On the Cover: Nursing students, faculty, and staff gathered with community members and the ACC Foundation to celebrate the “groundbreaking” for the Healthy Futures Start Here Van Lare Hall Renovation on October 14, 2019.

THE COLLEGE INSTITUTIONAL STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The College policies and practices for admission, employment and activities comply with requirements of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA), the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) of 1990 and the ADA Amendments Act of 2010; Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008. The College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sex, age or disability. The College practices and policies also comply with the Michigan Persons with Disabilities Civil Rights Act (PDCRA) and the Michigan Elliott-Larson Civil Rights Act (ELCRA) which prohibits discrimination in hiring based on age, height, weight and marital status and familial status in addition to race, color, religion, sex (which includes pregnancy) and national origin. For more information contact the Title IX, Section 504, the Age Discrimination Act and Title II coordinator:

Carolyn Daoust
Title IX Coordinator/Director of Human Resources
VLH 102
(989) 358-7211
Email: daoustc@alpenacc.edu
Message from the President

Hello again, friends and supporters of Alpena Community College.

Thanks to COVID-19, it’s been quite a year—unprecedented, anxiety-provoking, challenging, and ultimately successful and inspiring. Faculty, staff, and students rose to the occasion in remarkable fashion to address the urgencies presented by the pandemic. Of the 1438 students registered for classes in Spring Semester, for example, only one student withdrew and asked for reimbursement. Everyone else stuck it out and made it through, another demonstration of the resilient nature of ACC.

For your review, here is a short list of highlights from 2019-20:

- Changed to all remote course delivery in 48 hours in March due to the coronavirus, closing our doors to face-to-face instruction and community events for the first time in our history.
- Opened College Park Apartments to first responders and frontline workers in April and May.
- Delivered the first virtual commencement ceremony in ACC’s 68-year history. The video has been viewed over 1,700 times.
- Fall Semester 2019 headcount percentage increase was second highest among Michigan’s 28 community colleges.
- Enjoyed the cross country team earning Academic All-American team status for the 5th consecutive year.
- Completed Board-level visioning session in February with future focus in five areas: Facilities, Foundation Sustainability, Technology and Innovation, Student Success, and Ambient Learning/Campus Beautification.
- Inspired by many works of art that appeared around campus.
- Participated in the successful spaceport horizontal launch site selection initiative in Oscoda.
- Featured in EDTech magazine in March, a national publication focused on technology and innovation in Higher Education, for ACC’s innovative use of videoconferencing equipment in K-12 classrooms.
- Provided Implicit Bias and diversity and inclusiveness training for all staff at start-up week in August.
- Purchased 260 laptop computers for students with CARES Act federal dollars.
- Distributed $379,000 of CARES Act federal stimulus student hardship dollars to Title IV eligible students.
- Won a $2.4 million U.S. Economic Development Administration Public Works grant to fund renovations of welding, manufacturing, and auto body labs.
- Procured $1.9 million in technology through the Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP) grant, USDA Distance Learning and Telemedicine grant, federal CARES Act Institutional dollars, and a $500,000 earmark for Van Lare Hall technology.
- Continued construction on the Van Lare Hall, Center for Health Sciences project.

Thank you for your support of Alpena Community College. We look forward to more good days ahead. Please join us on this journey.

Dr. Donald C. MacMaster
ACC President
The Mission of Alpena Community College

The Mission of Alpena Community College is to create a culture of educational excellence and service to the community.

The Vision of Alpena Community College

To be recognized in our local and global communities as the premier resource and first choice for exceptional, affordable, and innovative education.

Alpena Community College Values

We demonstrate accountability to all our stakeholders, students, staff, business partners, industry alliances, and taxpayers.

We act with integrity, placing fairness and honesty at the center of all our actions.

We aspire to excellence in all our endeavors.

We show respect for diversity, individual contributions, and educational partnerships.

College Goals

Alpena Community College’s goals are to:

#1 – Campus/Culture

Offer a welcoming, safe and adaptable culture that inspires diversity.

#2 – Learning/Education

Motivate continuous exploration of diverse opportunities and knowledge acquisition through a flexible learning environment.

#3 – Community

Stimulate community collaboration, which fosters comprehensive economic, cultural, and community development.

#4 – Value

Exercise sustainable value that supports career pathways and fiscal responsibility.

ACC Student Ambassadors Jordan Zielaskowski (left) and Amanda Johnson (right) assist the Admissions Office during a new student orientation session by greeting and checking in participants. New student orientations have had a positive effect on retention by connecting new students with important college functions such as academic advisors, financial aid planning, tutoring, the Library, and the Registrar’s Office.
A Message from the Board Chair

On March 19, 2020, what was so familiar and comfortable changed dramatically for Alpena Community College, its students, faculty, staff and the entire community. Halfway through Spring Semester the Oscoda and Alpena campuses went into lock down and all instruction continued remotely. Of the 1,438 students enrolled at that time, only one withdrew and requested a refund. Remarkable!

How did this happen? I believe the relationships that have been established and built over time made this possible. It is a shared responsibility that has enabled the ACC community including students to be resourceful, resilient, responsible and respectful.

Part of the Board of Trustees’ responsibilities include establishing and monitoring the mission and goals of the College. As part of that effort, the Board held a retreat in February 2020 which focused on identifying ACC’s future institutional priorities. President Don MacMaster presented his assessment of the College’s anticipated needs and outlined his suggested areas of focus for the next 5-10 years.

President MacMaster and ACC have already made significant progress on those priorities. For more information on that effort see the following article “Trustees Adopt Vision for ACC’s Future.”

As we move forward in these uncertain times, please be assured that the Alpena Community College Board of Trustees is committed to providing the resources necessary for a safe and healthy learning environment. As always, thank you for your ongoing support and commitment.

John Briggs
Chairperson, ACC Board of Trustees
Trustees Adopt Vision for ACC’s Future

The Alpena Community College Board of Trustees conducts a retreat session each year to discuss ACC’s current operations as well as future opportunities and challenges. This past year trustees met in February 2020 for a wide-ranging and forward-thinking conversation with President Don MacMaster. The result was a vision statement which formed the basis for the College’s continuing improvement.

“It is the vision of the Alpena Community College Board of Trustees to focus our attention into the following five broad categories.”

1. **Facilities Upgrades**  
   (Goal: $5 million)

2. **ACC Foundation Sustainability**  
   (Goal: $4.5 million)

3. **Technology and Innovation**  
   (Goal: $2 million)

4. **Student Success**  
   (Goal: $2 million)

5. **Ambient Learning**  
   (Goal: $1.5 million)

Since the retreat ACC officials have actively engaged in planning and pursued resources to fund vision projects. Despite daunting challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic and its local, state, and national effects, ACC has made good progress on securing funding for a number of the projects.

**Funds Already Secured**

Following is a tally of received or anticipated funding sources for ACC’s vision projects. Overall, ACC has raised or anticipates approximately $5,780,207, which is 38.5% of the $15 million goal.

**Facilities Upgrades**
- $3,000,000 proposal pending to upgrade the Welding and Manufacturing programs in Besser Technical Center (U.S. EDA grant)
- $106,000 campus wifi upgrades (CARES Act)
- Total: $3,106,000

**ACC Foundation Sustainability**
- $90,000 for Alumni Coordinator FY21 salary and fringes (50% SIP grant)
- $13,500 for Blackbaud software (SIP grant)
- Total: $103,500

**Technology and Innovation**
- $260,000 for nursing manikins (SIP grant)
- $250,000 for videoconferencing equipment (USDA grant)
- $250,000 advanced nursing lab telecom gear (USDA grant)
- $90,000 Anatomage table (SIP grant)
- $500,000 Van Lare Hall community space technology (State earmark)
- $225,000 videoconferencing gear (CARES Act)
- $260,000 for student laptops (CARES Act)
- Total: $1,900,000

**Student Success**
- $65,000 for Simulation Coordinator FY21 salary (SIP grant)
- Total: $641,957

**Ambient Learning**
- $20,000 spent in FY20
- $3,750 awarded through ACC Foundation Emphasis on Learning grants
- $5,000 awarded through the ACC Foundation Endowed Teaching Chair
- Total: $28,750

ACC continues to aggressively pursue external funding opportunities in support of the Board of Trustees’ vision for the College’s future.

Above: ACC plans to transform the old Auto Body lab into the new home for an expanded and technologically enhanced Manufacturing Program.
ACC Finishes Strong Despite Pandemic

Like every other educational institution in the U.S., ACC experienced unprecedented interruptions to Spring Semester 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the challenges and uncertainty brought on by stay-at-home orders and campus closures, ACC’s planning and preparation enabled students to complete their Spring courses and finish the academic year.

ACC Faculty Adapt and Innovate

While the COVID-19 pandemic was quick to develop, ACC faculty and staff were also quick to adapt so that College operations could continue and students would be able to finish courses. Over Spring Break in March 2020 ACC faculty and staff converted all Spring Semester courses to remote, online, or hybrid delivery in anticipation of campus closures.

ACC faculty undertook the Herculean task with a dogged determination to continue providing quality education to students despite the pandemic. Assistance in using the VCS equipment and the Blackboard learning management system came from Director of Instructional Technology Sarah Burt and the Office of Information Technology. A number of instructors also served as mentors and demonstrated best practices.

When students returned from Spring Break, ACC campuses were closed but courses continued. “I’m extremely proud of the way our faculty stepped up to the challenge of keeping Spring Semester going,” said ACC President Dr. Don MacMaster. “The way they handled the situation testifies to their professionalism and dedication to our students.”
**Technology Enables Remote Learning**

An important part of successfully completing Spring semester was ACC’s recently implemented Cisco Webex videoconferencing system (VCS) equipment.

The College first purchased a Cisco MX700 video conferencing system in November 2016 to replace the College’s outdated ITV equipment. The Cisco VCS equipment allowed instructors to communicate and view students at remote sites as well as record lectures. Other uses included delivering student orientations to remote sites and remote academic advising.

ACC’s work with the VCS equipment in K-12 classrooms was recognized in *EDTech* magazine, a national publication focused on technology and innovation in higher education.

By 2020 the equipment purchased in 2016 was being fully utilized and new schools were expressing interest in using the system. A USDA Distance Learning and Telemedicine grant enabled ACC to purchase 18 more VCS delivery systems in February 2020, just before the pandemic hit. The addition of this new equipment provided the number of units necessary to enable ACC faculty to finish delivering Spring Semester courses remotely.

Based on the success of Spring Semester, ACC invested in more VCS equipment in May 2020. The latest equipment would be used to ensure that Fall Semester 2020 could also be delivered remotely if necessary.

**PPP Loan Provides Financial Stability**

In May 2020 ACC applied for and received a Payroll Protection Program (PPP) loan from the U.S. Small Business Administration in the amount of $2,435,600.

“The PPP loan money provided the College with financial stability at a time when there was a lot of uncertainty about our future enrollments and operations,” said President MacMaster. The College has applied for forgiveness of the loan and is currently waiting for confirmation.

**Commencement Video Replaces Ceremony**

As with many other College activities, the annual Commencement ceremony held each May had to be changed because of the pandemic. After discussion, ACC officials decided to offer a recorded Commencement video that would help celebrate the year’s academic and personal accomplishments. The video, produced by Communications Technician Jess Haselhuhn, featured speeches from ACC officials and announced the winners of the Besser Awards, the Front Runner Awards, and the Distinguished Alumni Award.

Prior to the COVID-19 disruptions to Spring Semester, ACC students garnered a number of notable achievements. The 2019-20 Cross Country team continued their tradition of academic excellence by garnering their 5th straight Academic All-American team honors. Runners Aidan Francis, Musa Kabbah, and Nate Robey earned individual Academic All-American honors. Tylor Ross placed 7th at Regionals earning him both All-Conference and All-Region honors; Ross’s placement was the best in ACC history. Left to right: President Don MacMaster, Caleb Burger, Tylor Ross, Aidan Francis, Musa Kabbah, Nate Robey, Duncan Ross, Mason Kaniszewski, and Coach Mark Jacobs. Missing from the group photo is Tyler Cherry.
ACC Compares Well to Other Small Community Colleges

The Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) collects data from about 7,500 institutions across the United States. The data includes institution-level numbers on student enrollment, graduation rates, student charges, program completions, faculty, staff, and finances. A new IPEDS report is issued yearly.

The following charts show ACC compared to a group of nine other small, rural Michigan community colleges:

- Bay de Noc Community College
- Glen Oaks Community College
- Gogebic Community College
- Kirtland Community College
- Mid Michigan Community College
- Montcalm Community College
- North Central Michigan College
- Southwestern Michigan College
- West Shore Community College

In the latest version of the report, ACC compared very well to its peer Michigan community colleges. ACC’s average cost of attendance was much lower than the comparison group, its graduation rate was higher, and its higher than average full-time faculty staffing levels contributed to student success.

You can find more data on the IPEDS website: https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/.

**Average Net Price of Attendance 2017-18**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACC</th>
<th>$3,183.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Comparison Group Median</td>
<td>$6,712.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average net price is for full-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students and is generated by subtracting the average amount of federal, state/local government, and institutional grant and scholarship awarded aid from the total cost of attendance. Source: IPEDS Data Feedback Report 2019.

**Graduation Rate for Full-Time, First-Time Degree/Certificate-Seeking Undergrads Within 150% of Normal Time to Program Completion — 2012 Cohort**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alpena Community College</th>
<th>32%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Comparison Group Median</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2012 cohort. Graduation rate cohort includes all full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students. Graduation rates are the Student Right-to-Know rates. Only institutions with mission to prepare students to transfer are required to report transfer out. Source: IPEDS Data Feedback Report 2019.

**Retention Rates of First-Time Bachelor’s Degree Seeking Students, Full-Time Attendance Level — Fall 2017 Cohort**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alpena Community College</th>
<th>65%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Comparison Group Median</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fall 2017 cohort. Retention rates are measured from the fall of first enrollment to the following fall. Academic reporting institutions report retention data as of the institution’s official fall reporting date or as of October 15, 2016. Program reporters determine the cohort with enrollment any time between August 1-October 31, 2017 and retention based on August 1, 2018. Four-year institutions report retention rates for students seeking a bachelor’s degree. Source: IPEDS Data Feedback Report 2019.
More Students Take Early College, Dual Enrollment, and Remote Courses

Each year Alpena Community College strives to provide the educational opportunities needed in its five-county service area. ACC offers a mix of certificate and associate programs, including transfer and occupational curricula, which help students achieve their academic goals. ACC also offers an innovative 4-year Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Systems Technology.

ACC’s attention to the academic needs of Northeast Michigan resulted in a positive 2019-20 academic and fiscal year. Headcount enrollment for Fall Semester 2019 was up 4.5% over Fall Semester 2018, second highest among the 28 Michigan community colleges. Fall Semester 2019 credit hours were also up significantly (4.2%).

Dual Enrollment and Early College Offerings Continue to Grow

The 2019-20 school year continued the trend of increasing numbers of dual enrollment and early college students and credit hours taken. The increases reflect ACC’s commitment to meeting the academic needs of area schools.

Dual enrollment and early college offerings enable academically prepared students to take college courses while still in high school. This accelerated learning benefits the students, the school districts, and ACC. The credits earned can be transferred to most 4-year institutions. Best of all, most of the cost of the courses is paid by the schools.

For Fall Semester 2019, dual enrollment and early college activities accounted for 530 students, 35.3% of ACC’s total headcount. Credit hours totaled 3,253. Both the headcount and credit hours were new highs for ACC.

Spring Semester 2020 also showed new highs in the number of dual enrollment and early college students (592) and credit hours (3,422).

School districts hosting dual enrollment classes or sending their students to ACC’s campuses include Alcona, Alpena, Atlanta, AuGres Sims, Central Lake, Cheboygan, Fairview, Hale, Hillman, Johannesburg-Lewiston, Onaway, Oscoda, Posen, Rogers City, Tawas, and Whittemore-Prescott.

Alpena Early College Program’s Fourth Cohort Graduates

ACC and Alpena High School have collaborated on the Alpena Early College program since 2014. Funded by the public school district, the Early College program enrolls 11th graders into a mix of high school and college classes for three years. The “13th year” of high school consists of mostly college courses. When finished, students receive
a high school diploma and the college credits and degrees they have earned. Best of all, those credits are free to the students, greatly reducing the cost of their college education.

In May 2020 42 Early College students graduated from the program in its fourth cohort. These graduates earned an average of 51.8 college credits; 20 students earned an associate degree while 22 students earned an Early College Certificate (15-59 credits). Early College students also were high academic achievers: 17 of the May graduates made the Dean's List. Of those 17, 15 had grade point averages of 3.5-3.99, and two had perfect 4.0 GPAs.

The seventh cohort of Alpena Early College students began Fall Semester 2020 and contained 79 students, the largest cohort yet. Together, the three program cohorts number 194 students.

During the 2019-20 year ACC officials worked with several area school districts regarding opening new early college programs.

**Spring Semester Headcount Continues Growth with Direct Credit Courses**

Another way ACC has served the needs of area schools is through direct credit course offerings. These courses gave high school students a convenient way to get involved in college-level academics, including earning college credits, and school districts were able to draw on state monies to pay for the courses.

ACC began offering direct credit courses at selected area schools in Spring Semester 2017. The additional direct credit courses added a large number of new students to ACC’s headcount. For example, in Spring Semester 2019 approximately 562 students participated in direct credit courses and earned approximately 628 credits.

Direct credit courses were offered at the Alpena Campus, Alpena High School, Alcona High School, the Iosco Regional Educational Service Agency in Iosco County, and at Whittemore-Prescott High School.

**ACC's 10-year enrollment history (above) shows near-record highs in the years following the 2008 national economic recession, then a gradual decline through fiscal year 2016. Spring Semester enrollments increased dramatically in 2017 due to the addition of direct credit courses; Spring Semester 2020 continued the upward trend.**

For Spring Semester 2020, 625 high school students took direct credit courses. Combined with a 5.1% increase in for-credit enrollment, headcount enrollment grew to its highest level since Fall Semester 2012.

**Average Student Age Reflects Increase in Dual Enrollment and Early College**

One side effect of the increasing number of high school-aged students taking ACC courses was the decrease in average student age. The increase in high schools students compensated for a slow but steady decline in non-traditional aged students who returned to the workforce or worked more hours during favorable employment conditions in the area.

**Average Student Age Fall 2010-20**
Alpena Community College was awarded a $2,250,000, 5-year Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP) grant in September 2019 in order to improve the College’s academic quality, institutional management, and fiscal stability. The SIP grant is provided through the U.S. Department of Education; the grant’s goal is to help institutions of higher education become self-sufficient and expand their capacity to serve low-income students.

The three focus points of ACC’s SIP grant are:

- Expand the Nursing Program
- Strengthen student services
- Advance the Alpena Community College Foundation

On September 30, 2019, ACC received notice from the U.S. Department of Education that its Strengthening Institutions Program grant proposal was fully funded in the amount of $2,250,000. ACC’s request was one of three funded projects in Michigan, and one of 63 funded projects nationally.

**Sumerix Named Grant Director**

In November 2019 Amanda Sumerix was hired as the Director of the SIP Grant, a position 100% funded by the grant. Sumerix immediately began working with constituents to determine next steps to begin implementing the grant. In January 2020 Lisa Blumenthal was hired as the SIP Grant Administrative Assistant, funded 50% by the grant.

**Career Tracking Software Purchased**

One of the first grant-related activities involved the strengthening student services track. In January 2020 SIP Grant staff began work with Dean of Students Nancy Seguin and the Student Success Center staff to research career tracking software for use by ACC students. The preferred software would connect students to ACC’s specific programs by using career education and exploration assessments. The result of that effort was the selection of Emsi’s Career Coach, which was approved for purchase by the ACC Board of Trustees in September 2020. The procurement was funded 100% by the grant.

**New Nursing Program Tech Expands Teaching**

In February 2020 the SIP Grant staff worked with the ACC Nursing Department to finalize the purchase of an Anatomage virtual anatomy dissection table. This advanced piece of technology would expand the Nursing Program’s teaching capacity and put it on par with or ahead of other Michigan Nursing programs.

In order to showcase the technology to the ACC community, especially the faculty members who would use it most, an on-campus demonstration was arranged; an Anatomage representative came to the Alpena Campus to demonstrate the technology and answer questions. The demonstration and the equipment was well-received by ACC faculty.

Another grant-funded tech addition to the Nursing Program came in April 2020.
Above: Simulation Coordinator Terry McKenzie (far left) manages an adult patient simulator as ACC students practice a procedure under the watchful eye of Nursing Instructor Melanie Thomas, far right.

when ACC trustees approved the purchase of four Gaumard Scientific patient simulators: one childbirth, one newborn, and two adult patient simulators. The innovative patient simulators are designed to facilitate safe and effective training opportunities for nursing students. The $265,867 purchase was funded 100% by the grant.

As with the Anatomage Table, the state-of-the-art patient simulators will allow the Nursing Program to train students using the latest teaching tools. When the Van Lare Hall renovation is completed in Spring 2021 the simulators and Anatomage Table will be moved to the new Nursing wing.

Eagan Hired for Alumni Relations

In March 2020 ACC alumna Mary Eagan was hired as the Director of Alumni Relations, a position funded 50% by the grant and 50% by the College. This new administrative position fits with the ACC Foundation grant track. Eagan is responsible for building alumni engagement and advancement with the ACC Foundation.

MI-BEST Point of Contact

In May 2020 the SIP Grant staff became ACC’s point of contact for MI-BEST (Building Economic Stability Today). This project offers peer learning opportunities with other Michigan community colleges and focuses on improving institutions’ services and improving outcomes for low-income students.

ACC Adds Alumni Engagement Software

In June 2020 the ACC Board of Trustees approved a 3-year, $13,632-a-year subscription for Raiser’s Edge NXT, an alumni engagement and management software package. The subscription is funded 100% by the grant. The software will help the Foundation understand ACC alumni better and help execute new engagement strategies.

Strengthening Student Services

One of the goals of the strengthening student services grant track is to expand the non-academic services offered at ACC. In June 2020 SIP Grant staff joined the Alpena County Human Services Coordinating Council in order to better understand what external non-academic services are offered in our community that can be used by ACC students.

Above: Mary Eagan, Director of Alumni Relations, joined ACC in March 2020.
Workforce Development Delivers Training Opportunities to Northeast Michigan

Like most other aspects of ACC’s 2019-20 operations, the Workforce Development area was forced to change its operations when the COVID-19 pandemic struck in March 2020. Scheduled activities forced to cancel or be postponed included a Corrections Academy in May, several safety classes, sold out Blockmakers® seminars, and a drone workshop in Presque Isle.

When Michigan began its gradual re-opening process, the Workforce Development team quickly resumed work on the Corrections Academy and other activities.

**WCCT Hosts Blockmakers® Series**

The Blockmakers® Series consists of a variety of training seminars for workers in the concrete masonry industry hosted by Alpena Community College’s World Center for Concrete Technology and Besser Company. In February and March two Blockmakers® classes (Advanced Vibrapac and Concrete Masonry Technology) were held, welcoming students from Canada, Iowa, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Virginia.

**Ice & Aerial Rescue Training**

In February firefighters participated in a weekend of ice rescue training at the Alpena City Boat Harbor. Certified trainers from Michigan Rescue Concepts provided open water and ice rescue courses which will help prepare safety personnel for real life ice and water rescue scenarios.

Also in March 2020, Wolfline Construction sent two crews for aerial rescue training and a first aid/CPR class.

**Corrections Academy 2020**

Students, instructors, and coordinators faced multiple new requirements this year regarding how they would interact throughout the 160-hour training: daily health screenings, physical distancing, gloves and masks when in close proximity, and Plexiglas shields between workstations. Although uncomfortable at times, all participants adjusted well and were still able
Above: Participants in ACC’s 13th Local Corrections Officer Academy practice physical techniques.

Below: 2020 Corrections Academy graduates.

to receive lectures, interact with instructors, and practice the physical aspects of their profession.

On June 25, 2020, Alpena Community College successfully graduated its 13th Local Corrections Officer Academy. The Academy consisted of 20 Corrections Officers and 2 pre-service candidates from 11 counties. Counties represented in this outstanding class included the following: Alpena, Antrim, Chippewa, Crawford, Gladwin, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Montmorency, Ogemaw, and Presque Isle.

The Academy concluded with a graduation ceremony to honor the graduates, with guest speakers including Presque Isle County Sheriff Joe Brewbaker and Alpena County Sheriff Steve Kieliszewski, as well as reflections from students.

**Summer Safety Series Goes Virtual**

Coming off the success of Corrections Academy, ACC’s Workforce Development Department created a 6-week virtual Summer Safety Series.

Presented by ACC faculty member Tim Ratz, topics included asbestos awareness, fall protection, and bloodborne pathogens. Individuals from the area — and around the world, thanks to the Internet — participated and feedback was so positive the series will be offered in 2021, with additional course options available.

**Tree Trimming Boot Camp Debuts**

Another event impacted by the pandemic was the inaugural Tree Trimming Safety Boot Camp. Originally scheduled for May, it was pushed to August. Funded by a Consultation Education and Training Grant from the State of Michigan and hosted by ACC and Thunder Bay Tree Service, the five-day workshop welcomed individuals from around the state.

Instructors taught electrical hazard and chainsaw safety, aerial rescue, first aid and CPR. With incredibly positive feedback from students and instructors, the Workforce Development team and Thunder Bay Tree Service have already begun preparing for the next boot camp to be held in March 2021.

Caption: ACC Workforce Development and Thunder Bay Tree Service hosted a five-day grant-funded workshop which taught the fundamentals of tree trimming. The training attracted participants from around the state and was paid for through a state-funded CET Grant.
Oscoda Campus Features LPN Cohort, Develops Local Partnerships

Located on the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base in Oscoda, Michigan, Alpena Community College’s Oscoda Campus has been serving the educational needs of students in Iosco and Alcona County for nearly 50 years. Oscoda instructional facilities include 12 classrooms, a computer lab, science lab, interactive video conferencing rooms, and the Student Services Center. A nursing lab was added during the summer of 2018 as part of ACC’s effort to offer a full Licensed Practical Nursing degree in Oscoda.

Previously known as the Huron Shores Campus, the name was changed to the ACC Oscoda Campus in Summer 2018 to better reflect the valuable relationship ACC has with the Oscoda area.

Dr. Pichla Named Oscoda Campus Director

In August 2019 Dr. Marv Pichla was named Director of the Oscoda Campus. Pichla succeeded Nancy Seguin, who continues to serve as ACC’s Dean of Students.

Dr. Pichla earned a bachelor of science degree in Political Science and a Master of Public Administration degree from Central Michigan University. His doctoral work in Philosophy was done at Capella University. From 1983 to 2014 Dr. Pichla served as Executive Director of the Thumb Area Michigan Works! Agency in Marlette, Michigan. He has also served as Creative Advisor/Consultant for Inspiring Innovations, Inc., which designs, builds, and assists in implementing innovative, entrepreneurial product initiatives in both the public and private sectors.

As Director of the Oscoda Campus, Dr. Pichla is responsible for managing the daily operation of the campus, scheduling classes, managing the staff, providing academic and administrative services to students, and representing the campus in the local communities. His goals include growing Oscoda Campus enrollment and building educational opportunities in partnership with local businesses.

Oscoda Graduates Second LPN Cohort

The second Oscoda Campus LPN cohort (Fall 2019) had three graduates and the third cohort (Spring 2020) had three students.

2019-20 Facility Improvements

Some of the Oscoda Campus facilities changes during the year include:

- The Student Services Center was “redesignated” as the Student Success Center. As appropriate, all student service opportunities were given extra promotional notice within the campus.

As above: Dr. Marv Pichla became the Oscoda Campus Director in August 2019.

ACC Nursing Instructor Bob Kutschman (right) works with Oscoda LPN students. The Oscoda Campus hosted its second LPN cohort in 2019-20.
• The Student Lounge area was reformatted to include a JUST JOBS OUTLET component. Jobs In Our Own Backyard, Business of the Month, Education-to-Jobs and general Employment Opportunities information are all sub-areas on display. The goal is to assist students in linking their classwork to the world-of-work around them.

• The roadside wooden sign on Skeel Avenue was transformed into a mini-billboard to announce activities and upcoming events at the ACC Oscoda Campus. Custom designed vinyl signs are developed as appropriate to be placed on this special billboard space.

**What Next Campus Newsletter**
A new ACC Oscoda Campus news piece was introduced entitled What Next? The monthly publication highlights ACC events at both campuses that are occurring within the next 30 days and specifically targets activities that enhance education, business, and community development.

**Developing Partnerships**
In partnership with the Michigan Works! Region 7B Agency and Kalitta Air, a specialized apprenticeship prep series of courses were conducted Fall Semester 2019. Utilizing the State of Michigan's Going Pro funding, 12 students were trained in areas compatible with the airplane maintenance industry.

Connectivity partnerships were also renewed with the Iosco and Alcona County Community Collaboratives. Both entities have been extremely helpful and supportive in sharing ACC Oscoda Campus course availability and events information.

TIER 4 Technical Support has become a solid business partner with regard to sharing ACC Oscoda Campus event information online. On a totally volunteer basis, TIER 4 records and uses its online presence to “get the word out” to the Oscoda area and beyond.

Representatives from the U.S. Forest Service co-located a two-day training event at the campus in October 2019. Additionally, they supported the campus by having a U.S. Forest Service representative serve as a guest presenter in several ACC classes.

**ACC Talks**
ACC Talks is a new series of events billed as “Alpena Community College’s version of TED Talks for Northern Michigan.” Two ACC Talks Events were held at the ACC Oscoda Campus for the Northeast Michigan Region:

• David Jesse, *Detroit Free Press* Education Editor, visited the Oscoda Campus on December 5, 2019, to discussed his article series on rural education deserts.

• Representatives from Central Michigan University’s Entrepreneurship Teams visited on March 3, 2020, and shared their “business-pitches” and their journeys related to starting their own businesses.
Healthy Futures Start Here Campaign Supports Van Lare Hall Renovation

The Alpena Community College Foundation is pleased to announce the successful completion of their Healthy Futures Start Here capital campaign to dramatically renovate Van Lare Hall, ACC’s original campus structure.

HEALTHY FUTURES START HERE
Van Lare Hall Renovation

Over the past two years, the ACC Foundation twice reached and exceeded its fundraising goals for the project, which will provide a state-of-the-art nursing education environment for ACC students and modernize ACC’s flagship building. Originally, the foundation sought to raise $2.2 million for the Healthy Futures Start Here campaign, which was the largest fundraising goal the foundation had set for any project in its nearly-40-year history. When the cost of the project soared higher than expected, the ACC Foundation set a new fundraising goal of $2.95 million to meet the needs of the college.

As of November 1, 2020, the ACC Foundation had raised $3.1 million toward Healthy Futures Start

Above: Central Hall (renamed Van Lare Hall in 1970) as it looked soon after it was completed in 1957. Through the years the building has hosted countless ACC classes and provided space for student services as well as faculty and administrative offices.

Above: The Van Lare Hall main entryway is undergoing a dramatic update as part of the Healthy Futures Start Here renovation project.

Here, which is a testament to the hard work of the ACC Foundation Board of Trustees and to donors valuing the educational and economic impact ACC brings to Alpena.

After three years of dreaming, planning, and fundraising for a state-of-the-art regional center for nursing education at ACC, the construction of the Center for Health Sciences on the east wing of Van Lare Hall is well underway and slated for completion in the summer of 2021. This completely updated wing will be the new home of the ACC nursing program and feature cutting-edge equipment and increased lab, classroom, technology, and office space. The changes to the building will more than quadruple the available teaching space for the nursing program and allow for double the number of nursing students to be accepted into this highly-competitive field of study at ACC.

The remodeled Van Lare Hall building will also include a 1,600-square-foot student and community gathering space overlooking the Thunder Bay River, seven multipurpose classrooms, renovations to existing restrooms, and new admissions office. A striking glass-enclosed main entrance will greet students and visitors alike, adding a modern twist on the clean-line 1950s architecture that had been the hallmark of Van Lare Hall.
Other enhancements include a fire suppression system, an energy-efficient HVAC system, and air conditioning. Windows are being replaced and set into thermally isolated pre-finished aluminum frames. Entry doors will also be updated with new hardware and security management devices. The exterior concrete masonry is being treated with permeable stain to further update the look of the building.

The ACC Foundation staff, trustees, and volunteers who worked tirelessly on the project did so because of their commitment to better education and better healthcare in Northeast Michigan. An all-volunteer fundraising corps led by ACC Foundation trustees organized into committees focused on cultivating donors for everything from major gifts to Giving Tuesday funds given a dollar at a time. It is their efforts that made the difference in making the Van Lare Hall renovation a reality.

Without the support of loyal donors, the Center for Health Sciences would still be a dream. Over 480 donors gave to the project, raising $3.1 million for one purpose: to further solidify ACC’s place as the premier nursing education center in the region, which results in a healthier future for Northeast Michigan. The ACC Foundation thanks each donor who supported the project and looks forward to welcoming them to the new Center for Health Sciences this summer.
Alpena Community College Foundation
Year in Review

Since its establishment in 1982, the ACC Foundation has supported Alpena Community College and its students financially through scholarships, program improvements, technological advancements, staff development, and capital expansion projects. From the humble beginnings of raising $30,000 in its first year of existence to providing more than $12 million in support to ACC over the past 38 years, the ACC Foundation has been instrumental in the success of thousands of ACC students.

A Message from the Executive Director

As I reflect on this past year, I celebrate the growth achieved by ACC Foundation Board of Trustees with support from our loyal donors. I am proud to report that for the 2019-20 fiscal year the Foundation brought in gifts and interest income totaling over $500,000.00.

With over 230 named scholarship funds, the ACC Foundation awarded 193 students with scholarships totaling $265,455. In addition to scholarships, the Foundation provided $1,213,502 in support to the College for Van Lare Hall renovations and $18,258 for equipment, programs, and athletics.

The ACC Foundation celebrated the successful completion of the Healthy Futures Start Here Van Lare Hall Renovation capital campaign on October 14th with a groundbreaking ceremony to mark the beginning of construction. Private donors, businesses and foundations had been asked to support the project at varying levels and responded with overwhelming enthusiasm.

On August 17, 2019 the ACC Foundation held the 24th annual Robert M. Granum Memorial Scramble for Scholarships. More than 120 golfers, students and volunteers came together for a day of fun on the golf course to raise funds for scholarships for ACC students. A total of $18,867 was raised and will be distributed as scholarships to ACC students.

Foundation staff, trustees, and community volunteers surpassed their $2.95 million goal which was used to match the State of Michigan Capital Outlay funds.

In March 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic paralyzed our nation, the ACC Foundation jumped into action providing access to food for struggling students. While the buildings on ACC’s campus were closed, foundation staff devised a work around, partnering with a local grocery store to provide food for our most vulnerable students. Because of the generous support of our donors,
we were able to fulfill this most basic need so our students could focus on their education. It has been another great year, but there is still more work to do.

The Foundation’s financial support comes from the generosity of individuals, businesses, and organizations that believe in the mission of Alpena Community College. Will you consider joining our efforts to give the gift of education?

Sincerely,

Brenda Herman
Executive Director, ACC Foundation

Mary Eagan Starts as Director of Alumni Relations

Alpena Community College has long recognized a need for an alumni relations director to help bridge the gap between the college and its alumni, but for many years circumstances prevented the need from being realized. The wait, however, is over. ACC, together with the Alpena Community College Foundation, is pleased to welcome ACC graduate Mary Eagan as the new Director of Alumni Relations, a position made possible by the Strengthening Institutions Program grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Education. Mary has extensive experience in mass communication and broadcasting, as well as media production and marketing, content editing, and fundraising. Mary looks forward to building relationships with students and staff to facilitate better connections with the College and the people it serves.

Thomas Sobeck Named ACC 2020 Distinguished Graduate

The Alpena Community College Office of Alumni Relations is pleased to announce Thomas Sobeck as its 2020 Distinguished Graduate.

Established in 1998 by the ACC Foundation, the distinguished graduates program honors ACC graduates who have contributed to society through building successful careers. The productive, meaningful lives honorees have led demonstrate how an ACC education provides the foundation for a lifetime of achievement.

Sobeck is a native of Rogers City who graduated from ACC in 1988 with two associate degrees. He earned a B.S. in business administration from Northern Michigan University in 1990, then moved back to northeast Michigan where he eventually became the President and CEO of Presque Isle Electric and Gas Cooperative.

Reflecting on the significance ACC played in shaping his career, Tom said, “ACC truly prepared me to be successful in pursuit of my BS in Business Administration at Northern Michigan University and beyond that helped to prepare me to be successful in my professional career. I still remember fondly all the courses and instructors and the genuine pride and care they exercised in delivering a high-quality education at an affordable cost.”

In being named the 2020 Alpena Community College Distinguished Graduate, Tom joins a prestigious fraternity of 25 other alumni upon whom the college has bestowed its highest honor.

Above: Director of Alumni Relations Mary Eagan (left) and ACC Foundation Executive Director Brenda Herman (right) presented Thomas Sobeck (middle) with the 2020 Alpena Community College Distinguished Graduate award.
The mission of the ACC Foundation is to obtain financial support to enhance the ability of Alpena Community College to meet the lifelong educational needs of the growing and changing communities it serves.

Retiring ACC Foundation trustee Roger Bauer (second from left) was presented a resolution of appreciation at a joint ACC/ACC Foundation boards meeting in December 2019 for his 16 years of service on the Foundation Board. Also in the photo from left: ACC President Dr. Don MacMaster, Sue Fitzpatrick, ACC Foundation President, and Brenda Herman, ACC Foundation Executive Director.
TRiO Talent Search Helps Kids Succeed

TRiO Talent Search programs at Alpena Community College provide students in grades 6-12 with the keys to succeed in postsecondary education. Through outreach programming in academic, financial, career, and personal advising, TRiO Talent Search provides services to build the skills necessary to achieve the college dream.

TRiO Talent Search career advisors help students in a variety of ways, including:

- Applying for financial aid assistance
- Completing college applications
- Obtaining scholarship information
- Preparing for the ACT/SAT, Visiting colleges and universities
- Academic advising
- Job shadowing opportunities
- Peer mentoring

In the 2019-20 year career advisors provided services to 18 targeted schools districts:

**North Grant** — Alpena, Atlanta, Cheboygan, Hillman, Inland Lakes, Johannesburg-Lewiston, Onaway, Posen, and Rogers City.

**South Grant** — Alcona, Fairview, Hale, Mio, Oscoda, Tawas, West Branch-Rose City, and Whittemore.

**TTS Yearly Summary**

**Program Totals:**
- 1,223 participants with 87% of seniors planning to enroll in postsecondary education for fall 2020.

**Yearly Budget Totals:**
- North: $345,876
- South: $246,000

**Other accomplishments:**
- Six university campus visits were offered
- TRiO Talent Search received two supplemental grants for STEAM summer camps. The grants will fund a Renewable Energy Camp for schools in the North grant and a second camp provided to schools in the South grant. In the Renewable Energy Camp students learn to track energy production of solar cells and a windmill. Students enter data, create graphs, and use this information to make energy decisions. Students also have the opportunity to build individual solar cell arrays. Participants learn about careers in the power industry with the use of videos and guest speakers.

**Prevo Takes Over As Program Director**

TRiO Talent Search experienced a transition in leadership in July 2020 with the retirement of Robert Newton and the hiring of Sarah Prevo. Prevo is an ACC alumna with a strong background in educational leadership. She has previously held positions as elementary teacher, charter school chief administrative officer, Director of STARBASE-Alpena, and adult education teacher. She brings new technology and innovative ideas to the TRiO Talent Search program.

**Above: Sarah Prevo assumed the TRiO director’s position on July 13, 2020.**

TRiO Talent Search university campus visits went to six Michigan universities including Michigan State University (above).
ACC Quick Facts

Alpena Campus

The Alpena Campus is situated on approximately 690 acres located on both sides of Johnson Street, approximately one-half mile east of US-23 North. Much of the property remains undeveloped forest land, and the campus is situated along a portion of Thunder Bay River where the Ninth Avenue Dam forms Lake Besser.

Completion of an $8.2 million project in August 1996 provided weather-protected access to virtually all instructional and administrative areas located on the north side of Johnson Street.

College Park Apartments opened in 1997, providing privately owned and operated on-campus housing. The College purchased the facility in 2017 and now manages the 16 4-person suites.

The newest facility is the $5 million Ferris H. Werth Electrical Power Technology Center, which opened in January 2015 and serves as home to the Utility Technology and Electrical Systems Technology programs.

In 2017 ACC received state approval to begin renovating Van Lare Hall, the oldest building on the Alpena Campus. The $8.7 million project will update the building and provide state-of-the-art labs for ACC’s Nursing Program. Work on the project continues and is projected to be completed in early 2021.

Oscoda Campus

ACC has operated a full service extension center in Iosco County since 1969. The Huron Shores Campus serves area residents with classes in the Oscoda area.

In June 1996, renovations at the Headquarters Building of the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base, were completed and the Huron Shores Educational Center opened at 5800 Skeel Avenue, Oscoda. It was renamed the Alpena Community College Oscoda Campus in 2017.

Oscoda Campus students have a full service program of advising, assessment, and instruction. Courses in Fall and Spring semesters are offered, as well as six-week or twelve-week summer courses.

Instructional facilities include 12 classrooms, a computer lab, science lab, two-way interactive room, and the Student Services Center. A new Industrial Technology lab space, including a number of state-of-the-art pieces of manufacturing equipment, was added during the summer of 2016.

Selected classes and customized training are offered at community sites in the county as enrollment allows. LPN prerequisite classes were introduced at the Oscoda Campus during Spring Semester 2018 and the first LPN program classes were offered in August of that year.

Quality Academics

In 2016 the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program named Alpena Community College as one of the nation’s top 150 community colleges. As such, ACC was eligible to compete for the 2017 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence and $1 million dollars in prize funds, as well as Siemens Technical Scholars Program student scholarships. The Prize, awarded every two years, is the nation’s signature recognition of high achievement and performance among America’s community colleges and recognizes institutions for exceptional student outcomes.
Degrees Offered
ACC offers over 75 programs of study. Students at ACC can earn a 1-year Certificate of Achievement, a 2-year Associate of Arts, Associate of Applied Science, Associate of Science, and Associate of General Studies degree, and a 4-year Bachelor’s of Science degree in Electrical Systems Technology.

ACC Student Profile
For Fall Semester 2019:
- 1,502 headcount
- 53.5% part-time, 46.5% full-time
- 55.9% female, 44.1% male
- Average age: 21.1
- 46.2% % were residents of the ACC District, which is the same geographic boundaries as the Alpena Public Schools District;
- 36.5% were residents of the ACC service area, which includes Alcona, Alpena, Iosco, Montmorency, and Presque Isle counties;
- 17.3% were from outside ACC’s service area

For Fiscal Year 2020:
- Financial aid to ACC students: $3,602,669 in federal and state grant aid; $263,740 in institutional scholarships; $1,629,103 in student loans; and $265,974 in other grants, scholarships, and tuition assistance.

Graduates

Tuition Rate, Fiscal Year 2020
- $137.00 per contact hour for In-District*
- $217.00 per contact hour for Out-of-District (the rest of Michigan and out of state)

*District rates are paid by residents of Alpena Community College District where a voter-approved property tax levy for the College is collected each year.

Costs
$4,650 average cost for in-district full-time students in tuition and fees for the 2019-20 school year. $10,550 total with books and living expenses included for a student living at home in-district.

General Fund Budget, Fiscal Year 2020
$14,781,297

Revenues by Category, Fiscal Year 2020
State Appropriations: ......41%
Tuition and Fees:.................40%
Property Taxes:...............17%
Other Sources:....................2%

Staffing
As of October 2019:
46 Full-Time Faculty
89 Part-Time Faculty
27 Full-Time Administration
1 Part-Time Administration
16 Full-Time ESP I
2 Part-Time ESP I
10 Full-Time ESP II
17 Part-Time ESP II
8 Full-Time Custodial/Maintenance
1 Part-Time Custodial/Maintenance

Athletics
- Intercollegiate — ACC belongs to the Eastern Division of the MCCAA. ACC fields basketball and cross country teams for men, and basketball, softball and volleyball for women.
- Intramural — Team sports include flag football, volleyball, basketball, floor hockey, and softball.
### ACC Fiscal Year 2020 Financials

#### General Fund Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Net Position

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Fund Revenues</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Fund Expenditures</td>
<td>($15,074,654)</td>
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<td>General Fund Transfers to Other Funds</td>
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<td>Net Increase in General Fund Assets</td>
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<td>General Fund Beginning Balance FY20</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Fund Ending Balance FY20</td>
<td>$1,499,721</td>
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#### Alpena Community College Balance Sheet

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<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td>$12,067,917</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments, Property, and Equipment</td>
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<td>Total Assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deferred Outflows of Resources</td>
<td>$8,789,960</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current Liabilities</td>
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<td>Long-term Debt Obligations</td>
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<td>Net Pension Liability</td>
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<td>Net OPEB Liability</td>
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<td>Accrued Compensated Balances</td>
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<td>Total Liabilities</td>
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<td>Deferred Inflows of Resources</td>
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<td>Net Position</td>
<td>($7,407,158)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position</td>
<td>$39,049,948</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Creating a culture of educational excellence and service to the community...

665 Johnson Street, Alpena, MI 49707-1495 • 989.356.9021
5800 Skeel Avenue, Oscoda, MI 48750-1587 • 989.739.1445