

# 2021 Annual Report



# A Message from our President

## UCS Foundation 2020 Annual Report

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### LOOKING AHEAD



Dear Friends,

2021 was a revolutionary year for the Utica Community Schools Foundation for Educational Excellence. We were able to adapt in these new times to host many of our events virtually.

The 27th/28th Career Focus Luncheon was hosted virtually this past May 4th and 6th.

The UCS Foundation, in conjunction with the Superintendent's office, was able to host this event for the sixth and seventh graders who missed 2020's event. Every UCS sixth & seventh grader, along with hundreds of business professionals, community representatives, teachers, media center specialists and principals gathered online and to collaborate about their futures. Our keynote speaker for the 2021 event was Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel. The Career Focus Luncheon for 2022 will be an in-person event, but we will be ready to switch gears to host virtual if need be. Our keynote speaker for 2022 is UCS graduate Jeanna Trotman from WXYZ.

The Evening of Excellence event provides a spotlight for some exceptional Utica Community Schools students. Unfortunately, we were not able to give the recipients of the Superintendent's Scholarship their award at a live event. Instead, those students who received the Superintendent's Scholarship were honored virtually and honored in person at their individual Honor's night. The Foundation will provide \$34,000 to the Superintendent's Scholarships for the class of 2022.

The UCS Foundation Chelsie Bemis Teacher Grant Program was a huge success this year and we provided 12 grants totaling over \$13,000. Over the last 5 years since reinstating this program, we have been able to provide over \$50,000 to help our teachers in the classroom.

The Foundation's Annual Golf Outing. The 2021 event was held at Cherry Creek Golf Club and provided our supporters a fun and safe event to raise money for our students and teachers. We were able to raise over \$28,000 and have a memorable time.

All these activities are thanks to the support of our generous event sponsors and donors. Additionally, I want to thank our Century Club members who help defray and support everyday operational expenses. As a result, the Century Club annual dues and additional contributions from club members enables the Foundation to direct monies raised toward student programs and scholarships. Thank you for your support of the Foundation! We look forward to having a successful 2022!



## Evening of Excellence - Superintendent Scholarships

Since its inception, the Evening of Excellence has raised monies to support the Superintendent Scholarships for deserving UCS seniors. Although we couldn't have our fundraising event, the UCS Foundation provided \$30,000 towards the Superintended Scholarships, nearing \$400,000 since 2010. The students who are selected embody the meaning of UCS Success by excelling in academics, displaying leadership qualities, serving the community, and overcoming personal challenges. We are proud to support higher educational opportunities for these outstanding students.



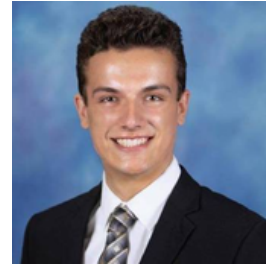
Aaron Kenward  
Computer Engr.



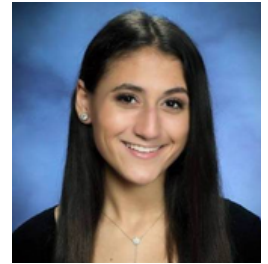
Anthony Berkimer  
Chemical Engr.



Brooke Gagnon  
Biology / Genetics



Cameron Borchet  
Construction Mgmt



Celine Matway  
Nursing



Claudia Pilarski  
Undecided



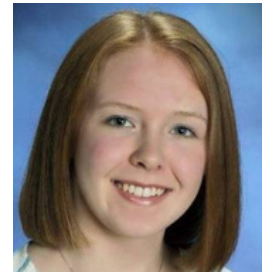
David Cirenese  
Engineering



Drake Castiglia  
Pre-Physician



Jennifer Weihs  
Psychology



Jennifer Weir  
Biology



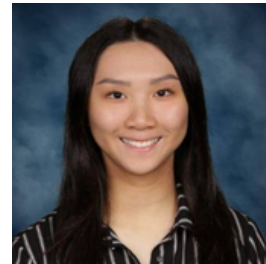
Julie Elfshawy  
Pre-Medicine



Kamrya Maples  
Economics



Katerina Bostounis  
Chemical Engr.



Kaylee Chan  
Biopsychology



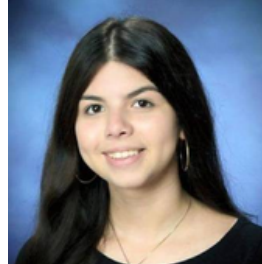
Megan Hanoush  
Pre-Law



Michael Hagen  
Economics



Noah Mousseau  
Computer Science



Regina Araujo-Pedroza  
Nursing



Sebastian Shaman  
Biochemistry



Shaniya Buyck  
Counseling

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## 2021 Golf Outing



Cherry Creek Golf Club - Shelby Township, Michigan

The Foundation had another hit with the Annual Golf Outing in 2021. The UCS Foundation Golf Outing was held at Cherry Creek Golf Club on September 20, 2021 and provided our supporters with a well-run event to fundraise for our students and teachers.

We had 26 teams competing for the top score on a beautiful, sunny fall day. Team Roncelli secured the win in 2021. We were able to raise over \$28,000 for the UCS Foundation while having a great time. This event will continue into the 2022 year and hopefully we can pick as nice of day as we had in 2021!



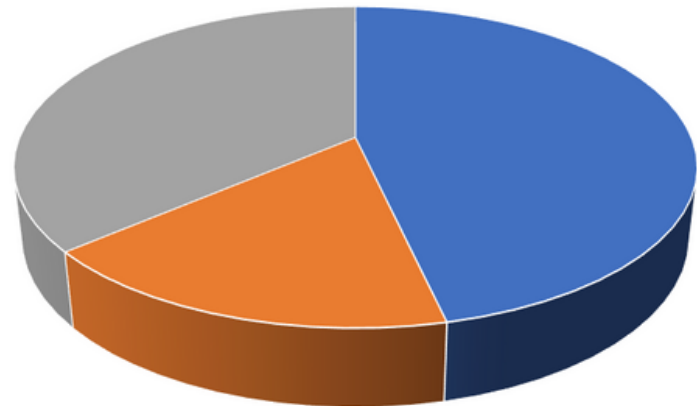


# Financial Report

## Income:

Utica Community Schools Foundation for Educational Excellence raised a total of \$198,444 through the generous contributions of our community, including the individuals and businesses that continue to support our Mission

INCOME

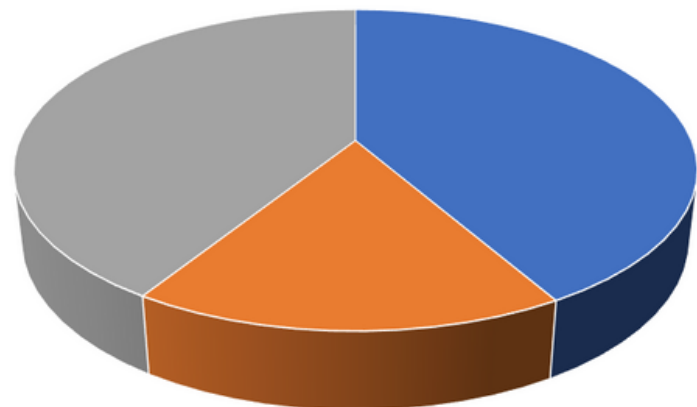


■ DONATIONS ■ EVENTS ■ INVESTMENTS

## Expenses:

A total of \$83,630 in outgoing expenses, of which the vast majority goes towards scholarships, grants and our most impactful activities.

EXPENSES



■ SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS ■ EVENTS ■ OPERATIONAL ■

# UCS Foundation Board & Staff

Dedicated to supporting the Utica Community Schools community.

## Executive Board



**Sherman Abdo**  
PRESIDENT



**Juli Sala**  
VICE PRESIDENT



**Michael Nowicki**  
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT



**Nate Tallman**  
TREASURER



**Bob Van Camp**  
SECRETARY

## Trustees



**Brent Bohlinger**



**Ray Lope**



**Michele Templeton**



**Stacy Zarko**



**Ron Chriss**



**Patty Lopez**



**Jeff Vollmar**



**David Klida**



**Les Gilbert**



**Susan Rosso**



**Dan Wesner**

**Paul Alandt**  
(not pictured)

## Administrator



**Tara Preyers**

**Dr. Steven Meyer**  
Liaison for the Board of  
Education  
(Not Pictured)

## Ex-Officio



**Mr. Robert S. Monroe**  
UCS Superintendent

# Thank You

A sincere and heartfelt thank you to all of you who choose to donate to the UCS Foundation. None of this would be possible without your dedicated support.

**A-1 Handyman**



**ANDERSON, ECKSTEIN & WESTRICK, INC.**  
CIVIL ENGINEERS - SURVEYORS - ARCHITECTS



**Barton  
Malow**

**DTE**



**iDS**



**LYNN AND PAUL  
ALANDT FOUNDATION**



**La Grasso | Abdo | Silveri**  
LAW OFFICES



## UCS Teachers and Staff Thank You!

Dominic Aversa  
Mark Bienkowski  
Heather Blum  
Nancy Brunetz  
Veleta Carpenter  
Nina Carver- Hardiewich  
Kim Charland  
Susan Clark  
Morgan Cloyd  
Diana Coles  
Kenneth Cucchi  
Cheryl Cunningham  
Diane Dotson  
Renee Fiema  
Donna Fisher-Sheppard  
Patricia George  
Danielle Guglielmetti  
Tina Howell  
Stephen Hulbert  
Cheryl Hyslop  
Renae Kane  
Lisa Keyes  
Brian LaPorte  
Melanie Lechner  
Thomas Lietz  
Christine Lope  
Nicole Lorenzo  
Scott May  
Molly Mayernik  
Timothy McAvoy  
Lisa McDill  
Scott Mondoux  
Robert Monroe  
Natalie Montgomery  
Jessica Nicol  
Karen Patrick  
Marie Phillips  
Vincent Scaglione  
Shelly Semrau  
Marcella Spalding  
Shannon Spisak  
Renee Tekely  
Kristina Tepper  
Justin Washington  
Melisa Watson  
Eric Weaver  
Christine Wilson  
Jacqueline Zawierucha

Thank You to many more who have made donations



## Looking Ahead: 2022

As always, the UCS Foundations' first and foremost duty is to support the Utica Community Schools students and teachers, as such we strive to improve each and every year.

The Foundation's 2022 priorities include:

- Remaining quick to adapt while maintaining safety of all persons involved.
- Grow the Annual Golf Outing to a full 36 foursomes
- Expand Educational Grant program through more outreach
- Establish "Brand" presence through continued focus on website and social media outreach, especially UCS Alumni
- Engage local community through targeted outreach
- Bring back to in-person, the fan favorite and most memorable 6th Grade Career Focus Luncheon with a fun and dynamic keynote speaker.