



The Cheboygan County Community Foundation recognizes a very special group of donors who give \$500 or more by designating them as the **Admiralty Society**. Admiralty gifts of \$500 or more give CCCF the strength needed to raise even more to grant back to the Cheboygan County community. Unless Admiralty members request anonymity, we like to recognize these members in our newsletter to show our unending appreciation for their generosity.

When you see a member of the Admiralty Society, it would be entirely appropriate for you to thank them for their support. We would love for each of you to become a part of the Admiralty Society in 2025! Magnifying your gift will help to ensure that Cheboygan County's economic development continues and we can all celebrate a vibrant local economy!

- Anthony & Elizabeth Abbatista
- Bob & Michele Andrews
- Noyes & Elizabeth Avery
- Chuck & Cathy Baase
- Douglass Bailey
- Richard Barnich
- Kenneth Bernstein & Barbara Clay
- David & Brenda Butts
- Mark & Jan Elliott
- Thomas & Annette Eustice
- Edward Spangler & Nan Dingsens
- Patricia Gildner
- Veronica B. Gildner
- Dirk & June Hoffius
- Matthew & Lisa Keene
- Regina Keough
- Kokosing Industrial, Inc.
- Thomas & Mary O'Hare
- Rehmann
- Joel & Karen Ross
- Kris Safford
- Francie Stafford
- Tromble Family Foundation
- William K. Van Allen
- William Kent Van Allen, Jr.
- Philip & Mary Joan Welch
- Wheeler Motors



# Economic Development Continues to Move Forward in Cheboygan County

December 2024

## A Message From our Chairman

Happy Holidays!

As our Board of Directors, Executive Director and volunteer leaders reflect on the accomplishments of the past year, our hearts are filled with gratitude for the incredible impact we've been able to make with you on behalf of our shared community.

While we are still compiling final 2024 totals, I'm proud to share that we have granted approximately \$40,000 on behalf of our community and donors this year! Since inception, we have been able to provide more than \$380,000 in economic development grants for Cheboygan County!! The results of our grantmaking and collaborations have profoundly enhanced the quality of life for the residents of Cheboygan County. We are deeply proud of our collective impact. It is a testament to the power of generosity and community when inspired by a vision!

As we embark on the start of a new year, I am excited about what we will accomplish together in 2025. From the development of our endowment program, our partnership with the City of Cheboygan to renovate the Crib Lighthouse as a gateway to the Cheboygan County inland waterway, and our upcoming "Hollywood Nights" fundraising ball in October, we hope to demonstrate our commitment to our mission to strengthen the economic and community development in Cheboygan County. The Cheboygan County Community Foundation is founded to create jobs, improve educational opportunities, increase tourism, expand the retail and commercial offerings and enhance the economic health of Cheboygan County. Your generous donations assist in meeting our mission and vision. We look forward to investing your 2025 contribution to fulfill our mission.

I hope that you enjoy the updates that follow. On behalf of the entire Foundation, we thank you for your continued confidence, trust and investment in our mission. Together, we are the architects of a brighter future for Cheboygan County.

Best wishes for a joyous new year filled with good health, prosperity and boundless possibilities!

Sincerely,

David Butts, Chairman  
Cheboygan County Community Foundation



Chuck Baase



Matthew Keene

## Board of Directors – Member Updates

Chuck Baase and Matthew Keene, two long-time trustees of the Board of Directors have fulfilled their Board commitment after serving more than two three-year terms. We are so very grateful for their unwavering commitment and support. They will both be missed as they pursue other ventures. Both members will likely continue to serve on other committees of the Board.



Printing made possible by a generous contribution from:



11401 N. Straits Highway • Cheboygan MI 49721

**Mission:**  
To strengthen the economic and community development of Cheboygan County.

**Vision:**  
Cheboygan County Community Foundation is founded to create jobs, improve educational opportunities, increase tourism, expand the retail and commercial offerings and enhance the economic health of Cheboygan County

Cheboygan County Community Foundation, PO Box 494, Cheboygan, MI 49721  
www.cheboyganfoundation.org • CCCFoundation01@gmail.com • Telephone: 231-333-6191  
Executive Director: ameustice0@gmail.com • 231.290.2780



## Leadership

The board and officers of the Cheboygan County Community Foundation, Inc. are all private sector, non-paid volunteers who bring their talent, energy, and knowledge to the mission of the organization.

- |                                      |                     |                           |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| David Butts, <i>Chairperson</i>      | Michele Andrews     | Alice Fernelius           |
| Dawn Bodnar, <i>Vice-Chairperson</i> | Chuck Basse         | Matthew Keene             |
| Brian Groff, <i>Treasurer</i>        | Tom Eustice         | Dwayne LaPointe           |
| Patricia Gildner, <i>Secretary</i>   | Elizabeth Fairbanks | Annette Eustice           |
|                                      |                     | <i>Executive Director</i> |

Richard B. Sanford, *President Emeritus*  
James Conboy, *Director Emeritus*

David Butts, *CFP, CMFC, Past President*  
Joanne Welihan, *Past President*

Susan Eno, *Past President*  
Noreen Keating, *Past President*

CCCFoundation01@gmail.com

www.cheboyganfoundation.org

Cheboygan County Community Foundation • P.O. Box 494 • Cheboygan, MI 49721

# Cheboygan County Community Foundation Endowment Fund

The Cheboygan County Community Foundation is happy to announce the establishment of an Endowment Fund. This fund is established to provide long-term support for CCCF. The total amount of contributed assets is invested and the portion of income earned is available for granting or to be reinvested for growth. Please consider making an endowment. The types of funds are provided below. To get started, please meet with your professional financial advisors or contact the Cheboygan County Community Foundation's Executive Director, Annette Eustice.

## Types of Charitable Funds

When you make a gift to the Cheboygan County Community Foundation, we will create your personal legacy of giving by establishing a special fund. You can predetermine the type of fund you would like to establish and specify how you want the fund to help your community.

## Unrestricted Funds

Your gift can address ever-changing community needs – including future needs that often cannot be anticipated when your gift is made. We evaluate all aspects of community well-being, economic development, education, tourism and expanding retail and commercial offerings. The flexibility of your unrestricted gift enables the Foundation to respond to the community's most pressing needs.

## Field of Interest Funds

Target your gift to address needs in an area important to you. You can identify your personal interest area when making your gift. The Foundation's Board will award grants to community organizations and programs that are making a difference in the area you select.

## Donor Advised Funds

You can have ongoing involvement in the use of your gift and work with our program staff to identify ways to address the issues and needs you care about most through grantmaking. Your recommendations are submitted to our board for approval before we distribute grant dollars.

## Scholarships

Invest your gift in our community's future and show students you care, all with the guidance and personal services of the Cheboygan County Community Foundation. You can determine the criteria students must meet to receive the scholarship you establish. With your assistance, students achieve their academic and career-oriented goals.

## Designated Funds

You can direct your gift to a specific nonprofit organization or purpose. Nonprofit organizations also can use a designated fund through the Cheboygan County Community Foundation to build their endowment and enhance their ability to accept large and complex gifts, such as appreciated stock or real estate.

# Progress on the Cheboygan Crib Lighthouse

The Crib Lighthouse sits at the gateway to the Inland Waterway and is in need of significant improvements. The City of Cheboygan has made it a priority to renovate the lighthouse and enhance the entrance to the Inland Waterway. The 1884 cast iron lighthouse originally was lodged on a wooden crib in Lake Huron about a quarter mile offshore to mark the beginning of the dredged Cheboygan River Channel.

In 1984, the City of Cheboygan reached an agreement with the Coast Guard to move the lighthouse ashore and placed it on a concrete pad at the shoreline of Gordon Turner Park. In 2001, the Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association did some repairs on the lighthouse but it currently needs complete restoration.

The City, together with funding assistance from the Foundation, began the process of restoration in 2024 granting approximately \$7,000 for an engineering study to determine the repairs to be made and the cost of the project. It is currently estimated to cost approximately \$325,000 for complete restoration.

Funds approximating \$50,000 have been raised to date and will be granted to the City of Cheboygan as construction progress begins. Some of our more sizeable donations in 2024 included gifts from Sharon McDonald, Jasmine Ghastin Photography, Don and Kay Bohls, Francie Stafford, and the Fraternal Order of Eagles. The City also received a grant for \$20,000 from the Northern Michigan Toyota Dealers. If you are interested in donating to this project, you may send contributions to Cheboygan County Community Foundation, PO Box 494, Cheboygan, MI 49721.



## Leadership Cheboygan: Cultivating Tomorrow's Leaders in Cheboygan County

During 2024, the Cheboygan County Community Foundation partnered with the Cheboygan Area Chamber of Commerce (the "Chamber") to provide the "Leadership Cheboygan" program to provide eight Cheboygan emerging leaders the tools they need to become the leaders of Cheboygan. This was the third year of success of the program. This well-developed 12-month program has successfully trained participants from various sectors of the community, equipping them with essential tools and invaluable resource connections to help pave their paths to success.

"A cornerstone of Leadership Cheboygan's success is the invaluable support from our sponsors, particularly the Cheboygan County Community Foundation," states Carole Yeck, Executive Director of the Chamber, "These



partnerships play a crucial role in our program's sustainability and effectiveness. The alignment between our program and our sponsors creates a symbiotic relationship that benefits both students and sponsors alike."

In January 2025, a new cohort will launch with applications now open for aspiring leaders. As members of the Chamber or CCCF entity donors, please consider who in your organization could benefit from this excellent training. Contact Carole Yeck, Executive Director of the Chamber, for more information.

## Join Us! Become A Shipmate!

### As a volunteer you will be asked to:

- Assist with clerical tasks
- Volunteer to assist at various fundraising events
- Attend Business After Hours or other events that feature the Foundation

### Time Commitment:

- Less than 20 hours for fundraising events
- Just a couple hours for clerical tasks.
- Attendance at events may range from 2-5 hours.
- Strictly on an as needed basis.

Interested?

If so, please email CCCFoundation01@gmail.com and we will contact you.

*The Cheboygan County Community Foundation looks forward to a prosperous 2025. We have pledged to continue bringing new opportunities and enhancing Cheboygan County. As we invest in our Cheboygan Community, we do need your help!*

*Please show your support for the Foundation by making a meaningful End-of-Year Tax Deductible Donation.*

**TOGETHER we can do much more!**