FIRST Robotics Competition is an international high school robotics competition which involves teams of high school students and mentors working over a six-week period to build game-playing robots that weigh up to 120 pounds (54 kg). Robots complete tasks such as scoring balls into goals, flying discs into goals, placing inner tubes onto racks, hanging on bars, and balancing robots on balance beams. The West End Gearbusters was founded in 2010 by Douglas Elliott, a teacher in the industrial arts program at Westwood High School. To compete, students needed funds to purchase materials to build the robot. The GIACF provided $1,500 toward the purchase of the robot components which includes items such as thin gauge sheet aluminum, structural tubing, fasteners, drive components, electronic controllers and digital encoders.

**The Greater Ishpeming Area Community Fund**

**Building West Marquette County, One Block at A Time!**

**West End Gearbusters receive funds to build robot**

The Greater Ishpeming Area Community Fund was established in 1994 with matching funds from the Kellogg Foundation as an affiliate of the Marquette County Community Foundation. Grants from the GIACF serve the people of Western Marquette County including the City of Ishpeming, Ishpeming Township, Tilden Township, Champion, Michigamme and Republic.

**GIACF Provides Funds to “Inspiration Zone” for two projects**

The Greater Ishpeming Area Community Fund approved two separate grants for neighborhood improvement projects in Ishpeming’s “Inspiration Zone.” The “Zone” is a 10 block area in the city in which a citizen group has been working with city and community leaders to improve infrastructure and quality of life. In the spring of 2015 $1,070 was provided to rent a dumpster for neighborhood cleanup and in the spring of 2016, $1,500 was provided to help fund a sidewalk replacement project. Members of the zone hope that their efforts will be replicated throughout the city as other neighborhoods see how it is possible to work together to improve neighborhoods and create a better quality of life.

**8-18 Media purchases laptop with GIACF funds**

Technology is an important component of any media production. The 8-18 media program, a journalism and leadership program with a mission of amplifying youth’s voices through adult media, is no exception. Prior to receiving funding, up to 10 youth reporters could be found huddled around one laptop computer which made it difficult to capitalize on their enthusiasm and hindered their ability to put their thoughts into words. The additional laptop provides the work space necessary for two teams to split up and work on writing and editing, allowing the youth to be more efficient in producing their journalism. The laptop cost $450 and the GIACF Youth Fund was able to fill this gap and provide funding for this project.
So Many Ways to Give

So you want to give, but not sure how — here are some ideas:

**Outright Gift**
The simplest way to make a big difference is by an Outright Gift. You can make a gift of cash, stocks, bonds or other assets to your community foundation. Most charitable gifts qualify for maximum tax advantage under federal and state law.

**Gift of Appreciated Stock**
Turn stock market gains into community investment. Everybody wins when you make a gift of appreciated stock to your community foundation. Your gains are put to good use. Your gift of stock is reinvested in your community, and it qualifies for an immediate tax deduction based on the full market value.

**Gift of Life Insurance**
Leave your community as your beneficiary. Life insurance provides a simple way for you to give a significant gift to charity, with tax benefits that you can enjoy during your lifetime.

**Gift of Real Estate**
Making a charitable gift of real estate through your community foundation can help you turn your property gains into community good. The value of your real estate may exceed that of any other asset you own. With the help of your community foundation, you can use it to fulfill your charitable interests and receive financial tax benefits.

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**Start Giving Today ....**

The Great Ishpeming Area Community Fund Donation Form

Yes, I would like to make a donation --- for good. for ever.

- General Grants Endowment Fund
- Youth Grants Endowment Fund
- Operating Endowment Fund
- Wherever the need is greatest
- Other (for a listing of all current endowment funds contact 906-226-7666 or visit the web-site).

Name(s) as it should be listed: ____________________________________________________________ (Please Print)

Address: __________________________________________________________

City: ________________________ State: __________ Zip: __________
e-mail: _____________________ Phone: _____________________

Please make check payable to: Community Foundation of Marquette County. Credit card donation also acceptable by calling 906-226-7666.

THANK YOU! Your contribution is tax deductible. IRS Tax ID: 38-2826563

Mail to: Greater Ishpeming Area Community Fund c/o Community Foundation of Marquette County P.O. Box 37 Marquette, MI 49855

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**2015-16 Ishpeming Community Fund General Fund & Youth Fund Grant Awards:**

- **City of Ishpeming**
  - $1,070 Inspiration Zone clean up
  - $1,500 Carnegie Library renovation
  - $1,500 Inspiration Zone sidewalk restoration project

- **Ishpeming Public Schools**
  - $500 Birchview Physical Ed.
  - $720 5th/6th Grade Technology
  - $1,500 Hematites Building Better Neighborhoods trailer
  - $500 Hematite Power Packs
  - $1,500 Chemistry/Partridge Creek Farm Technology

- **Lake Superior Hospice Association**
  - $500 Bereavement services

- **Wesley United Methodist Church**
  - $1,000 Project Keep Kids Warm

- **Society of St. Vincent DePaul**
  - $450 Summer food for kids
  - $1,000 Christmas baskets

- **Ishpeming Independence Day Inc.**
  - $600 4th of July celebration

- **Ishpeming Historical Society**
  - $1,000 2nd printing of Volume I “A Visit to the Past”
  - $500 Programming for children

- **YMCA of Marquette County**
  - $750 Early Childhood program

- **NICE Community Schools**
  - $1,000 wobble stools for special needs students
  - $500 Hoop house
  - $290 Softball program
  - $1,000 Westend Gearbusters

- **Grace Episcopal Church**
  - $500 Backpacks for Michelle’s kids

- **US National Ski Hall of Fame**
  - $1,500 exhibit improvements

- **Bay Cliff Health Camp**
  - $450 Laptop purchase

- **Great Lakes Recovery Centers**
  - $680 climbing wall

- **Special Olympics Michigan**
  - $750 Adolescent Services walking trail

- **8-18 Media**
  - $150 Bowling Program