



**CORPORATE COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD  
Nomination Form**

*Completed Form Due April 30*

Please complete this form, including the questions on the following page, to officially nominate a Chamber member corporation or business for consideration in the selection of the Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce Corporate Community Service Award. (Award presented at the Chairman's Ball)

***Award Nominee:***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

***Award Nominator:***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

***Supporting Documents:***

Please contact 1-2 individuals to supply supporting documentation to accompany your nomination form. Support documents can take the form of letters, emails, news articles, etc.

Return completed form by April 30<sup>th</sup>

By email: [nancy@saginawchamber.org](mailto:nancy@saginawchamber.org)

By mail: 515 N. Washington Ave., 3<sup>rd</sup> Fl., Saginaw, MI 48607

**Complete the following questions in the space provided. Attach supporting documentation or additional information as needed.**

**1. How has the nominee demonstrated involvement in community programs, activities or services?**

Saginaw Bay Underwriters (SBU) is devoted to community involvement. A few examples of SBU's participation in community programs, activities and services include:

- Participant in the 2020 Hockey for the Homeless fundraiser and broomball tournament, in association with the Saginaw Spirit and Rescue Ministries of Mid-Michigan.
- Actively involved in leadership training programs in the Great Lakes Bay Region, including 11 Leadership Saginaw graduates coming from SBU since the inception of the program.
- SBU's interns organized a back-to-school supplies drive for the United Way of Saginaw County in 2018. Every SBU team member participated, with over 1,000 items donated.
- Supports numerous fundraising campaigns and events in the Great Lakes Bay Region each year, including some in which SBU team members participate. Examples include: Polar Plunge for Special Olympics, Barb Smith Suicide Resource & Response Network Walk for Hope, Walk to End Alzheimer's, Strike Out Sexual Assault Bowl-a-thon (Child & Family Services of Saginaw), Camp Quality Memorial Ride, and many more.
- Maintaining an award-winning Adopt-a-Garden at the Saginaw Children's Zoo.
- Raised funds to freshen up and add murals to Saginaw's oldest gas station – located on the corner of Atwater and S. Washington Ave., near SBU's main office.
- Led a fundraising effort for the Saginaw Township Police Department (STPD) millage.
- Active in the campaign for the Dow Event Center millage.
- Raised funds to help STPD Officer Koenig with his medical expenses.
- Helped the Buena Vista Police Department with their K9 officer fundraising effort.
- Sponsored a Stuff-a-Bus with the Saginaw Spirit to provide food for the less fortunate.

**2. How has the nominee developed partnerships with the public sector, not-for-profits and the community, establishing collaborative efforts?**

SBU partners with the public sector, nonprofits and the community in some very visible ways, as well as in some ways that many people may not realize.

SBU partners with the STPD to run an annual campaign reminding citizens to "Lock It or Lose It." This program has significantly decreased car larcenies in the community since its inception in 2011. In fact, Saginaw Township had the lowest number of these incidents ever recorded in 2019.

SBU was an early partner with Neighborhood Renewal Services, the City of Saginaw, and businesses located on Washington Avenue to revitalize the corridor. This included purchasing and tearing down four structures by SBU's main office.

SBU is a founding member of the Stevens Center for Family Business at Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU). SBU supports this program financially, along with team members being part of the executive council, and underwriting and bringing in a national speaker.

SBU developed an internship program in 2011, working closely with SVSU. More than 40 students have now completed internships at SBU, with some of them going on to become SBU team members.

Other areas of participation include, but are not limited to:

- SBU actively supports local schools, school events and fundraisers, often with SBU team members participating. Examples include: Essexville-Hampton Band program, Nouvel Catholic Central Elementary 2020 Pantherfest, Bay County Schools animal shelter fundraiser, Midland County's Project 111 – a safe driving initiative for teen drivers – Midland Daily News' Create-an-Ad art contest for students, and many more.
- SBU team members are active in local service clubs, including Kiwanis and Rotary. This includes a team member who is the Chairman of the Saginaw on Stage Music Festival, which raises money for Rotary to give back into the community.
- Involved with SVSU as a member of the Board of Fellows and as an Advisory Board member for the College of Business and Management.
- Helps the Pulse3 Foundation's annual Run for Your Heart event, with a team member serving as Race Course Director.

**3. Has the nominee documented a longstanding commitment to corporate giving? Explain.**

SBU has always been generous with its corporate giving. Examples include:

- Regular contributors and sponsors of the Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce, Saginaw Future, the Saginaw Spirit, etc.
- A scholarship was established at SVSU in honor of SBU's past President, Kurt Ewend, to help business students. SBU has been supportive of many other SVSU campaigns through the years, including most recently donating to the Scott L. Carmona College of Business & Management building expansion.
- The Saginaw Bay Underwriters Fund was established at the Saginaw Community Foundation, supporting various programs and projects in the community.
- SBU has made donations to the YMCA renovation, and the recent collaborative effort between the YMCA and the Boys & Girls Club.
- SBU made contributions to the Saginaw Children's Zoo, which helped establish both the wolf exhibit and kangaroo exhibit.
- Contributed to the Central Michigan University School of Medicine.
- Annual contributor to the City Rescue Mission of Saginaw, including sponsorship of their radio telethon and the Hockey for the Homeless fundraiser.
- Annual sponsor of the Zehnder's Snowfest.
- Longtime supporter of the Saginaw City Fireworks.
- Longtime supporter of the Japanese Cultural Center of Saginaw and their annual Japanese Festival.
- Supported expansion of CAN Council building in Saginaw.
- Supported opening of the SVRC Marketplace, which is helping revitalize downtown Saginaw.
- Each year instead of sending Christmas cards, SBU uses the money to donate to three local charities. In 2019, the recipients were Midland's Open Door, East Side Soup Kitchen and Good Samaritan Rescue Mission of Bay City.

In honor of SBU's 150th anniversary in 2013, SBU created SBU Cares. The idea was simple: Give \$150 every week to a different local charitable cause. Causes would be nominated by the community and recipients chosen from among the nominations.

In 2019, SBU decided to increase these donations to \$250 weekly.

To date, more than \$60,000 has been contributed to approximately 300 causes through the SBU Cares program – and this is in addition to SBU’s other regular giving.

**4. Explain how the nominee exhibits corporate citizenship as a shared value at all levels of the corporation.**

SBU's Vision Statement is built around the relentless pursuit of excellence for clients, team members, business partners and community. Likewise, its Core Values include community involvement through being charitable with time, talent and financial resources.

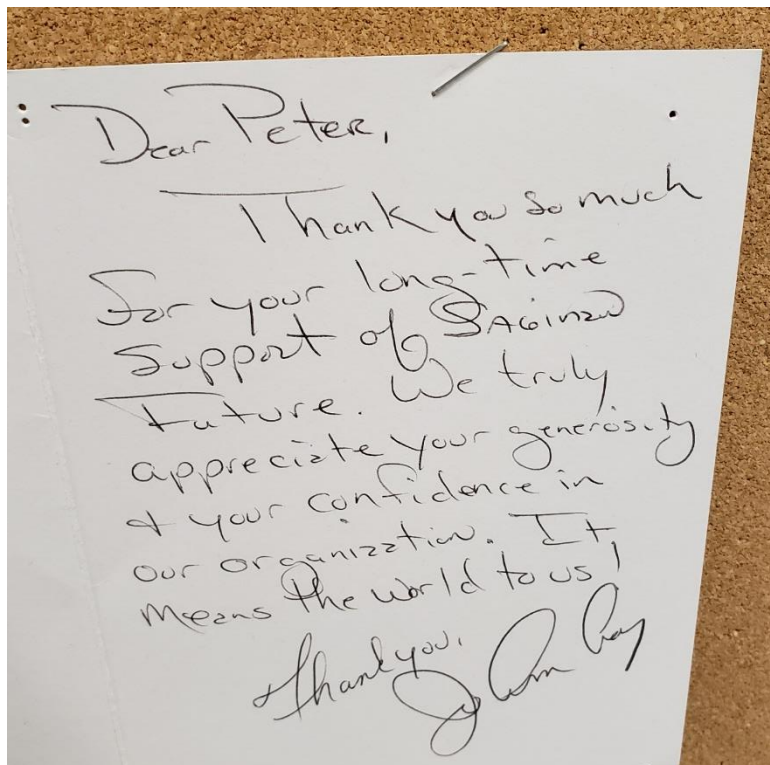
SBU team members are actively involved in the communities where they live and work. A few examples include:

- SBU’s annual United Way campaign, with 100% participation from their team members each year, including in 2019.
- In 2019, SBU team members wrote thank-you cards to military veterans participating in the Talons Out Honor Flight to Washington, D.C.
- Team members have donated their time and talent to many local boards, including those of SVRC, Child & Family Services of Saginaw, United Way of Saginaw County, Saginaw Riverfront Development Commission, Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce, Saginaw Club, Saginaw Country Club, Red Cross, Hospital Hospitality House, Michigan Community Blood Center, and others.
- On Fridays, SBU has “Denim-for-Donations” days, where team members make a contribution to wear jeans and 100% of the proceeds are given to a charitable organization at the end of each month.
- SBU has adopted families during multiple Christmas seasons – including 2019 – with their team members providing gifts and necessities for families who are currently struggling.
- Many SBU team members are active in local churches, including coordinating an annual Thanksgiving Day meal for the less fortunate.
- Many SBU team members help with school-related programs, including band, theater and travel abroad programs.
- SBU team members help with an annual fundraising fishing tournament, with proceeds given to a different local charity each year.
- An SBU team member helps in local classrooms and is currently the Executive Committee Vice Chair of Junior Achievement of North Central Michigan.
- SBU team members helped build the Saginaw Township Playscape, along with a team member raising the funds and acting as the construction manager for the bathroom facilities.
- An SBU team member volunteers time at Pit & Balcony Theatre.

In 2000, to honor their retiring President, Lou Hanisko, SBU established The Louis E. Hanisko Service Award. The award is given annually to a team member whose service has enhanced the reputation of SBU by their efforts in the community. This award recognizes a team member with the same passion towards the community that Lou shared.



Midland Daily News Story on SBU 2019 Holiday Donations



Thank You Note – Saginaw Future

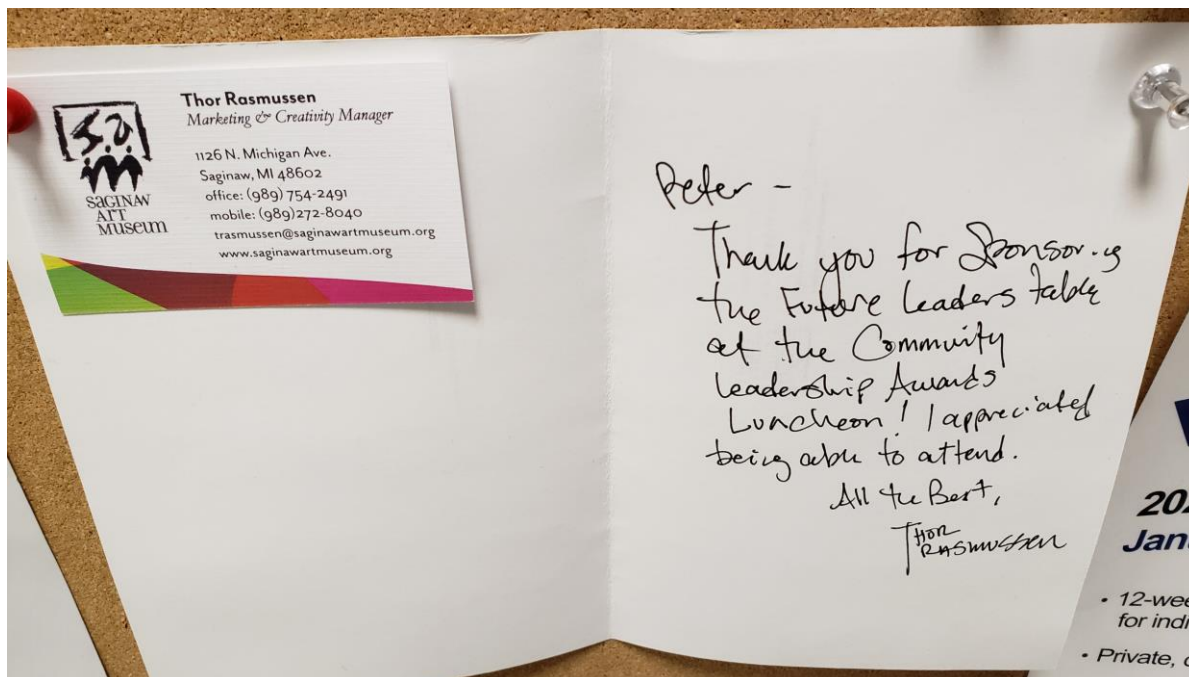




*SBU Cares Donation - Saginaw Children's Zoo*



*SBU Cares Donation - Buena Vista Police Department K9 Unit*

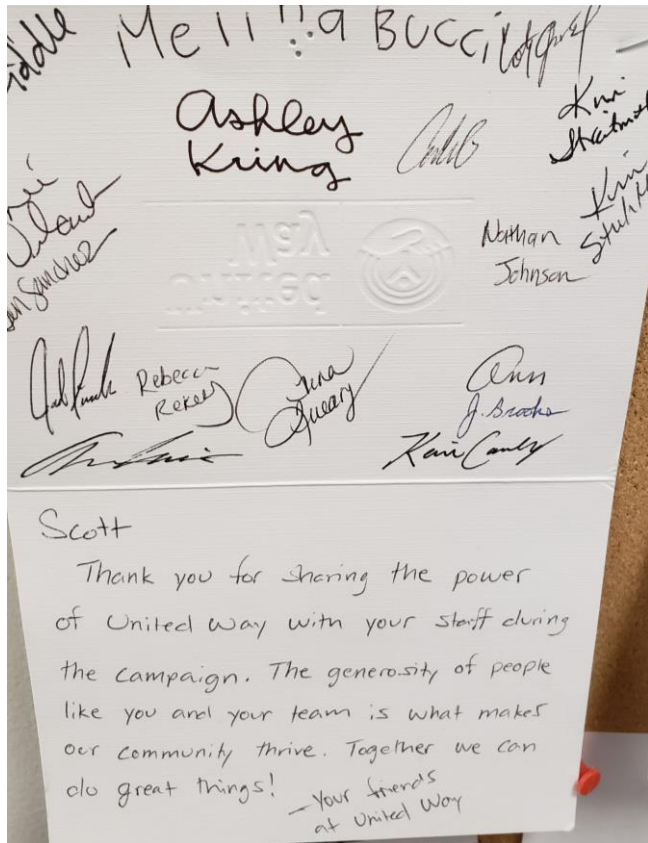


Thank You Note - Community Leadership Awards



SBU Cares Donation – Bay County Schools Animal Shelter Fundraiser



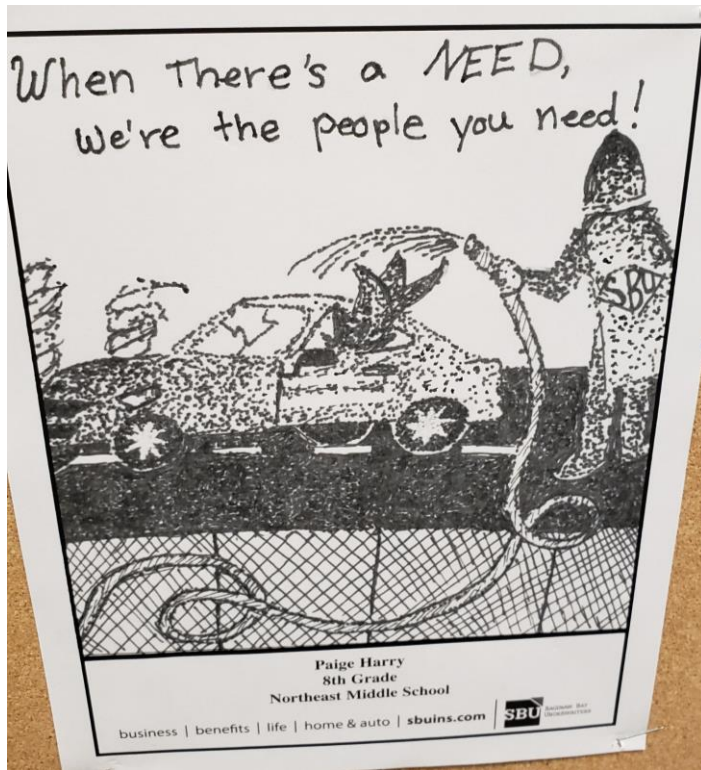


**Thank You Note – United Way**



**SBU Cares Donation – Barb Smith Suicide Resource & Response Network Walk for Hope**





*MDN Create-an-Ad Art Contest Winner*



*SBU Cares Donation – Saginaw Career Complex Robotics Team*