

The Northern Michigan  
Antique-Flywheelers  
purchased new bleachers  
for their showgrounds in  
Charlevoix County.



# YOUR SMALL CHANGE MAKES A BIG IMPACT

2022 PEOPLE FUND ANNUAL REPORT



The Crawford County Community  
Christian Help Center, Grayling



The Oceana County Historical & Genealogical Society  
purchased new videoconferencing equipment



GREAT LAKES  
ENERGY



## DIRECTORS

### NORTH

**John Cool**  
Treasurer  
Boyne City

**Betty Henne**  
Charlevoix

**Jerry Judge**  
Kalkaska

**Robin McCarty**  
Harbor Springs

**Matt Soderquist**  
President  
Gaylord

### CENTRAL

**Kathleen Andersen**  
Ludington

**MaryAnn Nugent**  
Vice President  
Irons

**Diane Watts**  
Branch

### SOUTH

**Beverly Cassidy**  
Fremont

**Jalisa Danhof**  
Newaygo

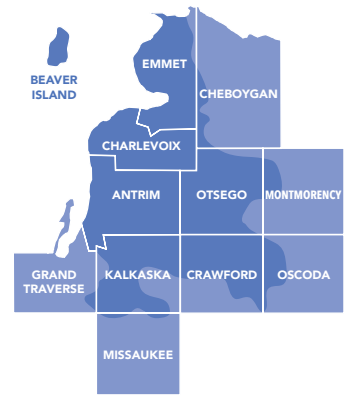
**Linda Firlík**  
Wayland

**Linda Kotzian**  
Shelby

**David Wagner**  
Secretary  
Muskegon



Kiwanis Club of Charlevoix provided a book vending machine for Charlevoix students



## NORTH

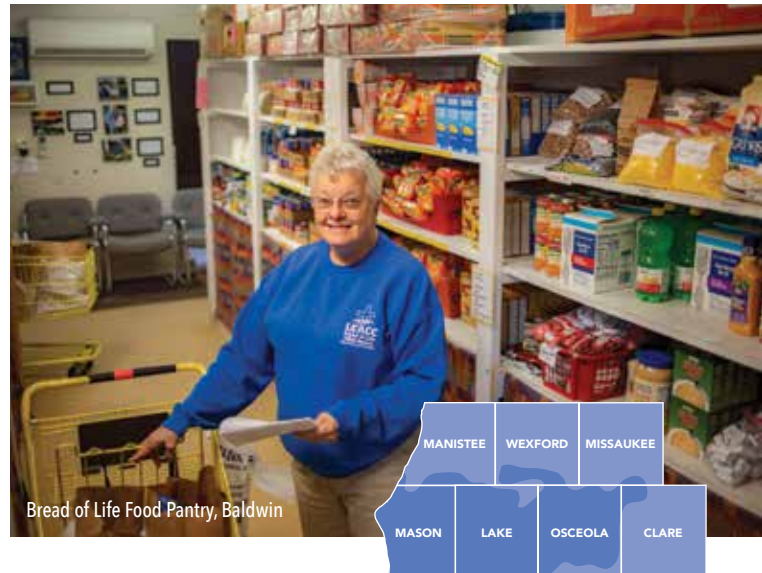
- \$5,000 Antrim Conservation District-CAKE CISMA, Bellaire:** towards the purchase of a vehicle to transport their crew and job trailer.
- \$1,200 Bellaire Public Schools, Bellaire:** for fabric for baby blankets made by high school students, which will be donated to the Antrim County Baby Pantry.
- \$1,000 Blissfest Music Organization, Petoskey:** for front-of-house PA equipment.
- \$2,500 Boyne Arts Collective, Boyne City:** for community art classes.
- \$5,000 Charlevoix Area Community Pool, Charlevoix:** for the pool resurfacing project.
- \$5,000 Charlevoix Historical Society, Charlevoix:** for server and network upgrades.
- \$3,000 Chief Shawano Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, East Jordan:** for a monument for unknowns buried in Eveline Township Cemetery.
- \$2,500 Christ Child Society Northern Michigan, Harbor Springs:** for the diaper pantry.
- \$2,000 Community Recovery Alliance, Inc., Petoskey:** for Recovery Informed Workplace Program & Training.
- \$750 Community Sharing Program, Lewiston:** for a food pantry computer.
- \$2,000 Crawford Ausable Day Care, Inc., Grayling:** for latch key expansion.
- \$2,500 Crawford County Community Christian Help Center, Grayling:** for a summer food program for children.
- \$400 Crawford County Library, Grayling:** for Operation Connect equipment.
- \$1,500 Eta Nu Charities, Boyne City:** for Dress for Chill clothing supplies.
- \$5,000 Forest Area Community Schools, Fife Lake:** to purchase a new speaker system, wiring, cables, outlets, lights, flooring, paint, and construction materials for their stage.
- \$5,000 Friends of the Kalkaska County Library, Kalkaska:** for library computers for the public.
- \$2,600 Gaylord Community Productions, Gaylord:** to replace microphones and battery packs.
- \$3,798 Good Neighbors Food Pantry, Boyne City:** for an additional refrigerator/freezer, contingent on raising the rest of the funding.
- \$1,350 Grass River Natural Area, Inc., Bellaire:** to improve data collection on guests and wildlife for management decisions, contingent on raising the rest of the funding.
- \$2,000 Grass River Natural Area, Inc., Bellaire:** for Grass River Natural Area safety equipment.
- \$3,000 Great Lakes Burn Camp, Jackson:** for the Great Lakes Burn Camp Winter Camp 2023 in Cheboygan.
- \$2,000 Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra, Petoskey:** for Shackleton's Incredible Journey program set, costume, and videographer expenses.
- \$3,000 Harbor Springs Festival of the Book, Harbor Springs:** for books for schools.
- \$1,400 Hudson Township Fire and Rescue, Elmira:** for address number markers.
- \$1,000 Kiwanis Club of Charlevoix, Charlevoix:** for a book vending machine.
- \$1,000 Lake Charlevoix Mariners, Charlevoix:** to purchase a heavy-duty boat lift, contingent on raising the rest of the funding.
- \$3,000 Lake Side Elite Gymnastics, Boyne City:** for new equipment in their building expansion.
- \$2,500 Manna Food Project, Harbor Springs:** for healthy food options for clients.
- \$6,000 Northern Michigan Antique-Flywheelers, Walloon Lake:** for spectator bleachers.
- \$3,000 Northwest Michigan Habitat for Humanity, Petoskey:** for office furniture.
- \$3,700 Northwest Michigan Habitat for Humanity, Petoskey:** for tools to increase capacity.
- \$4,182 Otsego Conservation District, Gaylord:** for Otsego County Demonstration Garden repairs.
- \$1,500 Otsego County Commission on Aging, Gaylord:** for home-delivered hot box meals.
- \$2,000 Otsego County Habitat for Humanity, Inc., Gaylord:** for the Gaylord Habitat ReStore furnace replacement.
- \$2,500 Otsego County United Way, Gaylord:** for emergency heating assistance funding.
- \$2,500 PoWer! Book Bags, Suttons Bay:** for PoWer! Book Bags for children in Antrim County.
- \$5,000 Raven Hill Discovery Center, East Jordan:** for the Solar SMART (Science Mathematics And Related Technologies) exhibit.
- \$2,500 River House, Inc., Grayling:** for a replacement technology project.
- \$3,000 Salvation Army, Petoskey:** for office furniture in the new community center.
- \$1,600 Tara's Meadow Education and Retreat Center, Petoskey:** for the Beaver Island Sustainability Initiative - Student Mentorship Outdoor Education & Field Study Project.
- \$5,000 The Baseball-Softball Fields of Boyne Inc., Boyne City:** for fencing at The Waterfront Field of Dreams Little League Park.
- \$4,000 The Depot Jordan Valley Teen Center, East Jordan:** for their health and wellness enclosed trailer.
- \$1,400 The Nehemiah Project, Petoskey:** for a stackable washer and dryer.
- \$5,000 The Refuge in Otsego County, Gaylord:** for Train Up Otsego.
- \$2,500 Top of Michigan Mountain Bike Association, Boyne City:** for excavator repair.
- \$2,600 Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1518, Gaylord:** for an electronic exterior sign for Veterans Community Park.
- \$2,015 Vienna Township Fire Department, Johannesburg:** for ice rescue safety equipment.
- \$3,500 Wagbo Peace Center, East Jordan:** for Wagbo Petting Farm barn improvements.



**People Fund**  
1323 Boyne Avenue  
Boyne City, MI 49712  
888-485-2537  
gtlakes.com

## CENTRAL

- \$1,000 **Angels of Action, Big Rapids:** for summer family engagement, nutrition, and literacy programs.
- \$2,000 **Bread of Life Food Pantry, Baldwin:** for food and supplies for the greater Lake County area.
- \$2,000 **Caritas Food Pantry, Custer:** for purchasing canvas bags for the pantry.
- \$2,500 **Carr Community Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., Branch:** for turnout gear for new volunteer firefighters.
- \$3,000 **Circle Rocking S Children's Farm Inc., Free Soil:** for roof repair, asphalt for handicap, and a hard drive.
- \$1,393 **Eagle Village, Hersey:** to convert current fluorescent lighting to LED to increase energy efficiency.
- \$2,000 **Gateway to Success Academy, Scottville:** for a garden and sustainability center, contingent on raising the rest of the funding needed.
- \$1,900 **Grant Township Fireman's Association, Manistee:** for task-appropriate turnout gear.
- \$1,000 **Habitat for Humanity of Mason County, Scottville:** for their ramp program.
- \$3,500 **Irons Seventh-day Adventist Church, Irons:** for the Irons Community Center and Food Pantry for fill, limestone, and excavation around the building, lawn, and parking lot.
- \$2,500 **Lake County Habitat of Humanity, Baldwin:** towards home construction, contingent on raising the rest of the funding needed.
- \$2,400 **Lincoln Township Fire Department, Reed City:** for firefighter safety communications equipment.
- \$1,000 **Mid-Michigan Honor Flight, Inc., Mecosta:** for #13 and #14 honor flights and missions.
- \$1,500 **Norman Township Fire Department, Wellston:** for Seek Thermal imaging cameras.
- \$7,000 **Osceola County Community Emergency Response Team, Reed City:** for purchasing vital safety equipment for the CERT team.
- \$2,399.97 **Pathfinder Community Library, Baldwin:** for replacing two aging public computers and one staff computer.
- \$2,000 **Reed City Area District Library, Reed City:** for backyard games and seating.



Bread of Life Food Pantry, Baldwin

- \$3,000 **Riverside Park Campground, Scottville:** for the City of Scottville Riverside Park and Campground public restroom refurbishment project.
- \$1,000 **Sable Points Lighthouse Keepers Association, Ludington:** for an informational panel for the fog signal building.
- \$5,000 **Sandcastles Children's Museum, Ludington:** for the Hola! Speaking Spanish at Sandcastles! exhibit.
- \$500 **Staircase Youth Services, Ludington:** for the Back-to-School Backpack Bonanza.
- \$1,500 **Western Michigan Fair Association, Ludington:** for roofing repair.

## SOUTH

- \$2,600 **Allegan United Methodist Church, Allegan:** for replacing the food pantry commercial freezer, contingent on raising the rest of the funds needed.
- \$1,500 **Ashland Grant Fire District, Grant:** for v-watches.
- \$3,500 **Bread of Life Food Pantry, Baldwin:** for food pantry items for the greater Lake County area.
- \$3,500 **Christian Neighbors SE, Plainwell:** to purchase a cooler for their demonstration/training kitchen.
- \$2,652.35 **Congregational Kitchen, Allegan:** for kitchen equipment.
- \$7,500 **Harmonized Healing Counseling Services, Inc., White Cloud:** for their office remodel, contingent on raising the rest of the funding needed.
- \$3,000 **Hart Economic and Redevelopment Team, Hart:** for Main Street outdoor speakers.
- \$1,000 **Hart Preservation Group, Hart:** for the Hart Historic District museum fire extinguisher project.
- \$3,000 **Immigrant Connection, Fishers:** for establishing an immigration legal services site in Hart.
- \$4,500 **Mercy Health Muskegon, Muskegon:** for Water Safety Cartoonversation books.
- \$1,500 **Mid-Michigan Honor Flight Inc., Mecosta:** for #13 and #14 honor flights and missions.
- \$5,498 **Oceana County Council on Aging, Hart:** for snow day emergency kits for seniors.
- \$2,000 **Oceana County Historical & Genealogical Society, Hart:** for videoconferencing equipment.
- \$1,000 **Oceana County Medical Care Facility, Hart:** for an outdoor courtyard improvement project.
- \$800 **Open Arms Child Advocacy Center, White Cloud:** for transportation services.
- \$2,000 **Project Hope of NE Allegan County, Dorr:** for personal care items, cleaning and paper products, and over-the-counter medications for pantry clients.
- \$1,500 **Special Olympics Michigan Area 05, Newaygo:** for uniform renewal.
- \$5,000 **Spiritual Care Consultants of West Michigan, Hastings:** for the Spiritual Care Children and Adolescent Program.
- \$3,600 **Stony Lake Therapeutic Riding Center, New Era:** for their veterans program.
- \$6,000 **Stony Lake Therapeutic Riding Center, New Era:** for student scholarships.
- \$5,000 **Sylvia's Place, Allegan:** for a 24/7 hotline operation for survivors of domestic violence.
- \$2,500 **Tri-Cities Area Habitat for Humanity, Grand Haven:** for Aging in Place home repairs, with preference given to support a project in GLE's service area.
- \$3,500 **Walkerville Thrives, Walkerville:** for the Old School Recreation Center.

- \$1,100 **White Cloud Community Library, White Cloud:** for the Opening the Doors of Learning program.
- \$1,230 **White Lake Area Sportfishing Association, Montague:** for repairs at the DNR walleye rearing pond in Muskegon.



Pentwater Art Walk, Pentwater



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## How The People Fund Works:

People Fund grants are funded with “extra change” donated by members who have their Great Lakes Energy bills rounded up to the next dollar. Grants are awarded twice a year by volunteers on the three regional board committees (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. The average monthly contribution is less than 50 cents per month. One hundred percent of the contributions are given back to local groups in the form of grants. Local needs are growing, so please join today.

## How To Apply:

Grant applications are available to nonprofit groups (not individuals). Applications are accepted through our online portal at [gtlakes.com/people-fund/](http://gtlakes.com/people-fund/). The deadlines for receiving grant applications are April 15 and Oct. 15.

## Did You Know...

The People Fund awarded **\$258,568** to local organizations in 2022 and has awarded more than **\$4.2 million** since 1999!

## Join People Fund Plus

You can make a greater impact in your local community with People Fund Plus.

Choose a People Fund donation level in addition to your rounded-up amount. Your donations are awarded in the form of grants to local community nonprofit groups.

All People Fund contributors earn the chance to win a \$100 bill credit twice per year. In 2022, the People Fund awarded \$258,568 in grants to local nonprofits.

Working together, we can help enhance our local communities and meet the needs of so many.

### Here’s How It Works:

\$65.42	Bill
\$00.58	People Fund Round-Up amount
\$ 2.00	People Fund PLUS amount (or any even amount you choose)
<hr/>	
\$68.00	Total bill

**Sign up today by contacting us at 888-GT-LAKES or visit [gtlakes.com](http://gtlakes.com).**

## Four easy ways to sign up for the People Fund

**By Phone:** Call 888-485-2537. • **GLE Website:** Visit [gtlakes.com/people-fund](http://gtlakes.com/people-fund).

**On the App** or **Online Account:** Go to Bill & Pay, then People Fund, then select your account and follow the prompts to enroll.



Current Activity		
Monthly Charge		\$32.21
Energy Usage	884 kWh @ 0.108	\$95.47
Energy Optimization Surcharge	884 kWh @ 0.00198	\$1.75
PSCR On Energy Use	884 kWh @ 0.00	\$0.00
State Sales Tax (\$129.43 x 4.0%)		\$5.18
<b>People Fund</b>		<b>\$0.46</b>
MI Low Income Energy Fund		\$0.93
<b>Total Current Activity</b>		<b>\$136.00</b>

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

**Enroll to be entered to win a \$100 billing credit, awarded twice a year.** If you are already enrolled, you are automatically entered in the prize drawings each year.