



***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***  
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Contact: Laurie Baumer  
(517) 664-9852

## **COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS RECORD NUMBER OF IMPACT GRANTS**

**LANSING, MICH.** – The Community Foundation announced a record number of large Impact Grants awarded to 14 nonprofits throughout the region, totaling \$632,000 in its 2017 grant cycle, compared to one or two in years past.

Impact Grants of up to \$75,000 each are awarded annually for strategic projects that transform nonprofits and the community. Projects must increase the long-term impact of an organization, reach underserved populations, or support innovative, collaborative efforts for transformative change.

Organizations that received Impact Grants this year are:

- Arts Council of Greater Lansing - \$31,000 for cultural economic development strategic plan
- Burcham Hills Foundation - \$20,000 for new Volunteer-to-Employee Pathway program
- Capital Area College Access Network/CAUW - \$36,000 for expanded Pathways to Potential program
- Asset Independence Coalition/CAUW - \$30,000 for expanded Volunteer Income Tax Assistance
- CASA for Kids – Barry and Eaton County - \$54,000 for expansion to Ingham County
- CASA – Clinton County - \$62,340 for new child advocacy center

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- Greater Lansing Food Bank - \$75,000 for new warehouse
- Lansing Community College Foundation - \$75,000 for new Center for Manufacturing Excellence
- Meridian Charter Township - \$75,000 for new Farmer's Market
- Old Town Commercial Association - \$75,000 for new Chavez Plaza
- Peckham, Inc. - \$32,000 for new skilled trades education program
- Potter Park Zoological Society – \$16,500 for new zoo outreach program
- St. Luke Lutheran Church - \$40,000 for community kitchen renovation
- YMCA - \$10,000 for new Healthy Living Mobile Fitness Bus

The Community Foundation also created a **new Capacity Building Grant Program**, investing in 18 nonprofit partners with grants totaling almost \$300,000 to help strengthen their organizations through fundraising training, board development, strategic planning and other assistance. The Community Foundation also expects to grant approximately \$3 million this year from funds that support specific charities and causes.

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*Our Community Foundation is passionate about creating vibrant, thriving communities throughout the capital region. The Foundation works with donors to meet their unique charitable goals, supports area nonprofits with grants and coaching, and leads innovative projects that drive community growth. The Community Foundation (also known as the Capital Region Community Foundation) is a tax-exempt public charity that serves the charitable needs and enhances the quality of life for people in Ingham, Clinton and Eaton counties.*