good for Mason County.
We have so much to be thankful for in Mason County: breathtaking scenic beauty, caring community organizations, and so many thoughtful donors. Everywhere you look, you can see the generosity of our residents.

This is our home.

Thank you for caring so much. It shows every day.

Jeanne Oakes  Julie Van Dyke
Executive Director  Chair, Board of Trustees

Here’s what happened in 2016:
▪ $1,029,238 in gifts and grants received
▪ $1,013,257 in grants awarded
▪ $40,730 in scholarships
▪ 24 memorial/in honor of designations
▪ 8 new funds
▪ 349 new donors
▪ $4,361 in grants awarded by the Youth Advisory Committee
▪ $14,352,543 in total assets
Since 1867, Big Sable Point Lighthouse has stood as a beacon of hope for mariners on Lake Michigan and a majestic, historic icon for tourists and residents alike. The volunteers of the Sable Point Lighthouse Keepers Association have restored the light to its original glory and are deeply committed to its ongoing preservation. Grants from the Community Foundation and from the Gerald and Dorothy Heslipen Fund are helping to support Big Sable’s 150th birthday celebration!

- Shirley Smedley loved this community. Though she passed away in 2008, she is still making good things happen here! Her estate gift provides grants like Big Sable Point to improve our community...forever.
We all benefit when the organizations in our community have sustainable funding. An endowment fund can provide a permanent, growing source of income to sustain your work. It also sends a message to the community that you are here to stay.

When Milan Reed passed away, his wife, Dorothy, asked that memorial gifts be given to establish a HELP Ministry Fund, which has grown to be a permanent endowment to support their mission of compassionate caring.

- A group of nature lovers created A Few Friends for the Environment of the World Fund (AFFEW), an endowment to support work being done across Mason County. From beach cleanups and rain gardens to family activities and community forums, AFFEW is keeping the community green and connected!
When a loved one passes away, creating a fund at the Foundation is a special way of honoring their life. New memorials support scholarships, like the George Dila Memorial Scholarship Fund and the Adam Murphy Fund. New donor advised funds honor loved ones and support causes or organizations close to the family, like the Paul Bromley Memorial Fund and the Scatena Family Fund.

- What is important to you? You can create a family legacy to support what you love in our community. Learn more about starting a fund and planning an estate gift by visiting our website at www.mason-foundation.org/give.
There were hip-hop moves, sparkling sequins, and daring lifts as six couples took to the dance floor to raise money for the Oriole Foundation Fund at “Dancing with the Local Stars.” An enthusiastic audience cheered them on and showed their support with $140,000 in donations to the Fund. Add in a generous match from the Pennies from Heaven Foundation, and the event raised over $280,000! The Oriole Foundation Fund makes a big impact on education through teacher grants and scholarships.

- Bob and Norma Bazzett created a scholarship fund in their name because they are passionate about supporting education. As an enthusiastic alum of Ludington High School, Bob also rallied his classmates to create a Class of ’59 Fund, which has awarded over $15,000 in scholarships to Ludington graduates.
Your gift to the Community Foundation will make an impact, today and in the future. Gifts you give are invested for long-term growth, providing grants back into the community. You become part of the effort to create positive change in our community...forever. That’s the power of endowment.

If everyone leaves 5% of their estate to a Foundation fund, over $136 million will be invested in Mason County by 2055.

Love your community. Leave 5%.

www.mason.foundation.org