

An aerial photograph of a large outdoor event, possibly a festival or fair, with a dense crowd of people. In the foreground, a large American flag is visible on a tall pole. The background shows a body of water with a large ship and other smaller boats. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent orange filter.

good for Mason County.

AN UPDATE FROM YOUR
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
for **MASON COUNTY**



good for
you.

Todd and Brad Reed
ToddandBradReed.com

Your love of where you live continues to “do good” for our community, creating a more vibrant and welcoming community filled with growing opportunities. We are privileged and honored to be a part of the great work happening in Mason County.

Looking back on 2017, we realize none of the accomplishments shared would have been possible without our donors and partners. So **thank you** for yet another great year of making our communities better together.

Connect with us on Facebook, www.facebook.com/cfmasoncty to stay current with what is happening!

This is our home. Thank you for making it special.

Andrea Large
Executive Director

Julie Van Dyke
Chair, Board of Trustees

Here's what happened in 2017:

- **\$1,206,498** in gifts and grants received
- **\$1,404,371** in grants awarded including **\$73,480** in scholarships and **\$14,509** in Youth Advisory Council grants
- **31** memorial/in-honor designations
- **12** new funds
- **169** new donors
- **\$16,111,778** in total assets



Ludington Area High School Graduation

Russ Miller Photography

Thomas Thompson, a Ludington Area Schools alumnus, created a scholarship fund in his family's name because many of his family members have received scholarships over the years.

Because of his first-hand knowledge of the difference financial support for college meant, he wanted to share in the good feeling that comes from making a difference for future generations.

"It is one of the things I wanted to do in my life," said Thomas.

The first scholarship from his family fund will be awarded spring of 2019.

- The Elmer and Rose Peterson Memorial Designated Fund was established by **David Peterson**, a Mason County Central (MCC) alumnus, to award a scholarship to MCC students who are inventive. This scholarship is in memory of his parents and honors his father, Elmer, who loved to invent things. Elmer's passion for inventing will continue forever in the form of scholarships for students pursuing that field of study.



Carol Nelson has always had a passion for education and the arts and has given to support efforts to increase these types of opportunities in our community. She decided she wanted to do more of it and create longevity for her giving so she started a Donor Advised Fund and adds to it with stock transfers. It's easy and allows her to give more.

- **Bruce and Julie Lowing** have long been strong community supporters. In 2017, they established the Lowing Family Donor Advised Fund by transferring an investment account to the Foundation. Now they can direct their philanthropy to any number of qualified nonprofits of their choice to support the good work that is happening at home.
- When your investments are doing well, it's often the perfect opportunity to support the things that you love - any time of the year. Appreciated investments are great gifts that may help you avoid capital gains taxes.



The Hamlin Lake Preservation Society is an educational organization that represents waterfront owners and interested friends of Hamlin Lake. Throughout the year, they monitor water quality, weed distribution, produce a newsletter, and sponsor activities on the lake such as fireworks and sailboat races. This year, they established the **Hamlin Lake Preservation Society Endowment Fund** to provide a permanent, growing source of income to sustain their good work. They are here to stay.

- **Jamie Spore and Shelby Soberalski** have a passion for helping people in our community who have physical, social and emotional disabilities. They put that passion to work by partnering their efforts to establish the **Accessibility for Mason County Fund**, supporting local projects that focus on increasing activities and making our community more accessible for all.



Volunteer working at the Lakeshore Food Club

We love to work with community partners making great things happen in our area. **The Lakeshore Food Club** is a collaborative effort of United Way, Pennies from Heaven Foundation, the Community Foundation, the faith-based community, and many generous donors. On October 2, the Lakeshore Food Club opened its doors to a facility that allows grocery-style shopping for families who meet the eligibility criteria. The food club also offers a “demonstration kitchen” where community members may take classes to learn how to prepare healthy meals.

- **The Friends of Ludington State Park** started a new fund to raise money to build a new playground at the popular State Park Hamlin Beach site. The new playground plan was developed in partnership with Accessibility Mason County and will be accessible to all children.
- A grant from the Foundation helped the **City of Ludington** purchase a driving simulator that allows students and community members to sit behind the wheel of a car and experience the effects of distracted driving. Area school districts will use this with students to help prevent accidents.

Serving Mason County as an affiliate of the
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Mason County

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