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Youth Advisory Council (YAC) Awards Over \$15,000 to Local Programs

This year the NCMCF Youth Advisory Councils (YAC) awarded over \$15,000 to support programs in Crawford, Ogemaw, and Oscoda County they feel address the most pressing issues facing youth in their communities.

The following organizations were supported with funds from the Kellogg Youth Endowment Funds at NCMCF.

\$907 to Oscoda County MSU Extension to support the Peer Mentoring Program. Young people referred to this program work with a mentor to develop leadership skills and deal with social issues they face each day.

\$850 to Friends of the Oscoda County Library to support a literacy program in Oscoda County.

Through this program, people ages 16-18 who are reading at a low level increase their reading skills to perform better at their jobs and when seeking employment.

\$300 to River House Shelter to support the Toys for Children's Well Being program. This grant will be used to purchase toys for children residing at the shelter.

West Branch-Rose City Schools were awarded \$4,661 through three grants: \$2,500 was awarded for the Theatre Exposure program which will allow many students to experience the arts through theatrical performances; \$1,311 was awarded to the NJROTC for the Area THREE Drill Meet, supporting travel and entrance fees for the competition; \$850 was awarded to the S.S. Success Mentoring Program, which is a new initiative that creates strong relationships between mentors and mentees developing leadership skills for both.

\$2,500 to Falcon Site Development to support the construction of the Ogemaw Heights High School soccer fields.

\$1,900 to West Branch District Library for the 2008 Summer Reading Program, which will provide 200 children with an extensive reading program and guest speakers.

\$1,024 to First United Methodist Church to support the Summer Enrichment Program. This eight-week program provides a safe and educational environment for young people during the summer months when they are not in school.

\$871 to the Ogemaw Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation to purchase equipment for the new archery programs at several schools throughout Ogemaw County.

\$500 to Ogemaw County Literacy Council to support the Born to Read program which provides book packets to all new parents and their babies at West Branch Regional Medical Center.

\$500 to Ogemaw Shared Childbirth Association to purchase updated childbirth education materials.

\$500 to River House Shelter to support the Toys for Children's Well Being program. Funds from this grant will be used to purchase toys for children residing at the shelter.

\$631 to Crawford AuSable School District to support the Renaissance Program, which rewards students for academic achievements, attendance records, and positive behavior.

\$500 to River House Shelter to support the Toys for Children's Well Being program. Funds from this grant will be used to purchase toys for children residing at the shelter.

The Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is part of the North Central Michigan Community Foundation, which serves Crawford, Ogemaw, and Oscoda Counties. YAC is a group of young people who, under the guidance of adult advisors, strive to improve the lives of other children in the community through the allocation of grant money. Through this program members learn the power of philanthropy, and it empowers them to make a real difference as they award grants from the Crawford, Ogemaw, and Oscoda County Kellogg Youth Endowment Funds. As the amounts in the funds grow, through income and future gifts, the amount available to grant also grows.

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****If possible, please include the bolded section in its entirety with this press release. It is an important bit of information that helps our audience understand the Community Foundation. Thank you.**