



2025 Annual Report

General Fund

Beginning account Balance on January 1st 2025- \$16,778.96

CDs - \$15,000

Total cash assets on January 1st, 2025 - \$31,778.96

Total Credits - \$49,688.51

Total Debits - \$37,107.12

Ending account Balance on December 31st. 2025 - \$29,360.35

CDs - \$15,000 and \$20,000

Total cash assets on December 31st, 2025 - \$64,360.35

1. Credit, Mail in Donations - \$41,930.00
 2. Credit, Artisan Marketplace - \$1,418.00
 3. Credit, Bridge walk T-Shirts - \$1,505.70 (\$615.05 net)
 4. Credit, Anchor Day Donations - \$815.52 (-\$39.82 net)
 5. Credit, Holiday Potluck Donations - \$1,071.00 (\$553.96 net)
 6. Credit, Lively Neighborfest - \$1,838.33
 7. Credit, Winterfest - \$631.60 (\$1.60 net)
 8. Credit, Interest on CD - \$478.36
-
1. Debit, Operating Expenses - \$2,675.29 (\$1,000 for Accountant)
 2. Debit, Brochures - \$439.87
 3. Debit, Canopy and Banner - \$348.93
 4. Debit, Event Expenses - \$2,893.03
 5. Debit, Methodist Church for First Responders Event - \$500
 6. Debit, QPR Training - \$250
 7. Debit, Transfer to Emergency Fund - \$10,000
 8. Debit, Purchase of \$20,000 CD

Emergency Fund

Beginning account Balance on January 1st. 2025 - \$34,546.77

CDs - \$10,000

Total cash assets on January 1st, 2025 - \$44,546.77

Total Credits - \$85,830.81

Total Debits - \$85,716.81

Ending account Balance on December 31, 2025 - \$34,660.77

CD - \$10,000 and \$30,000

Total cash assets on December 31st, 2025 - \$74,660.77

1. Credits, Mail in Donations - \$68,392.27

2. Credits, Concerts - \$4,211.63

3. Credits, Neighborfest - \$800.00

4. Credits, Barn-Aid - \$2,108.00

Total income from donations (2025) = \$75,511.90

5. Credits, From General Fund - \$10,000.00

6. Credits, Interest on CD - \$318.91

1. Debits, Distributions - \$55,716.81 (checks cashed in 2025)

2. Actual Distributions - \$54,751.81(including uncashed checks and one check from 2024)

3. Debits, Purchase of \$30,000 CD

3. Number of Distributions - 42

4. Number of families Helped - 30

Lanny Sterling Memorial Building Fund

Beginning account Balance on January 1th. 2025 - \$5,644.55

Ending account Balance on December 31st, 2026 - \$6,655.11

Basic Needs Initiative Fund

Beginning account Balance on November 1st. 2025 - \$23,525.95

Total Credits - \$800.00

Total Debits - \$831.80

Ending account Balance on December 31, 2025- \$23,494.15

1. Credits, Donations - \$27,025.95

1. Debits, Thanksgiving Food & Basic Necessities Baskets - \$2000

2. Debits, Checks - \$131.80

3. Debits: Deer Processing - \$1400

Every Single Dollar Donated Makes a Difference

Special Thanks to the Hundreds of Unnamed Caring Individuals Who Donated \$1 plus of
Their Hard-Earned Money to Our Funds
As It Adds Up to Thousands
Your Gift is Priceless

Special Thanks to the Caring Individuals Who Donated \$500 plus to our Funds

Pete and Gina Woessner

Karin Olson

Meg and Dave Walton

Sally Majszak

Tim Barr and Bonnie Nescott

Martha Wadsworth

Steven Hyde

Trapp Family Foundation

Michaline Kilts

St. Philip Neri Church

Greg and Cynthia Goris

Annette Homburger

Duane & Christine Shugart

Kiersten DeKorne

Jim & Kelly Lively Neighbor Food Market

Mark Oberschmidt

Darby Trapp Eland

Veteran's in Packaging

Porter Family Foundation

Lawrence & Jacqueline Fleis

Special Thanks to the Caring Individuals and Businesses Who Donated \$5000 plus to our Funds

John and Mary Tris

Robert & Susan Johnson Charitable Trust

Cherry Republic (Bob Sutherland)

Marcie Meditch & John Murphey

Art's Tavern (Tim Barr & Bonnie Nescott)

Special Thanks To the following Businesses & Non-Profits for being continued supporters of our goals assisting us to continue the work of our mission

Grocers Daughter Chocolate

Empire Chamber of Commerce

Empire United Methodist Church

Glen Lake Community Library

Cherry Republic - Bob Sutherland

Glen Lake Fire Department

Leelanau Coffee Roasting

Lively Neighbor Food Market

Joe Vandermeulen - Leelanau County Historic Preservation Society Poor Farm Barn

Art's Tavern

Empire Lion's Club

Empire Township

Fieldcrafts & Bookwear Printing

Dave's Garage - Craig Olvey

Leelanau County Sheriff's Office

Sterling Law Office Angela Noonan

Michigan Sportsmen Against Hunger

Special Thanks to Concert Venues

Arts Tavern - Little Traverse Inn - Joe's Friendly Tavern - Poor Farm Barn Preserve

Broomstacks - Lively Neighbor Food Market

Special Thanks to Performers

Jim Crockett & the Beach Bards with Patrick Niemisto and John Kumijian

Papa Squat & the Sitdownz

Remembering Reggie

Chris Skellenger & Paul Koss - Fifth Street - Luke Woltanski

Rita Hosking and John Fedder - Andre Villoch

Go North featuring Jonathan North

The Benzie Brass Quintet and TC Sings

We are Humbled and Grateful to All of the Caring individuals, Businesses, and Non-Profits who donated their hard-earned dollars to entrust us to continue to assist people who have fallen upon hard times while also fulfilling our Mission to enhance the quality of life throughout our Greater Empire Area Community

Immense Gratitude and Appreciation goes out to the AMAZING group of volunteers that support this organization and continue to donate their time and talents enabling us to continue realize our vision and fulfill our mission, with special recognition to: Jack Gyr, Norm Wheeler, David Geisler, March Dye and All of the Members of the Board and the Many faithful Volunteer Members that Chair EACC Committees and events or participate by attending and supporting our monthly meetings and activities

Summary 2025:

EACC Executive Board Members:

President: Gerry Shiffman, Vice President: JoAnn Beare, Treasurer: March Dye, Secretary: David Early

EACC as a Michigan Registered 501 (c)3 Charitable Organization through its **General Fund** continues to be recognized as "Good Stewards" of this community who have entrusted this organization to receive and distribute funds, delivering much needed support and financial assistance to those well deserving members of our community and also by providing Emergency relief to those who have fallen upon hard times through its signature **Emergency Fund Program**.

EACC through its **General Fund** continues to follow its Mission by pledging to enrich as many lives as possible through one-time events and ongoing activities and is following its Vision as a charitable organization striving to enhance the quality of life of those living in the greater Empire area through the promotion of community activities and involvement.

EACC as of November 1st, 2025 has expanded and broadened its community outreach by creating **The Basic Needs Initiative Fund**, acknowledging and addressing real issues that exist within our community such as Food Insecurity and the need for everyday Personal Hygiene items. We are partnering with and financially assisting the Empire Area Community Food Pantry and the Empire Paper Pantry which are run by community Volunteers out of the Glen Lake Church and the Empire Methodist Church. We also provided support to The Folded Leaf which offered a "micro pantry" in the Village of Cedar. Through this initiative we implemented a Deer Donation Program inviting local hunters to "Harvest with Heart" and donate their harvested deer to area processors who we paid to process the meat into ground venison. This high quality protein was donated and is being distributed to the Empire Area Community Food Pantry which dispenses that meat to feed fine folks in need within our community. We also formed a partnership with a Michigan based charitable organization known as Michigan Sportsmen Against Hunger (MSAH) who reimburse our organization \$50 for each deer that has been donated and processed. This program was an instant success whereby (33) deer had been harvested and donated yielding (1550) lbs of high-quality protein. We have also formed a partnership with Cherry Republic to receive, box and store much of this processed meat in their onsite outdoor freezers to preserve this perishable food source and make it accessible and available to the Food Pantry for pick up as needed. Cherry Republic has also been an extremely generous partner by providing substantial financial donations of support directly to EACC.

EACC has set its intentions to establishing a physical Brick-and-Mortar Community Center space and has an additional separate fund Known as the **Lanny Sterling Memorial Fund** to assist with a future endeavor of this nature. EACC has formed a Brick-and-Mortar Community Center Building Committee to envision, explore, guide and develop this process.

EACC highly values and continues to develop partnerships of support with other area organizations, businesses, churches and individuals who recognize the importance of our vision to expand on the humanitarian outreach to further broaden and support our Mission.

EACC recognized the need to take its financial accounting to the next level and has contracted with a CPA firm who set up our accounting system on QuickBooks and is available to us for consulting, tax preparation and filings.

EACC has expanded its Banking relationships and has established accounts at State Savings Bank in Empire in addition to its Huntington Bank accounts.

EACC established Venmo and Square accounts and also created a QR Code to more readily receive financial donations.

EACC held a "Visioning Charet" to clarify, better understand and plan for the future success of the organization and what direction needed to be followed to get there.

EACC purchased a portable "Pop up" Tent and Banner to be set up at different events as well as created a multi fold Brochure to enhance community awareness and broaden brand recognition for who EACC is and what EACC does.

EACC formed an "Outreach Committee" who created "Welcome Packets" to meet, greet, inform and enlighten new residents within the community.

EACC formed a committee focused on specifically raising awareness and funds to support the financial foundation of the **EACC General Fund** to enhance and enable its ability to be financially viable to both support its other programs and its mission into the future.

EACC is aware of and is working on ways to attract more active members including a younger demographic from the Greater Empire Area Community that it serves, which includes, Empire, Honor, Lake Ann, Cedar, Maple City, Burdickville and Glen Arbor, in order to continue the organizations good work and lasting legacy into the future.

EACC held (8) **Emergency Fund** concerts throughout 2025 and assisted (30) families in need through its Emergency Fund program.

EACC **General Fund** held an equal number of community events and sponsored and supported many more.

Future 2026:

EACC continues to build upon the foundation of their good work and established programs and is moving in a direction to formalize a **Visioning Committee** to work in conjunction with its **Brick-and-Mortar Committee**, to further identify community needs such as Childcare, Senior needs, and other essential community issues. In order to accomplish this, EACC is going to focus on what its overall vision for the future is and determine what the foundational needs of the community are and how to best serve the community in order to meet those needs.