

# 2008 Annual Report



**Four County**

community foundation<sup>SM</sup>



# Mission

## Statement

Four County Community Foundation is committed to serving the current and emerging needs of our local community, continuing the tradition of philanthropy begun generations ago. The Foundation is dedicated to bringing together human and financial resources to support progressive ideas in education, health, community, youth and adult programs. The Foundation provides a secure, flexible vehicle for individuals, families, foundations and organizations to positively impact the quality of life in our community. The Foundation recognizes that in order to meet its commitments to the community it serves it must seek growth through its permanent endowment funds from a wide range of donors.

The Annual Report is available online at [www.4ccf.org](http://www.4ccf.org)

Send your email address to [mail@4ccf.org](mailto:mail@4ccf.org) to receive our latest announcements via email. Insert "notice" in the subject line.

To be removed from our postal mailing list, please email your request to [mail@4ccf.org](mailto:mail@4ccf.org). Include your address.

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### Board of Trustees

#### Chairman

Joseph Salas

#### Vice-Chairman

Barb Quain

#### Secretary

Kim Jorgensen

#### Treasurer

Al Verlinde

### Trustees

John Brzozowski

William Duggan

Denis McCarthy

Dina Miramonti

Hank Nichols

Sean O'Bryan

Jennifer Parker-Moore

Nancy Parmenter

Gary Richards

Laura Schapman

Daniel Scheer

Greg Tarr

Shelby Couch (Youth)



Meets National Standards for  
Community Foundations

## *Letter from the Chairman*

*Joseph Salas*



Partnerships have never been more important in addressing needs in our communities of Lapeer, Macomb, Oakland and St. Clair Counties. The dramatic downturn in the local economy has presented new challenges and opportunities for Four County Community Foundation's Board of Trustees.

I want to personally thank the hundreds of donors who annually support our Foundation. Your contributions increase the Foundation's capacity to provide grants which promote our motto "*For Good – For Ever*". We must continue to be wise stewards of the nearly one hundred endowed funds we oversee to make the greatest impact in the most effective manner.

The annual Capac Back to School Program is an excellent example of collaboration, bringing together multiple sources of funding and volunteers. The success of the program is due to businesses, non-profits and foundations working together for a common goal, to give Capac students a great start to their school year. This year, our Foundation partnered with CSB Bank, St. Clair County Community Foundation and Mike Pirrone Produce to sponsor the mobile food pantry trucks. As always, CSB Bank personnel worked enthusiastically to organize and register everyone. The Mid-City Nutrition Program coordinated the ordering, delivery and distribution of the food. A total of 33,000 pounds of food

was distributed, including meats this year. This was twice the amount of food provided in last year's event.

Foundation Trustees, Youth Advisory Committee members and personnel volunteered at the event. The 660 backpacks filled with school supplies were sponsored by St. Clair County Community Foundation Women's Initiative, Port Huron Hospital Foundation and community donations. Capac National Honor Society members passed out back packs. The Salvation Army provided clothing vouchers. Medi-Lodge of Yale provided refreshments and Greg McConnell provided golf carts to deliver food to vehicles. Together we made a difference in hundreds of lives and we look forward to continuing the tradition next year.

In 2008, FCCF granted \$444,800. This included over 130 grants to organizations and 200 college scholarships. In addition to funding basic needs, we supported a variety of other projects such as: visiting author programs, downtown murals, street banners, historic renovations and thermal imaging cameras. Seven Ponds Nature Center capital campaign and other environmental grants are featured in this report.



YAC: Ashley Mousseau, Jaime Ligon, and Olivia Papineau.



A volunteer adjust a backpack while his parents select produce.

# Society/Committee Members

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## Legacy Society Members

Janet Bauer  
John & Connie Brzozowski  
Marion & Robert Fischer  
Paul & Elsie Hinzmann  
Ella Mae & Gertrude Murdie  
Catherine & Dorothy Ondersma  
Dr. James & Ann Sillers  
Bernard Strempler, M.D.

We gratefully recognize those who ensure a legacy to the Foundation by planning their future gifts. These people are an encouragement to others to remember Four County Community Foundation in their charitable plans.

## Advisor's Circle

We want to recognize the professional advisors who have worked with their clients to establish major gifts for the Foundation. Their work is indispensable. The number following their name indicates the number of gifts they have brought to Four County Community Foundation. Thank you to—

Shane Diehl  
Sebastian V. Grassi  
Cynthia Lane  
Ed Lynch, 3  
Henry Malburg, 2  
Sean O'Bryan  
Barb Quain  
Ronald W. Rickard, 2

## Staff

### President/CEO

Janet Bauer

### Admin. Asst./Accountant

Susan Gainer

### Program Associate

Valerie Quinn

## Emeritus Board

David S. Bishop  
John Bishop  
Patricia Brozowski  
Judy Czerepowicz  
Donald Davenport  
Shane Diehl  
Kathleen Eubank  
Katherine Eschenburg  
Hal Hooks  
James Ligon, Jr.  
Brenda Pinskey  
Edmund Risch  
Charles Schiedegger  
Jim Sillers  
Barbara Strempler

## Youth Advisory Committee

### Officers

President, Shelby Couch  
Vice-Pres., Jason Feys  
Treasurer, Taylor Sinda  
Secretary, Jaime Ligon  
Historians:  
Christopher Fruchey  
Shelby Ziegler

### Members

John Eschenburg  
Tyler Glombowski  
Mark Gonzar  
Wes Jonik  
Jon Lafata  
Ashley Mousseau  
Tyler Nichols  
Nick Nivison  
Jordan Peters  
Olivia Papiniau  
Alexandria Reinhardt

### Adult Advisors

Janet Bauer  
Marianne Engstrom  
Kim Fleming  
Kim Jorgensen  
Gary Richards  
Laura Schapman

# 2008 FCCF Funds

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## Unrestricted

Four County Community

## Administrative

Friends Operations  
Operating Fund

## Capital Campaign & Non-Endowed Funds

Capac Adolescents Preventing Abuse & Crime  
Capac Youth Sports Project  
President's Advised  
Sillers Family Charitable

## Designated Agency

Family Literacy Center of Lapeer County  
Roland W. Graubner Endowment  
Fund for the Romeo Library  
Imlay City Historical Commission  
North Macomb Soccer Club Field Development  
Romeo Historical Society/Charles E. Keller  
Symphonia Chorale Endowment

## Donor Advised

Almont Education & Community  
Armada Educational Foundation  
Justin C. "Jut" Bullock Memorial  
Capac Educational Endowment  
Darin Conrad Education  
Joseph & Bertha Corron Charitable  
Imlay Area Christian Community  
Ligon Brothers  
Marshall Lock Memorial  
James E. Neely  
Rhonda Nugent Memorial  
Ottevaere Safe Horsemanship Program  
Karras Pelfrey Memorial  
Richmond Athletic Club Endowment  
Gail Rickard Foundation  
Romeo Community Action Fund  
Dr. Bernard J. Stremmer Memorial  
Harold Tietz Memorial Fund for Cancer  
Waterloo Hunt Club Donor Advised  
Woods-N-Water News Outdoor Foundation

## Field of Interest

21st Century Education Fund  
Almont Area  
Armada Area  
Capac Area  
Dryden Area  
Imlay City  
Romeo Area

FCCF Home

Four County Environmental

Healthy Seniors/Healthy Youth

Imlay City Educational Endowment

W. K. Kellogg Youth

Lapeer Regional Hospital

Lloyd Veitch

Loral Watson Memorial Endowment

## Scholarship

Nancy B. Barr Adult Education

John R. & Iris M. Bartholomew

Andy Beam Memorial

Capac Athletic Booster

Capac Educational

Harry Bussell

Marion & Robert Fischer

Robert Wayne Creger Sr. Memorial

Cryderman-Hebblewhite Agriculture

Gualdoni Family Education

Hilda M. Hill Memorial

Imlay City Educational

Grettenberger

Alvin Norlin

Glenn L. Smith II

Lee Weyer Athletic

Richard P. Wheeler

Imlay City Schools Alumni Association

Ruth Isaacson Memorial

Lawrence & Rose Juip Memorial

Knights of Columbus Council #7018 Roman Catholic

Laurie Lee Memorial

Russell W. Ligon Memorial Engineering

William & Betty Morrison Memorial

Murdie Educational

North Macomb Soccer Club

Romeo Community Schools

American Legion

Dan Barnabo

David Brockman

Ralph Dietz

Romeo Kiwanis/Steven Fritz Sr.

Ellis C. Haskell

Haskell Trust

Al Moran

Eldon Mueller Memorial

David L. Olson/Rotary

Romeo Boosters Club

Sisson

Starkweather/Garvin

George S. Souten Performing Arts

Vera Souten Medical Field

St. Clement Church & K of C #7018 College

Jean Currey Stanwood Memorial

Brian Verstrete Memorial

Floyd W. West Memorial

Xi Gamma Rho of Beta Sigma Phi



# Financial Statement

## Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

	Year Ended	
	December 31, 2008	December 31, 2007
<b>Revenue, Gains and Other Support</b>		
Contributions – Unrestricted	\$ 212,351	\$ 124,525
Interest Income – Unrestricted	229,016	275,103
Net realized and unrealized gains	---	405,688
Total revenue, gains and other support	441,367	805,316
<b>Expenses</b>		
Program services – Grants and contributions	445,696	459,413
Support services:		
Management and general	142,102	133,014
Fund-raising	17,977	16,267
Development	37,482	34,601
Total expenses	643,257	643,295
<b>Losses</b> —Net realized and unrealized losses	3,476,572	---
Total expenses and losses	4,119,829	643,295
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	(3,678,462)	162,021
Net Assets – Beginning of year	10,570,559	10,408,538
Net Assets – End of year	<b><u>\$ 6,892,097</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 10,570,559</u></b>

## Statement of Financial Position

	December 31, 2008	December 31, 2007
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 533,758	\$ 194,370
Investments	6,243,894	10,242,976
Accrued interest receivable	1,780	5,448
Property and equipment	166,143	170,247
Total assets	<b><u>\$ 6,945,575</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 10,613,041</u></b>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Grants payable	\$ 50,054	\$ 39,757
Other liabilities	3,424	2,725
Total liabilities	53,478	42,482
<b>Net Assets – Unrestricted</b>	<b><u>6,892,097</u></b>	<b><u>10,570,559</u></b>
Total liabilities and net assets	<b><u>\$ 6,945,575</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 10,613,041</u></b>

**PUBLIC NOTICE:** Our annual audit and IRS 990 are on file for review at the Foundation office during normal business hours. Copies of either document are available for a nominal fee. Names of investment managers, fees charges, and names of Four County Community Foundation trustees responsible for investment and oversight of assets are available upon request.



## Environment In Focus

### Seven Ponds Nature Center

Seven Ponds Nature Center, in **Dryden**, has served as a sanctuary for native plants and animals for 41 years. More importantly, it continues to serve as a living classroom for environmental education, an issue of ever increasing importance. The center encourages people to 'experience' nature and believes that a hands-on approach helps to promote the development of an environmental ethic.

Currently, 12,000 children



*Love and respect of the environment starts outdoors at Seven Ponds Nature Center.*

visit yearly not including attendance by the various adult clubs and activities. Casual visitation has increased as well. "With so many individuals and groups simultaneously visiting the nature center, there are scheduling conflicts. Requests for programs or meeting space are frequently denied because the center is fully book," said Mike Champagne, director and naturalist for Seven Ponds.

Champagne has skillfully planned and promoted programs to raise awareness—and enjoyment of the environment for visitors. In 2008, he launched a capital campaign to raise funds to renovate the interpretive building and build an addition to accommodate the increased attendance at the center. Further preserving the environment, the new construction will utilize green building techniques to conserve energy as well as leaving a lighter footprint.



*Canoeing at Seven Ponds Nature Center.*

### Bees, Bats—and Fish

Kristin Rohrbeck, **Almont High School** biology teacher, was one of few who were chosen to attend Central Michigan University's "Integrating Beekeeping Across the Curriculum." The curriculum, developed by Dr. Dyanne Tracy



*A student works at the hive. The project has elicited enthusiastic support from the community, including Tractor Supply Co., Home Depot, and ABC Signs.*

of Oakland University, provides lessons that can be used by the entire school district, thus making the most of the beekeeping equipment and funding garnered.

# 2008 Grants *cont.*

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According to current studies, honey bee numbers have been dwindling at alarming rates within the last couple of years. Eighty percent of plants require pollination, a function provided by honey bees. The question remains as to how and why such dramatic changes are occurring.

High school students bottled the honey for gifts to sell. The Ecology and Environmental class investigated how crop production was affected by local bee pollination. It is hoped this program will inspire our next generation scientists.



*Many students were able to take part in the pollination/bee project.*

Second graders at **Almont** Orchard Primary learned from a "Bats of the World" presentation. Teacher Shannon Jacksy said students learned why bats are important to the ecology and that some are endangered. Some students overcame their fear of bats while becoming very enthusiastic about the studies.

Nancy DeLamielleure, **Romeo's** Amanda Moore Elementary teacher, took her fourth graders on a Clinton River trip and the Metro-Beach Nature Center. During their time on the water, students learned to spot and identify local wildlife and their habitats. They also studied the food chain of the river.

Amanda Moore's Reading Club brought students "The Adventures with Jonny," and author Mike KiLorenzo, who combined teaching about the writing process and the importance of nature. KiLorenzo writes children's books to inspire family exploration of the outdoors and includes tutorials, such as "Name that Fish" and how to safely use fishing equipment.

## Pollution

Which is more polluted, urban or rural areas? **Imlay City** teacher, Tom DeClark, teaches the new two-hour Math-Science-Technology Problem-Based Learning Academy that focuses on real world problems by applying analytic methods for testing.

To answer this question, he

took his students to River Rouge to test for 11 contaminants in the water and three in the soil around the power plants and oil storage facilities. After running



*Students take water samples from the Detroit River.*

the tests, students were split

on the data results, which lead to statistical interpretation studies.

## Keeping Our Students Safe

The 2008 **Almont** Project Graduation was held at Dave & Buster's in Utica with over 90 percent participation. Senior High graduation parties like these provide safe celebration activities and successfully keep the students from drinking and off the roads.

Chairperson, Kathy Yaklin, said with the support of Four County Community Foundation and the other fund raisers they organized, they were able to hold the party and entertainment with no cost to the students. Even shy students were on stage with the hypnotist.

**Dryden's** High School All-Night Party was held at the Lapeer Recreation Center. Chairperson, Kim Jackman, said, "As in years past the highlight of the night was the hypnotist. His presentation was hilarious." The prior year, a Japanese exchange student's parents interpreted American names and wrote the Japanese translation on paper or t-shirts at the party. Jackman said it was a spontaneous activity that the students absolutely loved.



For **good.** For **ever.**<sup>SM</sup>



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Four County Community Foundation

231 E. St. Clair, P.O. Box 539

Almont, MI 48003

Telephone: 810.798.0909 \* Fax 810.798.0908

Email: [info@4ccf.org](mailto:info@4ccf.org) \* Website: [www.4ccf.org](http://www.4ccf.org)

