



MICHIGAN BASEBALL FOUNDATION 2024 Annual Report

As we approach the close of 2024, the Michigan Baseball Foundation (MBF) reflects on our ongoing mission to support and strengthen the Great Lakes Bay Region. Throughout this year and since our inception, we have remained dedicated to enriching our communities through youth-focused initiatives, philanthropic endeavors, and maintaining Dow Diamond as a premier gathering place. This work would not be possible without the unwavering support of our Loons fans, community partners, and generous contributors through the MBF Dow Diamond All-Stars initiative.

Since 2008, MBF has awarded 353 grants totaling nearly \$1.55 million to non-profit organizations across the Great Lakes Bay Region. In 2024, we distributed \$89,565 in grants to support a wide range of impactful community projects spanning Bay, Midland, Ogemaw, Saginaw, and Tuscola counties. These projects include resurfacing tennis courts, creating nature-based STEM learning classrooms, installing security systems, and renovating athletic facilities.

MBF is also committed to maintaining Dow Diamond as a premier Minor League Baseball facility and events center. Over the past two years, we've invested \$3.97 million to meet Major League Baseball's updated facility standards and address critical infrastructure needs. This season, we installed new protective netting extending down the foul lines to the bullpens on both sides of the field. Made from state-of-the-art Kevlar, this nearly invisible netting offers 97% visibility while enhancing safety for our guests. In addition, we upgraded our LED lighting system, which improves visibility for players and adds dynamic, music-synced light shows during in-game highlights. We are also undertaking a full renovation of our playing surface to further elevate the experience for both players and fans.

Your continued support ensures that Dow Diamond remains a community hub for all. The following pages will highlight the achievements of Dow Diamond, the Great Lakes Loons, and Sports Radio 100.9 The Mitt in 2024—all made possible by your generous contributions. We look forward to welcoming you to the ballpark for many more seasons to come.



William Stravropoulos
Chairman and CEO

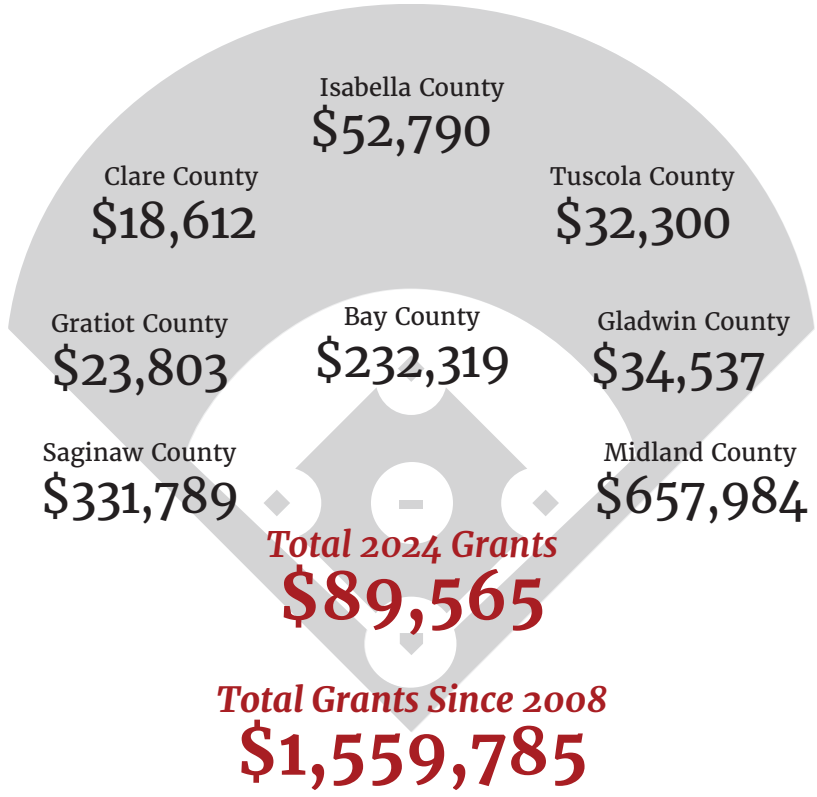




Creating Community Wins

Michigan Baseball Foundation’s philanthropic efforts demonstrated remarkable diversity in line with our core mission. Alongside our continuous support for sports, fitness, and education, we have maintained strong partnerships with organizations dedicated to promoting inclusivity for individuals with developmental and cognitive challenges. Our steadfast commitments to this charitable outreach within our region remains unwavering.

In 2024, MBF positively impacted 15 non-profit organizations, granting a total of \$89,565. To date, our organization has contributed over \$1.55 million in charitable grants.



2024 Grants

Ogemaw County

Baseball Field Fencing <i>City of Rose City</i>	\$1,000
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Bay County

Reimagine Kantzler Memorial Arboretum <i>Bay City in Bloom</i>	\$3,565
Tennis Courts Resurfacing <i>Bay Community Tennis Association</i>	\$5,000
Linwood Batting Cages <i>Linwood Youth Organization</i>	\$7,000

Midland County

Creating Nature Based STEM Learning Classrooms <i>Chippewa Nature Center, Inc.</i>	\$10,000
Greater Together Project <i>Greater Midland Community Centers, Inc.</i>	\$12,500
North Family Center – Security Monitoring System <i>Greater Midland Community Centers, Inc.</i>	\$5,500
Video Scoreboard for Competition Pool <i>H.H. Dow Sports Booster Club</i>	\$10,000
Ongoing Maintenance <i>Midland Miracle Field</i>	\$10,000
Expanding Educational Equipment & Supplies <i>Phoenix Community Farm</i>	\$3,500

Saginaw County

Freeland Robotics High School Robotics Field <i>Freeland Robotics Boosters</i>	\$7,000
Equipment and Storage Shed <i>Hemlock Youth Baseball & Softball</i>	\$4,000
Middle School Scoreboards <i>Merrill High School</i>	\$6,000
Baseball Scoreboard Refurbishment Project <i>Michigan Lutheran Seminary Foundation</i>	\$1,000

Tuscola County

Renovation of Reese Softball Complex <i>Reese High School</i>	\$3,500
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Bay Community Tennis Association



Reese High School

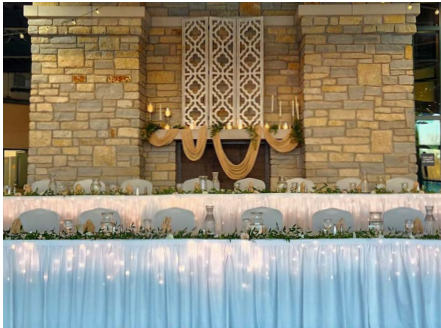


Chippewa Nature Center

Dow Diamond Events



100+ total events



13 weddings & receptions



3 trade shows

Dow Diamond Continued Improvements



The Michigan Baseball Foundation is committed to keeping Dow Diamond a premier destination for baseball and events. Over two years, MBF has invested \$3.97 million to meet MLB’s updated standards and improve infrastructure. This includes installing nearly invisible Kevlar netting with 97% visibility, extending safety down the foul lines. The new LED lighting system enhances visibility for players and adds dynamic light shows. Additionally, MBF is replacing the playing surface to ensure the best experience for athletes and fans alike.



Sports Radio 100.9 The Mitt

Sports Radio 100.9 The Mitt just celebrated its one-year anniversary as a Fox Sports affiliate and its all-new programming lineup led by nightly in-house show, The Payoff. The Mitt serves to support the Michigan Baseball Foundation and provide the Great Lakes Bay Region hyper-local sports coverage and marketing solutions to foster community growth. This year, 100.9-FM produced over 165 local sports broadcasts including every Great Lakes Loons game and over 30 high school broadcasts covering 23 different schools in the Great Lakes Bay Region. The Mitt also contributed \$5,000 as part of 10 scholarships to the best high school scholar-athletes in our region.



The Payoff, presented by Forward Corporation, has emerged as the Great Lakes Bay Region’s premier local sports show, featuring host Ben Bosscher as he delivers insightful hyper-local sports opinions and engaging conversations. Covering teams from the Lions and Tigers to the Pistons, Red Wings, Wolverines, Spartans, and local sports highlights, The Payoff has quickly become a beloved platform for fans in our community, fostering a deeper connection to the sports we love.



Scholar Athlete Recipients:

presented by Forward Corporation
Antonio Jimenez – Merrill
Gabreiella Crumm – Unionville-Sebewaing
Nick Moody – Midland
Paige Kloha – Freeland
Emma Weitzel – Bay City Western
Garrett Forgash – John Glenn
Noah Graham – Freeland
Kinsie Jacques – Pinconning
Jacob Jensen – Dow
Emmah Hanson – Bullock Creek

2024 Great Lakes Loons Highlights



Loons in the Community



The Loons front office attended Opening Day of Midland Miracle League 2024 as buddies and hosted a Miracle League game alongside Loons players at the end of July.



The team voLOONteered with United Way of Midland County at Camp Neyati to paint cabins, level the trails, and revamp the disc golf course.



Over \$81,000 raised through player-worn jersey auctions.



The Loons fulfilled 237 donation requests for fundraising, educational, and other nonprofit causes.



Over \$46,000 generated for nonprofits through our Food & Beverage Volunteer Program.

Everyone’s Hometown Team

Through our *Community All Stars* program, we asked fans to nominate individuals making an impact across three different counties. We honored these three remarkable leaders on Opening Day, celebrating their contributions with the ceremonial first pitch.



Our *Hometown Heroes* initiative allows us to shed a spotlight on extraordinary individuals who have gone above and beyond in serving our community. These four local heroes, nominated by our fans, embody the spirit of courage and dedication.



We took our show on the road and partnered with Z93 The Rock Station for a *Hometown Tour* with stops ranging from River Days, Michigan Sugar Festival, Bay City Rib Fest, and the Munger Potato Festival. Everyone’s Hometown Team showed up to festivals around the Great Lakes Bay Region.



Leagues of Generosity

We extend our sincere gratitude to the Dow Diamond All-Stars for their generous support and contributions to the Michigan Baseball Foundation.

FOUNDERS

The Herbert H. & Grace A. Dow Foundation	Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation	The Charles J. Strosacker Foundation	The Dow Chemical Company	The Dow Chemical Company Foundation	Dow Corning Corporation	Bill & Linda Stavropoulos Family Foundation
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HALL OF FAME

\$10,000+ Cumulative Giving

Barb & Dr. T.K. Johnson
Bill & Cynthia Schuette
Bill Collins & Doreen Allen
Bob Monica
Bobbie & Dave Arnold
Braun Kendrick
Brian & Cynthia Lance
Cady & David Ramaker
Carleen & Terry Moore
Christina & John Murphy
Debbie & Mike Hayes
Dom & Pam Monastiere
Dow Chemical Company
Dow Credit Union
Exhibition Services General CU
In Loving Memory of Diane Postler-Slattery & Don Slattery
Isabella Bank
J.E. Johnson
Jean & Frank Popoff
Jim Fitterling & Alex Lee
John and Jill Sampson
John and Sandy Bartos
Kathy & Bill Fothergill
Lexus of Lansing
Linda & Bill Stavropoulos
Lisa & Howard Ungerleider
Los Angeles Dodgers
Luanne & Greg Grocholski
Lyle & Julie Davis
Maple Hill Nursery
Mary & Todd Draves
Matthew & Christy Leeseberg
Michael & Cassie Gambrell
Midland Area Community Foundation
Mike & Sara Whiting
Molly & Bill Weideman
Paula & Andrew Liveris
Professional Sports Catering
Richard Dolinski
Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network
Saginaw Valley State University
Scott & Leanne Davis
Servinski Sod Service
Shauna & Paul Barbeau
Spence Brothers
The Charles J. Strosacker Foundation

The Fisher Companies
The Herbert H. & Grace A. Dow Foundation
The Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation
Three Rivers Corporation
Turtle Cove Properties
Tyco International Ltd.
Valley Electric Contractors
Versiti Blood Centers of Michigan
Walmart
Warner Norcross & Judd, LLP

MVP

Members First Credit Union
Steven & Shelley Einhorn

MAJOR LEAGUE

1st State Bank
Blasy Electric, Inc.
Bob & Cheryl Rathbun
Bolger + Battle
Craig & Karolyn Goslin
Dan & Sarah Opperman
Dan Murphy
Downtown Restaurant Investments Inc
Dr. Lydia Watson
Eric & Cindy Gilbertson
Fred & Julaine Eddy
Garber Automotive
Great Lakes Bay Regional Alliance
Ieuter Insurance Group
James & Diana Wagner
Jeff & Nicole Tate
Jolt Credit Union
Karen Carter
Kent MacDonald & Mary Ellen MacPhee
Matt & Ashley Mapes
Matt & Julie Smith
Mica & Rob Jones
Mitcon, LLC
MyMichigan Health
Northwood University
Peter Shaheen
Remax of Midland
Renaissance Charitable Foundation
Robert & Christy Plishka
Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated
Ryan Anderson
The H Hotel
Tri-Star Trust Bank
Vantg Flooring & Interiors

TRIPLE A

Bay Area Runners Club
Community Foundation of Louisville
Kathy & Tony Biskupski
Laura & Mark Freed
Laura Yockey
Lauren James
Megan Clark
Nancy & Scott Carmona
Paper Moon Event Specialist
Rebecca Cox
Sharlene & Ernie Barbeau
Stacey Trapani

DOUBLE A

Brandon Loker
Brian McLeod
Cameron Bloch
Candace Henderson
Carrie Iafrate
Catherine & William Leikhim
Chris & Nellie Mundhenk
Corey & Jessica Gillespie
Dan Scheffer
Dave Keilitz
David Reetz
Dick Lebsack in Memory of Nyla Lebsack
Dinah DuRussel
Donna & Andy Rapp
Doug & Karin Pelletier
Elizabeth & Dave Neithamer
Eric Ramseyer
Gretchen & Keith Pretty
Irene & Jim Peck
Jack Tany
Jackson and Madison Poole
Jana Chotivkova
Janet & Steve Ottarski
Jason Johnson
Jerome Schwind
Joanne & Barry George
Johanne & Bob Balwinski
John & Rosemary Swantek
Jonathon Lauderbach
Karl Kamena
Karma McGaw
Kayla Stryker
Lana Maxwell
Laura & Marty Hollenbeck
Marcie Long

Mary Ann & Bob Wise
Mary Jo Stanton in Memory of Terrel G. Stanton
Melodie Dodman
Melwyn Sequeira
Memorial Presbyterian Church
Nara & Larry Ramseyer
Pamela & Gary Pozenel in Honor of Bernard Pozenel
Phil Rausch
Richard Juday
Richard Kusowski in Memory of Ken Kusowski
Ryan Weiss
Tiffany Wardynski
Tina & Howard Brisbois
Yeo & Yeo CPAs

SINGLE A

Ashytn Hescott
Austin Johnson
Basilio Gonzalez
Ben Bosscher
Brad Tunney
Brian Farnsworth
Brian Worsley
Carlos Garcia
Carlos Valles
Chris Backus
Dominic Sergi
Elizabeth Getzinger
Emily Thelen
Jacalyn Hagar
Jacob Wendorf
James Metiva

Jamie & Brett Start
Janet & Dan Straley
Jeff Ross
Jerry O'Donnell
Joe Volk
John Vicari
Kelly & Sam Pelong
Kevin Schunk
Liz & Gary Voelker
Mikayla Rapini
Rickey Rissman
Sarah Stockford
Scott Bejcek
Stephanie & Dave Gomola
Stephanie Tithof
Travis Webb

Hall of Fame denotes lifetime giving. MVP level and below are current donors, as of November 1, 2024.



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who made the 2024 Dine on the Diamond event an outstanding success. Your generous support played a vital role in raising over \$100,000 for the Michigan Baseball Foundation and we are truly inspired by your commitment to our mission. Your contributions are not merely donations; they are investments in the communities we serve, creating a lasting impact. Together, we are making a tangible difference, and we sincerely appreciate your partnership on this incredible journey.



SAVE THE DATE
Thursday, July 31, 2025

Board of Directors



William S. Stavropoulos
Chairman, CEO, & President

MBF and Great Lakes Loons founder; former CEO of the Dow Chemical Company



Lydia Watson, MD
Director, MBF

President and Chief Executive Officer of MyMichigan Health since 2022; MyMichigan Health medical staff member since 1996



Chris Mundhenk
President, MBO

President and GM of the Great Lakes Loons



David Kepler
Director, MBO

President of Four Lakes Task Force; Owner of Turtle Cove Properties, LLC; former Executive Vice President of The Dow Chemical Company



Mike Hayes
VP & Secretary, MBF

Former President/GM of the Great Lakes Loons; Former President/CEO of the Midland Center for the Arts ('10-'15), 20-year career at The Dow Chemical Company; Former Michigan State Representative ('81-'89)



Paul Barbeau
Director, MBF

Senior Global Director of Corporate Facilities for Dow; first President and GM of the Great Lakes Loons



Greg Grocholski
Director, MBO

CEO of Sandy Ridge Group, former Vice President - Chief Audit Executive of SABIC; former Chief Audit Executive of The Dow Chemical Company



Mary Draves
Director, MBO

President of MD and Associates Consulting; former Chief Sustainability Officer and Vice President of Environmental Health and Safety for Dow, Inc.



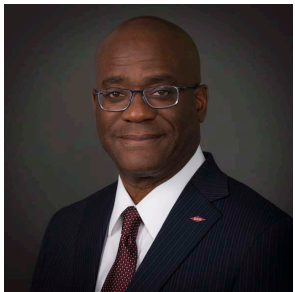
Bob Plishka
Director, MBF

Corporate Public Affairs Director for Dow overseeing Business Communications, Branding, Sports Marketing Solutions, and Customer Experience



Sarah Opperman
Director, MBF

Chairwoman of Isabella Bank Corporation Board of Directors; previously served 28 years with The Dow Chemical Company



John Sampson
Director, MBO

Senior Vice President, Operations, Manufacturing & Engineering for Dow; formerly served as a corporate officer at Olin Corporation



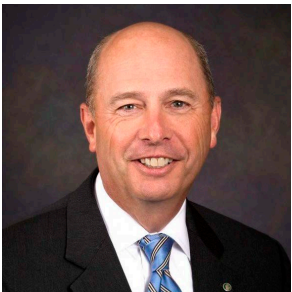
Laura Yockey
Director, MBO

1st State Bank Senior Vice President and Business Lending Manager; previously at Chemical Bank 2008-2022 with 40 years in banking overall



Bob Rathbun
Director, MBF

Tri-Star Trust Senior Vice President; previously served over 30 years with Chemical Bank



David Ramaker
Director, MBF

Served as MBF President from 2018 - 2022; formerly served as President and CEO of Chemical Bank from 1993 - 2017.



Terence Moore
Director, MBO

Former President of MyMichigan Health, serving for 31 years; former President of the Great Lakes Bay Regional Alliance



William Collins
General Counsel, MBF/MBO

Former Deputy General Council for TCF Financial Corporation (2019-2021); General Counsel for Chemical Bank (2011-2019); 32 year career with Currie Kendall Law in Midland



Howard Ungerleider
Director, MBF

Former President and Chief Financial Officer for Dow; Chairman of the Dow Company Foundation; Operating Advisor for Clayton, Dubilier, & Rice



Kent MacDonald
Director, MBF

President of Northwood University since 2019; former president of St. Francis Xavier University



Macauley Whiting, Jr.
Director, MBO

President Emeritus of the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation since 1996; Co-Founder and CEO of Decker Energy International; Co-Founder of Florida Collegiate Summer League

