



The ICCCF Report

Building Endowments for the Future of Our Communities Through Gifts That Keep On Giving

Celebrating



Years

It was time to celebrate recently as many supporters, donors, local dignitaries, grant recipients and past and present board members gathered at the new Sparrow Ionia Hospital to mark the 20th Anniversary of the Ionia County Community Foundation.

“This evening is all about saying thank you to all of you for your wonderful generosity and support of ICCF through the years,” noted President Jim McCarty. “Starting with \$1,000 in seed money, co-founders Ron Story and Mike Magee established ICCF in the fall of 1995 and then helped nurture and

watch its phenomenal growth over the next two decades.”

“Today,” continued McCarty, “the market value of assets is over \$7,000,000 with nearly 30 component funds under the foundation’s large and getting larger umbrella. What’s more, over \$3,000,000 in grants and scholarships has been awarded to non-profit partners throughout the County.”

“This is a very proud night for us,” said Story who served as President for the first 14 formative years. “It was just a dream early on but now we can truly say that it is a dream that has come true as

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ICCF Mission Statement

The Ionia County Community Foundation (ICCF) exists as a leader, catalyst and resource to enhance the well-being and quality of life of Ionia County citizens by joining together to identify and address the needs through aggressive fundraising and promotion of philanthropy now and for future generations.

Vision

The Ionia County Community Foundation, an affiliated fund of the Grand Rapids Community Foundation, will be seen as a respected leader of positive transformation in Ionia County through philanthropy.

FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

James E. McCarty

Ionia County Community Foundation

Sara Badgero

Independent Bank

Bruce Chadwick

Ionia County Community Foundation

Thomas D. Dickinson CPA/CFP

Biggs, Hausserman, Thompson & Dickinson, C.P.A.s

Margaret Helmer

Ionia County Community Foundation

Boomer Hoppough

Independent Bank

Robert Kjolhede

Ionia County Community Foundation

Suzanne Hoseth Kreeger

Circuit Court Judge

Maureen Meade

Ionia County Community Foundation

Jason Mellema

Ionia County Intermediate School District

Hailie Patterson

Michigan One Community Credit Union

Lowell Swartz

Ionia Family Dentistry

Brian Talbot

Mercantile Bank

Deborah Wagner

Ionia County Intermediate School District

Timothy B. Walling

Union Bank, Lake Odessa

Emeriti:

Daniel Balice
Jerry Collison
James Fast
Judge David Hoort
George Hubbard
Ron Story
Roger Wills

Celebrating 20 Years

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our base continues to grow rapidly and our ability to address important needs in our neighborhoods continues to expand significantly.”

The Ron and Margaret Story Legacy Society, which recognizes those who remember the community foundation in their wills and estate plans, pays tribute to the couple for their charitable bequest and financial contributions to ICCF as well as their time, talent and efforts given to it.

(See page 4)

In her remarks to the celebration guests, Circuit Court Judge Suzanne Hoseth Kreeger, the 20th Anniversary Committee Chair, noted that Ron Story and Mike Magee envisioned the foundation as a way to keep our communities together by investing in and ensuring their overall health and well being “For Good. For Ever.”

To hallmark ICCF’s 20 years, Kreeger and her committee – Margaret Helmer, Maureen Meade, Bob Kjolhede and Mike Verdun - prepared a 20-point power point presentation for the celebration attendees that commemorated the past while looking ahead to the future.

Other event highlights were:

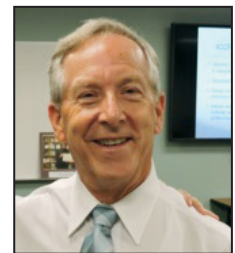
*McCarty recognizing the generous sponsors and underwriters of the evening festivities – Portland Federal Credit Union; Biggs, Dickinson, & Roberts Wealth Management Services; Mercantile Bank; Michigan One Credit Union; Independent Bank; and Union Bank.

*Jason Eppler, Sparrow Ionia Hospital Foundation President, expressing gratitude for ICCF’s major impact grant of \$50,000 over a five-year period to the new hospital.

* Eppler also pointing to ICCF’s previous impact grant of \$54,000 to the Ionia County Economic Alliance for its partnership with the Right Place resulting in many new jobs and capital investment in the County.

*ICCF Marketing Committee Chair Boomer Hoppough sharing the Foundation’s 20/20 vision of achieving \$20,000,000 in assets by the year of 2020.

*Kreeger concluding her remarks by thanking those in attendance for making a difference, for positively impacting life in Ionia County through philanthropy, for making our County a better place to live, to learn, to work and to play!



ICCF Makes Major \$50,000 Grant to Sparrow Ionia Hospital



Representatives of the Ionian County Community Foundation met with members of the Sparrow Ionia Hospital Foundation and Administration to celebrate the ICCF's pledge of \$50,000 to the Capital Campaign for the new hospital. Pictured are (from left): Tom Dickinson, co-chair of Sparrow Ionia Hospital Foundation Capital Campaign and ICCF Advisory; Bill Roeser, president and CEO, Sparrow Ionia Hospital; Kevin Price, COO, Sparrow Ionia Hospital; Virgil Biggs, chair of Sparrow Ionia Hospital Foundation Capital Campaign; Jim McCarty, president of ICCF Advisory; Boomer Hoppough, ICCF Advisory; and Maureen Meade, ICCF Advisory and Sparrow Ionia Hospital Foundation.

is the second impact grant approved by the ICCF. The first one supported the Ionian County Economic Alliance/Right Place partnership that has resulted in significant job creation, retention, expansion and capital investment and workforce training.

During the years, ICCF has awarded \$700,000 to non-profits throughout Ionian County. When all 23 component funds under the ICCF umbrella are considered, more than \$3 million has been awarded for grants and scholarships.

"We are very grateful," said McCarty, "to all who contribute philanthropically to our endowment program to make a positive difference in the lives of the citizens of Ionian County."

Commenting on the latest ICCF gift, Jason Eppler, President of the Sparrow Ionia Hospital Foundation said: "The Ionian County Community Foundation has done it again – demonstrating that it cares deeply for those who reside and work in Ionian County by being a major donor toward the construction of the new Sparrow Ionia Hospital. ICCF and its directors and donors recognize the role that modern health care plays in supporting the quality of life that we enjoy in Ionian County. On behalf of the Hospital Foundation, I sincerely thank ICCF for its generosity, vision and commitment to a healthy Ionian County."

Ionia County Community Foundation is pleased to have made its first \$10,000 annual installment of its five year \$50,000 pledge to the new Sparrow Ionia Hospital. According to ICCF President Jim McCarty, "the ICCF board believes the beautiful new state-of-the-art health care facility will be a tremendous asset to the county and the surrounding area."

"ICCF is excited to partner up with Sparrow by pledging significant funds to help make this major project possible," continued McCarty. "This is a special milestone year for ICCF as we are celebrating our 20th year anniversary. This gift to the new hospital, which will provide quality health care for generations to come, seems very appropriate in keeping with our mission that what we do is "For Good. For Ever."

The grant to Sparrow Ionia Hospital

ICCF ACCEPTING GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR \$35,000

The Ionian County Community Foundation is now accepting applications for its twentieth annual grant-making round. According to Grant Committee Chairman Brian Talbot, "\$35,000 in funds are available for distribution to nonprofit organizations throughout the county."

"We are encouraging county organizations with 501(c) 3 Internal Revenue Code tax exempt status to submit an application by going on line at www.grfoundation.org/Ionia", noted Talbot. "In order to be eligible for the grants to be announced no later than March 31, 2016, applications must be submitted on-line by December 31, 2015."

"We are excited to be able to place so many dollars where they can best serve the needs of our neighborhoods," continued Talbot. "It is the essence of what the Ionian County Community Foundation is all about."

Advisory Committee Chairman Jim McCarty commented that this latest grant-making cycle will bring our total allocations from our unrestricted funds to over \$700,000 since the ICCF endowment program was established in the fall of 1995 – 20 years ago."

And...when the other 27 component funds under the ICCF umbrella are included, the aggregate amount of distributions into the county is over \$3 million.

Each year, the money available for grants is 5% of the endowment's average market value of assets for the previous 16 quarters. This allows the asset base to grow while helping meet the cultural, educational, recreational and economic needs of Ionian County. Grants are not available for general operating expenses, annual fund raising drives or debt retirement. They are available for projects that:

- represent an innovative, start-up effort or are capital in nature (e.g., bricks and mortar, equipment)
- promote cooperation among agencies without duplicating services
- need additional funding to implement and maintain projects
- strengthen or improve agency self-sufficiency or efficiency
- yield substantial community benefits for the resources invested
- serve a broad segment of the community
- encourage additional and permanent funding or matching gifts from other donors

Applications will be reviewed by the ICCF Grants Committee and approved by the Fund Advisory Committee. They will be evaluated on program needs, effectiveness, clarity of focus and goals, degree of risk and other criteria. Once again applications are available on the ICCF website at www.grfoundation.org/Ionia and must be submitted by December 31, 2015. Questions should be directed to Brian Talbot at (616) 527-8721.

NEW PLANNED GIVING EMPHASIS LEAVE YOUR IONIA COUNTY LEGACY.

Join the Ron and Margaret Story Legacy Society.

Leave your Ionia County Legacy and Join the Ron Story Legacy Society.

Established in 2010, the Ron and Margaret Story Legacy Society recognizes supporters who remember the Ionia County Community Foundation in their estate plans. Two of the most popular ways to join the Story Legacy Society and leave your personal legacy include:

Making a gift to the Ionia County Community Foundation in your will or trust

Making a gift to the Ionia County Community Foundation and in exchange, receive a guaranteed lifetime income from the Foundation

Representatives from the Foundation would love to help you shape your personal Ionia County Legacy. Please contact Ionia County Community Foundation President, Jim McCarty at 616-642-6435 or mccartyjim@sbcglobal.net for more information.



The Ron & Margaret Story Legacy Society has been established to recognize and honor donors who have remembered the Ionia County Community Foundation in their estate plans or have created a life income gift in support of it. In good times and not so good times, these “For good. For ever” gifts will serve to positively impact Ionia County in perpetuity.

The Society is designed to honor those of you who are creating your own legacies through planned gifts. As a member of it, you will be recognized in a special way in our newsletter and other materials.

If you have already included the Ionia County Community Foundation in your will or estate plan (or if and when you do) please contact our development staff (616-642-6435) so we can add you to our new society.

Following are our Legacy Society Members:

- RON and MARGARET STORY**
- McCARTY Family Fund**
- MARY ESTHER DADDAZIO**
- DEEANNE PRINCE**
- FROST Renaissance Fund**
- BIRD Scholarship Fund**
- BURGER Fund**
- COMPAGNER Memorial Fund**
- EDDY Scholarship Fund**
- DON and EMMA GOODELL**
- Scholarship Fund**
- SIMONS Memorial**
- Education Fund**
- PAUL and ROBERTA ALLEN**
- Scholarship Fund**
- CHUCK HENNEY Memorial**
- Scholarship Fund**
- WARD and ELAINE VANLAANEN**
- Teaching Scholarship Fund**
- WILLIAM and JEWELL**
- ECKSTROM Future Teacher**
- Scholarship Fund**
- WALTER SPRAGUE Family Fund**
- LEMKE Family Fund**
- CHAPIN, MELVIN and**
- RATHBURN LAUX Scholarship**
- Funds-Ionia**



Strive 2 Arrive Alive

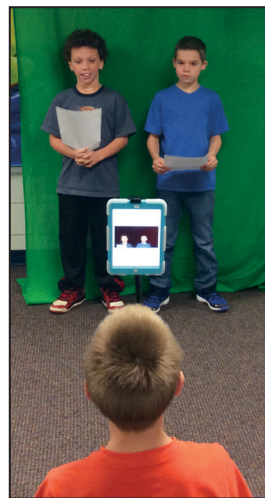
Pictured at the Youth Advisory Council's "Strive 2 Arrive Alive" Teen Driver Safety Conference, are, from the left: Grand Rapids Drive Mascot "Buckets"; ISD Director of Grants and Special Projects/ ICCF Board member Deborah Wagner; WOTV 8 Reporter Jordan Carson; and ISD Superintendent/ICCF Board member Jason Mellema.

Over 250 students from around the state gathered at “Celebration! Cinema Grand Rapids North in October for the 5th Annual Teen Driver Safety Conference. Hosted by the Ionia County Community Foundation Youth Advisory Council in partnership with the Ionia County Intermediate School District, the event highlights the YAC’s “STRIVE 2 ARRIVE ALIVE” program. Pointing out that car crashes are the number one killer of teens, the conference seeks to protect youth by promoting safe driving habits. State Farm Insurance and other local partners sponsored the conference.

Just a couple ways ICCF grants help



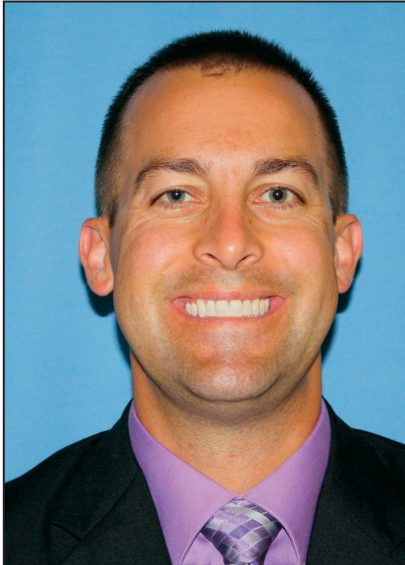
Lots of smiling faces are the result of some keyboard playing by Ionia Public Schools Elementary Music Teacher Sari Mercer. A \$2,000 grant from ICCF funded the purchase of the new keyboard to help keep the music playing.



Saranac students develop their reporting skills in their media class by using the new green screen and mounts provided by a grant from the Ionia County Community Foundation.

Ionia County Community Foundation welcomes two new board members

The Ionia County Community Foundation Board recently welcomed **Jason Mellema** of Portland and **Hailie Patterson** of Ionia as two new members of its advisory board.



Jason Mellema

Mr. Mellema assumed the role of Superintendent at the Ionia County Intermediate School District (ICISD) in July; he served as superintendent of Pewamo-Westphalia Schools from 2011 to 2015. Previous educational positions included diverse administrative roles at Ravenna from 2004 to 2011 and teacher at Holton Schools from 2002 to 2003.

Mr. Mellema earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Education from Hope College, his Master of Art degree in Sport Administration from Central Michigan, and is currently enrolled in the Educational Leadership Program at CMU.

As superintendent at Pewamo-Westphalia, Mr. Mellema guided the district to multiple achievements, including recognition of PW High School/Middle School as a Top 25 high school in Michigan and a MDE Reward School in 2013-2014. He also spearheaded the formation of the PWCS Educational Foundation, with its mission to enhance and enrich the educational opportunities of students through innovative learning

Mr. Mellema currently serves on the MHSAA Representative Council and is president of the non-profit Back Road Running Brigade Club, which has raised more than \$45,000 for local charities to date.

Mr. Mellema and his wife, Molly, live in Portland. His experience with Foundation work stretches back to his upbringing.

“I am originally from Fremont, where the Fremont Area Community Foundation is located. Newaygo County has benefitted greatly through the work of the Fremont Area Community Foundation”, Mr. Mellema stated. “Personally, my life was impacted when I received a major scholarship to attend college from an endowment established with the FACF. I am thankful for the opportunity I received and look forward to being part of the ICCF and its great work.”



Hailie Patterson

Mrs. Patterson, with 8 years of financial industry experience, is Director of Member and Employee Services at Michigan One Community Credit Union. An Ionia High School graduate, Mrs. Patterson earned her Bachelor of Business Administration degree at Davenport University and is currently enrolled in the 3 year program of the Southeast Region Credit Union National Association Management School in Athens, Georgia.

Previous employment includes 2-years as a realtor with Coldwell Banker Hoppough & Associates, 2 years as assistant manager at Independent Bank, and 3 years as assistant manager at Portland Federal Credit Union.

She is a member of the Ionia Area Ambassadors and the Ionia Business Professional Women. She serves as a member of the Ionia Area Chamber of Commerce’s Golf Outing Committee.

Mrs. Patterson and her husband, Brett, have three daughters, Paislie, Pyper and Portia. She is very excited for the opportunity to serve on the ICCF board.

“Through my service on the ICCF, I truly feel that I can enhance and make a difference in the community I grew up in and the county I choose to raise my children in,” she said.

2015 GOLF OUTING

Raises 18-Year Total to Almost \$200,000!

Oh, what a relief it was as the very threatening rainy weather forecast cooperated just enough for a course full of linksters to play all 18 holes in the 18th edition of the Ionia County Community Foundation Golf Outing.

Hosted by Willowood in Portland, the annual “Fun, Fund and Friend” Raiser was another successful event for ICCF as net revenue was nearly \$9,000 bringing the golf proceeds during the years to almost \$200,000.

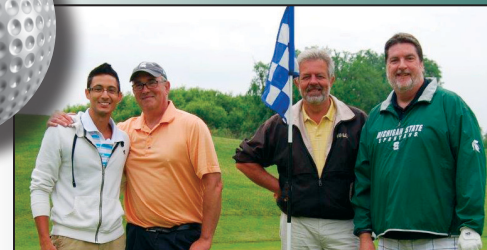
Committee Co-Chairs Margaret Helmer and Bob Kjolhede commented that “many contributed to making the occasion another exciting success. We are very grateful, honored and humbled by the tremendous philanthropic spirit.”

A long list of businesses, banks, credit unions and individuals generously came to the window with their support. The day attracted many hole sponsors, cash donations, prizes and golf registrations.

Ultimately the purpose of the golf outing is to enhance the ability of ICCF to award grants to 501©3 non-profits throughout the county.

Next year’s golf outing will be celebrated on Friday, June 17 at Morrison Lake Golf Club.

For good. For ever.™



Members of the 1st place team representing Independent Bank with a score of 56 were Dave Reglin, Todd Howard, Brad Kessel and Boomer Hoppough.



Coming in second with a score of 57 were Doug Anderson, Ray Meyer, Chuck Barker, Sr. and Dr. Chuck Barker, Jr.



Third Place finishers with a score of 59 was the Mercantile Bank team of Bob Hayden, Brian Talbot, Kevin Meade and Clare Colwell.





SPECIAL THANKS

Thank you to all who contributed to the 18th Annual Golf Outing for sharing a vision to make Ionia County an even better place to live, to work, and to enjoy today and for future generations. Such participation supports "A Legacy of Caring" that will last forever.

Grand Prizes:
Cobra Driver
College Fields Golf Club

Hole-In One Prizes:
Berger of Ionia

Major Sponsor:
Jim and Karen Fast
Dave and Cathy Hoort
Quality Hardwoods
Tim and Bobbette Walling

Breakfast Sponsor:
Portland Party Store

Lunch Sponsors:
Michael & Rebecca Magee
Mary E. O'Connor

Water & Snack Sponsor:
Independent Bank

Prize Sponsors:
AM Hole-In One
The Alibi Bar & Grill
Aunt Stephanie's
Biggs, Dickinson & Roberts
Wealth Management
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Biggs, Hausserman,
Thompson &
Dickinson, PC
Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel
Hoppough
Caswell RV
Geldhof
Germaine's Fine Food
Ginger & Chris Roberts
Independent Bank
Ionia Applebee's
Ionia Big Boy
Ionia Floral
Ionia Shell
Ionia Sparrow Hospital
Ionia Theatre

McCord Farm Market
Mercantile Bank of Michigan
Michigan One Community
Credit Union
Olivera's
Rehmann's Clothing

James Klein & Crist Johnson,
DDS
Judge Suzanne Hoseth-
Kreeger, 8th Circuit Court
Lake Funeral Homes, Inc.
Lawrence Tiejema, PC



Riverside Auto Wash, Inc.
Silk City Sports
Tom & Tammi Dickinson
Union Bank

Hole Sponsors:
Biggs, Dickinson & Roberts
Wealth Management
Services LLC
Biggs, Hausserman, Thompson
& Dickinson, PC
Boucher Family Dentistry,
PLLC
Carr Agency, Inc.
Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel
Hoppough
Edward Jones Investments:
Paul Lentz Office
Garry Miller Family
Grand Rapids Ophthalmology
Haskin Farms
Haskin Snowplowing, LLC
Hazel Bros. Drainage, LLC
Ionia Family Dentistry
Ionia Jimmy John's: Fuller
Restaurant Management,
LLC
Ionia County Intermediate
School District
Administrators

Leppinks Food Centers
Loren Adgate
McKaig and Balice, PLLC
Mercantile Bank of Michigan
Musgrove Grain, LLC
Michigan One Community
Credit Union
Muscott & Muscott Dental
Health Center, PLC
Ostrander Windows, Roofing
& Siding
Overbeck Construction Co.,
Inc.
Portland Federal Credit Union
Quality Hardwoods
Saranac Dental Care,
Dr. Aaron Kroemer, DDS, PC
Senator Judy Emmons &
Senator Mike Nofs
Specialty Industries, Inc.
State Farm Insurance
Company:
Rick Rogusky's Office
Stern Veterinary Clinic, PC
Tim and Bobbette Walling
Tom & Tammy Dickinson
Union Bank
Verdun Family Funeral Homes
& Cremation Services

Special Thanks to:
Tracy Dickinson

Golf Outing Committee:
Tom Dickinson
Margaret Helmer
Boomer Hoppough
Robert Kjolhede
Jim McCarty
Ron Story
Brian Talbot
Tim Walling



Laker Development Company,
Inc.
Lamplight Grill
Main St. Salon
Independent Bank
Jack Griffin: Insurance &
Financial
Services, Inc.



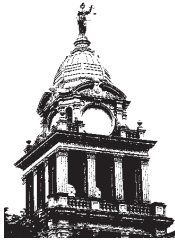
Ionia County

community foundation

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c/o Grand Rapids Community Foundation
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www.grfoundation.org/Ionia.php



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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

A summary of the market value of investments in the various accounts is as follows:

Fund Balance as of September 30, 2015

ICCF Fund.....	\$1,058,330
ICCF Fund – Youth Fund.....	\$ 191,036
ICCF Administrative Fund.....	\$ 23,375
Belding Educational Fund.....	\$ 112,456
Belding Schools Fund – Frost Renaissance Foundation.....	\$ 283,523
Belding Schools Fund – Bird Scholarship Fund.....	\$ 102,823
Belding Schools Fund – Burger Fund.....	\$ 53,668
Compagner Memorial Fund.....	\$ 1,072,929
Eddy Scholarship Fund.....	\$ 677,366
Faith Community Christian School.....	\$ 70,729
George Romney Fund –	
Enrich of Ionia County Volunteer Center.....	\$ 79,031
Healthy Youth and Healthy Seniors.....	\$ 59,914
Chuck Henney Memorial Scholarship Fund.....	\$ 54,751
Ionia County Parks Preservation & Maintenance Fund.....	\$ 145,077
Lakewood Educational Foundation Fund.....	\$ 390,142
Saranac Community Schools Scholarship Fund.....	\$ 268,475
Simons Memorial Education Fund.....	\$ 554,705
WW Sprague Family Fund.....	\$ 299,998
Ionia Public Schools Scholarship Fund.....	\$1,059,675
Ionia Free Fair Fund.....	\$ 129,180
Paul and Alberta Allen Scholarship Fund.....	\$ 114,726
Don and Emma Goodell Scholarship Fund.....	\$ 130,924
Ward and Elaine VanLaanen Teaching Scholarship Fund.....	\$ 61,829
William R. and Jewell H. Eckstrom Future Teacher Scholarship.....	\$ 51,342
Alvah N Belding Library Fund.....	\$ 36,391
The Belrockton Fund.....	\$ 51,344
Saranac Community Schools Promise Scholarship Fund.....	\$ 50,315

Total \$ 7,184,057

Your donation to ICCF
may be given online at:

<https://www.givegr.org/donate-iccf>

or you can make out
checks to

*Ionia County
Community Foundation*

