John Brzozowski



The Tabar-Schultz Scholarship

After meeting each other in biology class, Ron and Marghe (Schultz) continued on to graduate together from Romeo High School in the late 1960's.

After high school Ron earned a B.S. degree in Materials Science and Engineering followed by a Ph.D. degree in Polymer Science and Engineering. His education positioned him for a successful career in science and technology positions at the Ford Motor Company in Dearborn and the 3M Company of St. Paul, Minnesota, where Marghe and Ron now live.

Marghe held positions in various school libraries located in Michigan, Massachusetts, and Minnesota after earning undergraduate and graduate degrees in the library and information sciences.

Since retiring, Marghe and Ron model the phrase of "lifelong learning" by participating in OLLI – the Osher Life Long Learning Institute program at the University of Minnesota. They also often can be found enjoying local theaters, Gopher hockey games, and Viking football games. Active in the community, Ron makes audio recordings of science and math textbooks at the States Services for the Blind and Marghe befriends senior citizens through the Highland Block Nurse Program.

Ron and Marghe benefitted greatly from being able to pursue the college education of their choice due to sufficient funding from scholarship and family resources. Following their desire to provide similar higher educational opportunities for Romeo High School graduates, the Tabar-Schultz Scholarship has been created to offer assistance to deserving students. This annual scholarship is renewable for up to four years given reasonable progress toward a degree.

The Blonde Scholarship

This Blonde Scholarship was created in thanksgiving for the caring and supportive members of the Imlay City Community.

The Blondes were raised in Imlay City, graduated from the public schools, attended Sacred Heart Catholic Church and were given many opportunities to serve the community through work and volunteerism. They have great pride in the community's accomplishments and cherish many life-long friendships.

"There's a time in life when we can choose to give back," says Richard and Patricia Blonde. "It is with great gratitude that we establish a lasting legacy in our family's name that will benefit generations of graduates from our hometown."

The Blonde Scholarship is an endowed fund which will be awarded to graduates of Imlay City High School who pursue an undergraduate and/or graduate degree at Siena Heights University or Adrian College.

"A college education can literally change the course of a person's life. The impact on their family can be significant," states Mitch and Dawn Blonde. "We hope our investment in the lives of ICHS graduates will encourage others to do the same."



Grace, Mitch, Dawn, and Grant Blonde



Patty and Richard Blonde



Beth (Blonde), Bill, and Josie McCaulley

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



Statement of Financial Position

	<i>for year ending</i>	
	<i>December 31, 2014</i>	<i>December 31, 2013</i>
ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 164,476	\$ 225,035
Investments	\$ 12,752,372	\$ 12,295,624
Beneficial Interest in Trust	\$ 650,776	\$ 65,000
Grants Receivable	\$ 2,500	\$ -
Prepaid Expenses	\$ 12,763	\$ 397
Land, Building, Furniture, and Equipment - net of accumulated depreciation	\$ 151,035	\$ 156,702
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 13,733,922	\$ 12,742,758

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ 10,373	\$ 3,637
Grants Payable	\$ 22,327	\$ 27,359
Other Liabilities	\$ 2,293	\$ 972
Total Liabilities	\$ 34,993	\$ 31,968
Net Assets - Unrestricted	\$ 13,045,785	\$ 12,645,790
Net Assets - Temporarily Restricted	\$ 653,144	\$ 65,000
Total Net Assets	\$ 13,698,929	\$ 12,710,790
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 13,733,922	\$ 12,742,758

Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

	<i>for year ending</i>	
	<i>December 31, 2014</i>	<i>December 31, 2013</i>
REVENUES		
Contributions - Unrestricted	\$ 246,395	\$ 412,735
Contributions - Temporarily Restricted	\$ 663,276	\$ 65,000
Investment Income - net of expenses	\$ 382,206	\$ 459,223
Net Realized and Unrealized Gains	\$ 253,819	\$ 1,410,192
Other	\$ 10,781	\$ -
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 1,556,477	\$ 2,347,150

EXPENSES		
Program Services		
Grants and Scholarships	\$ 412,972	\$ 372,473
Support Services		
Management and General	\$ 94,236	\$ 115,947
Fundraising	\$ 14,955	\$ 18,556
Development	\$ 46,175	\$ 54,193
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 568,338	\$ 561,169

NET ASSETS		
Increase in Net Assets	\$ 988,139	\$ 1,785,981
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	\$ 12,710,790	\$ 10,924,809
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$ 13,698,929	\$ 12,710,790

PUBLIC NOTICE: The financial information contained in this report has been prepared from our most recent annual audit. Our audited financial statements and IRS Form 990 are on file for review at the Foundation office during normal business hours. Copies of either document are available for a nominal fee. Names of investment managers and trustees responsible for investments and the oversight of assets are also available upon request.

Unrestricted

Jane E. Bishop Memorial
Four County Community
Dora & Toos Ondersma

Administrative

Friends Operations

Capital Campaign & Other Non-Endowed Funds

Capac Youth Sports Project
President's Advised
Sillers Family Charitable

Community Funds

Almont Education & Community
Armada "Al Verlinde" Community
Capac Community
Dryden/Metamora Community
Imlay City Community
Romeo Community Action

Designated Agency

Family Literacy Center of Lapeer County
Roland W. Graubner Endowment for the Romeo
District Library
Imlay City Historical Commission
North Macomb Soccer Club Field Development
Richmond Rotary Foundation Robert "Tiger" Fruin Memorial
Romeo Historical Society/Charles E. Keller
Symphonia Chorale Endowment

Donor Advised

Armada Education Foundation
"Stay Strong Stan"-Stanley Ian Babinski Memorial
Justin C. "Jut" Bullock Memorial Scholarship
Capac Adolescents Preventing Abuse & Crime
Capac Educational Endowment
Darin Conrad Education
Joseph & Bertha Corrión Charitable
Victoria E. Hill Memorial
Imlay Area Christian Community
Key Players Athletic Foundation
Ligon Brothers
Sally McGeorge Memorial
James E. Neely Scholarship

Rhonda Nugent Memorial
James A. and Marilyn K. Ottevaere
Karras Pelfrey Memorial Scholarship
Richmond Athletic Club Endowment
Gail Rickard Foundation
Dr. Bernard J. Stremmer Memorial
Waterloo Hunt Club Donor Advised
Woods-N-Water News Outdoor Foundation

Field of Interest

21st Century Education
Almont Area
Armada Area
Capac Area
Dryden Area
Imlay City Area
Romeo Area
Linda M. Felton Memorial
Four County Community Foundation Home
Four County Environmental
Healthy Seniors/Healthy Youth
Healthy Seniors/Healthy Youth 2
Imlay City Educational Endowment
W. K. Kellogg Youth
Lapeer Regional Hospital Endowment
Lloyd Veitch
Loral Watson Memorial Endowment
The Women's Fund

Scholarship

Nancy B. Barr
John R. & Iris M. Bartholomew
Andy Beam Memorial
Harry Bussell
Capac Athletic Booster
Robert Wayne Creger Sr. Memorial
Cryderman-Hebblewhite Agriculture
Howard & Marie Dahn
Marion & Robert Fischer
Hilda M. Hill Memorial
Imlay City Educational
🌱 The Blonde Scholarship
Grettenberger

Alvin Norlin
Glenn L. Smith II Memorial
Lee Weyer Athletic
Richard P. Wheeler

Imlay City Schools Alumni Association
Ruth Isaacson Memorial
Lawrence & Rose Juip Memorial
Knights of Columbus Council #7018 Roman Catholic
Laurie Lee Memorial
Russell W. Ligon Memorial Engineering
Harry Moore
William & Betty Morrison Memorial
Murdie Educational
North Macomb Soccer Club
Romeo Community Schools
American Legion
Dan Barnabo
David Brockman
Mary Chinoski
Ralph Dietz
Steven Fritz Sr. / Romeo Kiwanis
Ellis C. Haskell
Haskell Trust
Al Moran
Eldon Mueller Memorial
David L. Olson / Rotary Club
Julie Pihlaja Korb Memorial
Romeo Boosters Club
Sisson
Starkweather/Garvin
🌱 Tabar-Schultz
Watchdog
Ruth M. Sayles Memorial
George S. Souten Performing Arts
Vera Souten Medical Field
St. Clement Church & K of C #7018 College
Albert Himes & Jean Currey Stanwood Memorial
Brian Verstrete Memorial
Floyd W. West Memorial
🌱 Lewis Wilson Music
Xi Gamma Rho of Beta Sigma Phi

GRANT HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Norbert and Alberta Conrad Community Center, Council on Aging, Inc., serving St. Clair County

It is said that the heart of any home is the kitchen and the Four County Community Foundation is happy to support the heart of the new Conrad Community Center, its kitchen! The kitchen will be used to prepare the food for the Home Delivered Meals Program, which serves healthy meals to homebound seniors in Berlin, Brockway, Emmett, Lynn, Mussey, and Riley townships.

According to Scott Crawford, Executive Director of the Council on Aging, the meal driver is oftentimes the only person a senior may see on a regular basis. "Those meals and the drivers who deliver them are a lifeline to seniors. Very often the meal driver is the only person that senior sees throughout the course of a day, and it is not unusual for the drivers to find a senior in the midst of a medical emergency. They can then summon the appropriate help."

In addition to home-delivered meals, the kitchen will prepare balanced meals Monday through Friday for seniors to enjoy at the center in the company of friends. The kitchen will also make food for all special events and community programs offered at the center.



Scott Crawford, Executive Director; Janet Bauer, 4CCF; Jan Hathcock, Area Supervisor; and Rita Walker, Culinary Specialist



Future engineers design Mag-Lev cars



Budding biologists learn shark anatomy

STEM Conference for 6th/7th Grade Girls

The Four County Community Foundation was excited to be a sponsor of the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) Conference for 6th/7th Grade Girls at the Lapeer County Education & Technology Center. The after-school event was attended by sixty young women and their parents.

The girls attended one of two motivating, interactive activities: the dissection of a dogfish shark or the designing, building and testing of a magnetic levitation (maglev) car. The shark dissection brought the expected "ooohs" and "eeews" but the girls made some amazing discoveries. One group found the remains of a fish in the stomach of their shark! The maglev car designers spent considerable time testing and improving their models to cruise the length of the test track.

At the same time, parents/guardians were attending their own sessions led by area school counselors. The sessions focused on ways parents can encourage their daughters to reach their full potential in education and career choice. Overall, the parents' evaluations expressed that the conference was an inspiration to their daughters.

The students and families also heard from keynote speaker, Jayme Huber. Jayme is currently a consultant with Bain & Company in Boston, MA. She is a graduate of Almont High School, Purdue University and, most recently, Harvard Business School. Jayme is also a past 4CCF scholarship winner. In 2004, she won the Hilda Hill and Russell Ligon Memorial Scholarships. Jayme's speech focused on ways the young women could be both inspired by the remarkable world of STEM opportunities and inspiring to each other as they pursue their dreams.

The event ended with evaluations. The girls were enthusiastic in their remarks including:

"Girls are a major force in this world!" "There are more girls like me and I am not alone!" "It was the BEST four hours of my life!"

Everyone left the STEM Conference with new knowledge about the opportunities available for young women and the challenges the students will face and overcome as they pursue academic programs in STEM fields.



Dog-shark dissection at the 2015 STEM Conference

Pedal Power Energizes Armada's Krause Elementary

Fifth grade students at Krause Later Elementary in Armada are using Pedal Power to generate electricity to power radios, computers, and other electrical household items. The Pedal Power generator is a bicycle stand with a 400W generator and a DC-to-AC converter that allows students to use their body's mechanical energy to make electricity. Students also calculate the number of calories they use as they pedal their way to a relative zero carbon footprint! The Four County Community Foundation eagerly supports school projects such as Pedal Power from its 21st Century Education Fund.



Imlay City High School History Club Europe Trip



This spring, nineteen Imlay City High School History Club members and eleven adult chaperones took the "Trip of a Lifetime" and spent ten days visiting historic sites in Germany, Poland, and the Czech Republic. The trip was the culmination of the school year spent studying The Holocaust and World War II. Students were able to personally experience places that most of us only read about.

Students and chaperones visited the Berlin Wall in Germany, Nazi concentration camps in Krakow, Poland, and historic architecture in Warsaw, Poland and Prague in the Czech Republic. The Four County Community Foundation YAC (Youth Advisory Committee) was pleased to award a grant from the W.K. Kellogg Fund to support the Imlay City High School History Club's "Trip of a Lifetime."



GRANT HIGHLIGHTS



Almont Community Job Fair

The Four County Community Foundation consistently seeks ways to positively impact our service area. Supporting the local job fair was beneficial to residents seeking employment and area businesses hoping to fill available positions. Funding came from the Dora and Toos Ondersma Fund, which provides the Board with pro-active funds to address local needs.

The Community Job Fair, coordinated by the Almont DDA and the Imlay City DDA, helped bring together over seventy potential employees and twelve area businesses. Representatives from *Michigan Thumb Works!* were also available to help with résumés and offer information regarding job-training programs. Almont DDA Director, Nancy Boxey stated, “We consider this job fair to be a good way for local employers and prospective employees to meet, and all under one roof.”

Oxford Public Library, The Way We Worked

The Four County Community Foundation proudly supported the Oxford Public Library in their hosting of the traveling Smithsonian Institution Exhibition, *The Way We Worked*. The exhibit, developed by the National Archives and Records Administration, explores how work became a key component in American culture. It chronicles 150 years of work in America and explores significant changes: the rise of manufacturing, immigration, urbanization, the diversification of the American workplace, and economic depression.

More than 15,000 visitors delighted in the exhibition’s oral histories, local displays, fireside chats, films and discussions. In addition, over 50 volunteers, local businesses and area students worked together to make *The Way We Worked* a success. The OPL staff stated, “This new collaboration with members of our community was perhaps the most rewarding result of this project and it is hoped that we will continue to work with these outstanding volunteers.”



Students learn about The Way We Worked, the traveling Smithsonian Institution Exhibition, at the Oxford Public Library

Making Beautiful Music in Dryden

The K-12 music program at Dryden Community Schools is sounding even better thanks to grants from the Four County Community Foundation. Dryden K-4 students are making melodies on eighteen new Orff percussion instruments. Dryden Bands Director, Amy Rever-Oberle, says the students are inspired by the tuneful sounds emanating from the soprano and alto glockenspiels, and the soprano, alto and bass metallophones and xylophones.

In the High School, it's all about the bass. The band is now the proud owner of a brand new Yamaha tuba, played by one student, but felt and heard by all. "The new tuba means improvement for everyone, not just one performer," said the director. Ms. Rever-Oberle stated that approximately 50% of Dryden's K-12 students participate in art or instrumental music. "We are holding steady with our band program...our level of participation remains strong."



Orff percussion instruments in Dryden



Dryden's new tuba!



Playing a tune on the xylophone



Powell Middle School students preparing food in Healthy Living Class

Powell Middle School Aero Garden Project and Made in Michigan Project

Romeo's Powell Middle School students experienced healthy living of their own making by growing herbs, researching nutrition, learning cooking techniques, finding recipes and preparing meals in the classroom. Teacher Jessica Bennett described the newly implemented Healthy Living curriculum as focusing on making healthy choices in daily living. The students joined weekly cooking labs to learn basic, nutritious meal-planning and analyze the benefits of their choices. Students were required to trace the paths of the foods they prepared from farm to table. The class included discussion and debate regarding information found on food labels such as organically-grown, processed, modified, and hormone-free.

The Aero Garden Project permitted students to grow some of their own ingredients using an indoor, hydroponic garden system that employs full-spectrum CFL (compact fluorescent lighting) to quickly grow items such as herbs, salad greens and cherry tomatoes. In addition, students researched the health benefits of the foods they grew and found recipes for using the herbs and vegetables. The Made in Michigan Project showed the students the benefits of buying locally grown and raised food. As they planned their weekly meals, students were able to incorporate locally raised beef, chicken, bacon and dairy products into their menus.

Both the Aero Garden and the Made in Michigan projects yielded positive results for the Healthy Living classes. Students participated enthusiastically in all facets of the experience. Many students planned to begin both gardening and preparing food at home. Some parents of students indicated they would be buying more locally grown and raised food. The Four County Community Foundation is delighted to support these and other local education projects through the 21st Century Education Fund.



This spring, the Four County Community Foundation YAC Members visited Lapeer Ed Tech and participated in a community project with the Special Education Program. Under the supervision of Special Education Director Casey Rich, YAC Members and Special Education Students planted vegetable and flower gardens housed at the Lapeer Ed Tech School playground area where the kids interact. It was a great afternoon and both groups were happy to have the opportunity to work together. YAC looks forward to visiting the Special Education students again in the near future.



Above and Left: MaryRose Clark, Mia Sliman, and Wyatt Bannister working with students at the Lapeer County EdTech Center's school garden.

"The Youth Advisory Committee had a busy year helping our neighborhoods. We have a motivated group of student leaders representing area schools, working hard to make a change. As a new YAC Advisor I am honored to work with these students, and I am excited to see how we can help our communities in the coming year."

Sarah Mousseau

Youth Advisory Committee Members Bailey Knuth, Sam Bartollotta, and William Spencer at the Leadership Conference this summer hosted by The Council of Michigan Foundations at Central Michigan University.



Mission Statement

Four County Community Foundation is committed to serving the current and emerging needs of our local community, continuing the tradition of philanthropy begun generations ago. The Foundation is dedicated to bringing together human and financial resources to support progressive ideas in education, health, community, youth, and adult programs. The Foundation provides a secure, flexible vehicle for individuals, families, foundations, and organizations to positively impact the quality of life in our community. The Foundation recognizes that, in order to meet its commitments to the community it serves, it must seek growth through its permanent endowment funds from a wide range of donors.



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4CountyCommunityFoundation



Advisor's Circle

We want to recognize the professional advisors who have worked with their clients to establish major gifts for the Foundation. Their work is indispensable. The number following their name indicates the number of gifts brought to the Four County Community Foundation.

Thanks to:

- Shane Diehl
- Sebastian V. Grassi
- Cynthia Lane
- Ed Lynch, 3
- Henry Malburg, 2
- Sean O'Bryan, 6
- Barb Quain
- Ronald W. Rickard, 4

Legacy Society Members

We gratefully recognize those who ensure a legacy to the Foundation by planning their future gifts. These people are an encouragement to others to remember the Four County Community Foundation in their charitable plans.

- Janet Bauer
- Mitch and Dawn Blonde
- John and Connie Brzozowski
- Marion and Robert Fischer
- Grace Hill
- Paul and Elsie Hinzmann
- Ella Mae and Gertrude Murdie
- Catherine and Dorothy Ondersma
- Dr. James and Ann Sillers
- Bernard Stremmler, M.D.

