

Oakland County Foundation Information

The Council of Michigan Foundations lists 178 private, 32 community and 27 corporate foundations in the state it considers large, based on assets and/or charitable expenditures. Of them, 27 of the private foundations and three of the corporate foundations are based in Oakland County.

None of the large community foundations is located in the county, but one, the Detroit-based Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan,

includes Oakland County. There also are numerous smaller foundations of various types in the county and some larger ones that are not affiliated with the CMF.

Shown here are the large Oakland County foundations from the CMF list, plus a sampling of the other area foundations, with information provided by their executives. (Expenditures noted include grant payments.)

Private

Foundation	Location	Fiscal Year	Assets	Expenditures	Payments	Targets
The Kresge Foundation	Troy	12/31/95	\$1,726,799.510	\$91,563.963	\$75,454.295	public benefit/educ./humanities
Hertick Foundation	Birmingham	6/30/95	\$208,020.517	\$10,065.385	\$177,500	public benefit/educ./humanities
American Foundation	Birmingham	12/31/95	\$12,500.000	\$348.900	\$150.300	public benefit/educ./humanities
Marjorie Foundation	Birmingham	12/31/94	\$12,002.053	\$199.453	\$126.950	public benefit/educ./humanities
Parker Family Foundation	Birmingham	12/31/94	\$8,447.192	\$227.501	\$126.950	public benefit/educ./humanities
James and Lynette Holden Fund	Troy	10/31/95	\$7,382.480	\$1,022.197	\$895.500	public benefit/educ./humanities
William M. Rainer Foundation	Troy	8/31/95	\$7,139.302	\$377.018	\$299.133	public benefit/educ./humanities
Edward L. Mass Foundation	Farmington Hills	12/31/95	\$7,099.249	\$335.479	\$398.607	public benefit/educ./humanities
George S. and Helen G. Deffenbaugh Foundation	Birmingham	12/31/95	\$6,604.625	\$220.339	\$150.372	public benefit/educ./humanities
The Charles Deffenbaugh Foundation	Birmingham	12/31/95	\$5,581.458	\$293.818	\$222.400	public benefit/educ./humanities
The Rodney Fund	Birmingham	12/31/95	\$5,224.504	\$510.415	\$499.170	public benefit/educ./humanities
Hongman Foundation, Inc.	Southfield	10/31/95	\$4,825.654	\$580.745	\$566.533	public benefit/educ./humanities
The Thomas Foundation	Farmington Hills	3/31/95	\$4,659.874	\$245.386	\$151.000	public benefit/educ./humanities
Charles M. Buevich Foundation, Inc.	Troy	12/31/95	\$3,924.311	\$230.218	\$187.800	public benefit/educ./humanities
Peter D. and Dorothy S. Brown Charitable Trust	Birmingham	12/31/95	\$3,753.053	\$103.789	\$69.256	public benefit/educ./humanities
The O'Brien-Vick Scholarship Trust	Birmingham	12/31/95	\$3,677.923	\$247.482	\$213.799	public benefit/educ./humanities
John and Rose Herman Foundation	Troy	12/31/95	\$3,130.780	\$111.766	\$93.875	public benefit/educ./humanities
Vick Foundation	Birmingham	5/31/95	\$3,054.220	\$164.904	\$163.579	public benefit/educ./humanities
Marcel Foundation	Southfield	7/31/95	\$3,015.372	\$313.874	\$309.210	public benefit/educ./humanities
Johnson Foundation	Birmingham	10/30/94	\$2,947.845	\$1,616.287	\$1,413.200	public benefit/educ./humanities
Theodore and Mire Bargman Found.	Birmingham	12/31/94	\$2,866.555	\$341.417	\$252.000	public benefit/educ./humanities
The Shirley K. Schuler Foundation	Birmingham	10/31/95	\$1,297.009	\$399.555	\$393.743	public benefit/educ./humanities
Bryan & Dorothy Gerson Fund	Franklin	4/30/95	\$931.060	\$448.206	\$442.710	public benefit/educ./humanities
The Donald E. and Jo Anne Peterson Foundation	Birmingham	12/31/95	\$883.384	\$118.051	\$109.442	public benefit/educ./humanities
Albert and Doris Pitt Foundation	Franklin	12/31/95	\$407.318	\$320.225	\$319.000	public benefit/educ./humanities
The Paul and Lois Hatanan Foundation	Birmingham	12/31/94	\$198.661	\$327.200	\$323.873	public benefit/educ./humanities
A. Alfred Taubman Foundation	Birmingham	7/31/95	\$8.111	\$110.106	\$107.045	public benefit/educ./humanities

Community

Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan	Detroit	12/31/95	\$118,508.041	\$6,669.755	\$7,230.591	public benefit/many others
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Corporate

Chrysler Corporation Fund	Auburn Hills	12/31/95	\$54,371.097	\$19,695.000	\$18,567.222	human serv./others
Eli Foundation	Birmingham	12/31/95	\$2,004.210	\$42.764	\$41.405	unavailable
Kelly Services, Inc. Foundation	Troy	12/31/94	\$1,000.000	\$220.000	\$220.000	unavailable

Local

Birmingham Education Foundation	Birmingham	6/30/97	\$103,000	\$134.302	\$36.103	education
Clarkson Foundation	Clarkston	12/31/95	\$85.831	\$9.402	\$9.402	public benefit
Farmington Foundation of Children, Youth and Families	Farmington	6/30/96	\$34.187	\$1.548	\$680	public benefit
Greater Oakland Comm. Foundation	Clarkston	12/31/95	(new, awaiting official IRS status)	\$123.474	\$100.226	public benefit, education
Greater Rochester Area Community Foundation	Rochester	12/31/95	\$1,018.412	\$123.474	\$100.226	public benefit, education
Oakland Comm. College Foundation	Birmingham	6/30/97	\$562.173	\$743.297	\$630.715	education
Oakland University Foundation	Rochester	6/30/96	\$8,200.000	\$1,000.000	\$1,000.000	education
Rochester Comm. Schools Foundation	Rochester	6/30/96	\$52,099	\$35.437	\$35.437	education
Southfield Community Foundation	Southfield	6/30/95	\$125.000	\$45.000	\$45.000	public benefit
Southfield Educational Foundation	Southfield	6/30/97	\$13,000	\$10.100	\$10.000	education
Troy Foundation for Educational Excellence	Troy	6/30/97	\$54.103	\$17.372	\$16.984	public benefit

Foundations fill needs towns, schools cannot

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By LARRY PALADINO
STAFF WRITER

So few tax dollars, but so many worthy projects. Park beautification here. Symphony orchestra support there.

Skilled teachers with great ideas that might get no trial. Students ready for different challenges.

Drug prevention. College scholarships. Veterans memorials. Youth centers. Transportation for senior citizens.

What's a community to do? More and more, they are turning to foundations: private, community and corporate. Big ones with huge assets, paid staff and a lot of money to give away. And little ones with few assets and all-volunteer boards, but with clever fund-raisers and very specific small grant targets.

"What we do for our community lives long after we are gone," said Mary Ann Reidinger, executive director of the Greater Rochester Area Community Foundation (GRACF), quoting President Theodore Roosevelt.

A foundation is a non-governmental, nonprofit organization with funds and programs managed by its own trustees or directors. It is established to aid social, educational, charitable, religious or other activities to serve the common welfare, primarily through grants.

Reidinger said here is the only community foundation in Oakland County that belongs to the Council of Michigan Foundations (CMF), a Grand Haven-based association representing nearly all the largest foundations in the state. To belong, members have to give away \$50,000 a year and pay a \$160 basic fee. Last year, 486 foundations provided the \$50,000 grant minimum, with 374 belonging to the CMF.

There are numerous small nonprofit charitable organizations that call themselves community foundations but don't meet the criteria of such a foundation, said Robert Collier, vice president and chief operating officer of the council. "When we're talking about family (private), corporate or community foundations, we're talking about permanent endowment funds that can benefit a wide variety of community needs," he said. "When you raise money and pass it through, you're really a civic foundation."

Many educational foundations fall into that category, Collier said. Marian Gorton, administrator of charitable trusts for the state Attorney General's office, said there are 1,823 non-profit charitable organizations registered with her office and using the word "foundation," but there is no way to determine how many of them meet all the definitions of a foundation. Of them, she said, 289 are in Oakland County.

The CMF's 1996 Survey of Michigan Foundation Philanthropy reports there are 1,270 private, community or corporate foundations in Michigan. Of those, 388 (31 percent) had assets of more than \$1 million. Those foundations had 98 percent of the assets, more than \$14 billion, and distributed \$673 million (96 percent). Of the other 882 foundations, 354 of them have assets under \$100,000.

Oakland foundations In its list of 178 largest Michigan foundations, 27 are in Oakland County — including the mega Kresge Foundation of Troy, which had assets of \$1.7 billion and doled out \$75.5 million in grants. There are 27 corporate foundations statewide, with three in the county and 24 for community foundations, there are 32 of them, but none in Oakland County.

However, the Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan (CFSM), located in Detroit, includes Oakland among its seven counties. The survey shows it ranks third with assets (through its 1995 fiscal

year) of \$116.5 million. Its \$7.2 million in grants is second most. Since it was founded in 1984, it has provided more than 6,600 grants totaling more than \$42.4 million.

"In 1996, we approved \$1.6 million, roughly 230 grants, that went to organizations with their main offices in Oakland County," said Marian Noland, the foundation's president and current chairwoman of the CMF. The smallest, she said, was for \$250 and the largest was a \$163,000 grant to Jewish Family Services of West Bloomfield. A typical grant in the county last year was \$26,000 to \$30,000, she said.

Joseph L. Hudson Jr. is the president of the CFSM and its board includes many prominent Oakland County residents, like Max Fincher (Farmington Hills), David Hermolin (Birmingham), Al Taubman and Rick Inatome (Bloomfield Hills) and Florine Mark (Franklin).

Small local foundations have board members who are local business, civic and educational leaders in their communities. Among such organizations, which are tax exempt 501(c)(3) corporations under the Internal Revenue System code, are GRACF, the Rochester Community Schools Foundation; Birmingham Educational Foundation; Southfield Community Foundation; Southfield Educational Foundation; Farmington Foundation of Children, Youth and Families; Troy Foundation for Educational Excellence; Greater Oakland Community Foundation (Clarkston); Clarkston Foundation.

Schools targeted "The foundation allows our community to support an outstanding education program in spite of state funding pressures," said Melinda Conway Callahan, executive director of the Rochester Community Schools Foundation.

"Educational foundations for public schools have become very prevalent in our state within the past few years."



On tape: John Zylka tapped his seven years' experience as Farmington Hills paramedic to put together a series of home safety videos. Farmington Hills fire and police departments helped Zylka on the project.

Former Hills paramedic's video helps people feel safe at home

By KEVIN BROWN
STAFF WRITER

A former Farmington Hills paramedic used his experience to put together a video series on home safety.

Producer John Zylka's firm SafetyTech did the video series, with the help of the Plymouth firm, Communicore Visual Communications. It's now ready for national distribution.

Zylka, through his seven years' experience as a Farmington Hills paramedic, recognized a need for the series.

It consists of three videos, each covering a different aspect of home safety. The titles are "Home Emergencies," "Making Your Home Safe For Children," and "Safe Babysitting."

Among testimonials from safety authorities to promote the series, Zylka collected one from Michael Taylor, manager of the community safety division of the National Safety Council:

"I commend your efforts on your series of videos focused on home safety. The thoroughness of your work in the videos was very impressive. Again, I commend you on your dedication in educating Americans on how to make their home safer," Taylor said.

Zylka wrote the scripts and serves as on-camera narrator. Communicore did field work, filming and editing and other post-production work including special effects.

Zylka said that through his work as a paramedic, he learned "so many emergencies are so preventable with just a little bit of information."

He said the videos are especially geared toward young families. Among safety tips covered in the video series is the importance of smoke detectors and lots of them. "That's the real life saver," he said.

The series was filmed last year in July through September. Fol-

low-up work included obtaining copyrights and completing artwork. "It was an involved making everything come together, we had to work with a company to provide music," Zylka said.

The series was filmed in Farmington Hills and Orchard Lake, with much help from the Farmington Hills police and fire departments.

Those appearing in the video include some community actors, and teens.

Zylka is now working in post production on a fourth video on fire safety for children. Noted children's performer Mary Rice Hopkins is contributing to the production.

The videos now available can be ordered through catalogs or the Internet, or by calling 1-800-723-3637.

"Hopefully I'm going to be approaching a variety of chain stores," Zylka said, including Blockbuster Video.

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