

# Peter C. & Emajeane Cook Foundation Q1 2021

Newsletter

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## Celebrating a New Partnership with Hand2Hand

The Foundation made its first grant to Hand2Hand as part of our COVID-19 emergency response giving. The organization works with, and through, churches and schools to provide weekend meals for families identified by teachers as having food insecurity.

Joining some other like-minded funders, we supported some local restaurants by purchasing gift cards for “family friendly budget minded” meals to be distributed by Hand2Hand partners. The program was a needed “win-win” for families and struggling entrepreneurs.

We made our largest single payment capital grant to the organization in first quarter 2021 to help them move from their long-standing church sponsored site, to their own building at 306 Chicago Drive in Jenison. Construction began in February and they hope to be operating from the new space by mid-June. This 15,600 square foot former Aldi store offers them more warehouse space and new spaces – including a Peter C. & Emajeane Cook Foundation Community Room.



This organization is working to feed 8,000 kids in about 230 schools through 130 churches in West Michigan. Uniquely, they provide “meals” for the weekend designed to be eaten as a family, rather than single serving supports.



The Foundation continues to provide financial support to Grace Reformed Church, the life-long church home of both Peter and Pat. The 2021 annual grant to them of \$59,000 was the second largest of first quarter.



## By the Numbers



The Foundation Board approved grants totaling \$975,400 funding 37 organizations during Q1 2021. Grants ranged from \$1,000 to \$150,000 with the median grant \$20,000.

All but one grant approval had a West Michigan impact. 35% of the grant dollars were for capital projects. \$176,000 or 18% was invested in the Grandville Avenue neighborhood. Just under 50% of grant dollars were for Christian organizations. Since the pandemic began, we have been exceeding our planned essential needs funding. That trend continued in Q1 with 37% of our grants made to essential needs providers.

Since March 13, 2020, the Foundation staff has been working primarily from home.

We have recently begun some in-person meetings and are encouraged to see many of our non-profit partners beginning to provide direct services safely.

For more information, see  
<https://www.cookfoundationgr.org/>