

## Newaygo County Community Grantmaking Guidelines

Fremont Area Community Foundation exists to enhance the quality of life for all people of Newaygo County and surrounding communities. To achieve our core purpose, we invest in partners who serve **residents of Newaygo County**, address a **community need** supported with relevant local data, anticipate the **project's impact**, provide realistic **budget projections**, explain future **sustainability plans**, and **collaborate** with community partners.

Through our competitive grantmaking process, the Community Foundation will invest in economic development and placemaking, poverty reduction and family well-being, educational attainment, and the preservation of our natural resources, as outlined below.

### Community development

Strengthen areas of the local economy and natural resources. Grant applications are encouraged to focus on one of the following:

- Reduce the unemployment rate to at or below the national average
- Provide support for housing development
- Support the conservation, preservation, or enhancement of our area's natural resources
- Support small business, entrepreneurship, and workforce development
- Strengthen capacity of local community partners
- Encourage community involvement in thriving arts and cultural opportunities or nature

### Educational attainment

Expand educational opportunities to assist all learners in developing the knowledge, skills, and behaviors needed to succeed in school, post-secondary, career pathways, and life. Grant applications are encouraged to focus on one of the following:

- Address learning loss and remediation
- Support Pre-K through 12 projects not funded through district budgets
- Expand the pursuit of college and career training
- Provide STEAM and literacy programs

### Poverty reduction

Advance social and economic mobility for households at or below the ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) threshold. Grant applications are encouraged to focus on one of the following:

- Fill gaps to meet people's most basic needs
- Develop individual skills, knowledge, and habits (financial, soft skills, etc.)
- Build social supports, mentorships, and networks
- Strengthen family well-being
- Support human dignity, purpose, and self-sufficiency

### Things Fremont Area Community Foundation typically will not fund

Grants to individuals, the purchase of property, indirect costs, sponsorships of one-time or special events, existing obligations, religious programming requiring affiliation and/or religious instruction, or projects that began prior to award notification. *Exceptions may be made if proven to be an asset to the community, while falling within our defined focus areas.*