

# 2023 FALL COMMUNITY GRANT CATALOG

The Oceana Community Foundation'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 by email or phone.

Please make grant recommendations by **Monday, November 27th**, to help our grant review committee to make decisions with other resources in mind.

## Questions?

**Tammy Carey, CEO**

[tammy@oceanafoundation.org](mailto:tammy@oceanafoundation.org)

**Hannah Naples, Program Officer**

[hannah@oceanafoundation.org](mailto:hannah@oceanafoundation.org)

or call us at (231)869-3377

**We thank you for your support!**



## AgeWell Services of West Michigan

### *Meals on Wheels*

**Amount requested: \$2,500** | Total project cost: \$128,611

This past fiscal year (Oct 2022 - Sep 2023), we provided 12,561 Meals on Wheels (MOW) meals for 80 older adults in Oceana County. The purpose and goal of this \$2,500 request is to continue to meet the demand for the Meals on Wheels program to provide food security, healthy food and social connection for homebound Oceana County adults 60 and older. The funds will be used to purchase supplies the program uses for meals, such as food, meal packaging and meal delivery. Overall, this culminates to our second largest expense for the program (30% of overall MOW budget). As so many are negatively impacted by historically high food cost increases, we are also impacted. Outcomes include increased food security, eating healthier food and feeling less socially isolated.

## Family Promise of the Lakeshore **Partially Funded - \$2,500 remains**

### *Eviction Prevention and Housing Stabilization Program*

**Amount requested: \$5,000** | Total project cost: \$11,016

This request will be used to provide support to families in Oceana County experiencing a temporary emergency that could lead to eviction. The program will provide financial assistance for things like rent, utilities, car repairs, gas, medication and groceries, to ease a temporary burden on a family, so that they do not get to the point of eviction. Families will be provided case management and life skills classes for up to a year. The intention is to prevent an eviction, before the family gets to the point of having an eviction filed in court.

## Hospice of Michigan, Inc.

### *Open Access*

**Amount requested: \$5,000** | Total project cost: \$84,396

Hospice of Michigan's Open Access program was created to assist patients, family members, and caregivers with the hospice and palliative care services they need, regardless of age, diagnosis, or ability to pay. The program provides end-of-life care to patients in Oceana County with a terminal illness who 1) do not qualify for Medicaid, Medicare, or are without private insurance, and 2) whose diagnoses are considered to be too costly to manage.

## Lake Michigan Camp & Retreat

### *Disc Golf Courses (Fairway To Heaven)*

**Amount requested: \$3,000** | Total project cost: \$60,000

We are seeking funds to build a family-friendly disc golf course that will be open to the general public. Your support will be used for building essential infrastructure like a parking lot, benches, and course materials. This project aims to create a recreational haven for all ages, fostering community engagement and outdoor fun.

## Oceana County 4-H

### *The Unleashed 4-H Dog Club Fencing Project*

**Amount requested: \$1,500** | Total project cost: \$1,800

We would like to raise funds to create a safe, outdoor training opportunity for our new 4-H Dog Club; The Unleashed. These funds will be used, in addition to club fundraising, for portable outdoor fencing to build an arena for the dogs. This will allow them to have the necessary off-leash work their project requires while keeping all participants safe. Currently, the club practices indoors, which for speed and agility events is unsafe for the dogs for slipping reasons. When they compete, they compete on grass surfaces and providing an outdoor space will also give them a level playing field.

## Oceana County Early Learning Center

### *Playground Update*

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

OCELC would like to purchase sand for our sand box and 8 balance bikes for our cement area. We would also like to purchase shade sails for across our cement area. OCELC would like to finish the playground with sod and add two trees.

## Oceana County Animal Friends ***Partially Funded - \$2,500 remains***

### *OCAF Shelter Improvement/Vet Care Project*

**Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$26,039**

Oceana County Animal Friends is a cat rescue that saves over 200 cats each year in Oceana County. We are the overflow facility when the Oceana County Animal shelter is full. We are a 100% donation based non profit. We have 20 plus volunteers and no paid employees. We are located in a home in Mears, MI. We have insulated the garage and would like to add heat to the garage. The garage is our staging and quarantine area for our cats/kitten when they come into the shelter. We are looking to add heat for the winter so the animal will stay warm during their quarantine period before they can move to the home. We also need funds for vet care for any animals that come in to the shelter.

## Oceana County Council on Aging

### *Expansion to Oceana County Council on Aging's Meal Program*

**Amount requested: \$3,699 | Total project cost: \$6,000**

Food insecurity is a major need in Oceana County, particularly for the senior population. Oceana County Council on Aging (OCCOA) addresses this issue by serving meals to the 60 and over. As OCCOA continues to grow, maintaining the equipment for the meal program ensures that needs for nutritious meals and a social outlet are met. OCCOA will use grant funds to purchase a new commercial refrigerator, accommodating the increasing demand for meals. The current refrigerator is obsolete, putting a strain on the staff and volunteers who work hard to provide an exceptional and essential service to the seniors served. With a new refrigerator, OCCOA can expand it's services to more seniors.

## Oceana County Medical Care Facility

### *Virtual Reality for Seniors*

**Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$8,000**

OCMCF desire to introduce virtual reality technology designed specifically for use by older adults to therapeutically improve their quality of life. OCMCF would partner with MyndVR, a leading provider of VR-based, digital therapeutics for senior living communities. MyndVR is building the most advanced portfolio of original and licensed therapeutic VR content that enables older adults to interact with the outside world in innovative ways that promote engagement, wellness, and positive outcomes. Funding for this project would allow for the purchase of 3 headset immersive glasses and tablets that would be shared among the facilities residents.

## Pentwater Public School

### *Music for All*

***Partially Funded - \$1,000 remains***

**Amount requested: \$5,000 | Total project cost: \$17,691**

The purpose of this request is to help revitalize the Pentwater Schools Band program. We will purchase percussion instruments the band no longer owns and which are necessary for a full, pleasing sound. Schools encourage students to participate in co-curricular activities to build confidence, try new things, participate well in a group, and have fun. Lately, playing in the Pentwater Band hasn't been so appealing due to lack of instruments, short-term band directors, and, for some, the expense of buying/renting instruments. We now have a dynamic band director who has obtained several good used instruments, but drums, and some others (e.g. piccolo, sousaphone) must be purchased.

## **The Fountain Hill Center**

*School Services Oceana County*

**Amount requested: \$5,000** | Total project cost: \$15,330

The purpose of this grant is to provide therapist coordination and therapy to school children in Oceana County Schools. We provide this service to the schools at no cost. This makes therapy obtainable for children who would otherwise not be able to have professional therapy. This therapy is done in coordination with parents, school administration and teachers' recommendations. The children are both seen individually during the school day or in groups. This assures the children who have been identified will be seen on a regular basis.

## **West Central Michigan Horticultural Research, Inc.**

*Oceana County F.I.R.S.T. Robotics Team*

**Amount requested: \$4,500** | Total project cost: \$25,589

The WCMHR, Inc. in partnership with Oceana County schools to establish a work/build space & training area at the West MI Research Station. This initiative aims to create the county's first county-wide F.I.R.S.T. Robotics team for high school students. We are seeking a sum of \$4500 to cover a portion of the \$25,589 total cost in the equipment needs category. The objective of this program is to centralize student interest & funding resources to create a single county team that will enhance educational opportunities for high school students. These opportunities are not typically available due to a lack of students & funds required to compete & host a robotics program in the rural school areas.