



**ArchivesSpace**  
a community served by ✦ LYRASIS

# Finding aid for the Dyer-Ives Foundation collection Collection 491

---

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on June 22, 2023.

Description is written in: Undetermined.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Prepared by Colleen Alles

Grand Rapids History Center

Grand Rapids Public Library

111 Library Street NE

Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

Business Number: 616-988-5497

[localhis@grpl.org](mailto:localhis@grpl.org)

URL: <https://www.grpl.org/history/>

---

## Table of Contents

---

Summary Information .....	3
Biographical / Historical .....	4
Scope and Contents .....	4
Administrative Information .....	5
Related Materials .....	5
Controlled Access Headings .....	5
Collection Inventory .....	6
Series I: "Voices" .....	6
Series II: Organization Newsletters .....	7
Series III: Papers & Reports .....	9
Series IV: Grand Rapids Area Neighborhood Papers .....	10

---

## Summary Information

---

<b>Repository:</b>	Grand Rapids History Center
<b>Creator:</b>	Dyer-Ives Foundation
<b>Title:</b>	Dyer-Ives Foundation collection
<b>ID:</b>	Collection 491
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1961-2016
<b>Physical Description:</b>	3 Linear Feet 7 boxes
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .
<b>Abstract:</b>	<p>This collection contains records from the Dyer-Ives Foundation in Grand Rapids, Michigan (1961-2016), which was a private foundation founded by John Hunting in 1961 for the purposes supporting grassroots organizations working to address social issues in Grand Rapids . The Foundation funded many endeavors in Grand Rapids, pursuant to its mission to improve the city through projects and other grant-based activities. Examples of some of the Dyer-Ives Foundation projects include: the Kentfields Academy; the ITM Academy; the Council of Michigan Foundations; and the Dyer-Ives Annual Kent County Poetry Competition. Materials in this collection include copies of "Voices," which was the annual publication produced for the poetry competition; newsletters by key organizations in Grand Rapids; reports and papers from the Dyer-Ives Foundation; and information on activities of various neighborhoods in Grand rapids in the late 20th centuries. A researcher looking to understand the impact that the Dyer-Ives Foundation had on the community throughout the 20th and into the 21st century would be interested in examining the reports and correspondence. Additionally, the folders on the specific neighborhood areas in Grand Rapids may be of interest to a researcher. Of note is that the collection contains a broad expanse of the publication "Voices."</p>

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Biographical / Historical

---

The Dyer-Ives Foundation began in 1961 and operated through 2016 with a mission to "build capacity in those grassroots, community-based organizations or related efforts which address issues related to systemic poverty or build a sense of community among residents of the central city." Its founding trustees were David Hunting Sr., Duncan Littlefair, John Hibbard, Allen Hunting, Siegel Judd, Michael Carey, and Lewis Engman. A number of reports were produced as part of the work of the Dyer-Ives Foundation, including work around ending homelessness and foreclosure, and assisting immigrants and refugees in the Grand Rapids community. Dyer-Ives Foundation's founder, John Hunting, is the son of Steelcase Corporation co-founder David D. Hunting. Hunting was also president of the Beldon Fund, which operated from 1982-2009 as a national foundation committed to promoting sound environmental policies.

While "Voices" goes back to 1961 in this collection, the bulk of the materials highlight activities for the foundation in the later 20th and early 21st century. Folders pertaining to individual neighborhood associations are alphabetized. Newsletters from key organizations whose missions affected or aligned with the Dyer-Ives Foundation are alphabetized as well.

A printed short history of the Dyer-Ives Foundation, published on the Dyer-Ives website (<http://www.dyer-ives.org/>) is included in the collection to increase a researcher's understanding of both the history of the Dyer-Ives Foundation and the goals of its various endeavors over the years.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Scope and Contents

---

This collection is comprised of primary materials and documents, namely reports, newsletters, and publications. The collection is held in seven boxes and contains four series: Series I: "Voices"; Series II: Organization Newsletters; Series III: Papers & Reports; and Series IV: Grand Rapids Area Neighborhood Papers.

The yearly "Voices" publication is represented from 1968-2015 (with several years missing: 1969, 1970, and 1995). Two additional folders of correspondence are included, as are various books on urban planning in Grand Rapids and in Michigan. Newsletters from local non-profit organizations are also included.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Administrative Information

---

### Publication Statement

Grand Rapids History Center

Grand Rapids Public Library  
111 Library Street NE  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503  
Business Number: 616-988-5497

[localhis@grpl.org](mailto:localhis@grpl.org)

URL: <https://www.grpl.org/history/>

### Immediate Source of Acquisition

This collection combines three (3) Accessions: Dyer-Ives Foundation papers (2016.020); an unspecified donation that includes material on the foundation (2004.013); and the Dyer-Ives Foundation papers on neighborhood associations (2016.076). Many of the materials in the collection were donated by the Dyer-Ives Foundation as it prepared to close its doors in 2016.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Related Materials

---

### Related Materials

Grand Valley State University (GVSU) holds a substantial collection related to the Dyer-Ives Foundation as well: <https://gvsu.lyrasistechnology.org/repositories/2/resources/664>.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Controlled Access Headings

---

- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History
- Poetry -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids -- History
- Neighborhoods -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids -- History

- Employees' magazines, newsletters, etc. -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids

## Collection Inventory

### Series I: "Voices"

Processing Information:

#### Processing Information

"Voices" editions 1982 through 2005 were shifted from Box 2 to Box 1 in June of 2023 so future issues can be added to the collection.

Title/Description	Instances	
Dyer-Ives Foundation: A short history, 2016	Box 1	Folder x
"Broken River Blues": Greater Grand Rapids Poetry Contest, 1968, 1968	Box 1	Folder 1
"Voices" , 1971	Box 1	Folder 2
"Voices", 1973	Box 1	Folder 3
"Voices" , 1974	Box 1	Folder 4
"Voices" , 1975	Box 1	Folder 5
"Voices", 1976	Box 1	Folder 6
"Voices" , 1977	Box 1	Folder 7
"Voices" , 1978	Box 1	Folder 8
"Voices" , 1979	Box 1	Folder 9
"Voices" , 1980	Box 1	Folder 10
"Voices" , 1981	Box 1	Folder 11
"Voices" , 1982	Box 1	Folder 12
"Voices", 1983	Box 1	Folder 13
"Voices", 1984	Box 1	Folder 14
"Voices", 1985	Box 1	Folder 15
"Voices", 1986	Box 1	Folder 16
"Voices", 1987	Box 1	Folder 17
"Voices", 1988	Box 1	Folder 18
"Voices", 1989	Box 1	Folder 19
"Voices", 1990	Box 1	Folder 20
"Voices", 1991	Box 1	Folder 21

"Voices", 1992	Box 1	Folder 22
"Voices", 1993	Box 1	Folder 23
"Voices", 1994	Box 1	Folder 24
"Voices", 1996	Box 1	Folder 25
"Voices", 1997	Box 1	Folder 26
"Voices", 1998	Box 1	Folder 27
"Voices", 1999	Box 1	Folder 28
"Voices", 2000	Box 1	Folder 29
"Voices", 2001	Box 1	Folder 30
"Voices", 2002	Box 1	Folder 31
"Voices", 2003	Box 1	Folder 32
"Voices", 2004	Box 1	Folder 33
"Voices", 2005	Box 1	Folder 34
"Voices", 2006	Box 2	Folder 1
"Voices", 2007	Box 2	Folder 2
"Voices", 2008	Box 2	Folder 3
"Voices", 2009	Box 2	Folder 4
"Voices", 2010	Box 2	Folder 5
"Voices", 2011	Box 2	Folder 6
"Voices", 2012	Box 2	Folder 7
"Voices", 2013	Box 2	Folder 8
"Voices", 2014	Box 2	Folder 9
"Voices", 2015	Box 2	Folder 10
"Voices", 2022	Box 2	Folder 11
"Voices", 2023	Box 2	Folder 12

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Series II: Organization Newsletters

Title/Description	Instances	
Organization Newsletters - A: Arbor circle, 2012 ACT (Artists Creating Together), 2012 Alternatives in Motion, 2008 Access, 2009 Adoptive Family Support Network, 2008	Box 3	Folder 1

Art Works, 2005 Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 2015 Authentic Learning Alliance, n.d.

Organization Newsletters - B: Boys & Girls Clubs of Grand Rapids, 2007, 2011 Blandford nature center, 2012 Baxter Community Center, 2005	Box 3	Folder 2
Organization Newsletters - C: Children's Museum, 2005 City PTSA, 2008 Camp Tall Turf, 2010 Catherine's Health Center, 2016 Catholic Charities of West Michigan, 2013 Cherry Street Health Services, 2007 Chidren's Assessment Center Newsletter, 2008 Community Rebuilders, 2009 Comprehensive Therapy Center, 2011 Conductive Learning Center, 2009 Child and Family Resource Center, 2009 Creston Neighborhood Association, 2015 Criminal Justice Chaplaincy, 2011	Box 3	Folder 3
Organization Newsletters - D: Degage, 2005 Disability Advocates of Kent County, 2008, 2015 Down Syndrome Association of West Michigan, 2016	Box 3	Folder 4
Organization Newsletters - E: Eastown Community Association, 2011 East Hills council of neighbors newsletter, 2007	Box 3	Folder 5
Organization Newsletters - F: First Steps & the Great Start Collaborative, 2010 Fair Housing Center of West Michigan, 2015 Feeding America West Michigan Food Bank, 2011-12	Box 3	Folder 6
Organization Newsletters - G: Grandville Avenue Arts & Humanities, 2014 Great Lakes Center for Sages, 2004 Grand Rapids Opportunities for Women, 2010 Guiding Light Mission, 2010 Grand rapids African American Health Institute, 2010 Goodwill Glimpses, 2006 Girl Scouts of Michigan, shore to shore, 2012 Girls Choral Academy, 2008 Gilda's Club Grand Rapids, 2006 Garfield Park Neighborhoods Association, 2008 Gays in Faith Together, 2011 Gerontology Network, 2005 Grand Rapids Community Foundation, 2016 Grand Rapids Art Museum, 2014 Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce, 2016	Box 3	Folder 7
Organization Newsletters - H: Habitat for Humanity of Kent County, 2004, 2007 Hope Network, 2008 Hospice of Michigan, 2012 Humane Society, 2015 Home Repair Services, 2012 Health Intervention Services, 2019-09-20 Humanities Council Grand Rapids, 2005 Heritage Hill, 2016 Heartside Ministries, 2010, 2016 Healthy Homes Coalition of West Michigan, 2009 Housing Commission of Grand Rapids, 2008	Box 3	Folder 8
Organization Newsletters - I: Inner City Christian Federation, 2015 In the Image, 2016 Indian Trails Camp, 2007	Box 3	Folder 9
Organization Newsletters - J: Johnson Center of Grand Valley State University, 2009	Box 3	Folder 10
Organization Newsletters - K: Kent County Health Department, 2002 Behavioral Risk Factor Survey; 2001	Box 3	Folder 11



Report on Public Health Services in Kent County Kent  
Regional 4C, 2009 Kent County Parks Department, 2006  
Kids' Food Basket, 2016

Organization Newsletters - L: Land Conservancy of West Michigan, 2009 Literacy Center of West Michigan, 2011 Local Lowdown, 2014-15	Box 3	Folder 12
Organization Newsletters - M and N: NCCS Camp Newaygo News, 2006-2007 Network 180, 2010 Michigan's Children, 2004 Michigan Land Use Institute, 2005 Mixed Greens, 2006 Metro Health Hospital Foundation, 2015 Mary Free Bed, 2015 Mel Trotter Ministries', 2015 Mental Health Foundation of West Michigan, 2013	Box 3	Folder 13
Organization Newsletters - O: Oakdale Neighbors, 2010 Oasis of Hope, 2013, 2016 Opera Grand Rapids, 2005 Other Way ministries, 2012	Box 3	Folder 14
Organization Newsletters - P: Public Museum of Grand Rapids, 2008 Pilgrim Manor Retirement Community, 2010 Pathfinder Resources, 2005	Box 3	Folder 15
Organization Newsletters - R: Restorers Inc., 2010	Box 3	Folder 16
Organization Newsletters - S: Safe Haven Ministries, 2014 St. John's, D.A. Blodgett, 2014 Second Harvest Gleaners Food Bank of West Michigan, 2009 Senior Neighbors, 2008-09, Sight Seer Radio Reading Service 2008, 2010 South End Community Outreach Ministries, 2007 St. Cecilia Music Society, 2005 Specialized Language Development Center, 2010	Box 3	Folder 17
Organization Newsletters - U: United Methodist Community House, 2013 United Church Outreach Ministry, 2016 UICA, 2016 Urban Rural Connection, 2009	Box 3	Folder 18
Organization Newsletters - V: Van Andel Institute, 2006 Voices for Michigan's Children, 2008	Box 3	Folder 19
Organization Newsletters - W: Well House News, 2008 West Grand Neighborhood Association, 2009 West Michigan Center for Arts & Technology, 2016 West Michigan Environmental Action Council, 2016 Women's Resource Center, 2012	Box 3	Folder 20
Organization Newsletters - Y: YWCA, 2014 YMCA, 2007	Box 3	Folder 21
Photocopy of illustrated Jaro Hess manuscript (donated to the Grand Rapids Art Museum by John Hunting)	Box 3	Folder 22

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Series III: Papers & Reports

Title/Description	Instances
-------------------	-----------

City of Grand Rapids: Future of Grand Rapids Neighborhoods: articles, correspondence, neighborhood investment plan, 1992-2016	Box 4	Folder 1
City of Grand Rapids: Neighborhood workshops (April – May, 1999); Focus Groups (March – June, 1999)	Box 4	Folder 2
Report on Census Tract changes, 1990-2000 and correspondence	Box 4	Folder 3
Recommendations of the Neighborhood Economic Development Steering Committee – August 23, 2005	Box 4	Folder 4
Recommendations of the Neighborhood Economic Development Steering Committee: May 24, 2005	Box 4	Folder 5
Profiles of Community: August 2000	Box 4	Folder 6
Profiles of Community II: January 2002 study	Box 4	Folder 7
Neighborhood Conversations, 2013	Box 4	Folder 8
Neighborhood Development district, neighborhood improvement district: senate bill 268, 69, and 364 (2006-2011)	Box 4	Folder 9
A brief history and description of the Boyne City Railroad Co. with color postcards and letter from Hollis M. Baker to John Hunting	Box 4	Folder 10
Neighborhood Economic Development, memos and notes, 2005	Box 4	Folder 11
Neighborhood Investment Plan RFP, 2007	Box 4	Folder 12
Dyer-Ives poetry competition: 25th anniversary (1993): newspaper clipping	Box 4	Folder 13
Dyer-Ives poetry competition correspondence, 2007	Box 4	Folder 14
Waters Building Reference Guide circa 1990	Box 4	Folder 15
Waters Building Reference Guide, 2003	Box 4	Folder 16
Waters Corporation – memos, correspondence, reference guide, management guide 2001-2004	Box 4	Folder 17
Waters Corporation Emergency Procedures, 2006	Box 4	Folder 18

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Series IV: Grand Rapids Area Neighborhood Papers

Title/Description	Instances	
General NA interest	Box 5	Folder 1
Alger Heights	Box 5	Folder 2

Baxter Area Weed & Seed	Box 5	Folder 3
Baxter Neighborhood Association	Box 5	Folder 4
Belknap Lookout Park Area	Box 5	Folder 5
Black Hills Neighborhood	Box 5	Folder 6
Creston Neighborhood Association	Box 5	Folder 7
East Hills Council	Box 5	Folder 8
East Hills Neighborhood Association	Box 5	Folder 9
Easttown	Box 6	Folder 1
Fuller Ave Neighborhoods	Box 6	Folder 2
Fulton Heights Neighborhood Association	Box 6	Folder 3
Garfield Park Neighborhoods	Box 6	Folder 4
Heartside	Box 6	Folder 5
Heartside Neighborhood Association	Box 6	Folder 6
Heritage Hill Association	Box 6	Folder 7
Madison Area Neighbors	Box 6	Folder 8
Midtown Neighborhoods	Box 6	Folder 9
North End Citizen Action	Box 6	Folder 10
Oakdale Neighbors	Box 6	Folder 11
Roosevelt Park Neighborhood Association	Box 6	Folder 12
SECA (South East Community Association)	Box 7	Folder 1
SECA Healthy Neighborhoods	Box 7	Folder 2
SEENA: Southeast End area	Box 7	Folder 3
Southtown	Box 7	Folder 4
South Hill Neighborhood Association	Box 7	Folder 5
SWAN Southwest Neighborhood association	Box 7	Folder 6
Wealthy Heights	Box 7	Folder 7

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)