



# Community Foundation — Connections —

Autumn 2009

## PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY, FOR GOOD, FOR EVER.

The Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan is a charitable organization committed to providing people who care about the future of our area with unique and effective ways of supporting their community now, and for generations to come.

Led by a board of local leaders, we serve the counties of Alpena, Alcona, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda and Presque Isle Counties.

Together, the Community Foundation and its donors are working to increase the permanent endowment funds of our community, which, through grants and scholarships awarded in our area, improve the quality of life for residents of northeast Michigan.

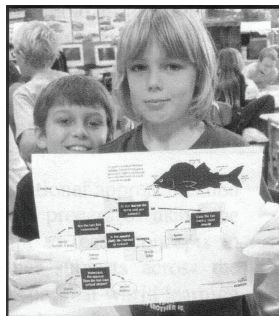


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## Grants of All Sizes Make a Difference in Northeast Michigan

Whether large or small, Community Foundation grants are making a positive impact across northeast Michigan. During the 2009 fiscal year, the Community Foundation awarded more than \$760,000 in grants and scholarships to support all the counties it serves. Competitive grants ranging from \$100 to \$3,500 supported a wide range of programs in our communities throughout the year.



A \$179 NEMYAC mini grant (left) helped purchase an underwater camera to help science students at Sanborn Elementary School research the health status of local rivers. The number of salmon that spawn in streams and rivers has greatly declined, and the students' goal is to understand how (or if) invasive species are contributing to the problem.

The new elk and renovated display case (right) were unveiled during the 2009 Elk Festival in Atlanta, Michigan, marking the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Elk Fest. Through the CFNEM Common and Youth Advisory Council grant applications, the project received a total of \$1,750 toward the total costs of nearly \$10,000. These are just two of the many grants provided to northeast Michigan in 2009.



## CFNEM Receives Grant from Great Lakes Fishery Trust

On October 1, 2009, CFNEM received a grant of \$197,000 from the Great Lakes Fishery Trust to act as the fiscal agent for the Northeast Michigan Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative (NE-GLSI). This program will provide opportunities to bring students out of their classrooms to work on environmental projects in their communities. This "place-based" education will launch a regional network of partners, both in the schools and out in the community, to work on protecting and preserving our environment. A new permanent endowment fund to support the program has also been established with CFNEM to help students learn, first hand, about their environment and what they can do to protect and preserve it for generations to come.

**CHECK US OUT ONLINE!**  
 Do we have your email address?  
 Visit [www.cfnem.org](http://www.cfnem.org) to register  
 with us online.



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## NEMYAC



*Awarding nearly \$40,000 in grants in one year is definitely something to celebrate. Above, members of the Northeast Michigan Youth Advisory Council (NEMYAC) wrap up a year of grantmaking with a last meeting and a little time to practice their Nintendo Wii skills.*

*NEMYAC currently has about 50 young people from Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency and Presque Isle Counties who award grants to youth programs in their communities.*

## Featured Trustee



*Bill Speer, of Alpena, has served on the CFNEM board since 2004, serving this year as Vice President. He will take over as President in March 2010.*

*Bill has been the editor and publisher of The Alpena News for the past 18 years. He is also a deacon at Word of Life Baptist Church, a director with the Michigan Press Association, and past president of both the Michigan League of Home Dailies and Alpena Rotary Club.*

## Deadline Extended to Become a Women's Giving Circle Founding Member

The deadline to become a Founding Member of the Northeast Michigan Women's Giving Circle (WGC) has been extended. Founding Members are those who give \$1,000 in total gifts to the WGC Endowment Fund, and donors now have until December 31, 2009 to do so.



Anyone can be a member of the WGC, regardless of the amount of their gift. Gifts in any amount are truly appreciated as the Community Foundation works to support issues important to women in northeast Michigan through the WGC fund.

In July, the WGC awarded a total of \$1,000 to three programs: Alpena Regional Medical Center for women's cancer screening; United Way of Northeast Michigan for Project Connect; and St. John's Lutheran Church for a women's wellness workshop.

Please visit our website at [www.cfnem.org](http://www.cfnem.org) and click on "WGC" to learn more about becoming a WGC member, forming your own giving circle to support the WGC, and to see a full list of current members. You may also call our office at 989-354-6881 for more information.



**WGC Committee Members, Lorie Pahlkotter and Esther Ableidinger review grant applications during the annual grant meeting in August.**

### PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR COMMUNITY FOUNDATION IN YOUR END-OF-YEAR GIVING!

Making a gift to CFNEM and any of our affiliates is easy. Simply make a check payable to CFNEM and include the fund to which you would like to donate on the memo line of your check. You can also make a safe, secure gift online at [www.cfnem.org](http://www.cfnem.org), where you will also find information about the great tax benefits when you donate to a Community Foundation.

## CFNEM Updates Strategic Plan

The CFNEM Board met back in June to update its Strategic Plan. They reviewed external and internal strengths, opportunities and challenges for CFNEM and the northeast Michigan region and came up with five key strategies, goals and action plans: (1) Develop and implement a marketing strategy; (2) Increase the visibility and growth of our affiliates; (3) Attract more unrestricted funds and increase our asset base; (4) Develop an effective ambassador program; and (5) Evaluate the wisdom of a proactive grant focus. The Plan covers the period of the 2009-2014 fiscal years and includes multiple action plans for each of the five key strategies. Also included as part of the new Plan are updated mission and vision statements as follows:

### CFNEM MISSION

The mission of the Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan is to fulfill the charitable goals of our donors and address the current and future needs of our communities.

### CFNEM VISION

We build strong, vibrant and sustainable communities through the power of everyone's giving.

## Affiliate News

### Iosco County Community Foundation

#### YACers Attend Summer Leadership Conference

In an annual tradition, Iosco County Community Foundation (ICCF) Youth Advisory Council (YAC) members represented their community at the Summer Youth Leadership Conference in Lansing this past June.

Kristen Dobson, Billi Jo Klimaszewski, Staci Saurer and David Stanchik traveled to Michigan State University to meet with hundreds of other YACers from across Michigan. Together, these young philanthropists learned about unique ways to make a difference in their communities, even in tough economic circumstances. The conference is hosted by the Council of Michigan Foundations, and each year ICCF YACers return to Iosco County fired up and ready to help their groups make a positive impact in the communities they serve through their grantmaking and service projects.

ICCF YAC is a group of about 30 students from across Iosco County that awards grants to youth programs in their communities with money from the Iosco County Kellogg Youth Fund.

### North Central Michigan Community Foundation

#### Common Grants Focus on Environment, Recreation and Animals

As Common Grants are meant to do, NCMCF provided \$10,975 in grants to many programs in several different fields of interest for Crawford, Ogemaw and Oscoda Counties. Among the grants awarded was \$1,000 each to the Ogemaw County Humane Society for shelter start-up costs and Crawford County Animal Shelter for spay and neuter fees. Other grants included funding to train volunteers for HeadWaters Land Conservancy and Huron Pines RC&D for environmental monitoring programs. Funds were also awarded to the City of Rose City for the Riverwalk Park playground, and new play equipment for preschool programs in both Crawford and Oscoda County.

Each year, NCMCF Common Grants are awarded from the Crawford, Ogemaw and Oscoda County Community Needs Funds to support a wide range of programs in those areas.

### Straits Area Community Foundation

#### Youth Advisory Council Awards First Grants of the Year

The first Straits Area Youth Advisory (YAC) grants of the year were awarded in early November. Students from across Cheboygan County and Mackinaw City heard presentations from grant applicants, and awarded \$825 to youth programs in their service area. Grants were awarded to Wolverine Community Schools for a Black Light Games project for gym classes and community activities, Third Level Crisis Intervention Center for Teen Help Cards, and the Cheboygan County Humane Society for their *Kind News* publication. *Kind News* is a monthly newsletter that helps children learn the proper ways to care for and treat animals. SAYAC will have grant cycles again in January and April.



**IOSCO COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY ESTABLISHES FUND**—A new endowment fund at the Iosco County Community Foundation (ICCF) will provide funding to the Iosco County Humane Society to help with shelter expenses and assist the organization with caring for and adopting out cats and dogs to loving homes. This is ICCF's first fund that specifically benefits our furry friends.



**CHILDREN'S BEREAVEMENT NETWORK**—A \$200 grant from the Crawford County YAC helped send a child from the area to a weekend camp aimed at helping children cope with the loss of a close loved one. Campers make scrapbooks, share memories, are able to grieve openly, and make friends with other kids going through the same emotions.



**A LOOK AT HISTORY**—Students visiting the Mackinaw Area Historical Society's Historic Village hear about a father whose daughter was quarantined in a pestilence house. SACF awarded a grant to print *The Diary of Mary Anderson*, a booklet of the same story.

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*Remembering you at this time of year...and  
thanking you for remembering us in our  
mission to serve the people of  
northeast Michigan.*

*Wishing you and your family joy and  
happiness...now and in the year ahead.*

**Ways you can make a gift to your  
Community Foundation:**

- Make a gift online from our website
- Call our office with your credit card information
- Mail your gift to us

**Contact us for more information**

Community Foundation  
Staits Area

Community Foundation  
North Central Michigan

Community Foundation  
Iosco County

**Our Affiliates**

community foundation  
Northeast Michigan



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