



Scholarship Fund Stories

Adam Visser Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Gene Gifford, who established the Adam Visser Memorial Scholarship Fund of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in honor of Adam Visser a former Jayhawk all-conference player and a member of the 1990 national runner-up squad. Adam battled ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease) for three years and passed away on February 16, 2007. "Adam was a tremendous competitor," said Gene Gifford, who coached him at MCC. He was a great person and a tremendous father and husband who courageously fought the battle against ALS.

Adult Student Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of various donors, who contributed to this Community Foundation for Muskegon County scholarship fund. This scholarship supports Muskegon County residents (or residents of a Muskegon-based school district) who have been out of high school for at least two years and/or have a gap in their post-secondary education. Adult students are often (but not always) prospective undergraduate students who are 25 years of age or older. Adult students may also have other identifying criteria, such as full-time employment, parenthood, care of elderly parents, or prior military service.

Alan G. (1954) and Margaret Drost (1957) Toxopeus Western Michigan Christian High School Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Alan & Margaret Toxopeus, who established the Alan G. (1954) and Margaret Drost (1957) Toxopeus Western Michigan Christian High School Scholarship of the Muskegon County Community Foundation. Alan and Margaret were Western MI Christian High School graduates - 1957/58. Allen attended Michigan State University and went on to become an accountant. Margaret attended Calvin College and went on to become a Radiologist. They created this scholarship fund because they appreciated the good education they received at Western Michigan Christian High School. This scholarship is for graduating seniors of Western Michigan Christian High School.

Albrechtsen Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Dennis and Sue Albrechtsen, who established the Albrechtsen Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Dennis and Sue Albrechtsen are long-time Whitehall residents. Dennis is a former General Manager of Howmet Whitehall Casting. Having a genuine concern for students who may not be interested in pursuing a traditional college degree, they established the Albrechtsen Scholarship to assist Whitehall High School graduating seniors in attending technical or vocational training programs.

Albrechtsen-VanLoon Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Dennis and Sue Albrechtsen, who established the Albrechtsen-VanLoon Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Dennis and Sue Albrechtsen are long-time Whitehall residents. The Albrechtsen's believe in Whitehall Schools. They wanted to support the work that John VanLoon, a former Whitehall High School Principal, was doing. This fund is unusual because it not only supports students but also rewards teachers who demonstrate the ability to motivate students to achieve at high levels. His goal is to impact lives.



COMMUNITY
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Scholarship Fund Stories

Alex Christopher U.A.#174 Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was created in memory of Alex Christopher and made possible by the generosity of his mother, Sharon and members of U.A. #174. Alex was in his final year of a plumbers and pipefitters apprenticeship when he was killed in a motorcycle accident. With support from U.A.#174, Sharon Christopher created this fund to support other young people like her son. The awards may be used for tools, equipment, or other workforce supports as determined by U.A.#174.

Alfonso Loera Music Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the friends and family of Alfonso Loera, who established the Alfonso Loera Music Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Alfonso Loera was a gifted musician who continuously touched the hearts of all who knew him and heard him perform. Born and raised in Muskegon, Alfonso graduated from the Musician's Institute in Hollywood and was well known for his talent as a guitarist and singer. His life was tragically cut short at age 35, but his love of music will live on through the Alfonso Loera Music Scholarship Fund. This fund will enable young musicians to pursue their musical goals unhindered by financial need.

Alice Mae McGuire Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Mr. Raymond J. McGuire, who established the Alice Mae McGuire Memorial Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in memory of his wife, Alice. This scholarship is presented to students transferring from Muskegon Community College who attended MCC on a two-year, full-time basis and who will be pursuing a degree or certification at any Michigan accredited educational institution.

American Legion Auxiliary Unit of Merritt Lamb Post No. 9 Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit of Merritt Lamb Post No. 9, which established the American Legion Auxiliary Unit of Merritt Lamb Post No. 9 Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This fund was created to honor the memory and work of the Auxiliary and is to be given to a veteran or a child or grandchild of a veteran.

A. Portia Rothschild Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of A. Portia Rothschild, who established the A. Portia Rothschild Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. A. Portia Rothschild, a retired Muskegon Heights High School counselor, moved from Muskegon but did not forget the years she spent caring for and guiding thousands of Muskegon Heights students. Always a community activist, she worked hardest when addressing issues involving youth and the disadvantaged.

Archie A. and Elva M. Blood Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Archie Blood, Jr. who established the Archie A. and Elva M. Blood Scholarship Fund of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County to honor his parents. He says they were "silent givers." His father was a quiet war hero, and they both gave a great deal to the community, without notoriety. They gave each of their children an opportunity for higher education and Archie, Jr. felt it was time to give back.



Scholarship Fund Stories

Arthur and Ida Kuehl Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Floyd Kuehl, who established the Arthur and Ida Kuehl Memorial Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Muskegon native Floyd Kuehl spent his career in nursing and retired from Mercy General Health Partners in 1999. He has established a scholarship in the name of his parents for students planning to pursue careers in nursing. Both Arthur and Ida Kuehl worked in the community. Arthur was a machinist at Continental Motors, and Ida worked at J.C. Penney's. Floyd Kuehl says that it is because of his parent's hard work and support that he has been able to create this scholarship.

Barbara J. Lonnee Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Rudy and Barbara Lonnee, who established the Barbara J. Lonnee Scholarship of the Muskegon County Community Foundation. Rudy Lonnee and his wife Barbara had been long-time residents and contributing citizens of Ravenna. Rudy Lonnee's family founded Alloyed Gray Iron Foundry, a major employer in the Ravenna area for many years. Barbara taught in the Ravenna Public School system and served in the local Girl Scout program. Both loved the Ravenna community and wanted to make a lasting gift to its students. Rudy created the Barbara J. Lonnee Scholarship after Barbara's passing in honor of her. This scholarship represents the fulfillment of this generosity, which will continue to grant the lasting gift of education to the youth of their community.

Ben and Ruth Marcus Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Ruth Marcus, who established the Ben and Ruth Marcus Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Ruth Marcus was a champion of women here in Muskegon County for nearly half a century. Through her work as a board member at Muskegon Community College, Community Mental Health, Every Woman's Place, and Muskegon Area Planned Parenthood, she served as an advocate for women, inspiring them to pursue higher education, to take a greater role in the political arena, and to let their voice be heard in important causes. Her husband, Ben, was a leading worker's compensation attorney and a pioneer in this field. Ben Marcus came to Muskegon after World War II, a time when over 50 workers a year were dying in Muskegon Foundries due to lung disease. In 1995, he was inducted into the Michigan Worker's Hall of Fame and received the State Bar of Michigan's Champion of Justice Award. His work on behalf of Michigan's workers will remain a strong legacy in the field of labor law. The Marcus' Fund will provide financial assistance to area students who will attend Muskegon Community College.

Bernard J. DeVries Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of JoAnn DeVries, who established the Bernard J. DeVries Scholarship Fund of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. JoAnn established the Bernard J. DeVries Scholarship Fund in memory of her father, Bernard. The fund will be used to present scholarships to graduating seniors, with preference to those graduating from Muskegon High School. The recipients must be pursuing a degree program at a four-year accredited college, university, or vocational/technical school.



COMMUNITY
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Scholarship Fund Stories

Beverley Turner Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Peter Turner, who established the Beverley Turner Memorial Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Beverley Turner, in 1972, moved to Muskegon from Canada and shortly thereafter became an instructor at Muskegon Community College. This has been established in memory of Beverley by Peter Turner, her husband. The grants scholarship awards to graduates of Muskegon Community College who wish to continue their education. This and its purpose reflect Beverley Turner's life-long interest in and dedication to excellence in education. To the credit of Mr. Turner and his generosity Beverley Turner continues to inspire academic excellence in the Muskegon youth through the lasting gift of education.

Bonnie, Kenneth and Charles Buitendorp Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Kenneth Buitendorp, who established the Bonnie, Kenneth, and Charles Buitendorp Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship will be given to students demonstrating financial need and scholastic ability.

Bruce and Antonia Privacky Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Bruce & Shirley Privacky, who established the Bruce and Antonia Privacky Memorial Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. The entire community was devastated by the tragedy of Bruce and Antonia who died in a car crash. Bruce & Shirley established this in memory of their grandchildren, Bruce and Antonia Privacky. This scholarship is for Coopersville and Ravenna students attending any "public" college/university in the State of MI.

Busker Family Fund Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Walter E. Busker, who established the Busker Family Fund of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Walter Busker was a long-time Muskegon resident and a member of the First Congregational Church. He joined Campbell, Wyant, and Cannon in 1951 as Chief Financial Officer. He served in several positions until his retirement in 1976. As their four children grew up, the Buskers continually emphasized the importance of education. The Busker Family Fund mirrors these values, as one-third of the income from the Fund provides scholarships for young people in the Muskegon area. Through the creation of the Busker Family Fund, Walter Busker's emphasis on education has grown into a lasting reality, granting the permanent gift of education to the youth of his community.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Busker Family Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the William Busker family, who established the Busker Family Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This is a competitive scholarship for the study of science, technology, engineering, math, teaching, nursing, accounting, or a trade or vocational skills. You have been chosen because we believe that you have ability and are motivated to reach your potential. The Busker family believes that by completing your education, you will be able to improve your own economic well-being, as well as the well-being of your community. They also believe that giving back is a practice that should begin early and become a lifetime habit. It is their hope that, as you benefit from your education, you will help other students such as you by giving back through gifts to the Community Foundation for Muskegon County and this scholarship fund. The Busker family and the Community Foundation for Muskegon County sincerely hope this scholarship helps you attain your goals, and we wish you success.

Byam Family Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of George Byam, who established the Byam Family Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship is presented to a graduating senior of Whitehall High School who will be continuing his or her education at Muskegon Community College. The student must have demonstrated academic achievement at the 2.0 to 3.0 high school grade point average level. Preference is given to students with a successful work history at a part-time job.

Carl Education Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Sabra Carl, who established the Carl Education Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in memory of her parents Lawrence & Charlotte. Lawrence was a long-time Muskegon Heights merchant and city and county civic affairs leader. The quality of education was very important to both Lawrence & Charlotte. This scholarship is for Muskegon County students pursuing any degree or course of study at Muskegon Community College or Stevenson Higher Education Center degrees from Grand Valley State University, Western Michigan University, or Ferris State University.

Charles and Carol Mullally Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of an anonymous donor, who established the Charles and Carol Mullally Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship is for Reeths-Puffer High School graduating seniors who have demonstrated academic achievement.



COMMUNITY
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for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Charles and Jessie Goodnow Educational Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Charles and Jessie Goodnow, who established the Charles and Jessie Goodnow Educational Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Sometimes, it is the very quiet people who ask for little but, through their generosity, truly make a difference in the world. Charles and Jessie Goodnow had vacationed in Muskegon for years and loved the area so much that they moved here in the 1930s and made Muskegon their home. Although neither of them attended college, both appreciated the value of education. The Goodnows lived an austere lifestyle that enabled them to build a sizable estate, and since they had no children of their own, they chose to use their estate to make a gift of education to Muskegon area students. The Goodnows produced this gift by creating the Community Foundation's first scholarship. The income from this fund has awarded over one and a half million dollars in scholarships to Muskegon youth, continuing to grant Charles and Jessie Goodnow's lasting gift of education to the current and future generations of Muskegon County youth.

Charles D. & Virginia Gay Van Vleck Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Charlie and Gay Van Vleck, whose bequest established the Charles D. & Virginia Gay Van Vleck Scholarship Fund of the Community Foundation of Muskegon County. Charlie Van Vleck was a salesman his entire life, starting in a shoe store at age 17 and finishing with a 30-year career with Shaw Barton of Ohio. He was an Optimist member for 49 years, a cancer survivor, an active volunteer, and a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church along with his wife, Gay. Raised in Arkansas, Gay was high school valedictorian and earned a master's degree. Her career path included teaching, working for Delta Airlines, and serving as executive director of the Girl Scout Council in Michigan, where she met Charlie, a board member. She retired from Muskegon School District as an English/Journalism teacher. Their scholarship provides awards to Muskegon County residents who are pursuing an undergraduate degree.

Charlotte M. Martin Classical Music Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Charlotte M. Martin, who established the Charlotte M. Martin Classical Music Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Charlotte Martin wanted her interest in classical music to continue after her death in February 2002. This Fund will be used to provide scholarships to students planning to study classical music who need assistance to do so. In this way, Ms. Martin's thoughtful giving will help assure the future of the musical arts community in Muskegon.

Cheryl Duff Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the friends and family of Cheryl Duff, who established the Cheryl Duff Memorial Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Cheryl Duff, an extremely valued community member, participated actively in the world around her. This included involving herself with Immanuel Lutheran Church and teaching Sunday school. She was 28 when she died in a tragic automobile accident in June of 1991. Friends and family have established this in Cheryl's memory. Through this award, Cheryl's desire to help and give to others will continue to benefit the community.



COMMUNITY
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for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Community Dental Endowment Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Muskegon District Dental Society, which established the Community Dental Endowment Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship is for students pursuing dental-related careers.

Concerned Hearts Cardiovascular Nurse Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Concerned Hearts Club of Michigan, which established the Concerned Hearts Cardiovascular Nurse Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. The fund was established to create educational opportunities for cardiovascular nurses or students who have been admitted to an accredited school and expressed a desire to establish a career as a cardiovascular nurse.

C.T. Anton Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Anton Family, who established the C.T. Anton Scholarship Fund in 2017 with an original funding grant from the Anton Family Fund at the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Chris T. Anton, a founding member of Newkirk Electric Associates Inc., a Muskegon-based electrical and engineering contractor, started the Anton Family Fund. Mr. Anton was actively involved in numerous charities in the Muskegon Community, with a longtime goal of a scholarship fund for Muskegon County students interested in engineering and construction.

Cutler Family Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Robert M. Cutler family, who established the Cutler Family Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Robert Cutler was a retired Howmet executive and a former County Commissioner. His wife, Betsy, taught and provided counseling for 19 years at Reeths Puffer High School while also serving as President of the Michigan Pine and Dunes Girl Scout Council. The Cutlers both devoted themselves to community activism and valued education very highly. Accordingly, they wanted to make a gift to help young people in the community to pursue higher education. This inspiration became the Cutler Family Scholarship through a gift to the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. The award is for a Reeths Puffer graduate who excels in math and/or science and plans to pursue a degree in either of these disciplines. By creating this scholarship, the Cutler's heightened their regard for education into a lasting reality, granting the permanent gift of education to the youth of their community.

C. Wesley Wilbur and Jacqueline Wilbur Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the family and friends of C. Wesley Wilbur, who established the C. Wesley Wilbur Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Wesley served his community as a business leader and a community advocate. After his death in 1989, Mr. Wilbur's family and friends created this scholarship in memory of his character and service to the Muskegon community. This awards a scholarship to a Mona Shores High School graduate pursuing a chemical or environmental engineering degree. To the credit of the family and friends of C. Wesley Wilbur, Mr. Wilbur continues to support the Muskegon community, granting the lasting gift of education.



COMMUNITY
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for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Dan White Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the family of Dan White, who established the Dan White Memorial Scholarship Fund in his memory. The Dan White Scholarship Fund was set up after Dan White, a 5th-grade teacher at Campbell Elementary School, was killed by a drunk driver. Dan created a legacy of outstanding passion for teaching his students and dedication to advancing his profession. In his role at Campbell School, he invigorated his love of teaching with dedication and exuberance. This scholarship provides financial assistance to students enrolled in the teaching field or another human services "giving back" profession.

Darrell H. and Rosaline M. Smith Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Rosaline M. Smith, who established the Darrell H. and Rosaline M. Smith Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Rosaline, a former treasurer for the City of Muskegon, and Darrell Smith, a longtime employee of the Muskegon Post Office, cared deeply for each other and shared more than 50 years of marriage. Music was something they loved and had very much in common. The Darrell H. and Rosaline M. Smith Scholarship was created to honor Darrell, who is no longer with us, and to provide a helping hand to graduating seniors of any Muskegon County high school who have demonstrated academic achievement and will pursue a music degree.

Dennis L. and Susan K. Emmons Instrumental Music Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Dennis & Susan Emmons, who established the Dennis L. and Susan K. Emmons Instrumental Music Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. A graduate of Muskegon High School and Michigan State University, Dennis taught at Grant Public Schools from 1965 -1967 before returning to Muskegon. He was a band Director at Nelson Junior High from 1967-1970, and was named band director at North Muskegon Public Schools in the fall of 1970. Dennis returned to Muskegon in the fall of 1986, serving as director at Bunker Middle School and assisting at Muskegon High School until his retirement in 1994. This scholarship supports band students at North Muskegon High School, Muskegon High School, and Reeths-Puffer High School.

Dollie Mae Damm Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Dorothy Boyden, Jane McPherson and Peter Damm, who established the Dollie Mae Damm Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Dorothy and Jane had always wanted to do something in memory of their mother, Dollie Mae, an early Muskegon resident. The award provides scholarships to students who will pursue education careers.

Dolores J. Swanson Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Dolores E. Swanson who established the Dolores (Dee) E. Swanson Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Dee became a Ravenna resident when she married Don Swanson over 50 years ago. She taught and mentored new teachers at Ravenna Public Schools for 32 of those years while he ran the family business, Swanson Pickle Co., Incorporated. She established this Fund to provide scholarships to Ravenna High School graduates and give back to the school and community that has been so good to them and their family.



Scholarship Fund Stories

Donald and Jane Tjarksen Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Donald and Jane Tjarksen, who established the Donald and Jane Tjarksen Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Don and Jane Tjarksen, long-time residents of North Muskegon, have remained consistent and notable contributors to their community. Donald has run a successful business, and Jane taught math for many years at Reeths-Puffer. The Tjarksens share a desire to provide a scholarship to North Muskegon and Reeths-Puffer High School graduating seniors who plan to major in math or science. To the credit of the Tjarksens and their generosity future students from these two high schools will feel the Tjarksens' contribution through the lasting gift of education.

Donald L. Walters Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Shirley Walters, who established the Donald L. Walters Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship was established from the gifts given in memory of Donald L. Walters, a teacher at North Muskegon High School, who died in 1987 following a two-year battle with cancer. The scholarship provides an annual scholarship to a North Muskegon High School graduating senior.

Don Harwood Nursing Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Don Harwood and his brother Vernon, who established the Don Harwood Nursing Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Don Harwood, a bachelor who lived most of his life in Muskegon, received excellent nursing care for his last three years in a nursing home. Upon his death in 1981, his brother Vernon, following Mr. Harwood's wishes, set up a scholarship fund to make awards to students pursuing a career in nursing or health care. To the credit of Don Harwood's foresight and Vernon Harwood's loyalty to his brother's wishes, Muskegon County students pursuing degrees in health care continue to receive the lasting gift of education.

Don & Linda Potter Scholarship

This scholarship is made possible by the generosity of Don & Linda Potter. Both Don & Linda enjoyed successful careers in hospital administration. They're creating this scholarship fund to help students studying healthcare or education in years three to five of their education.

Doris-Jane Horton Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Doris-Jane Horton, who established the Doris-Jane Horton Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. In 2009, Doris passed away at the age of 91. Known to her friends as Doris, Doris-Jane, or DJ, she was a big fan of the Muskegon Big Reds. Because of her love of sports, she established this scholarship to support Muskegon High School graduating seniors participating in school-sponsored and organized sports teams.



Scholarship Fund Stories

Dorothy Creason Tyler English Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Tyler Family, who established the Dorothy Creason-Tyler English Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship is intended for graduating seniors from North Muskegon High School, who have an aptitude and passion for English. The scholarship will be awarded to a student who has demonstrated overall academic achievement with a special interest in and passion for reading, writing and discussing the ideas generated from great literature.

Dorothy Wilson Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is made possible by the generosity of the Norse Education Foundation and Dorothy Wilson. The Norse Education Foundation supports programs and projects that will enhance the quality of education offered by the school, including awarding the Dorothy Wilson Scholarship annually to support North Muskegon Public Schools graduates.

Dr. J. Max Elizabeth Busard Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Dr. J. Max and Elizabeth Busard, who established the Dr. J. Max and Elizabeth Busard Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Following a distinguished medical career spanning decades, Dr. Max Busard and his wife made a commitment to support students pursuing a medical degree at the University of Michigan Medical School, Dr. Busard's alma mater. The Dr. J. Max and Elizabeth Busard Scholarship will be available to Muskegon and Ottawa counties residents who have graduated from any post-secondary institution and are attending the U of M Medical School. Dr. Busard worked at Hackley Hospital from 1949-1989 and was medical director of Hospice of Muskegon-Oceana for 14 years.

Dr. Michael Lundholm, M.D. Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of John Lundholm, who established the Dr. Michael Lundholm M.D. Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County who created this in memory of his son, Michael. Michael John "Lenny" Lundholm is a life that will live on forever in the consciousness of his family and friends. For all who knew him, he was special and unforgettable...just the nicest person. Tragically, he was killed in a car accident at only 23 while on a holiday break from his second-year pre-med studies at Michigan State. His father, John, established this Scholarship in Michael's memory, to benefit Reeths-Puffer graduates attending Michigan State University with first preference seeking a degree in medicine.



Scholarship Fund Stories

Dr. Philip H. and Esther J. Frandsen Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Esther Frandsen, who established the Dr. Philip H. and Esther J. Frandsen Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Esther Frandsen created the Dr. Philip H. and Esther J. Frandsen Scholarship Fund to provide scholarships for students from the Muskegon area who wish to train for careers in medicine or a medical-related field. Mrs. Frandsen established the fund to honor the memory of her husband, Philip, who contributed so much to this community as a surgeon and worked tirelessly to improve the health of his patients through his surgical skills.

Dunsmore Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Pauline Dunsmore estate, which established the Dunsmore Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Both Pauline and her Husband Kelly held Master's degrees in Education and were lifelong teachers in the Muskegon community. While Kelly was Principal of North Muskegon High School, he established an art program that is still a valued part of the curriculum today. Education was of great importance to the Dunsmores.

Edith Neff Swanson Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Edith Neff Swanson, who established the Edith Neff Swanson Memorial Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. To say that Edith Neff Swanson had a passion for art does not begin to tell the story. Though Edith resided in the Southwest, she spent summers on Lake Michigan, leaving behind a fabulous collection of beautiful watercolor art. Edith received a B.A. in Art Education but continued to be an "art student" in the finest sense of those words, throughout her life, always striving to master new techniques and hone her craft. This Scholarship Fund will help aspiring young artists pursue art as their life's passion.

Edward F. Wingler and Peggy F. Wingler Pink Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Edward F. Wingler, who established the Edward F. Wingler and Peggy F. Wingler Pink Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Ed was a 1958 graduate of Muskegon High School and had been, before his retirement, a high school English and theater teacher in Tennessee and Hinsdale, Illinois, for 40 years. Ed passed away in November 2013 and, through his trust, had made a beneficiary designation to the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Ed never forgot his Muskegon roots; now, his legacy will live on through this scholarship.



Scholarship Fund Stories

Effah Elizabeth Ferris Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Richard C. Goodspeed, who established the Effah Elizabeth Ferris Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in honor of Effah Elizabeth Ferris. Richard Goodspeed originally established the scholarship through the Muskegon Bank and Trust Company. Later, it was transferred to the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Effah Elizabeth Ferris graduated from Whitehall High School in 1901. Before this time, she had lost both of her parents. The people of Whitehall took her in when she was left with no money or place to go. Effah Elizabeth Ferris went on to graduate from college and become a teacher, a rare achievement in those days. Even with these admirable accomplishments, through the years, Effah Elizabeth Ferris would always remember the kindness displayed by the people of Whitehall. This scholarship honors that kindness and materializes Effah Elizabeth Ferris' thankfulness for the gift of compassion she received.

Eleanor and Albert Herremans Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Irene Herremans, who established the Eleanor and Albert Herremans Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Albert Herremans came to the United States from Belgium with his family when he was 13 to settle in the Ravenna area of Muskegon County. Eleanor (Link) Herremans, whose ancestors were from Germany, lived in the Ravenna area her entire life. Albert was a WWII veteran. When he returned from the Philippines, where he was stationed during the war, Eleanor and Albert were married and operated a dairy farm on the outskirts of the village of Ravenna. Both of them loved the natural environment and working on the land. They were partners and shared equally in the workload of the dairy farm. Both knew the importance of caring for the land and leaving it in a condition for future generations to enjoy. Albert passed away in 1997 and Eleanor in 2001. Both Albert and Eleanor knew the importance of education and encouraged each of their four children and many grandchildren to seek an education that would help them find a career they would enjoy. Because the natural environment was such an integral part of their lives, their children wanted them to be remembered through a scholarship that would continue to promote respect for the natural environment. This scholarship will help deserving graduating seniors from Ravenna High School pursue a degree in agriculture, animal care, natural resources, the environment, or a related field.



COMMUNITY
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for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Eleanor Polley Women's Golf Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Dennis Sruba and Joanne Polley, who established the Eleanor Polley Women's Golf Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in memory of Eleanor Polley. Eleanor Polley was Executive Director of the White Lake Area Chamber of Commerce when she died suddenly in 1995 at 49. She was an untiring booster of the White Lake area and Muskegon County as a whole. She was also an avid promoter of women's golf. The Eleanor Polley Women's Golf Scholarship Fund was established in Eleanor's memory as part of the White Lake Community Fund by her family, her many friends, and the White Lake Area Chamber of Commerce. It will provide scholarships to women college students who are also avid golfers.

Elmer A. Bandgren Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Elmer A. Bandgren, who established the Elmer A. Bandgren Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. An active member of the Lake Harbor United Methodist Church, the Muskegon Elks, and the Moose Lodge, Elmer Bandgren rounded out his rich life with a love of travel. Through his estate, the retired GTE equipment installer also ensured the possibility of a rich start for members of future generations. The Elmer A. Bandgren Fund will provide scholarship awards to Muskegon County residents with a financial need attending either Muskegon Community College or Baker College.

Emma McMillan Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Emma D. McMillan, who established the Emma McMillan Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Emma McMillan, a long-time teacher in the Muskegon Public Schools system, dedicated herself to the interest that her friends be accommodated and that her preferred charities continue to benefit. Accordingly, before she died in 1973, she established a Charitable Remainder Unitrust for her friends, fulfilling one of her concerns. In 1990, upon the death of the final beneficiary of the Charitable Remainder Unitrust, the trust was terminated, and the principal was distributed to several charities, including the Community Foundation. Using this gift, the Community Foundation established the Emma McMillan Scholarship. To the credit of Emma McMillan and her foresight, this generous deferred gift will continue Emma's tradition of giving by granting the lasting gift of education to the students of her community.



Scholarship Fund Stories

Emma Mowers Grillo Sholten Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Joan Grillo, who established the Emma Mowers Grillo Sholten Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Emma's father, a founding member of this community passed on his love for the Muskegon region to his youngest daughter. She worked tirelessly on behalf of many civic organizations, especially the Veterans, honoring the memory of her father who served in the Civil War. This legacy of service has been passed down, first, to her children, and now her grandchildren, who have established this so her legacy will continue to support the community she so dearly loved. They chose the Community Foundation to manage this because of the outstanding reputation it has in supporting the residents of the Muskegon area.

Eric Marcil Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Lynn, Mary and Kelly Marcil, who established the Eric Marcil Memorial Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in memory of Eric. Eric Marcil had a passion for living, which he exhibited both on and off the soccer field. Eric played soccer in youth organizations and traveling leagues and developed Reeths-Puffer High School's team. Eric met his future wife while playing co-ed soccer during his junior year in high school. At the age of nineteen, Eric was diagnosed with a germ cell tumor, and after four months of extensive treatment believed he had rid cancer from his life. Between living and breathing soccer, he pursued a college education, planning on a career as a math teacher. At the age of twenty-two, cancer reappeared as Eric was diagnosed with sarcoma cancer. He fought it valiantly for two years, still finding time to coach, to enjoy his family and friends, and to marry the love of his life, Kelly. One month after their wedding, Eric passed away. He left us with many lessons about living and loving in life. His last piece of advice always given as his players took the soccer field, "Remember, I want to see you smile," will live in our hearts forever. This scholarship fund, established by his mother and father, Mary and Lynn Marcil, and his wife, Kelly, will benefit Reeths-Puffer students desiring to attend college who share Eric's passion for soccer.

Ernest D. Moylan Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Ernest D. Moylan, who established the Ernest D. Moylan Scholarship of the Muskegon County Community Foundation. Ernest Moylan, a lifelong Muskegon resident, had interests in, among other matters, a Texas oil concern. This particular oil interest became largely profitable and left Mr. Moylan with more money than he required. Perfectly content living on his pension, Mr. Moylan decided to give the money from the oil interest to the Community Foundation and set up the Moylan Scholarship. This scholarship grants one of the Foundation's most prestigious awards and is given based on academic excellence. To the credit of Ernest Moylan and his true generosity, countless numbers of Muskegon's finest students will be rewarded through the lasting gift of education.



Scholarship Fund Stories

Eugene W. and Joanne M. Hosko Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Eugene W. and Joanne M. Hosko, who established the Eugene W. and Joanne M. Hosko Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Gene and Joanne have lived in Muskegon most of their lives. Both have degrees in elementary education and taught primarily at Reeths-Puffer Schools. As educators, they have worked with many children who could benefit from the chance to further their education and contribute to society. They have chosen to create this scholarship to help them in this endeavor because they have seen the many ways the Foundation has contributed to the growth of Muskegon County.

Foundation for MCC - Archie McCrea Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Mr. Elmer L. Anderson, who established the Archie McCrea Scholarship of the Foundation for Muskegon Community College of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in memory and appreciation of Archie McCrea. Archie McCrea was a former editor at the Muskegon Chronicle. Elmer Anderson admired Archie's character and wanted to honor him. Elmer was part of the first graduating class of Muskegon Community College. He established this scholarship to award money to students graduating from Muskegon Community College and attending an accredited college or university to pursue journalism.

Foundation for MCC - August VanEerden Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Hilma VanEerden, who established the August VanEerden Scholarship of the Foundation for Muskegon Community College of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in memory of August VanEerden. August VanEerden was, for many years, a teacher and business manager in the Muskegon and St. Joseph, Michigan public school systems. Mr. VanEerden was the Business Manager at Muskegon Community College from 1965 until he died in 1971. This scholarship is to assist a Muskegon High School graduate with a grade point average of at least 2.7 who is enrolling as a regular degree-seeking student who plans on a career in the field of education.

Foundation for MCC - Edward H. & Wilma Kyvig Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Kyvig family, who established the Edward H. & Wilma Kyvig Scholarship of the Foundation for Muskegon Community College. The Kyvig family established this scholarship to honor their parents, Edward and Wilma, both instructors at Muskegon Community College. Edward and Wilma were very passionate about education and the importance of students obtaining a college degree. This scholarship was established to assist a student of good academic standing who shows potential and deserves financial assistance.



Scholarship Fund Stories

Foundation for MCC - F. Charles Raap Public Service Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Harry J. Knudsen, who established the F. Charles Raap Public Service Scholarship of the Foundation for Muskegon Community College of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Charles spent 18 years as Muskegon County Road Commissioner and was a well-respected leader. This scholarship was created to assist students with a commitment to public service, demonstrated academic achievement, and financial need.

Foundation for MCC - Herman C. & Marjorie B. Dekker Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Marjorie B. Dekker, who established the Herman C. & Marjorie B. Dekker Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Marjorie had been a teacher for Muskegon Public Schools for 22 years and had formerly served as Secretary of Cedar Creek Township. She was a member of Unity Reformed Church since 1940, the Winsome Class, RCWM (President), Muskegon Classis RCWM (President), M.E.A.-R, Greater Muskegon Woman's Club, Johnson Hall Seniors and Muskegon County Republican Women. She served as a Hackley Hospital Volunteer, a Co-Coordinator for the MHS Class of 1935, and as a substitute teacher. Marjorie received Mother of the Year honors in 1986, and Michigan Mother of the Year honors in 1987. Marjorie enjoyed shopping and sewing, and she has many interests in arts and crafts in her spare time. She also enjoyed traveling and arranging trips for her school students. Her husband, Herman C. Dekker, preceded her in death on September 11, 1991. The scholarship is provided to assist associate degree students seeking a major in the Fine Arts.

Foundation for MCC - MHS Class of 1946 Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Ralph McCrea and his classmates, who established the MHS Class of '46 Scholarship of the Foundation for Muskegon Community College of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship assists Muskegon Senior High School graduates seeking an associate degree. This also assists students who are transferring from MCC to other colleges or who are currently attending MCC.

Foundation for MCC - Student Emergency Needs Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Foundation for Muskegon Community College, which established the Muskegon Community College Student Emergency Needs Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship was established to provide scholarships to Muskegon, Ottawa, or Newaygo County students.

Foundation for MCC - William H. Young Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by an anonymous donor, who established the William H. Young Memorial Scholarship of the Foundation for Muskegon Community College of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship assists an associate degree-seeking student who demonstrates academic excellence based on a high school or college academic record, with preference to students interested in the Social Service discipline.



Scholarship Fund Stories

Foundation for MCC - William & Velva Riggs Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of William and Velva Riggs, who established the William and Velva Riggs Scholarship of the Foundation for Muskegon Community College of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship was established to assist students enrolled or accepted for enrollment as regular associate degree-seeking students with academic capability at Muskegon Community College.

Fred & Char Franczek Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Char Franczek, who established the Fred & Char Franczek Scholarship. Fran started this Fund as a donor advised fund, and was eager to learn new ways to invest in the community, often joining the Community Foundation staff on site visits to learn about nonprofits and their excellent work. She was keen on supporting educational efforts and made grants for classroom projects in multiple schools. When Char passed, the Fund converted to a scholarship fund to help graduates from Muskegon Public Schools or students attending Muskegon Community College or Baker College.

Fred T. & Gladys V. Hawley Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Fred T. and Gladys V. Hawley, who established the Fred T. and Gladys V. Hawley Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Fred T. Hawley and his wife Gladys, long-time residents of Muskegon, taught at Muskegon Community College for sixteen years. In addition, Fred served as Athletic Director for fourteen of those years. After the Hawley's only son died, they left their entire estate to the Community Foundation to establish a Scholarship. Through the creation of this Scholarship, the Hawley's will continue to grant the lasting gift of education to students of the Muskegon community.

Fruitport Education Foundation Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Fruitport Education Foundation, which established the Fruitport Education Foundation Scholarship Fund of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. A group of very dedicated, enthusiastic 'Fruitportonians' had a vision. They wanted to make scholarships available for deserving students and, in general, offer support to the Fruitport Public Schools when a need should arise. It did not take long. Through a series of fundraisers, major donor gifts, and a dollar match challenge from a local businessman, this Fund came together in less than one year and is now slated to fulfill that vision.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

George E. Dake Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of George E. Dake, who established the George E. Dake Scholarship Fund of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Ned, as he was known to friends, was a long-time resident of the White Lake area. He was a proud 83-year Boys Scouts of America member and an avid sailor who loved to travel. An engineer/contractor by trade, Ned left a gift through his estate to create this scholarship to support students from Muskegon or Whitehall High Schools pursuing technical or vocational training.

George H. Hartman Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of George Hartman, who established the George H. Hartman Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship is based on academics, personality, interest, and participation in golf and being a golf team member.

George M. Wickstrom Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of George M. Wickstrom, who established the George M. Wickstrom Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. George Wickstrom faithfully gave to the Foundation over some time. He ultimately decided to start a scholarship fund. George is an individual with the purest of hearts, and he demonstrates that through his philanthropy and passion for education. This scholarship ensures that his legacy will continue in our community.

Gerhard O. and Doris E. Olsen Memorial for Andrew and Clara Andersen Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Gerhard (Gary) Olsen, who established the Gerhard O. and Doris E. Olsen Memorial Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Gerhard (Gary) Olsen, a prosperous Muskegon area businessman, wanted to thank the people who helped him succeed in life. He was given a very special gift as a child, by Andrew and Clara Andersen. It was the gift of love, family, and home. When Gary lost his parents within a couple of years of each other he was young and alone in the world. The Andersen's were not people of means. Andrew was the long-term Custodian at Muskegon High School, but they would not sit by and let a child founder. They welcomed him into their home, where he grew up as a brother to their son, who was close to Gary's age. He thanks and honors the Andersen's with this.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Harriett M. Reid Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the friends and colleagues of Harriett M. Reid, who established the Harriett M. Reid Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Harriett Reid had a long career at Muskegon Public Schools as a counselor, gym instructor, and coach. Following her retirement, Harriett's friends and colleagues at Muskegon Public Schools established in her honor, confident it would undergo proper management through the Community Foundation. Harriett's wish is that the scholarship be used to benefit students who reflect the great ethnic and cultural diversity of Muskegon Public Schools. This Scholarship thus heightens Harriett's lifelong commitment to education by granting community youth the lasting gift of education.

Helping Hands Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Patricia Werly, who established the Helping Hands Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Patricia Werly established in memory of her partner and her sister to help physical therapy, physical education, and health students.

Henrik Olving Scholarship for the Gifted

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the family and friends of Henrik Olving, who have created the Henrik Olving Memorial For The Gifted Scholarship of the Muskegon County Community Foundation. Henrik Olving, an only child, died in a tragic accident in his early twenties. His parents and friends established the Henrik Olving Memorial in his memory because, in their words, "Henrik was a creative, sensitive, talented person. Naturally, we, his parents, feel the loss of him acutely. Henrik died, but there are and will be many others like him. Mankind needs every one of them for enlightenment and survival on this planet. Thus, we suggested that people who wanted to remember him do so with a memorial to benefit the gifted." To the credit of Henrik Olving's parents and friends, his inspiring and creative spirit will endure forever through the lasting gift of education.

Henry and Ethelyn Hansen Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Henry and Ethelyn Hansen, who established the Henry and Ethelyn Hansen Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Henry Hansen, whose Norwegian parents immigrated to Muskegon during the lumbering era, was a self-taught man and a voracious reader who never stopped learning. Henry and his wife Ethelyn, long-time members of Samuel Lutheran Church, had no children and wanted to help young people achieve their dreams of higher education. Accordingly, awards from the Hansen Scholarship are given to worthy students who are Harbor of Grace Lutheran Church members. Through this fund, the Hansen's continue to grant the lasting gift of education to Muskegon students.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Herremans Scholar-Athlete Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Todd Herremans, who established the Herremans Scholar-Athlete Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Todd Herremans, an All-Stater, Division II, All-American, and Ravenna High School graduate, had a successful career with the National Football League's Philadelphia Eagles from 2005-2014. Even though he lived out of state for many years, he never forgot about his home. He established this scholarship fund to honor the scholar and athletic student at Ravenna High School.

Hispanic Community Services Coalition Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Hispanic Community Services Coalition, which established the Hispanic Community Services Coalition Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. The mission of the Hispanic Services Coalition of Muskegon County is to serve the Hispanic community through education, health information, and services as an instrument to improve their quality of life. HCSC promotes the Hispanic culture within Muskegon County and acts as a cultural reference. This scholarship is for graduating Hispanic or Latino seniors who are residents of and/or attend high school in Muskegon County.

Howard Oosterhouse Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Howard F. Oosterhouse, who established the Howard Oosterhouse Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Howard F. Oosterhouse was born on November 18, 1934, to Dan and Dorothy Oosterhouse, who lived in Paris Township, located southeast of Grand Rapids, Michigan. He was raised in this farming community with strong values toward hard work and, more importantly, a deep Christian belief surrounding his entire life. Through family and community support, Howard graduated from Caledonia High School in 1953 and then continued his education at Calvin College, earning his Bachelor of Arts in education in 1957. In 1961 he received his Master of Arts in Education from the University of Michigan. His career included positions as a math teacher at Kalamazoo Christian School and Zeeland Christian School. Most of his career ensued at Steele Middle School, part of Muskegon Public Schools where he taught for 31 years until retirement. Howard was dedicated to the education of youth. His faith and relationship with Jesus Christ influenced his interactions with others and helped set his priorities. One of his personal goals was the development of this scholarship so that his positive influence on the education of young people could continue beyond his lifetime.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Hugh and Peg Campbell Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Peggy Elliott and Hugh Campbell, who established the Hugh and Peg Campbell Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in memory of Peg Campbell. Margaretha (Peg) Campbell graduated from Muskegon High School, and her husband, Hugh from Muskegon Heights High School. They went on to raise seven children here. In Peg's memory, Hugh and their daughter, Peggy, have established the Hugh and Peg Campbell Scholarship Fund. Peg was active in sports at a time when women were not encouraged to pursue them. She especially loved softball and played for several years for Muskegon Lassies, part of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League. Hugh and Peg have already been generous in giving back to the community, as evidenced by the Peg Campbell Soccer Field at Muskegon Catholic High School, the playground at Laketon Township, and the scholarship at GMI Kettering, where Hugh received his education before founding Campbell Grinder Company.

Inez Lundwall Ortquist Educational Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Inez Lundwall Ortquist, who established the Inez Lundwall Ortquist Educational Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. A beloved teacher at Ludington and Muskegon public schools for almost 30 years, friends and acquaintances say it is unsurprising that Inez Lundwall Ortquist's generous spirit still benefits the community and makes a difference in people's lives even after her death. During her lifetime, Ortquist created a living trust that calls for a designated fund to be created. This fund supports several organizations and purposes: scholarships for outstanding students or teachers in any Muskegon County school; Lakeshore Youth for Christ; the American Cancer Society; Hospice of Muskegon-Oceana; and the Lakeshore Lung Society.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Jack & Kathy Myers Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of siblings Greg, Jeff, & Lisa Meyers, who honored their parents by establishing the Jack & Kathy Myers Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Jack Myers graduated from Western Michigan Christian High School in 1957. He attended Calvin College for a three-year curriculum in pre-engineering, completing his degree in electrical engineering at the University of Michigan. Jack and Kathy met at U of M, where she completed a degree in education to pursue a career in teaching at the elementary school level. They married in 1962 and sent their three children to Southfield Christian School in the Detroit Metropolitan area. Sadly, Jack passed away at a young age, but Kathy lived to see her two granddaughters follow in their grandfather's footsteps and graduate from WMC sixty years later. Given Jack and Kathy's commitment to Christian education and connection to Western Michigan Christian High School, the scholarship is awarded to graduating students of WMC going on to either Calvin University or the University of Michigan, which Jack and Kathy held dear.

Jack Schimke Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Jack Schimke, who established the Jack Schimke Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Jack Schimke, an area business owner and friend of the community, embodied the idea that everyone has something to give back to their community. Jack was a well-known and well-liked butcher, a long-time employee of Eberhard Foods, and, later, a Butcher Boy of North Muskegon co-owner. Jack Schimke's contagious good nature and smile behind the counter will live on through his generosity to his community. The Jack Schimke will be used for scholarships for vocational and other training at an accredited institution.

Jackson-Merkey Contractors Educational Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Steve Jackson and Gary Merkey, who established the Jackson-Merkey Contractors Educational Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Steve Jackson and Gary Merkey have been friends since high school and business partners for many years. They were excited to start this fund and wish they had thought of it long ago. This scholarship will benefit Muskegon County high school graduates working toward any degree but with a preference given to students pursuing a degree in Civil Engineering or Construction Management.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

James A. and Elfrieda E. Murphy Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Elfrieda E. Murphy, who established the James A. and Elfrieda E. Murphy Memorial Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in memory of her husband, James A. Murphy. Jim Murphy was a lifelong Muskegon resident who made his living for 32 years working at Continental Motors. He was an avid golfer, an Old Newsboy, an active social member of the Muskegon Elks and Eagles, a world traveler with his wife, Elfrieda, and a friend to many people who were very important to him. He also was a long-time member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Mrs. Murphy established this in his memory to assist members of Our Savior's Lutheran Church to attend post-secondary educational institutions. Through the James A. Murphy Memorial, Jim Murphy's zest for life always will be remembered.

James E. Newton Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the friends and family of James E. Newton, who established the James E. Newton Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. James E. Newton was born in Muskegon and served as an aerospace engineer for NASA. He believed that men and women of science needed to use their skills "for the positive advancement of humankind, not the demise of mankind." At the age of 27, Jim died suddenly of a heart attack. Following his death, Jim's mother, Hester, was aware of the Scholarship Program at the Community Foundation and thought it was a fitting memorial to create a scholarship in Jim's honor. James Newton valued intelligence and learning, and, accordingly, all gifts given in his memory have contributed to the James E. Newton Scholarship. Hester Newton desires that these scholarships inspire young people to stay in school and help them recognize, as did her son Jim, that the lasting gift of knowledge is a gift to be treasured.

James Mullally Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of James Mullally, who established the James Mullally Scholarship of the Muskegon County Community Foundation. James Mullally and his family, long-time residents of Muskegon, have established a tradition of giving in the Laketon Township area. The Mullally family gift to that community, Mullally Field, still offers recreational enjoyment to residents and visitors. James Mullally maintained his family's tradition of giving when he named the Community Foundation in his will. With his gift, the James Mullally Scholarship was established to provide scholarships for Reeths Puffer graduates who reside in Laketon Township. To the credit of James Mullally and his family, the youth of the community they loved will continue to benefit from the lasting gift of education.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

James P. Jackson Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the family of James P. Jackson, who established the James P. Jackson Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This Fund was established by Steve Jackson and his sister, Sue Jackson, with proceeds from their mother's trust. It is so named to honor the memory of a beloved husband and father. James earned a degree from the University of Detroit and has worked in the accounting field throughout his career. Scholarships will be awarded to graduating seniors of Muskegon County High Schools pursuing an Accounting degree.

Jared E. and Margaret I. Collinge Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the family and friends of Jared E. Collinge, who established the Jared E. Collinge Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Jerry Collinge was a long-time and well-known Muskegon lawyer who practiced until shortly before his death. He was very proud that all of the Collinge family members graduated from Muskegon Community College. During Jerry's last days, he and his wife, Marge, discussed establishing a scholarship fund. He wanted to support students who would attend his favorite colleges and alma maters, Muskegon Community College and U of M. Marge would often call Pat Johnson at the Foundation to discuss Jerry's wishes, also conferring with their son and daughters. Finally, Jerry was very pleased to know his wishes would be honored, and a fund would be established in his name.

J. Dean and Carolyn L. Owen (Carolee) Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was made possible by the generosity of J. Dean Owen, his family, and his friends in memory of his wife, Carolee Owen. Carolee was a dedicated community volunteer, and this fund will provide scholarships to Muskegon County High School graduates who plan on attending a college or university within the state of Michigan. In 2015, J. Dean passed away. The family and friends of J. Dean and Carolee Owen can be assured that hundreds of young people, for years to come, will benefit from this fund established in her memory.

Jean C. and Alex H. Homberger Scholarship

This scholarship was made possible by the generosity of the family of Jean and Alex Homberger, who established the Jean C. and Alex H. Homberger Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship was established to honor Jean and Alex who shared an appreciation for beauty, especially the fine arts, and they firmly believed in giving back to their community and helping students attend college.



Scholarship Fund Stories

Jean & Clarke Manning Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Clarke Manning, who established the Jean and Clarke Manning Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in honor of his wife, Jean. Jean Manning's life's passion was music, especially string music and her beloved violin. Jean played with orchestras, often as concertmaster, in Jackson, Saginaw, Grand Rapids, and, for thirty-eight years, the West Shore Symphony. Her greatest love was sharing music with children, which she did for many years in the public schools and as a private teacher. Established by her husband Clarke, this scholarship fund will ensure that Jean's love for music will play on long into the future.

Jean Frissel DeVries Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by JoAnn Devries, who established the Jean Frissel DeVries Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. JoAnn established the Jean Frissel DeVries Scholarship in memory of her mother. The award will be used to present scholarships to graduating seniors, with preference to those graduating from Muskegon High School. The recipients must be pursuing a degree program at a four-year accredited college, university, or vocational/technical school.

J. Fred & Helen Barnard Boyd Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Dr. Helen Barnard and J. Fred Boyd, who established the J. Fred and Helen Barnard Boyd Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Dr. Helen Barnard Boyd was one of the first women to attend the University of Michigan Medical School and was also Muskegon's first female doctor. J. Fred Boyd was a prominent Muskegon businessman. They shared a commitment to youth and education, and often took troubled young people into their home to give them a second chance in life. In the 1960s, these two Muskegon patrons established a private foundation, which they incorporated with the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in the early 1970's. Since the creation of this and because of its tremendous impact, hundreds of Muskegon students have received awards that have helped them with their education. Dr. Helen Barnard and J. Fred Boyd lived long and fruitful lives. Through the establishment of this, they have left a permanent legacy for Muskegon area youth.

Joe Guylas "MichKid" Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Joan D. Guylas, who established the Joe Guylas "MichKid" Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Joe Guylas, master mechanic, loved anything that was powered by a gasoline engine. As a teacher of auto mechanics, he saw firsthand the impact vocational training could have on a young person's life. His family has established the scholarship in his memory, awarding scholarships to young people pursuing careers as auto or airline mechanics.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

John and Donna Schmitt Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the family of Donna Mae Lathers and William R. Lathers, who established the John and Donna Schmitt Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship is to memorialize the life and work of Donna Schmitt Lathers. Donna taught English at Whitehall Public Schools until she retired. She was an inspiring teacher and her legacy will continue through this scholarship.

John and Mary Schumann Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Mary and John Schumann, who created the John and Mary Schumann Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Mary Schumann spent her entire life in Muskegon. She grew up in the 6th Street/St. Michael's Church neighborhood where her family owned the 6th Street Market, and where she came to appreciate the importance of community. She married John Schumann, Jr., one of the founders of Michigan Spring Company. In 1986, John and Mary created a Scholarship Fund for the children of company employees. Mary was employed most of her life at Kieler's Food Market, a family-owned business. The Schumann's shared the desire to create a lasting contribution to the community they call home. They had no children and wanted to help the youth of Muskegon. This motivation manifested itself in creating the John and Mary Schumann Scholarship. To the credit of the Schumann's and their generosity many Muskegon youth will feel the Schumann's contribution through the lasting gift of education.

John and Ruth Schrier Hope College Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Ruth and John Schrier, who established the John and Ruth Schrier Hope Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Ruth and John Schrier, Muskegon County residents, Hope College Alumni, and community volunteers, sought a way to share their positive educational and community experiences with others in Muskegon County. This desire to contribute manifested itself in creating the John and Ruth Schrier Scholarship. The John and Ruth Schrier Scholarship will encourage worthy Muskegon students to attend Hope College. To the credit of the Schrier's remarkable generosity, countless community students will receive help in achieving their higher education goals.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

John E. and Bernice L. Sydnor Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Bernice Sydnor, who established the John E. and Bernice L. Sydnor Memorial Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. John E. Sydnor made community and education his lifetime passions. He served a long list of civic organizations, including the Community Foundation as a Trustee and supporter. His 38-year career as an educator has left a permanent mark of excellence on his community. The Foundation was one organization to which John chose to leave a contribution. The John E. Sydnor Memorial will present scholarships to African-American students graduating from Muskegon County high schools and attending an accredited college, university, or technical/trade school. The youth and educators of John Sydnor's community will feel his strength forever, as this gift to Muskegon keeps John Sydnor's passion for education alive.

John Jurkas Law Enforcement Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the family and friends of John Jurkas, who established the John Jurkas Law Enforcement Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. John Jurkas served the City of Muskegon Police Department for 34 years, during which he established a reputation as a detective with a shrewd ability to solve crime. Mr. Jurkas completed his distinguished career as an investigator for the Muskegon County Prosecutor. Following his death in 1991, family and friends established this to assist young people who wish to continue this tradition of excellence in law enforcement. The fund provides awards to Muskegon County students pursuing careers in law enforcement. These scholarships ensure that John Jurkas will continue to promote excellence in the field of law enforcement through the lasting gift of education.

Johnson Family-Grambling State University Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Jamall S. Johnson, who established the Johnson Family - Grambling State University Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. When Jamall Johnson received a scholarship from the Moses J. Jones Scholarship Fund at the Community Foundation it did more than lead Mr. Johnson to graduate with honors from his beloved Grambling State University; it planted the seed of desire for Jamall to assist other young African Americans in pursuing a college education at Grambling State. Now a successful professional healthcare representative for Pfizer, Inc., Johnson and his wife Ginger donated Pfizer stock to create their scholarship fund.



Scholarship Fund Stories

Jonathan Ginka Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the friends and colleagues of Jonathan Ginka, who was a Norton Shores police officer killed while on duty in 2017. This scholarship was created in his memory and will help students pursue an education in law enforcement.

Joseph Cherney Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Carolyn S. Cherney, who established the Joseph S. Cherney Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Joseph S. Cherney spent most of his career as an educator in the Reeths Puffer School system, where over the years he served as junior high teacher, assistant principal, elementary school principal, and senior high principal for ten years. In 1994, the Joseph S. Cherney Scholarship was established with memorials received in his name. It will continue to award scholarships to outstanding Reeths Puffer graduating seniors as chosen by the high school and the Cherney family, ensuring that this beloved educator's memory will endure.

J. Paul Dunworth Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of J. Paul Dunworth, who established the J. Paul Dunworth Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. J. Paul Dunworth taught at Muskegon Public Schools for 40 years. While he never married, he loved Muskegon, which had been his home since 1926. When Mr. Dunworth died in 1981, he left his entire estate to the Community Foundation. Following his death, the contents of his safe deposit box revealed various letters from Robert Kennedy and hundreds of John F. Kennedy five-cent postage commemorative stamps. On the stamps read the statement: "And the glow from that fire can truly light the world." J. Paul Dunworth lived by these words, evidenced by his charitable donation that will continue to grant the permanent gift of education to students in Muskegon County.



COMMUNITY
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Scholarship Fund Stories

Judith G. Singerling and John J. Singerling, Sr. Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Joyce Singerling, who established the Judith G. Singerling and John J. Singerling, Sr. Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Judith Singerling loved education. She was salutatorian of the first graduating class at Reeths-Puffer High School and received her undergraduate degree from Eastern Michigan University and her Master's of Education from the University of Michigan. After she retired from the Lansing school system in 1999, she became an active community volunteer and remained an avid U of M fan. Her civic involvement was inherited from her father John, who served as a member of the Reeths-Puffer School Board for 18 years, a volunteer with the Muskegon Township Fire Dept., and many other community organizations. This fund will support Reeths-Puffer graduates who wish to pursue their higher education dreams.

Julie Herrick Easterly Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the family and friends of Julie Herrick-Easterly, who established the Julie Herrick-Easterly Memorial Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Julie Herrick-Easterly, an only child and part of an established family tradition of journalism, worked as a copy editor for various newspapers across the country. Her father, Robert Herrick, was editor of the Muskegon Chronicle for 17 years. At age 34, Julie died from a terminal illness. Following Julie's death, her parents established this scholarship in her memory. Awards from the scholarship are given to a Muskegon area graduating senior who plans to pursue a career in journalism. The award represents an acknowledgment of the student's past achievements in this area of study. To the credit of the Herrick's, Julie's love for journalism will always be remembered, and the family tradition will be perpetuated through the lasting gift of education.



COMMUNITY
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Scholarship Fund Stories

Julie Schugars Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Jack Schugars, who established the Julie Schugars Memorial Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in memory of his wife Julie Schugars. Jack expressed Julie's love of reading and her genuine care for her students and the community of Oakridge. Besides teaching, "Mrs. Coach" supported her husband's role as head football coach by following the Oakridge Eagles, Ferris Bulldogs, and finally the Traverse City Central Trojans where Jack is assisting Eric. Jack estimated that Julie sat in the bleachers for over 500 games. In addition, Julie quietly provided guidance and monetary funds for students in need, even during her retirement. When news of Julie's passing reached social media, literally hundreds of former students and colleagues shared their memories of her with a variety of adjectives and nouns that would make an English teacher proud: kind and wise were mentioned many times, as were warm, compassionate, beautiful, special, full of grace, understanding, positive, phenomenal, funny, caring, calm, giving, classy, amazing, angel, one of the best, and loving woman.

June M. and John C. Vandervelde Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of June M. and John C. Vandervelde, who established the June M. and John C. Vandervelde Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. The Vandervelde's are both long-time Muskegon residents. Many Muskegonites will recognize the name "Vandervelde Furniture" which was located on Broadway in Muskegon Heights for many years. Generations of people bought their furniture from Vandervelde's. June is a long active volunteer for many community organizations, and both have a strong belief in and recognize the importance of a college education. This scholarship fund will assist Muskegon County students as they pursue that education.

Kamps-Hope College Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Dr. Dick and Lynn Kamps, who established the Kamps Hope College Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Dick and Lynn Kamps, wanting to do something that would support both their community and Hope College, their alma mater, established the Kamps-Hope College Scholarship Fund. The Fund will provide scholarship assistance for students who desire to attend Hope College and meet the qualifications but cannot do so for financial reasons.



Scholarship Fund Stories

Katherine I. & Steve F. Morykwas Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Steve Morykwas, who established the Katherine I. & Steve F. Morykwas Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in memory of his wife, Katherine. Steve and Katherine moved to Muskegon with their three children in 1963. Immediately, they became involved in their community through Boys and Girls Scouting activities and their church, First Presbyterian. Steve formerly served as a Board Member of the United Way of Muskegon County and the United Way of Michigan. Believing education opens windows of opportunity, Steve established this Fund to honor the memory of his late wife, Katherine. It will provide scholarships to Mona Shores High School students majoring in science at the University of Michigan or Michigan Technological University.

Keith R. DeYoung Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Lila E. and Norma J. DeYoung, who established the Keith R. DeYoung Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Lila and Norma DeYoung established this fund to honor the memory of their only brother, Keith deYoung, who died on February 2, 1998, their father's birthday and was a champion of quality education for children in the Muskegon area. Life-long Muskegon residents who still live in the family home in which they were raised, Lila and Norma worked side by side at Sealed Power for 43 years each, one doing the hourly payroll and the other salaried. They are active members of St. Paul's Episcopal Church and the Angell Neighborhood Association and volunteers for many other organizations. Loyal in everything they do, caring, gentle, and unassuming, we welcome Norma and Lila DeYoung to the foundation family.

Ken and Clara Kolberg Family Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Ken Kolberg and his family, who established the Ken and Clara Kolberg Family Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Teaching is the family business of the Kolberg Family. Ken started teaching in Muskegon Public Schools after WWII and did so for thirty-seven years. Ken and Clara raised five children, of whom four became teachers - two working in Muskegon. Through the establishment of this Fund, the family is assured of having an impact on students far into the future. This Fund will support Muskegon students pursuing careers in education, especially minority students so greatly needed as teachers in our school systems.

Kenneth A. Johnson, DDS & Joyce E. Johnson Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Kenneth & Joyce Johnson, who established the Kenneth A. & Joyce E. Johnson Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County.



Scholarship Fund Stories

Kenneth Erickson Auto Mechanic Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Marguerite Winter and Marilyn Lynn, who established the Kenneth Erickson Auto Mechanic Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Kenneth Erickson was born at the end of the pre-car era. His father, a rural mail carrier, delivered mail by horse and buggy. When cars came along young Kenneth was fascinated by them and scavenged parts to build a yellow roadster, which he drove for several years. After a short stint at Continental Motors, he decided to follow his passion and got a job as an auto mechanic. Eventually, he opened his own business, Erickson's Garage, on Center Street in North Muskegon where he sold gas and repaired cars and trucks for over 40 years. In establishing the Kenneth I. Erickson Automobile Mechanic Scholarship, Ken's daughters, Marilyn Lynn and Marguerite Winter hope to support young people who would like to turn their passion for cars and motors into a life's work.

KickStart to Career Muskegon Scholarship

This fund supports the Foundation's Kickstart to Career (KtC) program. Launching in 2018, KtC provides every kindergartener in Muskegon County with a \$50 savings account, designed to give a boost in paying for college or career training expenses, but more importantly, to help build the aspirations and expectations of students and their families around higher education.

Kuznar Family Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Sheryl Kuznar, who established the Kuznar Family Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship is for a Muskegon County high school graduate pursuing any degree within the state of Michigan.

Lapomarda Family Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Jessica Holden and Nicole Kolberg, who established the Lapomarda Family Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Jessica and Nicole created this scholarship in honor of their parents, Larry and Carole Lapomarda, to ensure that their devotion to education and athletics lives on. Larry was a well-known and loved high school English teacher (Mr. Lap) at Orchard View High School for almost 30 years, where he also coached both boys and girls sports. The girls say that every morning their Father would wake them up for school and say "It's time to go build a brave new world." By establishing the Lapomarda Family Scholarship, Jessica and Nicole hope that this can ensure that graduating seniors of Orchard View High School have that opportunity.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Larry and Jane Wright Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Jane Wright, who established the Larry & Jane Wright Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Jane Wright wanted to honor her husband Larry who served as a trustee at Muskegon Community College. She started this scholarship fund in his memory. Larry was very active in his work for those with disabilities. Before he passed they began discussing a scholarship for a student to attend MCC. Upon his death, Jane pursued starting this scholarship in his name.

Larry Harp Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the friends and family of Larry Harp, who established the Larry Harp Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. "Coach" was a gym teacher at Muskegon High School. In 1971, it was Larry Harp's first year as head varsity coach. The Big Reds won a huge victory over previously unbeaten Traverse City before 10,000 fans at Hackley Stadium, ended the year undefeated, and were proclaimed Michigan's Class A football state champions by the statewide media at season end. Muskegon finished the 1979 season with a 7-2-0 record and a Lake Michigan Athletic Conference championship. It was Coach Harp's final year. He stepped down to become the school's athletic director.

Lawrence R. DeVoogd Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Lawrence DeVoogd, who established the Lawrence R. DeVoogd Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. When Lawrence DeVoogd retired in 1993 from his longtime position as Director of Instructional Services for Muskegon Public Schools, the Community Foundation received many gifts made in his honor by his friends and co-workers. Larry added to those contributions to establish the Lawrence R. DeVoogd Scholarship, which will help Muskegon High School graduating seniors who hope to become public school teachers.

Leigh T. Prettyman Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the friends and family of Leigh T. Prettyman, who established the Leigh T. Prettyman Scholarship of the Muskegon County Community Foundation. Leigh Prettyman was a prominent and successful insurance executive at Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance. Scholarships from this fund are awarded to worthy Muskegon students planning to attend a four-year college. This ensures that Leigh Prettyman's dedication to his community and its youth will endure through the lasting gift of education.



COMMUNITY
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for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Leonard and Edna K. Blomdahl Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Edna Blomdahl, who established the Leonard and Edna K. Blomdahl Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Throughout their years together, both Leonard and Edna were known for their countless acts of hospitality, citizenship, and service. Late in 1998, she established the fund, designating that it be used for scholarships to graduating seniors from the White Lake area of Muskegon County.

Lewis and Eloise "Bud" Munz Memorial North Muskegon Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the family of Lewis and Eloise "Bud" Munz, who established the Lewis and Eloise "Bud" Munz Memorial Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Daughters Louise Munz Krill and Barbara Munz Peterman started this in their parents' memory to recognize an area student who wants to pursue an education while playing golf or tennis. Both graduates of the University of Michigan and their parents, Lewie (an engineer) and Bud (a librarian) were avid golfers and tennis players. Lewie was the number one tennis player in college and ranked nationally. They were active members of the Muskegon Country Club and devoted to Muskegon.

Lewis G. and Margaret R. Curtis Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Lewis and Margaret, who established the Lewis G. and Margaret R. Curtis Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Margaret Curtis wished to establish two scholarships: one for females pursuing careers in nursing or health care careers and the other for a male pursuing a vocational, technical, or trade career scholarship. Mrs. Curtis, a nurse in the area, provided for this fund in her will in memory of her husband and herself. She stated that the income be used to award scholarships in two fields, nursing and vocational training.

Lincoln Golf Club Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the members of the Lincoln Golf Club, who established the Lincoln Golf Club Memorial Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. The Board of Directors of Lincoln Golf Club established the "Lincoln Memorial Scholarship" in 1996 after the death of past club president, Don E. Smith. In 2003, they decided to transfer this to the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Their purpose is "to assist young members with their education and to remember club members who have contributed to their community and our club and encourage our young toward a higher level of achievement." Lincoln Golf Club hopes to make a difference and provide a lasting legacy for future generations.



Scholarship Fund Stories

Lois & Sadie Floyd Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Joe Pastor. Joe, Lois' widow created this scholarship in memory of his wife and her mother, Sadie. Though they never lived in Muskegon together, Lois' cared deeply about this community and it was her dying wish to create opportunity for youth here.

Louise M. Cryderman Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Louise M. Cryderman, who established the Louise M. Cryderman Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Louise Cryderman was Muskegon's first legal assistant and was active in many women's groups during her career. She worked for Stephen H. Clink, founder of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County, and Landman, Latimer, Clink, and Robb law firm. She realized the importance and effectiveness of making a charitable gift that keeps on giving. Since she had no children and was a widow when she died in 1977, she left the bulk of her estate, including her house, to the Community Foundation. According to her wishes, this scholarship is to help worthy students with the cost of higher education.

Louis S. and Nancy L. Rubinsky Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Nancy L. Rubinsky, who established the Louis S. and Nancy L. Rubinsky Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in honor of Louis. Lifelong residents of Muskegon, Nancy and Louis Rubinsky, had been active members of the Muskegon community. Louis was a fixture on Western Avenue as a salesman at Vets Clothing. Nancy was active at Muskegon Community College, first as an instructor of nursing and then as a Board Trustee. Grants from the fund will mirror the Rubinsky's individual passions. In honor of Louis, the fund will support community education projects in the visual and performing arts. Nancy's interests will be expressed by supporting adult/returning students pursuing nursing degrees.



COMMUNITY
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for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Marcia K. Singer Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Marcia K. Singer, who established the Marcia K. Singer Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. The Marcia K. Singer Scholarship was established to help high-potential individuals accomplish their dreams despite the personal obstacles they may face. You were selected as a recipient of this year's award because of your high academic performance and your current financial challenges. Marcia K. Singer, the mother of four children, was a freelance writer, photographer, and editor. She was also an active member of an international women's pilots association called the "Ninety-Nines." A long-standing resident of Muskegon, she was proud to have served as a docent for the Muskegon Museum of Art. In the mid-1970s, Marcia began fighting heart disease. Despite her illness, she continued to enjoy a passion for life by playing tennis, golf, and fly fishing. Marcia was grateful for the opportunities she had to pursue her talents and interests. Before she died in 1998, she established this scholarship to pass on the gift of opportunity.

Margaret and Dr. Paul Borton Music Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Dr. Paul Borton, who established the Margaret and Dr. Paul Borton Music Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in memory of his wife, Margaret Borton. Margaret "Maggie" Borton arrived in Muskegon in the late 40s, bringing with her the rich heritage and culture of South Carolina. Not having had the opportunity in her youth to pursue music, she sought ways to include it in her daily life, enjoying our area's many concerts and festivals. Maggie always admired the talented youth she met in Muskegon's musical community. Knowing of her dream, her love for people, and her passion for music, Maggie's husband, Paul, established the Margaret Borton Music Scholarship Fund in her memory to provide scholarship assistance to Muskegon County students who will major in music in college.

Margaret A. Wright Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Margaret Wright, who established the Margaret A. Wright Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Margaret worked as a secretary for the Norge Corporation, the County of Muskegon, and Muskegon Construction. She enjoyed sewing, ice skating, and exercising at the Y. When she passed, she left a gift through her estate to create a scholarship fund that will support Muskegon County graduates pursuing a specific trade or skill.



COMMUNITY
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for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Marguerite C. Lucas Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by an anonymous donor, who established the Marguerite C. Lucas Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in honor of Marguerite Lucas. Marguerite C. Lucas had a great passion for education. She stressed the importance of perseverance and a "do what you have to do" attitude to pursue your dreams. Her legacy will continue through this scholarship geared towards helping women pursue an education in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Marguerite Holcomb Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the family of Marguerite Holcomb, who established the Marguerite Holcomb Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Marguerite Holcomb was described by the Muskegon Chronicle as the "grand first lady of Muskegon city politics." When she died in 1988, her family and friends established a fund to honor the memory of Muskegon's first woman City Commissioner and first woman Mayor. We know that Marguerite Holcomb, who was always ahead of her time and always Muskegon's biggest booster, would be very pleased that her memorial fund will be used to support students pursuing a degree or certification in urban planning, political science, women's studies, social work, sociology or another social science, architecture, etc.

Marie VanderVoort Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Marie VanderVoort, who established the Marie VanderVoort Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Marie VanderVoort was born in the Netherlands, came to the United States at age 14, and died in 1997 at the age of 100. Marie attended Hackley School of Nursing, graduating in their second class in 1922. She did private duty work at both Hackley and Mercy Hospitals until her retirement. She traveled extensively and loved exploring the diverse areas of the world. Marie enjoyed her family, particularly her nieces and nephews. One of her nieces, Maxine Hooper, and several others, encouraged her to leave a bequest to the Community Foundation to provide nursing scholarships in her name.



COMMUNITY
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for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Mary A. Eyke Nursing Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Mary A. Eyke, who established the Mary A. Eyke Nursing Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Mary A. Eyke has been described as friendly and independent, "a rock," by her family, but Mary was more than that. She was a dedicated Registered Nurse and Director of Nursing who taught OB/GYN and pediatrics nursing at Mercy School of Nursing at Mercy General Health Partners for 30 years...and was a philanthropist! At her death, after a life of 92 years, her wish was to establish the Mary A. Eyke Nursing Scholarship. Her passion was helping her students become good nurses. The Mary A. Eyke Nursing Scholarship will provide financial assistance to students who have dedicated themselves to the nursing profession Mary loved very much.

Maureen Linck Memorial

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the family and friends of Maureen Linck, who established the Maureen Linck Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in memory of Maureen. Maureen Linck had no lack of courage. At the age of 10, she was diagnosed with an illness similar to muscular dystrophy. In the face of this challenge, Maureen continued living her life on her own terms. She studied piano, practiced crafts such as counted cross stitch and other handiwork, and made gifts of her work. In 1985, at 15, Maureen was involved in an automobile accident. As a result of the accident and her illness-related difficulties, Maureen lapsed into a coma and died six weeks later. As a tribute to her courage and love for life, Maureen's family and friends created this scholarship in her honor. The scholarship has been established to help Muskegon area youth pursue higher education. To the credit of Maureen's parents, Mr. and Mrs. S.J. Linck, and other contributors, Maureen's spirit will endure and continue to contribute through the lasting gift of education.

McLeod Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Dave and Carol McLeod, who established the McLeod Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Dave and Carol McLeod created this scholarship to support the education of deserving youth in financial need. The McLeod's have been helping less fortunate young people since 1961. They had volunteered with minority youth at Temple United Methodist Church, where they assist Muskegon Heights third-grade students with reading, tutoring, and youth group activities. This program has since evolved into the "Pathfinders" program.



COMMUNITY
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Scholarship Fund Stories

Merrie Schmiede 4-H Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the family of Merrie Schmiede, who established the Merrie Schmiede Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship has been established by Maxine and Don Schmiede in memory of their daughter, Merrie, who died in a tragic automobile accident. Merrie was an active member of 4-H, received many local and state equestrian awards, taught horseback riding, and owned many horses. Because of her enthusiasm for equestrian activities and the programs of 4-H, Mr. and Mrs. Schmiede chose to create a Scholarship that provides financial support to young men and women who actively participate in these excellent programs. To the credit of the Schmiede's, Merrie's zeal and love of life will endure through the lasting gift of education.

Mike and Lillian & Charles and Anne Boonstra Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Lillian Boonstra, who established the Mike and Lillian & Charles and Anne Boonstra Scholarship Fund of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Lillian was born and raised in Muskegon. She married Mike Boonstra, who, along with his brother Charles, owned the Boonstra Brothers Coal Co. on Western Ave for many years. Mike was one of the originators of WMUS, a well-known country music radio station. Mike died a tragic death in 1981. He and Lillian were childless but always had candy for the neighborhood children. They were affectionately known as the candy lady and man. Not only was the Community Foundation a beneficiary of Lillian's generosity, but also her church and others. The Boonstra Fund will assist students attending any college, university, or technical degree program and those pursuing careers in Christian vocation and service.

Mildred A. Mapes Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Ralph Mapes, who established the Mildred A. Mapes Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in honor of his late wife, Mildred. Mildred attended Muskegon High School and was always a big supporter of the school. Mildred worked in Administration, handling Payroll and budgets for the Grand Trunk Milwaukee Car Ferry Company, which was the Grand Trunk Western Railroad's subsidiary company operating its Lake Michigan railroad car ferry operations between Muskegon and Milwaukee. In 2015, Ralph passed away before he could see the first scholarship award made.

Miss Michigan Non-Endowed Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Miss Michigan Scholarship Inc., which established the Miss Michigan Non-endowed Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County.



COMMUNITY
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for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Miss Michigan Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Miss Michigan Scholarship Inc., which established the Miss Michigan Scholarship Fund of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship is presented to any female Muskegon County resident graduating from any Muskegon County high school. The student must demonstrate financial need and possess a 3.0 grade point average or higher.

Mona Shores Optimist Club Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the members of the Mona Shores Optimist Club, who established the Mona Shores Optimist Club Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. The Mona Shores Optimist Club is committed to making a difference in the lives of others with the money that they raise! In 1994, this active service club established the Mona Shores Optimist Club Scholarship to benefit graduating seniors from Fruitport, Holton, Mona Shores, Montague, Muskegon Catholic, Muskegon Heights, Muskegon, North Muskegon, Oakridge, Orchard View, Ravenna, Reeths-Puffer, West Michigan Christian and Whitehall high schools. Three scholarships are awarded each year, rotating between the 14 high schools. The Mona Shores Optimist Club is to be commended for spreading its good works around Muskegon County.

Monica Joseph/Dewey & Gladys Wilson Music Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Greater Muskegon Music Teachers Association members, who established the Monica Joseph-Dewey and Gladys Wilson Music Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Monica Joseph and Wilma Jean Swartz are long-time music teachers associated with the Greater Muskegon Music Teachers Association. The Association established this Fund to honor Monica and in memory of Wilma's parents, Dewey and Gladys Wilson. Gifts to the fund came from the Joseph and Swartz families. The annual income will be used to present scholarship awards to the Music Teachers Association annual scholarship recital winners.

Montague High School Alumni Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Montague High School Alumni, who established the Montague High School Alumni Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. The Montague High School Alumni and Community Scholarship Foundation was created in May 2007. The Foundation hopes to provide scholarships for graduating MHS students so that more of them can pursue post-secondary education. Ultimately, the goal is to generate enough funds to pay the tuition of all MHS graduates as they go on to post-secondary education for up to four years. Considering the increasing tuition costs and the number of families struggling to make ends meet, the MHS Alumni and Community Scholarship Foundation will make it possible for many who otherwise might never have the opportunity to further their education.



COMMUNITY
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for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Mother Davis, Wyart and Annie Satcher Green Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Wyart and Annie Green, who established the Mother Davis, Wyart, and Annie Satcher Green Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. WMUS radio personality Mattie Wesley Davis, known as "Mother Davis," so inspired North Muskegon residents Wyart and Annie Green; they have established a college scholarship in her name to benefit underprivileged students. Wyart Green first heard the kind voice of Mother Davis while visiting Muskegon in the 1960s. The "Heavenly Echoes," radio gospel personality, had such an impact on Green and his wife Annie; they wanted to honor the woman who was known for her motto: "Get up, get dressed, and make your way to the house of the Lord."

MPS/Dietz Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Muskegon Public Schools, who established the MPS/Dietz Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. For many years, Muskegon Public Schools has administered several scholarships to benefit Muskegon County high school students. Following a review of these scholarships and recognizing the Foundation's considerable expertise in scholarship programming and investment management, the Board of Education approved a recommendation to transfer all scholarships held by Muskegon Public Schools to the Muskegon County Community Foundation. The Foundation is proud to receive this honor and looks forward to working with Muskegon Public Schools administrators to award scholarships to Muskegon-area high school seniors for many years to come.

MPS/Douma Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Muskegon Public Schools, who established the MPS/Douma Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. For many years, Muskegon Public Schools has administered several scholarships for the benefit of Muskegon County high school students. Following a review of these scholarships and recognizing the Foundation's considerable expertise not only in scholarship programming but also in investment management, the Board of Education approved a recommendation to transfer all scholarships held by Muskegon Public Schools to the Muskegon County Community Foundation. The Foundation is proud to receive this honor and looks forward to working with Muskegon Public Schools administrators to award scholarships to Muskegon-area high school seniors for many years to come.



COMMUNITY
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for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

MPS/Edward J. and Joan Stewart Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Joan Stewart, who established the Edward and Joan Stewart Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Both Edward and Joan Stewart were graduates of Muskegon High School. They both valued the importance of education. Joan established this fund in 1978 in memory of her husband. For many years Muskegon Public Schools has administered several scholarships to benefit Muskegon County high school students. Following a review of these scholarships and recognizing the Foundation's considerable expertise in scholarship programming and investment management, the Board of Education approved a recommendation to transfer all scholarships held by Muskegon Public Schools to the Muskegon County Community Foundation. The Foundation is proud to receive this honor and looks forward to working with Muskegon Public Schools administrators to award scholarships to Muskegon-area high school seniors for many years to come.

MPS/Frauenthal Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Muskegon Public Schools, who established the Frauenthal Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. The Frauenthal Scholarship, established by the late Mr. A. Harold Frauenthal and the Frauenthal family, is available to graduating seniors from Muskegon County who have demonstrated scholastic standing and are in the top 5 percent of their class.

MPS/Harry E. and Clara H. Brown Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Muskegon Public Schools, who established the MPS/Harry E. and Clara H. Brown Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. For many years, Muskegon Public Schools has administered several scholarships to benefit Muskegon County high school students. Following a review of these scholarships and recognizing the Foundation's considerable expertise not only in scholarship programming but also in investment management, the Board of Education approved a recommendation to transfer all scholarships held by Muskegon Public Schools to the Muskegon County Community Foundation. The Foundation is proud to receive this honor and looks forward to working with Muskegon Public Schools administrators to award scholarships to Muskegon-area high school seniors for many years to come.



Scholarship Fund Stories

MPS/Roelofs Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Muskegon Public Schools, who established the MPS/Roelofs Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. For many years, Muskegon Public Schools has administered several scholarships to benefit Muskegon County high school students. Following a review of these scholarships and recognizing the Foundation's considerable expertise in scholarship programming and investment management, the Board of Education approved a recommendation to transfer all scholarships held by Muskegon Public Schools to the Muskegon County Community Foundation. The Foundation is proud to receive this honor and looks forward to working with Muskegon Public Schools administrators to award scholarships to Muskegon-area high school seniors for many years to come.

Muskegon Chapter, MI Society of Professional Engineers Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Muskegon Chapter of the Michigan Society of Professional Engineers, which established the Michigan Society of Professional Engineers Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship fund was established by the Muskegon Chapter of the Michigan Society of Professional Engineers to encourage young people who select this field of study by providing financial assistance for their education. This scholarship encourages young people who select this field of study by providing financial assistance for their education. The recipient of this award will have attended Muskegon Community College and completed sufficient technical and non-technical courses so as, upon transfer, to qualify as a third-year (junior) status student. Through the creation of this Scholarship, the Muskegon Chapter of the Michigan Society of Professional Engineers will help hundreds of Muskegon County students attain lifelong educational goals.

Muskegon City Teachers Association Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Muskegon City Teachers Association, which established the Muskegon Teachers Club Fund of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Past generations of Muskegon Public Schools teachers and their families will remember the Muskegon Teacher's Clubhouse on Lake Michigan in Norton Shores, built in 1928. It provided a home for school functions, meetings, and retreats for nearly 60 years until it sold in the mid-80s. With the proceeds from this sale, the Muskegon City Teachers Education Association has established this new Scholarship Fund to benefit future generations of students and teachers who wish to continue their education.



COMMUNITY
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Scholarship Fund Stories

Muskegon Community College Faculty Association Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Muskegon Community College Faculty Association (MCCFA), which established the Muskegon Community College Faculty Association Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship is awarded to students continuing their education at Muskegon Community College or pursuing an education at another college or university.

Muskegon County Bar Association Law Education Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Muskegon County Bar Association of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Attorneys in Muskegon have long recognized the need to enhance educational opportunities such as Law to Teens, Law Day Awards, and scholarships to encourage students to become attorneys. James Kobza, former President of the Muskegon County Bar Association, initiated the concept of an endowment fund after learning that other communities had done so. The Bar Association, along with contributions from individual attorneys, established this fund to provide programs that will educate and advance the public's understanding and awareness of legal issues.

Muskegon County Medical Society Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Muskegon County Medical Society members, who established the Muskegon County Medical Society Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship assists individuals pursuing projects or programs relating to health, science education, and/or service.

Muskegon County Michigan State University Alumni Association Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Muskegon County MUS Alumni Association, which established the Muskegon County MUS Alumni Association Scholarship of the Muskegon County Community Foundation. This scholarship encourages Muskegon-area students who have graduated from Muskegon Community College to transfer to Michigan State University.



COMMUNITY
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for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Muskegon Eagles / Monsignor Kehren Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Muskegon Eagles, Chapter 668, and Monsignor Kehren, who established the Muskegon Eagles Monsignor Kehren Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Monsignor Kehren served St. Mary's Church in downtown Muskegon for many years. When he died, Chapter 668 of the Muskegon Eagles established this in his honor. The award is supported through an annual bowling tournament held by the Eagles. Thanks to their generosity, the spirit of Monsignor Kehren endures as part of the Muskegon community, granting the lasting gift of education to the youth of Muskegon County.

Muskegon Heights High School Alumni Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Reverend Keith Pohl, who established the Muskegon Heights High School Alumni Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Rev. Keith Pohl, who graduated from Muskegon Heights High School in 1952 and valued his education there, desired to give back to the students of the school to which he was indebted. Though he has been gone from the community for many years, he had a passion for and felt indebted to the Heights and the U of M from which he graduated. Being a Methodist minister and having attended Temple United Methodist Church years ago, he approached the church to establish a scholarship fund. Temple United Methodist Church, realizing the Foundation could more effectively administer this program, established this fund to provide scholarships for Heights graduates and residents to attend the University of Michigan.

Muskegon High School Class of 1957 Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Muskegon High School Class of 1957 committee members, who established the Muskegon High School Class of 1957 Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. After celebrating their 60th class reunion, the Muskegon High School Class of 1957 received enough support from classmates to make this scholarship happen. A true group effort, they have created a legacy for their class and are proud to support fellow Big Reds in continuing their education!



Scholarship Fund Stories

Muskegon High School Class of 1959 Legacy Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Muskegon High School Class of 1959 Legacy Fund Committee, which established the Muskegon High School Class of 1959 Legacy Fund of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. In the spring of 2019, Big Reds Ted Bensinger and Don Schneider were approaching their 60th class reunion. They decided the occasion should be marked with the creation of a scholarship fund to support future Big Reds, and they rallied their classmates' support. In 2020, they topped their initial goal of \$25,000 and the Muskegon High School Class of 1959 Legacy Fund was created. Ted and Don are still working to build the fund to increase the impact because they know the value of education.

Muskegon Public Schools Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Muskegon Public Schools, who established the Muskegon Public Schools Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. For many years Muskegon Public Schools has administered several scholarships to benefit Muskegon County high school students. Following a review of these scholarships and recognizing the Foundation's considerable expertise not only in scholarship programming but also in investment management, the Board of Education approved a recommendation to transfer all scholarships held by Muskegon Public Schools to the Muskegon County Community Foundation, thus creating the Muskegon Public Schools Scholarship. The Foundation is proud to receive this honor and looks forward to working with Muskegon Public Schools administrators to award scholarships to Muskegon-area high school seniors for many years to come.

Muskegon Surgical Associates Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Muskegon Surgical Associates, P.C., who established the Muskegon Surgical Associates Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. The doctors in this surgical group wanted to fulfill their corporate responsibility and contribute back to the community. This scholarship award is for medical school students.



Scholarship Fund Stories

Nancy Waters and Mark Waters Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Nancy and Mark Waters, who established the Nancy Waters and Mark Waters Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. In recognition of what this community has meant to their family, Nancy and her son, Mark, started this to support African Americans' educational, economic, and community development needs and interests in the greater Muskegon region. Their leadership demonstrates how the Community Foundation can reach and support all its citizens. Mark passed away in 2015.

Nan Riekse Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Nan Riekse, who established the Nan Riekse Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Nan Riekse has a lofty dream; it is her desire to inspire. By establishing the Nan Riekse Scholarship and the Nan Riekse Donor Advised Funds, she has taken an important step toward realizing her dream. Her Scholarship will support non-traditional students attending Muskegon Community College with financial needs. Her scholarships will target adult women attending school after raising their children or rebuilding their lives following a divorce. The Donor Advised Fund will benefit local churches and a senior care center. Nan is an outstanding example of the "Power of One."

Neil J. Sanders Scholarship

This scholarship was made possible by the generosity of Jill Sanders, who established the Neil J. Sanders Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in honor of her husband, Neil. A lover of the outdoors, Neil Sanders enjoyed hiking and backpacking with his sons and friends. He was interested in all kinds of sports and activities, reading mysteries and thrillers, mountain climbing, and teaching yoga. Thirty-three years of his life were devoted to counseling students at Muskegon Community College. So, his wife, Jill, memorialized his name forever with a scholarship fund. As you may expect, the fund will support students who plan to attend MCC.



COMMUNITY
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for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Neil Rosen/Cherry County Playhouse Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Joni D. Rosen, who established the Neil Rosen/Cherry County Playhouse Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in memory of her husband, Neil Rosen. In 1990, the Community Foundation approached Neil Rosen and Cherry County Playhouse and encouraged them to move from Traverse City to make Muskegon's Frauenthal Theater home to the Playhouse. Muskegon was never the same! Neil quickly became one of Muskegon's greatest advocates. In addition to his inimitable antics and sense of humor, Neil Rosen brought world-class talent to Muskegon and put it on the stage. He fought against his illness for many, many months, and when he knew the end was near, he asked his friends to celebrate, not to weep. His wife, Joni, asked that the many memorials to Neil be used to establish a scholarship to reward a Muskegon County winner of the Student Showcase in the Performing Arts Category.

Nikolas Wypa Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by friends and family of Nikolas Wypa, who established the Nikolas Wypa Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Nikolas was an energetic and polite young boy who loved everything he did. His day consisted of playing with his fleet of Match Box cars, being with his friends, and spending time with his big brother, Lucas. Not a day passed that he did not go out and greet the neighbors. He always made it a point to stop and say hi. He loved his school as much as anything else and spent many days playing there. Nikolas was a 6-year-old kindergartener who collapsed and died on the Churchill Elementary School playground after he ingested a small rock that blocked his airway. A \$500.00 scholarship in his memory is awarded every year to one 5th grader in each of the four elementary schools in the Mona Shores district. It will be used for higher education upon graduating from high school. This is a first of its kind for elementary students. It reflects Nikolas' spirit and how he lived his life. It is presented to students who show honesty and good citizenship through their actions. Simply stated, an all-around great kid!



Scholarship Fund Stories

Norman J. and Maureen L. Campbell Family Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Maureen Campbell who established the Norman J. & Maureen L. Campbell Family Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Norman Campbell was a proud graduate of Muskegon Heights High School and the University of Michigan with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. While at U of M, he met a nurse named Maureen. Shortly after, they moved to California, where he was employed by Lockheed Aircraft in the "Skunk Works" division and was the youngest engineer working on the super-top secret SR71 Blackbird spy plane. His specialty was Titanium, of which the SR71 was made. Later, he worked as an engineer for General Electric in Warren, MI. In 1970, they moved back to Muskegon to go into business with his father, Hugh, to form Campbell Grinder Company. He became president in 1985 until the business was sold and he retired in 2001. Norm took pride in the fact that all of his employees were treated as family in a family business. He was an active golf and tennis player. He spent 15 years at the Detroit Tiger Fantasy Camp, where he played baseball with the "Old Tigers", and was honored to be selected to throw out the "First Pitch" at a Tiger's game at Comerica Park in 2011. Norm also enjoyed weekend trips with his family to Glen Arbor. He was a humble, kind man, friend to all, and never condemning. Being a family man was his greatest joy of all. Maureen established this fund to honor her late husband, Norman. This scholarship is for students attending the University of Michigan, with a first preference for an engineering student and a second preference for a nursing student.

Oliver and Mildred Byam Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of George and Mary Ann Byam, son and daughter-in-law of Oliver and Mildred Byam, who established the Oliver and Mildred Byam Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. The Oliver and Mildred Byam Scholarship benefits the recipient of the annual Oliver R. Byam Sports Award and the Geraldine Beausang Sports Award at Whitehall High School. The award was established in the 1960s and is given to the senior boy and girl who best exemplifies Oliver Byam's ideals and standards in his sports participation and attitude. The Byams both formerly worked for the Whitehall school district, Mildred as a kindergarten teacher, and Oliver as a high school teacher and basketball and track coach.

Orthopaedic Associates of Muskegon/Muskegon Heights Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Orthopaedic Associates of Muskegon, which established the Orthopaedic Associates of Muskegon/Muskegon Heights Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship is for graduating seniors of Muskegon Heights High School. Students may attend any two or four-year accredited college, university, or vocational/technical school and pursue any field of study.



Scholarship Fund Stories

Patricia A. Bard Nursing Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Doug Bard, who established the Patricia A. Bard Nursing Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Pat Bard, a wife, mother, grandmother, businesswoman, travel agent, teacher, and friend, passed away on May 21, 2010. Doug and Pat had talked of a scholarship in the past and, toward the end of her fight against cancer, together chose the field of nursing as the focus. While Pat's career involved business and travel, she and Doug experienced first-hand the impact that caring, well-trained nurses can make. The scholarship in her name will make an impact, too, on the opportunities available to nursing students.

Paul DeVette Education Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Bertha DeVette, who established the Paul DeVette Education Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Paul DeVette was a respected educator in the Muskegon Public Schools for 32 years, serving as Principal at Nelson School and teaching at Steele Junior High School before his retirement in 1962. His wife, Bertha, established the Paul DeVette Education to honor his memory. Paul DeVette's many friends, fellow educators, and former students also contributed to this scholarship in his memory. The award provides scholarships to graduating Muskegon High School seniors who are planning a career in teaching and who hopefully will follow the exemplary standard set by Paul DeVette's commitment to teaching.

Paul Schimanski Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of William H. and Marilyn G. Schimanski, who established the Paul Schimanski Memorial Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in memory of their son, Paul. Paul was born in Muskegon in 1963 and graduated in 1981 from Mona Shores High School. He went on to graduate with high honors from Michigan Technological University, receiving his Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1985. A year later he received a Master's of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Michigan. He died in a tragic automobile accident in 1999. Paul was a Project Engineer with General Dynamics at the time of his death. Paul valued the quality education he received at MTU. This Scholarship will afford others the opportunity to receive these same benefits.



COMMUNITY
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for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Peter J. & Barbara J. Kutches Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Barbara Kutches, who established the Peter J. and Barbara J. Kutches Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Pete and Barbara Kutches are well-known figures in the Muskegon area, even though they both grew up in Escanaba. Pete was a coach in the area stretching over 4 decades at Muskegon High School, Muskegon Catholic Central, and finally Reeths-Puffer before retiring in the late 1990s. He was best known as a football coach, winning state championships as a head coach at MCC and R-P, the only coach in the state of Michigan to do so. Barbara was a nurse for several years at Mercy Hospital, serving as the director of nursing. They shared 62 years of marriage, 5 children, 15 grandchildren, and soon-to-be 15 great-grandchildren. Pete was the 10th of 13 kids in his family and the only one to go on to get a college degree because of a scholarship he was awarded. Because of this, Pete and Barbara both felt strongly that they wanted to provide that opportunity to area youth, specifically in the areas in which they felt rewarded in their careers - education, and nursing.

Privacky Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the members of the Reeths-Puffer Education Association, who established the Privacy Memorial Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. The entire community was devastated by the tragedy of the Privacy family deaths. Steve Privacy was a long-time elementary teacher and a member of the Reeths-Puffer Education Association, which, along with other colleagues and friends, established this in memory of the Privacy Family. It will provide scholarships to graduating Reeths-Puffer students "who exhibit moral character and leadership" and pursue careers in education or human services at educational institutions in Michigan.

Pulaski Lodge Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Pulaski Lodge, which established the Pulaski Lodge Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. After decades in Muskegon, the Pulaski Lodge closed its doors. However, it left behind a substantial fund to provide scholarships to graduates of Muskegon High School and Muskegon Catholic Central High School. While it's open to all, preference is given to the children or grandchildren of the lodge's final membership in 2021.

Ravenna Community Educational Foundation Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of many people in the Ravenna Community, who established the Ravenna Community Educational Foundation Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Dolores E. (Dee) Swanson gave the initial gift to start this in December 2006. At that time, it was a Build A Fund, but a gift from Rudolph and Ruth Lonnee put it over the top late in 2007. The Ravenna Community Educational Foundation intends to use it to enhance the quality of education through educational opportunities by generating and distributing financial and other resources to benefit the students and staff of the Ravenna Community Schools.



COMMUNITY
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for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Ray B. Smith Memorial Rotary Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Jeffrey A. Smith who established the Ray B. Smith Memorial Rotary Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County to honor his father. Ray Smith was the third of three brothers, all born and raised in Carnegie, PA., who all ultimately started, owned, and managed their own successful small businesses. None had formal education beyond high school, yet all had successful careers due to personal drive, patriotic commitment, and putting others first. The photograph of 1st Lt. Ray B. Smith, US Army, Pacific Theater, World War II, symbolizes what he would be in later life: a man who held service to others with the same importance and passion that he held service to his country. These scholarship awards are made to those who closely mirror his values. Following his military service, Ray Smith relocated to Cleveland, Ohio, to pursue his career, start his business, and raise his family. At that time, he became an active Rotarian, serving as a hands-on member. He was elected to the full succession of officer positions and, in retirement, volunteered to fill in wherever and whenever needed until his late 70s. It seems fitting that this patriot, who himself did not have the formal education we worked so hard for others to achieve, was called home on Memorial Day. May those receiving this scholarship honor him with their education, achievement, and success.

Raymond and Teresa Cioe Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Raymond and Teresa Cioe, who established the Raymond and Teresa Cioe Scholarship Fund of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Ray and his sisters, Teresa and Angela, lived together and were known as frugal, saving every cent they could. Angela passed away many years ago; Teresa worked for Muskegon Federal Savings and Loan, and Ray worked for years at Continental Motors. Though never married, the Cioes loved children and had a life-long vision of helping students who chose to receive a faith-based education. Ray left Continental Motors to pursue a degree that would allow him to teach. In 1954, he began teaching at Catholic Central, also serving as the School's business manager, business teacher, athletic director, and football, basketball, and golf coach. Recognizing Ray's dedicated service to Catholic Central athletics, in 1993 he received the Muskegon Area Sports Hall of Fame Distinguished Service Award. At Teresa's death, the Cioe's estate plan directed that a portion go to the Community Foundation to establish the Raymond and Teresa Cioe Fund, which will present scholarships to Muskegon Area students who wish to attend independent colleges such as Notre Dame, Aquinas, or Albion.



COMMUNITY
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for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Reading is the Key Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Lori Goryl, who established the Reading is the Key Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. After several years of teaching, Lori Goryl found her professional home in the Title 1 program, where small group teaching helps those students who need an extra boost. Her Adopt-A-Reader Program at Reeths-Puffer McMillan Elementary has been pairing up reading volunteers with elementary students for 13 years. Lori has since retired but still wants to continue encouraging children to pursue higher educational goals. She established this scholarship fund for McMillan Elementary students to help with college expenses.

Reverend Moses J. Jones Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Reverend Moses J. Jones, who established the Reverend Moses J. Jones Endowment Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Born in 1898, Reverend Moses J. Jones was one of Muskegon's most beloved ministers. The Pastor of John Wesley A.M.E. Zion Church of Muskegon for 36 years, he founded the Urban League of Muskegon and received numerous honors, including the Ambassador of Goodwill Award. Reverend Jones committed his life to building racial harmony in Muskegon. He helped establish this Scholarship in 1982 to make awards to deserving youths based on their contributions to their community, school, and church. Through this, Reverend Moses J. Jones continues to support the values of community awareness and harmony by granting the lasting gift of education to Muskegon-area youth. Reverend Jones died in 1989. His legacy lives on through this fund.

Richard and Barbara Arter Fine Arts Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Barbara Arter, who established the Richard and Barbara Arter Fine Arts Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in memory of Dick Arter. This fund was established following Dick Arter's unexpected death while wintering in Arizona. He was Vice President of Howmet Corporation until his retirement. He was an active Community United Methodist Church member and past President of the Reeths-Puffer Board of Education and United Way. Before Barbara's retirement, she taught sixth grade at Orchard View School and is now an active community volunteer, particularly faithful to McMillan School's "Adopt-A-Reader" program. Because they have long been loyal supporters of the Reeths Puffer Schools, Mrs. Arter established this fund to assist Reeths Puffer students in their study of fine arts at a college or summer camp.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Richard and Betty Cawein Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Dick and Betty Cawein, who established the Richard and Betty Cawein Scholarship Fund of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. In nearly 48 years of marriage, Dick and Betty Cawein had 28 different addresses, but they found their way back to the place they loved, their hometown of Muskegon. After a career in the Navy, Dick was a shop teacher at Mona Shores. Betty was involved with St. Jean's Church and the Muskegon Garden Club, but they both felt very strongly about education. Dick passed away in 1993 and Betty in 2015, but their love for Muskegon and their passion for education lives on in the Richard and Betty Cawein Scholarship Fund, created with a bequest from Betty's trust. It will help support students pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree who are doing two years at MCC and then going on to one of Michigan's public colleges/universities or Notre Dame or Duke.

Rich McCarthy Oakridge Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Nancy McCarthy, who established the Rich McCarthy Oakridge Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Rich McCarthy knew what mattered most in life. His philosophy was: "One hundred years from now, it will not matter what kind of car I drove or what kind of clothes I wore. All that will matter is that I made a difference in the life of a child." His family members, who have established the Rich McCarthy Oakridge Scholarship in his memory, say he far surpassed his goal affecting the lives of scores of young people. The teaching veteran and coach had a rich career at Oakridge and several other area schools. Although he struggled with severe health problems for many years, he is remembered by his wife Nancy as "always smiling; his greatest joy was making people laugh." The scholarship will benefit students of Oakridge Schools.

Robert A. and Clara C. Harrell Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Robert A. and Clara C. Harrell, who established the Robert A. and Clara C. Harrell Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Clara is from Muskegon, and her husband, Bob, is from East Detroit. Clara went to Muskegon Community College, where she earned her Nursing degree. The Harrell's believe that education is vital and is the gateway to students becoming what they dream they can be. This scholarship is for graduating seniors of any Muskegon County High School.

Robert Busch Academic Athletic Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Carol Busch, who established the Robert Busch Academic Athletic Memorial Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Carol Busch graduated from Holton High School in 1949. The purpose of this fund is to provide an annual scholarship to a graduating senior from Holton High School who has been outstanding in the academic and athletic areas.



COMMUNITY
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for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Robert F. and Augusta A. Moran, R.N. Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Augusta A. Moran, who established the Robert F. and Augusta A. Moran, RN Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Robert and Augusta Moran were ordinary people who lived ordinary lives. Bob Moran retired as yard master for C & O Railroad after 40 years of service, and Gussie Moran was a homemaker who also worked as a clerk in Parson's Clothing in Muskegon Heights. Together they enjoyed small game hunting, sport fishing, and all that the outdoors offered. In fact, Robert Moran spent a great deal of time showing young people how to enjoy these activities safely and responsibly. They believed deserving people who are given a break can succeed. This scholarship, established with a bequest following Mrs. Moran's death, will assist those who "may be in the middle of the class but have the desire, determination, and the aptitude to be a nurse."

Rocket Scholars/April Anne Boss Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the parents of April Anne Boss. April graduated from Reeths-Puffer High School in 1997. She was active in the choir and in many church-related activities as she completed her high school years. She chose to attend Muskegon Community College after high school. She loved children and wanted to make a difference in their lives by pursuing a teaching degree in Elementary Education. April was a loving daughter, sister and friend. She was always willing to share a hug with people she loved and friends she knew. Her parents would like her to be remembered and honored in a special way; therefore, they have established this scholarship in loving memory of their daughter. Their wish is to help future Reeths-Puffer graduates as they pursue a college degree.

Rocket Scholars Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the parents and alumni of Reeths Puffer Schools, who established the Rocket Scholars Foundation Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. The Rocket Scholars Foundation was created by parents and alumni with two purposes in mind: 1) to continue to foster within the school system a culture of rigorous academic achievement for all students and 2) to offer those students who have demonstrated high achievement scholarships to help defray the increasingly expensive tuition costs at colleges, universities, and accredited post-secondary vocational and technical schools.

Roesler Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Roesler family, who created The Roesler Memorial Scholarship Fund in memory of Henry Roesler, a well-known community leader in Montague. As if being a major and former police chief weren't enough, Henry liked to be involved in various community initiatives in the Montague area. Henry's love and generosity for this community can still be felt today by the graduating seniors of Montague Area Public Schools.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Rolland and Irene Damm Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Irene Damm, who established the Rolland and Irene Damm Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Rolland Damm was a member of a historically prominent Muskegon family and the owner of Damm Hardware, a landmark in the Muskegon community for many generations. He strongly supported Muskegon Community College, chairing millage elections and serving on its Board. Because of the Depression, Irene was not able to attend college. Upon her husband's death, she established the Rolland and Irene Damm Scholarship to ensure that students realize their college education dreams.

Rosalie R. and Paul F. Youngberg Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Rosalie R. and Paul F. Youngberg, who established the Rosalie R. Youngberg Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Shortly after World War II, Paul and Rosalie Youngberg moved to Muskegon, where he helped found several small companies. Although the Youngberg's had no children, they cherished the Muskegon community that they had adopted as their home. They shared the desire to continue giving to this community after their lifetimes here had ended. To this end, the Youngberg's named the Community Foundation in their will, creating this Scholarship. The fund awards scholarships to Muskegon Community College graduates in the top 25 percent of their graduating class who will pursue higher education. Through this, the Youngberg's' love for their community endures and continues to contribute to Muskegon County through the lasting gift of education.

Russell B. Trygstad Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Marian & Leland Wilson and Larry Trygstad, who established the Russell B. Trygstad Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Russell's daughter and son-in-law, Marian and Leland Wilson, and his son, Larry Trygstad, wanted to honor the memory of their father, a pioneer in education in Holton, Michigan. Russell graduated from Holton School on May 2, 1902, later married Gussie Benson of Highland Park, Illinois, and together they raised twelve children, all of whom graduated from Holton High School. He had a life-long passion for education, serving not only on the Holton School District Board for over 38 years, twenty as its President, but also on the Muskegon County Board of Education and briefly on the State Board of Education. Russell's children and descendants are proud of his educational accomplishments and have established this scholarship to provide scholarships to students at Holton High School in Russell Trygstad's name.



COMMUNITY
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for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Ruth Skwarek Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Ruth Skwarek, who established the Ruth Skwarek Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Education was very important to Ruth Skwarek. She was a Fulbright Scholar and entered college at the age of 16, receiving a degree from Western Michigan University, a master's in French from Michigan State University, and in French and Speech from Western Michigan University. She taught elementary grades at Grand Haven and Holland public schools and French and German at Muskegon Community College for 20 years. The Ruth Skwarek Scholarship will assist Muskegon County students pursuing four-year degrees at any college or university. Ms. Skwarek is particularly concerned that this assists students from "middle-income" families for whom there is little other aid available.

Sailor Classic Athletic Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by generous donors with a commitment to Mona Shores and to athletes who learn and play on their athletic fields. They started the Sailor Classic over a decade ago to raise money for items needed, that fall outside the Athletic Department's budget. In addition, the Classic allows the community to celebrate all the school does for kids. Most importantly, the Sailor Classic provides an annual scholarship to one male and one female student-athlete who are outstanding on the field, in the classroom, and are in need of financial support.

Shantz Kaydon Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Richard and Dolores Shantz, who established the Shantz Kaydon Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. For many years, Richard Shantz, President and CEO of Muskegon's Kaydon Corporation, felt strongly about college and the value of an education. In the tradition of giving back to the community and the company that was good to him, Dick Shantz and his wife, Dolores, established the Shantz Kaydon Scholarship to benefit the children and step-children of employees of Kaydon Corporation in its Muskegon locations. This scholarship award of \$12,000 over four years will help to ensure that a quality education is received by children of Kaydon Corporation employees far into the future.



COMMUNITY
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for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Sharon Barber Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Neal Barber, who established the Sharon Barber Memorial Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in memory of Sharon. Sharon was a very special Orchard View teacher for 35 years. Specifically, she had been a fifth-grade teacher at Orchard View Elementary for many years. Known for her warmth and wonderful smile, Mrs. Barber touched the lives of hundreds of children. So many former students have mentioned her positive outlook as their motivation to persevere in their own lives. Mrs. Barber received the 2003 "My Cool Teacher" award from WZZM for her dedication. Sharon died in April 2004. Her husband, Neal, created this fund to award scholarships to Orchard View graduating seniors.

Sherman R. Poppen Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Sherman R. Poppen, who established the Sherman R. Poppen Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Nancy Poppen was an artist who wanted children to explore and develop their talents in the fine arts. Before she died in 1993, she established a fund in her name to provide "individualized arts opportunities" for Muskegon Public Schools students in grades three through 12. Her husband, Sherman Poppen, has watched the talents of over one hundred students develop over these last few years. Feeling the need to continue to support their talents, he established the Sherman R. Poppen Scholarship Fund to provide scholarships for Muskegon High School graduates who have participated in programs funded through the Nancy K. Poppen Fund. Now these students, pursuing arts studies at accredited colleges and universities or under the tutelage of master artists, can be assured of continued support and backing.

Sidney and Adelaide Slater Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Sidney and Adelaide Slater, who established the Sidney and Adelaide Slater Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Although we were never privileged to know them, Sidney and Adelaide Slater were well aware of the Community Foundation and its ability to carry out their charitable objectives. They will established an annuity trust for a sole beneficiary and stated that, upon that beneficiary's death, the remainder of the estate should go to the Community Foundation to establish the Sidney and Adelaide Slater Education. This scholarship will help Muskegon County's needy and deserving students attend college, ensuring that the ideals important to the Slaters will endure for many years to come.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Sidney and Ann DeBoer Geriatric Nursing Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Andrew, John, and Samuel T. DeBoer, who established the Sidney and Ann DeBoer Geriatric Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Sidney and Ann DeBoer began their involvement in caring for Muskegon's elderly in 1956 when they began the DeBoer Nursing Home. Both retired in the mid 1970's, and Sidney DeBoer died in 1987. Over the years, they have given financial support to many nursing students at Muskegon Community College. The Sidney and Ann DeBoer Geriatric Nursing Scholarship was established in 1994 by Andrew, John, and Samuel DeBoer, sons of Sidney and Ann DeBoer, in honor of their mother's 80th birthday. This scholarship will continue the DeBoer's tradition, started long ago, of supporting the educational pursuits of Muskegon County nursing students at Muskegon Community College.

Spencer Weersing Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Sally Weersing and her family, who established the Spencer Weersing Memorial Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Spencer Weersing was a respected dentist and citizen of Montague, an avid sailor, a world traveler, and a beloved friend of the entire community. He was an inspiration to everyone whose life he touched. With memorials received in his memory, Dr. Weersing's family has established this scholarship to memorialize his devotion to life and to pass on his exemplary community spirit. The Spencer Weersing Memorial Scholarship will help Muskegon County high school graduates attend the University of Michigan, beginning a legacy in Dr. Weersing's name to grow in the hearts and minds of the youth of the community he so loved and supported.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Stanley C. and Maxine G. Sutherland Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Stanley Sutherland, Jr., who established the Stanley C. and Maxine G. Sutherland Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Education was important to Maxine Sutherland. She graduated from Muskegon Junior College in 1940, received her nursing degree from the Hackley School of Nursing in 1942, and continued her education until she received a B.S. in Education from Western Michigan University. Nursing was also important to Maxine, and over the years, she was employed by Hackley Hospital, Visiting Nurses, and the office of her brother, Dr. Griffith. In her memory, her husband, Stanley Sutherland, Jr., has established the Maxine G. Sutherland Memorial, which will assist Muskegon County residents in pursuing careers in nursing and other health-related fields as well as support other projects and programs that were equally important to her.

Stan Tyler Catholic Education Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Mary Tyler, who established the Stan Tyler Catholic Education Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Mary Tyler established the "Stan Tyler Catholic Education" in memory of her late husband, whose mission was to strengthen and ensure the future of Catholic education in Muskegon County. This scholarship will be awarded to a student from Muskegon Catholic Central High School that will be attending Notre Dame University, Stan's Alma Mater.

Steve & Deb Jackson Family Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Steve & Deb Jackson, who established the Steve & Deb Jackson Family Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County.

Sturtevant and Kidwell Girl Scout Gold Award Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Michigan Pine and Dunes Girl Scout Council Board of Directors, who established the Girl Scouts Gold Award Scholarship Fund of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. In 1993, a young Girl Scout came to the Foundation to inquire about establishing a scholarship fund to benefit girls in Muskegon, Oceana, Lake, and Newaygo counties who have been active in Girl Scouting. It was her intent that the Girl Scouts would raise money over five years for this fund, and the Girl Scout Board of Directors agreed to match the monies raised by the senior Girl Scouts involved in fundraising projects. Their fund became a reality in late 1996, and we look forward to working with them to present scholarships to senior Girl Scouts who will continue their education.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Swenson Family Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Leland L. Swenson, who established the Swenson Family Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Dr. Leland Swenson practiced orthopedic surgery in Muskegon from 1949-1978 and worked at Hackley Occupational Health Clinic, completing orthopedic disability evaluations from 1985-2005. The Swenson family wished to continue their charitable actions and believed the Community Foundation would fulfill their wishes. The Swenson Family Scholarship is designed to provide scholarships to students throughout Muskegon County.

The Beyrle-Hollowell Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Joseph and JoAnne Beyrle, who established the Beyrle-Hollowell Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Joseph and JoAnne Beyrle were long-time community supporters and special friends of the Frauenthal Center for the Performing Arts. This scholarship was established by Joseph and JoAnne upon the death of JoAnne's mother, Anne Hollowell, as a lasting memorial to each of their families. William and Elizabeth Beyrle, Joe's parents, were from families who immigrated to Muskegon from Germany in the mid-1800s. Anne Hollowell and her husband, Dee, Vice President of the Aircraft Division of Continental Motors Corp. from 1939 to 1966, were both active community supporters. Joe was a famous WWII hero in both the US and Russia. Through the establishment of the Beyrle-Hollowell Scholarship, the fund will assist students who are studying abroad and/or provide non-traditional scholarships to upgrade skills in order to gain employment.

Thomas and Geraldine Seyferth Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the Harvest Foundation, which established the Thomas and Geraldine Seyferth Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This most prestigious scholarship, also known as "The Foundation Scholar," honors the donor's belief that investing in a student's education is still the greatest commitment a community can make to its future. As a member of one of the early industrialist families in Muskegon, the donor wished to benefit the community's youth, which had been so good to him and his family.

Tilio & Martha Giacobassi Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Julie Giacobassi and Zach Hall, who established the Tilio and Martha Giacobassi Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Martha and Tilio Giacobassi were devoted teachers in the Muskegon Public Schools who valued the importance of education for all. Their family has chosen this scholarship to honor Martha and Tilio's commitment to education and to continue their desire to help young people fulfill their ambitions and expand their horizons.



COMMUNITY
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for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Tomasa Ramirez Ybarra Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the family of Tomasa Ramirez Ybarra, who established the Tomasa Ramirez Ybarra Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship was created to recognize a woman who had been an active advocate for the Latino community for years. Tomasa made a difference in the community with a dedication to her family, nurturing her heritage through her children, creating change, recognizing those unrecognized or forgotten for information, and understanding those differences we all have. She lived her life as a giver and nurturer and giving back to her community.

Tom Reese and Richard T. & Mary Reese Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Barbara Reese, who established the Tom Reese and Richard T. and Mary Reese Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Mary Kiser Reese grew up in Ashland, Kentucky, 4th in a family of 10 children. When she was 14, both of her parents died making it necessary for her to quit school and get a job to contribute to the family income and, along with her older siblings, raise the younger children. After all of them were grown, Mary moved to Niagara Falls, N.Y. to live with an older sister and found employment in a department store where she met her husband, Richard Reese. They were married before he went into the Army, and he served his country during WWII in the 3rd Armored Tank Brigade. After the war, he was employed with Hooker Chemical, and Tom was born in 1947. In 1954, they were transferred to Montague with other employees when Hooker built the plant here on Whitbeck Road. They bought a house on White Lake, where Tom grew up and his parents spent the rest of their lives. They saved money for their son Tom to go to college. Tom graduated from Montague High School and went on to Michigan Tech, where he earned his engineering degree. He then went on to work at Howmet until his retirement in 2009.

Viola Mikkelsen - Robert Eilers Nursing Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Robert Eilers's estate, which established the Viola Mikkelsen-Robert Eilers Nursing Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Robert Eilers wanted to create a lasting memorial scholarship in honor of his sister Viola. Viola was a nurse who cared for Robert during a severe illness when he was young. Viola Eilers Mikkelsen died at the age of 36, and Robert never had the chance to thank her properly for saving his life.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

Walling Scholarship in Honor of Art & Arlene Wood

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Mark & Erin Walling who established the Walling Scholarship in Honor of Art & Arlene Wood of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Erin taught at Oakridge High School for 39 years and often shared fond stories about her students and work life with her family. Erin's parents, Art and Arlene, would follow Oakridge events from their St. Johns, Michigan home. The Sunday night phone call would always include a discussion of Oakridge news. Arlene, who taught school for 40 years, always asked questions about the curriculum and the Winter Formal, while Art was more interested in the sports teams. Arthur Wood and Arlene Steere Wood were born during the depths of the Great Depression to struggling mid-western farm families. They went from shoeless, feed sack-wearing children to college-educated professionals with help from their supportive families and their own grit and determination. The Walling Scholarship in Honor of Arthur and Arlene Wood is made possible by their depression-era values. Because they worked hard ("Always work more than you are paid for."), and lived frugally ("Use it up and make due. Money doesn't grow on trees. Pay your savings account first."), they are still helping others ("There is always someone worse off than you, and you need to help them. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you")."

Warren E. and Anna Mae Hutchins United Methodist Church of Whitehall Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Warren Hutchins, who established the Warren E. and Anna Mae Hutchins United Methodist Church of Whitehall Scholarship of the Community Foundation of Muskegon County in memory of his wife, Anna Mae. In June 2006, after 61 years of marriage, Warren Hutchins lost his lovely wife, Anna Mae. She was a warm and genuinely caring person who was much loved by her family and all who knew her. Anna was a devoted wife and mother who raised two children while participating in various community organizations. She was a very involved member and held many Whitehall United Methodist Church positions. Warren wanted to create a lasting memorial in her honor by establishing a scholarship in her name.

Weichner Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Selma G. Weichner, who established the Weichner Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Selma Weichner was born in Fruitland Township, Michigan. She worked as a cashier at Hackley Union Bank and Trust for 44 years until retiring in 1972. This scholarship, given by Mrs. Weichner, is intended for Muskegon County students who wish to attend a technical or trade school beyond high school.

Welcome Home Scholarship

This scholarship is made possible by many generous donors to the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Welcome Home Scholarships were designed to recruit and retain educators, educational support staff, and early childhood development professionals to live and work in Muskegon County.



COMMUNITY
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for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

West Michigan Jobs Group Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the West Michigan Jobs Group, which established the West Michigan Jobs Group Scholarship Fund of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. "In 2009, when unemployment surged with the Great Recession, a handful of Muskegon locals met during a blizzard to grasp ideas for something better. From that meeting, they formed the West Michigan Jobs Group to improve Muskegon's economic security through cleaner, more sustainable industries and locally owned businesses. Thousands of locals joined in to fight fiercely for renewable energy and to promote local Muskegon businesses. This scholarship is a long-term investment in Muskegon's sustainable future, which so many have imagined for West Michigan."

West Shore Cardiology Consultants, P.C. Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of West Shore Cardiology Consultants, P.C., which established the West Shore Cardiology Consultants, P.C. Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. The five partners, Dr. Carl Gebuhr, Dr. Ralph Ryan, Dr. Mark Meengs, Dr. John Skallerup, and Dr. Gregory Bernath, felt they "...wanted to give something back to the community" and therefore chose a scholarship fund because of a strong commitment to education and its impact on an individual's success. Awards are for Muskegon County students with merit and financial need.

Wheaton/Fitzpatrick Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Ruth and Robert Wheaton, who established the Wheaton/Fitzpatrick Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Ruth Wheaton, daughter of Karl Fitzpatrick, founder of Fitzpatrick Electric, and her husband Robert, current Chairman of the Board, have always loved the Muskegon community and shared a desire to give something back. In creating this scholarship, the Wheaton's expressed interest in assisting those affected by plant closings and unemployment in this area. In this regard, the scholarship provides assistance to individuals who require job retraining or vocational training because of plant closings, job relocation, technological changes, or loss of the family's primary wage earner. Through this, hundreds of Muskegon County residents will have the opportunity to pursue higher education and will feel the Wheaton's generous contribution through the lasting gift of education.

White Lake University Women's Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of the White Lake University Women's Organization, which established the White Lake University Women's Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. This scholarship is presented to women from the White Lake area returning to college to further their education opportunities.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

William D. Munroe & Marie P. Munroe Farnsworth Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Bonnie Bassett, who established the William D. Munroe & Marie P. Munroe Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in honor of her parents. The William D. Munroe and Marie P. Munroe Scholarship was created out of love and respect. Bonnie Bassett, daughter of Bill and Marie, learned all of her solid values from her hard-working, unpretentious parents and wanted to honor them with a lasting legacy. Both grew up modestly, but both had Masters degrees in Education. They were dedicated educators and always stressed the importance of higher learning. Her father was Superintendent of Whitehall Schools for three brief years until his untimely death in 1953. His influence was so strong in this short time that the gymnasium was dedicated and named for him. There are now six teachers in the family, including Bonnie, who is retired from Reeths Puffer Schools.

William G. Jackson Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Kathleen Jackson, who established the William G. Jackson Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. William G. Jackson was the developer and former owner of Burdick & Jackson Laboratories, a high-purity solvent producer still in operation in Muskegon today by Honeywell International Inc. He was also a staunch environmentalist with a passion for clean water and water research. His legacy will continue with his name on the W.G. Jackson, the Muskegon-based research boat of Grand Valley State University's Annis Water Research Institute. Jackson provided the lead gift for the research boat and was a key figure in raising funds for the GVSU Lake Michigan Center on Muskegon Lake. In 1996, he was awarded the Muskegon Area Environmental "Making Waves in Muskegon" Life Time Achievement Award. This scholarship is for Muskegon County residents pursuing any degree relating to geriatric care, preference to those attending Grand Valley State University.

William L. Tardani Notre Dame Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of William L. Tardani, who established the William L. Tardani Notre Dame Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. William (Bill) was a veteran of the U.S. Army having served during WWII. He was a proud Notre Dame graduate, earning his Bachelor's and Masters's Degrees in Business. Bill worked for over 40 years as an executive with Hackley Union Bank and retired in the early 1990's. Bill was an avid golfer and enthusiastically supported his Notre Dame Fighting Irish Football Team. This scholarship awards to Muskegon County graduating seniors or residents pursuing a degree at the University of Notre Dame.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
for Muskegon County

Scholarship Fund Stories

William W. and Beverly I. Sutton Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of William & Beverly who established the William W. & Beverly I. Sutton Fund of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Bill and Beverly visited with us in 2014 and shared their plans to leave a gift from their trust. After Bill's passing in 2018, this designated fund was created per their wishes to support Crestwood United Methodist Church, the American Red Cross, Every Woman's Place, Mission for Area People, and a scholarship for Orchard View students. Bill and Beverly's legacy of caring will live on...forever.

Zeller Family Scholarship

This scholarship has been made possible by the generosity of Tom and Jill Zeller, who established the Zeller Family Scholarship of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. Tom and Jill Zeller have always appreciated their education from Fruitport Community Schools. Both of their children are also Fruitport grads, and Tom and Jill felt that it was their time to give back to the schools that gave them so much. They have established a scholarship fund that will give back to fellow Fruitport graduates in the future.

