

## February 2008

*Providing positive after school opportunities, keeping kids safe and feeding the hungry in our community.* The short stories included in this Partners in Philanthropy newsletter represent the most recent funding requests the Kalamazoo Community Foundation has received from local nonprofit organizations.

We hope this information gives you a better understanding of the critical needs in our community and the programs we believe will help strengthen the greater Kalamazoo area.

If you choose to join us in supporting any of these projects through an Advised Fund, please complete and return the attached grant suggestion form by Friday, March 7. You also may recommend a grant using your online Donor Central account at [www.kalfound.org](http://www.kalfound.org) (click on Donor Central).

Our Donor Relations staff is available to provide you with more information about these and other community needs. Call us at 269.381.4416. We greatly appreciate your continued generosity and look forward to hearing from you.

### Donor Relations Staff

Coby Chalmers  
Donor Relations Officer

Joanna Donnelly-Dales  
Donor Relations Officer

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Donor Relations Officer

## Providing positive after school opportunities

Kalamazoo's Northside neighborhood has a high population of school-age children and teenagers, 46 percent living at or below the poverty level, with an obvious lack of activities or opportunities for them. **Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kalamazoo** seeks to open a new Club within the Douglass Community Association building, located in front of the Interfaith Public Housing Development. Your gift will help give Northside youth a positive place to be after school, when juvenile crime and delinquency are most likely to occur, and may encourage their parents to take advantage of the many resources available through the Douglass Community Association. *To support this project, check the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kalamazoo box on the response form.*

**Funding Need** \$150,000    **Total Program Budget** \$398,576

## Building business in the Edison neighborhood

Community members looking for a place outside of downtown Kalamazoo to enjoy the arts, perform and just hang are going to **Fire**, a new theater, art gallery, music venue, café and retreat space housed in the Edison neighborhood's historic Portage Fire Station. In cooperation with the **Edison Neighborhood Association**, Fire seeks to build on its existing success by enhancing visibility, improving the grounds, adding jobs and training opportunities and providing an example of business success. Your gift will help strengthen cultural, social and economic conditions for the Edison neighborhood and Kalamazoo as a whole. *To support this project, check the Fire/Edison Neighborhood Association box on the response form.*

**Funding Need** \$30,350    **Total Program Budget** \$42,317

## Meeting community needs now and in the future

The **Kalamazoo Deacons' Conference** is a crisis relief agency, serving people with a variety of needs. In its 2007 Strategic Plan, its board of directors identified several urgent goals requiring operating dollars to create a robust and sustainable agency, and launched a fundraising campaign. Goals include a fully funded emergency relief fund and a full-time staff social worker. Your gift will help the agency meet its fundraising goals so it can serve its guests' needs well into the future. *To support this project, check the Kalamazoo Deacons' Conference box on the response form.*

**Funding Need** \$50,000    **Total Program Budget** \$400,000



# Partners in Philanthropy

## Grant Suggestion Form

I/We would like to recommend one or more grants from the fund named below in the amount(s) indicated. I/We acknowledge that any grant suggestion made does not represent the payment of a personal pledge or other financial obligation nor is any personal benefit from this charitable distribution expected.

<b>Name</b> _____	<input type="radio"/> <b>Boys &amp; Girls Club of Greater Kalamazoo</b>	Grant Amount \$ _____
<b>Fund Name</b> _____	<input type="radio"/> <b>Fire/Edison Neighborhood Association</b>	Grant Amount \$ _____
<b>Telephone</b> _____	<input type="radio"/> <b>Kalamazoo Deacons' Conference</b>	Grant Amount \$ _____
<b>Signature</b> _____	<input type="radio"/> <b>Kalamazoo Loaves &amp; Fishes</b>	Grant Amount \$ _____
<b>Date</b> _____	<input type="radio"/> <b>City of Kalamazoo</b>	Grant Amount \$ _____
	<input type="radio"/> <b>St. Thomas More Catholic Church</b>	Grant Amount \$ _____

Please complete and return this form to the Kalamazoo Community Foundation by Friday, March 7.

## Feeding the hungry in Kalamazoo

Kalamazoo County residents living below the poverty line—approximately 30,000 people—experience an average food gap of eight meals a week, according to the Blueprint to End Hunger in Michigan published by the Food Bank Council of Michigan and MSU-Extension. Through a combination of donated and purchased groceries, **Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes** provides emergency food support for these needy people. Your gift will help offset rising food prices and a growing need for assistance, so Kalamazoo County families can have enough to eat. *To support this project, check the Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes box on the response form.*

**Funding Need** \$90,000    **Total Program Budget** \$1.94 million

## Keeping kids safe in the water

Ten children have drowned in Kalamazoo County since 2000, many of them African American. Nationwide, African American children have a drowning rate three times that of their white contemporaries. Here in Kalamazoo, very few minority children are enrolled in swim classes, work as lifeguards, or participate in swim teams. Your gift to the **City of Kalamazoo's Safer Kids in the Water** project will help fund swimming lessons for 380 Kalamazoo Public Schools third graders, using an American Red Cross-based curriculum—and perhaps save lives. *To support this project, check the City of Kalamazoo box on the response form.*

**Funding Need** \$21,067    **Total Program Budget** \$21,067

## Converting cellblocks into classrooms

Cellblock to Classroom, a project of **St. Thomas More Catholic Church**, will transform cellblocks into classrooms by providing educational video programming to inmates at the Kalamazoo County Jail. Rather than watching unhelpful daytime television, inmates can view programs designed to help them avoid recidivism (the repeated relapse into crime)—an alarmingly frequent occurrence—with topics such as anger management, job seeking skills, GED preparation and addiction recovery. Your gift will not only help these individuals get back on their feet, but help their families and the community as well. *To support this project, check the St. Thomas More Catholic Church box on the response form.*

**Funding Need** \$25,000    **Total Program Budget** \$50,000



**Kalamazoo**

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To support one or more of the projects featured in this publication with a grant from an Advised Fund, please complete the attached grant suggestion form and return it to the Kalamazoo Community Foundation by Friday, March 7.

### Kalamazoo Community Foundation

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