



KALAMAZOO
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION



Getting Started

How to Open a Love Where You Live Fund

At the heart of our donors' desire to give is the love they have for this community. For those who are looking for a simple way to make a significant difference, our Love Where You Live (LWYL) funds offer one of the easiest and most powerful ways to do just that. If you'd like to take the guesswork out of giving and make sure that Kalamazoo County becomes a place where every person can thrive, opening a LWYL fund at Kalamazoo Community Foundation (KZCF) is the way to go!

What Is a LWYL Fund?

LWYL funds support Kalamazoo County by pooling gifts from generous people like you to address the most urgent needs and the most promising opportunities, aligned with specific causes that matter to our community members. As part of KZCF's permanent endowment, every fund grows over time and provides lasting benefits for our community.

How Do LWYL Funds Work?

- 1 KZCF invests all gifts made to the fund you establish in a permanent endowment, allowing them to grow and support Kalamazoo County for generations to come.
- 2 Each year, we award grants from the fund you created to promising organizations and programs that create lasting impact in the focus area you've chosen to support.

What Are the Benefits?

There are many benefits to opening a LWYL fund at KZCF, and we've highlighted some of the most important ones for you.

- **Grants are cause-aligned:** When you open a LWYL fund, you get to choose the community cause that matters most to you.
- **Grants create local impact:** Grants from this fund remain in Kalamazoo County, supporting organizations and projects close to home.
- **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 LWYL fund you establish in any amount and at any time. Additionally, you can make a gift through your estate to open or contribute to the LWYL fund.

FLIP ME!

What Are the Available LWYL Funds?

The fund minimum to open an active LWYL fund is \$5,000, which you can also build over time. We have eight LWYL fund categories from which you can choose:

- 1. Greatest Needs:** Supports nonprofit programs addressing the greatest needs as they change over time to make Kalamazoo County a community where all can thrive.
- 2. Arts:** Supports nonprofit programs that honor, awaken and nourish diverse arts and culture programming for a more vibrant and connected community.
- 3. Economy:** Provides resources for entrepreneurial and local infrastructure development, job training and wealth-building opportunities to sustain a strong local economy.
- 4. Education:** Supports nonprofit programs from cradle to career and scholarships for post-secondary education to provide equitable opportunities for lifelong learners.
- 5. Environment:** Supports nonprofit programs to preserve and sustain Kalamazoo County's natural environment.
- 6. Health:** Supports nonprofit programs to increase the quality and access to health care services for all, improving county-wide health outcomes.
- 7. Housing:** Supports nonprofit programs that make housing affordable, safe and available.
- 8. Youth:** Provides resources to support and develop young people in Kalamazoo County.

Don't see your cause listed here? A more specific Field-of-Interest Fund might be a better option for you. Contact a member of our Philanthropic Services & Development (PSD) team to learn more.

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

- 1** Identify the LWYL cause that you're most interested in supporting.
- 2** Meet with a member of our PSD team to choose a name for the fund and sign a letter of direction that defines the terms of the fund's operation.
- 3** Make the establishing gift to KZCF and watch the fund grow to support the cause you care about.

CONTACT



Jenna Maxwell
She/Her/Hers
Philanthropic Advisor
jmaxwell@kzcf.org
269.585.7271

