DOING BETTER FOR OUR KIDS
LETTER FROM THE CHAIR TO THE COMMUNITY

Dear Friends,

In March 2012, the Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation approved the new Chequamegon Bay Area Community Fund, organized by Madelaine Herder and a local citizen’s group. With financial support from the community and a challenge match from the Otto Bremer Foundation, the endowment grew. In May 2015, the CBACF awarded its first grants for innovative, nonprofit organization projects.

We are grateful to Madelaine Herder, our first affiliate officer, for her go-getter leadership and dedicated service to the CBACF and its mission. Our grantees, their projects, and our generous donors are highlighted in this 2015 Annual Report.

This spring the CBACF advisory board is very pleased to welcome our new affiliate officer, Meghan Dennison. Meghan honed her professional expertise in land trust and nonprofit organizational work in Colorado. Five years ago, she and her husband fell in love with Lake Superior on a kayaking vacation and moved to Washburn. Meghan is dedicated to maintaining and improving our quality of life through community service and philanthropy. We look forward to working with her to support our mission and vision and to grow the CBACF’s endowment for future.

Ultimately, the CBACF belongs to you, our donors. We thank you for promoting private giving for the public good. We thank you for supporting our vision to improve the region by fostering generosity, civic engagement, and inclusiveness, and we thank you for your generous financial support and faith in the future and the quality of life in Chequamegon Bay.

With gratitude,

– Karen Ruedi Crowell
Advisory Board Chair

Cover: Bridger Foster participated in Mt. Ashwabay’s Junior Ski Patrol program in part funded by the CBACF.
MAKING A DIFFERENCE
IN OUR COMMUNITIES

In 2015, our inaugural granting year, six local nonprofits were awarded $1,000 for projects that met the Community Fund’s priorities.

**Alliance for Sustainability-Operations for “Resource ReUse”** “The ReSource ReUse Store is more than a place to drop off an old sink! With generous support from the CBACF, the store is an expanded community resource center for those who understand that new isn’t always better. Customers come from Red Cliff, Madeline Island, Iron River, and Ashland to find affordable ways make their house a home.” – Christine Kelly, Alliance for Sustainability Board Member

**Ashwabay Outdoor Education Foundation, Inc. for Friday Night Youth Program and Junior Ski Patrol** “The Junior Ski Patrol program provides educational opportunities to area youth. They not only complete our program but advance to the National Ski Patrol certification as well. Providing resources to a generation who in turn gives back to their community is inspirational!” – Carol Fahrenkrog, General Manager

**City of Ashland for the East End Community Garden internship** The community garden is scheduled for completion in 2017.

**Lake Superior Big Top Chautauqua for Free Families Matinee Series and BART Bus Transportation** “Big Top Chautauqua was honored to receive a grant from the CBACF in support of our 2015 Free Family Matinee Series. We were thrilled to present this multi-cultural series The World On Our Stage featuring Mexican dance, Creole music, African acrobats, Japanese drummers, and Native American music and dance.” – Terry Matier, Executive Director
Northland College for a Summer Camp for Native American Youth 9-12th Grade “We collaborated with tribal members to teach Anishinaabe traditions and cultural medicines, foster leadership skills and empower traditionally at-risk youth through exciting, safe, and cultural camp experiences. The summer’s success will guide future programming that strives to increase local native students on campus, and enhances native youth leadership within the Lake Superior region.” – MaryJo Gingras, Summer Programs Coordinator Recreation & Fitness Resources, Inc. – Home Base for North Coast Sailing Program “The grant from the CBACF allowed us to establish a first-ever home base for North Coast Community Sailing. With our fleet operating out of Washburn’s West End Park, we offered far more open sailing opportunities to youth and families, including a new Teen Sailing Program.” – Scott Armstrong, Executive Director

HOW YOU CAN HELP OUR COMMUNITIES
Every year the Advisory Board hosts several events to promote awareness about grant making opportunities for nonprofits in the community and also to fundraise for additional financial support to grant to local community organizations.
CHEQUAMEGON BAY AREA ANNUAL FUND CELEBRATION

On June 11 at Tim and Cheryl Hicks’ Ashland home, local nonprofits, community supporters, and the CBACF Advisory Board members celebrated the Fund’s inaugural year of making grant awards to the communities of Ashland, Bad River, and Washburn.

BROWNSTONE DAYS TRAIL RUN

The CBACF sponsored a 10-mile trail run over the July homecoming weekend in Washburn. This first-time-ever event followed Washburn Hardware’s 10-mile bike race on a curvy, hilly, challenging course. The goal of the event was to raise both awareness and funding for the CBACF funds. Twenty participants signed up the first year with a goal of doubling this for 2016.
TRAIL RUN continued

You can participate in and/or sponsor the 2nd Annual Brownstone Days Trail Run on Saturday, July 30, 2016. Visit our Facebook page for registration, event details and more event information.

ANNUAL TURKEY TROT 5K

A Thanksgiving family tradition, the Chequamegon Bay Turkey Trot 5K was a blustery success raising over $8,000 and meeting the Otto Bremer matching challenge. More than 175 hardy folks (and some pets) from around the Bay came together to enjoy the event.

Thank you to all the sponsors, donors, and participants for making the Turkey Trot part of the community’s Thanksgiving tradition.

We’ll see you next year!

GRANT MAKING WORKSHOP

This annual workshop helps nonprofit leaders apply for grants, providing ideas to get started with grant writing. It has also helped seasoned grant writers find new sources of funds.

The workshop is a wonderful way for participants to learn from each other, sharing ideas about grant writing and fundraising. The CBACF Advisory Board is excited to announce the 2017 Grant Workshop which will be held Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center from 9 to 12 p.m.
21ST ANNUAL DULUTH SUPERIOR AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION TOUCHSTONE LOCAL AWARD WINNERS

Big Top Chautauqua won the Inclusiveness Award for their One World Community celebration and the Ashland School District won the Civic Engagement Award for its Speak Your Peace Curriculum at the DSACF’s 21st Annual Touchstone Awards, one of the longest-running nonprofit honors in the Northland. Congratulations!

FUND GUIDELINES

The CBACF Fund encourages private giving for the public good in Ashland, Washburn and Bad River areas. Grants awards are made for initiatives that meet the changing needs in the community in the following areas: projects that strengthen community ties, address underlying community problems, undertake studies that impact civic issues or public policy build an organizations program or management capacity, and respond to community needs that require moderate grant money but produce significant results.

2015 NEW FUNDS DONOR ADVISED

Dave Olson and Kathryn Grafsgaard Family Fund, part of the Chequamegon Bay Area Community Fund family of funds, provides grant funding for educational and charitable purposes as advised by the donor.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Albert H. Roffers Athletic Scholarship Fund, part of the
Chequamegon Bay Area Community Fund family of funds, provides financial assistance to graduating seniors of Ashland High School who have made a valuable contribution to the school’s athletic program.

**PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED FUNDS**

**FIELD OF INTEREST**

*Chequamegon Bay Area Community Fund (2012)* actively promotes private giving for the public good in the Ashland region. Through its local advisory board, the Fund works to attract and manage a permanent endowment to address the area’s changing needs.

**DESIGNATED**

*Chequamegon Bay Area Program Services Endowment Fund (2011)* was created to benefit the operations of the Chequamegon Bay Area Community Fund now and in the future. *2013 Chequamegon Bay Bremer Operating Fund* supports the activities of the Chequamegon Bay Area Community Fund.

**ORGANIZATIONAL ENDOWMENTS**

*Lake Superior Big Top Chautauqua Blue Canvas Fund (2001)* provides funds for periodic replacement of the Lake Superior Big Top Chautauqua tent.
Washburn Community Education Foundation Fund (2012) supports the agency’s mission to facilitate achievement of educational excellence by students attending schools located within the Washburn School District.

Acorn Funds are a commitment to contribute a minimum gift of $1,000/year, up to a ten-year period. Funds grow in either the unrestricted endowed fund or in an established organizational endowment. Thank you Acorn Fund Donors: Michael Miller and Mary Trettin, Michael Crowell and Karen Reudi-Crowell, Karl and Shari Nelson, Kevin Hunt, Jeff and Kris Von Holzen, and Jim and Beth Hagstrom.

The Legacy Circle recognizes estate plan provisions which leave a planned gift legacy. Thanks to: Maloney and Cindy Dillenschneider, Michael Crowell and Karen Ruedi Crowell, and Petra Holter.

WELCOME, MEGHAN DENNISON

Meghan Dennison joined the Foundation staff in March 2016. She brings a diverse background of nonprofit management and fundraising experience to the team. Most recently she served as the Executive Director of a regional environmental nonprofit. Meghan has a B.A. degree in Political Science from Western State Colorado University. She loves to spend time outside: running, hiking, skiing, and camping. Meghan lives with her husband and daughter in Washburn, Wisconsin.

READY TO EXPLORE GIVING?
Contact Meghan at 715-779-7021 or email to: mdennison@dscarcommunityfoundation.com

Thanks to Donors
Rick and Colleen Geisen
Ruth Goetz
Richard and Diana Granger
*Jim and Beth Hagstrom
James and Leslie Hamp
Herbert H. Kohl Charities, Inc.
Madelaine S. Herder
Tim and Cheryl Hicks in honor of Ron and Jeanette Davis
Tim and Cheryl Hicks
Gary Holman
*Kevin O. Hunt
Dan and Mary Hymans
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Joseph and Elizabeth Jauquet
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Jack Gunderson and Linda Jorgenson
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Jill Lorenz
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Beth and Steve Probst
**Gary and Kay Roffers
Albert H. Roffers Athletic Scholarship Fund
Scott and Becky Sapper

Meghan Dennison
Affiliate Officer
Thanks to Donors
Charles and Arlene Simonian
Family Trust
John and Sharon Stewart
*Mary Trettin and Mike Miller
*Jeff and Kris Von Holzen
United Way of Wisconsin
Washburn Chamber
of Commerce Chequamegon
Bay Turkey Trot 175
plus runners
Washburn Community
Education Foundation
Washburn Ranger District
Social Club
Little Big Bay LLC
Mary and Jack Wichita
Anonymous Gifts (3)

Special thanks to the Otto Bremer Trust for their continued support of the CBACF Grant Making Endowment, Program Services Endowment, and Operational funds.

Acorn Fund Donors: Kevin Hunt, Michael and Karen Crowell, Karl and Shari Nelson, Michael Miller and Mary Trettin, Jeff and Kris Von Holzen, and Jim and Beth Hagstrom
*a commitment to contribute a minimum gift of $1,000 per year, up to a ten-year period. Funds grow in either in the unrestricted endowed fund or in an established organizational endowment.

EXPLORE GIVING
Meghan Dennison
715-779-7021

DULUTH SUPERIOR AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
CHEQUAMEGON BAY AREA COMMUNITY FAMILY OF FUNDS

FINANCIAL STATUS 2015 2014

Public Support and Revenue
Contributions $426,933 121,583
Donated Services 150 –
Interest and dividends 6,221 5,949
Net realized and unrealized gain (22,182) 4,349
Refunds of grants – –
Miscellaneous – –

TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE 411,122 131,881

Grants, Fees, and Operating Expenses
Grants and scholarships 7,662 14,566
Investment management fees 897 867
Miscellaneous – Transfer 832 6,552

Functional expenses
Program services 3,158 617
Fund raising 24,859 16,439
Public education 21,632 23,807
Management and general 208 128

Total Functional Expenses 49,857 40,991

TOTAL GRANTS, FEES, AND OPERATING EXPENSES 59,248 62,976

Change in net assets 351,874 68,905

NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR 350,971 282,066

NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR 702,845 350,971

Unaudited Financial Statement

“Chequamegon Bay Area Community Funds are raised right here at home and offer people a chance to address local needs by supporting nonprofits today and into the future.” – Susan Anderson, Advisory Committee Member
OUR TEAM: 2015 CBACF BOARD MEMBERS

L-R, front: Rick Geisen, Karen Ruedi Crowell, Susan Anderson, Cheryl Hicks, Meghan Dennison, Irene Blakeley, Mary Trettin, and Ruth Goetz at a welcome reception for our new affiliate officer. Not pictured: Brad Gingras, Beta Bodin, Mark Abeles Allison, Jeffrey Muse, and Shari Nelson

**The CBACF mission:** is to promote private giving for the public good and our area’s future: ■ Attracct and manage a growing endowment; ■ Provide service and resources for donors with philanthropic interests; ■ Identify community needs by making strategic grant awards to area nonprofits.

**Mark Abeles Allison** is County Administrator for the Bayfield County Board.

**Susan Anderson** retired after a long career in not-for-profit management with a special interest in visual arts. She also served for several years as the director of the Target Foundation in Minneapolis.

**Irene Blakeley** (Vice Chair), an original board member, chairs the Leadership Committee. Former Washburn mayor and professor/administrator at Northland College, she is now vice president of the Alliance for Sustainability, member of the Memorial Medical Center Medical Ethics Board and the Washburn Heritage Association.

**Beta Bodin** was a founding and long time board member of the Apostle Island Area Community Fund and has been active in the community. She operates the Brownstone Centre and Sweet Sailing in Bayfield and is President of Bodin’s Inc.

**Karen Crowell** (Board Chair) has been with CBACF since its inception and is active with all facets of the board’s activities. Karen also serves on the Northern Lights Services board and is a member of the Chequamegon Universalist Unitarian Fellowship.

**Rick Geisen** is a founding board member. Rick has led our signature fundraising event, the Turkey Trot Fundraiser. Rick is president of the local Bremer Bank. He serves on the Bayfield Economic Development Committee.

**Brad Gingras** has lived in Wisconsin since the late 90s and in Ashland County since 2010. Former Executive Director of Northwest WI CEP, he now educates and inspires people to pursue careers in health care as Executive Director of Northwest WI Area Health Education Center. He is a recent addition to the Board.

**Ruth Goetz** leads our development committee and the region in fundraising, having raised over $7 million dollars for area non profits. She is active with Lake Superior Big Top, Friends of the Apostle Islands, Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center and Ashland’s Ore Dock Committee.

**Cheryl Hicks**, new board member, serves on the grant writing workshop committee. She retired from the Northland College Business Office and volunteers for the Elks Radio Auction to benefit the area’s Special Olympics program.

**Jeffrey Muse** contributes greatly with his pulse on the region. Jeffrey is Director of the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Committee. He serves on the New Day Shelter Board and the WPR Board.

**Shari Nelson** lives part time in Dallas and spends summers in Bayview, WI. She and her family are active with the Turkey Trot and hosted the 2014 Mostly Social at her gracious home.

**Mary Trettin** leads our annual grant writing workshop and sits on the Leadership Committee. Mary is an associate at Northland College and enjoys the outdoors and all things Northland College.
SAVE THE DATES

July 30, 2016: Brownstone Days 10 Mile Trail Run and Youth 1 mile Run
November 24, 2016: Chequamegon Bay Turkey Trot 5K
March 1: Apostle Islands and Chequamegon Bay Area grant deadline (LOI’s due Feb. 15)
January 11, 2017: Annual Grants Workshop at the NGLVC

READY TO EXPLORE GIVING?
Meghan Dennison, Affiliate Officer  715-779-7021
mdennison@dscommunityfoundation.com