



MRPA Foundation Meets Challenge of Matching \$100,000 W.K. Kellogg Foundation Grant



By Ron Olson, CPRP

The Michigan Recreation and Park Association Foundation (MRPAF) has successfully met the challenge of matching a \$100,000 grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation to go towards sustaining the Access to Recreation Initiative. Launched in 2006, the initiative aimed to enable communities to create greater access and inclusiveness in recreation facilities, programs and services for people of all ages and abilities.



The initiative was funded by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, who selected MRPAF to administer grants to local Michigan communities from 2006 to 2010. As the original grants came to an end, the Kellogg Foundation presented a challenge to the MRPAF: raise \$100,000 towards the Access to Recreation Initiative and the Kellogg Foundation would match it.

In July 2010, MRPAF reached the goal and now holds \$200,000 in the corpus held by the Capital Area Community Foundation in Lansing, Michigan. While the original grantmaking period of the initiative is nearing completion, the long-term goal of Access to Recreation was to sustain the program in perpetuity. The separate fund raised by MRPAF will be the mechanism to further the goals of the Access to Recreation Initiative.



The \$100,000 match was raised by donations from the Raymond C. Davis memorial including family and friend donations and proceeds from the annual Raymond C. Davis Memorial Golf Outing, as well as the Timothy J. Doyle Memorial donations, MRPA member donations and remaining funds from the Access to Recreation initiative. This benchmark is a great achievement towards sustaining the Universal Accessibility movement in Michigan. MRPA and the MRPA Foundation Board would like to thank all members who have contributed to this effort.



The MRPAF Board has set a goal of raising an additional \$100,000 for the Foundation's Access to Recreation Endowment Fund, after which point interest earned will be used to support accessible recreation projects throughout Michigan.

Interested in donating? Visit www.mrpafoundation.org and click on "Opportunities for Giving." For questions please contact MRPA Foundation President Ron Olson at olsonr@michigan.gov.

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