

2010 People Fund Annual Report



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



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North

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Gaylord

Shirley Farrier
Kalkaska

Al Quaal
Gaylord

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Sharon Templar
Secretary
Scottville

South

Laura Beyer
Hart

Wayne Bumstead
Newaygo

Beverly Cassidy
Fremont

Carol Holtrop
Montague

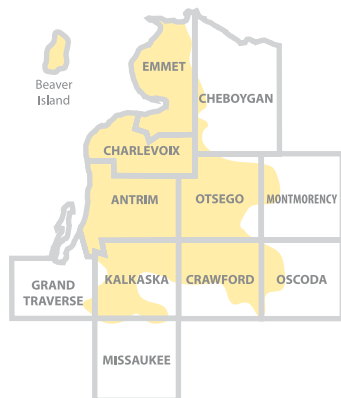
Pat Stapp
Howard City

David Wagner
New Era

Contact

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People Fund**
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2010 Grant Recipients | North



\$2,000 Antrim County Child Abuse/Neglect Council: Cribs, mattresses and sheets for baby pantry.

\$2,500 Antrim County High Tea for Breast Cancer Prevention: Breast cancer prevention books for teens.

\$700 Boyne Area 4-H Swim School: Swim school equipment.

\$500 Boyne Arts Collective: Two easels and four tables.

\$1,000 Boyne City Preschool: Preschool tool totes. **(Photo, on front cover)**

\$7,000 Boyne Valley Lions Club: Concessions trailer.

\$4,000 Boyne Valley Pantry: Stock food pantry.

\$1,000 Boyne Veterans Memorial Committee: Construction of handicapped parking spaces and walkway at Veteran's Memorial.

\$1,500 C. S. Lewis Festival, Petoskey: C. S. Lewis books for fifth grade reading program in the Char-Em Intermediate School District.

\$2,500 Children's Bereavement Network, Gaylord: Five campers to attend Camp Live, Laugh, Love.

\$1,500 Community Church of God Lighthouse Lunch, Charlevoix: Pots, pans and groceries. **(Photo, right)**

\$1,200 Crawford County Library System: Laptop, printer and software for literacy program.

\$2,000 Crossroads Industries, Gaylord: Document destruction program equipment.

\$1,250 East Jordan Co-op Nursery School: Bookshelf, art and classroom supplies, and a curriculum assessment.

\$2,200 Friendship Centers of Emmet County: Seniors' essential needs fund (\$1,000) and 10 Guardian 911 phones (\$1,200).

\$2,000 Gaylord Community Meal: Commercial stove.

\$2,000 Good Samaritan Family Services, Ellsworth: Food pantry warehouse equipment. **(Photo, above left)**

\$8,500 Hospice of Northwest Michigan: File of Life distribution to Emmet, Charlevoix, Antrim and Otsego county residents (\$3,000); patient safety and comfort measures (\$2,000) and a bereavement program (\$3,500).

\$1,000 Kalkaska Area Hockey Association: Goalie pads.

\$2,000 Little Traverse Choral Society, Petoskey: Headsets/microphones for hearing impaired to use at community concerts.

\$3,000 Mancelona Food Pantry and Resale: Stock food pantry.

\$5,000 North Central Michigan College Foundation, Petoskey: Health Education and Science Center.

\$5,000 Northern Michigan Cancer Crusaders: Wigs, gas cards and Ensure for cancer patients.

\$4,000 Northern Michigan Regional Hospital Foundation: Youth-based health education programs.

\$600 Northwest Michigan Habitat for Humanity: Tools for the Habitat tool trailer.

\$1,365 Otsego Conservation District, Gaylord: Childrens conservation day camp.

\$4,855 Otsego County Literacy Council: Establish tutoring space and purchase a computer and training materials.

\$1,000 Otsego Lake Township, Gaylord: Rescue boat, motor and trailer. **(Photo, above right)**

\$1,000 Otsego Memorial Hospital Foundation, Gaylord: Car seat program.

\$2,500 Petoskey Little League: Pitching machine.

\$1,000 Pregnancy and Resource Center, Petoskey: Projector, screen and e-book reader.

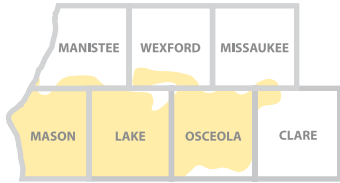
\$2,500 Raven Hill Discovery Center, East Jordan: Reach & Revitalize project.

\$6,000 The Friendship Shelter, Gaylord: New heating system.

\$2,000 The Manna Food Project, Harbor Springs: Food 4 Kids Backpack program.



2010 Grant Recipients | Central



\$2,500 A Few Friends for the Environment of the World (AFFEW), Ludington: Battery recycling program.

\$930 Campus Life Center/West Shore Youth For Christ (YFC), Ludington: Bike racks, J-hooks and lighting cages.

\$4,000 Circle Rocking S Children's Farm, Free Soil: Asphalt driveway for handicapped access. (Photo, above left)

\$995 Evart Public Library: Computer and monitor.

\$3,260 Ludington Area Arts Council: Window-darkening treatments.

\$625 Ludington Area Senior Center: Computer printer.

\$2,789 Luther Area Public Library: Fencing and gate for outdoor reading area. (Photo, on front cover)

\$1,000 Mason County 4-H Horse/Pony Developmental Committee: Arena fence upgrade.

\$1,500 Mason County Historical Society: Farmstead Completion Project.

\$2,000 Mecosta-Osceola Dept. of Human Services, Big Rapids: Refurbish/redecorate a visitation room used by children/parents receiving its services.

\$2,000 Morton Township Library, Mecosta: Computers for the library.

\$2,500 Pathfinder Community Library, Baldwin: Roof replacement.

\$3,000 Reed City Youth Sports: Complete building/dugouts construction at youth baseball field.

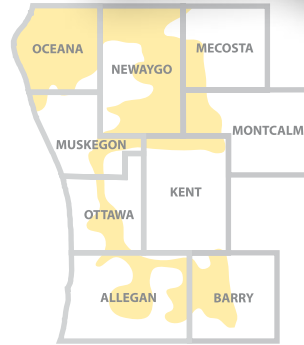
\$1,000 Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), Big Rapids: Safe Senior Day 2010. (Photo, above right)

\$215 Scottville Farmers' Market: Folding table and chairs.

\$300 Tallman Lake Senior Center, Fountain: Wii game system.

\$1,000 West Shore Pregnancy Care Center, Ludington: Multimedia projector.

2010 Grant Recipients | South



\$11,500 ARC of Allegan County: Support programs for people with disabilities.

\$1,500 Ashland-Grant Fire District: Air tanks and voice equipment.

\$500 Barry/Eaton Department of Human Services: Furnishings for a supervised area for foster children to visit their parents.

\$5,000 Bread of Life Food Pantry, Hart: Food and repacking supplies for food pantry.

\$2,200 Bridgeton Township, Fremont: Boat launch.

\$6,350 Children's Museum of Fennville: Exploratorium cookbooks and exhibit supplies. (Photo, above left)

\$2,000 Empowerment Network, Fremont: Stove, washer and dryer at drop-in center for individuals with disabilities.

\$750 Harbor Hospice, Muskegon: Broda chair.

\$4,000 Lakeshore Honors League, Zeeland: Basketball program for at-risk youth.

\$800 Newaygo Kids Hope USA: Bags, printer cartridge, and mentor training.

\$1,000 Nuveen Community Center for the Arts, Montague: After-school art classes.

\$5,000 Oceana Center Grange: New roof. (Photo, above right)

\$3,000 Oceana County Habitat for Humanity: Basement for a Habitat house.

\$5,000 Pentwater Police Department: Care Trak Rescue & Recovery system.

\$2,000 Project Hope of NE Allegan County: Personal care and cleaning items for the needy.

\$2,000 Project Starburst, Big Rapids: Stock food pantry.

\$6,000 St. Vincent de Paul, Otsego: Food/financial assistance for the needy in Plainwell/Otsego.

\$8,000 The Fountain Hill Center, Grand Rapids: Counseling services for low-income and to expand their program.

\$2,000 Women's Information Services, Inc., Big Rapids: Empowerment boxes for women in the Family Advocacy program.

Help People In Your Community

As a Great Lakes Energy member, you have the power to expand the People Fund to meet our communities' growing needs.

If every GLE member who contributes to the People Fund got just one other person to join, it would easily double the amount of money available each year to help local food pantries, senior citizen centers, youth programs, and other worthy causes.

The result would be an estimated \$166,000 in additional People Fund revenue. If every member got two people to join there would be an extra \$332,000 to distribute. Three people—\$498,000. Four people—\$664,000. You get the idea.

The People Fund program works because there is power in

numbers. A Great Lakes Energy member's average contribution of 50 cents a month or \$6 per year isn't much, but it adds up fast when thousands of members get involved.

All money contributed by Great Lakes Energy members is allocated to the appropriate region (north, central or south) based on where each member lives. As a result, the total amount of grant money available to distribute each year is different in each region. This enables members' contributions to be returned to their own communities.

NO overhead costs are deducted from your contributions.

You Could Win \$100

Become a permanent contributor to the People Fund program and you could win a \$100 billing credit from Great Lakes Energy. Winners are selected at random from two drawings held each year. Two winners are selected from each region (north, central, south) for a total of six winners each drawing. All Great Lakes Energy members who are already permanent contributors to the People Fund are automatically entered in the drawings.

No billing round-up contributions are used to fund this contest. Prize costs are covered by Great Lakes Energy as part of our commitment to support local communities and say "thanks" for supporting the People Fund!

Recent People Fund Winners:



Deb Yager
Charlevoix

“The few pennies from my bill, when added to other members', become a sizable amount.”



Sharon & Donald Slimmen
Irons

“We're not rich, but we do okay and know there are many out there who need help. This is an easy way for us to help.”



Claire & Terry Nichols
Delton

“We just thought joining the People Fund was something worth doing. That's why we're donating the winnings back.”

Did You Know...

The People Fund awarded \$184,384 to local communities in 2010 and has awarded over \$2.04 million since 1999!

How it Works:

People Fund grants are funded with "extra change" donated by members who have their Great Lakes Energy bill rounded up to the next dollar.

Grants are awarded three times a year by volunteers on the three regional People Fund boards of directors (north, central, south). Their local roots and diverse backgrounds allow directors to make solid funding decisions that may differ based on each region's needs.

How to Apply:

Grant applications are available to nonprofit groups (not individuals). Just call Great Lakes Energy at 1-888-485-2537 or download an application from gtlakes.com. The deadlines for receiving grant applications are Feb. 1, June 1, and Oct. 1.

Three easy ways to sign up for the People Fund

BY PHONE: Call 1-888-485-2537.

ONLINE: Visit gtlakes.com (under the "Your Community" tab).

BY MAIL: Fill out the card below and return with your bill payment.

Make sure this People Fund line is on your electric bill! →

Great Lakes ENERGY	
Your Toothsome Energy Cooperative	
Current Charges	
Monthly Charge	15.00
Energy Usage	750 Kwh x 00.095900 = 71.93
Energy Optimization Surcharge	750 Kwh x 00.00158 = 1.19
PSCR on Energy Use	750 Kwh x 00.011440 = 8.58
State Sales Tax	96.70 x 00.040000 = 3.87
People Fund	100.57 Rounded Up = 0.43
Total Current Charges	101.00

For just **50 cents** a month, you can help us **touch more lives!**
Send in this card with your bill payment, or call us today at 1-888-485-2537.



YES! I want to join the People Fund!

I authorize Great Lakes Energy to round up my electric bill each month to the next highest dollar amount. I understand that participation in this program is voluntary and that I may opt out at any time by notifying Great Lakes Energy.

Account #(s) _____

Name (please print) _____

Date _____

Signature _____

If you are already enrolled in the billing round-up program, you are automatically entered in the drawings this year.