



The Butzel Long Charitable Trust's 2022 Year in Review

As we have done for nearly our entire 170-year history, Butzel spent much of 2022 giving back to the communities in which we work and live. One way we did so was through the Butzel Long Charitable Trust, the philanthropic arm of our Firm, which is wholly funded by Butzel attorneys, employees, and team members. Just as in past years, we continue to try to give back to those who most need it. If you are interested in working with us in 2023 as we continue to give back, please contact us [here](#).



This year, Butzel gave away nearly 400 backpacks to Oakman Elementary School in Dearborn.

[Click here to read more.](#)

Annual Backpack Giveaway - Kids in Need Foundation

- For the fifth year in a row, Butzel surprised an entire Dearborn elementary school with backpacks to give away to every child in the school.
- The backpacks were filled with supplies that children need to succeed in school.
- Studies show that when school children have the supplies that they need for a school year, they are more likely to succeed in school.
- This gift also eases the stress on those families who may not be able to afford all of the school supplies their children need.

VetLife

- VETLIFE is a nonprofit organization formed in 2018 by veteran families for veteran families.
- The organization was created to assist our veterans with the struggles many experience upon leaving the military.
- Butzel was proud to sponsor VetLife and to help its attempts to provide housing and assistance to our veterans who need it.





Plymouth-Canton Little League

- Butzel was recognized as a “Home Run” sponsor, helping local little leagues field, outfit, and coach young students.

"Coats for the Cold" - Oakland County Sheriff's Department

- For the past 35 years, the Oakland County Sheriff's Office has worked with local organizations to provide free coats to those in need. A strong sense of community is important to Butzel – inside and out of the office – that's why we are proud to have donated over \$1,000 worth of coats for children and adults.



College. Career. Beyond.

Midnight Golf Program

- The Midnight Golf program is dedicated to equipping determined young adults through life skills training, proactive coaching, long-term mentoring, and the discipline of golf in order to succeed in college, in their careers, and beyond.
 - Yet again, Butzel was happy to work with Midnight Golf and donate to its many great programs and causes.
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The Down Syndrome Guild of Southeast Michigan

- Butzel happily sponsored the Down Syndrome Guild of Southeast Michigan this year.
- The Guild was created over two decades ago to respond to the changing needs of individuals with Down Syndrome and their families.
- The Guild is composed of over 250 individuals with Down Syndrome of all ages. Butzel's contributions helped the Guild to put on events and parties for its wonderful members.



Rosa Parks Scholarship Foundation



- The Rosa L. Parks Scholarship Foundation is dedicated to awarding scholarships to Michigan high school seniors who hold close to Mrs. Parks' ideals while demonstrating academic skills, community involvement, and economic need.
- Butzel is an annual contributor to this great scholarship that helps many young students become the first in their family to attend college.
- Butzel has also given to and sponsored several other scholarships over the years.

Sophia's Rainbow

- Sophia's Rainbow is an organization created by an amazing young woman who was hospitalized at the age of 4.

- Learning from her experience—and with the help and support of her parents—, this young lady then started her own non-profit organization dedicated to giving back to boys and girls who are hospitalized by delivering toys, books, and other gifts to children who find themselves spending long periods of time in the hospital.
- Butzel is proud of Sophia and happy to help her with her amazing and selfless giving.



Sophia's Rainbow



Big Brothers Big Sisters

- For several years in a row, Butzel has sponsored Big Brothers Big Sisters of Washtenaw County.
- This storied organization has the mission of Community Based Mentoring.
- BBBS of Washtenaw County matches hundreds of youths with vetted sponsors each and every year, and Butzel is happy to assist in that endeavor.
- Indeed, a number of Butzel attorneys are Big Brothers and/or Big Sisters themselves.

Vista Maria

- Butzel again donated to Vista Maria, an organization that houses and supports victimized girls and women.
- Tracing its roots back to 1883, Vista Maria joins Butzel as one of the oldest ongoing organizations in Detroit.

- Butzel will continue to sponsor Vista Maria as it continues to provide mental health services, foster care and adoption, and to secure care for the survivors of human trafficking, along with its focus on education, independent living, and advocacy for the welfare of children.



Lighthouse of Michigan

- As a long time and reoccurring sponsor of Lighthouse of Michigan, Butzel partnered with Lighthouse and other law firms in the Metro-Detroit area to raise food for hungry families.
- In total, the firms who participated collected food and funds to help feed more than 2,300 families in need this Thanksgiving.
- This participation was only one of many ways that Butzel helped feed the hungry in 2022.

Miracle League

- The Butzel Long Charitable Trust is a proud sponsor of the Miracle League.
- The Miracle League removes barriers that keep children with mental and physical disabilities off of a baseball field and lets them experience the joy of America's favorite pastime.
- Miracle League teams play on a custom-designed field that accommodates wheelchairs and other assertive devices while helping to prevent injuries.
- Miracle League provides an atmosphere, opportunity, and community for those with disabilities to make new friends, build self-esteem, and to experience the thrill of getting a big hit or scoring a big run.



- Butzel is proud to sponsor this great cause for these great kids.
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Birth Detroit

- Birth Detroit is a Black-led nonprofit dedicated to providing safe, quality, loving, midwifery-led perinatal care to the people of Detroit.
 - Birth Detroit offers community-based prenatal and postpartum care and childbirth education classes to women regardless of insurance status or ability to pay.
 - Birth Detroit is also in the process of building the city's first freestanding birth center, due in 2023.
 - Butzel was very happy to work with Birth Detroit and sponsor it as it continues to help every citizen of Detroit experience safety during their pregnancy.
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Wayne County Jail Outreach Ministry

- The Wayne County Jail Outreach Ministry exists to serve individuals affected by crime, offenders, and their families.
 - The Outreach provides education, job assistance, training, and healthcare to those affected by crime, with the hope to limit repeat offenses.
 - Butzel is not only a contributor to this organization, but also has attorneys who give their time to volunteer with the organization.
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Pokagon Band

- In 2022, Butzel helped sponsor the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi and the Pokagon Veterans Society to raise funds for tribal scholarships.
- These scholarships helped fund tuition-free scholarships for students affiliated with the Pokagon tribe.
- Butzel looks forward to continuing its partnership with the Pokagon Band.

Student Advocacy Center of Michigan

- The Student Advocacy Center of Michigan helps students in grades K-12 when they are suspended, expelled, denied special education support, or faced with other barriers at school.
- The Center attempts to help kids who may otherwise think about dropping out of school to stay on track with their education.
- The Center and Butzel recognize the importance of a good education and how it can help fight the risk of living in poverty, being unemployed, and facing other challenges.



Crossroads of Michigan

- Crossroads is a social service outreach agency that exists to support the community at large by providing emergency assistance, advocacy, and counseling to anyone in need.



- Crossroads offers soup kitchens, social services, an employment office, children's summer lunches, parenting support programs, and more.
- Butzel helped collect goods, raise funds, and offer free legal aid to those in need.

Focus Hope Adopt-a-Family Christmas

- As it does every year, Butzel has pulled together to adopt a family for Christmas.
- Through the generosity of our employees, assisted by our Charitable Trust, Butzel adopts families each Christmas and purchases gifts for those in need.
- Butzel is happy to give back and to help make this Christmas a little more special for those in need.



For Kids Like Me

- For Kids Like Me is a social and networking group for children with special needs.
 - The purpose of the group is to ensure that children have the opportunity to participate in activities geared to meet the needs of those children with special needs without being shunned away or being made to feel uncomfortable.
 - Butzel presented a gift of a brand-new backpack filled with supplies to every child who participates in the For Kids Like Me after school programs.
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And Much, Much More

- Butzel is very proud to have partnered with, sponsored, or assisted more organizations than could be listed in this newsletter.
- Among those are Patriot Week Foundation, Love One Another, Judson Center, Racquet Up Detroit, and more.
- Butzel will continue to seek out those organizations doing the greatest good for the most people.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET INVOLVED?

Above are only some of the ways that the Butzel Long Charitable Trust has given back to our community this year. Our Trust is only able to do all that it does based on the generosity of its donors (most of whom are our own attorneys and employees, along with a matching program from the firm itself) as well as the network of organizations that we are able to work with.

If you would like to get involved, give back, round out your year-end charitable giving, or give us some great ideas of how we can help change our community, we would love to hear from you. Please feel free to drop us a line [here](#). Together, we can continue to give back to our city and our region.

Our motto is that if you change one life, you have changed the world. Let's change the world together.

The Butzel Long Charitable Trust is classified as a private foundation within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Your donation to the Butzel Long Charitable Trust may qualify for an income tax deduction in accordance with relevant federal or state tax laws. You should consult your own tax, legal, and/or accounting advisors to determine whether your donation is tax deductible in whole or in part.