

Unity Foundation of La Porte County

A POWERFUL  
FUTURE  
WITH UNITY



2022 | [uflc.net](http://uflc.net)

# La Porte County GIVES

## 2pm Sept. 30 to 8pm Oct. 1

### Unity Foundation Announces 30-hour 'La Porte County Gives' Online Fundraiser

Unity Foundation of La Porte County is celebrating its 30th Anniversary by hosting La Porte County Gives, a 30-hour fundraising event between September 30th and October 1st, 2022 at [laportecountygives.net](http://laportecountygives.net). Participating funds held in Unity can increase awareness of their causes and attract funds for current and future uses. Unity's 25th Anniversary La Porte County Gives fundraising event raised over \$360,000 for 60 funds.

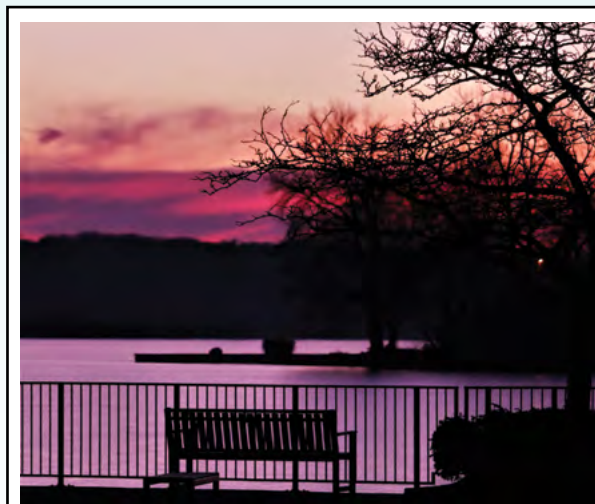
"Unity Foundation is entering its 30th year poised for stronger partnerships and even bigger impact in La Porte County, our region and our state," said Maggi Spartz, Unity Foundation President. "La Porte County GIVES is Unity's way to excite donors and non-profits with a community-wide, virtual and in-person fundraising event."

La Porte County Gives provides opportunities to engage volunteers, donors, and board members and reach new donors. Participants will raise greater awareness for their mission and expand their network. Peer to Peer fundraising is a new feature for this event. Funds raised will be matched in proportion to dollars raised, and participants can compete for additional prizes. The registration deadline for eligible funds is Friday, September 9, 2022. Permanent, endowed funds held at Unity are eligible to participate.

An additional \$20,000 in special prizes and \$11,000 in Leave a Legacy prizes are available for participating funds to leverage as part of the event. Gifts and matching funds earned will be split evenly between endowment fund principal and spendable – providing money for today and forever. This is a fun way for participating funds to attract new donors and gifts to their Unity Foundation endowment fund.



Unity Foundation of La Porte County board members, donors and community partners gathered to celebrate Unity's 25th Anniversary and Give Day in 2017.



Unity Park is a 2-acre treasure on Pine Lake funded by Unity Foundation and generous donors in 2016. The land was then gifted to the City of La Porte Park & Recreation Department for residents and visitors to enjoy for generations to come.

**For more information about La Porte County Gives, visit [laportecountygives.net](http://laportecountygives.net).**

# Vibrant



COMMUNITIES OF LA PORTE COUNTY

## Study Fuels New Housing Units While NWI Moves Forward

Vibrant Communities of La Porte County is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to define our path forward. Two years after its launch, this community betterment effort continues to move full steam ahead in the implementation phase.

The number one action item from the Vibrant effort was to conduct a first-ever County-wide Housing Study and Action Agenda. The Unity Foundation used project dollars from the Lilly Endowment, Inc. to pay for most of the study. The La Porte County Office of Community & Economic Development joined in to fund and lead this unique effort.

### Six Action Items were identified:

- 1. Establish a vision for housing growth;**
- 2. Build a spectrum of housing to unlock growth by 5 times the current rate;**
- 3. Establish a housing trust fund – to incentivize workforce housing;**
- 4. Support commercial centers with dense, walkable housing;**
- 5. Manage growth at the edge of cities and towns where sewer and water exist;**
- 6. Continue the conversation – with developers, employers, businesses and the community.**

The Housing Action Agenda taught us that La Porte County hasn't grown much in population for the past several decades due to a lack of new housing, while neighboring counties have grown. Unity Foundation and the La Porte County Office of Community & Economic Development continue to work hand-in-hand to implement this novel study. This study hasn't seen a shelf since completion! Officials are using the Action Agenda to pave the way for more housing of all kinds. An estimated 2,000 new residential units are in the planning stage right now that will serve our own 'empty nesters' or young adults wishing to return.

To see all the slides from the Housing Study & Action Agenda, visit [Vibrantlpcounty.com/resources/people](http://Vibrantlpcounty.com/resources/people) or call us to get involved.



We envision La Porte County to be a vibrant collection of unique communities that invest in their diverse people, grow their economic health and vitality, and promote innovative leadership through talented citizens for a rich quality of life for all.

The State of Indiana launched the Regional Economic Accelerator and Development Initiative (READI) last year to accelerate economic growth. Our collaborative 7-county region, under the leadership of the Northwest Indiana Forum, received the maximum award of \$50 million. The projects selected for inclusion in the READI proposal, including many benefiting La Porte County, fit both the Vibrant Communities vision and the regional vision that "Northwest Indiana drives its vibrant and inclusive communities by creating the most dynamic economic environment of the Midwest, fueled by innovation, diversity and talent."

To learn more visit: <https://www.iedc.in.gov/program/indiana-readi/overview>





## Summer Technology Conference Provides Free, 'Use it in Class Tomorrow' Technology Solutions for all La Porte County Teachers

La Porte County teachers are heading back to school this fall with new technology expertise and excitement. Thanks to a collaboration of organizations including La Porte County Public Library, the Unity Foundation of La Porte County, schools and funders, educators will join together to learn how to better use technology to make learning fun and interactive for their students.



Over 200 educators participated in this year's virtual, free Summer Technology Conference for teachers from all public and private schools in La Porte County. Held on June 3, the conference featured Matt Miller, author of *Ditch that Textbook* and *Tech Like a PIRATE*.

"Unity is proud to be a part of the community lifting up teachers and showing appreciation for their tireless work," said Maggi Spartz, President of Unity Foundation of La Porte County. "We are doing this county-wide to benefit more students with fun, interactive learning experiences."

Miller's passion is to equip educators to thrive in this new era of education and think differently about the craft of teaching. He provides practical, "use it in class tomorrow" solutions to teachers' classroom needs. He spent more than a decade in the classroom, creating unique learning experiences for his students through technology and creative teaching.

The first 100 teachers registered received a free copy of *Tech Like a PIRATE*. Attendees enjoyed interactive dialogue with Miller and received access to recordings of the presentations so they can reference it as they plan their upcoming lessons for the school year.

The conference was generously sponsored by Shell Catalysts & Technology, Unity Foundation of La Porte County, La Porte County Public Library, The Graduates of Isaac C. Elston High School Education Support Fund, Peepers for Teachers, La Porte Community School Corporation, Michigan City Area Schools, MSD of New Durham Township, New Prairie United School Corporation, South Central Community School Corporation, and Tri-Township Consolidated School Corporation.

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Unity Foundation of La Porte County

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# MISSION

The Unity Foundation will strengthen La Porte County now and forever by building permanent endowments; providing leadership; offering philanthropic vehicles for everyone; and being a catalyst for social and economic vitality.

## 30th Anniversary Sponsors

Give Day  
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Power for Good



Inspiration



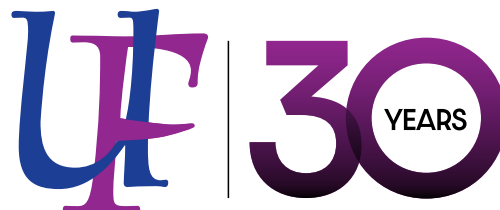
Dream

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# SAVE THE DATE! ANNIVERSARY GALA OCTOBER 1, 2022



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