

# New strategic path for SCF

## SCF unveils new mission, vision, and values statements as part of a new strategic plan

Since our founding in 1984, Saginaw Community Foundation has worked to improve the quality of life across Saginaw County by connecting our donors to the causes that matter most to them. We have a 38-year legacy of impact in our region via grants, partnerships, philanthropic services, and scholarships. As our community has changed and evolved, we realized that the role of your community foundation has also changed. In the last part of 2021 and into the first part of 2022, SCF embarked on a strategic planning process to help shape our organization in the coming years and guide how we focus our efforts to best serve our community. In conjunction with developing a new strategic plan, the planning process also produced a new mission statement, a new vision statement, and a set of values for SCF.

### What we explored

Before diving into the strategic planning process, we conducted a survey with key community stakeholders. We asked what opportunities, challenges, and needs SCF should address in our strategic plan, as well as for survey respondents to indicate their top three priorities they believe SCF should focus on moving forward. We also looked internally, conducting interviews with SCF Board Members, surveying SCF Staff Members, and conducting strategy sessions with our staff. Our previous strategic plan, established in 2013 and updated with slight revisions twice since, was also reviewed.



*"When we initiated the strategic planning process, we didn't originally plan to revise the Mission Statement. As we applied the work, we started with Diversity Equity and Inclusion and it became obvious that our current mission statement did not reflect our DE&I efforts. In the past few years, we've encouraged everyone to see themselves as a philanthropist and I believe our new mission statement does a good job of expressing that."*

**Reneé Johnston • SCF President & CEO**



*"I found the strategic process to be both engaging and energetic as we position the future of the SCF to continue meeting donor expectations and community needs."*

**John Shelton • SCF Board Chair**

### What we learned

Each set of interviews and surveys identified priority areas for SCF to focus on and/or address during the planning process. However, when analyzing and grouping similar responses, a collection of priorities emerged:

- Diversify/grow funding
- Strategic leadership/focus
- Impactful grantmaking
- Collaboration/convening/leveraging partnerships

- Awareness/communications

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DE&I)

### What we have implemented

After months of work, our Board of Directors and Staff are excited to share our new mission, vision, and values statements:

#### OUR MISSION

*We bring people and resources together to build an equitable community, making a lasting philanthropic impact.*

*Continued on page 3 ...*

**Learn more**

See page 5 for our new mission, vision, values and strategic goals graphic table



SCF

Saginaw

community foundation

**Board Members**John Shelton  
ChairTodd Gregory  
Vice-ChairReneé S. Johnston  
President & CEOFelicia Rose-Barry  
SecretaryDana Tell  
TreasurerDr. Iris Marteja  
Assistant TreasurerRob Kain  
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Immediate Past ChairKwame Akowuah  
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Rev. Christopher Pryor  
Rumi Shahzad  
Richard Watson, IV**Staff**Reneé S. Johnston  
President & CEOChamika Ford  
Program OfficerBrian Jackson  
Director of Donor Services &  
Special InitiativesKendra Kempf  
Program Officer/FORCE CoordinatorBryan Konieczka  
Marketing & Communications OfficerAlexandria Martinez  
Program AssociateDr. Samona Perry  
Director, Youth FirstVanessa Salogar  
Executive Assistant/Office & Building ManagerDan Shuell  
Finance AssistantLori TenEyck  
Director of Finance

## LEADERSHIP

# New and retiring community foundation Board members

Since our founding in 1984, Saginaw Community Foundation has been led by a visionary Board of Directors. We continue to benefit from the wise counsel and oversight of these accomplished civic leaders, and we are grateful for their service.

**New Board Chair**

**John Shelton**, vice president sales and marketing at Zehnder's of Frankenthum, assumes the role of Board Chair at Saginaw Community Foundation. A

member of the Board of Directors since 2012, John served previously as the Board community liaison, secretary and most recently, its vice-chair.

**Retiring Board members**

We especially wish to acknowledge our retiring Board of Directors members, **Dr. Mamie Thorns, Jill Dralle, and Trish Luplow.**

**Dr. Mamie Thorns**

chair, and immediate past chair. In addition to serving in those roles, Mamie served on various committees including SCF's Distribution Committee and Finance Committee. She has also been instrumental in helping lead SCF's journey with Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DE&I) efforts.

**Jill Dralle**

**Jill Dralle** joined the SCF Board of Directors in 2018. As an executive at Nexteer Automotive, Jill helped strengthen the relationship between Nexteer and SCF. She also provided assistance

to our Scholarship Committee and helped review and score applications.

**Trish Luplow**

**Trish Luplow** joined the SCF Board in 2010. In her 12 years of devoted service, Trish served as community liaison, SCF liaison, treasurer, Investment Committee chair, Finance Committee

chair, Scholarship Committee chair, and ABCD/Community Improvement Initiative Committee chair. While a member of the Investment Committee, Trish helped establish our Investing for Community Impact policy and served on the Implementation Committee that awarded our first social impact investment to Saginaw Covenant Academy. Trish certainly earned the title "volunteer extraordinaire" for her exemplary support and commitment to SCF.

**New officers elected**

At our June Board meeting, the following officers were elected:

**Todd Gregory**, Vice-Chair**Felicia Rose-Barry**, Secretary**Dana Tell**, Treasurer**Dr. Iris Marteja**, Assistant Treasurer**Rob Kain**, Community Liaison**Laura Yockey**, Immediate Past Chair**New members appointed**

Also, at our June Board meeting, the following individuals were appointed to a Board position:

**Jill Miller**, Saginaw Valley State University**Odie Pruitt, III**, Nexteer Automotive**Richard Watson, IV**, Burt Watson Automotive Group.

Welcome to the Board, Jill, Odie and Richard!

Sign-up for electronic delivery of **cornerstone**  
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# New strategic path for SCF

## OUR VISION

*A flourishing community for all, forever.*

## OUR VALUES

- Equity
- Diversity
- Inclusiveness
- Collaboration
- Sustainability
- Stewardship
- Community engagement in philanthropy

## OUR STRATEGIC FOCUS

- *SCF Sustainability: Sustainable resources to fund current and future operations.*
- *Enhance Community Capacity: Cultivating community resources to have a measurable positive impact.*
- *Diversity, Equity and Inclusion: An inclusive community where all are valued.*

**See page 5** for additional information regarding our Strategic Focus Goals.

## What's Next

Just as the challenges facing our community have changed over time, our work will change in meaningful ways as we embrace and live our new mission, vision, values, and strategic

focus. Since adopting our new strategic plan, an internal workplan has been created with objectives for the SCF Staff to achieve in support of our focus areas. We are evaluating our internal policies and procedures to align with our new priorities and values. We're also looking at how we can best partner with donors in areas of shared interest, how we can help strengthen our nonprofit agency partners through endowment fund growth and opportunities for capacity building, how we will evaluate ourselves, and how we will communicate with the community about our work.

The Staff and Board of Directors are excited to put our new strategic plan into action. We know that to be effective, we will need to continuously learn, listen, evaluate and adapt; and we look forward to doing this with you – our community.

FOR GOOD. FOR EVER.

# New funds established

The following new funds were approved by the SCF Board of Directors between Jan. 21 – June 17, 2022:

### Camp Timbers Staff Scholarship

Designated fund for the Saginaw YMCA/Camp Timbers to award a scholarship to a camp counselor as a way to recognize a young person's commitment to the camp counselor role.

### Megan L. Drumhiller Memorial Dance Fund

Donor advised fund that will initially provide \$1,000 financial support, annually, to a dancer that is nominated by a local dance school and selected by a committee established by the Drumhiller family and the SCF staff.

### Hemlock Business School Partnership Foundation

Designated fund to support operations and activities for the Hemlock Public School District.

### Michigan Health Endowment Building Bridges Fund

Pass-through fund to support a grant awarded by the Michigan Health Endowment fund in the amount of \$100,000. This will allow the Behavioral Health Action Team, of the Community Health Improvement Plan to, institute a Hub for services for community members experiencing mental/behavioral health.

### Rotary Club of Saginaw Sunrise Scholarship

A renewable scholarship, for up to three years, to be awarded to a high school graduating senior.

### Rotary Club of Saginaw Sunrise: Dr. Rojan and Mrs. Bhagy Samudrala Endowment Scholarship

Scholarship to be awarded to a high school graduating senior participating in Career and Technology Education.

### Saginaw Business Award Show

Pass-through fund to support the fundraising efforts to establish an awards program recognizing minority-owned businesses.

### Straub YFU Fund

Designated fund that will support the expenses for a student's participation in the Youth for Understanding USA Study Abroad Program.

### Topolka YFU Fund

Designated fund that will support the expenses for a student's participation in the Youth for Understanding USA Study Abroad Program.

### E. Woodruff and A. Wlock Foundation Scholarship

Scholarship to be awarded to a student who has epilepsy, or affected by a fire, in the amount of \$1,000.

## Interested in starting your own fund?

The fund you establish with the Saginaw Community Foundation can be set up in your name, in the name of your family, or in honor of any person or organization you choose. You also may choose to give to an existing fund.

Your fund will be endowed at the Saginaw Community Foundation. Earnings gained through investments will be used to make grants that address needs in Saginaw County. If you prefer, grants can be made anonymously.

To get started, meet with your professional advisor or contact the Saginaw Community Foundation at (989) 755-0545 or visit [saginawfoundation.org](http://saginawfoundation.org) for more information.

# Another record-setting year for scholarship awards

It was another record-setting year at Saginaw Community Foundation (SCF). As part of our 35<sup>th</sup> annual Excellence in Education scholarship awards, **SCF awarded 692 scholarships to 378 high school, college and nontraditional students for a total of \$920,305.** The number of awards and dollar amount were record-high numbers.

"The scholarships we award each year are made possible because of the generosity of our donors and their commitment to education," said Chamika Ford, program officer at SCF. "Our donors are individuals, families, civic groups and businesses who believe in the value of education. To them we extend our deepest appreciation as they make the dream of higher education come true for so many students."

Since 1987, the foundation has awarded more than \$9 million in scholarships to students, helping them achieve their educational goals.

"Education is vital to the growth and future of every community. Scholarships can help people in our region obtain a degree, certificate or other training that will help further their aspirations and goals," said Reneé Johnston, SCF president and CEO.

The foundation currently administers 235 scholarships that have been established by its donors as well as the Saginaw Promise Zone scholarship.

"People traditionally think scholarships are just for high school seniors," Ford said. "But the Saginaw Community Foundation offers scholarships for many individuals seeking higher education – from displaced workers, to the single mother just returning to school, to a student working full-time and attending college part-time."

Visit [saginawfoundation.org/site/scholarships/](https://saginawfoundation.org/site/scholarships/) to review instructions, begin an application or review a directory of scholarship opportunities. Besides offering scholarships for residents of Saginaw County, SCF offers many opportunities for residents of Bay and Midland Counties as well.

SCF will begin accepting applications for 2023 scholarship awards on Nov. 1, 2022 with applications due by Feb. 10, 2023. Visit our website for information at [saginawfoundation.org](https://saginawfoundation.org).

apply for  
**scholarships**  
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**APPLICATION OPENS NOV. 1, 2022**

**APPLICATION DUE DATE FEB. 10, 2023**

## inner CIRCLE

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

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### 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.

## Our Mission

We bring people and resources together to build an equitable community, making a lasting philanthropic impact.

## Our Vision

A flourishing community for all, forever.

## Our Values

- Equity
- Diversity
- Inclusiveness
- Collaboration
- Sustainability
- Stewardship
- Community engagement in philanthropy

## Strategic Focus

### SCF Sustainability

Sustainable resources to fund current and future operations.

#### Goals

- Establish a sustainable SCF Financial/Fund Development Plan
- Expand awareness of SCF in the community and with targeted stakeholders
- Evaluate and optimize staff and board capacity to appropriately resource an effective work plan

### Enhance Community Capacity

Cultivating community resources to have a measurable positive impact.

#### Goals

- Grow overall assets to \$110 million by 2025
- Grow and align collaborations across the community by participating in and/or leading efforts to maximize community outcomes
- Expand opportunities for grant making and social impact investing
- Further strengthen non-profit agencies and community partners by expanding resources to improve long-term sustainability
- Support efforts to create a system to collect and share community data and analytics

### Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

An inclusive community where all are valued.

#### Goals

- Develop an internal Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DE&I) Plan to ensure that policies, procedures, language and practices are equitable and inclusive
- Identify opportunities to lead and/or support efforts to build a DE&I culture throughout the community
- Provide community-wide DE&I resources and share DE&I best practices



## Notable Dates

OCT  
01

Application deadline for  
Grants for Excellence

Application deadline for  
Louis & Karen Constan Science  
Education Fund Grant

OCT  
31

Martin Luther King, Jr. Regional  
Scholarship applications due

NOV  
01

SCF Scholarship Application  
opens online

NOV  
01

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2022 SCF General  
Grant Applications Due

DEC  
01

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2022 Application  
deadline for Nexteer Steering the  
Future Fund Grants

FEB  
10

2023 SCF Scholarship Application  
submission deadline



Saginaw

community foundation



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copies of **Cornerstone**, let us know,  
and please pass one on to a friend.*

APPLY BY OCT. 31

## MLK Regional Scholarship

Applications for the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Regional Scholarship are now available. This scholarship is for Bay, Midland and Saginaw County high school seniors, regardless of ethnicity, who actively embrace Dr. King's dream of improving racial harmony and social justice.

Scholarships are \$1,000 and nonrenewable. The awards are scheduled to be presented at the annual Great Lakes Bay Regional Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration program to be held in early 2023 at Saginaw Valley State University.

**Applications must be completed online and are due by Oct. 31, 2022.** Visit [saginawfoundation.org](http://saginawfoundation.org) for details.



## For Good. For Ever.

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in Saginaw County

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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: \_\_\_\_\_

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