



State Endowment Funds

Endowment funds can ensure long-term support for either a specific 4-H project area or a county's 4-H programs and activities. Endowments can be funded with one gift or with a pledge of at least \$30,000 payable within five years. The following Michigan 4-H Foundation endowment funds support statewide 4-H programs.

THE 4-H STAFF DEVELOPMENT ENDOWMENT

Created in 2017 by Nicholie Ashcraft, this fund supports 4-H staff training and development to ensure that 4-H professionals are properly trained in volunteer management practices.

ADAM FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND

This fund supports the Kettunen Center library and 4-H volunteer development programs such as 4-H volunteer training, orientation and recognition opportunities. The Kettunen Center library provides access to reading materials, 4-H curriculum and guest computers. After the sale of Kettunen Center, this fund now provides support for 4-H volunteer development programs.

THE NORMA AGNEW 4-H HORSE JUDGING ENDOWMENT

Endowed in 2013, this fund was created by the Agnew family in memory of Norma Agnew to fund annual youth judging awards that support the academic pursuits of participants in the 4-H horse judging program. Additional donations are welcome.

ALBERT A. ALBRIGHT MEMORIAL FUND

This fund was created with the Michigan 4-H Foundation's inclusion in Albright's estate when he died in 1992. Funds support 4-H plant science programs and the 4-H Children's Gardens. This fund provides two 4-H Educational Garden mini grants annually.

JAMES H. AND DOROTHY A. ANDERSON ENDOWMENT

Established by James and Dorothy Anderson in 1985, this fund annually supports projects that include children and volunteers with disabilities in Michigan 4-H activities and clubs.

JACK AND BETTY BARNES TRIBUTE FUND

Created in the 1980s by gifts honoring Jack Barnes' retirement, this fund supports 4-H volunteer training for 4-H nutrition and dairy science programs and for volunteers who work with youth with disabilities.

MARY ELLEN BRUBAKER FUND

The Michigan 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees created this fund in 2010 in memory of Brubaker. The fund supports the annual care, maintenance and upkeep of the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens.

THELMA AND LEONARD BURLEIGH FUND

To recognize the Burleighs' generous support of 4-H, the Michigan 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees created this fund in 1997. The endowment supports teen and volunteer leadership programs, a major interest of the Burleighs.

WILLIAM J. AND RUTH D. COLLINS ENDOWMENT

Bill and Ruth Collins created this fund in 2007 to provide annual support for general 4-H horticulture programs or initiatives that support and advance volunteer-led programming in 4-H youth horticulture and gardening projects. This fund currently supports the Collins Youth Horticulture mini grant.

A. DAVID AND ROSE M. CARLSON FUND

This fund was initiated in 2000 by Rose Carlson to provide annual resources for Michigan 4-H Children's Garden landscape renewal and programming.

THE THOMAS H. COBB SHOOTING SPORTS FUND

Created in 1999 by Thomas H. Cobb, this fund supports county and statewide 4-H shooting sports initiatives and certification programs for 4-H volunteers. This fund helps support the 4-H Shooting Sports mini grants.

RICHARD J. AND MARY ANN SULLIVAN DUNN MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND

Created in 1990 with gifts from Dick Dunn's retirement, this fund supports 4-H horse science educational programs.

JOE DIGLIO 4-H DAIRY YOUTH ENDOWMENT

The Michigan Milk Producers Association, Co-Bank and National Council of Farmer Cooperatives (NCFC) collectively created this fund in honor of MMPA President & CEO Joe Diglio in 2025. The fund supports Michigan 4-H Dairy Programs such as the Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference or any future 4-H programs that seek to educate and promote the dairy industry to Michigan 4-H youth.

THE ECHO ENDOWMENT FUND

Basil and Coralene Bloss established this fund in 2017 named for Coralene's first 4-H calf, Echo. The fund supports 4-H livestock and dairy programs—specifically, participation in state, regional and national events that build youth livestock

knowledge and public speaking and presentation skills, such as 4-H livestock and dairy judging programs.

DAVID EPELHEIMER 4-H EXPLORATION DAYS FUND

This fund was established by Donald and Linda Epelheimer in 2022 to support 4-H Exploration Days. The fund is in memory of Donald's brother, David, who served as a volunteer in the 4-H Exploration Days headquarters for more than 15 years.

PHYLLIS EPELHEIMER MEMORIAL FUND

The family of Phyllis Epelheimer created this fund to support 4-H environmental stewardship and education programs.

THE FOUNDERS FUND

George and Deanna House established this fund in 2006 to support the annual operation and grant-making needs of the foundation. In 2023, the board approved to use a portion of this fund to support the start-up funds needed for the 4-H fundraising license plate. The funds are to be replenished by the income from plate sales.

HAL AND JEAN GLASSEN 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS ENDOWMENT FUND

Established in 2020 by the Hal and Jean Glassen Foundation, this fund supports the Michigan 4-H Shooting Sports Program through training and equipping 4-H shooting sports volunteer instructors and youth.

MILON GRINNELL MEMORIAL FUND

Grinnell was one of the signers who incorporated the Michigan 4-H Foundation in 1952. Gifts at his death were used to create this fund, which supports Kettunen Center educational resources.

JOHN F. AND ANDREA E. GRIX ENDOWMENT

George and Victoria Rock created this fund in 2006 to support Kettunen Center operations and programs while honoring John and Andrea Grix, Kettunen Center former director and educational coordinator, respectively. After the sale of Kettunen Center, this fund now provides support for 4-H education and wildlife conservation, currently for 4-H Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp.

DONALD J. AND JOHN H. HAWKINS MEMORIAL FUND

John and Doris Hawkins established this fund in memory of their son, Donald, to support 4-H teen leadership training and international programs. When John Hawkins died in 2005, the fund was renamed and increased by family and friends to also honor his lifelong commitment to supporting 4-H.

HENNING FAMILY FUND

Established in 1999 by Aileen and Dyle L. Henning, this fund supports 4-H teen and adult volunteer leadership training.

GEORGE E. AND DEANNA J. HOUSE ENDOWMENT

This fund was created in 2016 in memory of George E. House by his wife, Deanna, and their children, Sara and Paul, to support the continued maintenance of Kettunen Center as an effective environment for developing Michigan's youth and adult skills and talents. After the sale of Kettunen Center, this fund now provides general support to enhance and advance Michigan 4-H Youth Development programming.

MARY F. KELSEY AND HELEN E. STOPHLET MEMORIAL FUND

This fund, created in 2006 with a portion of two estate trusts from sisters Mary Kelsey and Helen Stophlet, supports Kettunen Center trails, landscapes and gardens. After the sale of Kettunen Center, the board approved to reallocate the fund to support the grounds and gardens at the 4-H Children's Gardens.

KETTUNEN CENTER ENDOWMENT FUND

The Michigan 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees established this fund to support Kettunen Center facilities and operations with a percentage of proceeds from the Vision 2021 Campaign. It was fully endowed in 2006 with portions of Mary Kelsey and Helen Stophlet's estate gifts to support Kettunen Center. After the sale of Kettunen Center, the board approved to reallocate the fund to support the operations of the 4-H Children's Gardens.

A.G. KETTUNEN ENDOWMENT

This board-designated endowment, created in 2022 from the sale of Kettunen Center, honors the legacy of A.G. Kettunen, Michigan's state 4-H leader from 1925 to 1956 and a founding incorporator of the Michigan 4-H Foundation. The fund supports statewide 4-H learning experiences, training, events, and strategic priorities, continuing Kettunen's vision. Though he didn't live to see it built, the Michigan 4-H Foundation established "Camp Kett" in 1956, later renamed Kettunen Center, which was sold in November 2021.

CARL LESSER 4-H AG SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

Established in 2024 with an initial gift from Carl Lesser's daughter, Susan Stoker, and gifts in memory of Carl Lesser, this fund provides post-secondary scholarships to Michigan 4-H members. New gifts are welcome to help grow this fund.

RAYMOND AND ALICE MAHONEY MEMORIAL FUND

This fund was created in 1995 and increased with Alice Mahoney's estate gift in 2001. The fund annually provides significant resources for educational programs and expenses to operate the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens.

ROBERT AND SELMA MAST 4-H ENDOWMENT

This fund was established by Robert (Bob) Mast in 2021 to support Michigan 4-H.

MAWBY-EDISON FAMILY FUND

This fund was created in 1989 by Russell and Ruth Edison Mawby to provide paid internships for Michigan State University students in the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens. The fund was increased in 2011 by an estate gift from Mary Edison Tatroe, Ruth Mawby's sister.

THE RUSSELL G. AND LOU ANN S. MAWBY ENDOWMENT

Russ and Lou Ann Mawby established this fund in 2014 to provide ongoing support for the long-term care and maintenance of the Mawby Center at Kettunen Center. The fund can also be used to support youth leadership programs at Kettunen Center and to encourage youth leaders to extend their leadership learning to include philanthropic outreach and service. After the sale of Kettunen Center, this fund now provides support for 4-H youth leadership and 4-H volunteer development programs.

MICHIGAN 4-H FOUNDATION OPERATIONAL ENDOWMENT

This board-designated endowment was created in 2022 with proceeds from the sale of Kettunen Center. This is an unrestricted fund to support the general operations and other areas of greatest need for the Michigan 4-H Foundation. The fund earnings may be used to ensure that the foundation can meet its budgeted operational expenses and may also provide support for Michigan 4-H strategic program priorities.

MICHIGAN 4-H INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS ENDOWMENT

Russ Mawby and Melvin Thompson launched a campaign to establish this endowment in 2007 to ensure that 4-H global education and international exchange experiences continue well into the future. Additional donations are welcome.

THE MICHIGAN 4-H LEGACY FUND

Innovations in county and statewide 4-H programming are funded by this endowment fund, created in 2001 by the Michigan 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Michigan 4-H Foundation and the national 4-H centennial. Additional donations are welcome. This fund provides four Michigan 4-H Legacy mini grants annually and supports statewide 4-H learning experiences.

MICHIGAN 4-H VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION FUND

The Michigan 4-H Emerald Clover Society launched a campaign led by 4-H alumni Wayne Adam and Dawn Reid to establish this endowment in 2010. It supports annual 4-H volunteer recognition for the Michigan 4-H Salute to Excellence Awards.

MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU 4-H EXCELLENCE IN AGRICULTURE ENDOWMENT FUND

This fund was created in 2006 to fund the annual Michigan Farm Bureau 4-H Excellence in Agriculture Awards to recognize Michigan 4-H volunteer excellence in leading 4-H agricultural project areas.

MOILANEN MEMORIAL FUND

This fund was established by the foundation following an estate gift to honor K. John and Gertrude Moilanen. Annual proceeds support 4-H programs at Kettunen Center. After the sale of Kettunen Center, the board approved to reallocate the fund to support 4-H statewide learning experiences.

MARVIS RICHARDSON FUND

The Michigan 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees created this fund in 2010 in memory of Richardson. The fund supports the annual operations of the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens.

E.C. SACKRIDER MEMORIAL FUND

Since this fund was developed in the 1960s, proceeds have supported educational programs at Kettunen Center.

WILLIAM ALLEN SCHILLER MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND

In support of Michigan 4-H environmental stewardship, conservation and wildlife education programs, this fund was created in 2008 from William Allen Schiller's estate gift.

DOROTHY SCOTT MEMORIAL TRIBUTE FUND

The Michigan 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees created this fund in 2010 in memory of Scott to support areas of greatest need for the Michigan 4-H Foundation.

SILM FAMILY 4-H SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

This fund was initially created in 2015 with gifts made in honor of Theresa Silm's retirement and 38-year career with MSU Extension. The fund was grown with gifts from the Silms and their adult daughters – Chloe Silm-Buscemi, Michelle Silm and Stephanie Brook. This endowment provides postsecondary scholarships for 4-H members who attend Michigan State University and have demonstrated a commitment to service for their community.

THE PETE AND SALLY SMITH MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT

Margaret Marshall Murdoch created this fund to provide perpetual support for the Pete and Sally Smith Schoolyard Demonstration Garden of the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens. The garden and fund were created in 2007 in memory of her sister Mary (Sally) Marshall Smith and brother-in-law Donovan (Pete) Smith.

LOWELL & CAROL SPIKE FUND

The Spikes' children made charitable gifts honoring their parents to establish a perpetual source of support for scholarships to 4-H members who attend Michigan State University.

NOEL W. AND SANDRA CLARKSON STUCKMAN ENDOWMENT

This fund was initially created in 1998 by Sandy Clarkson Stuckman and additional gifts from friends honoring her professional 4-H career. In 2017, the fund was renamed and the purpose restated to support the development and implementation of contemporary and proven 4-H programs that help build and develop critical life skills for young people and the volunteers that serve them. The fund can also further advance youth leadership development in public policy, civic engagement and other methods and programs that grow and support youth leading positive community change.

SIGMA ALPHA SORORITY 4-H SCHOLARSHIP FUND

This fund was created in 2015 by members of the MSU Chapter of Sigma Alpha Sorority to honor their 4-H experiences as individuals and their organizational commitment to fostering the principles of scholarship, leadership, service and fellowship for 4-H youth who attend Michigan State University.

MICHAEL J. AND WINIFRED ANN TATE ENDOWMENT FUND

Former state 4-H leader Michael Tate and his wife, Winifred, established this fund in 2012 to provide annual support for the care, maintenance, improvements of and programming in the African American and the Sundial gardens and for general support of the 4-H Children's Gardens.

TAYLOR TRIBUTE FUND

This fund was created with gifts honoring Jane Lundeen Taylor and J. Lee Taylor when Jane, the first curator of the Michigan 4-H Children's Garden, retired from the Michigan 4-H Foundation staff in 1997.

JANE LUNDEEN TAYLOR TRIBUTE FUND

This fund was created in 2010 with a portion of Marvis Richardson's estate gift. The fund supports the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens annual maintenance.

FRANCIS H. AND INGRID E. THACKER ENDOWMENT

This fund was created in 2015 in memory of Francis Thacker by his wife, Ingrid, to maintain Kettunen Center as an effective environment for developing Michigan's youth and adult skills and talents. After the sale of Kettunen Center, this fund now provides general support to enhance and advance Michigan 4-H Youth Development programming.

TURNER-OSTERHOUT MEMORIAL FUNDS

Kenneth and Naomi Ousterhout created two endowments in the 1970s to fund teen leadership training programs and regional 4-H leadership conferences in memory of Ray Turner, former director of Michigan 4-H Youth Programs, and the Ousterhouts' son, Dean.

NORMAN R. & MARJORY A. VELIQUETTE ENDOWMENT

In 2014, Norman Veliquette and his partners at Great Lakes Packing Company created this endowment in memory of his wife, Marjory McPherson Veliquette. The endowment recognizes the Veliquettes' long-term 4-H involvement, supports the care and upkeep of Kettunen Center facilities and adjacent grounds, and may also support educational programs at Kettunen Center. After the sale of Kettunen Center, this fund now provides support for 4-H youth leadership and 4-H volunteer development programs.

WESTRATE FAMILY FUND

Ben and Norma Westrate, Jr., established this fund in the 1980s in memory and in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Westrate, Sr., and their seven children. The fund supports 4-H volunteer leadership training.

WOMAN'S NATIONAL FARM & GARDEN ASSOCIATION, MICHIGAN DIVISION, ENDOWMENT

The Woman's National Farm & Garden Association, Michigan Division, established this fund in 2007 to support 4-H international programs, the 4-H Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp, the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens and 4-H volunteer training (including support for Kettunen Center).

MARY J. E. WOODWARD MEMORIAL FUND

This former 4-H professional remembered the foundation in her will. The fund supports 4-H international programs.

HOWARD ZINDEL MEMORIAL FUND

Friends and relatives helped create this fund as a tribute to Zindel's years of service to and interest in Michigan young people. The proceeds support youth poultry science educational programs.