A Pick A Soociates Charitable Foundation

Just for

# g gome to our news lefter!!!

Summer is in full swing, and so is the Foundation!!

In the last few months our youth board prepared and gave out Easter baskets at the "1% Food Pantry" that serves veterans and their families.

We held several bike drops, awarding kids who were found doing the "right things". Over the past 10 years, we have given away approximately 700 bikes in Midland, Bay and Saginaw county elementary schools.

We were able to award over 30 scholarships this year to deserving high school seniors, taking the total scholarships given out to over \$628,000 since we began.

There has been much more, but this will give you a small sample of how your generosity has been put to work.

Last quarter I highlighted our youth board and told you what a fantastic group of kids they were. This quarter I want to highlight you and point out how fantastic you are. All of the things that the Foundation has been able to do over the years is a direct result of your support, not just monetary support, but also the emotional support you have given. As I look back on the things we accomplished so far this year, I realize how much time and energy goes into making these events happen and then I look at the results – a smile on a child's face, and I can honestly tell you it is all worth it. Not just for me but for Carrie our director, for Stephanie the head of our Youth Board, as well as our Board of Directors. I only wish I could have you experience the feelings we all get from making a difference in the life of a child. I know if I could, you would never forget that feeling, and I mean never.

We have much more to do because there are always new kids in need – new kids doing the right thing – middle school students moving to high school - seniors graduating – veterans needing help Thank you ! - veterans in the hospital wanting a visitor - veteran children needing

and deserving a bright Christmas, and so much more. The only way we can continue the work we started is by your continued support.

I hope you find it in your heart to continue your generosity which will allow us to continue to make a difference one child at a time!!

Wayne

## Highlighted Organization

### I SUPPORT THE 1%, VETERAN FOOD PANTRY

The mission of 'I SUPPORT THE 1%' is to provide a Food Pantry for active duty Military, National Guard personnel, Reservists of all Branches, and Veterans throughout Michigan. While fulltime military have a constant paycheck, Guards and Reservists do not. But why a Pantry just for these military? Because many have too much pride in their uniform to appear needy before the public, and just choose to go hungry. This should not happen. Please visit our website and consider donating to our tax-deductible 501(c)(3) IRS registered nonprofit to keep our Military, Guards, Reservists and Veterans fed.

# Youth Board Visits the 1%

It may have been cold and wet outside but what a great day volunteering for a unique cause!! In March, the Just for Kids Youth Board shopped for, prepared and gave away Easter baskets to Veterans and their families at "I Support the 1%" Food Pantry. This is a food pantry available to local veterans and active service members in need. Did you know less than 1% of citizens serve in the defense of our country? Not one of them should ever go hungry or without, especially during the holidays, and that is the mission of "I Support the 1%" Food Pantry" right here in the Tri-Cities. This was an awesome experience and we're so happy to give back and support those who support us and fight for our freedom! A special thanks to Judy at the "I Support the 1% Food Pantry" for organizing today's event and for all she does for our veterans and active service members.





# 2023 Bike Drops

The end of the school year brings excitement to students as well as teachers! A long standing tradition of Just for Kids is our annual bike drops. We choose local elementary schools and provide a bike to be awarded to a boy and girl from each grade in the school. We ask that the bikes are given away based on citizenship and recognition of kids making a difference. Almost every school incorporates this into an end of the year award program. This year, we were able to offer bikes to the following schools:

Pinconning Elementary MacGregor Elementary Floyd Elementary Bullock Creek Elementary Pine River Elementary Arthur Eddy Academy







Sixty-four deserving students received bikes this year as an award for their outstanding citizenship and concern for others. A special thank you to Ascension Field Neuroscience Institute for providing helmets to each of these students and keeping them safe. We have been blessed to be able to give away over 700 bikes in the past 10 years. Thank you for your donations and helping us make this possible!

# **Making A Difference Awards**

Each school year, our board members reward and recognize kids at local elementary schools who are making a difference in their school. The schools always have a program in place to recognize these kids, and we come in once a month and choose one of those kids for an extra special Just for Kids gift. Each child chosen receives a Just for Kids t-shirt, candy and a gift card of their choice. Just for Kids believes it is important to let kids know that their efforts don't go unnoticed!









In May we awarded 31 local high school seniors with a \$1500 scholarship to the college of their choice. Your donations over the years have made it possible for us to give a whopping \$628,000 in scholarships to high school seniors in the Great Lakes Bay area.



## **Congratulations Graduates!**



# THANK YOU

Thank you to the Board Members of the Maier & Associates Charitable Foundation! Because of your donations of time and talent, we have been able to actively make a difference in the lives of kids in the Great Lakes Bay Region!

Wayne & Rita Maier, of Maier & Associates Financial Group, Founders Lisa Rechsteiner, of Graff Bay City, President Carrie Dahlberg, Executive Director
Laura Maier, of Maier & Associates, Secretary
Joseph Maier, of Maier & Associates, Treasurer
Stephanie Maier, Director of Youth Board
Amy McDaniel, of Maier & Associates, Board Member
Lynn Shawl, of Thelen Auto Group, Board Member
Molly Rauschert, of Thumb Bank, Board Member

# Interview with a Youth Board Member



Name: Aubrey Lang Grade: 12th Grade School: John Glenn High School

How long have you been a part of The Just for Kids Youth Board: 4 Years

What is your favorite project that you have been a part of on the youth board: One of my favorite activities we have done is when we went to the Boys and Girls Club during Easter and did crafts and an Easter egg hunt!

What part of the youth board mission do you connect with the most: I connect most with giving back and helping throughout our community!

**Who/What has been your biggest inspiration while being a part of the youth board:** My biggest inspiration is to see the smiles we put on people's faces when we do our projects. It's truly amazing to see our youth board come together to complete the projects!

What is something you do with the youth board that you wish to continue in your future: I hope to continue to be a part of volunteer organizations that impact our community.

### **YOUR \$25 DONATION**

Your \$25 donation could help us provide a gift card to a local business to be given to one of our Making a Difference award winners.

### **YOUR \$50 DONATION**

Your \$50 donation could help us purchase shoes or clothing for a needy child in one of our local elementary schools.

### **YOUR \$100 DONATION**

Your \$100 donation could help us purchase a scooter to be given away as a citizenship award to a local child.

#### **YOUR \$150 DONATION**

Your \$150 donation could help us purchase a bike to be given away at one of our bike drops at local elementary schools.

### **YOUR \$500 DONATION**

Your \$500 donation could help support a Youth Board activity, allowing them to choose a local non-profit to purchase items for.

### **YOUR \$1500 DONATION**

Your \$1500 donation could cover the cost of a college scholarship for an area high school student.

Please make checks payable to Just for Kids. Thank you for your continued support!