



SOCIAL VENTURE INVESTORS AWARD \$98K IN GRANTS

In May, members of Social Venture Investors (SVI) chose three area nonprofit programs to receive SVI funding for 2007. This year, SVI worked with a grantmaking pool of more than \$98,000. Each nonprofit was awarded \$32,800 for their innovative or entrepreneurial program.

Gilda's Club of Grand Rapids Children Grief Pilot Project Pre-Launch Phase will explore expanding children's grief services. Currently, Gilda's Club only provides services to children grieving a death due to cancer. The expansion would reach children grieving a death due to any cause. The program will serve children ages 3 to 18 through a psycho-educational, developmentally appropriate curriculum that is interactive and engaging. The pre-launch phase will include hiring a full-time employee responsible to redevelop the cancer grief curriculum, produce materials, research and develop a volunteer program and create a marketing campaign.



Kent County Literacy Council Family Literacy Creating a Reader will provide a holistic approach to literacy for at-risk families by partnering with Grand Rapids Reach. Parents with children served by Head Start will be invited to one-on-one tutoring for parents and twice-monthly family literacy workshops. Creating a Reader will help parents support their children's education beyond preschool, achieve their own reading goals and become more aware of literacy activities. The program will increase literacy and promote the importance of reading and education within the family unit.



Women's Resource Center SOLO Program plans to empower 36 low-income single mothers of minor children to move towards self sufficiency. Through group and one-on-one training, SOLO women will identify professional strengths and interests and learn employment and life skills. Clients will use the agency's newly created Client Business Center/Learning Lab and may receive professional clothing from the agency's Working Women's Clothes Closet. When the client is ready for a successful job search, project staff will provide job leads matched to the woman's interest and skills. They'll also advocate for her with prospective employers. Post-placement follow up services will enhance job retention.



Congratulations to the Foundation's 57 SVI members. Numbers above names indicate years of involvement.

Six Years

- Mr. and Mrs. Renwick Brutus
- David M. and Cara V. Cassard
- Steve and Sue Conway
- Mr. and Mrs. Tripp Corl
- Mr. and Mrs. Samuel M. Cummings
- Ms. Lanny Thodey

Five Years

- Mr. Robert Delamar
- Ms. Maureen P. Hale
- Glen Johnson and Thomas P. Merchant
- Ms. Elizabeth M. Topliffe and Mr. Mark A. Davis
- Dr. and Mrs. Doug F. Wiseman

Four Years

- Ms. Mary Gill-Thornton and Mr. Jeff Thornton
- Mr. Ken Grashuis
- Mr. and Mrs. Karl Hascall
- Mr. and Mrs. Michael G. Rosloniec
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Roth

Three Years

- Valerie and Michael Feehan
- Mr. and Mrs. Paul J. Freihofer
- Mr. and Mrs. Donald F. Garver
- Mr. and Mrs. Steven R. Hawks
- Mr. Michael E. Kooistra
- Mr. Joseph B. Levan
- Ms. Bucky Love
- Daniel and Deborah Mankoff
- Mr. and Mrs. Mark R. Meuser
- Rachel and Mike Mraz
- Mr. Rick Treur
- Mr. and Mrs. Phil Vogelsang

Two Years

- Mr. and Mrs. Marty Anderson
- Mr. and Mrs. Ken Borowka
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Daverman
- Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Gill
- Mr. and Mrs. Ted Heilman
- Mr. and Mrs. Keith A. Hopkins
- Jeffrey and Susan Meyers
- Mr. and Mrs. Derek M. Rummel
- Mr. and Mrs. John Turrentine
- Mr. Scott A. VanderLeek
- Dave and Stephanie Whitford

One Year

- Mr. and Mrs. Scott Bernecker
- Dr. and Mrs. Scott Carlson
- Mr. and Mrs. Keith J. Carpentier
- Pamela and David Emenheiser
- Diane Griffin and Lisa Costanza
- Mr. and Mrs. Mark D. Harmsen
- Mr. and Mrs. Dana Hushak
- Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Junewick
- Mr. and Mrs. Scott LaFontsee
- Claire R. and Debra G. Larson
- Mr. and Mrs. Scott Marshall
- Mr. and Mrs. Mark A. Michon
- Ms. Jan Norton Fairchild
- Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Oren
- Ms. Constance Reynolds
- Mr. and Mrs. Richard V. Rice
- Mr. and Mrs. Mark G. Stuart
- Ms. Cynthia Welton