

Thanks for your support

## MORTON SOCCER Scholarship Fund



In 1978 a short notice in the local newspaper invited children ages elementary through junior high to attend a soccer clinic. Soccer wasn't a sport that people in Morton knew much about. They would learn, though, about off sides, goalkeeping and the intricacies of a sport that is played around the world.

After years of planning and hard work by a long roster of players off the field, Morton High School celebrated the 25th season of boys' soccer in the fall of 2010. A committee of volunteers organized a celebration of the 25th year of Morton High School Soccer. As a part of this celebration, they raised money from individuals, businesses, donations from both Blaze Soccer and Morton Youth Soccer Organization as well as from T-Shirt sales, to establish this new permanently endowed soccer scholarship.

According to the scholarship rules, the recipient each year must be a graduating senior who has played soccer in Morton - either MYSO, Blaze or at the high school - and who agrees to coach, referee or serve on the board of a youth soccer organization for at least two years sometime in the future - a way to "pay it forward". The recipient should demonstrate a positive attitude, excellent teamwork, be charitable and compassionate, and serve as a role model to underclassmen.

The scholarship is awarded each May at the MHS Academic and Leadership Awards night held at the Bertha Frank Performing Arts Center. Applications may be submitted beginning in early March each year. More information and applications are available through the Morton High School counseling office.

**Legacy and stability.** Endowed gifts provide a gift that lasts forever. Your gift is invested over time. Earnings from the fund are used to provide annual scholarships. Scholarships made from the Morton Soccer Scholarship Fund will continue beyond our lifetimes. The fund will grow as future donors, with a concern for excellence in education, add to it, thus providing increasingly larger scholarships well into the future.



### The power of endowment

A half century ago, Paul Cesarz made a choice that continues to benefit his community today. He created an endowed fund in 1952 with \$150,000 in assets. The fund immediately began earning income and distributing grants to causes important to him. Fifty years later and 35 years after Paul's death, the Cesarz Fund had grown to \$1,066,003. And in that 50th year, it generated more than \$50,000 in grants, supporting a range of community needs—a park renovation, a museum exhibit, cancer research, and more. Because Paul chose to endow his gift, he has enabled more than \$1.1 million in grants to go to his community—almost eight times the impact he would have made by giving the original gift to charity all at once. And though Paul has passed away, the fund in his name will go on supporting his community, leaving a lasting legacy.

*This example comes from another Community Foundation, but it can happen in Morton too.*