

SCF partnering with UK-based nonprofit

London, UK nonprofit brings program to Saginaw

Girl Effect, a U.K.-based nonprofit organization, recently completed a pilot of its award-winning TEGA (Technology Enabled Girl Ambassadors) program in Saginaw during 2017. Originally created and deployed in Northern Nigeria, the TEGA program is designed to uncover insights about girls in some of the hardest to reach communities in the world. Over the past few years, the program has been used in a variety of countries. The pilot program in Saginaw marks the first time the TEGA program has been used in a developed nation anywhere in the world.

"At Girl Effect, we know that when it comes to understanding girls in hard-to-reach communities, conventional research methods have serious limitations," said Laura Scanlon, director of TEGA at Girl Effect. "To unleash change, there needs to be a much better understanding of girls' realities. Our hope is that TEGA's success in Saginaw will not only help pave the way for changing the situation for girls living there, but will pioneer a new wave of mobile innovation in the development sector, shifting from treating the symptoms of poverty to addressing its root causes."

During the pilot, Girl Effect worked alongside Saginaw-based Youth M.O.V.E to employ and train a group of young women from Saginaw to become fully qualified Technology Enabled Girl Ambassadors and conduct research through custom-designed smartphones.

"All too often, not enough time is spent actually listening to young people, how they feel about their community, and what they think needs to change – that's particularly true of young women and girls," said Willie Hillman, director of Youth M.O.V.E Saginaw. "This research has the potential to give young women in Saginaw a platform to make their voices heard, and we hope it will be embraced by those who have the power to make change happen."

During 2017, the TEGA's completed 10 rounds of research, conducted 350 interviews with men, women and young people, and collected over 6,000 video and audio clips.

These insights, about ambition, sex, education and violence captured during peer-to-peer interviews and self-reflection, help paint truly authentic insights into the lives of young people in Saginaw. Insights that adult researchers would most likely never gain.

Thanks to grant funding from SCF and area private foundations, Girl Effect is committed to



continuing the TEGA program in 2018. A local leadership team is being assembled to lead a network of researchers that will give these young Saginaw girls a voice. The goal of the research will be to strengthen local programs and create real-life impact.

"We are excited to partner with Girl Effect and its TEGA program," said Reneé Johnston, president and CEO, Saginaw Community Foundation. "SCF will be acting not only as a funder, but also as a convener, bringing area agencies together to discuss new ways to uplift young women in our community based upon the findings of the TEGA research."



Want to learn more?

Girl Effect's TEGA program
girleffect.org/what-we-do/mobile-platforms/tega/

Fast Company feature story: Girl Effect in Saginaw
fastcompany.com/40502074/



Saginaw

community foundation

Board Members

Smallwood Holoman
Chair

Mamie Thorns, Ph.D.
Vice-Chair

Reneé S. Johnston
President & CEO

Luis Canales
Secretary

Laura Yockey
Treasurer

Dr. John Kosanovich
Assistant Treasurer

John Shelton
SCF Liaison

Keith Wenzel
United Way Liaison

Trish Luplow
Community Liaison

Heidi A. Bolger
Immediate Past Chair

Daniel Cannon
Elian Fichtner
Heather Gallegos
Victor Gomez
Todd Gregory
Jodi McFarland

Tom Miller, Jr.
Felicia Rose-Barry
Kathy Stewart
Glynis Talley
Dana Tell

Staff

Reneé S. Johnston
President & CEO

Becky Gerzseny
Director of Finance

Brian Jackson
Director of Donor Services & Special Initiatives

Kendra Kempf
Program Officer/FORCE Coordinator

Bryan Konieczka
Marketing & Communications Officer

LeeAnn Martuch
Program Officer

Channing McKay
Program Assistant

Vanessa Salogar
Executive Assistant/Office & Building Manager

Debra Shelton
Youth First Director

President's Report

FROM RENEÉ S. JOHNSTON

It's been a busy start to the first part of 2018 at Saginaw Community Foundation. Since January, we've welcomed two new staff members, had one of the largest grant cycles in SCF history, and accepted 700+ scholarship applications. The staff and I gladly accept the flurry of activity we experience this time of the year, as it sets the pace for many more impactful activities yet to come.

Regarding staff, we are so happy to welcome Vanessa Salogar and Channing McKay as members of the SCF team. Vanessa, our Executive Assistant/Office & Building Manager, is the first person you will see when you come to the office. She previously worked for another local non-profit, so philanthropy is not new to her. Another addition is our new Program Assistant Channing. He will help with grant and scholarship activities, as well as assist with FORCE, our youth advisory committee. Channing is a former FORCE member and a past scholarship recipient. Both Vanessa and Channing have jumped right in and are fully engaged with the variety of activities going on at SCF. Welcome Vanessa and Channing!

With an optimist eye, people can see community challenges as an opportunity. That is exactly the case with the Technology Engaged Girl Ambassador (TEGA) program. This opportunity came to us from Girl Effect, a non-profit organization based in the United Kingdom. Girl Effect found a news story that highlighted our previous high rates of criminal and violent activity – especially towards women in our community. After a 6-month pilot, TEGA has proven that the program can assist us with digging deeper into some of areas that youth in our community are concerned about. This program is an exciting opportunity for SCF and Saginaw County.

There is no doubt, plenty of things going on and plenty of work to do. Here at Saginaw Community Foundation, we look forward to the work we can do in the community and to great results made.

Happy spring!

Reneé S. Johnston, President & CEO



Vanessa Salogar,
Executive Assistant/Office & Building Manager



Channing McKay,
Program Assistant



Sign-up for electronic delivery of **cornerstone**
saginawfoundation.org/site/newsletter-sign-up/

Phone: (989) 755-0545 • Fax: (989) 755-6524
Web: saginawfoundation.org
Email: info@saginawfoundation.org



Confirmed in compliance with
National Standards for U.S.
Community Foundations

Excellence. Accountability. Impact.™

Up to \$30,000 available for a single project

For the 6th consecutive year, Saginaw Community Foundation will award its Community Improvement Initiative (CII) Grant to a single project. The project, as selected by the Foundation's Board of Directors, will receive \$25,000. An additional \$5,000 will be granted if the selected project matches the grant amount.

With this initiative, Saginaw Community Foundation seeks to create a funding vehicle that will enable the organization to be more proactive in addressing community improvement needs. A desired outcome is to encourage the community to create and implement community improvement initiatives on its own.

What exactly is "community improvement"?

"We have defined a community improvement initiative as a project that will create indelible, measurable impacts in the immediate and broader community," said Renee Johnston, SCF president and CEO.

This initiative extends beyond existing charitable organizations, churches, schools and county/city officials. Individuals, community groups, neighborhoods, businesses and youth groups can apply if they utilize the Foundation as a fiscal sponsor. New

and existing community projects are eligible.

What types of projects are eligible?

The projects submitted must create indelible, measurable impacts in the immediate and broader community; be supported and planned by a broad range of users; and have a clear, well-laid plan for success and sustainability.

Who can apply for the grant?

Any 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization is eligible to apply. The Saginaw Community Foundation, another nonprofit, a local unit of government, or a religious institution can be used as the fiscal sponsor for individuals, community groups, neighborhoods, businesses and youth groups if not a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

If interested in utilizing the Saginaw Community Foundation as the project's fiscal sponsor, give us a call at (989) 755-0545.

Application deadline

Applications are due by April 1, 2018. Before beginning your application, please contact Kendra Kempf, program officer, at (989) 755-0545 or kendra@saginawfoundation.org to discuss your project and to receive a grant number. Additional information can be found at saginawfoundation.org/site/grants.



CII Grant
Applications
Due
April 1

PAST Recipients

2013

Mission in the City
Curriculum-Driven
Playground



2014

**Thomas Township
Parks & Trails**
Partnership for a
Better Tomorrow



2015

**New Beginnings
Enrichment Center**
Neighborhood
Enrichment Center



2016

**The Nature
Conservancy**
Riverfront Park



2017

**Kingdom Builder's
Ministry**
Construction Trades and
Agriculture Programs



Community Improvement in Action

"Commitment is hard for those that have made poor choices in life and served time in prison," says Shafley. "Participants say they will be committed but find it hard to remain committed after pledging to do so. We become a positive role model in their lives."

One of Kingdom Builder's past participants has moved on to regular employment with a local honey producer. Shafley says: "When this young man arrived, I asked him if he likes heights. He said, 'no'. Then I asked him if he likes bees and he also said, 'no'. Well, he grew to enjoy the honey and the bees and now he works out in St. Charles. He turned his life around."

Kingdom Builder's Ministry emphasizes teaching patience and empathy. Shafley reflects: "Impulsive emotions have ruled their lives. We teach them to control their emotions. We teach them life skills that many of us take for granted."

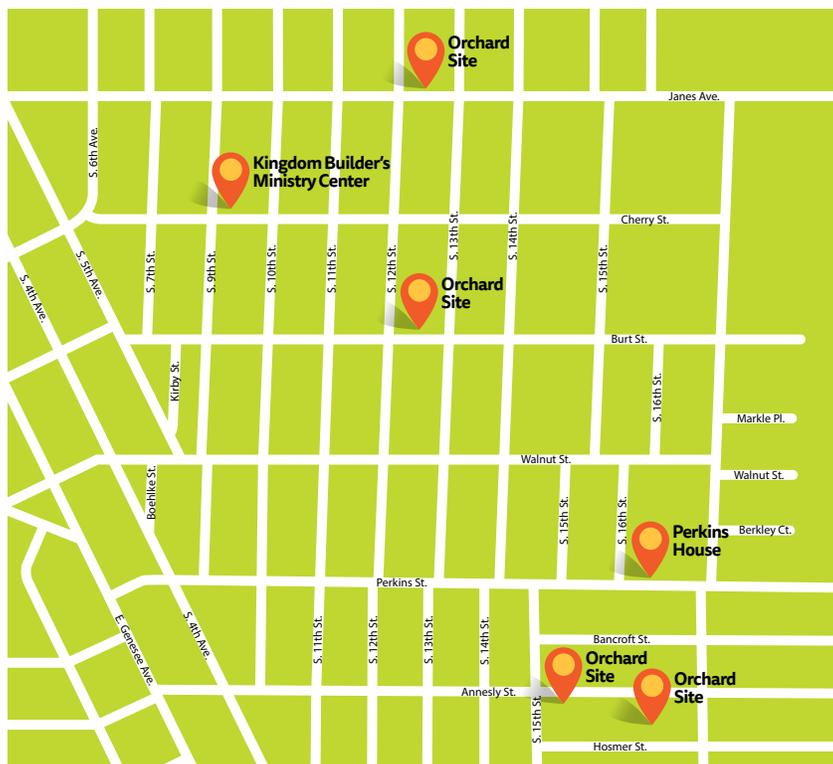
"When participants leave our program, they will have been taught strong work ethics, marketable skills, financial management, social skills, responsibility, and accountability," said Shafley. "We don't dwell on the past. We focus on the future."



Renovations being made at the Kingdom Builder's Ministry Center on S. 9th St.



Kingdom Builder's Ministry fruit tree orchards on Burt St.



inner CIRCLE

We thank our corporate sponsors for their generous support of Saginaw Community Foundation general operations.



President's Circle



Friends Circle

Apple Mountain
Bierlein Companies Foundation
Burt Watson Chevrolet, Inc.
Chemical Bank
Consumers Energy
Covenant HealthCare
Dornbos Printing Impressions
Dow Corning Corporation
Fabiano Brothers, Inc.
Garber Management Group, Inc.
Glastender, Inc.
Hemlock Semiconductor
Independent Bank
Merrill Technologies Group
Michigan Sugar Company
Morley Companies, Inc.
Network Services Group
Rehmann
Saginaw Valley State University
St. Mary's of Michigan
Scott A. Schropp
Shaheen Development
Spence Brothers
Stevens Worldwide Van Lines
Tri-Star Trust Bank
Warner Norcross & Judd, LLP
Wildfire Credit Union
Wolgast Corporation

WANT TO JOIN THE inner CIRCLE?

There are various levels of public and printed recognition available – including introductions at events, listings in foundation publications and logos on our website – depending upon your membership level. For more information, call (989) 755-0545.

Community Improvement in Action



On Saginaw's East Side, an amazing transformation is happening in one neighborhood. A transformation that is beginning to bear fruit ... literally.

"We're the best kept secret in Saginaw!" exclaims Jim Shafley, pastor and president of Kingdom Builder's Ministry.

Since 2012, Kingdom Builder's Ministry has been serving young men who are unemployed or underemployed by teaching marketable job skills in construction trades and agriculture. The Ministry buys abandoned houses and remodels them as well as buying vacant lots to create urban farming plots full of apple and peach trees. They also support several honey bee hives.

Kingdom Builder's Ministry operates out of the Kingdom Center, 346 S. 9th St., Saginaw (site of the former Trinity Lutheran School) purchased in 2014 for \$1 from the Saginaw County Land Bank. Kingdom Builders and has worked to renovate the building which serves as its headquarters, sanctuary, classroom instruction space, construction mock-up learning lab, and commercial-grade kitchen for honey processing.

In 2017 at Saginaw Community Foundation's Annual Celebration in Morley Plaza, Kingdom Builder's Ministry was announced as the recipient of the 2017 Community Improvement Initiative Grant. The \$25,000 grant will be used to support the ongoing efforts of the Ministry and its program. An additional \$5,000 was recently earned as a result of Kingdom Builder's Ministry matching the initial grant amount.

Making a difference

The construction trades program is led by Shafley, a licensed builder and construction project manager. Jim works with up to five individuals teaching full-trades training in vinyl siding/windows and doors, hardwood/tile flooring, trim work, plumbing, HVAC, drywall/painting, building walls/internal framing, installing cabinets and electric.

"Participants in the program are referred to us by the Michigan Department of Corrections and also the City Rescue Mission of Saginaw," says Shafley. "Individuals that our partner agencies feel would be a good fit are sent our way."



Pastor Jim Shafley, president, Kingdom Builder's Ministry cleaning-up one of several lots in Saginaw his ministry has acquired.

After classroom instruction and construction lab exercises, the participants head-out into the field to work on the homes purchased by the Ministry for remodeling. Aside from classroom and hands-on learning, life skills are also taught.

"We teach participants how to respond to life with emotions such as humility, compassion and trust," said Shafley. "So, not only will they learn technical skills, they will also be taught how to best handle tough situations in life."

Shafley adds that jobs are often lost because a person cannot arrive on time, does not work hard while on the job, or has excessive absences. The tough situations of the participant's lives have significant impact on these factors. The Ministry teaches them how to respond to life with new emotions and in a rational manner.

"Some of our participants are on parole," adds Shafley. "We know that returning citizens and ex-offenders have the most challenging times finding employment. Kingdom Builder's believes that by completing one of our programs, participants will have the skills and knowledge to be gainfully employed."

Planting Seeds

Besides construction trade skill instruction, Kingdom Builder's Ministry also teaches agriculture skills with its apple and peach orchards and honey bee hives. Orchards are located on the corner of Annesley and Hosmer Streets and on Burt Street between S. 13th and S. 14th Streets. Currently, Kingdom Builder's owns and maintains 31 lots with 17 containing fruit tree plantings.

"This spring, we will be planting 150 trees on newly cleared lots," said Shafley. "Our goal is to have 700 trees planted within the next four years."

Plans are in place to begin selling fruit from the orchards and honey processed from the bee hives at the Downtown Saginaw Farmers' Market located at the new SVRC Marketplace. Fresh baked goods are also in the works.

Changing Lives

By June this year, five participants will have successfully completed the program. It's challenging for both Shafley and the participants.

continued on page 4...



Notable Dates

APR
01

Application deadline for
Community Improvement
Initiative (CII) Grant

MAY
01

Application deadline for
SCF General Grants

Application deadline for
Dow Corning Donor Advised Grant

Application deadline for
DowGives Community Donor
Advised Grant

MAY
21

Excellence in Education Event,
Horizons Conference Center

JUNE
01

Application deadline for Nexteer
Steering the Future Grants

JUNE
11

SCF Annual Celebration at
Kingdom Builder's Ministry,
346 S. 9th St., Saginaw



Saginaw

community foundation



1 Tuscola St., Suite 100B
Saginaw, MI 48607

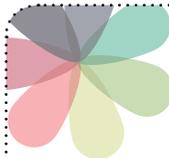
*If you are receiving duplicate
copies of **Cornerstone**, let us know,
and please pass one on to a friend.*



it takes a
village

save the date

SAGINAW COMMUNITY FOUNDATION'S
ANNUAL CELEBRATION
Monday, June 11, 5-8 P.M.
Kingdom Builder's Ministry
346 S. 9th St. • Saginaw

For Good. For Ever.

Your generous donation will make an impact
in Saginaw County

Name(s): _____

Billing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Gift amount: \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 Other \$: _____

Direct gift to fund/program (if applicable): _____

Please charge my: VISA MasterCard Discover American Express

Credit card #: _____ Expiration date (MM/YY): _____ / _____

Print name as it appears on credit card: _____

Signature: _____

Please make checks payable to **Saginaw Community Foundation**

MAIL TO: Saginaw Community Foundation • 1 Tuscola St. • Suite 100B • Saginaw, MI 48607



Save a stamp. Donate online.
saginawfoundation.thankyou4caring.org

MICS 8035