

Community Foundation

FOR SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

REPORT

Volume 29 / Issue 3
November 2015



**SUPPORTING HEALTHY AGING
IN SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN**

Volume 29 / Issue 3 / November 2015

- 1** MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

- 2** SPECIAL FEATURE: Supporting Healthy Aging in Southeast Michigan
 - 4** New Learning Opportunities for Seniors
 - 5** Helping Seniors Remain at Home
 - 6** Expanding Horizons with Technology
 - 8** Creating a Culture of Support for LGBT Older Adults
 - 9** Improving Health Care Access and Outcomes
 - 10** Reinventing Dementia and Alzheimer's Care

- 11** GRANTS
 - 11** Detroit Auto Dealers Association Supports Children and Youth

- 12** NEWS
 - 12** Community Foundation for Livingston County Celebrates 25 Years

- 13** GIVING
 - 13** Charitable Giving Done Your Way
 - 13** Creating a Lasting Legacy



COVER: The Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan is committed to helping people in our region remain active, healthy and engaged as they age. Photo by Larry Peplin.

EDITORS: Karen C. Goldbaum \ Kate French

CONTRIBUTING WRITER: Linda Fitzgerald

PHOTOGRAPHY: Michelle Andonian, p. 11, top; Michelle Massey Barnes, pp. 6-7, 9; *Between the Lines*, p. 8; Richard Lim, p. 12; Larry Peplin, cover and p. 4.

Community Foundation

FOR SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

333 W. Fort Street \ Suite 2010 \ Detroit, MI 48226-3134 \ 313.961.6675 \ cfsem.org

As we head into the last months of the year it's natural to be pulled in many directions. The holidays are upon us, it's the giving season and perhaps there will be a final chance to face those tasks we were so certain would be accomplished in 2015. It's a time for looking back as well as anticipating the new.

Thinking about the future while learning from the past is an important part of our job at the Community Foundation. As a permanently endowed source of community capital, we're here in perpetuity to address emerging issues and needs in our region. We do our best to work hard on today's problems and make the most of opportunities, while also raising and managing resources that will allow those who follow us to do things that we cannot imagine or foresee.

When we think about the future, we tend to think about children and the lives they will lead after we are gone. But if we want to look realistically at their future, we should also picture today's children as older people. Nationally, 10,000 baby boomers turn 65 every day. And the increase in our aging population will not end with baby boomers. It's a new, global phenomenon of widespread longevity. It is also an enormous new opportunity that we have only just begun to understand.

That's why the Community Foundation is looking closely at the topic of aging, and consulting widely with people from all walks of life to help us understand how we, as a region, can benefit most from this important trend. What kind of support do older people need? Does "senior" mean 55 or 105 or both? How do we keep our elders connected to their communities and avoid isolating people by generation? These are not questions previous generations had the luxury of contemplating.

The stories in this issue of the *Report* are only a few examples of the many programs we fund that serve older people. With your help we can do much more and continue making a difference in the lives of all who have the good fortune to grow old.

During this season of giving, please consider how the Community Foundation can help you fulfill your vision of what would make our region a better place for people of all ages. Together, we can make southeast Michigan a healthier, more prosperous, more enriching and better place to live, both now and far into the future.

Sincerely,

Mariam C. Noland
President

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- James B. Nicholson
Chair
- Penny B. Blumenstein
Vice Chair
- W. Frank Fountain
Vice Chair
- David M. Hempstead
Vice Chair
- Mary H. Weiser
Secretary
- Michael T. Monahan
Treasurer
- Joseph L. Hudson Jr.
Founding Chair
- Terry Adderley
- Margaret A. Allesee
- Gerard M. Anderson
- Michael E. Bannister
- Albert M. Berriz
- Thomas C. Buhl
- Andrew L. Camden
- Ahmad Chebbani
- Matthew P. Cullen
- Paul R. Dimond
- John M. Erb
- Jennifer Fischer
- Philip Wm. Fisher
- Jenice C. Mitchell Ford
- Allan D. Gilmour
- Alfred R. Glancy III
- Kouhaila G. Hammer
- Steven K. Hamp
- William M. Hermann
- Paul Hillegonds
- George G. Johnson
- Bonnie Larson
- Eric B. Larson
- David Baker Lewis
- John D. Lewis
- Henry W. Lim
- Dana M. Locrniskar
- Florine Mark
- Jack Martin
- Edward J. Miller
- Eugene A. Miller
- Bruce E. Nyberg
- Cynthia J. Pasky
- William F. Pickard
- Stephen R. Polk
- Glenda D. Price
- David T. Provost
- Pamela Rodgers
- Gerald E. Rosen
- Alan E. Schwartz
- William W. Shelden Jr.
- Vivian Day Stroh
- Gary Torgow
- Reginald M. Turner
- Barbara C. Van Dusen
- Linda A. Wasserman
- Dale L. Watchowski
- Sean K. Werdlow
- Ken Whipple

SUPPORTING HEALTHY AGING IN SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

By the year 2030, nearly 37 percent of Michigan’s population will be over 50 years old. Generally, a statistic like that prefaces a list of the disadvantages of an aging population. Older Americans are often depicted as a liability — a group with many needs and little to offer.

The experts that we work with tell us that it is time to stop looking at our aging population through a lens of doom and gloom. Not only does it play to hurtful stereotypes, but it’s at odds with our 21st century reality.

Aging as an Opportunity

Economically speaking, older adults are a significant asset to our region. They are economic drivers, not drains. According to the Michigan Municipal League, Michigan residents 65 and older have a combined annual income of more than \$37 billion, which they tend to spend locally.

As volunteers, they are rock stars as well. The Corporation for National and Community Service estimates that seniors across the country performed more than 3 billion hours of volunteer work, valued at more than \$67 billion, in 2013.

Interestingly, when seniors give back to their communities, they also live longer. Researchers at the University of Michigan discovered the link between volunteer work and longevity, a correlation that held steady even when differences in income, health and other social interactions were taken into account. While older people are enjoying longer, healthier retirement years, they are also generating a new sort of “volunteer capital” in their communities.

Yet the economic argument doesn’t begin to address the intellectual, emotional and spiritual investment we have in helping our loved ones age gracefully so we can enjoy their company for as long as possible.

How do we begin to embrace an “opportunity paradigm” around aging? According to Roger L. Myers, president and CEO of Presbyterian Villages of Michigan (PVM) and a thought leader in aging, we can begin by realizing that we all benefit when we invest in the well-being of older adults.

“Our communities need their knowledge, their talents and their economic participation,” he says. “It’s the right thing to do and it’s the smart thing to do.”

While Myers’ organization has pioneered many innovations in group living for seniors, he points out that the vast majority of people don’t end up living in these facilities. More than 80 percent will remain in their homes as they age. They often need only a modest amount of support to live independently and function well in their existing communities. Providing such services effectively and affordably has become a major priority for nonprofit organizations that serve our aging population.

Good for Young and Old

When we think of adaptations to the environment to better suit the elderly, cutting-edge and youthful are not adjectives that spring to mind. However, much of what makes communities work well for older people — walkable neighborhoods, amenity-rich urban settings and mixed use residential, commercial and public spaces — also makes communities appealing to millennials, according to the Michigan Municipal League. Many of today’s seniors grew up in communities that fit this “cool cities” description, and they may help to make them popular again.



Many organizations are using grants from the Community Foundation to make life better for older adults in southeast Michigan. Seniors themselves are a significant source of the charitable dollars that help address a wide range of issues in our region and provide for future generations.

When purpose-built senior housing developments are created, they can be significant economic drivers, helping to revitalize neighborhoods and create jobs that benefit people of all ages and walks of life. For an example, we have to look no further than the Detroit riverfront. The Thome Rivertown Neighborhood, a joint endeavor of PVM, United Methodist Retirement Homes and the Henry Ford Health System, was launched with a \$1 million seed investment by the Community Foundation. It will eventually serve 700 low-income seniors, and has generated more than 500 jobs and a 10-year economic benefit of over \$350 million. The more we look, the more we observe that meeting the needs of seniors can lead to a richer, healthier region for everyone.

In this issue of the *Report*, there are examples of many outstanding organizations that are helping to improve the quality of life for people in southeast Michigan at every stage of the aging process. We hope you enjoy learning about these organizations and considering ways that you might support their work through your own volunteer commitments and charitable contributions. ■

NEW LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SENIORS

This fall, more than 250 eager students flocked to the Lorenzo Cultural Center at Macomb Community College. They weren't undergraduates or continuing education students, but rather members of an enriched learning program for older adults known as **SOAR (Society of Active Retirees)**. Thanks in large part to a two-year, \$60,000 grant from the Community Foundation, they were able to enroll in fascinating classes on topics as diverse as genealogy, social media, jazz performance, Egyptian history, Art Nouveau, yoga and opera.

SOAR is a community-based, nonprofit, lifelong learning initiative that has been affiliated with Wayne State University's Farmington Hills Campus for a decade. That program currently serves more than 800 members.

With its growing senior population, Macomb County is an ideal venue for a SOAR program. In the fall of 2014, **Macomb Community College (MCC)** took the initiative and launched SOAR Macomb. As with the SOAR Oakland model, all classes are taught by volunteers from the college and the community. Seniors pay a \$50 fee each semester, which allows them to enroll in up to 10 SOAR Macomb courses.

According to SOAR Macomb program director Debbie Komar, the response has been extremely positive and interest continues to grow. "There's been an outpouring of appreciation and enthusiasm from students and volunteers alike," Komar says. "We're growing the program in creative ways and offering even more college-quality courses for older adults in Macomb County." ■

During the Fall 2015 term, SOAR Macomb members enrolled in more than 60 courses taught by college professors, an internationally acclaimed music critic, an art historian, and a Detroit Tigers batboy from the Al Kaline era — among many others. Recently, David DiChiera, founder and artistic director of the Michigan Opera Theatre, and soprano Angela Theis introduced students to the world of opera.



Nonprofits that serve older adults are working together to find creative ways to meet the demand for home repairs and retrofitting that will help people live safely in their homes as they age.

HELPING SENIORS REMAIN AT HOME

Making life more comfortable for the more than 80 percent of seniors who want to remain in their own homes is the goal of an experimental collaborative project undertaken by some of the region's top experts on aging. According to AARP, the vast majority of people want to stay in their own homes as they age. It's a goal that would be possible for many if they could make simple modifications, often costing as little as \$1,500 to \$10,000, to their houses. Compared to the price of nursing homes, assisted living or adult day care — which can range from \$30,000 to \$80,000 a year and up — that's a bargain.

In 2014, the Community Foundation made a grant to four leading nonprofits that serve seniors — **Southwest Solutions, Presbyterian Villages, Jewish Family Services of Metropolitan Detroit** and the **Hartford Development Foundation**, a subsidiary of Hartford Memorial Baptist Church — to explore creative solutions for meeting the growing demand for adaptive retrofitting and home repairs for seniors in southeast Michigan.

Research conducted by the group indicates that there is a shortage of qualified contractors to take on this work. In addition to exploring new funding streams the group is also looking at opportunities to improve the supply side of the equation, such as standardizing the most common services so that more providers can be trained to perform them quickly and sustainably, at set prices that seniors can anticipate and afford.

Conversations with national home improvement franchises led to the idea of creating a business that would scale up to perform this work on a nonprofit basis. Ideally the business would manage the private, public and philanthropic dollars available to help seniors pay for home improvement work, help ensure a top-quality product and generate revenue to help the business achieve sustainability.

The jury is still out, but we are pleased to support these nonprofit organizations in their efforts to help more seniors gain access to affordable, high-quality home modification services that will allow them to live safely and independently in their own homes. ■



A grant from the Chelsea Community Foundation was used to establish an iPad lending library that is getting Chelsea Retirement Community residents up to speed with life-enriching technology.

EXPANDING HORIZONS WITH TECHNOLOGY

Older adults have been living at an idyllic setting in Chelsea, Michigan, since the early 1900s, when local manufacturer Frank Porter Glazier donated 33 acres to establish a home for seniors. Today, **United Methodist Retirement Communities (UMRC)** owns and manages **Chelsea Retirement Community (CRC)** on this site, now a 58-acre, state-of-the-art

center for senior living and rehabilitative services. UMRC has grown to offer a full continuum of housing and care options for older adults at nine locations across Michigan.

UMRC prides itself on the quality of life experienced by its residents. So when CRC staff noticed that residents were interested in learning more about iPads, smartphones and other devices, they knew this was an opportunity to open a world of new connections.

The UMRC Foundation and CRC Life Enrichment staff submitted a grant proposal to our affiliate, the Chelsea Community Foundation, for the purchase of 20 iPads to create an iPad lending library at CRC. The project was funded with a grant of \$10,000.

Classes to use iPads are taught twice a week by CRC Life Enrichment staff and volunteers from the Chelsea District Library. Student volunteers from the Chelsea High School National Honor Society provide “office hours” to answer residents’ questions and to give more individualized instruction.



“This is one of the best programs we’ve ever developed, in terms of the value and impact it has had on residents and their families,” says Hazel Mead, Independent Living and Events Coordinator at CRC. “We have been astonished at how much our residents have learned and how quickly they have mastered using the iPads.”

For CRC resident Dolly Millard, using FaceTime on her iPad means she can visit with her niece in Australia. Another resident, Carol Mills, says her iPad allowed her to see her youngest great-grandchild in Missouri take his first steps.

Once-mysterious terms like YouTube, TED Talk, Skype and Instagram are part of daily life now for CRC

residents. Volunteers at Towsley Village, CRC’s memory care center, use the iPads to reminisce with residents, play them music from their youth, or calm them with photos of nature. The CRC theater group uses them to record their performances. Another resident and her daughter are using an iPad app to help create personalized memory books. After trying out iPads from the lending library, several residents have purchased their own.

“Helping our residents embrace and master the use of iPad technology allows them to stay connected with family and friends, provides ways to better manage their health, and even lowers their risk of cognitive decline,” says UMRC Foundation President Wendy Brightman. ■

There is no age limit to the discoveries and new connections that people can make online. Volunteers may get them started, but many of the senior students are soon helping others to explore new worlds with their computers, tablets and smartphones.



CREATING A CULTURE OF SUPPORT FOR LGBT OLDER ADULTS

Aging is never easy. Most older adults face an array of physical, emotional and financial challenges. For LGBT seniors, those challenges are magnified.

In contrast to their heterosexual peers, LGBT elders are far more likely to be single, childless and estranged from their biological families. Adding to their sense of isolation, they often find that traditional senior providers fail to understand their unique needs.

In 2010, the **ACLU of Michigan** joined forces with several area nonprofits to convene a conference exploring the problems faced by LGBT seniors. As ACLU attorney Jay Kaplan recalls, “Again and again, we heard the same fear: ‘What will happen to me if I become ill? Will service providers accept me and welcome me, or will I be forced to hide who I really am?’”

In 2011, the ACLU of Michigan used a grant from the Community Foundation’s HOPE Fund to launch an initiative aimed at educating the public and protecting the rights of Michigan’s LGBT community. That same year, a second grant enabled the ACLU, the **Area**

Agency on Aging 1-B and other nonprofit partners to form the **LGBT Older Adult Coalition**. Within two years, the group had developed an LGBT resource guide, presented educational sessions for service providers, conducted training on LGBT cultural competency, and hosted three summits focused on LGBT seniors.

Now, a \$50,000 grant from The HOPE Fund is enabling the ACLU of Michigan and three local Area Agencies on Aging to expand on the work of the coalition and create an LGBT culturally competent network for aging services throughout Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Monroe, Washtenaw, Livingston and St. Clair counties. Initiatives include intensive training for staff at call centers, more sensitive methods of LGBT data collection, and the implementation of key policy changes based on ACLU guidelines.

“This model is not about reinventing the wheel,” Kaplan explains. “It’s about working with the region’s largest senior providers to ensure that they can connect with LGBT elders and serve them with dignity.” ■

The LGBT Older Adult Coalition works to bring equitable housing, health care and other services to seniors in southeast Michigan regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.



Mary George reviews notes on medication and follow-up care with Jewish Family Services Partners in Care Concierge volunteer Deirdre Warren.

IMPROVING HEALTH CARE ACCESS AND OUTCOMES

Arranging transportation to and from medical appointments. Understanding medical directions. Filling prescriptions. Implementing treatment plans. Scheduling follow-up visits. For most of us, these tasks are just a routine part of managing our health care. But for older adults, they can be insurmountable barriers that ultimately result in deteriorating health, poor outcomes and costly medical interventions down the road.

Removing those barriers is the mission of **Partners in Care Concierge (PiCC)**, a new service model developed by **Jewish Family Services (JFS)** of Washtenaw County. The concept originated with a JFS social worker who was struggling with her role as a “sandwiched caregiver” — looking after her family and working full-time while serving as the health care advocate for her ailing father.

PiCC connects trained volunteers — primarily retired nurses, physicians and social workers — with older adults who require assistance in accessing health care. These “partners” accompany clients to medical appointments, facilitate communication with physicians, and provide ongoing support and follow-up. The program works by electronically communicating upcoming client needs to program volunteers, who sign up for appointments and assignments that fit their schedules. Consistent training of volunteers

helps ensure that clients receive uniformly excellent support from every care partner. Clients pay for PiCC services, which may include transportation, on a subsidized sliding scale.

Currently, JFS is working with the Michigan Public Health Institute on a demonstration project to validate the program’s cost savings and health outcomes. Research findings will be used to market PiCC to insurers, large physician organizations and health systems — all of which have a vested interest in improving compliance, reducing hospital re-admissions and decreasing Medicare costs. Staffing and operational costs for the study are being funded in part by an 18-month, \$50,000 grant from the Community Foundation.

The program will be marketed through the Herb Amster Center, a JFS affiliate focused on creating revenue-generating businesses that reduce the need for outside support and assure the agency’s long-term viability.

“PiCC has tremendous potential for benefiting older adults and relieving the burden of caregivers,” says Sarah Okin, director of the Herb Amster Center. “We believe in this program so much that we’re developing replication kits for purchase by organizations nationwide.” ■

REINVENTING DEMENTIA AND ALZHEIMER'S CARE

No report on the state of aging in America today can be complete without a discussion of memory loss and dementia. An estimated 5.3 million Americans of all ages have Alzheimer's, according to the Alzheimer's Association. One out of two individuals over the age of 85 are memory-impaired to some degree, making Alzheimer's and dementia care one of the most significant concerns for every organization that treats older people and supports caregivers.

Evangelical Homes of Michigan (EHM), a 136-year-old nonprofit that provides housing and services to seniors in our region, embraces a program called the Best Friends Approach to Alzheimer's Care. Developed in the 1990s by Virginia Bell and David Troxel, it's a strategy that is easy to learn and implement, both in professional settings and by home caregivers.



New, more effective approaches to supporting people with Alzheimer's and dementia are important not only to those affected by these conditions, but also to the quality of life of the family members and professionals who care for them.

The crux of the approach is calmly supporting those with dementia through the inevitable confusion that accompanies their condition. Rather than arguing with the person about what is and is not real, caregivers are taught to be in the moment with the individual and to strive to find common ground with them.

Bell and Troxel's powerful observation is that what a person with dementia needs, quite simply, is a best friend. "This approach helps guide caregivers to be the empathetic, nonjudgmental advocate that the dementia sufferer needs," says Denise Rabidoux, president and CEO of EHM. "It's a practical philosophy that helps the individual feel safe, secure and valued. The approach can have a tremendous impact on the quality of life of caregivers, too," she adds.

All caregivers at EHM who work with dementia sufferers receive training by instructors certified in the Best Friends Approach. It's a skill set and value system that permeates the organization and is shared with the many support groups and family caregivers that EHM serves.

This program is one of many services at EHM that is supported by an annual grant from the William M. and Mary E. Pagel Fund of the Community Foundation. Pagel Fund gifts to EHM have totaled more than \$1.87 million since 1994, enabling the organization to offer high-quality services and care to many older adults who have exhausted their financial resources. From delivering more than 12,000 daily hot meals a year to providing medication services, skilled nursing care and hospice care, EHM helps seniors in southeast Michigan have the quality of life they deserve, regardless of their ability to pay.

"William and Mary Pagel were hands-on volunteers at EHM before they were donors," Rabidoux says. "We are very grateful for their support, which has been life-changing for many people and will continue to touch future generations." ■

GRANTS

DETROIT AUTO DEALERS ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The Detroit Auto Dealers Association (DADA) Charitable Foundation Fund was established at the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan in 1998 by the DADA, a trade association composed of more than 200 automobile dealers in metropolitan Detroit. It has provided more than \$4.5 million to support nonprofit organizations in the region, with a primary focus on charitable organizations and activities that assist in improving the lives of children and youth.

The programs supported by the DADA Charitable Foundation Fund are very diverse, ranging from health and human services to the arts, recreation and education. Grants have been made to organizations across all seven counties of southeast Michigan, in communities large and small. In September, the following grants for 2015, totaling \$303,500, were announced:

- **The Art Center**, Mount Clemens: \$50,000 over two years for visual arts programming and artist residencies throughout the Mount Clemens Community School District



The mobile medical services of the Children's Health Project of Detroit were expanded thanks to a grant from the DADA Charitable Foundation Fund.

- **Cranbrook Educational Community**, Bloomfield Hills: \$25,000 to expand an immersive science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) program for upper elementary students in southeast Michigan
- **Detroit Food & Entrepreneurship Academy**, Detroit: \$35,000 to expand a place-based, experiential leadership program for high school students



A grant for a leadership development and mentoring program was made to Girls Group from the DADA Charitable Foundation Fund.

- **Girls Group**, Washtenaw County: \$25,000 to pilot the Youth Leadership Council leadership development program for high school girls
- **Girls on the Run Inc.**, southeast Michigan: \$14,500 to launch a physical activity-based youth development program for sixth- to eighth-grade girls
- **Henry Ford Health System**, Detroit: \$28,000 to expand the service delivery of the Children's Health Project of Detroit, a mobile medical center program for youth in medically underserved neighborhoods
- **Starfish Family Services**, Detroit: \$50,000 for Thrive by Five, a collaborative effort with other charitable organizations for a year-round engagement of Detroit children in Head Start programs
- **Regents of University of Michigan**, Southeast Michigan: \$36,000 over three years for a literacy program for English-learning students and their families
- **VIP Mentoring Inc.**, Detroit: \$40,000 for a pilot program to provide 25-30 at-risk Osborn High School youth with an intensive, year-long mentoring experience as a pathway for academic achievement.

For more information about the DADA Charitable Foundation Fund or to apply for a grant, visit cfsem.org/fund/detroit-auto-dealers-association.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR LIVINGSTON COUNTY CELEBRATES 25 YEARS

Old friends and new supporters alike gathered on October 18 at the historic Howell Opera House to celebrate the launch of the 25th year of the Community Foundation for Livingston County. Since its founding, the foundation has awarded nearly \$700,000 in grants to improve the quality of life in the county, supporting diverse programs in human services, the arts, leadership development, education, health and the environment.

Guided by an advisory committee of residents and civic leaders in Livingston County, the organization has built an endowment of more than \$1.1 million and is poised for growth.

“The Community Foundation for Livingston County is a perfect example of what can happen when dedicated volunteers and donors have a vision and

are committed to making that vision a reality,” says Doris C. Ostrander, Foundation advisory committee chair. “New donors and volunteers are stepping up, which is making it possible to make more grants and engage more community partners.”

Recent grants have included support for StartUp Weekend Livingston, an event for tech entrepreneurs; support for a program at the Livingston Education Service Agency to boost kindergarten readiness; and a challenge grant to Cleary University to work with Leadership Livingston to identify and fund great new nonprofit projects.

For information about how you can support the Community Foundation for Livingston County, or to apply for a grant, please visit livingstonfound.org.



Community Foundation for Livingston County Advisory Committee members: (back row) Nick Deychakiwsky, Tim Corrigan, Denise Brennan-Nelson, Rick Scofield, and Frank Mancuso Jr. (front row) Bob Herbst, Doris Ostrander, Becky Best. Not pictured: Mike Hall and Greg Clum.



Livingston Advisory Committee chair Doris Ostrander welcomes Dan Danosky from the Livingston Educational Service Agency and fellow founding committee member Anne Colone to the 25th anniversary year celebration.

JACK A. ROBINSON

The Community Foundation lost a great friend and supporter on September 15 with the passing of Jack Robinson. In addition to his many business and civic contributions and accomplishments, Jack was one of our founding Trustees and an active member of the

Program & Distribution Committee. He served on numerous other committees, including serving as co-chair of The HOPE Fund for many years. He was a dedicated volunteer who gave much to make this community a better place. He will be missed.

CHARITABLE GIVING DONE YOUR WAY

What holiday gift would you like to give your neighbors? Cleaner water? More parks and trails? Healthier children? Or would you really like to see more people enjoying southeast Michigan’s vibrant arts scene? Whatever your vision of a better community, we are here to help you realize it. For more than 31 years, the Community Foundation has been working with caring individuals to fulfill their philanthropic goals and make the most of their charitable dollars.

Either through personal, one-on-one conversations, or by working with your professional advisor, we help you create giving solutions that reflect your personal values, motivations and goals.

Large or small, every gift matters. Because the Community Foundation accepts gifts from hundreds of individuals and organizations each year, we are able to pool gifts from donors who share common interests and increase the dollars available to invest

in a particular cause. This is the power of collective, community philanthropy.

The online giving page [linked here](#) shows a few of the fields of interest that receive gifts and grants from the Community Foundation. Each category represents the interests of hundreds of generous, caring individuals who work with us to make strategic investments in programs and organizations that benefit our region.

Think of the Community Foundation as your giving team. Your Arts & Culture team, your Health and Human Services team or your Greenways or Economic Development team. Or contact our staff and tell them what matters most to you.

In this season of giving, please take time to consider a gift to your community. It is our mission and our privilege to assist you in making the most personally rewarding use of your charitable dollars and to ensure that they do the most good for our region. Today and forever.

CREATING A LASTING LEGACY

If you have a particular area of charitable interest, you might consider starting an endowed field-of-interest fund at the Community Foundation. That’s what Nancy Davidson of Grosse Pointe Woods did, establishing a bequest in her will for an endowed fund to support the needs of older people and the underprivileged in southeast Michigan.



Miss Davidson lived a long and productive life and passed away at the age of 83. Though born in Detroit, she was raised and educated in Scotland. During World War II she served on the civilian Coal Board and Food Office in Scotland and later with the British Army. In 1951 she returned to Detroit and spent her career at equipment manufacturer Massey-Ferguson. Proud of her Scottish heritage and an avid bagpipe player, Miss Davidson

enjoyed an active retirement surrounded by friends and her family.

In keeping with Miss Davidson’s charitable intentions, we carefully research programs and make grants to nonprofits that are doing just the sort of life-enhancing programming that Miss Davidson would have appreciated.

Whether you are interested in supporting your community as a whole, or a specified area, such as children, the arts

or the environment, a field-of-interest fund will allow you to build a legacy of support that is consistent with your vision.

Turn your interest into action — it is easy to get started. Contact us at 313.961.6675 or visit cfsem.org/ways-to-give for more information.

Community Foundation

FOR SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

333 W. Fort Street
Suite 2010
Detroit, MI 48226-3134
313.961.6675 \ www.cfsem.org

The Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan is here to permanently support our region.

We promote and facilitate permanent change in the seven counties of Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Monroe, Washtenaw, Livingston and St. Clair, and we help donors invest in organizations they care about nationwide.

We do this by:

- Making strategic investments in programs and organizations that benefit the region
- Equipping organizations and the public with knowledge and information that will lead to positive change
- Building endowment — community capital — to meet our region's needs today and tomorrow, and
- Providing expert assistance to donors and their advisors in their charitable planning



INSIDE

New Learning Opportunities for Seniors

Reinventing Dementia and Alzheimer's Care

Community Foundation for Livingston County Celebrates 25 Years