



COMMUNITY FUND OF LAKE FOREST

GIVING AND GROWING TOGETHER

Background



A Legacy of Service

Lake Forest's tradition of civic involvement and philanthropy dates back to its founding in 1861.

Active, Involved Citizens

Many Lake Forest residents participate in our community through service in local government, boards, and numerous committees and commissions.

The Role of Philanthropy

Local foundations play a vital role in supporting key institutions like Open Lands and the Gorton Center.

The spirit of civic engagement is a defining characteristic of Lake Forest, making it a truly special place to live.

The Need for a Community Fund



Lake Forest has many blessings, but a Community Fund can play a vital role in a community like ours:

- The Fund will provide long term, predictable funding to both large and small charitable organizations serving Lake Forest.
- The Fund will work with local charities, the City, School Boards, Police and other community organizations to identify unmet needs of the community.
- A rigorous vetting structure will insure that donor's funds are used for maximum impact.
- Many peer cities to Lake Forest, such as Highland Park, Darien and Palo Alto have longstanding community funds which make a significant impact on their communities.

The Lake County Community Foundation as our Partner



The mission of The Lake County Community Foundation is to improve the quality of life for all the county by providing civic leadership, promoting collective philanthropy and partnering with our grant recipients.



The Lake County Community Foundation serves as the center of knowledge of community needs, a strategic resource for the nonprofit sector and a valued collaborator with donors who consider the Foundation as the premier partner for their collective philanthropy.

Benefits of LCCF Partnership



- LCCF provides administrative support reducing the burden on volunteers or the need to hire staff.
- Fund can be invested as part of LCCF's \$24 million investment pool or in a money market fund.
- Fund can start out non-endowed and can be endowed when it reaches \$2.5 million (other goal).
- CFLF grants committee recommends grants from the Fund. LCCF sends out grant checks.
- LCCF provides for longevity and continuity of the Fund as officers and group members leave.
- LCCF can accept illiquid gifts of real estate, stock, art, collections, business assets and other complex gifts.
- LCCF is a trusted fund partner for individuals, family foundations, and corporations.
- LCCF is cost effective, allowing more of donor dollars to go directly toward grant making.
- LCCF knows the community and can provide knowledge of non-profits and emerging needs.
- LCCF has deep roots in Lake Forest.

Advantages of the Fund



- Contributions are tax deductible.
- The Fund will operate as an endowment in order to provide long term support to worthy organizations.
- For donors, the Fund provides a way to make a gift to the community which will have a lasting impact.
- There is no expectation that donors will make future gifts, though they will be welcome.



Our Process



A well organized, professional process will support the Community Fund:

Donations will come from the local community.

Funds will be managed by the Lake County Community Foundation as a component fund of a \$24M investment pool overseen by William Blair.

Grant requests will be vetted and awarded by the Grants Committee made up of community members and experienced philanthropists.

The Fund will publish an annual Impact Statement which analyzes the impact of the Fund on the community.

Administrative operations of the Fund will be managed by LCCF providing professional and highly transparent oversight.

Making an Impact



Here are some of the outstanding non-profit organizations in Lake Forest which could qualify for grants by the Fund:

- **Paws for Patrick** provides emotional support animals for those suffering from anxiety, depression and other mental illnesses. Research has shown that emotional support animals can provide meaningful reductions in symptoms of these problems while also providing health benefits including lower blood pressure and improved mood. With additional funding, Paws For Patrick could provide more emotional support animals for people in our community.
- **A Safe Place.** Located in Gorton Center, A Safe Place provides assistance for Lake Forest residents who are victims of domestic abuse.
- **Dickinson Hall** is a social and activities center for Lake Forest residents who are seniors. Located in an historic building and funded by both the City and private donations, Dickenson Hall provides lectures, fitness programs, parties and other activities which help keep life exciting for our senior citizens.

Financial Information

- The Community Fund of Lake Forest will be overseen by a Board of Lake Forest residents with deep knowledge and experience in the community.
- Fees to the Lake County Community Foundation and investment manager provide for all Fund costs, without the need for additional overhead expense.
- The Fund works with top local tax, legal and investment professionals, and is structured to receive multiple types of gifts, including appreciated stock, legacy donations, multiyear gifts, donor advised funds and others. We will also partner with local foundations who share similar goals.
- The Fund will be audited as part of The Lake County Community Foundation audit.



Vision for the Future

- The Community Fund has the potential to make a big impact on Lake Forest.
- Over time, we envision the Fund providing meaningful, long-term support to both large and small non-profits in our community with the overall goal of improving the quality of life for all our citizens.
- We will use a multifaceted approach which will include direct grants, building partnerships with other foundations and non-profits, and by working collaboratively with the City and other public institutions.





Join US

We invite you to join us in making the Community Fund a vibrant part of Lake Forest.

To donate, please visit the donor page at lakecountycf.org/community-fund-of-lake-forest.

For gifts including appreciated stock or other assets, or planned or legacy gifts, please call us. We will work with you and your team of advisors to insure your gifts are handled smoothly and that you receive the proper documentation for your tax and other requirements.

Thank you for your interest in the Community Fund of Lake Forest.