

THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR OCEANA COUNTY

on the
GROW

2021 FALL COMMUNITY GRANT CATALOG



GIVING TOGETHER



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GIVING TOGETHER

The Community Foundation for Oceana County's grantmaking committees are currently reviewing grant proposals from non-profit organizations serving Oceana County.

We are inviting our donor advisors to partner with us to stretch our limited competitive grant resources and serve more community needs. If you would like to fully, or partially fund, any of these proposals through your Fund, you may advise a grant by contacting us:

Tammy Carey, tammy@oceanafoundation.org
Danielle Siegel, danielle@oceanafoundation.org
Or call the office at 231.869.3377

Please make grant recommendations by Wednesday, Nov. 3rd
to help our grant review committee to make decisions
with other resources in mind.

We thank you for your support





AgeWell Services of West Michigan

To provide safe, balanced, and consistent meals to Oceana County residents 60 and homebound.

Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$1,439,933

Shared by the 2021 *Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA)*, Oceana County represents the largest older adult population out of our three service counties of Muskegon, Oceana, and Ottawa, with 19.7% of residents 65 and older. Meals on Wheels is more than just a meal, it decreases the barriers and challenges that this vulnerable population faces daily. Every meal delivery provides a wellness check and social interaction to ensure participants are safe, well and less socially isolated. 60% of the Meals on Wheels participants reported that their driver was their only source of social interaction for the day. AgeWell Services of West Michigan is looking to add 5 new Meals on Wheels participants, increase volunteer numbers by 10%, and have 50% of their participants report that their feeling of isolation and loneliness stayed the same or decreased because of their check-ins from the drivers. The funding proposal will support the printing, copying and reproductions of program marketing (\$1,000), volunteer/participant marketing (\$2,500), and volunteer recruitment (\$1,500).

Grace Adventures

To purchase new equipment for the climbing tower to bring camp activities to youth and communities both local and across the state.

Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$17,638

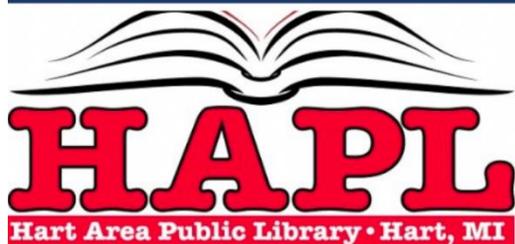
Grace Adventures formed Camp2U when COVID hit in 2020. They had to take a step back to evaluate and fully understand the needs of the community. Camp2U connects students in a safe way by bringing camp to them, in their greatest place of need. The program was designed to create positive mental health behaviors by being outdoors, getting regular exercise, trying new things, and connecting with others their age. Grace used donations to purchase a new climbing tower, trailer and used materials to then immediately go out into the community. They've partnered with Shelby Aspire and Hart FOCUS, as well as several other schools across Michigan. The funding will support the purchase of newer equipment for the climbing tower (\$5,000).

Grant Township Fire Department

To outfit a trailer to be used for firefighter & first responders rehabilitation in Oceana County.

Amount requested: \$4,000 | Total project cost: \$9,000

The Grant Township Fire Department received a donation of an 8x20 enclosed trailer. This trailer will be transformed into a rehabilitation space for firefighters and first responders. The trailer will get firefighters out of the elements and give them a safe space to warm up or cool down. It will also serve as a place for them to get rehydrated and have a snack to safely continue their work. The leading cause of death in firefighters is cardiac related, having a place to regroup and even receive medical attention, if needed, can greatly reduce this risk. Funding from this proposal will support the installation of a heater and A/C (\$2,000), and the vinyl wrapping of the trailer (\$2,000).



Hart Area Public Library

To support Family Story Hour in new impactful format.

Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$6,879 | Partially funded by YAC: \$1,350

Story Hour at Hart Area Public Library (HAPL) focuses on increasing literacy skills of elementary aged students with a guest reader format and an interactive story hour event at school. This program is the last to be restarted after the pandemic shutdown. Family Story Hour will be held at least monthly for a year. It will consist of highly interactive programming appealing to children approximately 7-12 years old. Each story hour will use a combination of reading aloud, discussion, and hands-on activities. Funding from this request will cover increased staff hours (\$2,385), materials and supplies including giveaways (\$2,000), and flyers to advertise the programming (\$615).

Immigrant Connection Inc.

To launch an Immigrant Connection site in Hart, at Hart Wesleyan Church, that will provide high quality, low-cost immigration legal services.

Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$25,000

Immigrant Connection Inc. is an organization that provides low-cost immigration legal services in under-resourced communities. The launch of the Immigrant Connection Site in Hart, MI will serve immigrants in Oceana County and the surrounding region. The highest felt need in the immigrant community is for immigration legal services. Oceana County, however, is an immigration legal services desert. In Oceana County, about 15% of the population is Hispanic and 5.8% are foreign-born. This project includes educating, training, and providing job-shadowing for two bilingual legal representatives, the purchase of a legal library needed for accreditation and reference, and access to technical legal service support. Once operational, this site will be able to serve 200+ clients per year and will be able to adjust capacity to meet demand for services. The funding will support the step-by-step training need for this program to launch (\$5,000).

Love in the Name of Christ of Oceana County

To upgrade Point of Sale (POS) technology to assist with product preparation and customer service.

Amount requested: \$1,023 | Total project cost: \$6,543

Love INC is a collaboration between local churches and their community (agencies, ministries, government, schools) to provide effective help for the disadvantaged making it possible for many families to receive help for a wide variety of physical needs, including food, clothing, furniture, appliances, household, and personal care items. The purpose of their grant is to upgrade the donation/sorting area and the Point of Sale (POS) terminal to realize efficiency in product preparation and customer service. This will include installation of a heater unit, installation of electrical outlets and lighting, purchase and installation of shelving, painting the donation/sorting area and a new Point of Sale (POS) terminal. The requested amount will support the purchase of a new Point of Sale terminal (\$1,023)



Migrant Legal Aid, Inc.

To increase the number of individuals served in Migrant Legal Aid's outreach and education program and Defending Against Hate

Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$60,000

Migrant Legal Aid (MLA) is a non-profit organization that has been advocating for migrant workers' rights since 1973. More program resources are needed to protect the human dignity of existing farmworker families and newly arriving workers. MLA's programs and services have helped approximately thirty farmworker families per season in Oceana County. This need has doubled in the last three years and more resources are needed to cover more individuals, up to seventy workers. With additional funding, MLA will expand the number of individuals served through its Outreach and Education program and the Defending Against Hate project by visiting a greater number of labor housing sites over the course of the season, including follow-up visits and communications with workers. This funding will expand capacity for travel (\$1,000), staff time (\$3,000), and educational packets (\$1,000)

Muskegon-Oceana Community Action Partnership (MOCAP)

To support Workforce Develop Support Program wth transportation, daycare and vehicle repair vouchers

Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$29,500

Muskegon-Oceana Community Action Partnership (MOCAP) is a nonprofit organization that works with community partners to ensure the issues of hardship and its causes are addressed in our service area. The affordability of childcare, affordable housing, and transportation are barriers to economic opportunity in Muskegon and Oceana Counties. MOCAP plans to address these barriers with the availability of vouchers for car repairs (capped at \$200/household), transportation vouchers (capped at 10/week for up to 4 weeks with Council on Aging bus and a childcare vouchers (capped at \$50/household). This funding will support 60 hours of staff time (\$2,750), daycare and car repair vouchers (\$1,100) and miscellaneous costs for flyer creating and printing of materials.

Village of Pentwater

To install phase 1 of the Park Place Acoustic Sound Improvement

Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$16,368

Park Place Community Center, the former Pentwater Friendship Center, was newly formed in Pentwater in 2020. The community center is in need of acoustic panels to improve the sound quality within the building. The installation will consist of (52) 4x2 graphite wall tiles, installed by community volunteers. Park Place is available to all residents of the Village and Township of Pentwater, located at 310 Rush Street. The community-based center is available to all residents, business and non-profit organizations. Funding will help support the purchase of the wall tiles (\$4,992).

OUR COMPETITIVE GRANT ROUNDS ARE PRIMARILY SUPPORTED BY THE COMMUNITY INVESTMENT & FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS. DONOR-ADVISED GRANTS HAVE HELPED SUPPORT ADDITIONAL GRANT AWARDS.



Pentwater Arts Council

To provide funding for the first of a three-year public sculpture initiative in Pentwater.

Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$19,800

The Pentwater Arts Council support the arts including but not limited to visual, theater, music and performing arts and to advance arts education within Pentwater, and across the County. The first phase of this project will place five sculptures in public spaces along Hancock Street in Pentwater. The project is intended to not only create a "placemaking" image for Pentwater but also to enhance the understanding of public art for the community, visitors, and Oceana County Students. The project and locations have been approved by the Village Council with the understanding that 2022 is the first year of a three-year project. It is hoped that an additional number of new sculptures will be selected each year. There will be an option for individuals to purchase a sculpture for personal use or for permanent placement within the Village of Pentwater. The requested funding will support the creation of activity and information packets to be shared with the community and local schools (\$1,000), transportation for field trips to the sculptures (\$1,000), sculpture installation, signage and other marketing materials (\$2,000) and miscellaneous costs including sponsor letters and a café call for artists (\$1,000).

Sable Points Lighthouse Keepers Association

To provide funding for Night at the Lights concerts at Little Point Sable

Amount requested: \$1,500 | Total project cost: \$3,000

The mission of Sable Points Lighthouse Keepers Association (SPLKA) is to preserve, promote and educate the public and make our lighthouses accessible to all. "Night at the Lights" programming consists of five free Wednesday evening concerts July 7th through August 3rd, 2022. These are free concerts for the community and summer visitors on the beach at Little Point Sable Lighthouse. SPLKA has been hosting these concerts since 2014 and they have become a favorite of many residents and returning summer vacationers. SPLKA books a mixture of local and national talent to perform at the concerts. SPLKA volunteers also keep the Little Point Sable tower open during the concerts extending the closing time from 5 pm to 8 pm on concert nights. The funding would cover the \$500 artist performance fee/concert.

Stony Lake Therapeutic Riding Center

To provide programming towards veterans

Amount requested: \$2,500 | Total project cost: \$2,880

Stony Lake Therapeutic Riding Center provides progressive equine therapy to serve, encourage and promote growth in individuals with physical, mental, social and emotional challenges, improving their quality of life using horses as a catalyst. The stables are currently building their Veteran Program so that it can begin March 2022. The goal is to run a 6-week pilot course through March/April with six veterans. Each week they will attend for two hours, two veterans at a time. This program will be open to veterans of all ages, genders, and disabilities, with a focus on physical disabilities, PTSD, community & family reintegration, and Traumatic Brain Injuries. \$2,500 will cover most of the cost for 6 weeks of classes for 6 veterans to participate in the pilot program.

WHEN EVALUATING COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATIONS,
THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION HAS FIVE AREAS OF FOCUS:
THE ARTS, EDUCATION, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT, AND EMERGING COMMUNITY NEEDS.



Fountain Hill Center for Counseling

To provide mental health services to Oceana County school personnel who are uninsured or underinsured including substitute teachers, food service, bus drivers, etc.

Amount requested: \$4,150 | Total project cost: \$5,505 | Fully funded by YAC: \$4,150

Fountain Hill is a nonprofit collective of over a dozen licensed, independent therapists. They have two offices in West Michigan; one in Grand Rapids and the other in New Era. They provide individual counseling for children, adolescents, and adults, couples and family counseling, group counseling, and court-related professional services. Fountain Hill Center is looking to provide mental health services to those working in the Oceana Schools that may be uninsured or underinsured. That population includes substitute teachers, administrative employees, food service staff, bus drivers, etc. While most teachers and full-time administrative staff have health insurance, some employees in the school system are either uninsured or underinsured when it comes to mental health services. Fountain Hill Center plans to provide 5+ mental health sessions to approximately 20 Oceana County school employees. The funding would primarily cover the cost of the therapist with \$500 of the request covering administrative costs.

Trinity Lutheran Church

To purchase supplies for the Baby Pantry & reading room

Amount requested: \$3,500 | Total project cost: \$10,200 | Fully funded by YAC: \$3,500

Trinity Lutheran Church in New Era operates a baby pantry that serves families with children ages 0-5 struggling to meet basic needs of their young children by providing diapers, wipes, formula, and other miscellaneous baby supplies. The Reading Room provides each child accompanying their parent with a free children's book. The Baby Pantry & Reading Room is open once a month, alongside their food pantry hours. This request of \$3,500 will go towards the purchase of supplies to stock the baby pantry shelves.

We Want the Land Coalition Inc.

To provide tree maintenance for safe camping

Amount requested: \$1,750 | Total project cost: \$387,610

We Want the Land Coalition (WWTLC) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide women and girls with unique programs, events, and experiences that celebrate women's history, promote healing and empowerment, build women's community, and encourage education and growth. WWTLC is requesting funding for the removal of five trees in their camping and recreational areas where they host summer events. These dead and/or damaged trees are too large for volunteers to remove by themselves, and therefore must be removed by professionals. Removal of these trees is important for three reasons: safety, accessibility, and capacity. These trees pose a risk of injury to event attendees. The location of one in particular limits space dedicated for our attendees with disabilities. Several are located in the camping area, making that part either dangerous or unusable for camping. This project is part of the overall land maintenance duties performed from fall through spring seasons to keep the ecosystem healthy and the land safe for program use. Funding will cover the costs of tree removal (\$1,750).