

## Community Priorities Cycle Grants 2023

### Arts

#### Charlevoix Circle of Arts

Grant Awarded: \$5,000

CCA programs provide children and adults in Charlevoix and surrounding communities with opportunities for expression, connection, and creation through a variety of arts experiences, including fine art exhibits, art workshops, dance classes, youth programs, and lectures. CCA has an increased need for program funding because the demand for programs continues to grow. This grant will help CCA in developing new programs and continuing to provide existing, high-quality programs.

#### Crooked Tree Arts Center

Grant Awarded: \$5,000

Situated in the sanctuary of a former church in downtown Petoskey, the 220-seat theater is not only home to Crooked Tree Arts Center's performing arts series and a multitude of arts-related events, but also serves as community resource for other area nonprofit programming. Thousands from across the region attend artistic events in the CTAC Theater each year. Most recent renovations to the theater occurred over 20 years ago and this essential community arts space has begun to deteriorate. Grant funding will help to paint the walls, ceiling, and trusses.

### Culture and History

#### Northern Michigan Antique Fly Wheelers Club

Grant Awarded: \$2,300

NMAF is an educational nonprofit comprised solely of volunteers that hosts an annual show in July which is open to the public and provides a look at life in rural northern Michigan prior to electricity. All Charlevoix County schools, public and private, participate in educational days for fourth grade field trips in September. Grant funds will be used toward the purchase of a new commercial gas grill to replace the old grill. The new grill will be easy for volunteers to use and will improve efficiency of food service by reducing wait times for event attendees while also increasing revenue for the organization.



## Community

### Beaver Island Historical Society

Grant Awarded: \$4,000

BIHS works to preserve and share the unique history of Beaver Island and the Archipelago through museums and publications. Recently, the BIHS expanded their capacity and saved the local paper, the Northern Islander, from becoming defunct. BIHS publications help provide a platform for unity as an Island community and help bridge the gap between mainland and Island opportunities. Grant funds will help BIHS to purchase some needed equipment to support the production of the Northern Islander newspaper.

### City of Boyne City

Grant Awarded: \$10,000

By combining traditional public safety methods with drones, the Boyne City Police Department (BCPD) and its partners can significantly improve missions involving the protection of life and preservation of property. In an effort to ensure that they are positioned to help, especially when minutes matter, BCPD is continually seeking out more effective, efficient, and safe ways to act on behalf of those who need them most, when they need them most. This grant will support the acquisition of 4 drones that will be available to all of Charlevoix County through partnerships with BCPD and other first responding agencies.

### City of Boyne City

Grant Awarded: \$4,450

Local trail systems in the Boyne Area have expanded in the last few years, resulting in a large increase of 911 responses to the trail system to perform remote rescues for injured bikers. Access to the areas is complex and many areas where bikers need assistance can be miles from the place where first responders gain access. Boyne EMS partnered with Top of Michigan Mountain Bike Association in 2021 to obtain a specialized litter wheel to help with remote rescues. Now, grant funds will help to purchase an appropriate basket to use with the wheel for remote rescues.

### North Central Michigan College Foundation

Grant Awarded: \$15,000

With fewer high school graduates, and those graduates going on to college at a lower percentage, combined with COVID-related retirements, the workforce in critical industries has decreased dramatically. Seeing this problem, NCMC introduced Fast Track programs. These non-credit programs are short, intensive, and offered in a variety of fields such as Health Care, Manufacturing, Skilled Trades, and Business. Grant funds will help provide financial support to students to enroll and complete Fast Track programs so they can start filling local jobs and earn a livable wage to support their families.



## Environment

### Little Traverse Conservancy

Grant Awarded: \$12,500

LTC has the rare opportunity to protect 56 undeveloped acres of pristine forest on Lake Michigan, the largest piece from the Mackinac Bridge to Charlevoix with 1/4 mile of shoreline. Grant funds will help LTC to protect this special place as a nature preserve complete with a universally accessible trail to view the splendor of Little Traverse Bay.

### Village of Boyne Falls

Grant Awarded: \$2,000

The Village of Boyne Falls is helping to determine the fate of the Boyne Falls Dam that is under their ownership and impounds the pond near the M-75 and US-131 intersection. The dam has surpassed its 100-year lifespan and scores a significant hazard potential rating. The Village and partners are pursuing funding for a feasibility study to explore removing the aging dam, restoring a healthy stream channel, returning the river to its relic pattern, determining new crossing options for the connected M-75 and Cherry Hill Road sites, and attending to the century-old, upstream remnants of the former grist mill dam and railroad bridge. Grant funds will help develop and print an outreach pamphlet that will describe the overall project and help to clarify confusion about which dam is being discussed.

## Health

### Beaver Island Rural Health Center

Grant Awarded: \$2,094

BIRHC will improve patient care with two high-priority purchases: a trauma room stretcher/gurney and specialized x-ray software. The stretcher/gurney has been in service for well over the recommended lifespan. With the Center's recent and strategic investment in a new x-ray machine, Center clinicians now have an opportunity to take speedier and more accurate x-rays by adding specialized software. This ensures patient callbacks are kept to a minimum, reducing patient exposure to radiation, and offers expeditious and accurate care for patients. Grant funds will help with both purchases, improving patient experience and care.



## Health

City of Charlevoix

Grant Awarded: \$2,000

Through the development of a new health and wellness initiative called Charlevoix Fit, the City of Charlevoix Recreation Department hopes to help reduce obesity and the prevalence of chronic disease by providing opportunities to increase physical activity in a variety of forms; provide a connection to nature, which studies demonstrate relieves stress levels, improves interpersonal relationships, and improves mental health; and foster overall wellness and healthful habits and engage users in opportunities that enrich or add balance to life. Grant funds will support hiring fitness instructors for the first year of this new program.

East Jordan Ambulance Association

Grant Awarded: \$7,000

In order to continue meeting its mission of delivering exceptional patient care, the East Jordan Ambulance Association must ensure the quality training, education, and wellbeing of the crew, as well as have adequate facilities in which to operate. The proposed expansion of the main station facility will include a fitness center, a boardroom, a drive-through wash bay, and additional offices and storage. With this expansion project, they have an opportunity to remain stationed at the current location, build something to benefit both EMS and the Fire Department, and provide a new facility for the City, Schools, and Department of Public Works of East Jordan. Grant funds will help EJAA to get initial designs and schematics for the project.

Hospice of Michigan

Grant Awarded: \$7,500

As loved ones go through their unique grief journey, Hospice of Michigan's (HOM) Grief Support Services are there to provide guidance, compassion, and care. Grief Support Services offer grieving and bereavement counseling tailored to meet the needs of both adults and children who are grieving regardless of whether they or a loved one was cared for by HOM. Grant funds will help to provide Grief Support Services to Charlevoix County residents in 2023.

Northern Michigan Equine

Grant Awarded: \$8,000

NMET is dedicated to using the healing nature of horses as a therapeutic tool to enhance independence, self-confidence, and quality of life for those living with physical and mental health needs. Programs are offered by licensed and certified professionals. From autism, depression, at-risk youth and high anxiety, to spinal cord injuries and strokes, their promise is simple - horses heal humans. Due to inflation, costs of horse feed, hay, supplements, and vet care have increased exponentially. Grant funds will be used toward therapy horse costs.



## Human Services

### Northern Community Mediation

Grant Awarded: \$10,000

NCM helps people meaningfully and cost-effectively resolve their conflicts by providing mediation services as an alternative to litigation. In March, NCM fulfilled a long-time goal of owning its own facility with handicap accessibility, convenient parking for clients, technological capacity, and a professional appearance. The office provides more capacity for the organization to meet their mission, but it was unexpected. Grant funds will help NCM with this one-time unexpected increase in operational costs.

### Women's Resource Center of Northern Michigan

Grant Awarded: \$18,000

The Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) was developed in response to an identified need for community services that address child sexual assault, sexual abuse, physical abuse/neglect, and any other form of harm inflicted on children and youth. The nationally recognized, evidence-based CAC model has been shown to reduce further traumatization, improve access to supportive resources, and increase offender accountability. Grant funds will help support the CAC for Charlevoix County families.

## Recreation

### Challenge Mountain

Grant Awarded: \$1,906

Winter adaptive recreation is the core of Challenge Mountain's year-round programming and volunteer ski instructors have always been the heart of the organization. It has been over twelve years since Challenge Mountain purchased volunteer ski instructor jackets and the supply no longer serves the growing number of volunteers. Jackets help participants and their families identify volunteer ski instructors, snowmobile drivers, and helpers on the ski hill and also builds pride and awareness among volunteers both at the ski hill and in the community.

### Charlevoix Area Community Pool

Grant Awarded: \$10,000

The CACP is celebrating 25 years in operation in 2023 and will use grant support to build capacity and replace aging equipment. Labor shortages in our area have made recruiting lifeguards a challenge. At the same time, the community is looking for the pool to be open more on weekends. Grant funds will help the pool to run more lifeguard trainings and recruit more lifeguards with the goal of being open for a few hours on Sundays to meet community need. Additionally, funds will help the pool get a new pool vacuum to replace the old one, which is increasingly unreliable.



## Youth

Char-Em ISD – Great Start Collaborative

Grant Awarded: \$10,000

Two government programs provide free preschool to children based on financial need and risk factors, but they leave a gap in eligibility, which leaves many children in need of support. The Great Start Preschool Scholarship Project (GSPSP) fills the State & Federal preschool funding gap in Charlevoix and Emmet Counties. Going beyond the capacity of government-funded preschool programs, GSPSP provides preschool tuition for eligible children ages 3-5 and placement into preschool programs that participate in the state's Quality Improvement Process. Funds will help place Charlevoix County students in need into quality preschool programs and could also help some families in need to keep their children in tuition based preschool if their circumstances change unexpectedly during the year.

East Jordan Public Schools

Grant Awarded: \$10,000

Boswell Stadium, at East Jordan Public Schools, is a place where students are and have been challenged, supported, and nurtured. This gathering space is important for the entire community. Grant funds will help support phase I improvements to Boswell Stadium, including bathroom upgrades, repairing the area in front of the concession stand, and replacing the damaged flagpole.

Power Book Bags

Grant Awarded: \$1,000

The mission of PoWeR! Book Bags is to increase children's experiences with language, literacy, and human interactions so that they better understand themselves, communicate with others, and connect with the world. Early relational health is fundamental to future health, and life success depends on the daily interactions with parents and caregivers in a child's world. PoWeR! Book Bags works in conjunction with community partners to bring parents/caregivers resources to use at home with their children to promote language, literacy, and early relational health. With each visit to a strategic community partner (like the Health Department or Women's Resource Center), children and families are invited to select new, age-appropriate books. Once a year, they also receive a PoWeR! Literacy Bag with brand new age-appropriate tools to promote language, play, and interactions. Grant funds will help purchase books and literacy materials for children in Charlevoix County.

