



Youth Needs Grants

In this cycle, Community Foundation's Youth Advisory Committee responded to requests from area partners to address youth needs. Based on a recent survey of local youth, the Youth Advisory Committee prioritized activities that will positively impact youth mental health or school atmosphere.

Baseball-Softball Fields of Boyne Inc

Grant: \$5,000

Also known as Waterfront Field of Dreams, this organization is renovating and restoring the Boyne City waterfront Little League Park. Funding will help purchase portable pitcher's mounds, bases, and plates unique to an artificial turf field. The portable mound will expand the use of the field for high school teams and adult women fastpitch softball.

Beaver Island Historical Society

Grant: \$2,500

The Historical Society's Kids Camp seeks to expand capacity and offer four stipends to qualified early childhood educators to lead camp for two different sessions, ages 5-8 and ages 9-12. Grant funds will also be used to help fund travel and lodging for off-Island counselors and needed project supplies for engaging age-appropriate activities such as story hours, dance, art projects or technology activities.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of NW MI

Grant: \$10,000

Big Brothers Big Sisters seeks to support the cost of an Advancement Specialist position to develop, cultivate, and steward donors in the Charlevoix and Emmet communities for one year. The Advancement Specialist position will grow revenue sources, increase volunteers, and build capacity to continue the work of the organization and grow their footprint.

Boyne Area Skate Park

Grant: \$1,863

Boyne Area Skate Park seeks to provide a safe, well-maintained skate park/pump track for local youth and adults to develop skateboarding/mountain biking skills. Developing a skate park is done in three phases. Funds will be used towards the first phase for a professional company to complete a conceptual design specific to the site that takes into consideration the site survey including soil reports, elevations, and drainage systems.





Boyne District Library

Grant: \$2,500

The Youth Services Department plans to hold a Family Dinner Book Club in March 2023. They will meet weekly for four weeks and provide dinner while reading books aloud to the group. The program provides opportunities for children and their parents to discuss topics that directly impact children, to engage children in reading and make connections to the child's life through thoughtful, open-ended questions and active discussion. Funds will allow each family to receive a copy of each book for their family bookshelf.

Camp Daggett

Grant: \$4,600

Every camper who attends Camp Daggett goes on an overnight campout during their week-long stay. The current equipment being used is quite worn and needs to be updated. Improved and updated equipment will create better first-time campout experiences for young campers, which will encourage campers to continue camping, try longer trips, and build a lifelong appreciation of the outdoors. Funds will help to purchase tents and campout equipment.

Charlevoix Kiwanis Youth Foundation

Grant: \$6,300

With funding, Kiwanis will purchase books for the new Book Vending Machine at Charlevoix Elementary School. Students are rewarded for good behavior, good grades, good attendance, or demonstrating kindness with a gold token which is used to “purchase” a book of their choice. The gold tokens can be given by the principal, teachers, lunch workers, bus drivers, librarians, coaches and others to reward students with the goal of improved behaviors, school atmosphere, and increased literacy.

Child and Family Services of NW MI

Grant: \$5,000

This grant will be used to provide Charlevoix County foster children and youth with mental health services not typically covered by insurance such as play therapy, equine assisted therapy, occupational therapy, and foster parent and caseworker consultation with a therapist, as well as other forms of support that the foster child or youth may not otherwise be able to access. Some funds will also be used to provide transportation to and from appointments to help alleviate the burden on foster parents.





Girl Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore

Grant: \$4,000

This project aims to ensure Girl Scouts and Troop Leaders from Charlevoix County have the skills to improve their mental health and increase the level of participation in Girl Scouting. Through the expertise of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), troop leaders in Charlevoix County will receive training to support the mental well-being of the girls. Additionally, workshops have been developed for Juniors (grades 4-5), Cadettes (grades 6-8), and Seniors and Ambassadors (grades 8-12) that provide age-specific information and engaging activities about mental wellness, behavioral issues, and healthy habits.

Great Lakes Center for the Arts

Grant: \$2,500

The Great Lakes Center for the Arts "Next Gen" program presents the Human[kind] Cinema Series. Next fall, they plan to present the film "Hidden Figures" to Charlevoix County students in grades 9-12 and offer a thought-provoking study of the characters and their stories. Integrative discussion questions will connect film content to concepts critical to healthy social and intrapersonal skills (e.g., empathy, courage, loyalty). Discussions have the power to make visible what was previously hidden; raise awareness about difficult issues affecting students; and provide opportunities for students to connect around problems as well as solutions, empowering them to positively impact school culture and increase well-being.

Northern Michigan Equine Therapy

Grant: \$4,000

Northern Michigan Equine Therapy (NMET) requested a technology and systems upgrade to launch a new mental health and disabilities awareness campaign via social media and monthly newsletters to help spread awareness and support of youth mental health needs within our community. By streamlining all systems they can more efficiently communicate services to clients, donors, volunteers, foundations, and the community overall. Funding will help purchase technology and software programs.

Planned Parenthood of Michigan

Grant: \$8,000

Planned Parenthood of Michigan will provide age-appropriate, high-quality, culturally-informed, medically accurate sexual health education and will address gaps present within representation, inclusivity, and affirmation for LGBTQ+ youth in the sexual health education and information they receive. The IN*cluded Project will provide LGBTQ+ youth with education that affirms and includes their identities, experiences, and sexual health needs as well as empower adult advocates, such as guidance counselors and school-based social workers, to be active allies and support school atmosphere for LGBTQ+ youth in Charlevoix County schools.





WAI-IAM, Inc.

Grant: \$12,000

STR8TALK is a captivating, interactive stage presentation that takes viewers into the life of a young man fighting with addiction, the parents' struggle, and ultimately what tools lead to breaking the cycle for both the addict and the loved ones. STR8TALK is designed to reach high school students and communities with messages of hope, awareness, and tools to help anyone struggling.

Women's Resource Center of N MI

Grant: \$10,000

The Women's Resource Center of Northern Michigan will provide trauma-informed, survivor-centered therapeutic counseling for child and youth survivors of domestic abuse, sexual assault, sexual abuse, bullying, stalking, and any other form of victimization or gender-based violence as identified by survivors. Funds will be used primarily for salaries to provide critical counseling services through accessible, trauma-informed, strengths-based supportive counseling services with Master's-level licensed therapists. Funds may additionally support the provision of accessible tele-services and expenses related to technology.

Thank you for your interest!

