



# case study

## ABOUT:

The [Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation](#) (GRACF) was established in 1994 by concerned business and community leaders to help local citizens contribute to the community. Our purpose is to enhance giving and philanthropy in all sectors of the community. The GRACF manages a collection of funds initiated by individuals, corporations, and community service organizations to benefit the geographical area around Itasca County, Minnesota.

## Why Foundant?

I can speak at length about the benefits for the foundation and our grantees through efficiently administering our high volume programs using Foundant's Grant Lifecycle Manager (GLM). Foundant has also played a major role in improving the Foundation's communication and relationship-building capacities. It's amazing how much time we have to do real foundation work when we're not pushing paper.

### GRACF's Top Advantages of GLM:

1. Reduced scholarship program administrative time by 60%
2. Eliminated paper application forms for most grant and scholarship programs
3. Increased communication and collaboration with nonprofit grantee organizations
4. Foundation staff able to focus more time on strategic activities through the elimination of many tedious, time-consuming tasks



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COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION

GRAND RAPIDS AREA

## Previous Grant Process:

Before Foundant, much of our time was spent processing the many grant and scholarship applications that we receive every year. The grants management process was paper intensive and time consuming. We needed to find a way to decrease the amount of paper used and the amount of inefficient use of time.

## Foundant GLM Implementation:

The Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation has a whole new outlook on grants and scholarships. Originally, the foundation looked to Foundant for an online scholarship application solution. Excited about being able to offer this electronic generation for online scholarships, the Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation launched their online applications in 2007. Our initial intent was to have the first year as a "transition" time between paper and electronic formats. By the following year we were not messing with paper at all. Since implementing Foundant GLM I've saved at least 60% of my time with scholarship administration. Anyone who administers scholarships understands how huge this is.