



Community Foundation — Connections —

Autumn 2006

NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS

Of the nearly 700 community foundations in the U.S., the Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan (CFNEM) is one of more than 500 who have pledged to comply with the new National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations set by the Council on Foundations (CoF), out of Washington D.C. CFNEM submitted its documentation in June 2005 and was confirmed in compliance in October 2005. This means that CFNEM has policies, procedures, and governance documents in place that will ensure that we follow the strictest standards for fiscal responsibility, donor relations, grant making, and community leadership.

You will notice the CF National Standards logo (see below) on all of our letters and publications. By 2008, CoF will come out with new national standards for community foundation affiliates. CFNEM will be submitting documentation to confirm compliance with those national standards as well.



Board of Directors

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Beach Hall Andrea Mitchell
Chad Bock

NEMYAC Members Host CMF Family Foundations Youth in Alpena

When the Council of Michigan Foundations (CMF) had their annual Family Foundations Retreat, CFNEM played a special role in showing off Alpena's offerings, and helping the youth experience youth grant making.

The children arrived in Alpena from Garland Resort, where the retreat was being held. They toured the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center, and had lunch at Northern Lights Arena.

The highlight, however, came courtesy of Montmorency County's Youth Advisory Council (YAC). Two YAC members, Katie Norman and Nolan Wade, led the students through the grant making process.

Using funds from Montmorency's Kellogg Youth Fund, 15 youth participated in a full grant making cycle including site visits and grant application reviews, finally awarding \$4,010 to five non-profits in Montmorency County.



Youth attending the annual CMF Family Foundation Retreat awarded over \$4,000 in grants to Montmorency County Youth programs with dollars from the Kellogg Youth Fund.

CFNEM Grant Brings the Arts to Presque Isle

It is the goal of many organizations and individuals in northern Michigan to bring the arts to our area in a bigger way. With the help of a \$3,500 grant from CFNEM, The Author, Artist, Lecture and Education Series (TAALES), was able to do just that.



Kathy Jo Wargin, author of the award winning Legend Series (*Legend of Sleeping Bear, Legend of the Loon, and Legend of Mackinac Island*), presents to a group at the Presque Isle District Library.

TAALES believes this series reached nearly 4,000 people of all ages from Presque Isle County and its neighboring communities.

Throughout spring, TAALES brought many artists to locations across Presque Isle County. Among them were the Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra, the Ourselves Celtic Band, and author Kathy Jo Wargin and photographer Ed Wargin.

These programs for the arts and culture are opening opportunities for an audience that does not often have the chance to experience a first hand look at classic forms of music, photography, and creative writing.

2006 Grant



The City of Rogers City received a grant from CFNEM's Youth Advisory Council (NEMYAC) from the CFNEM Kellogg Youth Fund for the Trailhead Improvement and Interpretive Signage program to purchase educational display signs for the nature trails at Seagull Park in Rogers City. The signs will serve as educational pieces about plants and animals on the trails. Middle-school students from Rogers City Schools gathered at the park in May to construct the signs.

CFNEM Stands Out as Community Leader

Over the summer, CFNEM was contacted by a company working with Lafarge Corporation to assist in easing the transition for the children of one of their new employees, having just moved to the area from Nigeria.

Because of CFNEM's community knowledge and awareness, particularly with youth through the Youth Advisory Council (YAC), they requested our assistance in getting the Balarabe children acclimated to northern Michigan.

Two members of CFNEM's YAC, Nicole and Natalie DeFour, spent time with the three children, Muhammad-Amin, Aminatu, and Khadijatu, playing baseball, board games, and answering their many questions about life in northeast Michigan, and the United States.



Left to right, Muhammad-Amin Balarabe, Natalie DeFour, Nicole DeFour, Aminatu Balarabe, and Khadijatu Balarabe.

Featured Trustee



Andrea Mitchell is the first voting youth member of the CFNEM Board of Trustees. She has been an active member of the Youth Advisory Council and the CFNEM Tobacco Settlement Advisory Committee.

Andrea will be a voting member until March 2007, when Chad Bock, current youth trustee-elect, will assume the position of voting member.

"I'm glad I'm gaining an experience like this while I'm still so young. I'm very grateful," she says.

Andrea, a current Alpena High School senior, is familiar with grant making and leadership positions.

New Funds (as of January 1, 2006)

Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan

H. Bradford & Patricia S. Aarons Fund

Curtis Township Library Endowment Fund

Elk Country Animal Shelter Fund

Hillman Education Foundation Non-endowed Fund

Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Fund

Tournament Tennis Courts Fund

Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Awareness

Hillman Community Christmas Dinner Endowment Fund

Iosco County Community Foundation

Huebner Charitable Gift Annuity Fund

North Central Michigan Community Foundation

UARPA Environmental Protection Fund

Sheryl Krantz Memorial Scholarship Fund

ESP Ogemaw Heights Student Activities Scholarship Fund

ESP Arthur E. Short Memorial Scholarship Fund

ESP Chester Surline Memorial Scholarship Fund

West Branch High School Alumni Scholarship Fund

Oscoda County Library Endowment Fund

Steiner Museum Endowment Fund

Straits Area Community Foundation

Mackinaw Area Historical Society Fund

Affiliate News

North Central Michigan Community Foundation

New Fund is First Endowed Scholarship for W-P Schools

Though Whittemore-Prescott High School has many local scholarships available to its graduating seniors, a new fund, the Sheryl Krantz Memorial Scholarship Fund, at the North Central Michigan Community Foundation marks the first endowed scholarship fund for Whittemore-Prescott High School.

As a single parent, Sheryl Krantz worked hard all her life to provide for herself and her family. She always felt education was one of the most valuable assets a young person could have, and her wishes were to create a scholarship from her estate. When Sheryl passed away, an endowed scholarship fund was established in her memory from her estate. In its first year, two \$500 scholarships were awarded. As this fund grows, through interest and any future gifts, the amount available to award will also grow.

Straits Area Community Foundation

Grant Gives 7th Grade Students a Unique Opportunity

Through two different grants, the Straits Area Community Foundation (SACF) was able to support the Inland Lakes 7th Grade trip to Lansing with a total of \$3,000 through a Youth Advisory Council (YAC) grant and a Tobacco Grant.

The students' two-day trip was full of educational opportunities. They visited the State Capitol building, a planetarium, and attended a special presentation from Michigan State University Extension on the dangers of smoking and substance abuse.

A real highlight of the trip was the students' chance to experience life as a college student. The 7th graders camped out overnight in the dorm rooms on Michigan State University's campus.

For many of the students, this was their first excursion outside the Straits area, and an experience they will likely never forget.

Iosco County Community Foundation

Huebners Establish Charitable Gift Annuity

In 1998 Carl and Christine Huebner became donors to the Iosco County Community Foundation (ICCF) and Carl joined the ICCF Board. In 2003 Carl and Christine established the Carl and Christine Huebner Scholarship Fund to support students from all over Iosco County. In 2006 they established the Huebner Charitable Gift Annuity Fund. To create this new fund they made a gift to ICCF. We set up a simple contract with them that combines immediate annuity payments with a deferred charitable gift.

The Huebners will receive a fixed stream of income, regardless of market conditions, for the rest of their lives. At the end of their lives, the money in the Huebner Charitable Gift Annuity Fund will be transferred to the Carl and Christine Huebner Scholarship Fund, which will continue to provide scholarships to students from Iosco County – forever! Charitable gift annuities are a great way to provide for your own future and your community's future at the same time!

Affiliate News Notes

- ICCF has been working diligently to build its board representation. As a result, three new faces have joined the directors: **Stephanie Mallak Olson**, of Oscoda; **Duane Colvin**, of Hale; and **Sue Alexander**, of East Tawas.
- **Spencer McFarland**, of Mackinaw City, has joined the SACF board as a youth member and will be a voting trustee. Spencer is a member of SACF's Youth Advisory Council.
- **Kent Davison**, of West Branch, has joined the NCMCF board.



7th Grade Inland Lakes students visited many sites throughout Lansing to learn about Michigan's Capitol and history, among other experiences. Photo courtesy of Inland Lakes Middle School.

"The greatest use for life is to spend it for something that will outlast it." – William James

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News Notes

President Bush signed the **Pension Protection Act of 2006** into law on August 17, 2006. One of the provisions of this law allows donors who are 70 ½ or older to take tax-free withdrawals from their IRAs as long as that money goes directly to charity. Under the new provision, an IRA withdrawal that is donated *directly* to a charity is excluded from income. If you think you may fit these criteria, contact your professional advisor or contact the Community Foundation office.

We are happy to welcome new people to the CFNEM Board of Trustees: **Chuck Manning, Larry Bruski, Damone Sorensen, and Sue Keller.** We are excited to have their expertise working for the betterment of the Foundation. **Andrea Mitchell** is CFNEM's first voting youth trustee and **Chad Bock** is the youth trustee-elect.

We also would like to welcome **DeeAnn Lounsbery** as CFNEM's new Accounts Manager. DeeAnn has a BA in accounting from Lake Superior State University. A lifelong resident of Hillman, she is married with two daughters. She loves the outdoors and her hobbies are baking and horseback riding.

Community Foundation
Strats Area
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Iosco County
Our Affiliates
Community Foundation
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