

BCF Scholarship Program is GROWING!

Ten NEW scholarship opportunities added for 2020

The Berrien Community Foundation's Scholarship program is growing thanks to the generosity of our donors! For the 2020 scholarship year, **ten additional scholarship opportunities** have been added to support Berrien County students as they move on to a college or trade school. The Berrien Community Foundation now oversees 43 scholarship programs!



Our 2019 Berrien Community Foundation Scholars

“As the cost of higher education continues to rise, so does the generosity of the people in our community,” said Lisa Cripps-Downey, president of BCF. “Donors understand that there is a need for help to pay for college or training and students are so grateful for their thoughtful contributions.”

Scholarship applications are available on the BCF website at www.berriencommunity.org/scholar.

Scholarships are listed by school

district for graduating seniors. There is also a category of scholarships for adult learners or those who are in the midst of their college career. **Applications are due March 6, 2020.**

“The purpose of the scholarship program is to assist people who are determined to further their education or training to make a better life for themselves and their families,” said BCF Program Manager Susan Matheny. “We work with students at different ages and stages and with a wide range of career choices. Soccer player? Engineering? Adult student? Nurse? We have an option for you!”

Recipes On A Can

The Edalene & Edward Brown Endowment Fund

It started as an idea to help men who were left on their own to cook. Putting those brilliant, simple recipes on the labels of canned goods was the brainchild of Edalene Stohr Brown. Edalene studied home economics and business. She brought her talents to Berrien County when she married area resident Edward Brown. Together, they started Michigan Fruit Cannery, a successful canning company in Benton Harbor. Edalene's innovative food test kitchen, new ideas and the couple's business sense allowed them to grow their business in the area.

A life-end gift, now transferred to the Berrien Community Foundation, will continue to support the things of beauty they were passionate about. **The Edalene & Edward Brown Endowment Fund** will help support the Brown Family Memorial Garden on the site of the former Brown residence on Lake Boulevard and other beautification projects in St. Joseph, along with education opportunities at Sarett Nature Center.

Thank you for remembering our community!



Buchanan Area Senior Center

Gardens **FOR GOOD**

Thanks in part to a **Berrien Community Foundation For Good Grant**, Seniors at the Buchanan Area Senior Center are now able to enjoy the great outdoors by gardening in the newly built **Freida Barker Memorial Garden**. Freida's son Kevin Barker donated the garden design in honor of his mother, who was a long-time patron of the center.

Senior volunteers on the garden committee were able to harvest 226 quarts of organically-raised produce that was distributed to senior center patrons through their monthly and quarterly commodities program.

The garden is much more than a way to provide extra food to area seniors. "Gardening is a popular recreational activity among seniors" said Buchanan Area Senior Center executive director Adam Burck. "It provides both the physical benefits realized while tending to the garden and the social benefits from the group gardening days and committee meetings."



BE COUNTED BERRIEN2020

George Washington was president for the first Census. With this long history, Census data is woven throughout the fabric of our country.

The process to count every resident in the United States occurs every ten years and, for us, it determines the federal funding Berrien County receives for numerous programs. **Census data determines funding for; special education, school lunches, Head Start, childcare, and foster care. Our fair share of funding for health programs like Medicare, Medicaid, children's health insurance and health centers is based on Census data.**

The Census also impacts Berrien's funding for roads, bridges and transportation. Data collected during the Census determines the resources needed for emergency management as well as the number of local hospital beds. It's used to calculate the state funds for our libraries. The number of our federal and state representatives and the electoral college votes allocated to Michigan also depends on Census data.

Census Count Impacts Our Daily Lives

Jeff Upton, Denise Peters, Georgia Boggs and Dan Applegate are ready to **Be Counted!**



"As a citizen, I believe that filling out the Census is one of the most important things I can do," says Tyler Dotson, Watervliet City Manager.

What can you do? Plan now to take 5 to 10 minutes to complete the Census in the spring of 2020. Tell your friends, neighbors and colleagues why the Census is important to Berrien County getting our fair share.

Everyone Counts. For more information, visit www.BeCountedBerrien.org.

BCF Upcoming Due Dates for Grant Programs

January 21 - Golden Acorn Classroom Mini Grants

February 10 - Heart of Cook Foundation Grants

February 24 - BCF "For Good" Grants

March 15 - Frederick S. Upton Foundation Grants

April 10 - Frederick S. Upton Foundation Big Idea Proposal Letters

April 30 - Alamar Non-Profit Sustainability Grant Proposal Letters



FREDERICK S. UPTON
Foundation



To learn more go to: www.berriencommunity.org/grants