



The Butzel Long Charitable Trust's 2020 Year in Review

2020 has been, for many, one of the most challenging years in memory. All of us have been impacted in one way or another by the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic toll it has taken on our city, our region, and our country. Many people lost their jobs, companies have been pushed to the brink, and those who were already without felt even more pain as it was harder to get them the help that they needed. People have lost loved ones and we have all felt farther apart from one another.

It is during times such as this that the need to give back to our community and those in need is even more important than ever. In its 166th year, Butzel Long continues to partner with those in our communities who need the most help or those who can most help us give back. Below are only some of the ways that the Butzel Long Charitable Trust has attempted to do its part in helping our community heal in the past year. If you would like to work with us in 2021 as we continue to give back, please contact us [here](#).

Backpack Giveaway

- For the third year in a row, Butzel Long surprised an entire Detroit 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 is even more true for those students attempting remote or virtual learning.
- This gift also eases the stress on those families who may not be able to afford all of the school supplies their children need.
- This year, Butzel Long gave away nearly 500 backpacks to Pulaski Elementary School on Detroit's east side.



Make-A-Wish

- Butzel Long was very proud earlier this year to partner with the Make-A-Wish Foundation to make a wish come true for a young girl.
- Through our contributions, we sponsored the wish of a young girl who has had a life-long disability, stemming from a malformation of her brainstem, as well as Spina Bifida, which affects how the spine forms and is protected.
- This little girl had spent much of her life in and out of hospitals since she was born.
- Her dream was to go to Disney World and meet the Disney princesses.
- It was the distinct pleasure and honor of Butzel Long to sponsor a trip with her family to Disney so that her wish could come true.



Butzel Donates over 15,000 Meals

- Through a contribution to Gleaners, Butzel Long sponsored over 15,000 meals to be given away to those most in need.
- Gleaners, headquartered in Detroit, distributes more than 45 million pounds of food to members of the community in need. Every dollar donated provides three meals. Butzel Long was able to provide over 15,000 meals.
- Butzel is also working with Gleaners to plan and prepare for a "Day of Giving," in which Butzel's attorneys and staff volunteer to staff a food pantry for a day.



[Click here to read more](#)

Lighthouse of Southeast Michigan



- In an attempt to continue to assist those impacted most by the COVID-19 crisis, Butzel Long also partnered with Lighthouse of Southeast Michigan.
- Lighthouse operates shelters for the homeless, runs food pantries for the hungry, offers housing assistance programs, gives away backpack supplies for school children, and much more.
- Given the current state of affairs, Butzel Long contributed to Lighthouse's COVID-19 Emergency Food and Shelter Fund.
- Through this fund, Lighthouse is able to work with other organizations to provide emergency food distribution, emergency shelter, and other efforts to ensure that no person goes hungry or without a roof over their head during this community crisis.

Salvation Army

- Consistent with Butzel Long's efforts to do the most good for the most people in as short of a period of time as possible, the Butzel Long Charitable Trust also partnered with the Salvation Army to feed our City's hungry.
- With the Salvation Army's assistance, and funded by the Charitable Trust, Butzel Long was able to provide enough food for 29 families of four for an entire week.
- Rather than one meal, Butzel Long assisted dozens of families to feel secure in knowing where each meal would be coming from for at least one week.
- The Salvation Army offers many other programs, from after-school programs, summer camps, life-skills training, and more. Butzel Long looks forward to continue to work with the Salvation Army on such great projects.



St. Vincent de Paul Detroit

- Butzel Long has been a longtime supporter of St. Vincent de Paul. This year, we had budgeted to again sponsor several scholarships for students to attend SVdP's summer camps.
- When the health and economic crisis hit this spring, however, we pulled those funds forward and donated them to St. Vincent de Paul's general fund, asking them to do the most good for the most people.
- These funds assisted SVdP in stocking its food pantries, assisting those in needs, and continuing its good works around the City.



Detroit Promise

- Detroit Promise is a scholarship that ensures all eligible Detroit residents have a tuition-free path to a college degree.
- Every student who registers and meets the academic requirements will receive funding.
- The goal is to give every eligible student an opportunity for a postsecondary degree, regardless of their financial situation.
- The Butzel Long Charitable Trust has committed to assisting this endeavor to help every Detroit high school student advance their education.



Butzel Long Sponsors College Scholarships

- Butzel Long was very proud to continue its long-standing sponsorship of the Rosa Parks Scholars college scholarship.
- The scholarship grants high school seniors a one-time \$2,000 award in the name of the late civil rights leader and Detroit resident.
- Butzel Long has also sponsored other scholarships in the past, partnering with local Bar Associations to help send Detroit high schoolers to college.
- Butzel will continue to invest in our future by investing in our future leaders.



Vista Maria

- Vista Maria is an organization that helps to provide healing and hope to hundreds of women and children who have suffered the effects of abuse, neglect, and trauma.
- Some studies indicate that instances of such abuse are higher in 2020 than in previous years.
- Butzel Long has donated to Vista Maria's important cause to help it sustain its mission.



Turning Point Shelter

- Butzel Long teamed up with other organizations across the region to assist Turning Point Shelter, an organization that provides resources for sexual assault and domestic abuse survivors.
- Turning Point sought to fully furnish 10 apartments for temporary housing for survivors and their families to stay while they got back on their feet.
- Butzel Long team members were able to donate, purchase, or procure enough goods to furnish multiple apartments.
- These temporary homes may save lives and help others to begin a new life.



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, rubberized turf 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 Long is proud to sponsor this great cause for these great kids.



Urban Hockey League

- Butzel Long has paired up with the Urban Hockey League and Clark Park Hockey Organization.
- Clark Park has the only NHL size outdoor hockey rink in the City of Detroit.
- The park and the league increase exposure to families and players in Detroit to the sport of hockey, while providing a safe and affordable place to play.
- Through our partnership and sponsorship, Butzel Long is continuing to help school children find safe and healthy ways to spend their time and grow as people.



Focus Hope Adopt-a-Family Christmas

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



Pope Francis Warming Center

- The Trust has been a frequent sponsor of the Pope Francis Center's Annual Gala.
- Due to this year's crisis, the center had to cancel its 2020 Gala.
- Butzel Long still wished to give to the Center anyhow, knowing how important its work is.
- The trust sent \$2,500 to the center to assist it in its efforts to offer a warming center, daily meals, social services, and more, all in downtown Detroit.
- In addition to its monetary support, Butzel Long also participates in a Legal Services Clinic, offering free advice to those who need it.



Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings' Holiday Brass Concert

- Butzel Long is a proud supporter of the arts.
- [Click here](#) to view Butzel Long President & CEO Justin Klimko's message, along with the performance.



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.

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