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**Every Person Counts in the 2020 Census**
BACF is taking a leadership role and offering grants to help reach the hard-to-count populations in Bay County.

**Raising Reading Levels**
A grant from our Community Initiative Fund allowed The Legacy Center to train more tutors and help more students with reading and writing.

**New Fund for Animal Support**
Arenac Community Funds committee created a new fund to grant to organizations working with animals in Arenac County.

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**Faces of philanthropy celebration**

**September 23, 2019 • 5:30 p.m.**
DoubleTree Hotel and Conference Center, Bay City, Michigan

Honoring recipients of the Peggy Rowley Community Enrichment Award:

- William Bowen
- Gary and Glenda Labadie

RSVP at www.bayfoundation.org/rsvp or call (989) 893-4438
Waves lapping at the shore. The sound of a fishing line as it plops into the water. Summer days at the beach. Strolling along a riverbank. These images evoke a sense of well-being and create a strong and enduring connection to place. Communities with a strong sense of place prosper. Lake Huron and the Saginaw Bay, coupled with our dynamic river system, provide Bay County with access to special and unique natural resources—resources that improve economic vitality and provide a competitive advantage for our community.

Through the Community Impact Initiative, the Bay Area Community Foundation seeks to harness the potential of these natural resources for a vibrant and growing Bay County.

Join us on September 23, 2019 as we celebrate our community’s believers.

Those who believe they can make a difference.
Those who believe when others may not.
Those who believe in the power of community.

We will honor three special recipients with the Peggy Rowley Community Enrichment Award for their dedication and gifts to this community.

Please RSVP by September 11 at www.bayfoundation.org/rsvp or call (989) 893-4438.

**William Bowen**

William Bowen has given back to our community in many ways, including serving on the board of many local organizations and helping to bring the Appledore to Bay City. After his retirement from General Motors as plant manager, he volunteered every Wednesday evening for ten years at the Helen M. Nickless Volunteer Clinic. He is currently on the steering committee for the clinic and Bay Area Community Foundation’s governance committee.

**Gary and Glenda Labadie**

Gary and Glenda have made a significant impact at Bay Area Community Foundation and on the community as a whole. Glenda served as one of BACF’s first directors and helped to start the Youth Advisory Committee, inspiring philanthropy in the next generation. Gary was on the board and board chair for nine years and set up a fund to support the Bay Commitment Scholarship through his company, Labadie Auto Company. They both independently started funds at the Foundation to support community efforts and have been instrumental in supporting the Pere Marquette Depot to preserve its historical integrity.

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**Community Impact Initiative Grant**

Waves lapping at the shore. The sound of a fishing line as it plops into the water. Summer days at the beach. Strolling along a riverbank.

These images evoke a sense of well-being and create a strong and enduring connection to place. Communities with a strong sense of place prosper. Lake Huron and the Saginaw Bay, coupled with our dynamic river system, provide Bay County with access to special and unique natural resources—resources that improve economic vitality and provide a competitive advantage for our community.

Join us for our Faces of Philanthropy event on September 23rd to hear a special announcement about the projects BACF awarded grants to through the Community Impact Initiative and Healthy Living funds.

Please RSVP by September 11 at www.bayfoundation.org or call (989) 893-4438.
Everyone is a Philanthropist

Our Faces of Philanthropy event is our chance to celebrate the generosity of our community’s believers and philanthropists.

This year, BACF will honor Bill Bowen and Gary and Glenda Labadie with the Peggy Rowley Community Enrichment Award. Through thoughts, words and actions, these inspiring and generous individuals have demonstrated a commitment and belief in the Bay Area. They believed they could make a difference, and they set about doing so.

I hope you will join us on September 23rd as we recognize their impact on the Bay Area. They truly have made this community a better place.

It is within every single one of us to be a philanthropist. It doesn’t matter who you are, how much money you make, or what your bank account balance is. Sharing of yourself—your money, time, or talent—is what matters. Why you give is what matters.

I encourage you to uncover what makes your heart sing and unleash your inner philanthropist! I have no doubt that you will be glad you did.

Believing in the power of YOU,

Diane M. Fong, President & CEO

New Arenac County Animal Welfare Fund

Earlier this year, the Arenac Community Funds committee chose to use a portion of their fund to create a new fund specifically to grant to organizations working with animals in Arenac County. “We wanted to respond to the perceived community need and establish a resource for the long-term,” said Rick Rockwell, a member of the committee. The Arenac County Animal Welfare Fund will be accepting grant applications during the second granting cycle of 2019. Applications are now available and are due on September 16, 2019. Contact Program Officer Joni King at (989) 893-4438 to get started.
More Tutors Means More Help for Area Students

Last year, Bay Area Community Foundation’s Community Initiative Fund awarded a grant of $7,000 to The Legacy Center to help Bay County students with reading, writing, and spelling through an after-school, one-on-one tutoring program.

Dyslexia affects 12-15% of school children, says Leslie Siebert, a tutor for The Legacy Center and a mother of two children who benefitted from the program. “Students who don’t receive help will either shut down, act out, or become a class clown to cope with their frustrations.” Students who struggle to read are at a greater risk for not completing high school and for ending up in the criminal justice system.

The Legacy Center offers an after-school program at Auburn Elementary to teach the Barton Reading and Spelling System through one-on-one tutoring for students who are a year or more behind in reading or writing.

Thanks to a grant award from the Community Initiative Fund, they were able to train 13 additional tutors, allowing an additional 9 students to receive tutoring at Auburn Elementary and opening up a new program at McAlear-Sawden Elementary for 8 more students.

“Anyone who has tutored in this program will tell you that you can see the wheels turning in the students’ heads when they start to understand for the first time,” said Leslie.

Students meet with their tutor for two hours a week until they reach their required grade-level reading. But more than just skills to read, write, and comprehend easier, the program gives students confidence and a space to talk about their frustrations. “It’s a family atmosphere,” says Leslie, “and this finally gives these students a voice.”

To start thinking further about how you can make a difference, we have a charitable giving guide and worksheets. Contact us at (989) 893-4438 to be sent copies, or visit www.bayfoundation.org/donors to find digital copies.

“Believe You Can and You’re Halfway There.”

Do you want to make a difference, but the problems seem too big or you don’t know where to start? Think about these questions to help you uncover what means the most to you.

• What problem causes you to raise your eyebrows when you read about it in the news?
• What pieces need to come together to solve that problem in our community?
• If there was one piece of that puzzle that you could put into place with a magic wand, what would it be?

Remember, doing good should be fun, not burdensome. Let us help you. We can:

• Help you define the problem to solve at a local community level.
• Help you identify practical ways that change can happen and show you how philanthropic investment can support the change.
• Connect you with local nonprofits that are tackling this issue and likely collaborators to make change happen.

For as many motivations as there are to give, there are ways of giving. The key to having a rewarding giving experience is finding the best fit—for your charitable priorities, financial goals, and personal preferences.

To start thinking further about how you can make a difference, we have a charitable giving guide and worksheets. Contact us at (989) 893-4438 to be sent copies, or visit www.bayfoundation.org/donors to find digital copies.

We’re excited to see the difference you’ll make!
Census 2020: Get Out the Count!

Numbers matter, and every single person counts. This has never been more apparent than now as Census 2020 is on the horizon. Bay County stands to lose approximately $1,800 in federal support per person, every year for the next ten years, for each person not counted in the Census. This includes money for education, healthcare, roads, nutrition assistance, foster care, and more. An undercount in our community could be devastating. That’s why the Bay Area Community Foundation has chosen to take a leadership role in this effort.

Under the umbrella of the Michigan Nonprofit Association, BACF has partnered with the community foundations in Saginaw, Midland, and Isabella counties to create a census hub. This hub will help mobilize our local nonprofit partners and government entities to reach our hard-to-count populations. Watch as more details and communications roll out later this fall.

At BACF, we have also set aside $30,000 in mini-grant funds for organizations who will work to get the “hard-to-count” populations in Bay County counted in the Census. More information on our grant programs can be found on our website at www.bayfoundation.org.

You, too, can help make a difference as Census 2020 approaches. Help us educate, engage, and empower our residents to take part in the Census. It’s too important of an issue for any of us to sit on the sidelines, especially given the consequences we would have to live with for a decade. Please help us get out the word and share the importance of National Census Day—April 1, 2020—and help ensure every single person counts.

2019 Business Sponsors

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Thank you to our Business Sponsors for showing their support for the work of the Bay Area Community Foundation.

To learn more about becoming a Bay Area Community Foundation Business Sponsor, please contact Lisa Bourdon-Krause at the BACF office at 989.893.4438
The 11-year-old All Star team from Southwest Little League volunteered for a combined 130 hours gathering book donations and organizing them for Bay County’s Free Little Libraries. They earned a $1,000 Dow communityGives grant for their hard work.

Visit www.bayfoundation.org/railtrail for more information and to register to participate.

Bay Area Community Foundation Staff

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Aaron Faist, Program Officer
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Sue Jensen, Director of Finance
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Kirsten McIvenna, Communications Program Officer
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MISSION

The mission of the Bay Area Community Foundation is to fulfill a wide array of donors’ charitable wishes throughout Bay and Arenac counties by building permanent endowment funds and serving as a leader for community improvement through effective grantmaking and collaboration.