

Tuscola County
community foundationSM

For **good.** For **ever.**®

20
24

ANNUAL
REPORT

Mission Statement

Our mission is to make Tuscola County a better place to live by maintaining a permanent endowment base which will assist and fund a variety of efforts, turning needs and dreams into realities.

FUND BREAKDOWN

TCCF holds over 115 funds distributed across various segments of support for diverse initiatives and interests.



Scholarship Funds

Over 60 Scholarships provide financial support, empowering students to pursue their educational dreams.

Donor Advised Funds

Currently we have 10 DAF funds, which encourages donor engagement and tailored giving strategies for community impact.

Designated Funds

35 Designated funds help specific charities and initiatives thrive, impacting communities positively.

Field of Interest Funds

11 Field of Interest funds support specific causes while allowing flexibility in allocation.

Unrestricted Funds

Currently 5 unrestricted funds are administered by TCCF to meet a variety of changing needs.

As of 2024, TCCF manages over 115 active funds which showcases a commitment to serving donors diverse philanthropic interests and efforts.

A Message from THE BOARD PRESIDENT

As I reflect on 2024, along with the Board of Trustees of the **Tuscola County Community Foundation (TCCF)**, we do so with immense gratitude and admiration for the visionary men and women who had the foresight to create a community foundation. The power of local philanthropy and the commitment to ensuring a legacy for generations to come has allowed TCCF to become the trusted steward of charitable giving in Tuscola County.

TCCF has grown from an ambitious idea into a dynamic and thriving community foundation with over \$25 million in managed assets in over 115 funds. Local philanthropy is strengthening our communities and ensuring that charitable dollars remain in Tuscola County for the benefit of all.

In this annual report, you will see how TCCF, our donors, and partners have impacted our local communities during 2024. Your support and partnership have helped us respond to all kinds of

needs. The foundation granted over \$800,000 this past year, supporting a broad range of causes. These funds provided scholarships, hunger and housing relief, youth development, arts and culture support, organization equipment, and increased recreational opportunities across our communities.

Together, we will continue to build endowment to help meet the changing needs of our communities. Tuscola County is truly a generous community! I look forward to a bright future and THANK YOU for being steadfast champions for our county.

With Gratitude,

Cammie Asmus



Jerry Lasceski, Trustee and
Cammie Asmus, Board President

Preserving the Past for the Future

Millington-Arbela Historical Society

The Millington-Arbela Historical Society was established in 1991 by a small group of community leaders concerned that, with the passing of a generation of elders, the community's local history would be lost. The Historical Society's mission, "To preserve the past for the future" is fulfilled through acquiring and maintaining exhibits and research resources at its historic museum, planning events to honor local citizens and promote local history, and participation in community celebrations and events.



Soon after the pandemic, the Tuscola County Community Foundation awarded the Historical Society a \$250 Grant. Executive Director, John Hunter presented the grant funds at one of the Historical Society's monthly membership meetings and took that opportunity to discuss the Foundation's endowment funds, their benefits, how they work and the simplicity of initiating a specific fund for our organization. This was a new idea that had not been considered before, but with that initial presentation, the seed was planted.

Over the subsequent two years the Board of Trustees and members discussed the issue. When questions or concerns arose, the TCCF staff were generous in providing educational resources and support throughout the Board's decision-making process. In the fall of 2023, the Board of Trustees passed a resolution to proceed with the endowment fund and by January of 2024 the Millington-Arbela Historical Society endowment fund was officially established, with an initial contribution of \$2500 pledged by five members. The TCCF sends quarterly statements listing recent donors and fund balance and our balance has now increased to \$11,000, thanks to the generosity of our members.

Having an endowment fund is one of the main strategies that will allow the MAHS to be able to sustain its mission, and possibly even continue to exist. The COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 took a big toll on small rural museums, who rely



solely on donations, volunteers, and public event fundraising for operational funding. The effects of the pandemic, in addition to declining membership and technological challenges, have now put many museums at risk of closing. Though the current membership and finances of MAHS are stable, COVID was a wake-up call for the Board to take steps to better secure a source of stable funding for the future. In establishing an endowment fund, the intent is to eventually generate enough revenue to cover 100% of annual basic operational expenses. This would ensure that the Historical Society could weather the future ups and downs of funding and membership and still be able to stay open and serve the community. The endowment fund is also an easy way for members of the community to invest in our organization, knowing that their donation will continue year after year to provide support. The Millington-Arbela Historical Society is grateful to have a resource available like the Tuscola County Community Foundation to help us and other organizations serving the communities of Tuscola County.



Article provided by Cindy Willson, President

Our Team

PHILANTHROPY...
hard to say, fun to do!



Cammie Asmus
PRESIDENT
Mayville Area



Mark Hirschman
VICE PRESIDENT
Reese Area



Cele Thompson
SECRETARY
Reese Area



Kate Van Auken
TREASURER
Cass City Area



Greg Biddinger
TRUSTEE
Cass City Area



Vern Cooper
TRUSTEE
Millington Area

RECOGNIZING BOARD MEMBERS & VOLUNTEERS

TCCF is governed by a board of community leader volunteers from various professions including agriculture, business, finance, education, and law representing communities throughout Tuscola County. They establish policies and procedures and have the responsibility to hire the foundation's executive director who they delegate to administer day-to-day operations. Our board meets four times annually, with various dedicated committees (Finance, Scholarship, Grants, Governance, and Fundraising) continuing to oversee the mission and work of TCCF.





Mark Curtis
TRUSTEE
Caro Area



Debra Kranz
TRUSTEE
Cass City Area



Jerry Lasceski
TRUSTEE
Fairgrove/Akron Area



Chelsea Roach
TRUSTEE
FYI Rep - Cass City Schools



Dennis Stein
TRUSTEE
Caro Area



Hon. Nancy Thane
TRUSTEE
Caro Area



Brooke Walker
TRUSTEE
Kingston Area



Megan Bartolowits
FYI ADVISOR



Jackie List-Houser
FYI ADVISOR



John Hunter
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Renée Deroche
ASSISTANT TO THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Linda Sirianni
PROGRAM OFFICER



Molly Walker was recognized for her year of service as the Future Youth Involvement (FYI) Board Trustee representative. Molly continues her service for the following academic year (2024/2025) as the Vice-President of the FYI Group. Our board meets four times annually, with various dedicated committees (Finance, Scholarship, Grants, Golf Event, etc.) continuing to oversee and continue the mission and work of TCCF.



2024 GOLF OUTING

FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE TCCF FOUNDERS FUND

The Tuscola County Community Foundation (TCCF) hosted its 3rd Annual Golf Outing at the Arrowhead Golf & Grill in Caro on June 21st. Participants enjoyed beautiful, sunny weather and the camaraderie of joining forces to support the **Founders Fund**.

The Founders Fund is an unrestricted fund, established in 1998 by the TCCF Board of Trustees to support projects that would enhance the life of Tuscola County residents. Applications can be found on our website, www.tuscolaccf.org, and are accepted on a continuous basis.

The **Founders Fund** was the beneficiary of **over \$9,500** in proceeds from the golf outing this year.



*Special thanks
to our Sponsors!*

EVENT SPONSORS - \$1,000

CG Financial of Caro
Harry J. Bastone Memorial Scholarship Fund
Huntington Bank
List Family Fund
RichMark Private Wealth Management
Tri-County Bank
Victory Capital

BUSINESS SPONSORS - \$500

Biddinger, Schrot & Rolando
Big John Steak & Onion
McLaren Caro Region
Northstar Bank
Pat Curtis Chevrolet
Precision Autobody
State Savings Bank
Tri-Star Trust

PUTTING CONTEST SPONSOR - \$400

Harry J. Bastone Memorial Scholarship

DINNER SPONSOR - \$250

Joe & Kate Van Auken
Cass City Jr. Citizen of the Year Scholarship



**Harry J. Bastone
Memorial Scholarship**

2024 PUTTING CONTEST WINNER



Jordan Bills, (CG Financial Team) and **Vern Cooper**, Board Trustee.



LUNCH SPONSORS - \$200

Anrod Screen Cylinder
Zwerk and Sons Farms

BREAKFAST SPONSORS - \$150

10:31 Coffee Roasters
Cory Merz Endowment Fund
Greater Thumb Eyecare
McDonalds of Caro
Michigan Sugar Company
Montei, Inc./Tuscola Co Agriculture Scholarship
Osentoski Realty
Saginaw Bay Dermatology
Saginaw Valley Seedcorn Producers
Tuscola County Community Agriculture Scholarship
VG's Grocery

TEE SPONSORS - \$100

Abele Greenhouse and Garden Center
Anrod Screen Cylinder
Rotary Club of Caro
Carpenter Automotive Group
Cooperative Elevator
Gregory H. Bringard, Attorney at Law
Hills and Dales Healthcare
Lighthouse Neurological Rehabilitation Center
Mayville State Bank
Michael Sahr Crop Insurance
POET Biorefining and Management
Precision Autobody, Inc
Tonkin Farms
Track Side Food & Spirits



TUSCOLA TECHNOLOGY CENTER

Appreciation Post

Our Nursing Careers Program recently received the funding to upgrade their learning space with new manikins. This was made possible thanks to multiple grants from the Tuscola County Community Foundation. We appreciate all you do for our students!

"I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the entire Tuscola County Community Foundation Board for their generous grants. I am an Akron-Fairgrove and Tuscola Technology Center alum, so receiving the award from one of my favorite former teachers and TCCF Board Member, Mr. Jerry Lasceski, was especially meaningful."

Margaret (Maggie) Deisig
Nursing Careers Instructor





2024 GRANT AWARDS

Total Awarded
in 2024: \$597,936

CLAUDE D. AND ETTA H. ANDREWS FUND

Total Awarded \$29,320

Child Advocacy Center of Tuscola County

Purchase forensic interview recording equipment \$2,680

Good Samaritan Fund of the Tuscola County Churches

Assist with community pantry, utility and transportation support \$4,000

Great Start Tuscola's Imagination Library

Provide age appropriate books each month to children ages 0-5 in Tuscola ISD service area \$3,000

Kingston Elementary School

Provide support for courtyard seating \$1,300

Reese Adventure Club Pole Barn

Support construction of storage barn \$4,640

Tuscola Technology Center - Nursing Careers

Purchase of manikins, torso models, and AED trainer \$4,000

Tuscola Transition Network - Tuscola ISD

Support for 11th Grade Transition Seminar \$700

Tuscola Youth Gymnastics

Purchase elite uneven bars \$1,500

Village of Kingston - Memory Park

Purchase concrete play equipment \$7,500

APPLE BLOSSOM WIND FUND

Total Awarded \$1,000

Cass City Public Schools

Program support for robotics \$250

Cass City Summer Athletic Program

Program support for boy's baseball \$250

Cass City Summer Athletic Program

Program support for girl's softball \$250

Cass City Talons Youth Wrestling

Program support for youth wrestling \$250

REGINALD & LUCILLE ASHMUN FUND FOR CARO DISTRICT LIBRARY CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Total Awarded \$3,600

Caro Area District Library

Equipment to support children's programs \$1,600

Caro Community Schools

Auditorium lighting improvements \$2,000

BIDDINGER FAMILY FOUNDATION FUND

Total Awarded \$84,200

Cass City Public Schools

Support for extracurricular activities \$34,167

Caro Community Schools

Support for extracurricular activities \$50,033

ALBERTINE AND ALFRED BURNS FAMILY FUND

Total Awarded \$3,000

Millington-Arbela Historical Society

Support building signage \$500

Millington United Methodist Church

Support technology upgrades \$2,500

CARO AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY AGENCY FUND

Total Awarded \$5,500

Caro Area District Library

Community room flooring \$5,500

CARO ROTARY FOUNDATION FUND

Total Awarded \$3,900

Rotary Club of Caro

Support community art project \$3,900

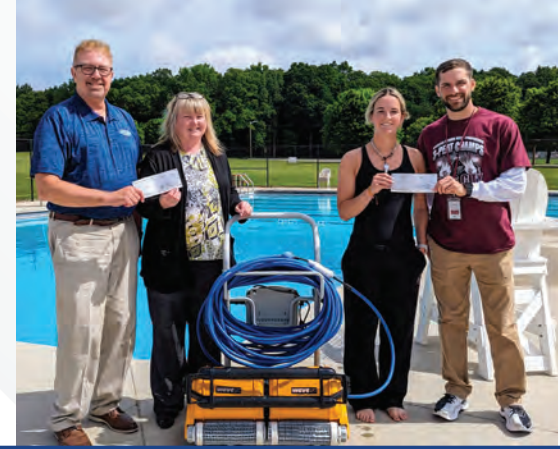
CARL FRITZ CANCER TRANSPORTATION FUND

Total Awarded \$400

Transportation support for individuals receiving cancer treatment \$400

The foundation has two main granting cycles each year with applications being taken in the months of September (fall cycle) and February (spring cycle) each year. The Founders Fund and Tuscola County Emergency Needs Fund accept applications on an ongoing basis.

Student scholarships are announced in cooperation with each school district that is a member of the Tuscola County Intermediate School District. Applications are made available to students through their school guidance offices in early February each year.



FOUNDERS FUND

Total Awarded \$2,069

Cass City Jr/Sr High School

Peer-to-Peer Link Program

\$450

Columbia Township Library

Purchase building supplies for "My Free Little Library"

\$419

L.E.A.D. Tuscola

Purchase laptop

\$600

Millington-Arbela Historical Society

Support 2025 Millington Community Schools exhibit

\$600

FUTURE YOUTH INVOLVEMENT (FYI) FUND

Total Awarded \$48,095

Bluewater Thumb Youth for Christ

Purchase 9 Square in the Air game

\$750

Caro High School

Support the Period Project

\$2,000

Cass City Public Schools

Purchase band equipment trailer

\$7,500

Cass City Public Schools

Purchase vending machine to support PBIS program

\$4,000

Cass City Public Schools

Support outdoor environmental education program

\$2,000

Cass City Public Schools

Support radio recording room renovations

\$2,200

Kingston Elementary School

Purchase radios for communication

\$500

Millington Community Schools

Purchase volleyballs for tournament

\$300

Reese Adventure Club Pole Barn

Support construction of storage barn

\$5,000

Reese High School

Support for Reese baseball batting cage construction

\$2,500

Caro Schall Elementary School

Purchase books and equipment for library

\$2,000

Tuscola Youth Gymnastics

Purchase mats for bars

\$4,920

Unionville-Sebewaing Area Schools

Purchase feminine hygiene products

\$250

Unionville-Sebewaing Area Schools

Support accelerated reading program

\$500

Village of Cass City

Purchase of robotic vacuum for pool

\$3,375

Wrangler Training Center

Purchase wrestling mat

\$5,400

Wrangler Training Center

Purchase wrestling mat and singlets

\$4,900

GREATER MILLINGTON AREA FUND

Total Awarded \$5,000

Great Start Tuscola's Imagination Library

Provide age appropriate books each month to children ages 0-5 in service area

\$1,000

Millington Community Center

Parking lot repairs

\$2,000

Millington-Arbela Historical Society

Document and preserve community elder histories

\$2,000

GREAT START TUSCOLA'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY

Total Awarded \$38,947

Dollywood Foundation

Purchase age appropriate books for children ages 0-5 in Tuscola ISD service area

\$38,947

HEALTHY YOUTH / HEALTHY SENIORS FUND

Total Awarded \$4,200

Caro Area District Library

Purchase memory kits to assist people facing challenges

\$1,200

Fairgrove Global Methodist Church

Purchase AED

\$1,500

Tuscola Technology Center - Nursing Careers

Purchase manikins, torso models, and AED trainer

\$1,500

HILLS AND DALES HEALTHCARE CORP FUND

Total Awarded \$1,200

Hills and Dales Healthcare

Purchase blood pressure monitors

\$1,200

HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION FUND

Total Awarded \$2,750

Good Samaritan Fund of the Tuscola County Churches

Assist with community pantry, utility, and transportation support

\$1,000

Habitat for Humanity of Lapeer-Tuscola

Support renovation of home for veteran family

\$1,000

Tuscola Homeless Coalition

Assistance with rent and security deposits

\$750

IMPACT HOPE FOUNDATION

Total Awarded \$11,000

Reese Beautification Committee

Support community beautification efforts

\$1,000

Reese United Methodist Church

Support church programs

\$10,000



WILLIAM A AND RUTH JANKS FUND

Total Awarded \$103,999

Caro Area District Library	
Purchase reusable story time supplies for adults with disabilities	\$630
Caro Baseball and Softball Federation	
Construction of batting cages	\$10,000
Caro Community Schools	
Purchase equipment to enhance auditorium lighting	\$8,200
Cass City Public Schools	
Support repair costs of CDL training vehicle	\$6,000
Child Advocacy Center of Tuscola County	
Forensic Interview Recording Equipment	\$2,680
Child Advocacy Center of Tuscola County	
Purchase "Sunshine Boxes" for children needing comfort	\$1,000
City of Caro Fire Department	
Purchase a drone	\$5,000
Good Samaritan Fund the of Tuscola County Churches	
Community pantry, utility, and transportation support	\$1,000
Mayville Area Museum of History and Genealogy	
Purchase snow blower	\$400
MCHS Family of Services - The Fowler Center	
Purchase equipment to implement drumming programs	\$3,008
Reese High School	
Support baseball batting cage construction	\$3,000
Rotary Club of Caro	
Support community art project	\$19,500
Spring of Life Community Church	
Support community food pantry program	\$1,000
Cass River Greenway	
Improve Kelly Road river access	\$3,500
Thumb Blessing Boxes	
Build and install Blessing Boxes in Tuscola County to address food insecurity	\$2,500

TISD - DECA Marketing Club

Purchase credit card terminal	\$500
Tuscola County Fair Association	
Upgrade electrical power distribution	\$5,000
Tuscola County Fair Association	
Lighting upgrade for Midway Hall parking lot	\$2,650
Tuscola Youth Gymnastics	
Purchase elite uneven bars	\$5,500
Tuscola Youth Gymnastics	
Purchase carpet foam flex rolls	\$4,556
Village of Cass City	
Purchase of robotic vacuum for pool	\$3,375
Village of Kingston Fire Department	
Purchase stabilization and cribbing equipment	\$3,000
Wrangler Training Center	
Support purchase of wrestling mats and singlets	\$12,000

WILLIAM AND JOANNE KAISER FUND

Total Awarded \$30,000

Habitat for Humanity of Lapeer-Tuscola County	
Purchase of computers for Caro ReStore	\$5,000
Millington Community Center	
Installation of new flooring	\$10,000
Millington Ministerial Alliance	
Support community service program basic needs, healthcare, and utility support	\$15,000

KIWANIS CLUB OF CARO AREA FUND

Total Awarded \$1,500

Great Start Tuscola's Imagination Library	
Provide age appropriate books each month to children ages 0-5 in the greater Caro area	\$1,000
McLaren Caro Region	
Purchase Caring Teddy Bears for children in Emergency Room	\$500

LIST FAMILY FUND

Total Awarded \$1,300

Rotary Club of Caro	
Support community art project	\$1,300

DON LIST FUND FOR SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN

Total Awarded \$1,000

Kingston Elementary School	
Purchase fine motor skills bins	\$600
TISD - Highland Pines School	
Purchase adaptive toys and games	\$400

MILLINGTON COMMUNITY CENTER FUND

Total Awarded \$550

Millington Community Center	
Purchase water heater	\$550

MILLINGTON SCOUT CABIN

Total Awarded \$3,000

Support for facility maintenance	\$3,000
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NEAL SISTERS FUND

Total Awarded \$40,160

Kingston Cardinal Center Daycare	
Purchase of three (3) adjustable teaching tables for classrooms	\$2,273
Caro Area District Library	
Support for library programs	\$5,500
Caro Community Schools	
Support for media center and library	\$5,500
City of Caro - DDA	
Purchase sound system at Atwood Park	\$1,900



Columbia Township Library

Purchase Story Walk

\$7,987

Great Start Tuscola's Imagination Library

Provide age appropriate books each month to children ages 0-5 in Tuscola ISD service area

\$2,000

Hills and Dales General Hospital

Purchase blood pressure monitors

\$2,500

Kingston Elementary School

Purchase of "Inchy's Bookworm Vending Machine"

\$6,000

Kingston High School Robotics Team

Purchase of eight (8) robotics build-assembly kits

\$4,000

Spring of Life Community Church

Support community food pantry program

\$1,000

University of the Cumberland

Support for academic programs

\$1,500

ALVIN "BUTCH" & LORRAINE "MUTZIE" ORTNER CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Total Awarded \$157,100

Kingston Elementary School

Provide support for courtyard seating

\$1,300

Frankenmuth Arts Council

Program Support

\$4,200

Gideons International

Program Support

\$18,900

Kingston Elementary School

Purchase library stand

\$400

Leader Dogs for the Blind

Program Support

\$18,900

Octogon Barn

Maintenance and repairs of facility buildings and grounds

\$21,000

Optimal Foundation

Program Support

\$6,300

Reese Adventure Club Pole Barn

Support construction of storage barn

\$5,000

Rotary Club of Caro

Support community art project

\$4,000

Shriners Hospital for Children

Program Support

\$18,900

St. Jude Children's Hospital

Program Support

\$16,800

St. Lorenz Lutheran Church

Maintenance of church and school facilities

\$31,500

TISD - Highland Pines School

Purchase adaptive toys and games

\$500

Tuscola Homeless Coalition

Assistance with rent and security deposits

\$2,500

Tuscola Youth Gymnastics

Purchase vault table

\$5,000

Village of Kingston Fire Department

Purchase helmet safety lights

\$1,900

RAWSON FOUNDATION

Total Awarded \$1,000

Child Fund International

Sponsorship of three (3) children

\$1,000

REESE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BECAUSE WE CARE FUND

Total Awarded \$2,500

Support unmet student needs

\$2,500

DR. ED AND DOROTHY SCOLLON FAMILY FUND

Total Awarded \$1,000

Cass City Public Schools

Support therapy dog program

\$1,000

THUMB AREA CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Total Awarded \$1,000

Rotary Club of Caro

Support community art project

\$600

Unionville-Sebewaing Area Schools

Support student attendance at live theatre

\$400

TUSCOLA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEMS FUND

Total Awarded \$1,945

Support for consumers

\$1,945

TUSCOLA COUNTY EMERGENCY NEEDS FUND

Total Awarded \$4,000

Vassar Area Emergency Fund

Assist with utility bills and housing

\$4,000

DALE AND PATRICIA WINGERT

Total Awarded \$3,000

Mayville Area Share Shop

Support for Christmas Box Project

\$1,500

Watertown Township Fire Department

Support purchase of equipment

\$1,500

JERRY W ZUERCHER ENDOWMENT FOR MUSICAL ARTS

Total Awarded \$700

Caro Band Boosters

Support Drum Major training camp

\$700

2024 FISCAL YEAR IN REVIEW

DECEMBER

2023

2024

CURRENT ASSETS:

Cash & Cash Equivalents

\$211,975

\$211,263

Investments at Market Value

\$23,059,132

\$25,252,194

Pre-paid Expenses

\$1,935

\$1,522

TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS

\$23,273,042

\$25,464,978

PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT - AT COST:

Furniture & Equipment

\$6,566

\$6,566

Less: Accumulated Depreciation

(\$4,329)

(\$5,468)

PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT - NET:

\$2,237

\$1,099

TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS

\$23,275,279

\$25,466,076

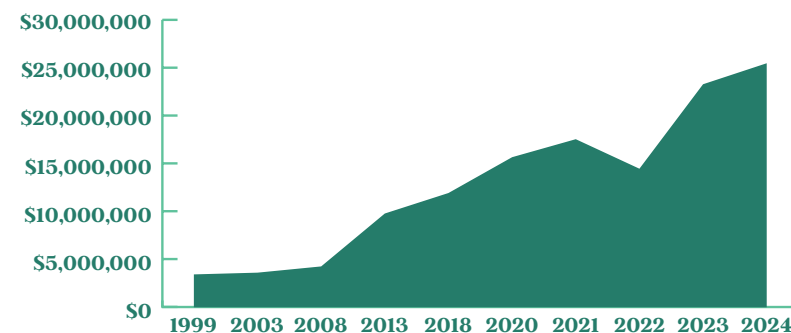
HIGHLIGHTS

TCCF experienced another year of significant growth in total assets in 2024 – 9.4%. This growth can be attributed to market gains, the development of three (3) new funds, and continued individual donor support. The Foundation’s strong financial position provided **over \$810,000** in grant awards toward community projects and student scholarships!

All gifts to the Foundation become part of a lasting endowment. The principal is responsibly managed – only spendable income is used to fund projects according to the terms of donor agreements. Funds are invested through financial consultants in several balanced portfolios. The performance of each investment portfolio is reviewed regularly by the Foundation’s Finance Committee.

Additionally, the Foundation’s financial position is evaluated on an annual basis by an independent audit. Thanks to these safeguards, donors can be assured that their legacy contribution will be preserved, and earnings will be maximized over time, forever.

Our Growth





2024/2025 FYI Members

ABOUT FUTURE YOUTH INVOLVEMENT (FYI)

Future Youth Involvement (FYI) is the youth advisory council of the Tuscola County Community Foundation (TCCF). The membership is comprised of high school students from all nine schools included in the Tuscola County Intermediate School District. FYI meetings take place monthly during the school year. Students learn about running a small organization and philanthropy while developing leadership skills.

Some of the principal objectives for the group are conducting a triennial needs assessment of youth

in Tuscola County, writing a request for proposal, making grants, fundraising, and completing community service projects. FYI has now granted **OVER ONE MILLION DOLLARS** since 1999 to projects and boasts over 300 alumni since the TCCF was founded.

FYI has also been instrumental in growing and supporting the Homelessness Prevention Fund. TCCF received a challenge grant in 2003 for conducting a community summit that looked at ways to address homelessness prevention in Tuscola County. Part of

the challenge grant included receiving a \$5,000 award to establish a permanent endowed fund to address homelessness prevention in Tuscola County. The TCCF Board partnered with FYI to make the community aware of homelessness in the community, and today's economic environment makes this more relevant than ever. Together TCCF and FYI continue to grow this fund through various appeals and fundraising events and the Homelessness Prevention Fund has now grown to **over \$75,000!**



Monthly meetings are opportunities for learning and hands-on philanthropic work.

FYI Members take the competitive process of awarding thousands of dollars each year seriously. Meeting times combine work, laughter and learning with outcomes totaling **OVER ONE MILLION DOLLARS** awarded since its' beginning.

The TCCF Board, along with our FYI members, want to gratefully acknowledge our FYI Advisors, without whom this vital program could not operate.

THANK YOU

Jackie and Megan!



2024 SCHOLARSHIPS

Total Awarded
in 2024: \$212,572

AAUW CASS CITY SCHOLARSHIP

Four (4) adult female returning students

HARRY BASTONE SCHOLARSHIP

Two (2) Caro High School students

BENDER FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Reese High School

DR. EARL AND MARY BRANDING

Two (2) Caro High School students

RALPH AND MARCELINE BUBLITZ SCHOLARSHIP FOR RNS

Two (2) students

CARO ROTARY SCHOLARSHIP

Two (2) Caro High School students

DR. DONALD AND MARLYS CARR SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Caro High School student

JAN CARSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) USA High School student

CASS CITY JR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Cass City High School student

CASS CITY ROTARY SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Cass City High School student

CARL CHILDS SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Akron-Fairgrove High School student

ESTHER COLLON GOOD SAMARITAN SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) USA High School student

PAT CURTIS AUTO BODY AND TECHNICIAN SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Caro High School student

\$4,000

PAUL DELONG MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Seven (7) High School students

\$1,400

DONALD D AND SARA J DOST MSU SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) USA High School student

\$500

DONALD D. AND SARA J. DOST MSU SCHOOL OF BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Caro High School student

\$1,000

DR. BRUCE J. DUNN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Reese High School student

\$1,000

BETTY E AND MELVIN R ECKFELD SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Caro High School student

\$5,000

ED-MAR TREE FARM SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Mayville High School student

\$500

FLUEGGE FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Cass City High School student

\$500

JOHN AND MARY FOESS SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Vassar High School student

\$1,000

FULLMER FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

Two (2) Tuscola Co students MSU/School of Agriculture

\$1,000

HAROLD GATES AND GUY WAY SCHOLARSHIP

Two (2) Caro High School students \$500

\$250

OLAF A. GOODELL SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Caro, Two (2) Cass City, Two (2) Kingston

\$500

One (1) Millington, One (1) Reese High School students

\$750

GREEN POINT DAIRY SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Caro High School student

MARJORIE AND ALLISON GREEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Four (4) Kingston High School students

\$11,997

\$500

\$500

\$1,000

\$500

\$500

\$1,000

\$1,000

\$2,000

\$1,000

\$7,000

\$500

\$2,800

HIGH *Top Ten* HONORS 2024



HOUGHTALING FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) USA student

KEN MOORE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Mayville, One (1) Millington, One (1) Vassar High School student

KINGSTON HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

Four (4) Kingston High School students

KINGSTON VFW POST 5371 VETERAN'S FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Kingston High School student

KIWANIS CLUB OF CARO AREA SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Reese High School student and One (1) USA High School student

THOMAS H. KOCH PAY IT FORWARD SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) USA High School student

PATRICIA KROL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Cass City High School Student

RAY LANGEVIN - CARO KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #3224 SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Caro High School student

LOVE FOR LEXI - PAYING IT FORWARD SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Cass City High School student

EDWARD J. AND ALICE M. MAIER FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Thirteen (13) Mayville High School scholarships; Seven (7) Mayville High School renewal scholarships

CLARE MCDURMON SCHOLARSHIP

Four (4) Caro High School students

CORY MERZ ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Cass City High School student

BOB MOORE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Caro High School student

NEAL SISTERS SCHOLARSHIP

Three (3) Caro High School students

ALVIN "BUTCH" AND "MUTZIE" ORTNER CHARITABLE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Frankenmuth High School student

KENNA LYNNE PEET MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Millington High School student

\$750

\$2,250

\$1,600

\$750

\$1,000

\$500

\$1,250

\$750

\$750

\$93,000

\$3,200

\$1,000

\$1,300

\$6,000

\$2,000

\$1,250

RAWSON FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Two (2) Cass City High School and Three (3) Cass City renewal students

JUSTIN REDER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Akron-Fairgrove High School student

ROLKA SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

Ten (10) Caro High School students

SCEARS FOUNDATION OF AKRON MICHIGAN SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Caro High School student

SHIFTERS OF VASSAR SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Caro High School student

COCKERILL-STEVENSON FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Caro High School student

TUSCOLA COUNTY COMMUNITY AGRICULTURAL SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) USA High School student

ROBERT AND BARBARA TUCKEY EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Cass City High School student

DOROTHY VANALLEN SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Caro High School student

FRANK WALDEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Caro High School student

ANTHONY SCOTT WALKER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Caro High School student

TOM WARGO SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Mayville High School student

KIM WHALEN SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Akron-Fairgrove High School student

LLOYD and LULA WHITE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Mayville High School student

ROBERT AND MARJORIE ZANDER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Three (3) Cass City High School students

WALLACE AND HELEN ZINNECKER SCHOLARSHIP

One (1) Cass City High School student

\$12,000

\$250

\$20,000

\$400

\$500

\$500

\$2,500

\$250

\$400

\$300

\$500

\$1,000

\$250

\$750

\$6,675

\$1,250

WAYS TO Remember and Give

The **Tuscola County Community Foundation** (TCCF) Board of Trustees established the **Tuscola County Memorial Fund** in 2022. The fund allows donors or families who have lost a loved one to make a lasting gift that will honor the memory of their loved one by providing opportunities through grantmaking to residents of Tuscola County in the future. Some donors also choose to honor individuals who are still living.

The following individuals have been memorialized with gifts in 2024, along with those honored, and their donors.

DONATIONS MADE TO THE TCCF MEMORIAL FUND IN 2024

In Memory of

**CAROL ELLSWORTH
CAROL ELLSWORTH
DOLAURA "DEE" TOUMA
DONALD J. BROWN
EDWARD PULSE
SHADRICK COX
TOM STRIFFLER**

Donor

Mr. John Hunter
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Joslyn
Dr. Richard Touma
Ms. Linda Brown
Mr. John Hunter
Mr. John Hunter
Mrs. Carol Striffler

In Honor of

**BETTY FLETCHER
CARLA KNOWLTON
DEE COX
DON & JO WEHRMAN
DR. DIANN KRYWKO
ERIN SCHMANDT
HISER GREAT GRANDCHILDREN
JIM AND JUDY BROWN
JOHN HUNTER
LOIS MOORE
MARGO HAHN**

Donor

Mr. and Mrs. Roland Hanes
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Knowlton
Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Tonkin
Harrington Farms
Ms. Pamela Clemmons-Kidd
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Schmandt
Mrs. Eileen Hiser
Fairgrove District Library
Ms. Susan Walker
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Kueffner
Mr. and Mrs. Robert DeBoer
Ms. Linda Lawrence
Ms. Susan Walker
Mr. and Mrs. Kirk Winter

In Memory of

ALAN PETZOLD

Ms. Valarie L. Petzold

ALLAN HOUGHTALING

Mrs. Jean E. Houghtaling

BEVERLY READ

Mr. James E. Read

BILL AND PAT SURIANA

June S. Kennedy

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CALEB MANN

Ms. Sharon Beals

Mann Family

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Akron-Fairgrove Schools

CAROLYN BLEMASTER

Akron-Fairgrove Schools

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Mr. and Mrs. Robert N. Grieve

DAVID WALSH

Mr. and Mrs. Russell D. Routsong

DECEASED LIONS MEMBERS

Caro Lions Club

DENNIS GREEN; WILDA COURLISS

Ms. Susan M. Green

DON PETRO

Mr. and Mrs. Terry R. Keinath

DOROTHY BLOOMQUIST

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DR. BRUCE DUNN; CHARLIE GENTNER

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United Women Of Faith - Cass City

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Mr. and Mrs. Gary J. Mohr

JEFFREY CYPHER

Mr. and Mrs. Richard T. Blackmer

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JOYCE KEYES

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph E. Publitz

JUDITH HINE

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Kathleen Sweeney

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Mrs. Janet D. Thane

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Akron-Fairgrove Schools

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CONSIDER A LASTING GIFT!

TCCF invites you to join an incredible group of friends who have invested in our mission and our future through planned giving. This special group of individuals have chosen to include a gift to TCCF in their will or estate plans. Planned gifts of ALL sizes help to fund new and existing programs, scholarship opportunities and more.

Joining is as simple as notifying us of your planned gift intention. TCCF staff are available to assist donors with accomplishing their dreams for building a brighter future through planned giving. Common types of legacy gifts include:

- **Outright gift of cash, stocks, bonds, or life insurance cash value** (e.g., policy that is no longer needed)
- **Beneficiary designations in a retirement fund** (e.g., IRA, 401(k), 403(b)) or in a life insurance policy)
- **Bequests in a will or trust** (sample language below)

"I give and devise to Tuscola County Community Foundation, PO Box 534, Caro, Michigan, 48723, Tax ID #: 38-3351315 the sum of \$_____dollars (or if preferred, state what percentage of estate or piece of property) to be held, administered, and used by the Board of Directors for support of Tuscola County Community Foundation in the area of (insert fund name)."

You are invited to become a part of the future of Tuscola County – to invest in the future of YOUR community. Your gift will 'pay it forward' for years to come.

For good. For ever! Won't you join us?

AAUW Cass City Branch
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About THE TUSCOLA COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The Tuscola County Community Foundation (TCCF) is a tax exempt, publicly supported philanthropic organization established and operated as a collection of permanently endowed funds for the long-term benefit of Tuscola County. We operate as a nationally accredited and IRS certified 501(c)(3) organization.

The TCCF was established in 1997 and holds assets valued at over **\$25 million at the end of 2024**. Over **\$9 million dollars** has been distributed to Tuscola County communities through grant and scholarship awards to organizations and individuals since TCCF's beginning!

To learn more about TCCF we encourage you to visit our website at www.tuscolaccf.org and follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/tuscolaccf.org.

The TCCF office is located at 1100 E Caro Road (2nd floor of the Northstar Bank Building) and is open during normal business hours on weekdays. We invite you to visit us and learn more about how you can join our growing family doing good in Tuscola County!

How to set up a Fund with Tuscola County Community Foundation

1 DEFINE THE GOAL OF YOUR FUND

Would you like your fund to be flexible so that it can address changing community needs and opportunities? Is there a specific charity or cause that you would like to support? Would you like to be involved in the grantmaking process?

2 NAME YOUR FUND

This is **YOUR** legacy. You, of course, can be anonymous if you prefer. Whether it is a family fund or created in memory of a loved one, the fund will still be making grants forever.

3 CONTACT US

Let's have a conversation about how we can tailor your charitable goals to fit your personal situation. TCCF strives to be flexible in the types of assets used to open funds. Cash, stock, life insurance and bequests are just a few of the ways funds can be established. Whether you establish a fund now or give later via a planned gift, we will ensure your legacy and interests will be honored today, tomorrow, and forever.

Tuscola County community foundation

For good. For ever.®



Voted Tuscola County's Readers Choice for "Nonprofit Organization"

Thank you to the readers who voted for us and a special thank you to our donors who have made an investment in helping to make Tuscola County a better place to live and work!



Thank you
Northstar Bank!

We want to express our gratitude to Northstar Bank for generously donating our office space.



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