

THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR OCEANA COUNTY

on the
GROW

2022 SPRING 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
Or call the office at 231.869.3377**

**Please make grant recommendations by Friday, May 6th
to help our grant review committee to make decisions
with other resources in mind.**

We thank you for your support





Claybanks Township

To replace 20 failing metal picnic table frames in the Claybanks Township Park.

Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$9,320 | Partially funded by Donor: \$3,500

Claybanks Township Park uses 85 metal framed picnic tables throughout the park in the campground, picnic shelter, and day-use area. Over the years, the frames have rusted, and some have failed, making them unsafe for use. The Township plans to replace the worn table frames and construct new picnic tables with wood donated by a resident. Claybanks will also replace failing seat and tabletop boards on existing usable structures. The tabletops and seats will be painted and placed on the frames by students from the Montague High School Future Farmers of America program and the Honor Society students. The reparations of these tables will offer a safe and quality outdoor picnic experience for campers and residents. The request for \$5,000 will fund the cost of the metal frames for 20 picnic tables.

Communities Overcoming Violent Encounters

To provide updates in equipment for the Sexual Assault Nurse Exam (SANE) Unit.

Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$24,278

Communities Overcoming Violent Encounters (COVE) established SANE in 2015 to provide a free, confidential, and safe place for sexual assault survivors to access forensic exams. COVE provides nursing exams and advocates for Mason, Lake, Oceana, and Manistee counties. Both the nurses and advocates are trained to prevent re-traumatization in survivors. This project will upgrade the camera being used to collect forensic evidence, ensure that the exam room is clean and safe, and keep medical supplies and medications stocked and available for the survivors. 1 in 3 women and 1 in 6 men have experienced sexual assault throughout their lifespan. The request for \$5,000 will go towards on-call nurses, upgrading the camera for forensic evidence collection, exam supplies, and cleaning services.

Grace Adventures

To provide Hart student athletes with experiential leadership training.

Amount requested: \$4,500 | Total project cost: \$7,000 | Fully funded by Donor: \$4,500

In partnership with Hart High School, Grace Adventures will provide student-athletes with three half-day, in-person experiential training to teach about personal growth, emotional regulation, and tenacity. A second part of the project will be developing a daily mobile phone app, encouraging daily reminders toward building character. The program is developed in response to the pandemic's effect on Hart's athletic programs. The request for \$4,500 will provide the funding for Hart Schools Athletic Leadership Training and a character-building phone app.

Hart High School

To build and maintain lending libraries in Hart Public Schools.

Amount requested: \$3,000 | Total project cost: \$3,000 | Fully funded by YAC & Donor: \$3,000

Hart High School currently does not have a library. By providing multiple lending libraries, students and community members can gain access to literacy materials. The lending libraries will provide varied-level texts in both English and Spanish. Bilingual students face extra barriers to literacy development. Both Hart Public Library and Hart Public Schools have a smaller selection of books in Spanish. Hart High School art students will build and design the libraries, highlighting student-created designs. Literacy is an essential skill in today's workforce, as jobs require higher literacy levels due to advancements in technology. The request for \$3,000 will purchase of several Lending Libraries kits.



Hesperia Community Library

To provide books, shelving, and furniture for Hesperia Community Library's Teen Room.

Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$5,000 | Partially funded by Donor: \$2,500

The Hesperia Community Library has recently renovated existing space into a new teen room and would like to improve their current teen collections, displays & seating. The books being added to the space will be of the manga/graphic novel genre. By improving this space and expanding the collections, the library hopes to increase the traffic and usage by teenagers and entice reluctant readers to explore a different type of reading experience. This space will provide teenagers of Hesperia with an educational place to frequent. The project will also address continuing literacy issues. Manga/graphic novels have been successful in turning reluctant readers into regular readers. The request for \$5,000 will go towards buying books, displays and furniture in the teen room.

Hospice of Michigan, Inc.

To support individuals in their grief journey with knowledge, tools, and a reliable support.

Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$27,894

The Grief Support Services program aims to increase coping skills for individuals and their family members about end-of-life issues and assist them in grieving effectively and safely. This goal is met through individual counseling and in-person and virtual group interactions designed to support, educate, and comfort those suffering from personal loss. Bereavement support is key to achieving quality of life for both patients and their families. Grief Support Services includes several support groups: Living On, Hope for the Holidays, Memory Bear Program, and educational seminars. The request for \$5,000 will go towards grief support counseling completely free-of-charge for adults and children.

Living Waters Ministries

To update Living Waters' challenge course for summer campers

Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$12,994

Living Waters Ministries (LWM) is looking to install a new challenge course initiative called the Flying Squirrel at its Stony Lake Camp. The Flying Squirrel is an initiative where participants are harnessed safely on a belay. The participant must pull a cord to set themselves safely 'flying.' The Flying Squirrel will be part of its high challenge element offerings and focus on team building. LWM builds programming to focus on a sense of communal accomplishment through group investment. With the rest of their group's physical, mental, and emotional support, participants can overcome a challenge that seemed impossible minutes earlier. The \$5,000 request will support the equipment purchase.

New Era Christian Reformed Church

To improve accessibility to the New Era Farmer's Market Stairway

Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$7,500

With New Era Farmer's Market growing community involvement, New Era Christian Reformed Church will expand its handicapped parking to make the events more accessibility for individuals with disabilities. Currently, shoppers must climb a hill from the parking lot to the market grounds; the grassy slope is steep and uneven, creating physical barriers for visitors. To ensure the safety of attendees, the Market and Reformed Church will install a stairway with railings from the parking area to the market grounds. The project will be completed by White Lake Nursery and Landscaping and supported by volunteers. The request for \$5,000 will partially fund the rental equipment, materials, and labor.



Oceana Christian School

To purchase a social-emotional learning (SEL) program, Chromebooks, and docking stations.

Amount requested: \$4,874 | Total project cost: \$9,320 | Fully funded by YAC & Donor: \$4,874

Oceana Christian School (OCS) is hoping to implement a school-wide SEL program for its K-8 students. Friendly programming teaches students how to be good friends and manage their emotions. It also helps kids learn to maintain positive relationships and make responsible decisions. OCS will purchase Chromebooks and a charging unit for every classroom along with the SEL program. Students can use the digital portion of Friendly regularly. Friendly covers self-awareness, self-management, responsible decision making, social awareness, and relationship skills. The \$4,874 request will purchase the program Friendly (\$1,584), seven wall charging units, and 10 Chromebooks (\$3,290).

Oceana Conservation District

To hire area teens to serve as Nature Day Camp counselors.

Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$14,000 | Partially funded by YAC: \$2,500

Oceana Conservation District's Camper to Counselor program focuses on building relationships, curriculum, and skill-building following recruitment and hiring. Counselors are invited before camp to get to know each other and work as a team to develop aspects of the camp experience. The camp director works with counselors to identify their interests and unique skills. Before camp, counselors and volunteers meet at our camp locations for a dynamic mini-camp training, experience camp, and work together to design activities. Once campers are trained, they will lead a small group of campers during three weeks of camp. The \$5,000 request will support counselor stipends and materials.

Oceana County Council on Aging

To update infrastructure at the Senior Center and its office.

Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$5,050

The Oceana County Council on Aging (OCCOA) envisions making three upgrades to its programming, beginning with adding a heated towel bar for its Adult Day Service's Bathing Program. The bar will make the bathing experience more comforting, helping to address hygiene barriers as accessible and welcoming as possible for clients. Second, OCCOA hopes to upgrade its Conference Room with adjustable chairs and Zoom technology; it will be used for essential in-person and virtual programs like caregiver and grief support groups. OCCOA's current water system uses tankless water heaters, creating a delay in the availability of warm water in restrooms. Adding on-demand water heaters will provide hot water instantly to handwashing sinks. The \$5,000 request would purchase all three updates.

Oceana County Historical & Genealogical Society

To purchase video conferencing equipment for Chadwick Munger House and the Museum

Amount requested: \$2,000 | Total project cost: \$4,000 | Partially funded by Donor: \$1,000

Oceana County Historical & Genealogical Society would like to purchase audio visual equipment (TVs, microphones, and speakers) to outfit two separate virtual meeting areas. They would be at the Chadwick Munger House in Hart (the Society's headquarters) and the Museum Complex in Mears. By combining technology with history, the Society would better more equipped to hold hybrid meetings and launch weekly 'Historical Half Hours' presentations. 'Historical Half Hours' would share Oceana's history, oral histories, and connect volunteers and the public to the Society's ongoings. The \$2,000 request would purchase video conferencing materials and audio-visual equipment.



Oceana Cross Country Ski Association

To refresh and replace the youth and adult cross-country ski equipment.

Amount requested: \$3,228 | Total project cost: \$4,304

The Oceana Cross Country Ski Association (OCCSA) is looking to replace and expand its equipment. After almost a decade of running, OCCSA has provided over 2,000 school children a quality ski experience. Naturally, there has been some wear and tear on the skis and boots. The association has been servicing the equipment, but several skis and boots need to be replaced to ensure a quality program. This project will purchase 24 new skis and boots in various youth and adult sizes and eight replacement bindings. The OCCSA services around 350 people annually. The request of \$3,228 will go towards the purchase of replacement bindings, and OCCSA will cover 24 new sets of skis.

Oceana County Medical Care Facility

To enhance the outdoor courtyard spaces for nursing home residents.

Amount requested: \$4,000 | Total project cost: \$31,000 | Fully funded: \$4,000

Oceana County Medical Care Facility (OCMCF) is requesting funding for its Outdoor Courtyard Improvement Project to enhance the elements of one or more of the facility's courtyards. This project would involve implementing several aspects, including landscaping, water features, patio furniture, a hydration station, a painted mural, outdoor speakers, umbrellas, and a pergola. By enhancing their outdoor space, OCMCF hopes that the courtyards become inviting places for their residents. The outdoor space would provide safer spaces for residents to congregate in group settings; nursing homes are still limited by the size of gatherings. The request for \$4,000 would go to funding patio tables and chairs, planters, shade umbrellas, water features, a pergola, speakers, and general landscaping.

Pentwater Public Schools

To host Mental Health Break Days for students and staff members.

Amount requested: \$2,000 | Total project cost: \$2,000 | Fully funded by YAC & Donor: \$2,000

Pentwater Mental Health Break Days brings community members and professionals together to teach and engage students and staff about self-wellness. The program will address the growing need for mental health education and coping skills. Students of all ages will learn how to manage stress, anxiety and other life obstacles through education and experiences that allow the body and mind to relax and find space to 'be.' Past activities included yoga, crafting, karaoke, sensory experiences, breathing exercises, wood working, and painting. The \$2,000 request will be split between hiring mental health professionals to facilitate and purchasing materials for mindfulness activities.

Reach the Forgotten Jail Ministry

To train volunteers to hold 'Healing Groups' at Oceana County Jail.

Amount requested: \$3,000 | Total project cost: \$3,000 | Partially funded by Donor: \$1,000

Reach the Forgotten Jail Ministry will train Oceana County volunteers to lead 'Healing the Wounded Heart Groups' with men and women in the Oceana County jail. These trained facilitators will know how to provide inmates with a safe and supportive environment to express their suffering and loss without causing further harm. All participants will understand how to identify and define trauma. Helping one resident define, identify, and process trauma will impact them individually. It will impact their family and social networks and, in turn, impact the greater community. The \$3,000 request would fund a three-day training session for 10-12 volunteers and the 'Healing the Wounded Heart' curriculum.



Ronald McDonald House Charities West Michigan

To provide funding for the Family Support Program.

Amount requested: \$2,500 | Total project cost: \$1,082,600

Ronald McDonald House Charities West Michigan (RMHCWM) envisions a community where all families can access quality healthcare and heal together. RMHCWM provides families with a home away from home while their children receive treatment in Grand Rapids. The Family Support Program offers no-cost lodging and amenities, allowing participants to participate in family-centered care for their children. This program focuses on reducing family financial, emotional, psychological, and social stressors. The \$2,500 request will contribute to the Family Support Program budget, supporting the costs of running the house and the amenities provided.

Sable Points Lighthouse Keepers Association

To print lighthouse activity booklets for visiting students.

Amount requested: \$2,500 | Total project cost: \$5,700 | Fully funded by Donor: \$2,500

Sable Points Lighthouse Keepers Association (SPLKA) originally produced a lighthouse activity book in 2014. It was only given to children who visited on field trips. The lighthouse-specific activity booklet is given out to children 12 and under who visit one of four Western Michigan lighthouses. Now, the booklet is given to all children who visit, helping reinforce what the children had learned during their visit. This 32-page booklet contains eight pages of fun activities for each West Michigan lighthouse. Since 2014 SPLKA has produced and given away over 90,000 copies of the lighthouse activity booklets. The \$2,500 request will go towards printing the 10,000 booklets.

Shelby Early Childhood Center

To update playground equipment and develop a natural play area.

Amount requested: \$2,788 | Total project cost: \$87,151

The upgrade to the Shelby ECC playground will provide a safe place for children to explore and play. The current playground is 22 years old, making resurfacing and playscape replacement a growing concern. The new play environment will support curiosity, creativity, and imagination. It will entice families of the community to get outside and be active. The natural areas of the playground will include a water trough, a mud kitchen, a sandbox, a reading corner made from pallets with cushions for seating, and five planter boxes. The \$2,788 award would purchase the literacy area's planters, cushions, and seats.

Shelby Public Schools - National Honors Society

To provide free menstrual products to Shelby High School students.

Amount requested: \$1,465 | Total project cost: \$1,725 | Fully funded by YAC & Donor: \$1,715

The Period Project is an effort by the Shelby Chapter of the National Honor Society to provide access to free menstrual hygiene products to the menstruating students at Shelby High School. These dispensers will increase menstrual equity by providing free menstrual supplies for all students. Giving free products boosts confidence, increases academic focus, and decreases period-related absenteeism. Shelby NHS is requesting funds to purchase and stock two (timed) menstrual care dispensers for the women's bathrooms at Shelby High School. Currently, there are no menstrual care dispensers in the high school. Providing menstrual care products in bathrooms is essential, not a luxury. The \$1,465 request will purchase two dispensers and a year's supply of products; NHS will support future project funding.



Stony Lake Therapeutic Riding Center

To invest in a SureHands ceiling lift to ensure students' accessibility.

Amount requested: \$3,500 | Total project cost: \$ 11,500 | Partially funded by Donor: \$2,500

Stony Lake Therapeutic Riding Center plans to install a SureHands ceiling lift. The installation includes a custom frame over our current mounting area so that students can safely transfer from their mobility device (at ramp or ground level) to the back of an equine partner. Stony Lake Therapeutic Riding Center has blueprints to build the lift mount. We have volunteers who are skilled and capable of building and assembling the mount and lift. The SureHands ceiling lift will help Meet our mission by providing student-centered equine-assisted services in an accessible and safe environment. The \$3,500 request would partially cover purchasing and installing the lift.

The Harbor House of Hart

To provide trauma-informed counseling to Harbor House participants.

Amount requested: \$2,800 | Total project cost: \$3,997 | Fully funded by Donor: \$2,800

Harbor House of Hart's research-based curriculum, Growth 101, invites participants to explore their spiritual, relational, and practical lives. Participants use various methods, including self-reflection, instruction, and practice. There are six units taught over six months. Each month focuses on three learning objectives and covers personality and mental health, conflict resolution, healthy/unhealthy relationships, and boundaries. Our goal is to provide residents with healthy conditions to process and reconcile these traumas under the care of trained mental health professionals. Counselors from the Fountain Hill Center will facilitate group therapy sessions for our residents twice monthly and individual sessions as indicated. The \$2,800 request partially supports Growth 101's supplies, materials, and payment to Fountain Hill professionals.

TrueNorth Community Services

To support Oceana residents facing housing insecurity.

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

The Oceana County Homeless Prevention Program supplements TrueNorth's homelessness prevention services. The program assists vulnerable households with leasing rental units and prevents evictions by helping with rental arrearages. The Homeless Prevention Program helps families not eligible for state support, as well as those with gap funding for those within state programs. This program will serve approximately six households and 15 individuals. The request for \$5,000 will go towards rental assistance and assistance in overcoming housing barriers in Oceana County.

Village of Shelby

To purchase signs and park benches at the WWII POW Camp Memorial in Getty Park.

Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$10,000 | Partially funded by Donor: \$2,500

The Village of Shelby would like to preserve history relating to Getty Park, Shelby, and Oceana County. Two interpretative signs will share information about Getty Park and its service as a prison of war camp. At the same time, the benches will allow visitors to reflect. The POW Camp in Getty Park was one of a handful of POW camps in Michigan. Today, the only physical evidence of the POW Camp in Getty Park are the three remaining brick pillars that supported the barrier surrounding Getty Park. The \$5,000 grant would purchase the two signs and two benches for Getty Park's upcoming renovation.



West Michigan Community Mental Health

To transport clients to and from autism support services.

Amount requested: \$2,500 | Total project cost: \$2,500 | Partially funded by Donor: \$500

Access to West Michigan Community Mental Health's autism services supports clients' community connectedness, social skills, and independence. Out of the 38 enrolled in the autism program, 11 live in Oceana County. Consumers in the autism program are seen one to three times a week. The financial situations of our consumers and their families present a challenge in transportation services. WCMH will share free gas cards with clients after their appointment to address the growing need. Target participants are clients aged from 0 to 21, who meet medical criteria, face transportation insecurity, and cannot use other WCMH supports. The \$2,500 request would purchase gas cards.

West Michigan S.A.I.L.

To install accessible controls into a sailboat.

Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$8,000 | Partially funded by Donor: \$2,500

West Michigan SAIL will install sip/puff and joystick equipment in a sailboat, similar to that which allows disabled people to control a wheelchair. This equipment has been customized to enable a person with disabilities to steer the sailboat and have complete control. A portable Hoyer Lift has also been donated to WMSAIL, which will safely lift participants in and out of the boat. West Michigan SAIL teaches veterans in units of three or four, which rebuilds the camaraderie they typically lose when they leave active duty through sailing. It serves veterans of all abilities, offering recreational therapy. The \$5,000 request would purchase necessary equipment and installation materials.

West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission

To conduct an economic impact assessment of the White River in West Michigan.

Amount requested: \$2,500 | Total project cost: \$22,000

The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC) economic impact assessment of the White River will assess the economic impact of the river on local communities in Muskegon, Newaygo, and Oceana counties. Grand Valley State University will collect data through surveys and models. The assessment will serve as a foundation for planning and advocacy of watershed and recreational improvements to benefit the environment, communities, residents, and visitors. Results will be made public upon completion. West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission will use the \$2,500 request to contract with GVSU to conduct the assessment.

West Shore Community College

To provide scholarships for Oceana County students to attend College for Kids.

Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$37,463 | Fully funded by YAC & Donor: \$5,000

West Shore Community College's (WSCC) College for Kids is a week-long event for kids (9-15) from Lake, Oceana, Manistee, and Mason counties. Students will have the opportunity to choose from 17 different career clusters. In 2021, there were 178 total participants; 26 were from Oceana County. This project aims to provide a career exploration opportunity and help students link their talents and interests with career options. WSCC is hoping to provide 40 Oceana County students with scholarships to attend College for Kids this year. The request for \$5,000 will help fund the instructors, the cost of t-shirts, lunch, and transportation for students.