A place to call home

*Tiggleman Family Fund*

Bob Tiggleman may not live in Baldwin, but make no mistake, Lake County is his home. Since the mid-1940s, the Tiggleman family has spent each summer at Big Star Lake. The family enjoyed it so much that in 1951, Bob’s father purchased a cottage. The same cottage has been in the family for over 70 years.

“What makes Lake County special is the nature, the water, the woods, and the people,” said Bob. “I love the people; they are genuine and down to earth.”

*Continues on page 2*

Chair’s note

The new year is off to a great start here at the Community Foundation. Our board has been working hard on action planning with discussions on how we can better serve the area. The scholarship deadline was March 1, and we have already begun reviewing applications. The grant deadline is March 15, which means the Community Foundation will have the opportunity to work with some amazing organizations to help them fund their 2023 projects.

We are excited about what the year will bring for Lake County. We believe that this will be a memorable year for the Community Foundation and as always, we invite you to partner with us through giving or volunteering. We could not make the impact that we do and help so many without your continued support.

Thank you!

Respectfully,

Seth Wenger
Board Chair
It’s the Tigglemans’ mutual love for the community that led Bob and his siblings to start the Fred and Kaye Tiggleman Fund, named for their parents, after the passing of their mother in 2007. Then, after Bob’s brother passed away, the family decided to change the fund’s name to the Tiggleman Family Fund.

When the family changed the fund’s name, they also decided to change it from a donor advised fund to an unrestricted fund. The family realized that they wanted the fund to better serve the community by meeting a broader set of needs.

“It feels good just knowing that you’re helping people that you don’t know,” said Bob. “You don’t need a personal connection to make a difference.”

In the last few years alone, the fund has contributed to grants for Lake County Historical Society, which works directly in the preservation of historical documents and artifacts, and Feeding America West Michigan Food Bank, which provides perishable food to Lake County residents in need through mobile food pantries. It has also provided funding for Luther Area Public Library and the Village of Baldwin.

“This is truly a family fund,” said Bob passionately. “It’s not just me and my wife, but our entire family is involved in making this fund a reality.” The Tigglemans’ hope for the fund is that it will preserve the essence of what makes Lake County so great, but at the same time continue to help the community move forward.

In addition to his philanthropy, Bob builds houses for Habitat for Humanity and previously served on the Community Foundation’s Board of Trustees. He has also encouraged several other families to create endowment funds of their own and continues to be an avid supporter of not only the Community Foundation, but of Lake County.

“Giving back to the community has become a family tradition,” said Bob. “We consider ourselves fortunate to give back to the community we love. Knowing that the endowment is there for a long term and will be impacting the community long past our own lives is the most rewarding part.”
### 2022 financials

*Impact by the numbers as of December 31, 2022*

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<th>Amount</th>
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<td><strong>TOTAL GIFTS</strong></td>
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### Helping Lake County thrive

*Ways to give to the Community Foundation*

Giving is alive and well at the Community Foundation. Thanks to generosity from donors like the Tiggleman family, whose story is featured in this newsletter, we have supported countless nonprofit organizations and made a tremendous impact in Lake County. However, there will always be opportunities to grow and new needs to be addressed in the community. To do that, we need your partnership.

There are several ways that an individual can give to the Community Foundation. Donors have the option to give a one-time donation, name us as a beneficiary in their estate plan, or start an endowment fund. One unique way an individual or group can start an endowment fund is the build-a-fund program. The minimum amount required to start an fund is $10,000, but the build-a-fund program allows a donor to start a fund and take up to five years to reach the fund minimum. This allows those who originally would not have considered starting a fund the ability to do so in a flexible and affordable way.

These gifts become a part of our larger permanent endowment, which means they’ll work to help the community for years to come. For more information on the build-a-fund program and other ways to give, contact Katie Boven at kboven@facommunityfoundation.org or by phone at 231-924-5350.
Serving the community

Lake County Habitat for Humanity

Nestled in the woods, just off M37 on your way north to Baldwin, sits Lake County’s Habitat for Humanity ReStore. Although the store seems like most other resale shops, it is more than a business. Habitat for Humanity’s primary focus is serving the community by providing safe homes for low-income families that struggle with housing needs.

“Proceeds from the ReStore cover the cost of all administrative needs,” said Denise Suttles, executive director of Lake County Habitat for Humanity. “That means that everything donated can be used directly for housing needs.”

Last year, the Community Foundation provided a grant to the ReStore that helped them purchase a cash register, monitors, and equipment for Wi-Fi. Computers were also purchased for the store and for staff. “We had issues,” Denise said bluntly. “Now we have the capabilities to do exactly what we need. I’m even able to work remotely now when it’s not feasible to come in.”

With the technical equipment they need, Habitat for Humanity can put greater focus on their primary mission of housing needs. As they move forward, the organization is always seeking individuals who are willing to donate their time to a good cause.

“The great thing about Habitat for Humanity, is that anyone can volunteer here,” said Denise. “We have individuals who volunteer at the register, stocking shelves, cleaning, and renovating and building homes. There is a way for everyone to get involved.”