Inside this issue

Leadership During Community Crisis & Needs
Learn how you’ve helped the Community Foundation respond to the pandemic, flooding, and more.

Being BOLD in Crisis
Learn how individuals, businesses, and organizations are stepping up to keep our area thriving.

Give Local Bay Raises Record Amount During COVID-19
Donation amounts increased more than double over 2019’s giving campaign this year to support local nonprofits.

$408,250 Awarded in First Cycle of Grants

Congratulations to our grantees:

ARC Arenac Area
Arenac Community Center
Arenac County Historical Society
Arenac Opportunities, Inc.
Au Gres-Sims High School
Barb Smith Suicide Resource & Response Network
Bay Area Chamber of Commerce Foundation
Bay Area Women’s Center
Bay City Aquatics
Bay County Child & Senior Citizen Center
Bay County Emergency Food Pantry Network
Bay County Fair and Youth Exposition
Bay County Health Department
BaySail
Beacon of Light United Methodist Church
Boys & Girls Clubs of Great Lakes Bay Region
City of Au Gres
City of Auburn
Disability Services Resource Center
Fish Tales, Inc.
Friends of Pinconning Community Center
Friends of Pine Ridge Cemetery
Hidden Harvest
Humane Society of Bay County
Muscular Dystrophy Association
Pinconning Area Middle School
Pinconning Area Schools
Safe Harbor Community Center
Saginaw ISD
Standish Sterling Community Schools
State Theatre of Bay City
Sterling Area Health Center
Studio 23/The Arts Center
The Conservation Fund
The ROCK Center for Youth Development
United Way of Bay County
YWCA Great Lakes Bay Region

The next deadline for semiannual grants is September 21. If you’re interested in applying, please contact Joni King at 989.893.4438.

Bay Area Community Foundation has been able to award more than $460,000 to Bay and Arenac County students in 2020. In lieu of scholarship receptions this year, we celebrated these great accomplishments through photos, video, and posts on our Facebook and YouTube accounts. Visit www.facebook.com/BayAreaCommunityFoundation and youtube.com/BayAreaFoundation
In times of crisis, our community is being BOLD.

It is in times of great adversity that people show their true colors. We've been inspired by the bold splashes of color that have popped up throughout the community as people have stepped forward to make life a little easier for others during the pandemic.

Although our “Be BOLD” series typically celebrates just one person’s bold actions, this time we wish to highlight the stories of several across our area—people who are bravely reaching out to those around them in many ways:

- Miss Dani, a Bay County children's librarian, brought storytime to homes through her new YouTube channel. She's produced nearly 20 episodes for families stuck at home.
- Volunteers from churches are grocery shopping for the elderly of their congregations so that they can stay safely in their homes.
- When unable to make artisanal ice for bars and restaurants, Michigan Clear Ice repurposed their machines to make face masks to keep medical workers safe. Those with sewing machines are donating their time and fabric to sew masks from their homes for local medical workers to use as well.
- Food pantries, nonprofits, churches, and school districts have all come together to ensure all in need are fed. Unmet food needs in Bay County are at their lowest point EVER, with less than 1% of food needs unmet.
- The Boys and Girls Club has created a virtual club on Facebook that challenges youth daily with educational, physical, and STEAM activities they can do from home.
- Bay Area Chamber of Commerce and Bay Future Inc. partnered to develop “Buy BC,” a gift card program that supports local businesses with extra income while extending the buying power for local consumers.
- Bay City's first distillery, Third Wind Distilling Co., opened their doors for the first time in May and immediately began producing hand sanitizers for first responders.
- Children, families, and individuals all over have been covering driveways and sidewalks with encouraging messages and images drawn in chalk.

All year, we are sharing stories of those who are being BOLD in our community. Do you know of a person or organization taking bold action in Bay or Arenac counties? Let us know at [www.bayfoundation.org/bebold](http://www.bayfoundation.org/bebold) so we can share their inspiring story.
Where do we go from here?

We are only halfway through 2020, and to say it has been a year rife with challenges would not be an exaggeration. Most recently, the horrific and heartbreaking death of George Floyd has brought the issue of systemic racism to the forefront of public conversation. This tragedy, especially in the face of many other similar tragedies, is proof that we have a great deal of work to do before we can claim justice and fairness for all.

In the midst of this devastation, we have to ask ourselves, “Where do we go from here?” We must be bold in facing this social issue and in advocating for change. We must be willing to look within our own community, organizations, and hearts to see if our actions—or our inaction—promote racial and social bias.

Toward this end, BACF has embarked upon a process of internal reflection. Our first step was to articulate what we believe as an organization. On June 8, our Board of Trustees adopted the following “We” statements.

- We acknowledge our country’s persistent legacy of systemic racism, even if we haven’t personally experienced it.
- We stand against racism, inequality, injustice, and senseless brutality. We oppose racism in our culture, our organizations, our families, and our thoughts.
- We can be angry, but we must not give way to hatred and violence. It does not build community.
- We commit to increasing our understanding of diversity, equity, and inclusion and to building bridges for our common humanity.

Our work does not end with this proclamation though. Words become meaningless when not accompanied by action. At BACF, we will continue to examine our organization through the lens of inclusion. We know we do not have all the answers, but we are committed to working alongside others in creating a community where all people can thrive. We invite you to join us on this journey.

It’s time to be bold,

Diane M. Fong, President & CEO

2020 Business Sponsors

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

When we announced in December that our slogan for the upcoming year was going to be, “Be Bold,” we had no idea what 2020 had in store for us.

We’ve seen our community shuttered as we work to contain the spread of COVID-19. We’ve watched our neighbors in Arenac, Midland, and Saginaw face devastating flooding. And this past month has been fraught with tensions over racial justice, tensions that have led to violence in communities across the nation.

We must be bold in facing these uncertainties, challenges, and social issues. As a community foundation, we are meeting these challenges head-on with community as our focus. These matters will not be solved overnight. Their impact will be long-term, and we must prepare for an extended response.

To that end, the Community Foundation has been taking several actions toward community healing since mid-March:

- Alongside other community partners, we formed a COVID-19 Community Response Coalition that meets weekly.
- We have raised more than $100,000 for the COVID-19 Community Response Fund and have awarded grants to keep our neighbors safe and fed.
- We launched our Impact Investing Initiative and are offering a Nonprofit Operating Support Loan Program to help nonprofits continue their vital work.
- We have been offering support and training for nonprofits through monthly town hall meetings which began in March.
- The Arenac County Flood Relief Fund was established to support relief efforts after the May 2020 flooding, and the Arenac Community Funds Committee awarded a $10,000 grant to support this fund.
- We have worked to maintain a sense of normalcy for our community with $466,000 in scholarships awarded on schedule and celebrated online.
- In a capacity-building effort for our nonprofits, we are financing Catchafire services for our partners to emerge from this crisis more resilient.

What Does the CARES Act Mean for Philanthropy?

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), signed into law on March 27, is the largest stimulus package in history. It also has implications to help stimulate charitable giving.

An above-the-line deduction for a “Qualified Charitable Contribution” of up to $300 for non-itemizers is available for cash contributions made to nonprofits (excluding donor advised funds and supporting organizations) for the 2020 tax year and beyond.

For cash contributions to charities (excluding donor advised funds and supporting organizations) made in 2020, the AGI limit is increased from 60% to 100%, with a 5-year carry forward for contributions that exceed 100% of AGI. The SECURE Act changed the age at which you must start taking required minimum distributions from your retirement account from 70½ to 72. This change gives your account additional time to grow. (Special note: For those born BEFORE July 1, 1949, the previous rules apply. Donors who turned 70½ in 2019 or earlier will have to continue taking required minimum distributions.)

Want to know how a gift to a nonprofit today could make a difference when you file taxes? We encourage you to speak with your financial advisor or accountant to see if this legislation would be beneficial to you and your planning.
Wow! You helped make history on May 5 with our biggest giving day yet! We can’t thank you enough.

More than $144,000 was raised for local nonprofit organizations with $116k in community donations matched with $28,000 from the Bay Area Community Foundation. In 2019, $50K was raised by the community. These dollars help our nonprofits respond to immediate needs and build long-term sustainability for some of our greatest community assets.

Give Local Bay provided a way to unite in a positive way as a community. The generosity and the outpouring of support we saw is a recognition and celebration of the critical work our nonprofits do, day in and day out. Great things happen when we come together.

2020 Give Local Recap

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<th>Participating Nonprofit Funds</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total Number of Donors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Dollars Donated</td>
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Save the Date for 2021: May 4

View all the results at www.givelocalbay.org.

Recently Established Funds at the Community Foundation

- Arenac County Flood Relief Fund
- Bay County Growth Alliance Fund
- COVID-19 Community Response Fund
- Luanne & Greg Grocholski Endowed Fund
- Martha G. Mettee Donor Advised Fund
- Martha “Martie” Mettee YMCA Scholarship Fund
- Carol L. Taylor Memorial Fund

Martha “Martie” Mettee was a successful Bay County prosecutor and beloved community member. Upon her passing, her family and friends helped to establish two funds in her honor: a donor advised fund and a fund to support scholarships through the Dow Bay Area Family YMCA.
Welcome BACF’s New Trustee
Richard B. Learman
Learman + Kozubal, PLC

Thank you to BACF’s Outgoing Trustee
Alan R. Doner
New Executive Mortgage, LLC

$1.79 million awarded in grants to local nonprofits
Nearly $500k awarded in scholarships for area students

Download a copy of our annual report at www.bayfoundation.org/bebold

Bay Area Community Foundation Staff
Lisa Bourdon-Krause, Donor Relations Officer
Aaron Faist, Program Officer
Diane Fong, President & CEO
Kirsten Hellebuyck, Communications Officer
Sue Jensen, Director of Finance
Joni King, Program Officer
Erin Kreutzberg, Program Associate
Rachael Rosas, Administrative Officer

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.