

Mecosta County Community Foundation  
 P.O. Box 1012-C  
 Big Rapids, MI 49307  
 Return Service Requested



(231) 796-3055

www.mecostagives.com

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# Community Citizens Promoting A Better Community Forever

Fall 2011

## Giving Thanks for a Christmas to Remember - Match Day 2011 is here!

Mark your calendars and rev your fundraising engines - November 3rd is Match Day, and organizers are confident the event will be even more successful than last year's event, which raised more than a whopping quarter of a million dollars in just one day.

Last year, about \$253,000 was raised as a result of more than 1000 individual donations to about 50 area non-profit groups.

This year's event is scheduled for 11 a.m to 7 p.m. on November 3rd at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center in Big Rapids.

The Mecosta County Community Foundation, with the help of some very generous donors, have once again raised \$50,000 in a match pool to be used to leverage gifts from community members that day when they donate to the charity of their choice. For a list of participating non-profits, go to the foundation website at [www.mecostagives.com](http://www.mecostagives.com).

"Last year's event was very exciting and successful and exceeded our expectations," said Foundation Vice President and Match Day Chair Tim Zehr. "We're confident in the expertise and the passion of our non-profit organizations that they will eclipse our expectations again this year," he added.

Area non-profits are in the process of raising funds and encouraging their supporters to come out and give on Match Day so their donation is matched up to 50 cents on the dollar.

No single non-profit will receive more than 10% of the match pool, but there are bonus prizes for the groups that generate the most donations.

Area non-profits will join the foundation board at the Holiday Inn as they set up booths to showcase what their organization does for charity. Each non-profit is encouraged to join in the Christmas theme and dress and decorate accordingly.

## \$5,000 in bonus prizes available at Match Day!

All non-profits that participate in Match Day 2011 will receive matching dollars proportionate to what money they raise during the event. In addition, special bonus prizes will be awarded to the three non-profits that receive the greatest number of donations over \$10.00. Certainly donations of any amount will be gratefully accepted, but only those gifts of \$10.00 or more will count toward the bonus prizes.

Prizes of \$2,500, \$1,500 and \$1,000 will be awarded to the top three non-profits that receive the greatest number of donations.

Last year St. Peter's Lutheran School generated the most individual donations and won a \$1,000 bonus prize.

This year, the Match Day committee decided to expand the bonus program to reward multiple groups with hopes of even more individual donations from the community.



Last year's match day generated more than \$253,000 for area non-profits!



## Community Citizens Promoting A Better Community Forever

### Thank you!

For your continued support of the Mecosta County Community Foundation!

Key contributors are recognized each year in our annual report by cumulative giving level:

<b>Gemstone Members</b>	<b>\$50,000+</b>
<b>Community Builders</b>	<b>\$25,000 - \$49,999</b>
<b>Keystone Members</b>	<b>\$10,000 - \$24,999</b>
<b>Milestone Members</b>	<b>\$5,000 - \$ 9,999</b>
<b>Foundation Builders</b>	<b>\$3,000 - \$ 4,999</b>
<b>Mecosta Leaders</b>	<b>\$1,500 - \$ 2,999</b>

Yes! Please accept the attached donation to the Mecosta County Community Foundation Community Needs Fund to support local community projects!

Enclosed is my contribution of \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: Mecosta County Community Foundation  
 P.O. Box 1012-C, Big Rapids, MI 49307

Match Day Details are at [www.mecostagives.com](http://www.mecostagives.com)

## FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Friends, Mecosta County Community Foundation Match Day 2011 is upon us. November 3, 2011, is the day, 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. is the time, and the Holiday Inn Conference Center is the location. On an organizational level, many of our community's non-profits think Match Day 2011 is a big deal, and of course, those of us working with the Foundation think so, too. It is a big deal because the non-profits have a signature event to market to their members and supporters to help during the very important end-of-the-year donation period. Not only does having a Match Day give folks something to rally around or point to, the Foundation has raised \$50,000 to add to what will be raised by the non-profits, which gives a bit more incentive to those considering a donation. The Foundation is passing the full \$50,000 directly to the non-profits as well as any money raised and handled by the Foundation as part of Match Day without taking out a nickel for administrative costs. Everything raised goes directly to support our community; we hope this infuses several hundred thousand dollars into those activities you recognize as priorities for charitable giving in our area. Match Day 2011 is a big deal to our wonderful Mecosta County non profits.



Scott Hill-Kennedy

Match Day 2011 is just as important on a personal level. And in fact, it is the personal part that led us to adopt this year's particular theme--Giving Thanks for a Christmas to Remember. Of course, Christmas and many other holidays associated with other traditions recognize the importance of giving of one's self to help or brighten the lives of our relatives, friends, or neighbors or to express our love or concern for others. We hope that individuals newer to giving see the value placed upon giving by others and begin to make that part of their lifestyle. We also hope that those used to giving are inspired to continue or to do more because they see others doing the same. Just like Match Day gives non-profits a visible event to market to their supporters to encourage end of the year giving, it also gives all of us a chance to highlight and encourage philanthropy, particularly amongst those newer to giving. Match Day 2011 is a big deal to individuals.

Here is where this year's theme comes in. Many of us are fortunate to be able to celebrate wonderful Holidays or other traditions with our family and friends. The theme's reminder to give thanks for the bounty we enjoy may give you the opportunity to show some young people or those newer to giving—family members, friends, those we mentor, etc.—the power and importance of giving. Some of us plan to encourage the giving of a modest gift by a young person, which we will individually match, and which bigger donation will again be matched from the \$50,000 Foundation Match Day pool. We will make these new donors see how their donation has multiplied and also see how the organization they chose may benefit by coming to Match Day and interacting with the non-profits which will be staffing tables at the event.

Match Day 2011 gives us an event to focus support on Mecosta County's non-profits and an event to focus individuals on the value of giving. We hope that you are able to help the non-profits that are important to you and also to encourage a giving lifestyle amongst our newer givers as part of Match Day 2011. If you would like to know more about Match Day 2011, details are set out in this newsletter, and also you may go to our website—mecostagives.com—for complete information.

I hope to see you at Match Day 2011.

Thanks very much and have a wonderful fall.

## MECOSTA COUNTY FOUNDATION

Period Ended June 2011

### Mecosta County Community Foundation Period ended June 2011

Scott D. Anderson Memorial Scholarship	36,981.98
Artworks: Big Rapids Area Arts & Humanities	15,127.44
Barry Barratt Scholarship	12,467.51
Charles R. & Marian D. Beadle Advised	24,431.26
Big Rapids Realty Advised Fund	20,449.13
Harold Boerma Eagle Scout Scholarship	17,966.56
Chippewa Watershed Conservancy Endowment	12,384.03
Class of 1974, Linda Willette Scholarship	16,891.30
Sarah Marie Comer Memorial Fund	31,240.71
William F. DuBois II, MD & Catherine DuBois	12,184.44
Friends of the Big Rapids Community Library	142,974.27
A. Donald and Susan H. Grant Advised	11,152.00
Healthy Youth and Seniors - Mecosta	37,399.01
Horticulture and Technology Scholarship	11,143.20
Lake-Osceola State Bank Community Support	23,960.78
Dennis Lerner Advised	37,356.19
Lerner, Csernai & Fath Financial Group Advised	27,702.55
Little Kevin Hockey Hope Fund	51,828.42
MCYAC Hope Scholarship Fund	66,708.42
Mecosta County Community Fund Administratve	79.12
Mecosta County Community Foundation Community Needs	552,195.63
Mecosta County Special Project	52,238.12
Mecosta County Medical Center Foundation	18,143.82
Mecosta County Habitat for Humanity	15,599.45
Mecosta-Osceola Great Start	18,722.66
Mecosta-Osceola United Way Fund - MCCF	15,650.25
Michcon Legacy Fund for Mecosta-Osceola	99,683.75
Mildred A. Miller Swede Hill Park	166,083.48
Robert D. Miller Scholarship Fund	25,378.23
Ben Mondrella Memorial Fund	46,956.40
Morley Stanwood Education Association Scholarship	13,249.87
Alyce Peterson Fund for Project Starburst	103,521.74
Riverwalk Fund	13,422.06
Riverwalk Endowment	182,236.39
Rotary Club of Big Rapids	37,437.83
The Schinderle Fund	122,019.45
Schuberg Designated for Immanuel Lutheran Church	21,327.29
Schuberg Designated for St. Mary's Catholic School	133,242.33
Alice Stephenson Schuberg	31,412.71
Carl A. Schuberg Fund	21,851.70
Shamrock Invitational	121,589.55
Solid Ice - Endowment	348,631.19
Solid Ice - Flexible	323.08
Spirit of the Season - Endowment	140,322.04
Spirit of the Season - Flexible	1,113.34
St. Mary's Elementary School Education Enrichment	10,560.30
Scholarship Fund for St. Mary's School	12,352.35
St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church	57,854.95
St. Peter's Lutheran School	15,447.92
STAGE-M Leon Keys Memorial Fine Arts Camp	11,994.58
Jenine Stickler Memorial	19,665.38
Ken and Aletha Sutherland Family Scholarship	27,347.29
Ken and Aletha Sutherland Family Fund for Tamarack Library	14,507.88
Ken and Aletha Sutherland Family Fund for Wheatland Library	14,507.88
Jacob and Gertrude VanDyke Scholarship	98,409.77
Women's Information Services, Inc.	46,834.72
Youth Endowment Fund of Mecosta County	294,347.53
<b>Total Mecosta County Community Foundation</b>	<b>3,536,607.50</b>

## MCYAC News



### MCYAC President also a King!

Congratulations to MCYAC President Levi Mehl who was crowned Big Rapids High School Homecoming King. Mehl, a senior at Big Rapids High School, is shown with homecoming queen Casey Brockette.

Staff and board members at Rose Lake Youth Camp accept a check for \$1,000 from MCYAC Advisor Debbie Patterson for camp scholarships for Mecosta County Youth and for waterfront recreation/swimming activities.



## A Christmas to Remember

I remember the first holiday season that touched on the emotion and reward of "giving" as a child. It was a gift to my mother that was actually a re-gift of a present that I had been given in my school classroom exchange. It didn't matter to mom that it was a giant size chocolate bar, it didn't matter to mom that I had not given her a more "mom-appropriate" gift.....what mattered most to mom was that I cared so much for her that I was willing to give up a valuable gift of my own for her. It is still one of my favorite Christmas memories.

So how do we teach our children and grandchildren the value of self sacrifice for the benefit of others?



Match Day 2011 is a perfect opportunity. 70 plus non-profit organizations will be working hard to raise funds for those in need within Mecosta County. A gift by your child or grandchild can be matched by you, then matched by us, making it a triple gift of love to an organization of their choice.

Please reserve Thursday, November 3rd on your calendar for Match Day. Plan now to bring your child or grandchild to the event with you. Let them look at all of the great non-profit organizations that will have tables set up. Let them feel the joy that only comes through giving. Give them the life memory of how good giving to others felt.

So many need so much. Together.....we can make this a "Christmas to Remember" in Mecosta County.

**Thank you!** Tim Zehr, Match Day Chair

## Coming soon.....Fall grant news:

Please watch our website at [www.mecostagives.com](http://www.mecostagives.com) for upcoming announcements on fall grant recipients from the Community Needs Fund and from the Mecosta County Youth Advisory Council (Mcyac).

Each year we receive more worthy grant requests than funds allow. If you'd like to help build the Community Needs Fund to enable us to give more out in local grants, we respectfully ask that you consider making a donation. Please see the last page of the newsletter for a giving form. Or better yet, bring a donation on Match Day - gifts to any current endowed fund in the foundation, including the community needs fund will be eligible for a match.