

## Executive Director Update

### SUCCESS!

In this Fall issue of the Shiawassee Community Foundation newsletter, we look back at all the changes that have happened and how thankful we are of our continued SUCCESS!

This past year we saw increased participation in Raise Up Shiawassee. Our fall collaboration of non-profits, community members and local businesses working together to give where they work and live is inspiring.

The Fall Grants were awarded and distributed in December. In January, our Winter Grant cycle began with our Youth Advisory Council (YAC) grants and Emmert Grant applications opening for youth-oriented projects. In total, 150 scholarships were awarded to students from 11 area schools, totaling \$178,235 from 88 funds. Grants totaling \$40,472.34 were given to help support local community projects and organizations.

This past spring, our SCF board participated in a working retreat with four panel members from various areas of our county discussing emerging needs in our community. This brought an awareness of how important each of the non-profits are in our community and what an integral role they play in the overall health and well-being of our county. In the spring, we held our first live scholarship awards night in two years at the Perry High School Auditorium! It was wonderful to see parents and fund representatives in-person again!

Our summer grant cycle opened mid-June and we just recently awarded those grants. One of the new grants this year was the William "Bill" Brooks Memorial Fund. It was so rewarding to see Bill's family, Heather and Cheyenne, present the first check in his honor. That's what the Foundation is all about - caring people giving back to the community!



It has been such a busy year with tons of other projects and collaborations happening. We will keep you updated with posts on our website and in these newsletters. I hope you continue to work with your favorite community organization in assisting them with their mission. That's how we measure Success!

Have a blessed Fall!

Kim Renwick  
Executive Director

## Grant Applications Open Oct. 1

The Shiawassee Community Foundation Fall Grant Cycle opens soon! Applications will be available on our website October 1. The deadline for the first cycle of grants is November 15, 2022.

### FALL GRANT CYCLE (OCTOBER 1-NOVEMBER 15)

PFC Shane W. Cantu Memorial Fund  
Ryan Jones Memorial Fund (Animal Welfare)  
Montgomery Family Fund  
Playground Restoration and Maintenance Fund  
Debra Wegman Memorial Fund  
Russell and Annabelle Woodard Family Fund

### YEAR-ROUND GRANTS

Ryan Jones Memorial Fund (ALS)  
Kailey Elizabeth Jordan Memorial Fund  
Mackenzie L. Watts Memorial Fund

## YAC Update

The YAC year is gearing up for a calendar full of opportunities and enrichment. Amy Jo Brown is working to coordinate the first full meeting and gear up the team for a year of service to their community.

If you know of a student 7th grade-age 21 in the Shiawassee County area, including Chesaning, Ovid-Elsie, and Homeschool, who is interested in community service, grantmaking, and youth impact, send them our way. The application is available on our website. Follow Shiawassee\_YAC on Instagram to see what the YACers are up to as well!

If you have any questions, please contact Amy Jo Brown at amyjo@shiacf.org or (989)725-1093.



*The Shiawassee Community Foundation is now fully staffed!*

Please welcome two fantastic new faces to the team.

**Amy Jo Brown** (left) is the new YAC Advisor and Program Manager. Fairly new to the Owosso community, Amy Jo holds a master's in public relations and bachelor's in journalism. She has served as board member in her hometown for the Maple Valley Memorial Scholarship Foundation and has extensive experience with grant programs and disbursement. Amy Jo is a vinyl record collector, theater enthusiast and has been working on the next great American novel since she learned to write. She is excited to join the foundation team and is honored to be part of a program that works each day to enrich the community and culture of Shiawassee County.



**Julie McCullough** (right) is the new administrative assistant. Julie was born and raised in Flint Township and attended Mott Community College, Lansing Community College, and is a proud MSU graduate. She moved to Owosso with her husband in 2015. "We absolutely love it!" said Julie. She just retired in early July 2022 after 22 years with the Flint Public Library. Julie spent the last 14 years as the Executive Assistant to the director and much of her time was focused on working with the FPL Board and the Friends of FPL Board. She is happy to now be working close to home and loves her three minute commute to the SCF office! She loves dogs, road trips to new destinations in beautiful Michigan, and is an avid reader.

## New Funds Announced

The **Lebowsky Advised Charitable Agency Fund** has been created to support the mission of Lebowsky Center for Performing Arts. The fund will be used to support the programming and mission of Lebowsky Center to Educate, Entertain, and Enrich lives by providing a quality performing arts experience.

The Lebowsky Center for Performing Arts produces four musicals and two plays each season, along with hosting a variety of other performing artists to expand the cultural offerings to the community. As a nonprofit organization, Lebowsky Center for Performing Arts is honored to play a part in the cultural and economic growth of Owosso.



The **Brittany Buchholz Fund** has achieved endowment status and will be part of the scholarship process this year.

In 2019, the Brittany Buchholz Memorial Scholarship Fund was opened by Jacqueline Rhine (friend) and Mary Buchholz (mother). Brittany graduated at the top of her class at Corunna High School then attended Hope College and earned her bachelor's degree in Biology. She was a passionate dancer and tremendous animal lover.

This fund aims to help female Shiawassee County seniors and graduates with a priority to students planning on studying in the medical field and are overall good citizens who are active in community service/volunteer work. There is preference to students who plan on attending Hope College, are active in band, cheer and/or dance. Based on financial need.

## Gearing up for Giving Tuesday

The Raise Up Shiawassee team is currently planning their 6th annual #GivingTuesday campaign. Giving Tuesday is a national collaborative effort to inspire community members to give back to the causes and issues that matter to them. The national Giving Tuesday celebration is being held this year on November 29, (the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving). Our Shiawassee Giving Tuesday campaign, #raiseUPshiawassee, allows nonprofits another opportunity to collaborate with residents, and businesses who want to give back to their community by volunteering their time, talents, or treasures (\$) on this national day of generosity.

Local nonprofits who are interested in joining or learning more about the Raise Up Shiawassee collaboration may contact the Shiawassee Community Foundation office at 989-725-1093. Together, WE can #raiseUPshiawassee!

