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# 35 Years of Impact

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



#### **Dear Community Foundation Partners & Friends,**

As we reflect upon the year 2022, it brings us joy to recount the achievements we collectively attained. Your steadfast involvement in your Community Foundation's journey fills us with deep gratitude, both for the present and the journey ahead.

Throughout 2022, your Community Foundation extended its impact by granting over \$1.2 million to aid local nonprofits and charitable initiatives spanning across a wide range of projects and programs. We distributed more than \$130,000 in scholarships to 64 college-bound graduating seniors throughout Marquette County.

Your belief in our work also allowed us to collaborate with local leaders and organizations who want to make our community better for everyone. We proudly secured non-endowed donations exceeding \$1.5 million, including your generous support of the universal design Playground For All. Collaborating with private foundations, individual benefactors, and agencies, we welcomed endowed contributions surpassing \$1 million and established perpetual funds, that support education, suicide postvention services, childcare, and more. In total, our efforts culminated in raising over \$2.6 million, nurturing both current and future investments that enrich Marquette County.

It is your generosity that makes these long-term investments possible, and we are honored to share the 2022 stories of impact with you.

With heartfelt appreciation,

**Zosia Eppensteiner Chief Executive Officer** 

**Jack Lenten Board Chair** 

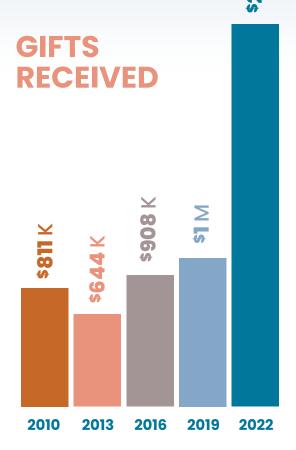




2013

2016

2019 2022



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Audited financial statements are available online at cfofmc.org

### Our mission is to enrich the lives of all people in Marquette County by:

- Connecting donors with community needs
- Building permanent funds for charitable giving
- Distributing scholarships and grants
- Leading and collaborating to address community opportunities

#### Financials December 31, 2022:

Total Current Assets	22,486,504
Total Non-Current Assets	39,206
Total Assets	22,525,710
Total Current Liabilities	29,737
Total Non-Current Liabilities	16,982
Total Net Assets	22,478,991
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	22,525,710

# **Doing Good in Local Communities**

Affiliate funds were established for Ishpeming and Negaunee in 1994 and Gwinn in 2002 to benefit specific areas in and around Marquette County. These funds bring together the best thinking of local leadership to meet community needs and opportunities in the most strategic and efficient way possible.

Community Foundation of Marquette County manages the assets, while local leaders review grant proposals and recommend funding for their community's nonprofit organizations.

We are thankful to the dedicated volunteers who are an inspiration through their service.







# John D. Voelker Foundation **Native American Law School Scholarship**

With a passion for justice and the skill for storytelling, Voelker crafted a legacy of creative philanthropy which lives on in many ways, most notably through the eponymous foundation developed to honor him.

John chose as the first mission for his Foundation to establish a Native American Law School Scholarship to assist Native American students to pursue the dream of a legal education. Applicants must have a sincere interest in studying the law and using a legal education to benefit Native American people. According to Rich Vander Veen and Fred Baker, officers of the John D Voelker Foundation, "after 31 years of giving away our scholarship funds as fast as we raised them since the first grant in 1991, by partnering with CFMC, we were at last able to establish a permanent endowment this year to ensure perpetual existence of this scholarship."



# 35 Years of Impact

Over 35 years, the Community Foundation of Marquette County has forged a path of collective impact across our county, touching every corner and serving all residents. From a humble seed of \$30,000 in 1988, we've cultivated a legacy now worth over \$22 million—a testament to boundless generosity and an enduring belief in our communities. With unwavering commitment to the Foundation's mission since inception, we've channeled close to \$13 million in grants and scholarships, nurturing dreams and igniting change.

As we reflect on our journey, we're reminded that every dollar, every effort, has sown the seeds of transformation, ensuring a flourishing future for generations to come.

1988

Marquette Community Foundation launches with \$30,000

1993

W.K. Kellogg Foundation match challenge to establish Youth Funds

1990

1996

Assets reach a milestone surpassing \$1 million

2010

Assets exceed \$10 million

2015

Over \$125,000 in scholarships distributed that year

Geographic Affiliate Funds established

Foundation manages

100 Funds

2012

\$4 million in grants and scholarships awarded since inception 2020

Assets surpass \$20 million, \$10 million in grants and scholarships awarded since inception

First Scholarship awarded in the amount of \$205

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# Suicide Survivors Fund

Dave Aro, founder of the Suicide Survivors Fund, experienced the violent suicide of a friend and learned that there were no resources for families or loved ones to help with the cleanup and little in the way of post event help when these incidents occur. Biological remediation is costly and incredibly traumatic. Dave and other concerned community leaders organized this fund in response to understanding the importance of supporting survivors of suicide loss. The Suicide Survivors Fund provides much needed resources for suicide postvention services for Marquette County families. The services are provided by Six Feet Over, a statewide nonprofit, whose mission is to support survivors of suicide loss.

"Having gone through a very personal experience with suicide, and learning about the lack of resources available for those left behind, the creation of this fund and having Six Feet Over manage it means that any family in the county who experience suicide loss has resources now." - David Aro

## **Board of Trustees and Staff**

The Community Foundation of Marquette County was founded in 1988 by a visionary Board of Trustees. Now, as then, the Board is comprised of community leaders who represent the breadth, depth and diversity of the communities we serve. The dedicated Board of Trustees along with our countless volunteers and talented staff champion the mission of the Community Foundation.

#### **CFMC Staff**



**Emma Schultz** Program Associate

**Zosia Eppensteiner** 

Jo Ann Dollard Community and Donor Engagement Associate

Kirsten Van De Ven Administrative and Finance Assistant

Katie Buhrmann Intern



**Jack Lenten** Chair



**Tom Blake** Vice-Chair



**Bob Eslinger** Treasurer





**Gail Anthony** Honorary Trustee

**Mark Canale** Trustee

**Trish Davis** Trustee

**Shannon Edmark** Trustee



**Marcia Gonstead** Trustee



Lisa Jahnke Trustee



**Alex Kofsky** Trustee

**Lowell Larson** Trustee



**Don Mourand** Honorary Trustee



Sally Searle Trustee



**Judy Vonck** Trustee



Susan Goodkind Wideman Trustee



#### LEAVING

# **A Lasting Legacy**

Our Legacy Society recognizes the donors who have made provisions in their estate plans to give back to the community through the Community Foundation. These gifts take the form of bequests which name the Community Foundation in a will or trust, charitable remainder trust, gifts of life insurance, or any other type of charitable planned gift. We are grateful for their dedication, philanthropic spirit, and foresight to recognize the importance of making a future gift through the Community Foundation.

# WITH GRATITUDE For Our Donors' Generosity

Phyllic Ct

John and Beverly Watling
Watling Foundation, Inc.
William Watson
Phillip and Annette Watts
Brian Weatherdon and Martha Short
Wells Fargo Bank Michigan, N.A.
Katherine Williamson
Neil and Laurie Winkler
David and Linda Winslow
Johanna Worley
Jesse and Azucena Wright
Lauren Yamane
Doug and Kari Young
Zonta Club of Marquette
Jill Zueger Seibert
Myra Zyburt

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