



**EAGLE VILLAGE**

WHERE POTENTIAL SOARS

**2021 Impact Report**



Since we have  
such hope, we  
are very bold.  
*2 Corinthians 3:12*





# Letter From President

## A Year in Review

In 2020 we all dealt with circumstances that challenged us on every level. During this crisis, the rise in mental health needs for children, families, and individuals increased dramatically. **2021 was a year of recovery.** Our solutions-focused therapeutic, prevention and intervention programs enabled us to provide intentional responses – we worked with youth, individuals, families, and groups to navigate through the trauma, and we continue to create solutions to reach toward recovery.

Our 53 years of experience combined with our clinical skills and experts in every part of our organization allow us to continue to advocate for children and families! Through spiritual growth and heart-changing experiences, we are committed to program excellence, empowering staff, and partnering with communities. We continue to do all that we can to value, and equip every child, family and individual that we have the privilege to serve.

We thank you for your support of our mission as we continue to find solutions that create paths of hope.



## Thank You

*Cathey L Prudhomme*

Cathey Prudhomme, President/CEO

## Mission

Through God's help and love, we serve, value and equip children and families for success.

## Vision

We will be the leading healing center innovatively working with today's ever-changing youth, families, and communities. Through spiritual growth and heart changing experiences, we are committed to program excellence, empowering staff and partnering with communities.



*“I was not able to function as a human in society because of the things I had gone through, but after being able to heal at Eagle Village, I was able to do all the things a normal kid did at my age.”*

*- Callie, former Eagle Village resident*

## Overcoming the Fear of Breaking

A girl who had to let go to move forward

“I couldn’t heal because I was afraid of breaking and feeling everything,” said former Eagle Village resident, Callie.

At the age of 16, Callie entered into our residential care. Upon her arrival, Callie knew she needed to change her life if she ever wanted to live light-heartedly again and for her, Eagle Village was the place to do it.

For months, Callie worked hard to prove to herself that her life was worth living. During her time here, she was able to have the safe space she needed to identify and heal from her traumas. She was able to see how resilient and strong she really was.

“I learned that I am stronger than I think I am,” said Callie. “If you give yourself enough time to heal, you become more resilient than you think you are.”

As Callie talked about her time here at Eagle Village, she noted the one thing that held her back the most was her fear of breaking. She didn’t want to fall apart and have to feel everything, but once she allowed herself to feel, she was able to move forward toward healing.

“It’s okay to break,” said Callie. “If you do, it’s possible to put yourself back together again.”

After six months of hard work, Callie packed her bags and took one last glance at Eagle Village before she headed out the door with a positive outlook on life. She spent the remainder of her adolescent years attending a local high school where she became an active member in the drama club and a “Be Nice” campaign. This campaign raised awareness for mental health though education for both parents and students. Had Callie not taken the time to address her traumas and heal properly, she would not have been able to do any of this, she said.

Since then, Callie went on to college where she graduated from Western Michigan University with her bachelor’s degree in social work and a minor in psychology and is currently working as a case manager for the Youth Protection Council at a homeless shelter called Innerlink.



Callie, former Eagle Village resident

At Innerlink, Callie serves youth by providing them with resources to help restore their families by hosting interventions, conducting family sessions, providing assessments and intakes as well as teaching basic life skills to help youth prepare for living on their own. Because of Callie’s own experiences, she is able to connect with these kids on a different level.

“I feel like I am able to connect with the kids I work with and provide them with a sense of genuine empathy,” says Callie. “My life experiences have given me an opportunity to relate to the kids on a different level and I use a lot of the things I learned at Eagle Village that helped me and use it to help my clients.”

In Callie’s free time, she likes to volunteer at foster care camps to provide children in similar situations as she was once in, an opportunity to have fun experiences that they may not normally get. To her, foster care kids will always have a special place in her heart and the work she does both in and out of the office is not because of the money, but because she hopes to leave a lasting impact on someone’s life the way others have done for her.

“Had the events in my life not happened to me, I don’t think I would have ever been aware of how hard life can be for these kids and I probably would have never gotten into this side of the workforce,” says Callie.

Callie says she is forever thankful for the opportunities she got to have while she was here at Eagle Village. To her, we genuinely changed her life by providing a safe place she could unfold her traumas and heal from the wounds.

“I was not able to function as a human in society because of the things I had gone through,” said Callie. “But after being able to heal at Eagle Village, I was able to do all the things a normal kid did at my age. I was able to reconcile relationships and build new ones.” 🕊️

# Michigan Childwelfare

## Facts on Michigan's Childwelfare

More than 1 in 5 kids have experienced 2 or more adverse childhood experiences impacting long-term wellness.

The rate of child abuse and neglect has continued to rise. From 2012 to 2017, it has risen by 30 percent.

Youth in foster care are more likely to age out of the system instead of leaving with a stable, permanent family relationship. Few receive needed transition support services like employment, education and housing.

While 10 percent of all foster children age out, 58 percent of older foster youth age out. Less than half of children are reunified with their families and only a third are adopted.

Results show that nearly 56 percent of Michigan's third-graders are not proficient in reading.

19.8 percent of students do not graduate on time in Michigan.

## How Eagle Village is Making an Impact

Most of the children we serve suffer from multiple childhood traumas. We work to identify and provide the child with the support and guidance needed to correct the resultant behaviors and habits.

Every child that comes into the care of Eagle Village is provided with a warm, caring and supportive environment. In 2021, we served 69 children in residential care, 54 in foster care and 60 in adoption. Our goal is to give these children the value, structure and support they need to become well-functioning adults.

Each child deserves a chance at a forever home and that is exactly what our foster care and adoption staff works toward. Through rigorous training and continuous support, our team is here to give new and experienced parents a chance to change a child's life. Our team also provides after care support to both foster care children who have been placed in care as well as those who have aged out of the system.

At Eagle Village, we offer a program known as Passages for teens that includes independent living skills and vocational trainings. Through this program, our kids learn the responsibilities of budgeting, paying bills, basic household chores and needs, job readiness and more! We also offer hands on career training through our Career and Trades Center. By providing these options, we are giving our kids a chance to thrive on their own and become well-functioning members of society.

Through our on-campus charter school, we are able to tailor to individual kids needs and work with them to get them caught up and back on track! We only take three weeks off in the summer, making education a focus.

With establishing our on-campus charter school, Lighthouse Academy, we are able to provide our kids the opportunity to recover their credits and earn credits to put them back on track toward graduation. Since we have opted for an on-campus school, we have had 20 kids graduate from our program with their high school diploma.



## Meet Celia

Eagle Village Resident

### Age

13

### Favorite Color

Blue

### When I grow up, I want to be...

A Brain Surgeon

### What does Eagle Village mean to me?

It's a place to be successful  
and learn.

### What do I hope for in my future?

I want to be happy, financially  
stable and have my dream job.





Doug, long-term Eagle Village volunteer

# There is a Place for You

Long-term Volunteer makes an impact one semester at a time

In 2020, the Elenbass Career and Trades Center officially opened its doors to welcome Eagle Village youth. Offering our youth this new learning opportunity will help build stronger, more independent futures and we feel fortunate that this is part of the Eagle Village experience.

Our Career and Trades Center gives our older youth a chance to learn basic trade skills such as welding, carpentry, food service and much more. Offering a program like this requires additional talented people. For Doug Bartolotti, long-term Eagle Village volunteer, it was an opportunity he always thought he would be able to come back to.

“I always had an interest in education,” says Bartolotti. “My undergrad degree is in education, but I didn’t end up heading in that direction so I always said I wanted to come back into a teaching role and that is what I did.”

Doug was introduced to our organization by a close friend and follower of Eagle Village. It was upon his introduction, he knew he wanted to make a difference and teach the basic skills every person should have before heading into the workforce.

Over the semesters, Bartolotti has watched our youth develop an interest in the trades and have a true passion for it. With his years of experience in manufacturing, Doug has made it his number one goal to teach our youth the basic skills they need to enter into the workforce.

“A lot of people will go into working and not have the basic skill set employers are looking for. That is why I have made it my goal to provide and teach our kids these skills so they are ready to go to work.”

Whether the kids are interested in welding, carpentry, food service or something else in the skills and trade industry, the importance of working in this industry has become more in demand than ever before and there is always a place for everyone.

*“If you have a skill set of any kind, it doesn’t matter what it is, if you can communicate it to these children, take that next step and volunteer.”*

*- Doug, long-term Eagle Village volunteer*



“As I looked around the room, you would see some kids taking notes, some doodling. They are all at different levels of attentiveness. But you know what? I look at those things and know they have a place somewhere. If you are taking notes, you have a sense of detail and there is a place for you. If you are doodling, you are creative and there is a place for you.”

By creating opportunities for our kids like the Career and Trades Center, we are able to give them a sense of positivity and passion for their future. But the feeling doesn’t just stop there, it also spreads to those sharing their talents and skills with our kids like our volunteers.

For Doug, he shares the story of a young boy who came into class one day and said he was interested in electrical engineering so Doug took the time to take him to a local manufacture who specialized in this area. At the manufacturing plant, the boy was mesmerized by the way the electrical controls worked and the logistics behind it.

“He was so fascinated by it, I almost had to drag him out of there so we could continue with the tour,” says Bartolotti. “It was in that moment I felt good because I knew the work I was doing was creating an interest for this child and I was the one who exposed him to it.”

Because of volunteers like Doug, we are able to set our youth up for success by giving them something to work toward. If you have a talent or skill set that can be taught to our children, get started with our Career and Trades program. You could be the person who sets our kids on the path to success. 🦅





## Meet Darcy

Eagle Village Resident

**Age**  
15

**Favorite Color**  
Red

**When I grow up,  
I want to be...**  
Forensic Investigator

**What does Eagle Village  
mean to me?**  
It means learning how to bond with  
my family and heal from my past.

**What do I hope for in  
my future?**  
I hope to be a foster parent so  
I can help teenagers like me.

From Surviving





# Learning How To Soar



# To Thriving



## Meet Marcus

Eagle Village Resident

### Age

16

### Favorite Color

Lime Green

### My favorite time of year is...

Fall because all of my family's birthdays are in the fall

### What does Eagle Village mean to me?

A stage in my life I must work through so I can move forward.

### If I could be any animal, I would be...

A monkey because they are pretty much little people.





*“Many organizations say they do what they do, but at Eagle Village, there is a heart that can’t be compared.”*

*- Bill, long-term Eagle Village donor*

## The Real Deal

### Long-term Donors Making a Lasting Impact Year After Year

“We know you can’t work a miracle on all of the kids, but you certainly have worked miracles on many of them,” said long-term donors, Bill and Janine Rzepka.

The Rzepka’s first visited Eagle Village in the early 2000’s when a close friend encouraged them to take a tour. During their visit, they were able to see the work that was done here on the Eagle Village campus daily and got to interact with some of the residents as well.

“One of the residents at the time was a student at the local elementary school I was the principal at,” said Janine. “I had real concerns for his well-being. Seeing him at Eagle Village and how well he had improved warmed my heart, I knew he was finally in a safe place.”

For Bill and Janine, this was the moment they knew Eagle Village was a place to invest in. What they saw that day was not only an organization that cares for Michigan’s abused and neglected children, but a group of caring people who are doing what they can to help these kids overcome the shortcomings and traumatic experiences they endured because of the situations they were handed.

As the years went on, the Rzepka’s became active for our organization by sponsoring and hosting events to help raise funds and awareness for the work that takes place here. After years of attending a golf scramble hosted by a friend, Bill knew his friend was ready to hand it over and so, the Rzepka’s took the lead and continued the Eagle Village Charity Golf Scramble.

The Eagle Village Charity Golf Scramble is an annual event hosted by the Rzepka’s and VanDries Home Furnishings in Cadillac, and takes place every September. Participants in the scramble get to enjoy their day golfing for a great cause and end the night with an auction and dinner too. In the 11 years the Rzepka’s have been hosting the golf scramble, they have raised a total of \$293,188!

“It overwhelms me to see how much our community has stepped up to something we think is so important,” said Janine. “Our guests enjoy the auction and it means so much more to them than sitting at home and writing a check. It gives them a better ‘feel-good’ sense.”



*Bill & Janine Rzepka, long-term Eagle Village donors*

Part of the golf scramble outing outcome is to fund a project at Eagle Village that impacts the youth, another is to support our graduates as they walk across the stage from Lighthouse Academy. Years ago, the Rzepkas were talking about how kids outside of Eagle Village have a big deal made of their graduations, but for the kids at Eagle Village, most of the time they don’t have a single family member sitting in the audience. This broke the Rzepka’s hearts and they knew they needed to do something.

“I taught for years in a high school and it was always so important for those kids to know that somebody cares and that’s how it all got started,” said Janine. “We have to let these kids know that outside of Eagle Village, there is a group of people who are excited for them to graduate.”

The golf scramble committee provides the graduate with a card and gift card to congratulate them on their success and wish them a bright future. For Bill and Janine, they believe that self-worth is an important part of becoming successful and playing an active role at their graduation can help give them a little piece of that.

“The majority of the time, the kids wouldn’t be at Eagle Village if there wasn’t a problem at home,” said Bill. “So every step, beginning from the hello and a clean shirt is the start of moving them forward and we are happy to play a part in that.”

One of the many things the Rzepka’s have truly appreciated about Eagle Village is our commitment to giving our kids a better life.

“Many organizations say they do what they do, but at Eagle Village, there is a heart that can’t be compared,” said Bill. “That’s just how the soul and heart of it all works.”

Bill and Janine have always said all it takes is one trip out to Eagle Village and you will be hooked for life. The work that is done within the forest walls of Eagle Village could be told through a story or a newscast on television, the only way you can actually get a real sense of what happens here is to make a visit and take a walk. That’s when it becomes the real deal.



69

Kids in Residential Care

46

Completed One-Day Challenge Weekends

112

Kids Attended Summer Camps

54

Kids Placed in Foster Care

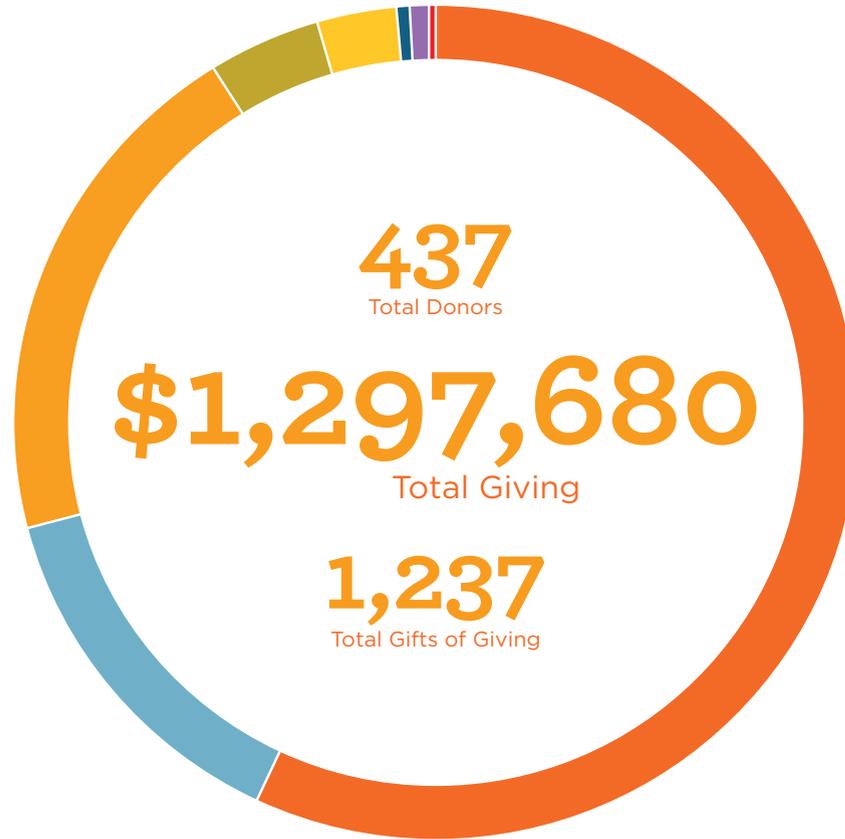
28

Successful Adoptions

2412

Event and Retreat Participants

# Giving Summary



225 Seed Planters

55 Believers

80 Partners

17 Builders

12 Nurturers

2 Sustainers

3 Providers

1 Visionary

\$1+

\$500+

\$1,000+

\$5,000+

\$10,000+

\$25,000+

\$50,000+

\$100,000+



# Fiscal Summary

## Revenues Generated:

Program Service Fees	\$8,368,708
Donations	\$ 841,275
Eagle Village Foundation	\$ 250,000
Pledge Payments	\$ 91,650
Federal Awards	\$ 88,874
State Awards	\$ 92,392
Other	\$ 52,347

## Expenditures and Percentage of Budget:

Residential	\$ 5,226,276	53.8%
Administration	\$ 1,862,198	19.2%
Foster Care	\$ 1,008,420	10.4%
Adventure Learning Program	\$ 540,973	5.6%
Fundraising and Marketing	\$ 310,802	3.2%
Behavioral Health	\$ 489,108	5.0%
Adoption	\$ 284,071	2.9%

At the End of 2021, the Eagle Village Foundation Assets Totaled

**\$6,698,220**

\*\*The Eagle Village Foundation Board guards and protects the Eagle Village Inc. endowment principle. The Board may choose to disburse up to 4% of the earned interest annually, based on the last 3 year rolling average. The disbursements meet requests made by Eagle Village leadership that impacts our youth and staff or meets the specific donor designated disbursement agreements.\*\*

# Thank You

## To Our Leaders

### Policy Board

Michael Mischley, PhD, Chair

Kristin Aidif

Brad Fath

Lisa Francisco

Gary Gerber

Cathey Prudhomme

Merle Ross

Marcus Schmidt

Kelly Smith

Ron Snead Sr.

Craig Weidner

Jon Nelson

### Foundation Board of Trustees

Kerm Campbell, Chair

James Borin

Jim Giroux

Dennis Lerner

Cathey Prudhomme

Fred Rolf

Merle Ross

Robert Spears

William Grombala

*(non-member, Ambassador)*



# The Eagle Fund

## Help Our Kids Learn How to Soar

Your investment in Eagle Village kids through the Eagle Fund provides the highest quality services to our children and families. You make it possible for us to give our kids resources and training – you help us go above and beyond for Eagle Village youth!

### Giving a Spiritual Foundation

The Eagle Fund covers:

- » A Bible as a welcome gift for every child
- » Campus Pastor and on-site worship

### Involving the Family

The Eagle Fund covers:

- » A room in our on-campus motel
- » Family meals for the weekend
- » Therapeutic intervention and family support
- » Guided family activities

### Teaching Skills and Trades

The Eagle Fund covers:

- » Equipment for learning skills
- » Certification and testing fees
- » Hands-on job experience on campus

### Making Our Campus Home

The Eagle Fund covers:

- » Keep our campus up-to-date
- » Ensuring each house is welcoming and comfortable

### Prevention and Intervention

The Eagle Fund covers:

- » Intervention camps where all ages can learn important life lessons
- » Youth Challenge weekend events for teens
- » Family interventions customized around the individual family's needs

### Transporting Our Kids

The Eagle Fund covers:

- » Home visits
- » Court dates
- » Community service projects
- » Doctor's appointments
- » College tours





## Meet Gavin

Eagle Village Resident

Age  
8

Favorite Color  
Orange

When I grow up,  
I want to be...  
A Firefighter

What does Eagle Village  
mean to me?  
A place to help me get a family.

If I could be any animal,  
I would be...  
A cheetah because  
they are super fast!



We are grateful for the partnership of every person who joined us in our mission in 2021. Your belief in the lives and futures of our youth inspires all of us and we are grateful for your thoughtful care.

Thank You

*Carol F. Hyble*

Carol Hyble, Vice President of Advancement

# Stay In Touch



## Follow Us on Social Media:

See photos, watch videos, and hear our latest news!

## Visit Our Website:

Learn more about what we do and how you can get involved.

## Invite Us:

One of our professionals would love to speak at your church or club.

## Talk To Us:

Ask any question you have, or request a tour of our campus.



**EAGLE VILLAGE**

WHERE POTENTIAL SOARS

5044 175TH AVENUE HERSEY, MICHIGAN 49639  
PHONE 231-832-2234  
EAGLEVILLAGE.ORG

## We Can Help

Helping kids and families is what Eagle Village does best. We offer life-changing solutions, believe in the potential of all people, and seek to help families succeed together.

### Residential Services

- » Giving kids ages 8-17 who have been abused and neglected, a safe place to thrive
- » Teaching teens a trade for independent adulthood
- » Helping adopted kids adjust to their forever families
- » Offering Intensive Stabilization services for children who need the extra attention.

### Foster Care and Adoption

- » Recruiting, licensing, and training foster families
- » Finding and completing adoption matches

### Trauma Assessments

- » Providing answers to boys and girls ages 3-17 with mental health and behavioral issues
- » Making a plan for the future to help stabilize behaviors

### Camps and Intervention Programs

- » Summer camps for kids ages 9-17 who need help managing emotions and behaviors
- » Year-round youth respite weekends
- » Individualized family intervention sessions

### Victors Edge

- » Training teams, groups, schools, and organizations for success
- » Teaching mental resilience to overcome challenges

### Retreat Center

- » Providing a meeting space, overnight accommodations, and adventure facilities
- » Hosting schools, churches, college groups, and other organizations

# Stay In Touch



## Follow Us on Social Media:

See photos, watch videos,  
and hear our latest news!

## Visit Our Website:

Learn more about what we do  
and how you can get involved.

## Invite Us:

One of our professionals  
would love to speak  
at your church or club.

## Talk To Us:

Ask any question you have, or  
request a tour of our campus.



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HERSEY, MICHIGAN 49639    EAGLEVILLAGE.ORG

## You Can Change Lives

When you get involved with Eagle Village, you change the future one life at a time. Your investment will make a difference in the lives of children—there's nothing better than that!

### Give

- » Make a financial gift
- » Make a planned gift
- » Purchase something from our online wishlist for our kids
- » Call 231-305-6511 to discuss other ideas

### Volunteer

- » Attend a Friends Friday to learn about ways you can volunteer.

### Join Our Team

- » Value boys and girls ages 8-17 to make a difference in their lives!