

SPECIAL TRIBUTE

ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF MICHIGAN

I, Rick Snyder, governor of Michigan, do hereby pay special tribute to

ROBERT S. COLLIER

LET IT BE KNOWN, That it is my distinct honor to recognize Robert S. Collier for his legacy of leadership at the Council of Michigan Foundations (CMF). With the commitment he has shown to our state throughout his career, he has exhibited the highest standard of citizenship, professionalism and leadership.

Rob's 37 years of experience covers every type of organized philanthropy and help to Michiganders in creating family and corporate foundations. After college, Rob joined the Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) program and was assigned to work in Flint. After launching a program that engaged community volunteers in providing mentoring and other services to first-time offenders sentenced to probation, he served as a caseworker and director of volunteer services at the Genesee County Probate Court. In 1977 he was hired by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, where he advanced the foundation's grant making related to children, families and volunteerism. Later in 1983, Flint Mayor James A. Sharp, Jr. hired Rob to serve as his city administrator. After working in local government for four years, he returned to philanthropy, first serving as grants director for the Gannett Foundation in McLean, Virginia, then as executive director for Rotary Charities of Traverse City and as a founding director of the Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation.

Rob's longstanding volunteer and board service to the Council of Michigan Foundations made him an outstanding choice to become the organization's vice president and chief operating officer in 1995. In 2000 he was named CMF's president and CEO. Under his leadership, CMF developed new and innovative services for grant makers, built a robust policy arm focused on protecting philanthropy and its work, and bolstered the organization's membership and staff. Understanding that young people represent the sector's future, Rob also helped cultivate an international movement in youth philanthropy. Rob's longstanding belief in the power of volunteerism is reflected in his service to CMF, Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy, the Michigan Nonprofit Association, United Philanthropies and numerous other boards, committees and task forces.

It is my hope that Rob will take the time to reflect upon his distinguished record of service and take pride in his many accomplishments and successes. He has truly made a difference in the lives of the people of our state throughout his tenure, helping ensure that Michigan continues to be a great place to live, work and play for generations to come.

IN SPECIAL TRIBUTE, Therefore, this document is signed and dedicated to Robert S. Collier as a symbol of gratitude and appreciation for his hard work and service to our state. I extend my best wishes for happiness and health in the years ahead.

Rick Snyder
Governor