

## A legacy of giving Endowment



**What is endowment?** *When you give to, or create a charitable fund through the Morton Community Foundation, you have the opportunity to benefit Morton forever with a permanent endowment. Your gift is invested over time. Earnings from your gift(s) are used to make grants addressing community needs. Your gift—and all future earnings from your gift—is a permanent source of community capital, helping do good work today and in the future.*

**Legacy and stability.** Donors who endow their gifts can make a difference in their community during their lifetime and, at the same time, provide a gift that lasts forever. Grants will continue to be made in the name of the fund you establish so that your charitable wishes are preserved, even if an organization receiving grants ceases to exist in the future.

Leaders of a nonprofit organization may also look to the Morton Community Foundation to hold their organization's endowment because they know that having a constant source of funding helps them respond to emergency needs as well as plan for the future and sustain the good work they do.

**Expert help.** When donors or nonprofit organizations work through the Morton Community Foundation to achieve their charitable goals, they benefit from the expertise of experienced local program staff, community leadership, and investment management.

## 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.*

