



National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations Local Release

Charlevoix County Community Foundation
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For Immediate Release

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Charlevoix County Community Foundation in Top Philanthropic Tier Nationally *Local Organization Meets Rigorous Standards for Quality and Accountability*

The Charlevoix County Community Foundation recently received notification that it has met the nation's highest philanthropic standards for operational quality, integrity and accountability. The notice comes from the Community Foundations National Standards Board, a national accreditation organization based in Arlington, Va.



"This is similar to the Good Housekeeping Seal for community foundations," said Diane Miller, Manager, Community Foundations National Standards Board. "It says that the Charlevoix County Community Foundation has demonstrated a commitment to operational quality, integrity and accountability."

The National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations™ program requires community foundations to document their policies for donor services, investments, grantmaking and administration. With over 200 community foundations already confirmed in compliance nationwide, the program is designed to provide quality assurance to donors, as well as to their legal and financial advisors.

“This is critically important to our donors,” said Chip Hansen, President of the Charlevoix County Community Foundation. “When people make a charitable bequest, establish a fund or contribute to an existing fund, they’re placing their trust in us. They’re counting on us to manage the investment wisely and honor their charitable intentions. The National Standards confirmation says our house is in order.”

The Charlevoix County Community Foundation offers a broad range of charitable funds, allowing donors to advance causes such as education or the environment, support an individual organization, provide flexible assistance for community needs or recommend individual grants. In addition to affirming the organization’s philanthropic services, the confirmation also validates the Foundation’s grantmaking practices for the nonprofit community.

“That’s important too,” said Jeff Rogers, Chairman of the Community Foundation’s Board of Trustees. “Grantmaking is a lot like investing . . . we assess risk, weigh potential gains, monitor performance and operate in a fair and impartial manner. When you see the National Standards Seal, you can be assured that we’re committed to meeting the highest standards for grantmaking as well.”

Entering its’ 20th year, the Charlevoix County Community Foundation helps people support the causes that they care about, now and for generations to come. “We’re proud of the organization’s past,” noted Hansen, adding, “and we’re looking forward to continuing to provide philanthropic services and leadership in our communities in the years ahead.”

The National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations program is the first of its kind for charitable foundations in the United States.

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