



UNDERGROUND OF GOOD

As part of the Community Foundation, Underground of Good is a group of young professionals in Mid-Michigan committed to doing good for their community.

We join together every three months to learn about local charities addressing local issues, contribute a little bit of money, and select a charity to receive our pooled contributions.

As young professionals, we might not have much wealth to give. But we have no shortage of passion for giving back to the community. Gathering our resources together, we can make a bigger impact than if we donated to a charity alone.

How it works:

We meet quarterly at a local bar or restaurant, and every meeting has a theme (e.g., animals, housing assistance, etc.). Each member contributes \$500 per year, or \$125 each meeting, by check or credit card. Of that annual contribution, \$400 is divided among the quarterly meetings and \$100 is invested in an endowment fund with the Community Foundation. The fund will grow over time and eventually give greater returns for the group to use on its quarterly grants.

At the meetings, members nominate a local charity related to the theme. The charities must be 501(c)(3) organizations and primarily serve residents in Ingham, Eaton, or Clinton counties. Three charities are randomly chosen, and the members who nominated those charities pitch their work. Members at the meeting vote for one of the three charities, and the charity with the most votes wins the nomination for the quarter, which must be vetted by the Foundation's staff prior to awarding the grant. The Foundation takes care of the payment processing and grants.

OK, I'm interested in joining.

Great! Check out Underground of Good's webpage at ourcommunity.org/do-good for more details on the group and our next meeting.

