



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Grand Rapids Trans Foundation

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OUR MISSION:

***“To create opportunities for the
Grand Rapids Trans community.”***

TO OUR STAKEHOLDERS:

The past two years have been unlike any others in memory. We have all been challenged in ways we never imagined. The same can be said for our community's nonprofits. In 2020, GRTF made the difficult choice to move forward without planned expansion of our services or fundraising. We prepared for several very difficult years and focused on supporting our Trans neighbors as best we could. In spite of the chaos and slumps, GRTF managed to sustain growth.

In 2021 Grand Rapids Trans Foundation saw record support from the community. With our first ever "major gift" and grants that have given this organization the capacity to make the big step toward paid workers. We are deeply grateful and proud of the ways the Grand Rapids community has shown up for Trans folks in 2021. Without your continued support we wouldn't have been able to reach new heights!

What were those accomplishments? The financial support of the community allowed GRTF to expand programming. We reached the major milestone of a cumulative \$50,500 in scholarships over six years! This includes \$11,000 in scholarships during 2021, helping support the educational goals of seven Trans and Nonbinary folks in West Michigan. Additionally, we added a third, fourth, and fifth "Update!" Name Change workshop. With these extra three cohorts, GRTF walked alongside 41 Trans neighbors in Kent County through the legal name change process.

In 2022, GRTF is looking at continued growth! The Academic Scholarship program is awarding \$15,000 in scholarships this year, and we are hoping to add additional Name Change workshops. GRTF is even planning to introduce a new type of community microgrant to help bring Trans joy and Trans talent out into our community. Keep your eyes open for the launch of the brand-new placemaking program!

Finally, I want to send another huge "Thank you!" for your continued support of the Grand Rapids Trans Foundation. It is through your gifts of time, talent, and dollars that GRTF is bringing folks together to build Trans equity. We hope that you will enjoy this report and reflect upon all the good work of 2021, as well as the possibilities for the year to come.

Wishing you all the best,



Liam Bailey
GRTF Board President

Strategic Highlights

To us, being dedicated to **Trans equity** means offering **direct financial support for Trans individuals** in need. In a political climate where new hardships for Trans citizens are unfolding daily, it's important to remember that this community also continues to suffer extremely high rates of family rejection, discrimination, assault, violence, depression, suicide, poverty, and homelessness. Our organization believes that by removing some financial barriers to quality education and legal document updates, we can do our small part to help stabilize and support.

This year continued to be a difficult one with the ongoing worldwide pandemic. As such, we were limited in our regular community-building events.

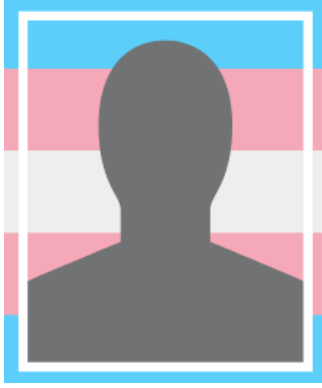
Highlights of 2021

“Update!” Program. In our third year of this impactful program, we held three workshops over the course of the year. This program offers education, advocacy, and microgrants to assist Trans and Nonbinary local residents with updating their name, gender marker, and documents. In 2021, we were able to assist an additional 41 people through their legal name change process, with the assistance of our partnering attorney Ginny Mikita, JD.



Virtual Trans Week of Visibility. We partnered once again with Grand Rapids Pride Center and the TGNC Committee to host a week's worth of events, including a Virtual Screening of "MAJOR!," a Virtual Children's Book Reading, a Virtual Conversation with Rachel Crandall-Crock on the Importance of Trans Health, and "Visible: A Trans Art Showcase" on Instagram!

Academic Scholarships. This year, we granted a total of \$11,000 in academic scholarships. Please meet our seven recipients:



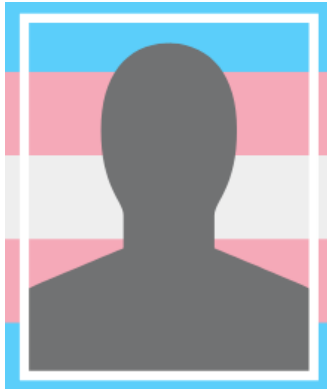
Tom Kola

He/Him pronouns

Davenport, Information
Assurance & Cybersecurity

\$2500

"I hope that trans people like me who have been marginalized by society and discriminated against by their families are able to share their stories, and advocate for their rights until the world realizes that we are here, we are not unusual, we are loved and we are not going anywhere. Attaining this degree is the first step in accomplishing these goals."



Anonymous Recipient

\$2500

No statement provided.



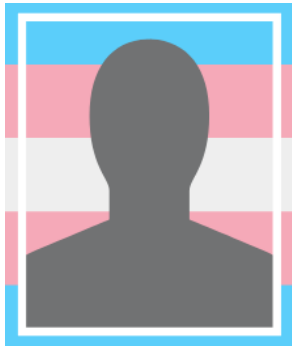
Skyler Blankenship

They/Them pronouns

CMU, MA in Clinical
Mental Health

\$1500

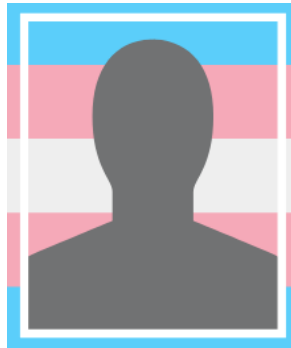
"I am incredibly honored to have been picked to be a recipient of this scholarship this year. With this scholarship I can ease the burden of student loans for this year and finish out my degree in clinical mental health. I hope to bring accessible and affordable therapy to the LGBTQIA community. My primary focus will be on providing these services to Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Folks in the Grand Rapids area. With this scholarship I am one step closer to my goal."



Anonymous Recipient
\$1500



Heather Funkhouser
They/Them pronouns
GVSU, Cybersecurity
and Computer Science
\$1000



Oakley Zaiding
He/Him pronouns
Ferris State University,
Photography
\$1000



Anonymous Recipient
\$1000



Local Representation. We were thrilled to table at (and be the beneficiary) of Naughty Bettie's "Rock Your Curves Pride Extravaganza" event this year. It was a blast!

Pride Month 2021 / Trans Icons. We had a blast at Lowell's first ever Pride event this year, and once again celebrated a daily #TransIcon for Pride Month on our social media platforms.



“Trans Euphoria” Film Debut. We’ve decided to push back against tragedy narratives and explore how we find joy in the experience of Transness. A local Trans filmmaker, Lando Lomasney, interviewed some members of the local Trans community to explore this topic. This short film was premiered at Detroit’s Tran Stellar Film Festival, and can be viewed on our YouTube channel!

Wear the Rainbow. In early November, we were once again able to partner with GVSU’s Milton E. Ford LGBT Resource Center on their annual Trans and Queer clothing event. This event offers free clothing, resources, and fashion workshops.

Trans Day of Remembrance Vigil. Every November 20, we gather to mourn and honor those Trans lives that were lost to transphobic violence, an epidemic that disproportionately affects Trans women of color. This year, we partnered with Grand Rapids Pride Center and Grand Rapids Community College to host an outdoor vigil.

Board Member changes. At the end of 2021, we said a heartfelt goodbye to our Secretary Theo Randall, who has been a cherished and passionate member of our Board for the last two years. We also are thrilled to welcome a new member to our board:



Alexander Yaluk

He/Him pronouns

Special Thanks To:

- [Ginny Mikita, JD](#), for her generous pro bono legal assistance with our “Update!” Program
- [Grand Rapids Pride Center](#) and [GVSU’s Milton E. Ford LGBT Resource Center](#) for their continued support and partnership
- [Tides Foundation](#) and their Trans Justice Funding Project for their grant aiding our growth in 2021
- [Meijer](#) for their helpful sponsorship
- To all the local businesses and groups that supported us and/or held fundraisers for us, including:
 - Theo Randall
 - Outside Coffee
 - Lotus Brew
 - Transfigure Print Co
 - The Søvengård
 - Naughty Bettie
 - Louise Earl Butcher
 - Atomic Object
 - Beauty Beyond Drag
 - Elk Brewing
 - The Core Collaborative
 - Lydia Writes Good
 - Fox Naturals
 - Curology Inc

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Grand Rapids Trans Foundation is a local, volunteer-run nonprofit with no physical location; as such, there is no payroll or building-related costs represented in the financial statements below. The organization operates on the calendar year, uses a cash-basis system of accounting, and filed a 990-N for 2021 (EIN: 81-0815247).

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2021

ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents (Unrestricted)	\$59,531
Sustainability Fund (Savings)	\$1,507
Temporarily Restricted Funds	0
Total Assets	\$61,038

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities	0
Total Liabilities	0

Net Assets (Total Assets less Total Liabilities) **\$61,038**

Statement of Activities (Profits & Losses)

Year Ended December 31, 2021

REVENUES

Contributions	\$37,533
Grants	\$5,000
Sponsorships	\$1,000
Merch Sales	\$4,186
Interest Income	\$2
Total Revenues	\$47,721

SCHOLARSHIPS, MICROGRANTS, AND EXPENSES

Academic Scholarship	\$11,000
Name Change Microgrants	\$3,452
Merch Item Costs	\$1,456
Other Operating Expenses	\$1,902
Total Scholarships, Microgrants, and Expenses	\$17,810

Increase in Net Assets	\$29,911
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$31,127
Net Assets, End of Year**	\$61,038

**Amounts reported in this section must agree with those reported on the Statement of Financial Position.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 1 - Nature of Organization

Grand Rapids Trans Foundation (the "Foundation") receives and administers contributions which are used to support programs primarily for the benefit of Trans people in Grand Rapids, Kent County, and Western Michigan area. The Foundation is a Michigan-certified public foundation; as such, contributions to the Foundation enable donors to be eligible for deductions allowed in determining federal income taxes. Grand Rapids Trans Foundation was established and incorporated on December 11, 2015.

Note 2 - Significant Accounting Items

The following is a summary of significant accounting items:

Concentration of Credit Risk

The Foundation maintains cash balances at one financial institution and the accounts are NCUA-insured by the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund (NCUSIF) up to \$250,000. As of December 31, 2021, the Foundation had no uninsured deposits.

Classification of Net Assets

The Foundation reports information regarding its financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted, temporarily restricted, and permanently restricted. Gifts and bequests received by the Foundation are held in various funds which are classified as follows:

- Unrestricted net assets consist of resources that are neither permanently restricted nor temporarily restricted by donor-imposed stipulations.
- Temporarily restricted net assets consist of resources of which the use by the Foundation is limited by donor-imposed stipulations that either expire with the passage of time or can be fulfilled and removed by actions of the Foundation pursuant to those stipulations. When a donor restriction expires or is fulfilled, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets, and reported in the Statement of Activities as "net assets released from restrictions."
- Permanently restricted net assets consist of beneficial interests in perpetual trusts and funds created by donors, of which the Foundation is the owner. The Foundation has an irrevocable right to the original contribution that established these trusts and funds. The Foundation's earnings on permanently restricted net assets are classified as temporarily restricted until appropriated for expenditure based on the terms of the original gift agreement.

Federal Tax Status

Grand Rapids Trans Foundation is a nonprofit organization exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and is also exempt from similar state and local taxes. The Foundation's EIN is 81-0815247.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF (2021)



(pictured left to right: Randall, Marcks, Garay-Negrón, Yaluk, Bailey, Kittok)



Liam Bailey
President
They/Them



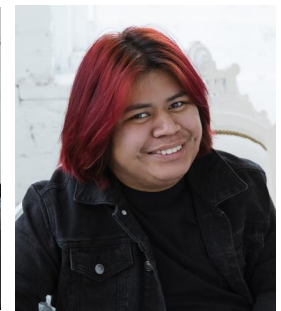
Theo Randall
Secretary
They/Them



Finn Marcks
Treasurer
He/Him,
They/Them



**Esperanza
De Carlos
Garay-Negrón**
Member
They/Them, She/Her



Alexander Yaluk
Member
He/Him



Ximón Kittok
Executive Director, Member
They/Them