

Put Your Town On the Map



Consumers Energy Foundation Pitch Competition

The Consumers Energy Foundation is offering grant opportunities to help put your community on the map. We are seeking innovative ideas that will energize your town and create momentum that builds a stronger sense of community. If you are selected, you will be invited to make a presentation to a panel of judges during the *Small Town & Rural Development Conference*.

The top three presentations will be awarded one of three grants:



1ST PLACE:
\$25,000



2ND PLACE:
\$15,000



3RD PLACE:
\$10,000

Sample Topics to Put Your Community on the Map

- Downtowns - store vacancies, attracting visitors, housing, etc.
- Social - housing, education, employment, etc.
- Placemaking
- Tourism
- Youth community engagement
- Community pride
- Unifying or strengthening the community
- Business acceleration, retention, attraction

How to Submit Your Idea

Visit cedamichigan.org/rpm/conference-rpm, complete the on line form and click submit. Grant winners will be selected and announced at the Small Town and Rural Development Conference. Funds will be presented to winning communities at a scheduled time following the conference. For more info, contact hunter@cedamichigan.org



Who is Eligible?

- Rural municipalities with a population up to 10,000
- Candidates must be a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization or municipality
- This competition is community-focused; no individuals, businesses, corporations or LLCs
- Idea presented must be conceptual or in the startup phase; previously attempted projects not allowed
- The project must impact a territory that is served by Consumers Energy;
- One submission per community/municipality

Pitch Competition 2025 Schedule:

- 3/28:** Submissions due to CEDAM by 11:59 p.m.
- 4/18:** Finalists selected and notified
- 5/23:** Videos or PowerPoints due to CEDAM
- 6/9:** Pitch presentation shared at conference in-person

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