



**KALAMAZOO  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**



## Getting Started

# How to Open a Field-of-Interest Fund

At Kalamazoo Community Foundation (KZCF), we know that our donors have a serious heart for giving back and want to make sure our community has the resources it needs to thrive! For some donors, their lived experiences, areas of expertise and personal passions, lead them to want to contribute their gifts in support of organizations that address specific fields of interest. If this sounds like you, opening a Field-of-Interest (FOI) Fund with us is the perfect way to go!

### What Is an FOI Fund?

FOI Funds offer flexible ways for you to focus your giving on the issues and causes you care most about. With this type of fund, your gift remains flexible to meet community needs within your stated area of interest — even as the specific needs within that field change over time.

### How Does this Fund Work?

- 1 After you establish an FOI Fund, we invest the fund and take care of the administrative details.
- 2 Through investment, we grow the fund you establish and, consequently, the resources available to support the cause you care about.
- 3 Our Community Impact team monitors changing community needs and awards grants from the fund you established, ensuring that grants will support your field of interest.

### What Are the Benefits?

There are many benefits to opening an FOI Fund at KZCF, but we've highlighted some of the most important ones for you.

- **Your grants are cause-aligned:** When opening the fund, you get to choose the community issue that matters most to you.
- **Your gifts create local impact:** Grants from the fund you establish remain in Kalamazoo County, supporting organizations and projects close to home.
- **You can provide enduring support:** Our FOI Funds are permanently endowed, so they'll continue to grow and allow you to give back for years to come, despite how community needs may change.
- **You enjoy peace of mind:** Even when the broader landscape of community needs and organizations changes, the generosity of the fund you establish will remain relevant for generations to come within your interest area.

**FLIP ME!**

- **You can enjoy giving flexibility:** You can give cash, appreciated securities, real estate, or other assets valued at the fund minimum or more. You and others can also make additional gifts to the FOI Fund you establish in any amount and at any time. Additionally, an FOI Fund can be included as part of a planned gift in your estate plan.

### What Are the Fund Minimums and Fees?

The fund minimum to open an FOI Fund with a cause or interest area that mirrors one of KZCF’s existing Love Where You Live (LWYL) funds is \$5,000. KZCF’s existing LWYL funds are categorized as Greatest Needs, Arts, Economy, Education, Environment, Health, Housing and Youth.

The fund minimum to open an FOI Fund with a cause or interest area that doesn’t mirror one of KZCF’s existing LWYL funds and relies on KZCF for all grantmaking activities is \$50,000.

KZCF offers donors the option to select their desired field of interest and manage grantmaking activities through an advisory committee and/or a request-for-proposal process. The fund minimum for this type of FOI Fund is \$100,000.

KZCF charges an annual administrative fee of 1% on FOI Funds. Specific information about our fees is available in our Fund Spendable and Fee Policy.

## Ready to Get Started? *Here Are Your Next Steps!*

- 1 Identify a cause you are most interested in supporting.**
- 2 Meet with a member of our Philanthropic Services & Development team to choose a fund name and to sign a letter of direction that defines the terms of the fund’s operation.**
- 3 Make the establishing gift to KCZF and watch the fund grow to support the cause you care about.**

*Note: Ask us about our Fund Under Development option if you’re not ready to gift or able to gift the full fund minimum.*

### CONTACT



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