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WHAT'S YOUR WHY?

A newsletter from Four County Community Foundation

SUMMER 2026

Imlay City Area Rides offers vital service

A new public transportation offering, whose creation was spearheaded by Four County Community Foundation, is now in operation. **Imlay City Area Rides** started transporting its first riders in mid-February and has since expanded its service to a 30 mile radius that includes Almont, Dryden, Attica and Capac. Housed and administered by the Hispanic Service Center, Imlay City Area Rides offers regularly scheduled rides to grocery stores and other retailers and allows users to schedule rides for medical appointments and other related needs.



The vision for Imlay City Area Rides started back in 2019 when the Foundation conducted a Community Needs Assessment and respondents, particularly those in the eastern part of Lapeer County, said a lack of transportation options made it challenging to get to essential places. Since then, 4CCF's Executive Director Kathy Dickens has been exploring options, applying for grants and working with partners to address this community need. Funding partners include the **Michigan Health Endowment Fund** and **Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy**. Those lending their expertise to the project include the **Lapeer County Community Foundation**, **United Way of Lapeer County**, **Easter Seals**, many local government officials and the dedicated staff and board members of the Hispanic Service Center.

Learn more about Imlay City Area Rides on Facebook or by calling (810) 874-3448. Donations in support of the program can be directed to 4CCF's Hispanic Service Center Fund.



Scholarships awarded

In May, Four County Community Foundation welcomed more than 300 guests to our 2026 Scholarship Celebration to uplift the accomplishments of awardees and thank everyone who makes the scholarship program possible—donors, reviewers, school personnel, trustees and foundation staff.

This year more than \$950,000 was awarded to 217 high school seniors and current undergrads.

We're so grateful for the community's support of our scholarship recipients and wish them all the best in their trade school, college and university pursuits!

4CCF board grows by three

Three new members have joined Four County Community Foundation's Board of Trustees in 2026. **Julia Kaiser, Angie McCoy and Adam Schlusler** were formally welcomed at the board's quarterly meeting in April.

All three previously served in other roles with 4CCF before becoming trustees. Julia reviews grants and scholarships; serves on the Proactive Committee and has presented grant writing workshops with 4CCF Executive Director Kathy Dickens. Angie takes part in 4CCF's Hispanic Coalition and helped plan prior Hispanic Heritage Fiesta events. Adam has lent his expertise as a member of the Foundation's Finance Committee for several years.



Julia Kaiser



Angie McCoy



Adam Schlusler



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Outing supports young readers

In June, Four County Community Foundation's **Friends of Imagination Library** group held their annual **golf outing** at Heather Hills Golf Club in Bruce Township.

Volunteers are grateful to the golfers and sponsors who made the event a great success including Title Sponsors **Verlinde Insurance**, **Tri-County Bank**, and **Jenny and Bernd Koerner**.

Proceeds will help the committee continue their early literacy efforts. Currently, more than 2,270 local children are receiving books in the mail every month.



Take our Needs Survey

Four County Community Foundation is seeking input from residents to better understand the needs and opportunities facing our communities. **A link to our 2026 Needs Survey can be found on our website, 4ccf.org.**

Your feedback will help guide future grants, programs, partnerships, and community investments. Thank you!

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