

Lowell Area Community Fund

ANNUAL UPDATE 2022-2023

The Lowell Area Community Fund was established in 1997 by longtime resident Harold Englehardt. The purpose of the Community Fund is to seek community cooperation and participation to create a healthy and dynamic community. To achieve this, the Community Fund provides grants in seven critical areas: arts and culture, economic development, education, environment, health, human services, and recreation.

Agricultural Education Center at The Grand

The Lowell Area Community Fund is proud to continue its investment in the ongoing capital needs of the Kent County Youth Fair, and support the "Raising Barns, Building Youth" capital campaign for The Grand Agricultural Center of West Michigan's new fairground facilities.

This multi-million-dollar development for the Grand Agricultural Center will host classes, field trips, and learning opportunities for all ages year-round.

The Lowell Area Community Fund's support of this structure positively reflects on the community's long-standing commitment to youth and the valuable role our farmers and agricultural businesses play in creating a great place to live, work, and raise a family.



Medic and Command Officer Vehicle

The Lowell Area Community fund was also proud to support the replacement of a dated medic unit, and the addition of a command officer vehicle, for the Lowell Area Fire & Emergency Services Authority. LACF's longstanding support for the Lowell Area Fire & Emergency Services Authority dates back to 1998 in funding requests for necessary equipment updates to continue providing outstanding response services to the community.



Lowell Community Fund Financial Highlights

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

REVENUE	
Investment Earnings/(Losses)	\$1,415,540
Contributions	\$2,500
Total Revenues	\$1,418,040
EXPENSES	
Grants and Scholarships	\$581,041
Investment Manager Fee	\$79,196
Support Services	\$71,052
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$731,288
Change in Net Assets	\$686,751
Net Assets, Beginning of the year	\$15,079,225
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$15,765,976

Community Fund Advisory Committee

- Michael Burns, Lowell City Manager
- John Darling, representing the Englehardt Family
- Ray Duimstra, Senior Vice President, Mercantile Bank
- Dave Emmette, Risk Manager, AIC Insurance Services
- Nate Fowler, Superintendent, Lowell Area Schools
- Stephen Gough, Principal, Lowell High School
- Misty McClure-Anderson, Executive Deputy to the President and Board of Trustees Liaison, Grand Rapids Community College

LOWELL COMMUNITY FUND GRANTS JULY 1, 2022 - JUNE 30, 2023

PROGRAM NAME	DESCRIPTION	ORGANIZATION	GRANT AMOUNT
Lowell Area Splashpad	To construct a splashpad to be operated by the City of Lowell and Lowell Township.	City of Lowell	\$28,000
Lowell Historic District Commission (LHDC)	To support continued historic restoration and preservation of 54 buildings in Lowell.	City of Lowell	\$20,000
Fallasburg Historical Village Revitalization Phase 1 - Schoolhouse	Historic schoolhouse museum HVAC system installation to preserve the building and allow the museum to operate year-round.	Fallasburg Historical Society	\$13,250
Storage Unit	To purchase a storage unit for use by Senior Neighbors, Gilda's Club of Lowell and First Congregational Church of Lowell.	First Congregational UCC of Lowell	\$10,000
Rides To & FROM Transportation Program	To support the launch of a transportation program for use by community members and for food collection and delivery.	Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc.	\$15,000
Lowell LaughFest 2023 Events	Underwriting support for LaughFest 2023 events in the Lowell community, which bring residents together in laughter-focused activities and engage them in dialogue about emotional health.	Gilda's LaughFest	\$5,000
Community Marketing Plan	The Greater Lowell Community Marketing Plan promotes Lowell as an attractive area to work, establish a business, go to school, raise a family, shop, dine and enjoy Lowell's many other amenities.	Greater Lowell Chamber Foundation	\$50,000
2023 Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concerts	To provide funding for the 2023 Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concerts.	Greater Lowell Chamber Foundation	\$15,400
2023 Greater Lowell Community Calendar Kaleidoscope	To provide one year of funding to publish the Kaleidoscope ads, brochure and community-based website	Greater Lowell Chamber Foundation	\$13,390
Community Marketing Plan	The Greater Lowell Community Marketing Plan promotes Lowell as an attractive area to work, establish a business, go to school, raise a family, shop, dine and enjoy Lowell's many other amenities.	Greater Lowell Chamber Foundation	\$25,000
Agricultural Education Center at The Grand	To support the Agriculture Education Center construction. Once complete, the center will host classes, fieldtrips, and learning opportunities for all ages.	Kent County Youth Agricultural Association	\$200,000
Medic and command officer vehicle	To support the purchase of a replacement medic unit and a new command officer vehicle to ensure prompt response to emergencies in the Lowell community.	Lowell Area Fire & Emergency Services Authority	\$42,000
Reprint ABCs of Lowell History Booklet	To reprint the first volume of the ABCs of Lowell History Booklet.	Lowell Area Historical Museum	\$2,500
2022-2023 Lowell Education Foundation Support	To fund innovative projects that enhance and support the learning experience at Lowell Area Schools.	Lowell Education Foundation	\$25,000
LowellArts: Connecting Artists and Audiences	General operating support.	LowellArts	\$25,000
Replacement Ovens	To support Lowell's Open Table's mission to address food insecurity and build community through shared meals.	Lowell's Open Table	\$5,000
Strong Kids YMCA Child Development Center Playground	Support for the installation of a playground at Strong Kids YMCA Child Development Center, which will provide high-quality childcare to Lowell families.	YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids	\$33,000
Scholarships	College scholarships awarded to Lowell Area residents	Scholarships	\$53,501
TOTAL GRANTS			\$581,041

Lowell Area Community Fund is a fund of the Grand Rapids Community Foundation For more information, or to make a donation, please visit www.GRFoundation.org/Lowell