The Gerber Foundation

"Enhancing the quality of life of infants and young children."

2022 Annual Report

FOUNDATION
ESTABLISHED
1952

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INTRODUCTION

The Gerber Foundation was established in 1952 as the Gerber Baby Foods Fund by Daniel Gerber, Sr. and Gerber Products Company, and provided $14,700 in support to various organizations in that first year. While the Gerber name may imply a strict interest in infant nutrition, our commitment is to a much broader range of activities significantly impacting issues facing infants and young children.

The mission of the Foundation – to enhance the quality of life of infants and young children in nutrition, care, and development – remains the guiding beacon for Foundation giving. Accordingly, priority is given to US research projects whose primary beneficiaries are young children from birth to three years of age. We are particularly interested in research that could provide clinically useful insights and lead to positive changes in the pediatrician's day-to-day practice.

As of the end of 2022, the Foundation has awarded nearly $127 million in grants to individuals and institutions throughout the world. While the Foundation maintains a small grant program that reflects our ongoing commitment to West Michigan communities, the vast majority of the Foundation's grant dollars are distributed on a competitive basis for national research focused on pediatric health and/or nutrition concerns, including the effects of environmental hazards on the well-being of infants and young children. Through our grant-making efforts, we are committed to improving the health and well-being of the youngest members of our society.

THE GERBER FOUNDATION
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"Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning."
Albert Einstein

70th Anniversary

The Gerber Foundation (TGF) celebrated its 70th anniversary in 2022. Over the course of those years, the Foundation has awarded more than $127 million dollars in grants. These grant funds provide life enhancing pediatric health and nutrition research for infants and young children, valuable youth programming benefiting children in West Michigan, and college scholarships for high school seniors. To celebrate this milestone, the Foundation Board awarded an extra $70,000 for West Michigan grantmaking to support youth programming. In addition, the scholarship program supported an increased number of scholarships provided to students in Newaygo County in 2022, nearly doubling the number normally provided.

2022 held another substantial event in the life of TGF, the retirement of Catherine Obits. Ms. Obits served as the Program Manager for over 20 years, and we could not be more grateful for her extraordinary service. With her departure, we welcomed Sara Hohnstein as our new Foundation Director in September. While there was a transition in organizational leadership, we hold steadfast to our mission to enhance the quality of life infants and young children in nutrition, care, and development.

To accomplish this mission, we have invested in meaningful research this year including:

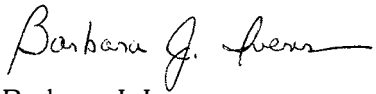
John's Hopkins University - This study will evaluate the benefits of prone positioning of infants during delivery with delayed umbilical cord clamping. The goal is to understand if use of this positioning will decrease the need for intubation.

Kennesaw State University - This project will evaluate the development of crawling both in typically developing infants and in a smaller set of infants with limb loss. Current understanding of crawling development is very limited. Quantifying aspects of crawling will aid in developing early-stage rehabilitation goals for children with movement disorders.

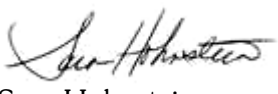
University of Michigan - This study will evaluate components of mother's own milk against pasteurized donor breast milk, comparing components that may modulate the gut microbiome and effects on the growth trajectory and body composition in preterm infants.

Duke University Medical Center - This study will evaluate a new molecular tool for identification of food DNA in stool samples to detect associations between dietary patterns and the development of food allergies.

We are truly humbled by the ripple effect our funded projects have had in the lives of countless children, and we will work diligently to ensure another 70 years of significant impact.



Barbara J. Ivens
Board President



Sara Hohnstein
Foundation Director

2022 RESEARCH GRANTS

Boston Children's Hospital (Jonathan Levin, MD) **Boston MA** A randomized controlled crossover trial of postpyloric versus gastric feedings to improve pulmonary outcomes in high-risk preterm infants	**$349,885**
Children's Hospital Medical Center (Katja Gist, DO) **Cincinnati OH** Multicenter Assessment of Nutrition and Survival in Neonatal Kidney Injury and Dialysis	**$350,000**
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (Tracy Flanders, MD) **Philadelphia PA** Endoscopic lavage in post-hemorrhagic hydrocephalus	**$22,184**
Columbia University (Anshu Paul, MD) **New York City NY** Microbiome Associated with Persistent Staphylococcus aureus Colonization (MAP Staph Study)	**$29,931**
Duke University (Lawrence David, PhD) **Durham NC** Insights and interventions for infant diet via DNA metabarcoding	**$349,999**
Johns Hopkins University (Mary Rosner, MD, MPH) **Baltimore MD** Prone Positioning During Delayed Cord Clamping: A Randomized Control Pilot Study to Identify Optimal Neonatal Positioning During Delayed Cord Clamping	**$149,633**
Kennesaw State University (Mark Geil, PhD) **Kennesaw GA** Toward a Quantitative Understanding of Infant Crawling Development	**$314,513**
Lurie Children's Hospital (Seth Goldstein, MD, MPhil) **Chicago IL** Noninvasive Identification of Neonatal Ischemia Using Broadband Optical Spectroscopy	**$330,019**
Lurie Children's Hospital (Sriram Ramgopal, MD) **Chicago IL** Epidemiology, biomarkers and risk stratification of young infants presenting to the emergency department with hypothermia	**$341,990**
MGH Institute of Health Professions (Rebecca Hill, PhD, DNP, FNP-C) **Boston MA** Exploring maternal and infant feeding symptoms for mothers breastfeeding infants with tongue-tie: A prospective cohort study	**$30,000**
Stanford University (Neha Joshi, MD) **Palo Alto CA** Identifying Evidence-Based Criteria for Late Preterm Infant Admission to Well Newborn Care	**$12,131**

University of Michigan (Lindsay Ellsworth, MD) **Ann Arbor MI** Feeding the preterm infant and the gut microbiome?: Uncovering the influence of mother's own milk and donor human milk on gut microbiome and body composition development	**$349,788**
University of Washington (Andrew Stacey, MD) **Seattle WA** Rapid neonatal genetic diagnosis of retinoblastoma utilizing targeted long-read sequencing technology	**$350,000**
Womens and Infants Hospital of Rhode Island (Brock Polnaszek, MD) **Providence RI** Amnioinfusion for Intrauterine Neuroprotection: A pilot randomized trial	**$30,000**
TOTAL NATIONAL GRANTS AWARDED:	**$3,010,073**

"Enhancing the quality of life of infants and young children."

Researcher: David Abramson, MD - Board-certified Ophthalmologist
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center
Research Title: Non-invasive liquid biopsy for retinoblastoma to improve diagnosis and customize care for children

Study targets accurate diagnose, treatment of rare childhood *eye* cancer

In 2006, Dr. David Abramson helped introduce a way to treat childhood retinoblastomas by precisely injecting a small amount of a high-concentration chemotherapy directly to the *eye*'s single blood vessel.

Retinoblastoma is an *eye* cancer that begins in the retina — the sensitive lining on the inside of the *eye*. A rare form of *eye* cancer, it most commonly affects young children at age one or two, and may occur in one or both *eyes*.

Thanks to the intra-arterial chemotherapy, today 99 percent of babies with retinoblastoma can be cured. Yet accurately diagnosing the presence of retinoblastoma remains a significant challenge, said Dr. Abramson, the Chief of the Ophthalmic Oncology Service at the Memorial Sloan Kettering (MSK) Cancer Center in New York.

Dr. Abramson believes another existing technology – called MSK-ACCESS - can precisely diagnose and better guide the treatment of retinoblastoma. He is using a Gerber Foundation grant to validate that MSK-ACCESS, which is already in use at Memorial Sloan Kettering, can help to avoid common retinoblastoma diagnostic errors.

It is the cancer's rarity – just 275 cases of retinoblastoma occur in the United States each year, and about 8,000 case worldwide – that contribute to the trouble of diagnosing it.

"Retinoblastoma has few, if any, symptoms at first," Dr. Abramson said. It may be noticed if a pupil appears white when light is shined into the *eye*, sometimes with flash photography. Eyes may appear to be looking in different directions. Most of the time, he said, it is the parent who first notices something amiss.

And because retinoblastoma is rare and hard to diagnose - its clinical appearance varies and few clinicians have the experience necessary to consistently diagnose it correctly -worldwide almost one in five *eyes* surgically removed for suspected retinoblastoma are found to not have cancer. Fortunately, that has never happened at MSK.

Tissue biopsy for retinoblastoma is never done in a living patient because it is felt that the biopsy procedure itself can allow the cancer to spread beyond the *eye*. MRI can help with diagnosis but requires anesthetizing a very young baby, which can be challenging—and many physicians worldwide do not have access to MRI. In addition, it isn't always helpful, as false positives and negatives do occur.

This is where Dr. Abramson believes MSK-ACCESS, which stands for Analysis of Circulating cfDNA to Evaluate Somatic Status, can be the difference. The MSK-ACCESS assay is a comprehensive liquid biopsy test that offers non-invasive cancer genomic profiling and disease monitoring.

It involves the deep sequencing of 129 key cancer-associated genes selected from MSK's solid tumor genomic-profiling assay, MSK-IMPACT. MSK-ACCESS is designed to detect genetic alterations in cfDNA (cell-free DNA) specimens, such as blood and other body fluids.

The test's sensitivity, Dr. Abramson said, can be compared to "being able to find a single misspelling in Tolstoy's War and Peace." Test results are available in three weeks using current technology.

In people with cancer, cfDNA may contain circulating DNA shed from dying cancer cells, which can be detected by the highly sensitive sequencing. Using MSK-ACCESS, molecular diagnosticians analyze cfDNA through a simple blood draw, providing a noninvasive way to profile the genomic characteristics of the underlying tumor.

Dr. Abramson has already published proof of concept for diagnosing retinoblastoma with MSK-ACCESS. He and his team also has demonstrated that the technology may reliably detect residual cancer, or its absence, within an hour after removal of a cancerous *eye*. These initial findings, if validated by the Gerber Foundation-funded project, means that MSK-ACCESS "could be immensely useful in guiding retinoblastoma treatment and improving outcomes," he said.

His validation study, with its genomic sequencing method, will test sample blood specimens from known and enrolled patients to compare cancer-associated DNA alterations against "normal" DNA.

Dr. Abramson's team has access to 300 blood specimens from retinoblastoma and retinoblastoma "look-alike" patients collected over the past several years, most of whom they have followed clinically. In years one and two they are analyzing 200 of these samples from 75 patients. Blood from 50 new patients, recruited in year two, will also be studied.

Now nearing the end of the first year of the three-year study, Dr. Abramson says that many of its aims already show promise.

"We know that most retinoblastoma tumors in the eye leaks into the blood, and that we can detect it. It also is clear, following removal of the eye, that retinoblastoma goes away very quickly; 90 percent is gone with 40 minutes and quickly goes down to zero when the cancer is not spreading," he said. In cases of cancer metastases, "any levels in the blood can be found," he added.

Worldwide, by improving retinoblastoma diagnosis, Dr. Abramson believes his project will prevent the unnecessary removal of babies' eyes, and predict which, and when, babies will develop metastatic disease, thus enabling earlier, appropriate treatment and customizing management of the cancer.

"This work is directly focused on an outcome – on helping children," he added. "That is our whole goal, to directly help children."

He also extended his gratitude to the Gerber Foundation for its support.

"The Gerber Foundation, I want to thank and congratulate them for their support. This cancer is rare – just 275 cases in the US each year – but the foundation found it important enough to fund this research.

"That support, to me and my patients, is so incredibly important. This may not look as big as other cancers, but the funding is the fuel in my engine and the hope of a normal life for my patients," he said.

"Enhancing the quality of life of infants and young children."

Researcher: Paul Breslin, Ph.D
Professor of Nutritional Sciences, Rutgers University
Funded Research: *Reduction of Severity and Duration of Pediatric Gastroenteritis through Amino Acid-Fortified Oral Rehydration Therapy*

Scientists hope to provide low-cost, effective, easily distributed treatment for childhood diarrhea

Diarrhea is a common problem for infants and young children. Now a new type of treatment called fORT is being tested to determine if it reduces the severity and duration of the illness and also save money.

Diarrhea is a way for the body to get rid of viruses, bacteria, or worms that have invaded it. It literally "flushes out the infection," said Dr. Paul Breslin, a professor of nutritional sciences at Rutgers University.

For years, doctors have treated the ailment with ORT, an oral rehydration therapy that has helped prevent the deaths of millions of children worldwide due to diarrhea. Yet while it is able to prevent dehydration, ORT does not address the cause of the illness. There is no standard treatment to reduce the severity and duration of diarrhea, Dr. Breslin said.

His study is testing a new kind of remedy called fORT, an amino acid-fortified oral rehydration therapy. The study will measure how much and how long the diarrhea lasts after taking fORT, and if the fORT doses help children gain back weight compared to traditional ORT.

Recent studies in adults and in mice suggest that an ORT formula fortified with multiple amino acids may resolve diarrhea more rapidly than standard ORT, Dr. Breslin said.

The fORT formula will contain five amino acids - glutamate/glutamine and the three branched chain amino acids valine, leucine, and isoleucine.

"These amino acids we believe will help children's bodies fight severe diarrhea by providing the nutrients their gut needs and may help kill infection-causing germs," Dr. Breslin said. He thinks the amino acids will help the children's natural immune response work against common intestinal bugs like norovirus or Shigella, and even SARS-CoV-2 and its many variants.

"We are really targeting the root causes of the diarrhea," he explained, while at the same time helping children become hydrated faster.

Worldwide, diarrhea is the second leading cause of death in children under 5 years of age and costs more than $5 billion annually to treat in the US.

Dr. Breslin's team, which includes graduate student Payment Harmon, clinicians and formulations experts at Rutgers University, and one of the pioneers of ORT from Yale University, Dr. Henry Binder, plans to study 72 young children, aged 6 to 36 months and equally divided between control and treatment groups. Patients will be enrolled at discharge from the hospital emergency room.

Parents and caretakers will be provided powdered packets of ORT and fORT, which will be mixed with clean water into one liter, marked bottles. Parents will maintain daily logs of the liquid intake, and the weight, number and amount of stools. Stool samples will be collected daily.

Because the mix of amino acids are classified as a "medical food," by the federal Food and Drug Administration, it eliminates the need for several stages of clinical trials that drugs must adhere to, Dr. Breslin noted. "All of the ingredients in fORT are found in food products," he said.

If the Gerber Foundation-funded study proves effective, Dr. Breslin will initiate a full clinical trial with infants and young children with more severe disease.

Ultimately, fORT could prove to be a cheap, effective, and easily distributed treatment for diarrhea in children both in the U.S. and worldwide.

"fORT could help reduce the severity or duration of the disease, which would especially improve the lives of children in countries where diarrhea can be deadly, Dr. Breslin said. "Our ultimate goal is to have an inexpensive, easily distributed, shelf-stable, and effective diarrhea treatment."

He also extended his thanks to the Gerber Foundation. "We deeply appreciate the attention to our work and the faith in us and our ideas as we go forward," he said.

Dr. Breslin's team includes Payton Harmon, Drs. Sally Radovick, Melisa Weidner, Prerna Trivedy, Elizabeth George, Sunanda Guar, Julie Elmer, Nolan Lewin, and Henry Binde

Researcher: Charles Schuler, MD
University of Michigan Health
Funded Research: *Developing transepidermal water loss as a novel food anaphylaxis monitoring tool*

Promising tool could make food allergy tests safer

Food allergies affect nearly 10 percent of children in the United States and seem to be growing more common.

Now a researcher at the University of Michigan is testing a novel way to detect whether children might develop anaphylaxis during the oral food challenges conducted to diagnose food allergies.

Dr. Charles Schuler, an expert in food allergy at the university's health center, believes this monitoring technique, which measures water lost through the skin during the food challenge, can accurately detect evolving anaphylaxis.

Anaphylaxis causes the immune system to release a flood of chemicals that can lead to shock - when blood pressure drops suddenly and the airways narrow, blocking breathing. Food anaphylaxis, a potentially fatal, whole-body allergic reaction, causes more than 200,000 emergency room visits yearly in the United States.

If Dr Schuler is right, and oral food challenge can be stopped early, such procedures can be made "safer and better tolerated," he said.

Eggs, milk, and peanuts are the most common causes of food allergies in children. Wheat, soy, and tree nuts also are frequent offenders.

An important point, Dr. Schuler said: A food allergy is an abnormal response of the body to a certain food. This is different than a food intolerance, which does not affect the immune system, although some of the same symptoms may be present.

But before having a food allergy reaction, a sensitive child must have been exposed to the food at least once before. It is the second time the child eats the food that the allergic symptoms happen.
That's when antibodies react to the food, releasing histamines that can cause hives, asthma, itching in the mouth, trouble breathing, and other symptoms.

Oral food challenges, during which the child eats a potential food allergen and results are observed in the allergy office, can be tricky to conduct in very young children, Dr. Schuler said.

"Very young children often haven't developed the necessary language skills to describe any symptoms, if they are having any. That can lead to the full onset of anaphylaxis, and that can be pretty scary," he said.

Some parents simply have their children avoid certain foods, which Dr. Schuler says may be unnecessary, impeding growth and nutrition and causing intense anxiety for them and their children."

Still, oral food challenges are the diagnostic standard for food allergies. Skin and blood food allergy testing have false positive rates over 30 percent, Dr. Schuler noted.

During the food challenge, patients eat increasing doses of the food every 15-20 minutes up to a full serving, as defined for each food. Patients either react during the challenge or do not, and are observed for 1-2 hours after the final food dose or to the end of the reaction.

In his Gerber Foundation-funded study, Dr. Schuler proposes to use transepidermal (across-the-skin) water loss as a real-time, dynamic monitoring technique to detect evolving anaphylaxis. Higher value water loss is associated with food allergy, he said.

"Transepidermal (TEWL) water loss is a well-established, non-invasive tool that could provide earlier detection of allergic reactions," he said. The technique is now used to evaluate topical medications and cosmetics, and in diagnosing skin conditions.

In this study, 100 children will be enrolled in an oral food challenge monitoring group, followed by 40 children in a pilot clinical trial, divided between a control and intervention group. Children will be 6 months to 3 years of age.

"Statistically, young children are less likely to have severe anaphylaxis, so maybe they are a little safer group, less likely to have a drop in blood pressure, which is the big problem," Dr. Schuler said.

His team will monitor water loss during the oral food challenges. Measurements will be taken using a small adhesive to attach the TEWL probe to the skin on the upper back and the forearm. Single measurements can be taken in 20-30 seconds. Thresholds

for transepidermal water loss will be identified and compared to symptom reports, and test stopping rules will be established.

In the second phase, a pilot, double-blind, randomized clinical trial will be used to determine whether the stopping rules reduce the incidence and severity of anaphylactic reactions.

A control group will have TEWL monitoring done but will not implement any stopping rules. An intervention group will have the TEWL monitoring and will undergo stopping rules based on TEWL.

The researchers will measure reaction rate, anaphylaxis rate, anaphylaxis severity, symptoms, time to treatment, time to symptoms, epinephrine use rate, and any other treatments used.

The study results are likely to have a significant impact on the field of food allergy and anaphylaxis. Dr. Schuler said. He hopes to provide a rationale to adopt transepidermal water loss as the viable monitoring tool during food challenges.

"No widely employed device, tool, or measurement currently detects anaphylaxis in real time, much less predict it," he said. "We hope this project will increase safety for oral food challenges and will allow more patients to be tested at younger ages."

When the pilot clinical trial is completed, Dr. Schuler said he will pursue a National Institute of Health-funded multi-site clinical trial to broadly assess TEWL in anaphylaxis monitoring and the stopping rules his team develops.

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"Talent is everywhere, opportunity is not."
- Hillary Clinton

WEST MICHIGAN YOUTH GRANTS

West Michigan Youth Programming – Gerber Foundation Silver Anniversary

In 2022 the Foundation celebrated seventy years of operation! This 70th anniversary for the foundation was a time for reflection and for celebration. The mission, to enhance the lives of infants and young children by supporting health, nutrition, safety, and development programs, including social, emotional and educational activities, has served the foundation well and will continue to provide focus and guide grantmaking for many years to come.

The Foundation awarded more than $304,000 in grants to over 50 non-profit agencies servicing children residing in Muskegon, Newaygo, Lake, and Oceana counties with projects supporting one or more of six focus areas: Health, Nutrition, and Dental, Early Childhood Services and Literacy, Parenting Education, Life Enrichment Experiences (camp scholarships, agriculture sciences education, 4-H and FFA) and Education (including STEAM).

This year the two primary focus areas that received the most grant funding were Life Experience and STEAM Education. Life Experience grants totaled over $91,000 and were awarded to over 20 organizations and STEAM focused grants were awarded to 17 agencies totaling over $82,000. Below is a small sampling of the grants awarded:

- Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp scholarships to give youth an opportunity to experience activities like band and orchestra, choir, dance, creative writing, and theater.
- Rose Lake Youth Camp scholarships for at risk youth.
- Scholarships for Camps Pinewood, Pendalouan, Henry, and Newaygo
- Harbor Hospice's Camp Courage and Hospice of Michigan's Camp Good Grief scholarships; both camps support children who experienced the loss of a loved one.
- Scholarships for children to attend Mary Free Bed Wheelchair and Adaptive Sports Camp.
- North Star Reach Camp scholarships for children with serious health challenges.
- The American Diabetes Association Camp Midicha scholarships for children with diabetes.
- The Close-Up Foundation received scholarship funding for students from local high schools to attend a civic immersion program in Washington DC.
- SuitUp, an organization that organizes educational business competitions for students received funding to hold a competition in the Muskegon school district.
- The Newaygo Conservation District received field trip funding for K-8th grade students to attend the Hands-On Science Exploration Program at the Kropscott Farm Environmental Center.
- Junior Achievement of the Michigan Great Lakes received a grant to provide elementary children financial literacy, workplace readiness, and entrepreneurship education.
- The West Michigan Symphony received funding for the Link up Beginner Music Education Program.
- The FIRST Lego League Discover program grant will introduce children ages 4 to 6 to STEM through play.

Also receiving $45,000 in grant support for health and nutrition programs were the Stony Lake Therapeutic Riding Center's therapeutic horseback riding program, Newaygo County Great Start Baby Pantry and Trinity Lutheran Church

Baby Pantry and Reading room, Migrant Legal Aid for pesticide exposure education for migrant parents and children, the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan Regie's Rainbow Adventure program that provides elementary aged children healthy eating and physical activity education, Kids Food Basket and Hand2Hand for sack suppers and weekend meals. In addition, the Christian Healthcare Center in Newaygo received funding to support the purchase of pediatric medical equipment for annual well child visits and the Hope Squad at Montague High School for suicide awareness and prevention program.

Several smaller grants in support of early childhood services and literacy totaling $29,000 were provided to the Hart Area Public Library, the White Cloud Community Library, to the Dolly Parton Imagination Library for Muskegon and Oceana Counties, to the Daisy Brook Family Literacy and Activity night and to Trinity Health Muskegon for the Safe Kids West Michigan Child Passenger Safety Technician Certification classes.

To celebrate the 70th Anniversary milestone, the foundation board provided an extra $70,000 for West Michigan grantmaking to support youth programming in the area. These grants were centered on three long-standing areas of interest – early literacy, nutrition, and STEM education. Grants were provided to libraries, food pantries, and STEM education programs in Newaygo, Lake, and Oceana Counties.

Across the 3 counties, 23 organizations received surprise gifts to support their activities, from FIRST Robotics to food pantries. See the listing of grants elsewhere in this report.

"Enhancing the quality of life of infants and young children."

WEST MICHIGAN GRANTS

American Diabetes Association *ADA Imagine Camp Scholarships*	**$2,000**
Arbor Circle *Newaygo County School-Centered Prevention Programs*	**$5,000**
Bellwether Harbor *Pet Pals Education and Dog Bite Prevention Program*	**$3,000**
Big Brother/Big Sisters of the Lakeshore *Ignite STEM Potential: STEM for Community-Based Matches*	**$5,200**
Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp *Camp Scholarships*	**$4,000**
Camp Henry *Camp Scholarships*	**$6,000**
Camp Newaygo *Camp Scholarships*	**$8,000**
Catholic Charities West Michigan *Muskegon Parent Child Safety Education*	**$3,000**
Christian Healthcare Centers *Healthy Tomorrows Well Child Initiative*	**$11,600**
City of Fremont *Newaygo County Shop with a Cop*	**$500**
Close Up Foundataion *Civic Education Programing*	**$8,000**
DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation *Gala 2022*	**$5,000**
First in Michigan *Newaygo County Discover Program*	**$9,856**
Fremont Area District Library *Family Workstation Carrels*	**$7,702**
Fremont Public Schools FFA *Washington Leadership Conference*	**$1,800**
Fremont Public Schools	
Pine Street Community Garden Support	**$5,330**
Daisy Brook Family Literacy and Activity Night	**$5,000**
Daisy Brook After School Sewing Club	**$2,200**

Gerald R. Ford Council, Boy Scouts of America *Scoutreach Muskegon County*	**$2,000**
Grant Public Schools *Rally Cap Summer Outreach Program*	**$2,000**
Hand2Hand *Weekend Food Backpack Program*	**$2,000**
Harbor Hospice *Camp Courage*	**$5,000**
Hart Area Public Library *Preschool Story Hour and Early Childhood Outreach Literacy Program Support*	**$2,000**
Heritage Museum of Newaygo County *Newaygo County Museum Field Trip Financial Support*	**$3,760**
Holton United Methodist Church *School Backpack Program*	**$500**
Hospice of Michigan *Camp Good Grief Program*	**$3,500**
Junior Achievement of the Michigan Great Lakes *Inspiring Bright Tomorrows for the Youth of Newaygo County*	**$8,000**
Kids Food Basket *Muskegon Healthy Children Healthy Futures*	**$5,000**
Mary Free Bed Hospital & Rehabilitation Center *Youth Wheelchair and Adaptive Sports Program Scholarships*	**$5,000**
Trinity Health Muskegon Hospital *Child Passenger Safety Technician Certification Classes*	**$10,000**
Michigan 4-H Foundation *Newaygo and Lake County 4-H Activities*	**$11,000**
Michigan State University *OsteoChamps Program*	**$1,500**
Migrant Legal Aid *Limiting Pesticide Exposure for Migrant Children in Oceana County*	**$5,000**
Montague Area Public Schools *Hope Squad*	**$2,000**
Montague Area Public Schools FFA *Washington Leadership Conference*	**$1,800**
Mount Zion Church of God in Christ *Club 188 Academy of Arts and Academics Summer Camping Experience*	**$4,000**
Muskegon YMCA *Camp Pendalouan Scholarships*	**$6,000**
National Inventors Hall of Fame *Camp Invention*	**$7,000**

National Kidney Foundation of Michigan *Regie's Rainbow Adventure Nutrition Program*	**$10,000**
Newaygo County Conservation District *Hands On Science Exploration Program*	**$8,400**
Newaygo County Day Care Corporation *Preschool Technology Upgrade*	**$1,950**
Newaygo County RESA	
FFA Washington Leadership Conference	**$1,800**
FIRST Robotics	**$7,500**
Great Start Baby Pantry	**$2,000**
North Star Reach *Camp Scholarships*	**$5,000**
Operation Warm, Inc. *Winter Coat and Shoe Program for Children*	**$7,000**
Ronald McDonald House of Western Michigan *Family Support Program*	**$4,000**
Rose Lake Youth Camp *Camp Scholarships*	**$3,000**
SAE Foundation *Providing West Michigan Students with Hands-On STEM Programming*	**$7,500**
Stony Lake Therapeutic Riding Center *Equine Therapy Student Scholarships*	**$3,525**
SuitUp Incorporated *SuitUp STEM Business Competitions*	**$8,000**
Trinity Lutheran Church New Era *Baby Pantry and Reading Room*	**$2,000**
TrueNorth Community Services *2023 Youth Programs*	**$30,000**
United Way of the Lakeshore *Dolly Parton Imagination Library*	**$10,000**
West Michigan Symphony *Link Up Beginner Music Education Programs*	**$7,000**
White Cloud Library *Bookmobile and Sensory Room*	**$1,912**
YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago *Camp Pinewood Scholarships*	**$4,000**
TOTAL WEST MICHIGAN GRANTS AWARDED:	**$304,835**

70th ANNIVERSARY GRANTS

Baldwin Community Library *Youth literacy*	**$2,300**
Baldwin Congregational Church *Food pantry support*	**$3,500**
Chase Community Library *Youth literacy*	**$2,300**
Croton Community Library *Youth literacy*	**$1,400**
Edgetts Wesleyan Church *Food pantry support*	**$3,500**
Fremont Area District Library *Youth literacy*	**$1,400**
Grant Area District Library *Youth literacy*	**$1,400**
Hart Community Library *Youth literacy*	**$1,750**
Hesperia Community Library *Youth literacy*	**$1,750**
Love INC *Food pantry support*	**$3,500**
Luther Community Library *Youth literacy*	**$2,300**
NC RESA *FIRST Robotics*	**$7,000**
New Hope Community Church *Food pantry support*	**$2,300**
Newaygo Area District Library *Youth literacy*	**$1,400**
Newaygo County 4-H Council *Youth programs*	**$7,000**
Newaygo County Conservation District *Kropscott Environmental Center youth STEM programs*	**$7,000**
Pentwater Community Library *Youth literacy*	**$1,750**

Shelby Community Library *Youth literacy*	**$1,750**
St Gregory Catholic Church *Food pantry support*	**$2,300**
Trinity Lutheran Church *Food pantry support*	**$2,300**
TrueNorth Community Services *Food pantry support*	**$3,500**
United Way of the Lakeshore *Dolly Parton Imagination in Newaygo County*	**$7,000**
White Cloud Community Library *Youth literacy*	**$1,400**
TOTAL 70th ANNIVERSARY GRANTS AWARDED:	**$68,800**

"Enhancing the quality of life of infants and young children."

Scholarships

The Gerber Foundation board approved an increase to scholarships amounts beginning with the graduating class of 2022. In addition, in honor of the Foundation's 70th year of operation, the number of Medallion and Merit scholarships awarded at each of the Newaygo County high schools was increased to 7 for each scholarship, nearly doubling the number normally provided.

Continuing the Gerber Foundation's 69-year tradition of providing scholarships for local students, scholarships were awarded to 105 students in 2022. The overall total for scholarships awarded came to just over $571,800. These scholarships are provided to graduating seniors from designated high schools in Newaygo, Muskegon, and Oceana Counties in Michigan. An additional 150 students continue to receive support from prior year selections.

Thirty-six students received the Daniel Gerber Sr. Medallion Scholarship, available to Newaygo County students. This scholarship is worth $11,500 each.

The Gerber Foundation Merit Scholarship is awarded to students in all three counties. The scholarship provides $2,800 to each student. Forty-seven students received this scholarship.

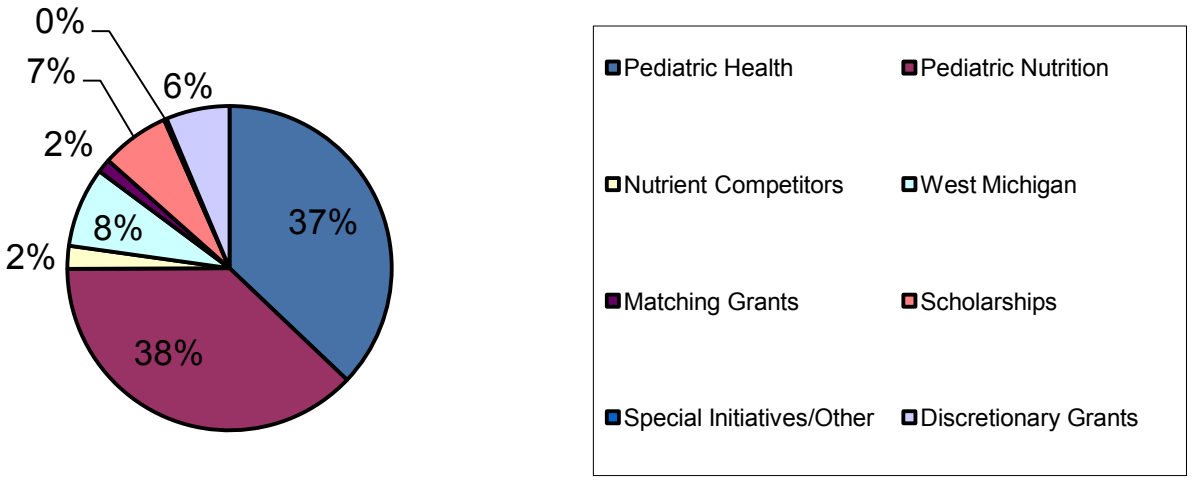
The Newaygo County Career-Tech Center scholarships are awarded based on the program that the student graduates from at the Center. Scholarships are provided to two students selected from each of the 15 programs offered. Scholarship amounts vary by program and range from $350 to $2,870. Scholarships can be used to purchase tools or equipment required for further study in their field, as well as certification exams or tuition. In 2022, 22 students received scholarships for a total of $26,470.

2022 Grants Paid

(Current and Prior Year Commitments)

Pediatric Health	$	1,592,784	37%
Pediatric Nutrition	$	1,624,958	38%
Nutrient Competitors	$	98,069	2%
West Michigan	$	342,125	8%
Matching Grants	$	59,015	1%
Scholarships	$	293,057	7%
Special Initiatives/Other	$	12,000	0%
Discretionary Grants	$	272,150	6%
	$	4,294,158	100%

2022 GRANTS PAID



The Gerber Foundation
Grant Making Application Deadlines

National Research Grant Program

The Foundation supports national research grants focusing on applied research in health, nutrition, and environmental hazards for infants and young children from the first year before birth to three years of age.

Fall Grant Round Yearly Deadlines

Concept Papers:	Due May 15, 4pm ET
Selection Notification:	Mid June
Full Proposals:	Due August 15, 4pm ET
Selection Notification:	Late November

Spring Grant Round Yearly Deadlines

Concept Papers:	Due November 15, 4pm ET
Selection Notification:	Mid December
Full Proposal:	Due February 15, 4pm ET
Selection Notification:	Late May

West Michigan Youth Grant Program

The Foundation supports a variety of youth program grants supporting the growth and development of children from 0-18 years of age that reside within a 4-county area that includes Lake, Muskegon, Newaygo, and Oceana Counties in West Michigan.

Fall Grant Round Yearly Deadline

Full Applications	Due March 15, 4pm ET
Selection Notification:	Late April

Spring Grant Round Yearly Deadline

Full Applications	Due September 15, 4pm ET
Selection Notification:	Late October

Scholarship Program

The Foundation offers competitive merit scholarships for students graduating from select high schools in Newaygo, Muskegon, and Oceana Counties in West Michigan.

Application Yearly Deadline: Due February 28, 4pm ET
Selection Notifications made at HS Honors/Awards Ceremonies

All grant programming information and application procedures are located on the Foundation's website at **www.gerberfoundation.org**. All grants are submitted online through the Foundation's website.

For questions, contact the Gerber Foundation at 231.924.3175 or by email at tgf@gerberfoundation.org.

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