



community foundation
of St. Clair County

Foundation awards \$58,500 to support Education

April 20, 2008 –Port Huron, MI—The Community Foundation of St. Clair County’s Education Task Force announced grants totaling \$58,500 in support for education programs in St. Clair County.

According to Mike McCartan, co-chair of the Education Task Force and executive director of Community Mental Health, the Foundation believes that a more highly educated population, combined with a higher percentage of students seeking out some type of college degree, will help lead to an economically healthier and sustainable community.

The Foundation is focusing on programs that encourage post secondary education, strengthen math, science, engineering and technological skills and outreach programs targeting at-risk students who may otherwise not continue with their education.

Dr. Sushma Reddy, co-chair of the Education Task Force, stated that the grants awarded will impact elementary, middle and high school students throughout St. Clair County. The grants included:

- \$22,500 to Algonac High School to help replicate a student mentoring program at other high schools. The program has been recognized nationally as a Best Practice model the International Center for Leadership in Education and includes up to \$2,500 to each additional high school that participates in the program.
- \$10,000 to RESA to offer an additional summer robotics camp (\$5,000) along with \$5,000 to join the \$25,000 committed by the Foundation’s Youth Advisory Council to funding a full time counselor to assist high school students with college prep/counseling, stress and time management issues.
- \$20,000 to strengthen reading skills for elementary students in the East China School District as well as students at Cleveland, Lakeport, Michigamme and Sparlingville Elementary Schools.
- \$6,000 to Algonac Elementary School for their neighborhood outreach program, which brings the Foundation’s total support for this program to \$51,000 over the last four years.

The Community Foundation of St. Clair County is the largest public grant making organization in Michigan’s Thumb Region with a current focus on Community Development, Education and Arts & Culture.