



PRESS RELEASE

For More Information, Call:

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For Immediate Release

FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES GRANT AWARDS

On October 30, 2006, the Board of Trustees of the *Community Foundation for Muskegon County* met and approved grant awards to a variety of community organizations in support of projects throughout the Muskegon region. A combined total of \$151,910 was awarded from a variety of funds that make up the Community Foundation portfolio of assets. Highlights of the grant awards developed through the work of numerous volunteer committees and ratified by the Board of Trustees are listed below:

Distribution Committee:

Grants from the Distribution Committee are made from the Foundation's unrestricted pool of funds and can support a broad range of community needs including: Arts, Community/Urban Redevelopment and Improvement, Education, Environment and Health & Human Services.

Sacred Suds – \$15,000 to support the Healthy Neighborhood program in McLaughlin Neighborhood.

United Way of the Lakeshore – \$15,000 to support second year funding of the Lights On Afterschool community initiative.

Dalton Township - \$10,000 to support completion of Beegle Park which will link to the new Berry Junction Trail.

Love, INC– \$10,000 to support the New Directions budget program.

Michigan State University – Muskegon County Extension Office – a matching grant of \$6,833 to support a part-time Master Gardener Coordinator.

Muskegon Area Intermediate School District – up to \$6,000 to support a Muskegon visit by Mr. Juan Williams of the National Public Radio broadcasting system.



Camp Bluebird - \$5,000 to support the participation of Muskegon residents at a retreat for cancer patients.

Michigan State University – Muskegon County Extension Office – \$5,000 to support a local match for the Land Use Education Program for 2007.

Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America (SPEBSQSA) - \$1,000 to support instructor expenses for the Rockin' Barbershop Harmony Festival, a county-wide multi-school district event at Mona Shores High School.

Child & Family Services - \$3,000 to support the *You Turn Program*.

West Shore Symphony Orchestra - \$3,000 to support year-three of the Carnegie LinkUP! music awareness program for area school children.

Michigan Pine & Dunes Girl Scouts - \$900 to support the *Girls Exploring Science* after school group.

Julia Hackley Fund:

Grants from the Julia E. Hackley Memorial Fund support programs and projects of non-profit agencies and organizations who work to meet the needs of poor and underprivileged citizens living in the City of Muskegon

Mission for Area People - \$4,000 for the Medical Support fund.

First Congregational Church - \$3,200 to support the Saturday Morning Breakfast program.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church – up to \$2,000 to support a 2:1 challenge grant for a Client Choice food pantry.

Muskegon County Medical Society Fund:

Muskegon County Museum - \$5,000 to support an exhibit of the history of medicine in Muskegon entitled "The Doctor is In".



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Environmental Endowment Fund:

The Environmental Endowment Fund of the Foundation was established in 1998 to support proposals and grant requests that build community environmental capacity and awareness, that educate young and old, both formally and informally and promote the environmental interests of the Muskegon region. Specific interests include a smart growth approach to land-use planning, protection and restoration of green spaces and watersheds as well as the restoration of critical dune areas and other natural resources.

Muskegon County Environmental Coordinating Council (MCECC) - \$1,500 to support an office space opportunity for the MCECC Council in the MAREC Alternative Energy Center.

Muskegon Area Sustainability Coalition – \$3,000 to support the development efforts of the new Muskegon Area Sustainability Coalition.

Youth Advisory Council:

Grants awarded by the sixteen member Youth Advisory Council representing local High Schools, are selected to meet youth needs. In late 2003, the Council conducted a student needs assessment and this year has identified Juvenile Justice as a major funding focus for 2006, with lesser emphasis on teenage sexuality and homosexuality and substance abuse.

Temple United Methodist Church/Pathfinders - \$4,000 to support an Internet Safety and Drug Education and Prevention program.

Together We Will/Muskegon Recreation Club - \$5,000 to support equipment for the Muskegon Recreation Club opening soon in the Jackson Hill / Smith-Ryerson activity center.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Lakeshore - \$4,000 to support an e-mentoring pilot project with Muskegon High School.



White Lake Community Fund:

Grants from the White Lake Community Fund focus on meeting the needs of residents of the White Lake area including the Cities of Whitehall and Montague.

Arts Council of White Lake - \$2,360 to support the Read for Me, Mama Illustration Exhibition and Arts Education.

Friends of the WL Community Library –Tellabration: A Tale for Two Cities - \$2,000 to support bringing the art of story telling to the people of Western Michigan

Lebanon Lutheran Church - \$1,712 to support the White Lake Chorale

Society For the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc – \$2,000 to support the Rockin’ Barbershop Harmony Festival.

Greater Muskegon Women and Children’s Fund:

Grants from the Women & Children’s Fund support projects that will improve the quality of life for women and children in the Muskegon area.

Pioneer Resources – \$3,900 to support the *No More Sidelines* recreation program for children with physical and developmental disabilities.

West Shore Symphony Orchestra – \$1,200 to support the Carnegie LinkUP! music appreciation and education program.

Thomas and Geraldine Seyferth Fund:

Grants from the Thomas and Geraldine Seyferth Fund support community development projects and programs that benefit the youth in Muskegon County, as well as awarding scholarships to students pursuing a 4-year degree.

United Way of the Lakeshore - \$5,000 to support the Lights On Afterschool Program.



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Hume Home - \$16,305 to support a community capital campaign to replace the electrical system, purchase a back-up generator and install air conditioning.

PACE/Holland Home- \$5,000 to support general operating costs.

WHAT IS THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION?

The Community Foundation for Muskegon County was created in 1961 to improve the quality of life for Muskegon County residents. As a publicly-supported community endowment, the Foundation receives and manages contributions from thousands of community citizens and organizations who are committed to the future of Muskegon County. The Community Foundation supports community projects in the areas of Arts, Education, Muskegon and Downtown Development, Health and Human Services and Environment. The Foundation reflects the vision of Muskegon County residents and provides a cost effective vehicle for contributing to the community through gifts of any size and of many types.

HOW DO YOU APPLY FOR A GRANT?

Grants are generally awarded twice each year, once in the spring and again in the fall of the year. Non-profit organizations interested in seeking grant support from the Community Foundation are encouraged to call the Foundation office for more specific information about the grant program and application process.