



You  
Mobilized  
Generosity





**You changed lives  
with the precious gift  
of education. Your  
generosity made college  
and lifelong learning  
possible, and the arts  
available, for  
our neighbors.**



# Thank you.

Dear Friend,

First and foremost, thank you for your generous support of Northwestern Michigan College.

Whether you made a gift to help someone pay for college, restore a beloved art exhibit, expand educational opportunities around global affairs, support independent radio, or inspire local fifth graders to see college in their futures, you mobilized generosity to advance learning for our communities.

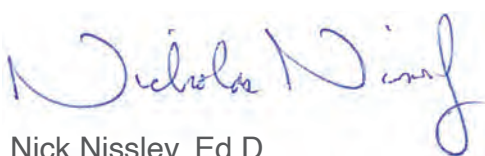
Additionally, you participated in the creation of the NMC Foundation's new strategic plan, *NMC Foundation Forward: Mobilizing Generosity*. Your impact will be felt over the next decade as the NMC Foundation mobilizes your generosity by engaging donors, expanding partnerships, and resourcing innovation.

You accomplished a lot this year. This report highlights just a few of the transformational moments you made possible:

- When NMC student Mahli was deciding whether or not to drop out of school because of the cost, **you provided the scholarship that kept her in school.**
- When the sound wall exhibit at the Dennon Museum Center fell silent due to aging equipment, **you financed the cost of its upgrades and repairs.**
- When the International Affairs Forum looked to involve more young people in global politics, **you gave NMC students and local high schoolers the chance to meet with global experts and participate in the Academic WorldQuest competition.**
- When WNMC needed a new transmitter to stay on the airwaves, **you funded new equipment to make sure there were no interruptions to our region's independent radio station.**
- When local fifth graders struggled to see college as an option, **you supported the creation of a mentoring program led by NMC students to help these fifth graders see college in their futures.**

I hope you'll read on to learn more about all you accomplished this year through your advocacy, volunteerism, and philanthropic support.

Thank you for resourcing learning, innovation, and community transformation through your generous support of Northwestern Michigan College.



Nick Nissley, Ed.D.  
President, Northwestern Michigan College



Dr. Nick Nissley thanks you for bringing education and the arts to our region through your generous support of NMC.



## Table of Contents

### Your Impact

Scholarships 5

Art, Culture, and Lifelong Learning 9

Community 17

Highlights 21

Generosity Report 26

NMC Foundation Staff and Board 28



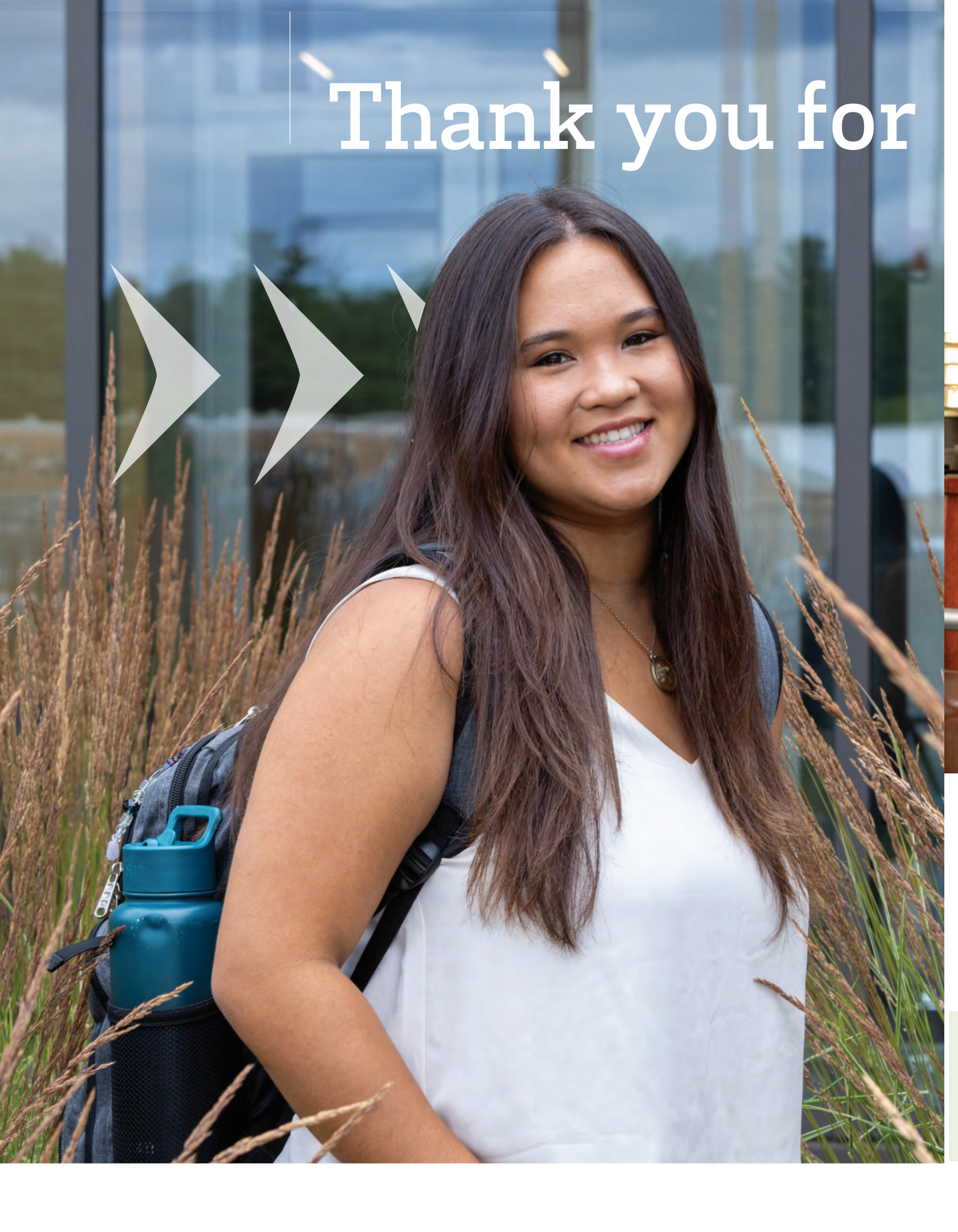
A student walks to class on NMC's main campus. Your generosity makes moments like this one possible by providing quality education right here in our community!







Thank you for





# Scholarships

This year, you made college possible for **1,017 students** who received scholarship support.



Here is a story about Mahli, one of the students whose lives was forever changed by your generosity.

Your support of NMC and scholarships makes college possible for people like Mahli who received a scholarship that saved her from dropping out of school.

# In Danger of Dropping Out

**Mahli couldn't pay for summer classes and was in danger of dropping out of college. Thanks to you, she didn't have to.**



When most students were making summer plans—plotting out their trips, classes, and internships—Mahli was trying to figure out how she was going to pay for her remaining semesters at Northwestern Michigan College.

If she couldn't afford her upcoming tuition bill, Mahli's dreams of graduating from NMC and working in the child advocacy field were in danger.

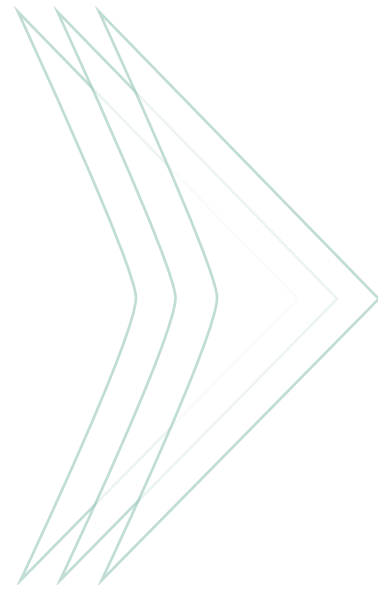
Mahli pays for classes herself, spending her time outside of school working to pay for tuition, rent, groceries, and more. With no financial support from her family, and bills adding up, she was in danger of dropping out.

If Mahli dropped out, she would also lose her campus housing. She began to doubt she would finish her degree, and to worry about where she would live. That's when you stepped up to help Mahli.

**Thanks to you, Mahli received donor-funded support to pay for tuition, fees, and supplies for her summer classes.** She's forever grateful to you for caring enough to take action to help her, and others like her, enroll in classes at NMC and work toward their dreams.

**Before you helped, Mahli wasn't sure how she was going to pay for classes to finish her degree.** Her spare time was spent working to pay for school, but it wasn't enough to cover her costs. Your support changed Mahli's life.





Thanks to you, Mahli received donor-funded support to pay for tuition, fees, and supplies for her summer classes.



**You are the reason that Mahli is continuing her education.** Your gift helped Mahli enroll in summer classes, stay in school, and remain in campus housing. You brought Mahli one step closer to her goal of working in the child advocacy field.



Thank you for





# Art, Culture, and Lifelong Learning

You brought art, global news, and music to your community through your support of the Denno Museum Center, International Affairs Forum, and WNMC Radio.



Read on to learn about how you restored a museum favorite, increased educational opportunities in global affairs, and kept local radio on the air.

When the sound wall fell silent, you stepped in to help and gave today's young learners the chance to learn, grow, and create their own fond memories in the Denno Museum Center.



# You Ended the Silence at the Dennos

**The sound wall, a favorite children's exhibit in the Thomas A. Rutkowski Discovery Gallery, had fallen silent due to aging equipment. That is, until you stepped in to provide desperately needed repairs and upgrades to bring it back to life.**

In the fall of 2022, the Thomas A. Rutkowski Discovery Gallery fell silent when the sound wall's 30-year-old computer began failing. A must-see children's exhibit (that appeals to visitors of all ages) was unceremoniously closed.

Without vital repairs and upgrades, the Discovery Gallery would no longer be a source of joy and laughter as it was for generations.

Then you stepped in to help. Your gifts modernized the sound wall for the 21st century and gave today's young learners the chance to learn, grow, and create their own fond memories in the Discovery Gallery.

**You rescued the sound wall, and the Discovery Gallery is once again full of music and laughter.**

You and fellow community members came together to make sure the museum is a place where people of all ages come to engage with art, science, music, and interactive play, and learn something new with each visit.

Thanks to you, a crew reinstalls the repaired sound wall soon to be enjoyed by young learners to create lasting memories for generations to come.





# You Prepared the Next Generation of Global Citizens

Your support expanded the International Affairs Forum's educational opportunities in global affairs for both local high school and NMC students.



You brought international leaders and discussions on world issues to our community through the International Affairs Forum, which gave local high schoolers and NMC students exposure to global politics.





By supporting the International Affairs Forum, you've expanded global affairs education for local high schoolers and NMC students

Your support of the International Affairs Forum brought diplomats, academics, and other leaders in global affairs to our community. **And, importantly, you increased learning opportunities about global affairs for local high school and NMC students.**

Thanks to you, **local high school students participated in Academic WorldQuest**, a fun, fast-paced team competition, and won a coveted spot in the national finals in Washington, D.C. Additionally, because of your support, **NMC students had the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to meet and ask questions directly to the many accomplished presenters** you brought to our community this year.

**You directly impacted the academic trajectory of local students by exposing them to the field of international affairs.**

**Thank you for preparing the next generation of global citizens and creating a lasting and meaningful difference in the lives of these students.**





You transformed the lives of our neighbors with support for college scholarships as well as arts and culture.







Your generosity kept WNMC on the air. Thanks to your support, a new transmitter ensures uninterrupted music and local voices for our community.



# You Saved Local Radio

**Your generous support purchased the transmitter needed to keep WNMC on the air.**

When WNMC faced technical issues from its aging transmitter, you stepped up to make sure your community continues to get the music you love from one of the few remaining independent, locally-grown radio stations in the nation.

Because of you, **WNMC received the funding it needed to purchase a new transmitter. This means you will continue to receive the great programming you enjoy without any unexpected interruptions.**

**You supported independent radio** and ensured that local voices are heard, music discovery continues, and our community stays connected.

Thank you for making local radio a priority in your community.





»» Thank you for



Your support made a mentoring program between NMC students and fifth graders at Blair Elementary School possible.

## You Helped Fifth Graders See College in Their Futures

Thanks to your support, NMC students mentored fifth graders from Blair Elementary School and showed them the high-quality, one-of-a-kind programs right here at NMC.



# Community Impact

**Some fifth graders at Blair Elementary School had never considered going to college.** That changed when each student was paired with a student mentor from NMC. Not only have you transformed the lives of our neighbors with support for college scholarships as well as arts and culture—you've also inspired the next generation of lifelong learners.

**NMC students met weekly with the Blair fifth graders from January - June 2023.** At the end of April, the fifth graders attended a four-hour field trip to NMC's campuses to learn about the variety of academic programs offered at the college like culinary arts, construction trades, automotive, marine technology, dental assisting, nursing, and more.

**Your generous support of NMC made this program possible.** You transformed the lives of fifth graders attending the school with some of the greatest socio-economic challenges in Grand Traverse County and you transformed the lives of the NMC students who mentored them.

Some students at Blair elementary could be the first in their families to attend college. **Having a mentor who is enrolled at NMC makes it possible for young students to imagine college as part of their futures.** And, thanks to the field trip to NMC, it's easier for fifth graders to imagine enrolling in one of the high-quality programs you make possible through your philanthropic support of the college and its programming.

"I hope, when I grow up, I will go to college there!" said one fifth grader.

NMC students who served as mentors found their work with Blair fifth graders to be one of growth for themselves, too, as something that enriched both their personal and academic lives.

**Your generosity makes college possible for people currently enrolled at NMC as well as the Hawk Owls of the future.** Thank you for making life-changing community collaborations like this one possible!






TRAINING SHIP  
STATE OF MICHIGAN

WILLIAM G. S





The Great Lakes Maritime Academy at NMC is one of seven maritime academies in the country, and the only one on freshwater. Thanks to you, maritime cadets like Hannah (pictured left) are trained right here in Traverse City for fulfilling careers on the water.



# There is so much more

You helped shape the future of the NMC Foundation by participating in our strategic planning process.

## Your **STRATEGIC THINKING**

Thanks for moving us forward to 2033 >>>

Together with your community, you brought to life our strategic plan, *NMC Foundation Forward: Mobilizing Generosity*. With your help, we put into action our new mission of **mobilizing generosity to advance learning for a global community** and striving toward a future vision of **being leaders in resourcing learning, innovation, and community transformation**. With this mission and vision as our guide, over the next 10 years we'll work on action items within the following strategic areas: **Engaging Donors; Expanding Partnerships; and Resourcing Innovation**. Your participation in this process, along with your donations, volunteerism, advocacy, and alumni pride made *NMC Foundation Forward* possible.



# to thank you for

Thanks to your support, the college opened The Office of Possibilities (OOPs), an idea incubator for both the campus and wider communities.



## Your INNOVATION

Your support empowered the college to launch The Office of Possibilities (OOPs), an idea incubator fostering collaboration and innovation for students, faculty, staff, and the community. Students, faculty, staff, and community members with entrepreneurial, educational, and other ideas can connect with OOPs for assistance, and space to get feedback, learn, and network, all with the aim of taking their idea to the next level.



From A Taste of Success to the Big Little Hero Race, your involvement in fundraising events fuels essential support for our students, programs, and community.

## Your PARTICIPATION

Your involvement in fundraising events such as A Taste of Success, Gala to Give, Big Little Hero Race, and Food for Thought has been instrumental in offering vital financial support to our students, programs, and community.





Your volunteerism brings education and the arts to your neighbors. Pictured is a volunteer DJ broadcasting in the new WNMC studio.

## Your VOLUNTEERISM

Your volunteerism makes education and the arts possible in our region! Thank you for your service as board and committee members, event volunteers, docents, DJs, ushers, and so much more.



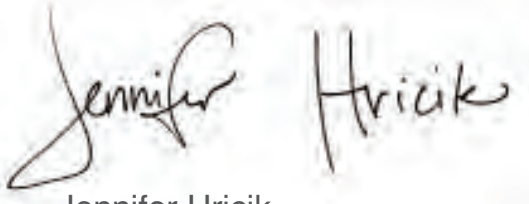
I am profoundly grateful for the extraordinary support you extended during NMC's 2023 Fiscal Year (July 2022 - June 2023). This report stands as a testament to the remarkable impact of your generosity.

Whether you supported The Fund for NMC, scholarships, or community programs, YOU enriched our community through education and the arts. And, your impact extends beyond these achievements.

With your invaluable assistance, we successfully launched a new strategic plan: NMC Foundation Forward: Mobilizing Generosity. The plan will be our guide for the next decade as we work with you to provide even more resources to the college and its students.

As you can see from the Financial Report on the next page, you've had a tremendous impact on our community's college this year. The numbers come to life in the stories in this report, made possible by your dedicated volunteer efforts, passionate advocacy, and generous philanthropic support.

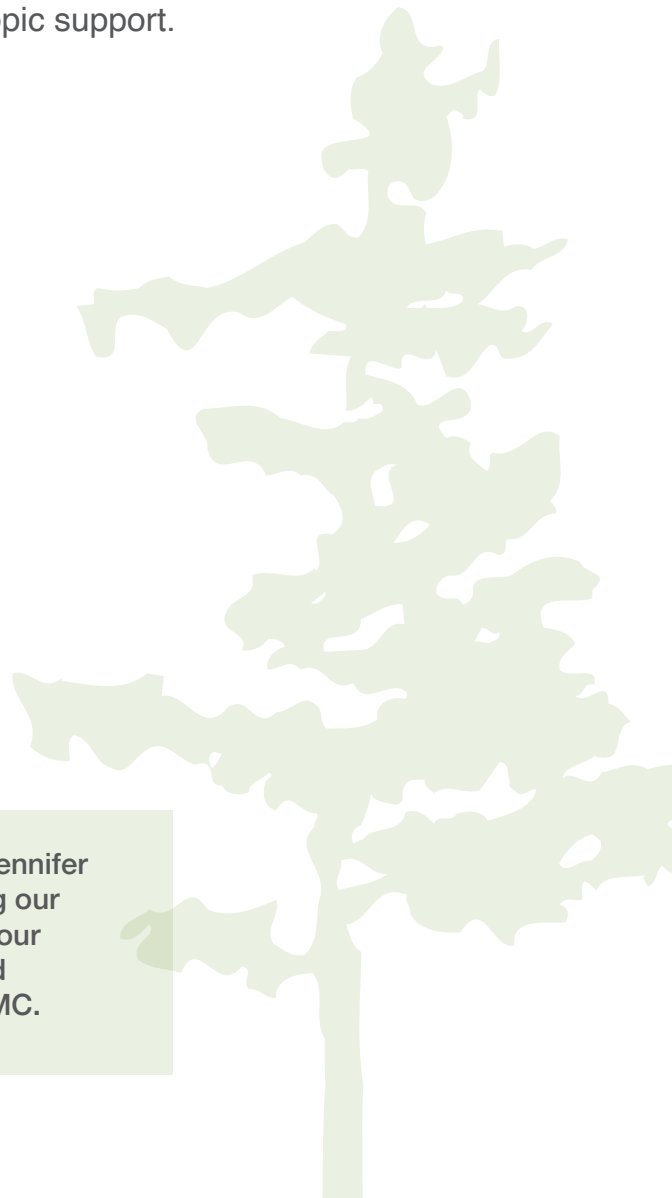
With sincere gratitude,



Jennifer Hricik  
Interim Executive Director, NMC Foundation  
and Associate VP of Resource Development



Interim Executive Director Jennifer Hricik thanks you for making our community better through your volunteerism, advocacy, and philanthropic support for NMC.





# FINANCIAL REPORT FY23

(July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023)

## Your Generosity (NMC Foundation Resources)

● Direct contributions	3.16 M
● Events	.17 M
● Endowment	5.00 M
● Legacies	.03 M
● <b>Total</b>	<b>8.36 M</b>

## Our Collective Impact (Resources Distributed to NMC)

● Education and the Arts	4.23 M
<i>Scholarships</i>	<i>1.50 M</i>
<i>Capital Projects</i>	<i>1.10 M</i>
<i>Program Support</i>	<i>1.63 M</i>
● Administration	.38 M
● Development	.17 M
● <b>Total</b>	<b>4.78 M</b>



A student walks to class on NMC's main campus. Your generous support empowers students to succeed and reach their full potential.





# NMC Foundation Board

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Jayne Mohr (Chair)

Pat Warner (First Vice-Chair)

Nick Nissley (Second Vice-Chair)

Debbie Edson (Secretary)

Steve Fisher (Treasurer)

Jennifer Hrickik (Interim Executive Director)

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Jim Weigand

Timothy Young

Al Zelinski

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*\* Deceased*

## Honorary Members

Diana Huckle  
Jim Huckle  
Mark Lundmark



# NMC Foundation Staff

Jennifer Hricik // Interim Executive Director, NMC Foundation & Associate Vice President, Resource Development

Megan Bylsma // Leadership Gift Specialist

Bill Czyzyk // Database & Prospect Research Specialist

Amanda Gower // Operations Manager

Roger Heeres // Development Assistant

Jeremy Heinlein // Director of Annual Giving

Katharine Marvin // Director of Development

Carly McCall // Director of Alumni Engagement

Paul Schoppe // Financial Manager

Tiffany Siladke // Development Assistant

Your NMC  
Foundation Staff







NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE  
**FOUNDATION**

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