



**3075 E. Higgins Lake Drive  
Roscommon, MI 48653  
(989) 821-5207**

**ACT NOW is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization  
"Neighbors with Police...Caring Together for Our Community"**

## **COMMUNITY PROGRAMS & PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY ACT NOW**

### **GERRISH TOWNSHIP C.E.R.T. (Community Emergency Response Team) \$7,978.00 \***

30 trained volunteers who are ready to be deployed when called upon. They hold annual meetings, exercises and trainings under the direct supervision of the Gerrish Township Police Department. They receive 20 hours of training to become certified members who can help the community by providing critical support by giving immediate assistance to victims, providing damage assessment information and organizing other volunteers at disaster sites. They are also trained to assist the local and state emergency services and perform such duties as shelter support, crowd control, evacuations, first aid and search and rescue. The Gerrish Township CERT team was established in 2006.

### **GRAYSON'S GIFT PROJECT \$17,750.00 \***

To provide specialized smoke and carbon monoxide detectors (bed shakers and strobes) for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing children and seniors in Roscommon County at no charge. This project will target 85 children and senior citizens, however will offer the product to any age group in need. We are currently in Phase One of the five-year target and have received 85 of the units, and are in the process of training for installations that will be done by local fire departments, and obtaining grant funds to pay for batteries and traditional smoke and CO detectors which are what the specialized units react to. Currently ACT NOW is the fiduciary agent for Grayson's Gift Project as they are working on their own 501(c)(3) status at this time.

### **KIDS HELPING KIDS PROGRAM \$29,300.00 \***

Currently planning for our 9<sup>th</sup> Annual program that furnishes gifts and a holiday meal for approximately 50 foster children and their families at Christmas. We partner with the local Department of Health & Human Services and provide a little extra for the foster children as the state only provides a \$25.00 gift card for each child during the holidays. Kids from our local schools, youth groups and organizations volunteer to shop for the gifts, wrap the gifts and work the night of the event as "elves" passing out gifts and serving the food. We also provide a family gift so that family bonding is encouraged such as a free night out to the movies, bowling, etc.

### **SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM \$11,000.00 \***

ACT NOW awards two \$1,000 scholarships to Roscommon High Schools graduating seniors each year. The scholarships are awarded based on GPA, community service and need. The scholarships are based on the value and importance of community service as seen through the eyes of the youth applicants. The scholarship program was established in 2008.

### **SHOP-WITH-A-COP PROGRAM \$56,700.00 \***

2017 will mark the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Shop-With-A-Cop program where officers take one child from each of the selected families shopping for gifts and treats them to a meal afterwards. These families are selected through an application process in which the officers work with the local schools to locate children and families that are in need of assistance at Christmas time. This is not

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\*Denotes amount donated since program/project inception



only a way to give to those in need but to also encourage positive law enforcement interaction with the children. To date we have brightened the holiday season for 114 families, 191 adults and 429 children. Our community group gathers to wrap all the gifts and the officers deliver the gifts just a few days before Christmas.

**TRUNK OR TREAT \$10,581.00 \***

2017 will be the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Trunk or Treat which is held on Halloween night each year. This is a huge community event for children and families. Participants decorate their vehicles and set up on the outdoor park area behind the Gerrish Township Hall and pass out candy to hundreds of kids each year and the “trunks” are judged and prizes are awarded for “Most Creative,” “Scariest” and “Best Decorated.” A random participation drawing is also done for everyone who puts a trunk in the event. Last year we had approximately 1,000 – 1,200 people attend this event.

**GERRISH TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SAFETY FUND \$4,888.00 \***

This fund supports the Gerrish Township Public Safety Services (Police, Fire, EMS) with helping to sponsor public safety programs and projects such as the CERT team with their Trailer Project, Fire Safety Week for the school children, providing child safety car seats to the Crawford Roscommon Child Protection Council and helped provide the Police Department’s Drug Drop Box, just to name a few.

ACT NOW also sponsors other community groups and organizations each year such as the Higgins Lake-Roscommon Chamber of Commerce’s Great Easter Egg Scramble, Special Olympics of Michigan Law Enforcement Torch Run, Northern Michigan Children’s Assessment Center, Friends of Roscommon Area District Library, Roscommon Bucks Marching Band, Higgins Lake-Roscommon Winterfest and the Higgins Lake Sunrise Run.

ACT NOW also hosts an Annual Meeting & Picnic every July and a Donor Appreciation Dinner every November to thank those volunteers and donors that give a substantial amount of time or monetary donations to the organization. We also host approximately 4-5 community meetings per year to educate the public on such topics as Weather Spotting, Drug and Alcohol Related Topics, Environmental Topics, Neighborhood Watch and Home Security, Fraud, Senior Citizen Well Being and many other public awareness programs/speakers.

ACT NOW also does an Annual Scrap Metal Project from April – October (when scrap recycling centers are available in our area) as a way to promote recycling of metal and cleaning up our neighborhoods and community and also participates in Road Clean-Up through the MDOT Adopt-a-Highway program twice a year in the spring and the fall.

ACT NOW holds an Annual Golf Outing every August and a Bowling Fundraiser every November as a way to raise money for all of our great community projects and programs and have held two successful “Getaway Package Raffles” also. ACT NOW has been a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization since June 10, 2009 and has an Executive Board with nine voting members and two non-voting advisory members with a general membership of over 230 citizens.

***Our Mission:***

***We, the Advisory Community Team – Neighbors On Watch (ACT NOW) are committed to benefit the people of Gerrish Township by promoting the preservation, appreciation and improvement of the physical, social and aesthetic qualities of all Gerrish Township neighborhoods, through benevolent actions.***