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Inside this issue:

- Joe Worden: 9+ Years of Service **2**
- Backpack Blessings in Capac **2**
- Currier House Receives Grant **3**
- Donor Advised Funds **3**
- #GivingTuesday December 1, 2020 **4**



A Newsletter from Four County Community Foundation

Volume 1, Issue 3

Summer Food Distribution Program Hailed a Success

Cars and trucks lined up at Imlay City High School and Stone Soup Food Bank this summer when Four County Community Foundation facilitated seven food distribution days. Through the USDA “Farmers to Families Food Box” program, our Executive Director, Kathy Dickens, was able to secure thousands of boxes filled with dairy products and produce.

With high-quality products from Prairie Farms and local produce distributors, Heeren and LaGrasso Brothers, news traveled fast and orders were increased in order to meet demand. At the Stone Soup distribution day, a variety of pork products from the Clemens Food Group were also available.

The food boxes were distributed to local food pantries as well as individuals and families. “There were a lot of young parents with kids, and older people, too,” said Dickens. “Everyone was welcome.”



4,800 dairy boxes, 65,000 pounds of produce, and 22,000 pounds of meat were distributed this summer by Four County Community Foundation through the USDA “Farmers to Families Food Box” program



In total, it is estimated that 9,600 gallons of milk, 38,400 containers of other dairy products, 65,000 pounds of produce, and 22,000 pounds of meat were distributed to 11 local food pantries and countless individuals and families.

Our thanks to Prairie Farms Dairy, Heeren LLC, LaGrasso Bros. Produce, and Clemens Food Group for their participation in this program.

Four County Community Foundation would also like to thank Imlay City Schools, Stone Soup Food Bank, our Youth Advisory Committee, and the many other volunteers who helped make this relief effort a success. We are grateful to have volunteers who were willing and able to load heavy boxes into vehicles on hot days while wearing masks and gloves. Service like this continues to demonstrate the love of community that our volunteers possess.

If you would like to assist the Foundation with a financial gift, please visit our website at www.4ccf.org. Click on the ‘Give Now’ button, then select one of our many funds. We accept *and* appreciate donations of any size. Thank you!

3rd Quarter Grants Awarded

The Foundation is pleased to announce our 3rd Quarter grant recipients. Congratulations to the following organizations for receiving grants in our most recent competitive grant cycle.

Lapeer County Parks
Polly Ann Trail Development Project
\$25,000.00

Washington Historical Society
Stair Lift for Museum
\$6,385.00

Almont Historical Society
‘Remembrances of Almont’ Publication
\$2,600.00

Almont High School
Weight Room Improvements
\$2,142.82

Starkweather Arts Center
Courtyard Improvements
\$2,000.00

Borland Elementary School
New Library Books
\$746.07

Joe Worden: Celebrating over 9 Years of Service



Joe & Lorrie Worden

“Giving back, serving others, supporting the community, and simply doing what’s right have always been important....”

Joe Worden, long-time Trustee of Four County Community Foundation, completed his third and final term earlier this year. During his tenure, Joe faithfully served as Treasurer, Vice-Chairperson, and most recently chaired the Marketing Committee. The soft-spoken, nonetheless enthusiastic leader was often the first one to volunteer, especially when it came to community outreach events and scholarship award nights at our local high schools. When asked about his years of service, Joe shared the following:

“I was first introduced to Four County Community Foundation over 20 years ago by then Capac State Bank CEO & President, Joe Salas. Joe has served as an excellent role model and mentor to me throughout my banking career. He knew the importance of giving back to the community, helping those in need, caring for our senior citizens, and giving our youth a hand up. Joe led by example and showed that you can make a positive difference if you only get involved. Giving back, serving others, supporting the community, and simply doing what's right have always been important to me, so I gladly followed Joe's lead.”

“Four County Community Foundation always impressed me. From the way it was formed by benevolent and forward-looking leaders; to the scores of passionate donors who have given generously to help their neighbors; to the impressive list of individuals and families who have served as staff, board members, volunteers and youth advisory council members; to all the positive impact that has been and continues to be accomplished throughout the Foundation’s footprint. I'm proud to have served as a Four County Community Foundation Trustee, and I look forward to continuing to serve the community.”

Our sincere thanks to Joe and his wife, Lorrie Worden, for their unwavering support of Four County Community Foundation and its mission. We are extremely grateful that Joe continues to serve the Foundation as an Emeritus Trustee and is currently a member of the Marketing and Nominating Committees.

Joe Worden is the Senior Vice President / Business Development Officer for Tri-County Bank with an office at their newest location in Romeo.



Our amazing Youth Advisory Committee helped distribute backpacks to children in the Capac area.

Backpack Blessings in Capac

Our Youth Advisory Committee assisted Blue Water Community Action in August with their distribution of backpacks to elementary and middle school children in the Capac area. The backpacks were filled with the school supplies necessary to start the new school year off right!

Backpacks for preschoolers were also available and contained a reading book, a coloring book, and crayons.

We are proud of our Youth Advisory Committee and their dedication to making a difference in the lives of youth!

Historic Currier House Project Receives \$5,000 Grant from Consumers Energy Foundation

The Currier House, located in the Village of Almont, has been the home of Four County Community Foundation since 2000. Because of its unique architectural form, the octagon-shaped home (circa 1854) is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

To maintain this architectural treasure, much-needed repairs to the home's wrap around porch have begun. Also included in the home improvement project is the installation of a chair lift that will make the home more accessible to all guests of the Foundation.

Four County Community Foundation received a \$5,000 grant from Consumers Energy Foundation towards the purchase of the chair lift. This generous funding will help welcome friends of Four County Community Foundation who use mobility devices.

Other funding for the renovation project will come from the Four County Community Foundation Home Fund. This fund was established by members of the Currier Family and helps to support the conservation and maintenance costs of this historic home.

The renovation project is being overseen by the Home Committee of Four County Community Foundation. Committee members include Bret Schapman (chairperson), David S. Bishop, John Brzozowski, Ken Hummel,

and Jason Verlinde.

Interested in taking a tour of this historic gem after the project is complete? Contact Kathy Dickens, Executive Director, at (810)798-0909 for more details.

Our thanks to Dr. James D. Sillers and our Youth Advisory Committee for planting hydrangeas, roses, and lilies at the Currier House



Donor Advised Funds: A Simple and Flexible Way to Give

What Is A Donor Advised Fund?

A donor advised fund (DAF) is a giving vehicle that enables philanthropic individuals to support their favorite charitable causes. Donor advised funds are simple and flexible tools for those who want to be actively involved in recommending grants to worthy nonprofit organizations. It is a personal approach to giving that also provides a tax benefit for your charitable gifts. You can think of a DAF as an investment fund dedicated exclusively to your philanthropic goals.

How Do Donor Advised Funds Work?

As a qualified sponsoring organization, Four County Community Foundation is authorized to set up and manage a donor advised fund on your behalf.

We work with you to create a fund that is designed especially for you and the causes you care about most!

How Do I Get Started?

Typically, our donors engage in the following process:

1. Contact Four County Community Foundation to discuss your charitable goals and initiate a fund agreement – this includes choosing a name for your fund. If you wish, family members may be included in the process thereby making philanthropy a family tradition that can last forever.
2. Contribute to your donor advised fund. You can give cash, appreciated stocks, or other assets. Our donor advised funds require a minimum of \$15,000, but the option of building your fund over five years is available.
3. Receive the maximum tax benefit that the IRS allows.
4. If you choose to invest your fund in one of our portfolios, know that it will be managed by a professional advisor with oversight by our dedicated Finance & Investment Committee.
5. Recommend a grant from your fund to the nonprofit that you wish to support. Our attentive staff conducts the Foundation's due diligence and issues the check. They are also available to help identify or suggest nonprofits that align with your giving philosophy.

Contact Us!

Are you ready to take the next step in your philanthropic journey? If so, please contact Four County

Community Foundation and ask about a donor advised fund today!

Phone: (810) 798-0909
Email: kdickens@4ccf.org



Donor Advised Funds provide a personal approach to giving and allow you be actively involved in recommending grants.

We work with you to create a fund that is designed especially for you and the causes you care about most!

Helping Our Community Grow



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ROMEO, MI
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231 E. St. Clair
PO Box 539
Almont, MI 48003-0539

Phone: 810-798-0909
Fax: 810-798-0908
Email: kdickens@4ccf.org

www.4ccf.org

Mark Your Calendar - Giving Tuesday is December 1st

#GIVING
TUESDAY

Join us on December 1, 2020
for #GivingTuesday. Visit
our Facebook page for more
information.



Excellence. Accountability. Impact.™

Black Friday.
Cyber Monday.
Giving Tuesday?

Begun in 2012 as a way for people to give to their favorite charitable causes, Giving Tuesday has become a global phenomenon. It's a simple concept, but one that has become a movement "that unleashes the power of people and organizations to *transform* their community and their world."

To *transform* is to make a thorough or dramatic change.

For over thirty-three years, the work of Four County Community Foundation and its volunteers has been laser-focused around transforming and improving the quality of life of individuals and families in our local communities.

In total, Four County Community Foundation has granted over \$6.5 million to local non-profits, schools, and governmental agencies to support vital programs and projects in our area. Additionally, \$3.1 million has been granted to scholarship recipients from our local school districts.

That's a lot of transformation! But, inevitably, we also decline or only partially fund some grant applications because of limited resources.

Won't you help us increase our capacity to fund worthy projects and programs right here in our local schools and communities? Please consider a gift to Four County Community Foundation on Giving Tuesday. Check out our Facebook page on Giving Tuesday for an opportunity to join this global movement and to transform your community!
[@4CountyCommunityFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/4CountyCommunityFoundation)

