

Tammy Carey, Executive Director
Community Foundation for Oceana County
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Tammy Carey is the Executive Director for the Community Foundation for Oceana County, having served in that position since 2002.

She is responsible for overseeing all administrative and leadership functions in support of the Foundation's mission to enhance the lives of the people of Oceana County by leading, promoting and channeling philanthropy to connect resources with needs. Carey served as a board trustee for one year prior to accepting the Executive Director position. Her interest in joining the board mirrors the satisfaction she has felt in helping to move forward the good work of the Foundation and the community it serves.

The Community Foundation for Oceana County, joined the Muskegon Foundation in 1989 and holds the distinction of being the first affiliate foundation in the state of Michigan. Carey feels especially proud of the Foundation's leadership in designing a means for bringing the power of philanthropy to a small rural community. The Oceana Foundation has experienced significant growth in assets in the past 5 years (now just under \$12 million) and has distributed \$4.5 million dollars back to the community.

Carey earned her Bachelor of Science degree at Miami University of Ohio business school in Marketing. Upon graduating she moved to the New York City to work for ABC Television as the Research Manager for KTRK-Houston. She then accepted a position with the AC Nielsen/BASES, a marketing consulting company, as an Account Manager for several consumer packaged goods clients. Upon moving to Oceana County in 1992 she worked as the Marketing Manager for the Chassis Shop and then opened her own graphics design and marketing consulting business, while raising her family of 4 sons. Her community service activities include Shelby Rotary Club member (past President), Oceana EDC board member, Pentwater Service Club member, Oceana Center Grange member, Chair of the Sandy Woods Association board in Silver Lake. She participates in many Foundation-related roles, including Be Nice advisory committee, Oceana Employer Resource Network, Oceana County Medical Care Facility Campaign Committee, Oceana CAN! (College Access Network), Read early, Read often program, Pentwater-Hart Trail committee, Fountain Hill Center for Counseling Lakeshore office committee member.

Carey resides in Shelby with her husband Sean and two youngest of four sons. They are proud parents of one Michigan Tech and one University of Michigan graduates. Together they also modestly participate in the local tourism and agriculture industries by managing a 15 acre Christmas tree farm and two summer rental cottages at Silver Lake. They also share a deep appreciation for Oceana County, its beautiful countryside and recreational opportunities and historic roots that date back 3 generations in Sean's family.