



Special points of interest:

- Proudly serving Lapeer, Macomb, Oakland, and St. Clair Counties since 1987
- We are committed to serving the current and emerging needs of our local community
- Our 2019 grants and scholarships totaled \$567,963
- Net assets of \$17.8 million
- Our business is building community!

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Your Voice - Our Vision:

Foundation Survey Reveals Community Needs

In a recent survey, Four County Community Foundation asked local residents to share what you love about your community. As a public charity that grants to nonprofit organizations and schools, we were also interested to hear about what you didn't like. Ultimately, we wanted to identify where we could best spend our resources in order to make the greatest impact. What we discovered may surprise you. Our needs assessment survey revealed four main areas of need. We then designed a strategy for each:

"Beyond the Bell" will address the need for youth activities for school-aged children outside of the regular school day. Activities such as clubs, sports, tutoring, health and nutrition, fitness, and robotics will be a priority. Four County Community Foundation is committed to serving the needs of our children and making a positive difference in their young lives.



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"Your Story Matters" will address the mental health needs of all ages in our service area. Four County Community Foundation will direct resources towards the prevention of suicide, depression, drug abuse, and bullying. We will also support efforts to help those already suffering from addiction, depression, and other mental health issues.

"Let's Go Places" will address the transportation needs of our senior citizens, our friends with disabilities or special needs, and our neighbors who may be facing financial challenges and hardships. Four County Community Foundation is dedicated to helping those who need it most.

"Stronger Together" will address the need for small business development and mentorship. Four County Community Foundation will support programs and workshops that foster and support leadership, collaboration, and the entrepreneurial spirit.

As we consider grant applications during the coming months, these strategies and initiatives will be our focus. Grantees that address these needs with creative and innovative programs or projects will be given priority. For more information, please contact us at (810)798-0909.

Donor Wall Unveiled

Four County Community Foundation is excited to get started on these new initiatives, but we know that we can't do it alone. To make an even bigger impact, we need YOU!

That's why we will soon be unveiling our Donor Wall, which will be a new feature on our website. Join us at *any* giving level to any fund and your name will be included on our online Donor Wall. You will also be invited to all of our events and be recognized for your generosity.

Giving Levels

Business Sponsor	\$500 (1 month)
Friend	\$1-\$999
Steward	\$1,000-\$2,499
Guardian	\$2,500-\$4,999
Benefactor	\$5,000+

A gift of any size will help us reach our goals! See page 2 for details on how to give.

Foundation Seeks Partnerships with Local Businesses



Join us at any giving level to any fund and we will include your name on our online Donor Wall

Four County Community Foundation is seeking sponsorships from local businesses and community service organizations. Join us by giving at least \$500 and become one of our monthly sponsors. You will be featured for at least one month in our newspaper advertisements and on our Facebook page. You will be prominently displayed as a corporate sponsor on our online Donor Wall and listed in our annual Report to the Community. In addition, you will be invited to our events and be recognized for your generosity.

Show the community how much you care by sponsoring one of our initiatives today!

For more information, please contact our Executive Director, Kathy Dickens, at (810) 798-0909 or kdickens@4ccf.org.

“One of the strengths of Four County Community Foundation is the ability to bring diverse voices and resources together for the common good.”

How Can I Support Four County Community Foundation?

It's easy! Just visit our website at www.4ccf.org. To support one of our new initiatives, click on the 'JOIN OUR CAMPAIGN' button. Or, choose one of our 126 funds by clicking on the 'GIVE NOW' button.

Feel like you want to help, but can't give all at once? Consider becoming a monthly donor and make smaller contributions in easy monthly installments.

Want to give in memory or honor of someone special? You can do that, too!

Wish to remain anonymous? No problem. Click the anonymous button at checkout and we will not publish your name. You will simply be listed as Anonymous.

Would you rather send a check?
Our mailing address is:
PO Box 539
Almont, MI 48003-0539

Want to stop by our office? We are located in the Village of Almont at 231 E. St. Clair. Because we have a small staff, please give us a courtesy call at (810)798-0909. We want to be here when you arrive!

We know you are just one person, but one of the strengths of Four County Community Foundation is the ability to bring diverse voices and resources together for the common good. Please join us!

Youth Advisory Committee: Philanthropy in Action



**YAC Co-Presidents
Hunter Haase and Noah
Verlinde**

Our Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) is busy preparing for their upcoming Needs Assessment Survey. This survey is administered to youth in our local school districts every three years. Students in 7th, 9th, or 11th grades are invited to participate. The results of the assessment are used to identify challenges that young people in our service area are currently facing. The YAC then dis-

cusses ways that they can address the issues through service opportunities and grants from their W.K. Kellogg Youth Fund.

In the first competitive grant cycle of 2020, our YAC awarded the following grants:

- Almont Project Graduation: Senior All-Night Party
- Capac High School: Senior All-Night Party

- Krause Elementary School: SMART Moves Program to help students navigate issues like peer pressure, social media, bullying, and drugs
- Skyline Camp & Retreat Center: Transportation Services for summer day camp

If you want to learn more about our YAC or make a donation to the W.K. Kellogg Youth Fund, please visit our website at www.4ccf.org.

Grantwriting Workshop Teaches Techniques for Success

Writing a grant proposal can be a daunting task, so it helps to get advice from two local organizations who specialize in awarding grants to worthy causes. Kathy Dickens, Executive Director of Four County Community Foundation, and Nancy Boxey, Executive Director of Lapeer County Community Foundation, recently co-hosted a grantwriting workshop for local non-profit organizations, governmental agencies, teachers, and school administrators.

The goal of the free workshop

was to reach out to grantees, answer their frequently asked questions, and cover grantwriting basics. Topics included writing a strong project summary that clearly and succinctly communicates need; designing activities to achieve desired outputs; creating a project timeline; presenting and managing a project budget, and evaluating and reporting outcomes from the project.

Another grantwriting workshop is planned for the future. To stay informed of this and other

Foundation events, follow us on Facebook!



Upcoming Grant Deadlines:

March 1st (scholarships only)

April 1st

July 1st

October 1st

Women's Fund Seminar: Preventing 'Adverse Childhood Experiences'

Join our Women's Fund for a conversation with Dr. Natalie Nugent, Child Psychologist, as she shares her knowledge of Adverse Childhood Experiences and how we can help to prevent them.

What are Adverse Childhood Experiences, or ACEs? These are potentially traumatic events that occur in childhood between the ages of 0 and 17. Examples include experiencing violence or

abuse, witnessing violence in the home or community, having a family member attempt or die by suicide, and growing up in a household where there is substance abuse or mental illness.

ACEs are very common and are linked to chronic health problems, mental illness, and substance misuse in adulthood. They can also negatively impact the attainment of education and employment.

Cost: FREE

When: Tuesday, April 14th

Time: 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Complimentary dinner provided by Skyline Camp & Retreat Center

Where: Imlay City High School Auditoria

Who: Practitioners, Teachers, Pastors, Parents, Anyone Interested

RSVP: (810)798-0909 or kdickens@4ccf.org

"ACEs are very common and are linked to chronic health problems, mental illness, and substance misuse...."

Financial Advisors & Estate Planners - You Don't Want to Miss This!

Your clients have questions about charitable giving and we have answers! Join us on Friday, May 1st for an in-depth look at community foundations and the benefits they can provide to your clients.

David Bennett from the Community Foundation Research and Training Institute will be presenting a 3-hour seminar entitled 'Taxes, Charitable Giving, and The

New Normal.' Topics to be discussed include:

- *Recent Trends in Charitable Giving*
- *The New Standard Deduction - What does it mean for charitable giving?*
- *The Estate Tax - Does it still matter?*
- *Gifts with Income and their Tax Consequences*
- *Smart Tax Strategies in Today's Environment*

Cost: FREE

When: Friday, May 1st

Full Breakfast: 8:00-9:00 a.m.
Seminar: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Where: Oxford Public Library

Who: Attorneys, CPAs, Estate Planners, Financial Advisors, Insurance Agents, etc.

RSVP: (810)798-0909 or kdickens@4ccf.org



Your clients have questions about charitable giving. We have answers!

Helping Our Community Grow

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Grants Awarded in the First Quarter Total \$43,726

In addition to the grants awarded by our Youth Advisory Committee (see story on page 2), Four County Community Foundation is pleased to announce the following grants:

21st Century Education Funds

- Borland Elementary: Author In-Residence Writing Olympics

Four County Community Fund

- Love INC of North Oakland County: Technology Improvements for Outreach Programs
- Oxford Community Schools: AEDs and Safety Training for Staff

Healthy Seniors / Healthy Youth Fund

- Armada Middle School: Tiger Takeout Refrigerator for serve students in need
- Lakeville Parent School Council: 4-Week Cooking Series Focused on Nutrition
- Oxford Township Parks & Recreation: Amenities and Activities for Senior Citizens
- St. Nicholas Catholic Church: Commercial Refrigerator/Freezer for Community Food Pantry

The Women's Fund

- Samaritan House: Emergency Services for Women
- Turning Point, Inc: Program Support for Women's Shelter

To apply for a grant, visit our website at www.4ccf.org and click on 'Grants.' Questions? Contact Micaela Boomer, Program Officer, at (810)798-0909.



Excellence. Accountability. Impact.™