

The ICCF Report



Making Ionia County a Better Place to Live, Learn, Work and Play

IONIA COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SPRING CELEBRATION

With temperatures finally beginning to act more “spring-like”, a nice crowd of donors, grant recipients, sponsors, board members and youth representatives gathered at Shadow Ridge Golf Course in Ionia in late April for the Ionia County Community Foundation Spring Celebration.

The special occasion provided an opportunity for Grants Committee Chair Brian Talbot to recognize the latest 501C 3 organizations in the county to be awarded grants from ICCF. The latest cycle pushes the grant-making total to over \$800,000 since the endowment program was started in 1995. When the 29 component funds under the ICCF umbrella are included, over \$3 million in grants and scholarships have been presented to non-profits right here in Ionia County.

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Tom Dickinson, ICCF Vice Chair



Ionia County

community foundation

An affiliated fund of the Grand Rapids Community Foundation

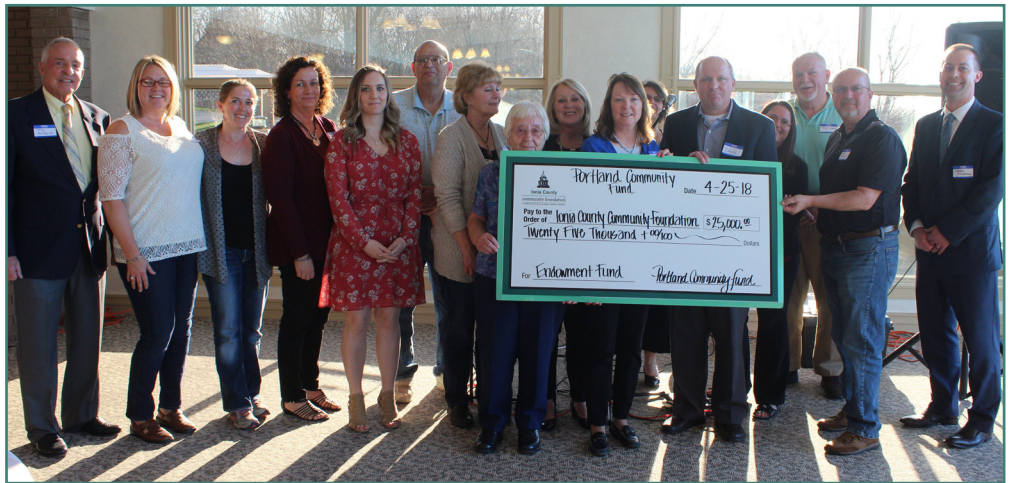


Photo by Meghan Nelson / The Daily News

Portland Community is Newest ICCF Fund

The Portland Community Fund is the latest addition to a growing Family of Endowed Funds held by the Ionia County Community Foundation.

It is being established in conjunction with the very successful Portland Community Fund Association, a non-profit organization that annually raises money and collects needed items to benefit the citizens and residents of the community of Portland.

The new “Build a Fund” concept is being funded by a \$25,000 start-up donation by the-
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Celebrate \$25,000 Check Presentation

Celebrating the presentation of a \$25,000 check from the Portland Community Fund Association to the Ionia County Community Foundation (ICCF) are (middle two) Co-Treasurer Dr. Suzanne Mayfield and President David Palme. Accepting the commemorative check for the newly endowed Portland Community Fund to be deposited and invested with the Grand Rapids



Community Foundation are Jim McCarty (left), President of ICCF, and right (ICCF) Board member Jason Mellema. Plans are that the newest ICCF fund will be adopting a “Build A Fund” concept through a matching program to grow the new fund to \$50,000 during the next five years (see the accompanying article).

ICCF SPRING CELEBRATION *continued*

“That is indeed a whole lot of ‘For Good. For Ever’ philanthropy,” pointed out ICCF President Jim McCarty “that continues to truly impact our neighborhoods in our little world of Ionia County – right now, right here and for future generations to come.” McCarty continued by saying: “We are thrilled to have with us this evening some of our donors who share a mission with us to make Ionia County a Better Place to Live, to Learn, to Work and to Play.”

Another major highlight of the evening was the welcoming of ICCF’s newest addition to ICCF’s family of endowed funds, the Portland Community Fund.



Left: Grants Committee chair, Brian Talbot. Right: Rush Clement, who provided music for the event.

PORTLAND COMMUNITY “BUILD A FUND” STARTS WITH \$25,000 DONATION *continued*

Portland Community Fund Association to the Ionia County Community Foundation (ICCF) and deposited and invested with the Grand Rapids Community Foundation.

Over the next five years, the plan is to cooperatively build the fund to a market value of at least \$50,000 with the Portland Community Fund making minimum annual contributions of \$2,500 each year and ICCF matching the donations up to \$2,500 annually. Upon reaching the \$50,000 threshold, distributions will begin to further the charitable purposes benefiting the people of Portland.

According to ICCF board member Jason Mellema, our board is “very excited about this Build a Fund concept and we enthusiastically welcome Portland as our newest partner in Making Ionia County an even Better Place to Live, Learn, Work and Play. This concept demonstrates another way in which ICCF is willing to partner with local communities to make a difference in Ionia County.”

By becoming an endowed fund, the Portland Community Fund will be able to grow its asset base, as the dollars available for granting will be limited to the Grand Rapids Community Foundation’s spending rule. The spending rule, along with the Community Foundation’s investment objectives are designed to preserve the original gift, help the fund grow and provide funds for grant-making each year.

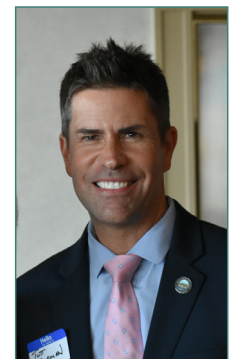
In commenting on the new relationship, Portland Community Fund Association President David Palme says that “we are excited to join forces with the Ionia County Community Foundation and the Grand Rapids Community Foundation to better meet the needs of our great communities. The gracious opportunity provided by ICCF and GRCF will help us realize

even greater outreach and support possibilities for members of the Portland Community.”

Portland Community Fund Co-Treasurer Dr. Suzanne Maystead notes “we are very excited to be able to participate in the Build a Fund program with the Ionia County Community Foundation. Our Association would never be able to reach the \$50,000 endowment level on our own. This will ensure our financial security far into the future and allow us to continue to serve the Portland area.”

The Portland Community Fund Association currently has four major projects each year:

1. Stuff the bus with coats, scarves, mittens and clothes to help families-in-need get through the winter;
2. Provide families with gifts and dinners at Christmas time;
3. Provide necessary relief to local families who may have experienced a house fire or other dire circumstances;
4. Support local and county organizations that serve Portland residents.



Ionia County Community Foundation

Mission Statement
Making Ionia County a Better Place to Live,
Learn, Work and Play

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

Janet Balice

Ionia County Community Foundation

Bruce Chadwick

Ionia County Community Foundation

Thomas D. Dickinson CPA/CFP

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

Kimberley Doane

Ionia County Community Foundation

Boomer Hoppough

Independent Bank

Suzanne Hoseth Kreger

Circuit Court Judge

Maureen Meade

Ionia County Community Foundation

Jason Mellema

Ionia County Intermediate School District

Hailie Patterson

Michigan One Community Credit Union

Brian Talbot

Mercantile Bank

Deborah Wagner

Ionia County Intermediate School District

Ryan Wilson

Montcalm Community College

Emeriti:

Daniel Balice

Jerry Collison

James Fast

Judge David Hoort

George Hubbard

Robert Kjolhede

Ron Story

Roger Wills

ICCF AWARDS GRANTS TO AREA ORGANIZATIONS

The Ionia County Community Foundation is pleased to award 29 grants for a total of \$32,996.50 to local non-profit 501©3 organizations for 2018.

One **\$2,500** grant to the Ionia County Intermediate School District (ICISD) will assist with the successful IM Kids 3rd Meal Program, which provides nutritious, kid-friendly meals to alleviate hunger among food insecure students when they are not in school.

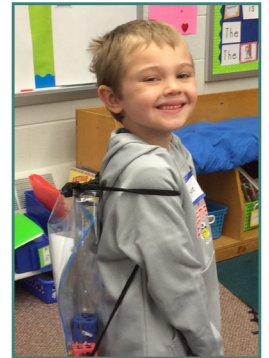


Another **\$2,500** grant will help provide permanent funding for the ICISD's popular Dolly Parton Imagination Library through an endowment.

Grants were also approved for two other ICISD projects. The first provides **\$1,250** for the S2AA Teen Driver Safety Program; the second is **\$1,000** for a Michigan Youth Leadership Training Camp which trains teens to become leaders for positive change in their communities.

A **\$3,000** grant will help Feeding America West Michigan bring four (4) mobile pantries to Ionia County at Mount Hope Church in Ionia County.

New grant recipients in 2018 include **\$2,500** to the Ionia County Great Start Collaborative for its Transition to Kindergarten Backpack Program designed to build a community wide kindergarten transition plan that encourages collaboration between school, family, and community; **\$3,380** to Portland Public Library for its project to provide local creators with Biblioboard Products so they can more easily share their work with Portland citizens; and **\$1,700** to Lakewood Public Schools to continue building the podcasting program at Lakewood High School.



These 29 grants totaling almost \$33,000 are in addition to the \$10,000 pledge allocated as part of a 5-year, \$50,000 impact grant to Sparrow-Ionia Hospital's Foundation.

ICCF President Jim McCarty is excited the Ionia County Community Foundation (ICCF) is able once again to empower local organizations to advance their respective communities and residents.

He commended the excellent work of the Grant Committee and shared these thoughts: "The ICCF marks its 23rd anniversary this year," McCarty noted. "It is a joy to continue to fund projects and programs that do so much good for the citizens of Ionia County. We are very pleased to award these grants to so many fine organizations throughout our Ionia County communities."

According to Grant Committee Chairman Brian Talbot, "This latest cycle of grant-making brings total allocations from unrestricted funds to 501©3 non-profits to over \$800,000 since the ICCF endowment program was established in the fall of 1995."

When all component funds under the ICCF umbrella are included, the aggregate amount of grant distributions into Ionia County tops **\$3 million!**



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The Ron & Margaret Story Legacy Society was established in 2010 to pay tribute to the couple for their charitable bequest and financial contributions to ICCF, as well as for their time, talent, and efforts given to it over the years.

Please join Ron and Margaret in remembering the Ionia County Community Foundation in your estate plan.

The Ron & Margaret Story 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 special society.

Following are our Current Legacy Society Members:

- Thomas D. and Tamara S. Dickinson**
- William and Jewel Eckstrom**
- Boomer and Laurie Hoppough**
- Gary and Janeen Lemke**
- Jim and Teresa McCarty**
- Deanne Prince**
- Ron and Margaret Story**
- Lowell and Judy Swartz**
- Elaine VanLaanen**
- Jim and Teresa McCarty**
- Bruce and Margaret Chadwick**

Honorary Memorial Members (Story Legacy Society members who have passed away)

- Paul and Alberta Allen**
- Chapin, Melvin and Rathburn Laux**
- Ed and Maxine Compagner**
- Mary Esther Daddazio**
- George Eddy**
- Frost, Bird and Burger**
- Don and Emma Goodell**
- Chuck Henney**
- Bea McCarty**
- Kenneth and Shirley Morris**
- Walter Sprague**
- Ben and Lucy Simons**
- Ward VanLaanen**

We apologize for any omissions on this list. To add a name please contact Jim McCarty at (616) 642-6435.



KATIE LINCOLN PASSED HER PASSION FOR ICCF ONTO HER NEIGHBOR, BARB PARKS

Before passing away in December of 2015 at the age of 98, Katherine “Katie” Lincoln positively impacted the Ionia area in many ways.

But it is also very obvious that she left some room in her generous heart for the Ionia County Community Foundation. Let the records show that every single year since ICCF was founded in 1995, Katie elected to support its cause with a donation.

Her good friend and neighbor Barb Parks notes that her gifts were not necessarily large but each year she consistently gave what she could to a program that she believed in very much.

“Katie was always talking about the Community Foundation and how it makes Ionia County a better place to live,” says Barb. “She was so passionate about it that she convinced me too of its worthiness. Now I am one of those faithful donors too.”

In addition to being a loyal and steadfast ambassador for ICCF, Katie left quite a legacy in her community: she was a member of the First Methodist Church, co-founder and Past President of the Ionia Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Ionia Literary Club and the Ionia Historical Society and a devoted volunteer for the Ionia Free Fair.

Owner of the Bo-Kay shop for 33 years, Katie was named Ionia Free Fair Woman of the Year and was chosen as the Athena Award winner by the Business Professional Women Organization.

“Katie was a wonderful neighbor,” comments Barb. “We went to yard sales and picked strawberries together. I loved her.”

The unwavering and steady support for ICCF by people like Katie Lincoln and Barb Parks is indeed making a “For Good. For Ever” difference in Ionia County.

MEMBERS OF THE ICCF ADVISORY BOARD GATHER FOR A TEAM PICTURE



Welcoming Alexandra Carmon to the Ionia County Community Foundation table at the Belding Showcase are ICCF Board Member District Court Judge Suzanne Kreeger and her mother Bonnie Hoseth.



YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL GRANTS \$6,675

RECIPIENTS OF THE 2018 GRANTS FROM THE ICCF YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE (YAC) FUND INCLUDE:

- *\$1,000 to the ISD for the Strive 2 Arrive Alive (S2AA) Program to provide teen driver safety education.
- *\$675 to Ionia Public Schools for a Special Education Year-end Awards Banquet to recognize and acknowledge students for their academic and leadership success during their school year.
- *\$1,000 to the ISD for the IM Kids 3rd Meal Program to provide an evening meal for food insecure children Monday-Friday.
- *\$1,000 to United Way of Ionia County for supplies and ingredients to package meals that will be distributed widely throughout Montcalm and Ionia Counties.
- *\$1,000 to the ISD for the Michigan Youth Leadership Training Camp to provide teen leadership training to enhance their leadership skills to become impactful leaders in their communities.
- *\$1,000 to Ronald McDonald House of Western Michigan for their Family Support Program which provides food, lodging and support services at no cost for families from the Ionia area while they seek treatment for their children in Grand Rapids.



PEANUT BUTTER WITH A PURPOSE.

Our Ionia County Youth Advisory Council students were chosen once again by the Michigan Community Service Commission to participate in Global Youth Service Day. "Peanut Butter with a Purpose" was the project selected by YAC members as they along with some community members came together at "IM Kids 3rd Meal" to provide evening meals for food insecure children in Ionia and Montcalm Counties. They exceeded their goal by making 3100 sandwiches in one hour. Their project was aired on WOTV's EightWest program on April 25. The Michigan Community Service Commission is the state's leading agency on volunteerism and this year engaged thousands of youth volunteers on Global Youth Service Day.



YAC FEATURED ON "EIGHT WEST"

WOTV – 4 television personality Jordan Carson presented a video of the Ionia County Youth Advisory Council that aired on the station's "eightWest" program. The segment highlighted several YAC students including Ethan Getchell of Portland and Racheal Rademacher of Pewamo Westphalia. The theme of Live Local/Give Local pointed to how the YAC students award grants to benefit Ionia, Belding, Lakewood, Lowell, Portland, Saranac and Pewamo Westphalia youth. Every two years the YAC conducts a needs assessment to identify funding priorities. They currently seek to address such youth issues as Teen Driver Safety, Academic Motivation, Achievement Gap, Substance Abuse, Depression, Literacy and Bullying.



As part of Michigan One Credit Union's Community Partnership Program, the Ionia County Community Foundation was awarded a Year-End Bonus. One of 48 nonprofits to be honored, ICCF was recognized for its efforts and service in addressing hunger and food delivery needs for Ionia County families.

ICCF AWARDS GRANTS *continued*

The Ionia Montcalm Secure and Friendly Environment Child Advocacy Center received a grant of **\$1,500** to cover the remaining rent costs not covered by federal grant so the Child Advocacy Center can continue to provide services to abused children.

The Ronald McDonald House of West Michigan was awarded **\$1,000** to help provide food, lodging and support services at no cost for families from the Ionia area while they seek treatment for their children in Grand Rapids.

RAVE of Ionia/Montcalm received a grant of **\$1,250** for a Community Outreach Support Project to increase efficiency of RAVE-Ionia-Montcalm, Inc.'s internal and external training program as well as provide updated equipment necessary to provide local education/prevention and community awareness.

The Ionia Free Fair Association was granted **\$1,000** to help provide a Hand Washing Station as a safe place for fairgoers to wash their hands after being in the barns and to help stop E. Coli contamination.

In addition to grantees mentioned above, additional 2018 ICCF project grant recipients include:

- West Michigan Environmental Action Council, **\$1,050**, to continue water trails planning and analysis, education, and engagement efforts in communities along the Grand River throughout Kent and Ionia Counties.

- City of Belding, **\$500**, to create a walkable asphalt pathway in the Gathering Place Park.

- Junior Achievement of Michigan Great Lakes, **\$500** for its Bringing the Workplace to Ionia Youth To deliver a JA Reverse Job Shadow program to students at Ionia High School during the 2017-2018 school year.

- Friends of Fred Meijer River Valley Rails-Trails, **\$1,050** for its Story Time Trail Project to promote literacy, increase physical activity, and build stronger families.

- Habitat for Humanity, **\$1,000** to help build a new home in Lake Odessa for a single mom of three.

- Ionia County Historical Society, **\$1,000**, to help with the purchase of a new desktop computer and book and document scanner to digitally preserve Ionia County Historical Society collections for increased public, donor, and staff access.

- Ionia Montcalm Families Against Narcotics, **\$1,000** for public forums and education programs addressing the epidemic of prescription/opioid addiction.

- Ionia Public Schools, **\$1,000** to help the Elementary Music Program purchase enough classroom instruments so an entire class can play together, as well as a keyboard to replace a broken one at one elementary.

- Lakewood Public Schools, **\$500** for its Modular Robotics Prototyping Lab to help provide students with a slate of materials ideally suited for rapid prototyping, enabling novice builders to experiment with advanced robot designs and code iteration.

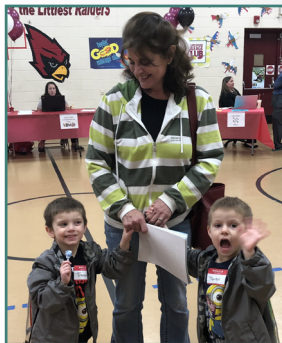
- Saranac Community Schools, **\$150** for Facts for Me, an online resource with reliable, factual information without ads so young students can learn research skills.

- Saranac Community Schools, **\$800**, for its Blanket Project for second grade students to make fleece blankets, scarves, mittens and hats this winter and make them available for needy families in the Saranac Community.

- Saranac Community Schools, **\$197** to provide seating for students who require extra movement throughout the day to maintain their focus on learning.

- Enrich of Ionia County, **\$328.36** for a Furniture Movers project partnering with Transition Program to build furniture carts for use by the students while learning job skills in the Resale Shop.

- Belding Area Schools, **\$841.14**, for Woodview Elementary's STEAM Markerspace Club, an effort to create a sustainable after school program that exposes students to Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics (STEAM) education.



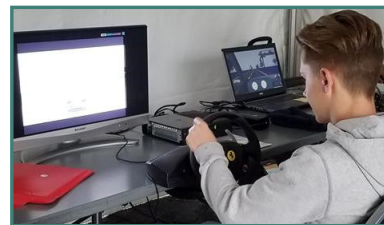
With help from a \$2,500 grant from the Ionia County Community Foundation, backpacks were handed out to children county-wide this spring during kindergarten round-ups. Coordinated by Sally Kapteyn representing the Ionia County Great Start Collaborative, the Transition to Kindergarten Backpacks include a parent guide, activities, and supplies to help parents prepare their child for kindergarten. The backpacks were distributed at kindergarten roundups at Belding, Ionia, Portland, Saranac, and Lakewood school districts. It is expected that the backpacks will likely position children to be more likely to be ready to learn and to have improved academic achievement.

- City of Ionia DDA, **\$500** To assist with funding costs related to the creation of an outdoor mural honoring the history while celebrating the culture arts of Ionia.

Two additional grants were approved from the Healthy Youth/Healthy Seniors Fund:

- SS Peter and Paul School, **\$500** from the Healthy Youth/Healthy Seniors funds to enable third grade students to participate in the Ionia YMCA Swim Safety Program.

- Spectrum Health Foundation, **\$1,700** to support the distribution of essential safety items to families in need who are enrolled in the United Lifestyles Maternal Infant Health Program



A \$1250 grant for the Teen Driver Safety Program was presented to the Ionia County Intermediate School District to continue to provide driver safety education.

Our Donors – Meeting County-wide Needs!

We want to recognize and to say “thank you!” to all of you who contributed to the Ionia County Community Foundation during the calendar year January 1, 2017– December 31, 2017. Together we’ve come a long way!

For good. For ever.™

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Janet Balice & Daniel Balice
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Dean & Mary Barker
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make our work possible.
We sincerely appreciate
your faithful support of
our mission.

Many of our donors choose
to continue their support
after life, through a gift
from their estate. If you
believe in our mission,
and want to invest in our
future, we invite you to
make such a gift.

We would be thrilled
to recognize your
commitment with
membership in our Ron &
Margaret Story Legacy
Society. (see page 4)

ICCF - Positively Impacting How We Live, Work and Play

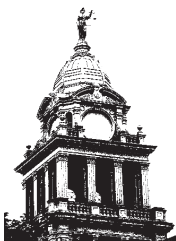


Ionia County

community foundationSM

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



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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 March 31, 2018

ICCF Fund.....	\$ 1,074,153
ICCF Fund – Youth Fund	\$ 185,908
ICCF Administrative Fund	\$ 9,476
Belding Education Fund.....	\$ 121,507
Belding Schools Fund – Frost Renaissance Foundation	\$ 279,175
Belding Schools Fund – Bird Scholarship Fund	\$ 104,195
Belding Schools Fund – Burger Fund	\$ 55,466
Compagner Memorial Fund	\$ 1,102,911
Eddy Scholarship Fund	\$ 699,623
Kenneth and Shirley Morris Memorial Scholarship Fund	\$ 716,109
George Romney Fund – Enrich of Ionia County Volunteer Center	\$ 78,156
Healthy Youth and Healthy Seniors	\$ 58,755
Chuck Henney Memorial Scholarship Fund	\$ 56,616
Ionia County Parks Preservation & Maintenance Fund	\$ 154,824
Lakewood Educational Foundation Fund.....	\$ 464,867
Saranac Community Schools Scholarship Fund	\$ 311,259
Simons Memorial Education Fund.....	\$ 573,537
WW Sprague Family Fund.....	\$ 295,807
Ionia Public Schools Scholarship Fund.....	\$ 801,578
Ionia Free Fair Fund	\$ 148,950
Paul and Alberta Allen Scholarship Fund.....	\$ 118,142
Don and Emma Goodell Scholarship Fund.....	\$ 135,992
Ward and Elaine VanLaanen Teaching Scholarship Fund.....	\$ 63,195
William R. and Jewell H. Eckstrom Future Teacher Scholarship	\$ 53,599
Swartz Family Fund	\$ 59,865
Alvah N Belding Library Fund	\$ 74,907
The Belrockton Fund.....	\$ 53,735
Portland Community Fund	\$ 25,000
Dolly Parton Imagination Library Fund.....	\$ 90,022
Saranac Community Schools Promise Scholarship Fund	\$ 269,552

Total \$ 8,474,103

PHILANTHROPY: THE GIVING AND SHARING OF TIME, TALENT, OR TREASURE INTENDED FOR THE COMMON GOOD.

It's not how much you give; it's the giving that matters. Every donation to the Ionia County Community Foundation is a voice of support for the programs that make our communities wonderful places to live. As a publicly supported foundation, our grants touch nearly every aspect of our well-being – promoting academic achievement, neighborhood revitalization, health, human services, the arts, as well as economic prosperity and environmental integrity.

Support the Community Foundation and you will invest in the opportunity to make our communities great now and for generations to come.