

# SHIAWASSEE

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

For good. For ever.

## ShiaCF Community Connect

End of Summer 2023



KIM RENWICK EXECUTIVE DIRECTO

In this summer's newsletter, I would like to personally thank the volunteers who have freely given their time, talents, and treasures to the Foundation and its staff. Nonprofit organizations would not be able to function without volunteers!

Volunteering is not only beneficial to the organization but also to the mind and body of the person volunteering. I recently read an article in HelpGuide.org that states,

"Volunteering can help one make friends, learn new skills, advance a career, and even make you feel happier and healthier. Learning how to find

the right volunteer opportunity is important." It can increase self-confidence, provide a sense of purpose, and help you stay happy and healthy.

We value the commitment volunteers give to our organization because in working with us, they learn more about the Foundation and the important work we do in the community. Volunteering also helps participants better understand philanthropy and how small donations can lead to larger impacts.

The Foundation has many scholarship review volunteers who are always so impressed with student applicant essays and young adults' commitment to making the world a better place! The applications also provided our reviewers with insight into how the younger generation genuinely understands local challenges and the necessary actions to tackle them.

This is also why we value our Youth Advisory Council (YAC) students! They are an integral piece of our Foundation because they give us a young perspective of local community issues. These students embrace opportunities that make an impact because they know that every small impact leads to a larger solution. Also, they love to volunteer!

If you have assisted the Foundation by reviewing scholarship applications, being on a board or committee, or participated in our Youth Advisory Council in the past, THANK YOU!

If you have not had an opportunity to volunteer and are interested in helping in any one of these areas at the Foundation, please contact me. We would love to have you help us make a difference in our community!

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Kim Renwick, Executive Director



Shiawassee Community Foundation, Great Lakes Family of Companies, and Gabrielle Feighner Baker from Feighner Boat Lifts and Docks are committed to fostering educational opportunities in the region. To ensure equal access to Career Technical Education (CTE), Shiawassee RESD is establishing The Shiawassee RESD College and Career Readiness Center (CCRC) in Vernon, which will serve as a central hub for high school students, offering various handson CTE classes like Teaching Cadet, Electrical, Public Safety, and Health Science.

Two funds have been opened at the Shiawassee Community Foundation to support this initiative: Great Lakes Family Trades Fund and the SRESD CTE Program Fund. Feighner Boat Lifts and Docks are actively fundraising, with Bryan Marks also contributing to the Great Lakes Family Trades Fund. Donations to the CTE Fund will help establish and sustain the program for future generations.

Individuals and businesses are encouraged to contribute to the CTE Fund and be part of shaping the future of education for local students, empowering them with the skills needed for successful careers and a thriving community. For more information or to donate, visit <a href="https://www.shiacf.org/donate/">https://www.shiacf.org/donate/</a> or contact Shiawassee Community Foundation at 989-725-1093.



## **Mark Your Calendars!**



9/9 ShiaCF at Run Drugs Out of Town 8 am-11 am Owosso Public Safety



Sept 8,9,15 &16 showtime 7:30
Sept 9, 10, 16 & 17 showtime 2pm
The Wizard of Oz
Lebowsky Theater



9/12 Shiawassee Suicide Prevention Walk 4pm-Registration / 6pm-Walk Fitness Coliseum Parking Lot



9/12 Blood Drive 10 am - 3:45 pm Corunna VFW Post 4005 416 S. Shiawassee



9/12 SafeCenter Scramble Golf Outing8:30 am-12:00 pmPraire Creek Golf Course, DewittCall 989-723-9716 for more information



9/17 Red Cross Run/Walk 12:30 pm-Registration 2 pm-5k Run/Walk DeVries Nature Center



9/21 Adverse Childhood Experiences Training 12 pm-4 pm

Baker College Welcome Center



9/23 Equinox Murder Mystery Dinner 5pm - 8:30 pm 1890 historic home and carriage house

Hosted by Shiawassee Arts Center
400 West High St, Ovid
Call 989.723.8354 for more information.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS
OPEN 11/15/2023!

This is the opportune moment to connect with your teachers, counselors, and coaches to secure those crucial letters of recommendation!

Additionally, make sure to gather your high school or college transcripts.

#### 21 Years of Service: A Journey from Volunteer to Youngest President of Shiawassee Community Foundation



PATRICK A. WEGMAN, II

As a young man, I was taught to help those around me. My parents were both active volunteers in our community and thought it was best that I started volunteering once I was settled at Corunna High School. I began volunteering for community projects at age 15 (21 years ago now). My first volunteer experience was working at the information desk at

Memorial Healthcare here in Owosso. It was my first customer service assignment, and I learned many pearls of wisdom from my fellow volunteers, patrons, and visitors.

My next experience was volunteering at a mobile food pantry with the Youth Advisory Council. This was an eye-opening experience. I was absolutely floored at how many people in my midst were hungry. This experience is where I first found my passion for community service! I was serving the community and accomplishing something with my cohorts. Once I realized that I was capable of making someone else's life better, I was hooked. I began volunteering for many community-related assignments and love the work I do to this day! After my YAC experience concluded, I was asked to join SCF as a Board Member, and my involvement has continued to grow from there.

#### **Fun Facts:**

- 21 years in community service (over half my 36-year life)
- Served on five boards, many committees, and still more projects
- Volunteered for MHC, Red Cross, YAC
- At Shiawassee Community Foundation- I have served as Board Member with two Executive Directors and three Presidents (including myself:)
- I may also be the "youngest" President/Chair of ShiaCF.



ShiaCF's board and its team extend their gratitude to Patrick for his unwavering commitment to both his community and the foundation over the years.

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## **#Shiacf Word Search**

Uncover the Hidden Words!
Search for these terms related to Shiawassee Community Foundation in the grid:

1. Shiacf 13. Volunteer

2. Donate 14. Fund

3. Community 15. Scholarship

4. Grant 16. Donor

5. Local 17. Give 6. Nonprofit 18. Help

7. Giving 19. Build

8.Impact 20. Youth

9. Education 21. YAC 10. Philanthropy 22. Gift

11. Resources 23. Can

12. Legacy 24. Hope

Words are hidden horizontally or vertically. Have fun hunting!



- COMMUNITY FOUNDATION -

For good. For ever.

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

We need Scholarship Reviewers!

HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

CONTACT OUR OFFICE TO BE ADDED TO OUR LIST!

IN THE FALL, YOU'LL RECEIVE ALL NECESSARY
INFORMATION, APPLICATIONS, TRAINING, AND
RESOURCES TO EMBARK ON THIS IMPACTFUL ROLE.

989-725-1093 OR EMAIL AMANDA@SHIACF.ORG



Join our 50th Anniversary Committee!

SHIACF IS CELEBRATING 50 YEARS SERVING SHIAWASSEE COUNTY IN 2024!

OUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE WILL BE PART OF PLANNING THE FESTIVITIES!
989-725-1093 OR EMAIL AMANDA@SHIACF.ORG

Become a Red Cross Volunteer! VOLUNTEERS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED IN SHIAWASSEE COUNTY FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

EMERGENCY RESPONSE VEHICLE DRIVER, DISASTER HEALTH SERVICES, DISASTER ACTION TEAM AND OFFICE SUPPORT.

VISIT REDCROSS.ORG FOR MORE INFO

Education in Shiawassee County: A Pathway to Opportunities Amanda Bruner, Program Manager



AMANDA BRUNER

The released 2021 census data sheds light on the educational landscape of Shiawassee County. Among adults aged 25 and over, the statistics reveal a

diverse range of academic achievements. Only 12% hold a bachelor's degree, while 27% pursued some college experience without earning a degree. Notably, 11% attained an associate degree, 36% completed high school, 8% lack a diploma, and 6% proudly possess a graduate or professional degree. Education plays a pivotal role in shaping individual lives and driving community progress. It equips individuals with knowledge, critical thinking skills, and opens doors to many opportunities.

Recognizing this, scholarships available through
Shiawassee Community Foundation open 11/15/23! These scholarships will empower local students to pursue higher education, enabling them to contribute meaningfully to their community's growth and success.
Investing in education today is an investment in a brighter tomorrow for Shiawassee County. With scholarships on the horizon, the path to a more educated and prosperous community is within reach.

Looking for a Speaker?

Kim and Amanda are ready to connect with school admins, faculty, churches, groups, and supporters of Shiawassee County.

For additional details, give us a call at 989-725-1093.

Let us add giving to your event or gathering!

#### Meet Quinn Skarich: Our Inspiring YAC President Making a Difference in Our Community



Hi, I'm Quinn Skarich! I'm a senior at Owosso High School, and next year I hope to attend the University of Michigan to study biology. This is my third year in YAC, and I am the president this year. My favorite project YAC does is the annual grant-giving process we complete each spring. It has

been so amazing to give back to great programs and organizations in the area who really provide important benefits to our community. Giving back in this way while making real-life changes in the lives of our community is an amazing experience that I can't wait to continue as president this year.

#### What inspires you to serve on the Board of Directors for Shiawassee Community Foundation?



BRYAN MARKS, OWNER
GREAT LAKES FAMILY OF
COMPANIES
SHIACF SECRETARY

I wholeheartedly believe in the philanthropic mission of the Foundation by providing scholarships and grants to help foster continuing education and community enrichment projects in our county.

With my experience in business, I am proud to volunteer my services as a way to give back to our community and assure the continued success of the Shiawassee Community Foundation.

NO ACT OF KINDNESS,
NO MATTER HOW SMALL,
IS EVER WASTED.

AESOP
#inspiration #shiacf



#ShiaCF: 50 Years of Community Impact! In 2024, we commemorate half a century of enriching and aiding Shiawassee County!



To join the celebration, ensure you're following us on Facebook and subscribed to our email list! Links are available on our website shiacf.org

### Cultivating Tomorrow's Leaders

