The Children’s Foundation is the largest funder dedicated solely to advancing the health and wellness of children and families in the state of Michigan and beyond.

Through fundraising, grantmaking and advocacy dedicated to three core pillars, Community Benefit, Pediatric Research and Medical Education, The Children’s Foundation enables researchers and community organizations to identify and implement innovations capable of advancing health and wellness.
It was a very busy summer for The Children's Foundation with events that brought together our wonderful donors and community partners.

Perhaps one of the focal points of the entire year was the Rocket Mortgage Classic which included a series of events that created national recognition for The Foundation. As a partner of Rocket Mortgage Classic, we are an active participant in the tournament’s initiative to close the digital divide in Detroit. Together, we are providing more Internet access and technology to families in our community. I invite you to read highlights from the event in the coming pages - including how we created a once in-a-lifetime opportunity for young golfers.

Over the past few months, we celebrated with Leaders for Kids in the return of its signature event, Summer Recess, helped raise funds for local kids on behalf of the Paul. W. Smith Golf Classic, and hosted our Second Annual Ben Hogan Championship of Michigan which benefited our initiative, First Tee – Greater Detroit.

Speaking of First Tee – Greater Detroit, it recently received an important grant from Total Health Care Foundation as well as a generous gift from CDW, both which will help grow our initiative and the experience participants have in the program. You can read more about this in our featured donor story on page 12.

Most importantly, in June we celebrated our second-round of 2022 grant awards, totaling $7 million this year! Seventeen new community partners have joined us as we continue our work to create a greater impact for children in Michigan and beyond. With each grant cycle, we provide more resources to organizations that have thoughtful, efficient, and effective ways to better the lives of children and families. Some of these impact stories are shared later in this report which you will enjoy.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement with The Foundation. It is because of you that we continue to be on the move, doing more with more.

Onward!

Lawrence J. Burns
President and CEO
The Children's Foundation
When nine-year-old Darius was announced as a recipient of the Ashok & Ingrid (Sharada) Sarnaik Endowed Scholarship, he looked at his mom in wide-eyed disbelief and excitement. Kourtney, another recipient, humbly arose from her seat as her parents cheered and watched their daughter receive the award. These two students were chosen out of ten fourth-grade applicants at Charles L. Spain Elementary School in Detroit and received $2,500. The endowment, which the Sarnaiks established at The Children’s Foundation in 2021, awards annual scholarships to Detroit Public Schools students, but also enables enrichment activities, such as academic summer camps and extra-curriculars, for these students.

In addition, Darius and Kourtney are eligible to receive annual allocations to their scholarships until they graduate high school, provided they maintain good academic standing. An additional two fourth-graders will be chosen each year, and they too will have the opportunity to grow their scholarship amount. The Sarnaik Endowment will eventually award tens of thousands of dollars in scholarships to dozens of DPS students!

Welcome to The Foundation’s newest Trustee!

Richard Haddad, COO and Chief Legal Officer for Pistons Sports & Entertainment, recently joined the organization’s Board of Trustees. Haddad oversees human resources, finance, IT, risk management, facilities, corporate and real estate development, legal, business and government affairs for PSE, Detroit Pistons, Motor City Cruise, Pistons Performance, and the Detroit Pistons Foundation. Haddad has supported Foundation initiatives for the past six years while serving on the Leaders For Kids Board.

Ashok & Ingrid Sarnaik Endowed Scholarship creates opportunities for fourth-graders at Detroit Public Schools
With generous donations from Children’s Foundation Trustees, a Behavioral Health Scholarship was established to be awarded annually to a Michigan-based student pursuing a doctoral degree in a mental health field with a goal to serve children and adolescents.

The 2022 recipient of the $5,000 scholarship is Aaron Neal, a graduate student at University of Michigan’s Clinical Psychology program. In addition to his work as a clinician, he enjoys conducting research with youth to understand the stressors impacting their mental health. His research explores how racism as a stressor impacts the mental health of Black youth. Neal’s hope is that it helps mental health providers better understand how Black youth experience racism and how it is impacting their mental health.

Important OpEd featured by Crain’s Business Detroit

On Sunday, August 7, Crain’s Business Detroit published an OpEd written by President & CEO, Lawrence J. Burns, detailing the importance of The Foundation’s collegiate recovery programming grant support, in partnership with the Jamie Daniels Foundation. As readers prepare to send their children and grandchildren back to school, the timely piece brings awareness to the struggles the current generation of youth face, and why support at the college level is necessary for their success.
The Children’s Foundation’s successful week at the Rocket Mortgage Classic

During the week of the Rocket Mortgage Classic, The Foundation supported the tournament’s “Changing the Course” initiative, which seeks to provide every Detroit resident with access to Internet, technology, and digital literacy, in these three ways:

1. Sponsorship of the Youth Golf Clinic, which brought together youth from organizations such as Midnight Golf, First Tee - Greater Detroit, and Detroit PAL, to learn tips and tricks from golf professionals and other athletes. It was a hands-on, interactive experience that the kids will remember their whole lives!


3. Nationally televised messaging on CBS during The John Shippen tournament and Rocket Mortgage Classic that shared The Foundation’s commitment to improving the health and wellness of children and families in Michigan and beyond.

The Foundation’s participation in the Rocket Mortgage Classic lends itself to other unexpected opportunities including local news segments and tags on social media by well-known names such as Calvin Johnson, Patrick Cantlay, and others - all opportunities to reach more individuals. This event is important to Detroit, and The Foundation’s involvement helps advance “Changing the Course” and shares our mission and impactful work with a broader audience.

IN DETROIT, an estimated 40% of residents have no internet connection of any kind.
This makes it impossible for students to continue their schooling. Beyond internet access, most students lack access to a traditional computer, such as a desktop or laptop. That is why the Rocket Mortgage Classic set forward the “Changing the Course” initiative in 2020, seeing it through to 2025. Their goal is to ensure every Detroit resident has access to the Internet, technology and digital literacy training they deserve.
The Children’s Foundation is pleased to announce it has awarded 59 new grants in its round two of 2022 grant cycles, which includes awards to 17 new community partners!

When added to its previous 2022 grant cycle, The Foundation has awarded $7 million to support projects in community benefit, research, and educational pillar. To date, the Foundation has granted $80 million to more than 160 community partners in Michigan and beyond.
With each grant cycle, we provide more resources to organizations that have thoughtful, efficient and effective ways to better the lives of children and families.”

– LAWRENCE J. BURNS, PRESIDENT & CEO
For a few hours every week after school, Maddie and other Detroit Horse Power participants engage in evidence-based curriculum, which uses riding and caring for horses to better understand perseverance, empathy, responsible risk-taking, confidence, and self-control. The organization has witnessed countless success stories, helping students to develop the skills that lead them to academic and equestrian scholarships, as well as career opportunities. By harnessing the power of horses, students are learning about themselves, capabilities, and desires – riding into their futures.

“I’m a little afraid of heights so I was nervous. I had a lot of anxiety, but afterward I was calm and proud of myself. Getting on the horse even though I was scared is what we call responsible risk-taking.”

- MADIE, HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMAN PARTICIPANT OF DETROIT HORSE POWER SINCE 2021
Music has the power to make us laugh and cry, feel relaxed or motivated, cope and heal. Music is therapy. And for Samuel and other patients at Children’s Hospital of Michigan, it has made all the difference during their stays. Music therapy manifests positive effects in pain management, relaxation, emotional expression, normalization, socialization, and distraction not only for patients, but their families too. These activities help improve patient outcomes, make the hospital a more comfortable place to be, and allow kids to be kids, even while receiving treatment.

Grief is hard. And unfortunately, something everyone experiences. It is difficult to navigate at any age, but especially as an adolescent. That’s why The Foundation supported WDET and Science Gallery Detroit in their effort to create a podcast called Science of Grief that focuses on real stories for and by young adults who are exploring grief and mental health struggles. Not only is it helping to spread awareness, but Science of Grief enables young adults to cope with their grief and be able to communicate boundaries with others.
Leaders for Kids brings back signature event, Summer Recess

At the M1 Concourse in Pontiac, Leaders for Kids hosted their Summer Recess on Saturday, July 16. The evening included delicious food, live music, and opportunities for participants to drive the track. It was a party to remember – and most importantly, it raised more than $100,000 for Child Life Services at Children’s Hospital of Michigan and the Leaders for Kids endowment at The Children’s Foundation.

Enabling success for one-third of Michigan’s college students

The Jamie Daniels Foundation recently announced five new grant awards in support of seven different collegiate recovery programs at universities and colleges throughout Michigan. The foundation’s support now enables nearly 150,000 college students – or one-third of Michigan’s college students – to access resources, support, and guidance throughout their recovery journey. Since 2018, the Jamie Daniels Foundation has granted nearly $400,000 to collegiate recovery programs through their partnership with The Children’s Foundation.

University of Michigan, Oakland University and Washtenaw Community College are the three newest partners. They join Central Michigan University, Ferris State University and Mid-Michigan College through a partnership with Ten16, as well as Michigan State University – Jamie’s alma mater and the first collegiate recovery program the foundation supported starting in 2018.
Countless local children supported by Paul W. Smith Classic

The 19th Annual Paul W. Smith Golf Classic was held on Monday, August 11, a charity golf tournament to benefit The Children’s Foundation, Detroit PAL, Variety – The Children’s Charity of Detroit and The Children’s Center. This year’s event hosted an enthusiastic crowd of golfers who helped raise more than $482,000 which will impact countless local children!

Ben Hogan Championship of Michigan raises funds to provide year-round golf

On Monday August 22, the Second Annual Ben Hogan Championship of Michigan presented by Detroit Pistons took place at Country Club of Detroit to benefit First Tee - Greater Detroit, a Children’s Foundation initiative. The event raised approximately $100,000 toward First Tee–Greater Detroit’s support of the construction of a state-of-the-art learning center that will help extend our life skills curriculum and offer golf to participants all year. The learning center is a transformative project that will increase the organization’s capability to positively impact the lives of even more youth.
“Creating positive, long-term community impact is only possible when we work together,” said Interim Chief Executive Officer at First Tee – Greater Detroit, Todd Krieger, in response to the generosity of CDW and Total Health Care Foundation – both of which are enabling the chapter to reach more kids in the Detroit area.

Thanks to CDW, local youth can now enjoy the golf-based youth development program all year with the unveiling of a new Trackman golf simulator. The simulator is located at Durfee Innovation Society, a program location for the chapter. This gift came as a result of CDW joining First Tee as a Trustee, and its commitment to helping deliver enhanced character-building curriculum at chapters across the country.

Priority Health, through the Total Health Care Foundation, has also awarded FTGD with a $100,000 grant to support program supplies, program director salary, staff and coach trainings, and evaluation services.

“We are pleased to support the amazing work that First Tee – Greater Detroit does in the metro Detroit community through a Total Health Care Foundation grant that will be used to continue its mission of building the strength of character that will empower youth throughout their lifetimes,” said Shannon Wilson, executive director at Total Health Care Foundation.

Partners like CDW and Total Health Care Foundation are helping FTGD create fun and safe spaces for kids to build their confidence and further explore their interest in golf and the opportunities it can provide.

To donate to The Children's Foundation, visit: YourChildrensFoundation.org/donate
Donor Advised Funds

A great way you can transform the lives of children and families for the better.

A Donor Advised Fund, or DAF, is a special fund that you can establish with The Children’s Foundation. In exchange for your charitable contribution, you receive an immediate tax deduction and then recommend grants from the fund over time. You can contribute from the fund to your favorite charities that have a focus on children’s health and well-being.

The Children’s Foundation has strong connections with more than 160 charities in the state, as well as a deep understanding of needs in the areas of abuse and neglect, youth development, nutritional wellness, injury prevention, mental health and pediatric research.

HOW DAF’s WORKS

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Festival of Trees
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In benefit of Children’s Hospital of Michigan Foundation

Hot Stove Stories
Thursday, December 1
In benefit of the Jamie Daniels Foundation

Stay up to date on all the latest news at YourChildrensFoundation.org