

To the partners and friends of the Steelcase Foundation:

The Steelcase Foundation marks its 60th anniversary this year, but for us, the milestone is measured not in years, but in the progress made in the communities we've served over the past six decades. Partnering with local organizations, we've had the opportunity to impact the lives of three generations of people. Though our efforts have expanded far beyond what our original trustees, Walter Idema and David Hunting Sr., imagined, we think they'd be proud.

An anniversary seems like the right time to take a moment and look back. The foundation has always been about more than dispensing funds to worthy causes. Our goal is to help organizations develop their plans into concrete solutions, like the blank sheets of paper in our artwork that have been worked into something structured and innovative, producing patterns that will continue well into the future.

The "Where are they now?" stories in this report show what can happen when people who know their community and its needs are empowered to implement creative, effective ideas. We honor them – the hard work they've done and the success they've had. Our communities are better because of them.

An anniversary is also a good time to look forward. This is a year of transition for us: Our longtime president, Susan Broman, has left after 15 remarkable years to lead the state of Michigan's new Office of Great Start, focused on early childhood development. To say she will be missed is an understatement: She lived our mission in a way that made us better, as well as the organizations we support, instilling a rigor to our grant-application process that helped ensure projects' success. We are proud to have her transition to such a key role, with the chance to have an even wider impact, and we know that children in Michigan will benefit from her efforts.

As we continue our search for a new president, our trustees are thinking through where we've been, where we are, and where we want to go. Our mission will remain constant, however: To work collaboratively, to turn ideas into action, to empower people to reach their full potential, and to make our communities a better place to live and work.

Kate Pew Wolters, Board Chair





Early intervention on a path to success

When kids drop out of school or break the law, that tends to start them down a path of no return, ending in poverty and even prison. The social costs of this are enormous, not just for the kids but for the community.



SCHOOL-TO-CAREER PROGRESSIONS used 2003-04 and 2007-08 grants from the Steelcase Foundation to target kids at risk of dropping out of school. Success Centers were set up on school campuses and throughout Grand Rapids to support students, staffed by coaches to mentor, tutor, encourage and cheer them on.

"This is about giving these kids a positive vision of the future," said Progressions director Michael Daniels. "We teach them to set career goals based on their dreams and abilities, and how to work to reach them."

"Success Center" is an apt term – of the kids served, about 90 percent have graduated high school, and of those graduates, about 80 percent have transitioned to a full-time job or secondary education.

Progressions also has a program that partners with the court system to target youth who've committed low-level misdemeanors. Instead of going to the courts, the kids are diverted to a youth-development program with the same focus on creating a plan for success based on their interests and abilities.

"We look at whether they need counseling to help them work through some of the struggles they might be going through, how we can encourage them to improve in school and not commit another crime," Daniels said. "We give these kids direction on how to improve in home, school and within the community."

After successful completion of the program, the kids' court records are expunged. This program has been equally successful: Of the more than 360 kids ages 12-16 who've gone through the program in the last four years, about 89 percent have had no further contact with the courts a year later.



The testimonies of the kids in the program are its truest measure of success. "Since coming to Progressions, they have helped me look at the big picture and see that all the skipping school isn't worth it in the end," said an 18-year-old named Deshario. "Since graduating from the Diversion Program, I had above a 3.0 GPA my entire senior year. I made the honor roll and just graduated from high school. My goals are to enroll in the M-TEC program at Grand Rapids Community College and find a job. **Progressions has taught me that school is important and everybody has a purpose in life.**"



Long-term impact

Nearly two decades after the BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB opened its first location in Athens, Alabama, executive director Suzanne Rainey can measure its success by the success of those first kids to attend.

There's the girl who was Youth of the Year in 1996 and is now an attorney. There's the family of three kids being raised by a single mom working two jobs, where the two oldest are now in the military and the youngest has a full-time job and career aspirations.

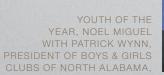
"The club has provided hope and opportunity to so many kids," Rainey said. "It's helped them realize there's more out there, and they can do things like go to college, instead of just following the patterns they've seen all their lives. That single mom came from a family that was into drugs, and she did better than them, and now her kids are doing better than her. If we can do just a little bit every generation, it has a tremendous impact on our community."

The organization's growth has been explosive. The first club served about 100 kids in a rented space, and there was always a waiting list. Now there are 14 locations serving 7,000-10,000 kids throughout both Limestone and its neighboring county of Athens. The Steelcase Foundation has provided grants every year since the club started.

Those multiple locations are particularly important in keeping the club accessible to kids whose lives may be transient. The most recent Youth of the Year changed schools 11 times, moving first with his family, then among foster homes. He joined the club when he was 8, and through all his moves, he kept coming to whatever location was nearest. Now he's a high school senior and credits the club with helping him stay in school; it provided the only stability he's ever known.

"All our programs are important – we have a great sports and fitness program to combat childhood obesity, and we do character and leadership programs and arts programs – but I feel like our education and career program is by far the best at helping kids envision another life," Rainey said.

"Ninety-seven percent of the kids in it passed to the next level or graduated last year."





Meeting community and individual needs

The mission of GILDA'S CLUB's is to be a cancer support community, but soon after the Grand Rapids location opened, leaders realized the acute need for a program to help children grieving a loss from any circumstance, not just cancer.

"We were the only children's grieving program in town, and we had people calling us about children who'd experienced the death of someone in their life due to murder, suicide, heart attacks, begging us to allow them into the program," said president/CEO Leann Arkema.

In 2006, the Steelcase Foundation helped fund a three-year children's grief pilot program. Within a few months, the program was full.

Why a program just for children? National studies show that most grieving parents aren't fully aware of the grief impact on their children, because the children don't talk about it. They don't want to make the parent cry, or they don't have the words to express their feelings, so they express it through action, becoming defiant or acting out through school. Studies also show that when trauma happens to children, the physiology of their brain chemistry actually changes.

"When we're able to help normalize that grieving experience for children, and take the fear and anger

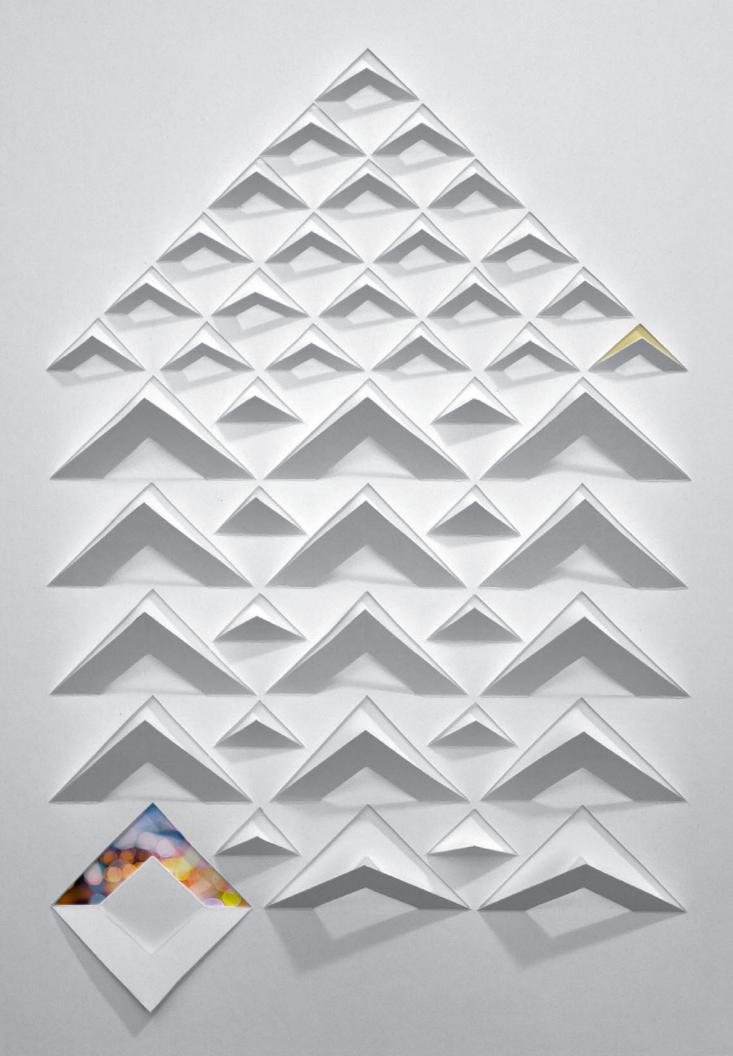
out of it, we help them recalibrate their brain chemistry," Arkema said. "It's a developing brain, so this program allows children to have more of a chance of a normal life."

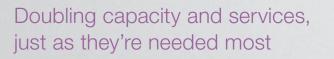
The program uses licensed professionals, and the results are dramatic. For children ages 3-8, parents reported a 100% improvement in their child's adjustment. For kids in grades third through eighth, 95% of parents reported an improvement in overall well-being, and for teens, there was an 87% reported improvement. Just as importantly, parents themselves reported a 92-93% improvement in their own self-awareness of their grief and their relationship with their child.

Over 1,000 children have come through the program since it started. It's been so successful that leaders have created a version for the Kent County Juvenile Detention Center, where anywhere from 55-95% of child detainees at any given time have experienced a death.

"No one's taught them how to grieve, so they act out," Arkema said. "The goal is to create good emotional health, so they understand how to navigate that loss in a way that won't result in a negative impact on the rest of their lives."







In 2007, Michigan's economy was in crisis, and demand for DEGAGE MINISTRIES' services increased dramatically. A capital grant from the Steelcase Foundation could not have come at a more critical time. Their 19th-century building was crowded and in desperate need of infrastructure upgrades.

"The electrical wires were literally crumbling in workers' hands," said executive director Marge Palmerlee. "By the grace of God, we never had a fire."

The funding let Degage renovate their entire building and occupy the upper two floors for the first time, which in turn let them expand services. The nonprofit provides services and meals to those in need and overnight shelter to women in crisis. Before, the dining room was standing-room-only, and furniture had to be moved each night to make space for the women to sleep. Degage is the only place in the neighborhood where people can take a shower and do laundry, and there were only two showers and three washers/dryers.

Now, there are six more showers and five more washers/dryers. The whole building is air-conditioned and has new furnaces, there's an office right up front to greet people as they come in, private offices instead of open cubicles for women meeting with staff, and countless other improvements.

"We hear all the time how much people appreciate the new services," Palmerlee said. "Before, you might have walked in and not had as welcoming an environment because of lack of space. Now we have a facility that shows we value the people who come through our doors."

From devastation comes partnership

Hurricane Katrina not
only destroyed much of
New Orleans, it devastated the
infrastructure of nonprofit organizations
just as their services were needed most. A
grant from the Steelcase Foundation helped to
fund a venture called NONPROFIT CENTRAL, providing
free office space and technology so these organizations
could get back to business.

Five years later, the success of this venture is evident from the fact that Nonprofit Central is no longer needed. Its former occupants have all found permanent homes, including the organizer, the Louisiana Association of Nonprofit Organizations (LANO).

There's also been an unexpected side benefit to the nonprofits sharing space: "The virtual and practical partnerships have remained," said LANO executive director Ann Silverberg Williamson. "Dayto-day alignment continues through webinars and shared events and increased awareness of one another's missions because Nonprofit Central existed for those five years."

That spirit of cooperation is critical, as the five-year anniversary of Katrina also coincided with the full impact of the economic downturn hitting Louisiana, which typically lags behind the rest of the nation because of the oil/gas industry. **Collaboration has helped organizations make the most of their money while deepening their impact.** The Greater New Orleans Housing Alliance, Neighborhoods Partnership Network and the Central City Renaissance Alliance all play a critical role in the sector and grew out of relationships formed at Nonprofit Central.

"Nonprofit organizations have realized we cannot do this alone,"
Williamson said. "Now we know the need to share resources
and ideas and expertise touches every element of
advancing our missions."

Even when it came time for LANO to find a permanent home in New Orleans, the focus remained on partnership. Their new space is shared with the Arts Council of Greater New Orleans.





2011 grant Dayment totals

TOTAL ARTS AND CULTURE:

\$580,000 / FUTURE: \$95,000

TOTAL COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

\$365,000 / FUTURE: \$10,000

TOTAL EDUCATION:

\$807,500 / FUTURE: \$1,600,000

TOTAL ENVIRONMENT:

\$419,375 / FUTURE: \$20,000

TOTAL HEALTH:

\$53,000 / FUTURE: \$85,000

TOTAL HUMAN SERVICE:

\$1,275,705 / FUTURE: \$645,000

TOTAL OTHER:

\$69,300 / FUTURE: \$0

GRAND TOTALS:

\$3,569,880 / FUTURE: \$2,455,000





GRANT PAYMENT TOTALS IN 2011: \$580,000 / FUTURE: \$95,000

GIVEN TO THE FOLLOWING RECIPIENTS / PROJECT DESCRIPTION / RECIPIENT'S WEBSITE / GRANT PAYMENT AMOUNT

ARTS COUNCIL OF GREATER GRAND RAPIDS

Major Donor Campaign \$15,000 / FUTURE: \$30,000 www.artsggr.org

BLUE LAKE FINE ARTS CAMP

WMCAT/Steelcase Foundation Scholarship Program

\$25,000 / FUTURE: \$0 www.bluelake.org

GIRLS CHORAL ACADEMY

A Voice Through Advancement \$15,000 / FUTURE: \$15,000 girlschoralacademy.org

GRAND RAPIDS ART MUSEUM

Program support \$150,000 / FUTURE: \$0 www.gramonline.org

GRAND RAPIDS BALLET COMPANY

Production support for new repertoire **\$65,000** / FUTURE: \$50,000 www.grballet.com

GRAND RAPIDS CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Outreach programs \$35,000 / FUTURE: \$0 www.grcm.org

GRAND RAPIDS SYMPHONY

Underwriting Music Director's Chair **\$170,000** / FUTURE: \$0 www.grsymphony.org

OPERA GRAND RAPIDS

LEED Bonus \$5,000 / FUTURE: \$0 www.operagr.com

URBAN INSTITUTE FOR CONTEMPORARY ARTS

"Where Art Happens" capital campaign

\$100,000 / FUTURE: \$0 www.uica.org



JE GRANTEE

Housing Services Center **\$75,000** / FUTURE: \$0 www.communityrebuilders.org

GRAND RAPIDS CABLE ACCESS CENTER INC.

(IS ALSO KNOWN AS THE COMMUNITY MEDIA CENTER) CMC

Wealthy Theatre Centennial Campaign

\$60,000 / FUTURE: \$0 www.grcmc.org

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, ATHENS/LIMESTONE CO.

Habitat for Humanity Restore **\$40,000** / FUTURE: \$0 www.habitatalc.org

MIDTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Fulton Street Farmers Market capital campaign

\$175,000 / FUTURE: \$0 www.midtowngr.com

STEEPLETOWN NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

Kent County Renters' Alliance **\$15,000** / FUTURE: \$10,000 www.steepletowncenter.org





GRANT PAYMENT TOTALS IN 2011: \$807,500 / FUTURE: \$1,600,000

GIVEN TO THE FOLLOWING RECIPIENTS / PROJECT DESCRIPTION / RECIPIENT'S WEBSITE / GRANT PAYMENT AMOUNT

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Federal Building Renovation for Kendall College of Art & Design of Ferris State University **\$0** / FUTURE: \$200,000

www.ferris.edu

GRAND RAPIDS CHILD DISCOVERY CENTER

Discovery the Connection **\$175,000** / FUTURE: \$175,000 www.childdiscoverycenter.org

GRAND RAPIDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION

"GRCC Works...Ask Anyone" **\$125,000** / FUTURE: \$375,000

www.grcc.edu

GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Blandford School capital campaign **\$0** / FUTURE: \$150,000 www.grpublicschools.org

GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and

Information Commons

\$200,000 / FUTURE: \$700,000

www.gvsu.edu

KENT INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Kent ISD Change Network **\$32,500** / FUTURE: \$0 www.kentisd.org

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

MSU West Michigan Medical School

\$200,000 / FUTURE: \$0

www.msu.edu

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

LEED Bonus

\$75,000 / FUTURE: \$0 www.msu.edu



environment

GRANT PAYMENT TOTALS IN 2011: \$419,375 / FUTURE: \$20,000

GIVEN TO THE FOLLOWING RECIPIENTS / PROJECT DESCRIPTION / RECIPIENT'S WEBSITE / GRANT PAYMENT AMOUNT

BLANDFORD NATURE CENTER

New Directions at Blandford Nature Center **\$44,375** / FUTURE: \$0

www.blandfordnaturecenter.org

JOHN BALL ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Phase I: Restore the Roar \$250,000 / FUTURE: \$0 www.johnballzoosociety.org

WEST MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COUNCIL

Inspiring WMEACtion in West Michigan

\$25,000 / FUTURE: \$20,000

www.wmeac.org

WEST MICHIGAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, INC.

Japanese Garden \$100,000 / FUTURE: \$0 www.meijergardens.org





GRANT PAYMENT TOTALS IN 2011: \$53,000 / FUTURE: \$85,000

GIVEN TO THE FOLLOWING RECIPIENTS / PROJECT DESCRIPTION / RECIPIENT'S WEBSITE / GRANT PAYMENT AMOUNT

CATHERINE'S HEALTH CENTER

Opening Doors Capital Campaign: Building a Legacy of Quality Care to Increase Services to the Community

\$50,000 / FUTURE: \$25,000 www.catherineshc.org

GRANTE

GILDA'S CLUB GRAND RAPIDS

Advance Care Planning Initiative **\$3,000** / FUTURE: \$0 www.gildasclubgr.org

HOSPICE OF MICHIGAN

MSU College of Human Medicine Fellowship in Hospice and Palliative Care **\$0** / FUTURE: \$60,000 www.hom.org





GRANT PAYMENT TOTALS IN 2011: \$1,275,705 / FUTURE: \$645,000

GIVEN TO THE FOLLOWING RECIPIENTS / PROJECT DESCRIPTION / RECIPIENT'S WEBSITE / GRANT PAYMENT AMOUNT

AMERICAN RED CROSS

Emergency Services Challenge \$65,839 / FUTURE: \$0 www.redcross.org

ATHENS-LIMESTONE EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER

Emergency food, rent/mortgage and utility assistance **\$5,000** / FUTURE: \$0

BAXTER COMMUNITY CENTER

The Greenhouse Initiative \$25,000 / FUTURE: \$0 www.baxtercommunitycenter.org

CAMP HENRY

Support for summer campers' scholarship program **\$8,500** / FUTURE: \$0

www.camphenry.org

DISABILITY ADVOCATES OF KENT COUNTY

Best Highest Use \$35,000 / FUTURE: \$0 www.disabilityadvocates.us

FAMILY FUTURES

Connections expansion **\$40,000** / FUTURE: \$35,000 www.familyfutures.net

FAMILY PROMISE OF GRAND RAPIDS

Community Awareness, Public Relations and Marketing Plan \$35,000 / FUTURE: \$0 www.familypromisegr.org

FIRST STEPS

First Steps Initiative

\$100,000 / FUTURE: \$100,000 www.firststepskent.org

GRAND RAPIDS AREA HOUSING CONTINUUM OF CARE

Coalition's Systems Change - Phase Three **\$35,000** / FUTURE: \$0

www.roofstoroots.com

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF KENT COUNTY, INC.

Hurricane relief in Monterrey, Mexico

\$10,000 / FUTURE: \$0 www.habitatkent.org

HEART OF WEST MICHIGAN UNITED WAY

2011 Campaign

\$425,000 / FUTURE: \$100,000 www.waybetterunitedway.org

INDIAN TRAILS CAMP, INC.

2011 Scholarship Campaign "The Place I Love" **\$7,500** / FUTURE: \$0 www.indiantrailscamp.org

KIDS' FOOD BASKET

Creating a New Home for the Kids' Food Basket **\$25,000** / FUTURE: \$0.00 www.kidsfoodbasket.org

LITERACY CENTER OF WEST MICHIGAN

Solution Slueprint for Adult Literacy **\$30,000** / FUTURE: \$20,000 www.literacycenterwm.org

MEL TROTTER MINISTRIES

Shelter from the Storm capital campaign **\$25,000** / FUTURE: \$50,000 www.meltrotter.org

MIGRANT LEGAL AID

Legal assistance for migrant-worker victims of domestic abuse \$15,000 / FUTURE: \$0 www.migrantlegalaid.com

MOMSBLOOM

Flourishing Families \$15,000 / FUTURE: \$7,500 www.momsbloom.org

OUR HOPE ASSOCIATION

Sustainability of Our Hope Association **\$40,000** / FUTURE: \$30,000 www.ourhopeassociation.org

PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF WEST AND NORTHERN MICHIGAN

Smart and Safer Choices \$36,862 / FUTURE: \$0 www.plannedparenthood.org

SENIOR MEALS PROGRAM, INC.

Senior Meals Capital Campaign \$0 / FUTURE: \$150,000 www.seniormealsonwheels.org

THE GRAND RAPIDS RED PROJECT

Clean Works Program \$25,000 / FUTURE: \$35,000 www.redprojectgr.org

TORONTO WINDFALL CLOTHING SUPPORT SERVICE

\$47,939 / FUTURE: \$0 www.windfallbasics.com

UNITED WAY OF ATHENS AND LIMESTONE COUNTY

2011 campaign \$39,655 / FUTURE: \$0 www.unitedwayofathenslimestone.org

UNITED WAY OF ATHENS AND LIMESTONE COUNTY

Emergency assistance \$50,000 / FUTURE: \$0

www.unitedwayofathenslimestone.org

UNITED WAY OF GREATER HIGH POINT, INC.

2011 campaign \$14,410 / FUTURE: \$0 www.unitedwayhp.org

WEST MICHIGAN CENTER FOR ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

Youth Program Opportunity for Innovation \$100,000 / FUTURE: \$100,000 www.wmcat.org

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF GRAND RAPIDS

Mid City Adventure Club, Summer camper scholarship program and Search Institute Asset Training **\$20,000** / FUTURE: \$17,500

www.grymca.org





GRANT PAYMENT TOTALS IN 2011: \$69,300 / FUTURE: \$0

GIVEN TO THE FOLLOWING RECIPIENTS / PROJECT DESCRIPTION / RECIPIENT'S WEBSITE / GRANT PAYMENT AMOUNT

COUNCIL OF MICHIGAN FOUNDATIONS

2010/2011 membership dues **\$8,400** / FUTURE: \$0 www.michiganfoundations.org

GRAND RAPIDS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Nonprofit Technical Assistance Fund

\$30,000 / FUTURE: \$0 www.nptafund.org

GRANTMAKERS FOR EDUCATION

2011 membership dues \$900 / FUTURE: \$0 www.edfunders.org

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF THE MICHIGAN GREAT LAKES, INC.

Integrating Economic Education and the Workplace

\$30,000 / FUTURE: \$0 www.westmichigan.ja.org



matching gifts

The Steelcase Foundation also partners with Steelcase employees, retirees and directors by matching their gifts to arts and culture, education and environmental and conservation programs. The maximum contribution is \$10,000 yearly.

The amount can be a combination of gifts to a number of different organizations.

In 2011, the Foundation provided \$479,622.92 in matching funds that included \$374,863.85 for education; \$64,157 for arts and culture; and \$40,602 for environment and conservation programs. Matching gift application forms are available from the Foundation office. For a detailed list of matching gift recipients, please visit us online at steelcasefoundation.org.





STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

YEAR ENDED NOVEMBER 30,	2011	2010
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 612,733	\$ -
Accrued interest receivable	21,239	
Investments, at fair value	83,148,257	84,817,026
Federal excise tax refundable	16,318	7,000
TOTAL ASSETS	\$83,798,547	\$84,824,026
Liabilities and Net Assets Liabilities:		
Grants payable	\$ 2,455,000	\$ 2,890,375
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted	81,343,547	81,933,651
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$83,798,547	\$84,824,026

STATEMENTS OF UNRESTRICTED ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED NOVEMBER 30,	2011	2010
Revenues		
In-kind contributions	\$ 353,156	\$ 299,249
Investment income:		
Dividends	1,500,735	1,799,520
Realized and unrealized gain on investments	2,070,307	4,845,384
TOTAL REVENUES	\$3,924,198	\$6,944,153
Expenses		
Grants and matching gifts	\$ 3,624,279	\$ 4,902,149
Investment management and agency fees	506,185	20,000
Provisions for federal excise tax:		
Current	30,682	2,947
Deferred		(468,924)
General and administrative	353,156	299,249
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$4,514,302	\$4,755,421
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	\$(590,104)	\$2,188,732
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$81,933,651	\$79,744,919
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$81,343,547	\$81,933,651

A complete set of audited financial statements will be provided upon request.



Steelcase Foundation Trustees

Kate Pew Wolters

- Board Chair

James P. Hackett

Mary Anne Hunting

Elizabeth Welch Lykins

Mary Goodwillie Nelson

Craig Niemann

Robert C. Pew III

A key member of the Steelcase Foundation trustees retired this year. Earl Holton was a trustee from 1999 until July 2011, serving as the chair of the Investment Committee. Earl brought his business expertise together with his strong civic involvement to our board, and made us stronger.

Foundation Staff

Phyllis Gebben

- Donation Coordinator

Christine Nelson, Ph.D.

- Grants Consultant

Investment Committee

Mary Anne Hunting

Craig Niemann

Shelly Padnos

Kate Pew Wolters

Investment Committee Staff

Gary Malburg

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ABOUT THE ART: The original paper artwork featured in this report was created by West Michigan native, Emily Van Hoff. This Chicago-based artist crafts with precision and no waste in the creation process – every part of the original paper is included. Just as the Foundation ensures that their funds are put to good use.

