The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Equality Fund
We believe the greater Kalamazoo community draws its spirit, vitality and character from the increasingly diverse mix of people who are a part of it. We envision a community where every person can reach full potential, and are committed to making life here better for all.

Our LGBT Equality Fund has four priorities:

- Advocate for human rights and equality to positively impact Kalamazoo County’s LGBT community;
- Promote social justice and unity;
- Support activities that celebrate the rich social and cultural contributions of our LGBT community; and
- Strengthen organizations that serve the physical, health, social or emotional needs of our LGBT community.

In particular, it supports programs that facilitate leadership development, and programs that impact LGBT people of color, youths and families; transgender people; and multiple generations.
Make an impact

You can make an impact and help us make life better for all in Kalamazoo County by giving to the LGBT Equality Fund. We offer a variety of funding options for nonprofits seeking grants for programs and projects that support Kalamazoo County’s LGBT community members. However, the sole purpose of the Equality Fund is to support local nonprofits that promote equality and celebrate appreciation for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning community members who live, work and raise their families here.

Your gifts to the LGBT Equality Fund become part of a permanent endowment, which means they will help our community forever. We invest your gifts so they grow and make it possible for us to:

• Make community investments (grants) in support of programs that address current community needs.
• Ensure there will be resources tomorrow for needs we can’t even imagine today.
• Convene key stakeholders around issues that will affect equality in Kalamazoo County over the long term.
How to give

To give to the LGBT Equality Fund, you can:

• Use the enclosed envelope to mail a check with Equality Fund written on the check’s memo line.
• Give online at www.kalfound.org/give.
  Choose LGBT Equality Fund from the Designation list.
• Make a planned gift.

If you have questions about how to make your gift, please don’t hesitate to get in touch with our Donor Relations team. To get in touch you can:

Call  269.381.4416
Email  donorrelations@kalfound.org
Visit  www.kalfound.org/ourteam
Consider a planned gift

In addition to making a gift now, a planned gift to the LGBT Equality Fund of the Kalamazoo Community Foundation can be a simple way to make a tremendous impact. It could even help you make a more significant gift than you ever thought possible. There are many ways for you to plan now for a gift later.

Bequest
A bequest enables you to stay in control of your assets during your lifetime and support the causes that are important to you later. This can be a specific dollar amount, a percentage of your estate, or what remains after other bequests are made. No bequest is too small.

Retirement Plans
Your individual retirement plans or 401(k) plans are often one of the best assets to leave to charity, which receive 100 percent of the gift.

Life Insurance
A gift of life insurance is another way to make a substantial gift. You can name the Community Foundation as a beneficiary of an insurance policy or donate the policy outright and receive a current income tax deduction.

Other Options
Other options to consider include life income gifts like a Charitable Gift Annuity or Charitable Remainder Trust, Charitable Lead Trust, or gifts of real estate.
What you can expect

Here’s what you can expect from us when you give a gift of any kind to the Kalamazoo Community Foundation.

**Knowledge**  We possess an unparalleled base of knowledge and connections built through nearly a century of community involvement. We apply this knowledge to ensure your gift is used the way you want it to be used, and that the issues, causes and community you care about are supported.

**Leadership**  We lead through collaboration and partnerships. This enables us to better leverage resources and achieve more than if we work in isolation.

**Impact**  We give grants to Kalamazoo County nonprofits addressing immediate community needs, as well as those collaborating with others to create long-term, transformative change.
The Kalamazoo Community Foundation is committed to environmental sustainability.

This publication was printed locally with soy inks on recycled paper. When you are finished with it, please support our commitment to the environment by recycling it or passing it along to a friend.