

By And For The People

All too often philanthropy is viewed through a lens of dollars and cents. It becomes easy to forget that philanthropy is defined as *goodwill to fellow members of the human race*. At the Bay Area Community Foundation we like to think of philanthropy as a contribution of time, treasure, or talent. We value our residents not merely for their monetary contributions, but for their unique perspectives and experiences, and how they can help us fulfill our mission of creating a vibrant community for our residents to work, live, and raise a family. To create lasting and positive change it is essential that we directly, actively, and meaningfully involve the people who live in the neighborhoods where the change is intended to take place.

To accomplish this we adhere to several principles of resident engagement. Please take a moment and review the graphic below. If you believe like us that it takes an entire community to effect change visit www.bayfoundation.org, and learn about the different initiatives supported by the Bay Area Community Foundation and how you can get involved.

PRINCIPLES OF **POWERFUL**
RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT

Based on *Engaging Residents: A New Call to Action for Community Foundations*, a 2013 report prepared by the CFLeads Cultivating Community Engagement Panel.



Celebrating the Centennial of Community Foundations in America, 1914-2014

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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.

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\$100,000 Newell and Elizabeth Eddy Grant Opportunity

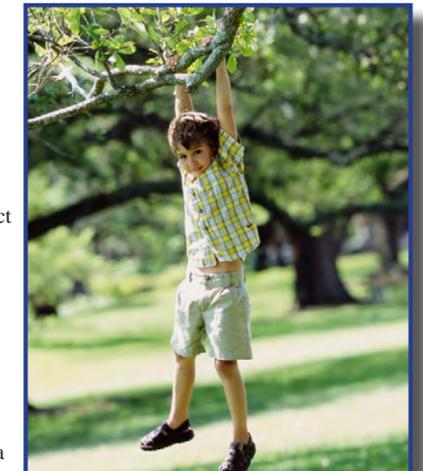
The Bay Area Community Foundation is excited to announce the receipt of an estate gift to help connect local residents with nature. The gift was a donation from Newell (Bus) and Elizabeth (Bonnie) Eddy: long time Bay County residents and Foundation donors. Prior to retiring, Mr. Eddy was Owner/President of the Habitant Furniture Co., which built rustic furniture in Bay City, MI.

The Eddy family had a deep interest in preserving the environment throughout the Bay Area. To honor those interests, Bay Area Community Foundation's Board of Trustees allocated \$100,000 to benefit environmental programs in Bay County. The Newell and Elizabeth Eddy Grant will be awarded to a 501(c)3 organization, government entity, or educational institution in Bay County. This grant's criteria are as follows:

One \$100,000 grant will be awarded to at least two organizations, working collaboratively, on an innovative and entrepreneurial opportunity to connect people to nature. The project should leverage existing community assets in Bay County. Preference will be given to a project that has a lasting benefit, a focus on the urban population (conveniently located where a significant number of people can use or access), and provides universal access. Not available for capital campaigns or operating costs.

"We are very excited to see what proposals come in." said Anne E. Trahan, Chairperson of BACF's Environment Committee. "This is an incredible opportunity for our grantees to really innovate and find new ways to utilize our community's natural resources." Grant proposals will be accepted until October 1, 2014. For more information about the grant process, organizations are encouraged to contact Lisa Cleland, program officer of the Bay Area Community Foundation, by emailing lisac@bayfoundation.org or calling (989) 893-4438.

"We are very grateful to the Eddy's for their legacy gift. They supported their community during their lifetime and are continuing their philanthropic efforts through their estate gift to the Foundation." stated Eileen Curtis, Bay Area Community Foundation President & CEO.



Bay Area Community Foundation is now on Facebook. Visit us and "Like" our page!



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Keeping It College Positive

The Bay Area Community Foundation's Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) is once again striving to keep area youth positive: college positive that is! Thanks to a College Positive Challenge Grant supported by The Kresge Foundation and administered by the Council of Michigan Foundations, the YAC will be completing their goal of offering college visitation opportunities to all of Bay County's high school ninth graders. The award worth \$1,580 requires a dollar for dollar match and was made using the YAC's 2014 grantmaking dollars.



The purpose of the YAC College Positive Community Challenge Grant program is to build a strong, statewide network of youth grantmakers that are proactively supporting college access and success and to leverage additional community dollars for local organizations that encourage a college positive community. College positive communities promote the college-going mindset, provide exposure to resources and options to make postsecondary education possible for everyone, and equip individuals with the tools and knowledge to explore and attend postsecondary education.

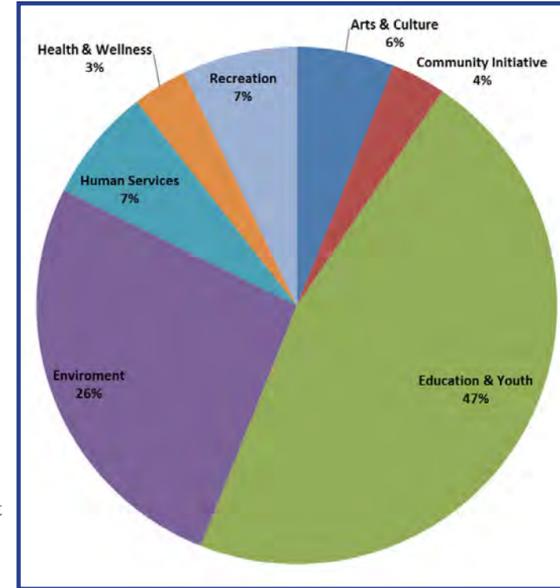
"Last year we were able to implement College Positive Communities for over 600 students in Bay City All Saints, Bay Arenac Community, Bay City Western, Garber, and Pinconning High Schools." said Jeffery Tenbusch, BACF program officer. "We're grateful to have been selected for a second grant to complete our efforts in promoting postsecondary education!"

2014 Business Sponsors

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2013 By The Numbers

The initial numbers are in and they look good! In 2013 the Bay Area Community Foundation distributed approximately \$1.8 million back into Bay and Arenac Counties in the form of grants and scholarships! To the right is the break down of the Foundation's granting by community investment sector.



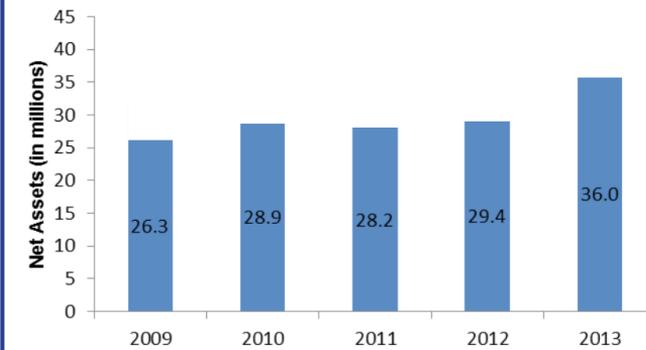
Continuing a trend several years long, the education & youth community investment sector still remains approximately half of total disbursements. In addition to grants to nonprofits and schools, this portion of the chart also includes over \$550,000 in scholarships awarded in 2013.

"Nearly 500 separate scholarships were awarded last year from over 100 different scholarship funds" stated Renee Courier, BACF scholarships program officer. "The scholarships are made possible by generous donors who have created endowed funds at the Bay Area Community Foundation. Our donors recognize the value of education and understand how financial obstacles prevent the achievement of educational goals."

Additionally, the environment community investment sector grew significantly in 2013. In 2012 grants to projects promoting the environment accounted for 16% of BACF's total giving. In 2013 environment grants accounted for 26%, for a total of \$472,000 in grants! Environment grantees included organizations such as the Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy and Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail.

"We saw a substantial increase in our total granting last year!" said Lisa Cleland, BACF grants program officer. "Grants accounted for over \$1.2 million. This represents a \$361,000 increase over our 2012 figures. I think I speak for the entire Foundation when I say we're very excited to see what 2014 brings!"

BACF Total Net Assets at Year-End



Grants and scholarships weren't the only increases BACF saw in 2013. Strong markets and increased donations helped Foundation assets top \$36 million! BACF gained new donors over the course of the year, and witnessed an increase in the mean gift amount. The figure to the left represents BACF's asset levels for the past five years.

"Its been an amazing year." said Eileen Curtis, BACF President and CEO. "We experienced both record levels of gifts received and grants given. It's a testament to the philanthropic spirit of Bay and Arenac Counties."

Great Lakes Bay GED Initiative

The Bay Area Community Foundation is pleased to announce the launch of the Great Lakes Bay GED Initiative: a program with the goal of eliminating the educational barrier caused by individuals lacking the know how or financial means to acquire their GED. Created in 2014 after receiving a \$25,000 grant from Walmart, this program was piloted in 2013 using a \$1,200 grant of the BACF Women's Philanthropy Circle.

The Great Lakes Bay College Resource Center is working with several organizations to identify and refer women in the Great Lakes Bay Region in need of assistance. If you, or someone you know is interested in applying for a GED grant please follow these steps:

- Partner agencies, including Department of Human Services, the YWCA's *Getting Ahead Program*, the Literacy Council's *American Dream Program*, and Michigan Works *PATH Program*, identify a client/student who is likely to be successful when taking the GED.
- They fill out a referral form and email it to Renee Courier, BACF program officer.
- The referral is required to complete a practice test before taking the GED to ensure a passing test score.
- The client/student will then turn in their practice scores to the Great Lakes Bay College Resource Center to be approved for funding to take the GED test.
- If the client/student is approved, she will coordinate with the College Resource Center and either Bay Arenac ISD or Delta College to schedule the GED test.
- The ISD and/or Delta College will bill the Bay Area Community Foundation for the cost of the test and it will be paid through the GED Award Program funds.

Riverwalk/Railtrail Annual Cleanup



Community members are asked to join the Bay Area Community Foundation's Riverwalk/Railtrail annual cleanup on Saturday, April 26, 2014. Volunteers should check-in at the Bay County Community Center, 800 JFK Drive, starting at 9 a.m. The event will conclude by 12 noon. Registration is appreciated, particularly if you are signing up a team of participants, but not required. Please contact Jeffery Tenbusch by calling (989) 893-4438 or emailing jefferyt@bayfoundation.org if you wish to pre-register.

Refreshments will be available. Garbage bags and lawn equipment will be provided by Bay City Parks Department. We recommend wearing comfortable shoes, dressing appropriately for the weather, and bringing garden gloves.

The Riverwalk/Railtrail Committee would like to thank The Dow Chemical Company for serving as the sponsor for this year's event and the commitment they have made to help maintain this amazing public resource.

The Riverwalk/Railtrail was established and is funded by the Bay Area Community Foundation. The 17.5 mile trail system is a cooperative partnership between all municipalities, park departments, the Bay County Road Commission, and the Bay Area Community Foundation's Riverwalk/Railtrail Committee.