



Great Lakes One Water Partnership

The Great Lakes One Water Partnership (GLOW) is a Council of Michigan Foundations (CMF) project initially funded with a \$1 million investment from the Great Lakes Protection Fund (GLPF). The partnership has received additional support from the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation and Kresge Foundation.



GLOW gathers 27 community foundations and their local partners into six regional teams. Each team received a planning grant from CMF to identify a water infrastructure challenge facing their region and then create a solution. CMF has contracted Public Sector Consultants, a public policy research and consulting firm, to coordinate the work across the teams and evaluate impact. Each regional team has a fiscal agent to manage the project’s funds and a facilitator to help coordinate the team’s work.

Lake Superior/ Upper Peninsula Regional Team	Lower Lake Michigan Regional Team	Upper Lake Michigan Regional Team	Lake Huron Regional Team	Lake Erie Regional Team	Lake Ontario Regional Team
1 Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation	1 The Chicago Community Trust	1 Charlevoix County Community Foundation	1 Bay Area Community Foundation	1 Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo	1 Durham Community Foundation
2 Keweenaw Community Foundation	2 Evanston Community Foundation	2 Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation	2 Community Foundation Grey Bruce	2 The Cleveland Foundation	2 Niagara Community Foundation
3 Community Foundation of Marquette County	3 Legacy Foundation	3 Leelanau Township Community Foundation	3 Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan	3 Community Foundation of Lorain County	3 Toronto Foundation
4 M&M Area Community Foundation	4 Unity Foundation of La Porte County	4 Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation		4 Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation	
5 Community Foundation of the Upper Peninsula/Community Foundation for Delta County		5 Manistee County Community Foundation		5 Erie County Community Foundation	
				6 Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan	
				7 Toledo Community Foundation	

The binational partnership includes six regional teams across the Great Lakes basin, one for each of the Great Lakes and two for Lake Michigan. The Lake Ontario team is composed of Canadian community foundations and partners. The Lake Huron team includes community foundations and partners from the United States and Canada. The remainder of the teams consist of United States representatives, with each team spread throughout their region and with a range of resources and expertise.

Early in 2019, each team submitted a thorough plan, or action agenda, to CMF addressing their identified water infrastructure challenges. Key action agenda components include a description of the region and a workplan describing the project strategy and its anticipated impact. A panel of experts reviewed the agendas, honing them to deliver achievable, lasting results. Each regional team received another grant from CMF to implement the plan, which must be matched on a 2:3 basis. In the summer of 2019, the teams will begin implementing their projects, continuing through March of 2022.

Action Agenda Snapshots

Lake Superior/Upper Peninsula: The Resilient Future Project

The Lake Superior/Upper Peninsula team includes six community foundations and community partners across the UP. The team developed its action agenda in response to increased storm events in the region and aims to **raise awareness of green- and graywater infrastructure tools** that can mitigate the negative impacts of storm events on the health and well-being of communities across the Upper Peninsula.

Lower Lake Michigan: Green Infrastructure Service Sharing

The Lower Lake Michigan team is comprised of four community foundations working with a variety of partners in northern Illinois and Indiana. This team plans to create and sustain **green infrastructure maintenance teams of low-income-area residents who are trained and experienced in green infrastructure projects** to provide services to shoreline communities in the region.

Upper Lake Michigan: Water First: Campaign for Our Future

The Upper Lake Michigan team comprises five community foundations and eight partners in Michigan's Lower Peninsula along the Lake Michigan shoreline from Manistee County to the Mackinac Bridge. This regional team will focus **on engaging municipal leaders, assessing watershed plans, and supporting technical policy planning around water quality protections and green infrastructure.**

Lake Huron: Lake Huron Forever Pledge

The Lake Huron team includes three community foundations and six community partners in Canada and the United States. Recognizing the need to increase awareness of **nature-based solutions to stormwater management challenges, the team is creating a commendation of "Lake Huron Forever"** for lake communities committing to certain green infrastructure solutions. The team intends to collaborate with First Nations and indigenous peoples.

Lake Erie: Smart Citizen Science

The Lake Erie team has seven community foundations from Detroit to Buffalo and 16 community partners. They will **promote citizen science across their region using open-source, portable, scalable technology** to compile and organize water quality data useful for regional policymakers and researchers.

Lake Ontario: Building Regional Flood Awareness via Networked Local Collaboration

The Lake Ontario team comprises three community foundations on the densely populated western edge of Lake Ontario, frequently called the Golden Horseshoe. The team aims to **minimize the impact of flooding on communities and people** by improving understanding of green infrastructure, increasing permeable surfaces, improving municipal policies, and encouraging investment in green infrastructure.

For more information

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