100 Women Who Care — Elk Rapids Area awards \$33,000 to GTI

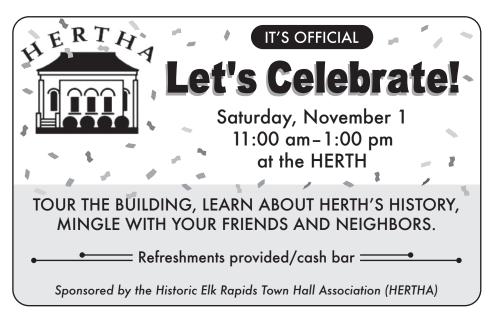
The members of 100 Women Who Care – Elk Rapids Area are proud to announce their collective gift of \$33,000 to Grand Traverse Industries (GTI) for the month of August. This donation will support GTI's mission to provide meaningful employment, skillbuilding, and community inclusion opportunities for adults with disabilities, empowering them to live more independently.

At GTI, clients not only learn essential job skills but also engage in creative arts and social activities. Through these programs, they gain more than just a paycheck—they experience increased confidence, a sense of purpose, and pride in their achievements.

The funds from 100 Women Who Care - Elk Rapids Area will specifically assist with transportation expenses for clients at the Mancelona center, enabling them to travel to work sites and participate in community outings. Micah Haven, Program Director at GTI, emphasized the importance of community support: "As funding from Medicaid remains uncertain, generous contributions like this from 100 Women Who Care are crucial to our ability to deliver essential services for our clients and their employers." For more information about Grand Traverse Industries, please visit www.grandtraverseindustries. com. To learn more or to join 100 Women Who Care - Elk Rapids Area, visit www.100womenelkrapids.org.



Members of Grand Traverse Industries pose with their gift from 100 Women Who Care -Elk Rapids





ficult. Exposed electrical conduit lines are always potential damage targets for inmates. Outdated kitchen facilities make daily food service a challenge. Antrim County Sheriff Kevin Hoch provides a direct answer to his concern with the current jail. "First and most important is to make sure all of my officers are safe – especially in a 70-year-old building," he stated. "Plumbing, blind spaces, hidden areas in each cell are problems. The deputies cannot see the entire cell."

The planned new facility will be designed to correct all these issues and add space for new mental health and substance abuse services. It will include a 56-bed jail facility, 911 dispatch center, county sheriff offices and an emergency management center. Scott is committed to the vision for the new safety center. "This is a resource for the community," he said. "The space studies that have been done show that the deputies do not have enough room to do their job. We can give the sheriff an opportunity to manage his employees in one space. The jail is a big issue but not the only issue. We want to solve a number of issues instead of just one when we are doing something of this size."

The facility plans will provide an opportunity for expanded county services. The ad hoc committee report clarifies the need for those services. "A Public Safety Center would also provide space for several agencies to serve the community in ways beyond law enforcement, keeping Antrim County safer for us and for future generations." The new center will provide the ability to separate inmates with mental health needs and space for inmate substance abuse treatment, inmate parenting time, and juvenile and adult deescalation. The goal is to identify and treat mental health issues before, during and after incarceration.

The current plans are to operate the new facility with the same number of correction officers. With all operations under one roof, efficiency, communications and training will improve. A new training space for deputies and detectives will also serve as the County's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and provide training space for fire departments, EMTs, and a number of county and community service providers. If passed, the county will immediately begin the process to finalize engineering plans. Their hope is to complete construction by early 2027. According to Scott, the board has identified an architect and construction manager for the project. The board has also authorized the hiring of Plante Moran to confirm costs and identify additional cost savings.

Polls will be open 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. on November 4. Absentee ballots are now available, and the townships have begun mailing those ballots to voters.

309 GOLF VIEW LANE ELK RAPIDS \$450,000











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comfort and convenience, all just a mile from downtown shops and restaurants. The golf course is across the street and the new library will be just a short stroll

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