



CHARLEVOIX COUNTY  
**COMMUNITY**  
FOUNDATION

## **Youth Needs Grant Awards**

### **November 2024**

#### Mental Health

##### **Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwestern Michigan, Inc.**

Grant Awarded: \$12,600

Big Brothers Big Sisters has currently matched 50 children with dedicated mentors in Charlevoix County and already has nine youth on the waitlist. When children are paired with compassionate, trained mentors, they gain a trusted ally who can guide them through life's challenges and complexities while providing a safe space where vulnerability is welcomed. Funds will support matching five youth with mentors.

##### **Child & Family Services of Northwestern Michigan**

Grant Awarded: \$5,000

CFSNWMI seeks to create an Outdoor Oasis space for families to use at Safe Haven North. Creating physical space for positive interactions during supervised visits reduces the stress levels of youth and children. Adults, too, do better when there is something that facilitates interaction with their child or teen. Funds will supply the safety-approved, heavy-duty swingset with a chin-up bar.

##### **Child Abuse Prevention & Education Council**

Grant Awarded: \$5,000

The CAPE Annual Conference, held each spring, hosts nationally recognized speakers to provide professional development opportunities to the diverse field of individuals working with children, families, and parents. Attendees learn how to better understand and engage with youth who may be in crisis and gain tools to support positive relationships between youth, parents, and community members as they navigate social and emotional development together. Funds will help support the overall conference including marketing, venue, presenters, lodging, continued education credits, food and beverage, and supplies.

##### **East Jordan Public Schools**

Grant Awarded: \$10,000

Students learn best when all of their needs are met and they are supported within the school environment. EJ Elementary School found that students and staff identified self-management and self-awareness as areas of behavior struggles, with the classroom and playground as the most common sites for referrals. Funds will help purchase supplies and social-emotional regulation tools for spaces in 25 classrooms, the Student Success Room, playground, and indoor hallway.



**Northern Michigan Equine Therapy**

Grant Awarded: \$2,500

Replacing old equipment enhances the safety, comfort, and overall experience of clients and therapy horses for effective equine assisted experiences. To continue delivering high-quality, safe, and effective services, NMET needs new saddles, adaptive stirrups and tack, helmets, horse care equipment, and protective gear for horses. Funds will help purchase new tack and equipment for therapy services.

**Planned Parenthood of Michigan**

Grant Awarded: \$8,000

PPMI seeks to create a digital and printed sexual health education resource toolkit for youth and supportive adults to provide continuous, reliable information and resources. The toolkit goes beyond a single interaction, providing education and advocacy in a new and more sustainable way, while also providing more autonomy, agency and self-determination for youth. Funds will support the creation of the toolkit, a youth and adult advisory board, and continuation of comprehensive, medically accurate and inclusive sexual health education at East Jordan Middle High School and Charlevoix High School.

**The Depot Jordan Valley Teen Center**

Grant Awarded: \$2,750

The Depot provides programming, mentoring, classes, and various resources to East Jordan teens in 6th-12th grades throughout northern Michigan. Funds will allow the Depot staff to send their teens to equine therapy sessions as an extension of the mentoring and connections they have already created.

Recreation**Beaver Island Historical Society**

Grant Awarded: \$4,000

BIHS' Kids Camp—a week long daytime camp for 50, mostly local, youth from 4-13 years of age—builds upon wellbeing, sense of place, acceptance and cultural diversity. Customized daily programs incorporate cultural themes, explore the natural landscape, and teach Island history; activities are led by young adults to encourage leadership skills. Funds will help offset the costs of labor, food, and supplies.

**Camp Daggett**

Grant Awarded: \$4,000

Downtown Daggett, located at the heart of CD, holds significant potential as a key, centrally located social and functional hub for camp counselors. CD would like to revitalize Downtown Daggett to provide a unique and peaceful gathering space for counselors to unwind during camp week. Funds will support landscaping to address runoff issues and the creation of a hammock lounge.

**Crooked Tree Arts Center**

Grant Awarded: \$5,000

The CTAC School of Ballet trains young people for careers in dance, stagecraft, screendance, lighting, choreography, pedagogy, and Special Needs Artistic Movement. Student choreographers are responsible for creative production, rehearsals, costuming, music, stage light design, working with the stage manager, and publicly speaking about their work. Funds will support a professional dance mentor residency to work with a group of pre-professional dance students in enriching confidence, self-motivation, and a sense of community.



**Girl Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore**

Grant Awarded: \$8,585

Girl Scouts builds girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. With diverse experiences in STEM, outdoor activities, life skills, and entrepreneurship, GSMISTS programming equips girls with critical skills like teamwork, resilience, and problem-solving, preparing them for success in the region and beyond. Funds will provide essential starter kits, financial aid, and vital program support to new Girl Scout Troops in the Charlevoix County region.

Education**North Central Michigan College Foundation**

Grant Awarded: \$8,500

In 2024, over an eight-week session, NCMC hosted 240 local students across 32 classes, from STEM subjects to the Arts, in their Summer Learning Academy (SLA) program for students in 3rd-8th grade. This program offers students early exposure to the college environment, familiarizes families with NCMC's resources and programs, and empowers students to pursue future educational and personal development opportunities. Funds will support scholarships and program expenses to ensure Charlevoix County residents can participate.

**PoWeR! Book Bags**

Grant Awarded: \$10,000

PBB's mission is to increase children's experiences with language, literacy, and human interactions so that they can better understand themselves, communicate with others, and connect with the world. They partner with community organizations and sites to provide an ongoing supply of literacy materials, suggested activities, and developmental guidelines directly to children and families in their network. Funds will help purchase materials for PoWeR! Book Bags.

**Raven Hill Discovery Center**

Grant Awarded: \$5,000

RHDC's mission is to provide a place that enhances hands-on and lifelong learning for all ages by connecting science, history and the arts. The Here or There (HOT) Project is a flexible model for students and teachers to access hands-on learning offered by RHDC through a traditional field trip or an outreach program that brings lessons to the classroom. Funds will offer one field trip/outreach program to 50 students, in addition to teachers and chaperones, at 10 Charlevoix County schools.

