



community foundation<sup>SM</sup>

## Northeast Michigan

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 1, 2015

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### Northeast Michigan Youth Advisory Council Announces New Grant Awards

ALPENA—The Northeast Michigan Youth Advisory Council (NEMYAC) recently awarded 27 new grants totaling \$18,392.83 to local nonprofits and schools in Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency and Presque Isle Counties. Youth Advisory Councils in each county are comprised of young people, ages 12 to 21, who are committed to improving the lives of children and youth in the community through the allocation of grant money. NEMYAC members review grant applications and make recommendations to the Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan board of trustees for final approval. (The next NEMYAC grant application deadline is May 1, 2015.)

The following nonprofits received grants from the four-county YAC as listed:

#### Alcona County

Six grants were awarded for a total of \$2,600 to Alcona Community Schools for the following:

- \$500 to Alcona High School's baseball program for the purchase of new equipment, including batting helmets, catcher's equipment, bats and balls.
- \$250 to upgrade the Alcona Schools' world language display computer to enable full-screen videos and allow for more than one program to run concurrently.
- \$250 toward the purchase of Chromebooks for Alcona Schools' first graders to improve their reading, math and keyboarding skills.
- \$300 to pay for transportation and parking for the Alcona High School senior field trip.
- \$800 to start a FIRST Robotics Competition Team at Alcona High School. The grant will help cover travel and uniforms.
- \$500 for the Alcona High School Track Team to replace old equipment and purchase medals and trophies for the 2015 regional meet.

#### Alpena County

Eleven grants were awarded for a total of \$8,457 to the following nonprofits and schools:

- \$200 to Northern Lights Arena to support Kids Day on April 14 which serves 75 to 100 children participating in a variety of fitness and recreational activities.
- \$32 to Alpena Public Schools to purchase a label maker for Thunder Bay Junior High School students to label science and social studies projects.
- \$100 to Alpena Public Schools to help purchase Chromebooks for Thunder Bay Junior High students to use for classroom assignments.
- \$1,500 to Alpena Public Schools toward replacing the 40-year-old Wildcat Stadium scoreboard.

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- \$2,000 to Alpena Public Schools to replace an aging kiln used for high school art classes with a safer model.
- \$1,000 to Alpena Public Schools to help cover costs associated with the 2015 Senior Lock-In which is held on the last day of school and provides a fun, safe place to celebrate completion of high school.
- \$1,200 to the Eastern National Forest Interpretive Association to hire certified teachers for the Sprinkler Lake Camp, a two-week program that provides hands-on experience in science and nature exploration.
- \$500 to Alpena Public Schools to purchase an overhead projector for the Thunder Bay Junior High sixth-grade math classroom.
- \$750 to Child and Family Services of Northwest Michigan to provide area youth crisis counseling, information and referral services with a professional crisis worker using phone texting.
- \$175 to International Order of the Rainbow Girls Alpena Assembly #74 to help cover expenses for the girls ages 8 to 12 to attend the Rainbow Girls Youth Convention in Alma, MI in June 2015.
- \$1,000 to Alpena Public Schools to purchase iPads for Wilson Elementary K-2<sup>nd</sup> graders to improve reading skills.

### **Montmorency County**

Five grants were awarded for a total of \$3,135 to the following nonprofits and schools:

- \$200 for Hillman Community Schools to purchase a new softball pitching machine for the high school softball team.
- \$300 to Hillman United Methodist Church for a Back-to-School-Bash for more than 120 students, pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> graders, held prior to the opening of school. The grant will be used to help publicize the event and purchase school supplies, food, and materials for crafts and games.
- \$1,500 to Hillman Community Schools to purchase an Ironworker, a large hydraulic cutter for steel and aluminum to increase production and safety in the Hillman High School welding program.
- \$1,000 to Briley Township to purchase hockey sticks, pucks, nets and helmets, along with equipment for broomball, for community youth who use the Township Park Ice Rink.
- \$135 to Hillman Community Schools toward the purchase of televisions to digitally display daily announcements and student successes at the Hillman Junior and Senior High School.

### **Presque Isle County**

Four grants were awarded for a total of \$4,200.83 to the following nonprofits and schools:

- \$500 to the Cheboygan-Otsego-Presque Isle Educational Service District for Great Start Preschool Scholarships for families to send their three and four-year-olds to preschool in Presque Isle County.
- \$700.83 to Rogers City Area Schools to purchase equipment to introduce Tchoukball into the curriculum for 3<sup>rd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes. The game increases fitness levels and sportsmanship among children.
- \$500 to St. Ignatius School to help with the cost of taking 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders to the Mackinac State Historic Park.
- \$2,500 to the Purple Martin Nature Center and Lakeside Inn to purchase gifts for approximately 100 foster children and local youth for Christmas in 2015.

Created through a matching grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, local Youth Advisory Councils review grant applications and provide awards to those programs and projects that benefit youth in their communities. By serving on Youth Advisory Councils, young people learn about the unique needs of their communities, as well as the importance of philanthropy and charitable giving-traits that will affect their lives long after they graduate from high school.

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 volunteer board of local citizens, the foundation oversees a group of permanent endowment funds from a wide range of donors. Gifts of all sizes from individuals, families and corporations are invested in a balanced, well-managed portfolio to build endowments, enabling support for local community nonprofits now and forever. To make a donation or learn more about how community foundations and youth advisory councils work, visit [www.cfnem.org](http://www.cfnem.org) or call 989-354-6881; toll-free: 877-354-6881.