



C Peter C. & Emajeau Cook Foundation

2019 Annual Report

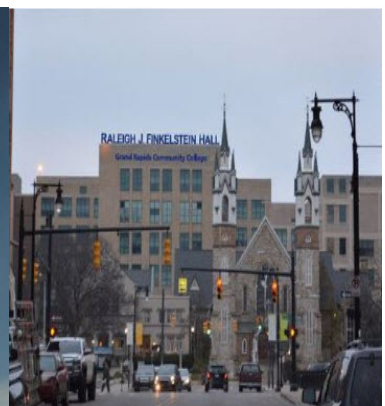
MISSION STATEMENT:

With a Christian focus, we will establish, sustain and strengthen programs and services that improve the quality of life, community and economy with an emphasis on West Michigan.



2019 was the Foundation's largest grant year ever – with grants totaling \$5,236,000. The surrounding photos highlight the largest grants of 2020.

- \$1,000,000 committed to Grand Rapids Whitewater to help fund the river restoration project,
- \$600,000 to the John Ball Zoo's Time to Soar campaign focused on infrastructure upgrades and accessibility
- \$500,000 to Grand Valley State University for the Interprofessional Health Center adjoining the Cook –DeVos Center
- \$500,000 to support Grand Rapids Community College's Broader Vision campaign renovating the 210,000 sq ft Finklestein Hall built in the 1920's.



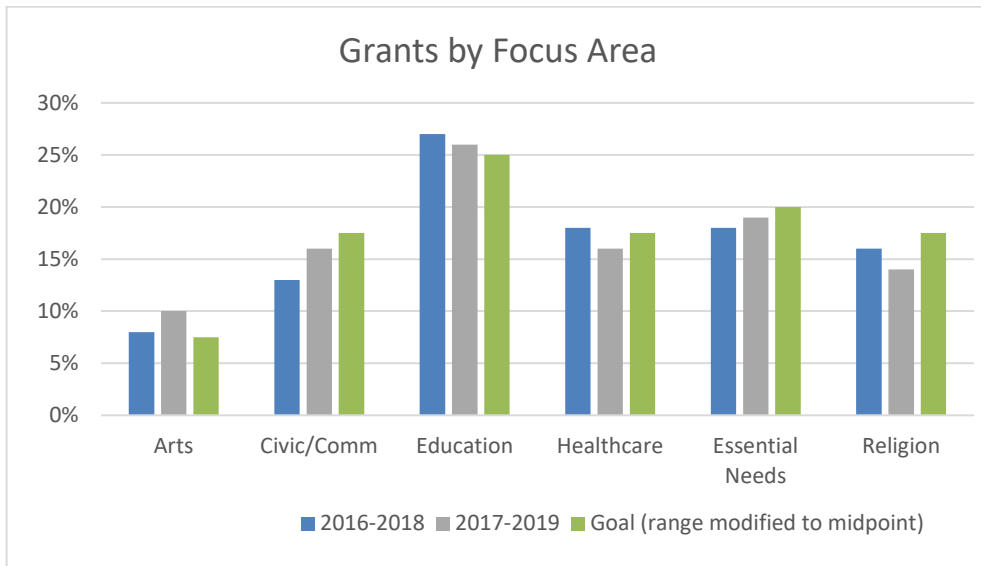
Consistent with the Foundation's mission, 99% of board initiated 2019 grants benefited West Michigan. 60% of grant dollars focused on strengthening community, 40% were invested to improve quality of life, and 2019 grants to bolster an already strong economy were small. Of quality of life grants, 33% were essential needs, 30% healthcare, 18% education, 8% religion, 8% community and civic and 3% arts.

In total, the Board made approximately 100 grants in 2019 with an average grant size of \$50,800.



The Foundation generally supports only pre-selected charities or those invited to make a proposal. Grants are generally capital or project based. There are a limited number of operating grants.

80% of grant dollars approved for 2019 investment were for capital projects at 28 different organizations.



The Foundation issued 9 challenge grants – providing those grantees an opportunity for \$227,000 in matching or challenge funds.

The Roosevelt Park Neighborhood, centered on Grandville Avenue, continues to be an area of focus for the Cook Foundation. Grants benefiting the neighborhood in 2019 were \$416,000. A significant portion of this funding was dedicated to education.

While maintaining a preference for funding Christian organizations, the Foundation's large commitment to community assets in 2019 year resulted in just 32% of grant dollars going to Christian organizations. This funding averages 45% from 2017-2019 above our 40% threshold.

The Foundation provides Designation and Advisory funds to certain family members and employees. Grants paid through those programs are reviewed and approved by the board but not considered initiated by the board. They represent about 3% of grant expense in 2019.

Foundation Board of Directors:

- Thomas H. Claus, President
- Carrie L. Boer, Treasurer
- Robert D. Brower, Secretary

Foundation Staff:

- Carrie L. Boer
- Thomas H. Claus
- Christina A. Garland
- Becky J. Mikowski

