

The Montcalm Community College Foundation has pledged a lead gift of \$1 million in support of the college's "Transforming Lives, Empowering People" campaign, which is under way at the lead gifts level.

The "Transforming Lives, Empowering People" campaign is designed to allocate \$7 million to developing programs to help students gain access and be successful at MCC.

MCC Foundation President Jane Anderson Beach said the Foundation is pleased to support the campaign at this level.

"The general consensus of the Foundation Board members

"Foundation Board members really want students to be successful and are supportive of additional measures to help them," Anderson Beach said.

The "Transforming Lives, Empowering People" campaign includes six major initiatives that will enhance and expand student access, MCC's Sidney campus and positively impact our community.

The lead initiative is a \$5 million renovation of the Kenneth J. Smith Instructional Building. The Smith Building is a major campus destination as it holds more than half of the college's Sidney campus classroom space, its agship nursing program, and courses in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

As one of the college's original buildings, the Smith Building opened in 1966 and includes classrooms, laboratories and instructors' o ces. Last updated in 1999, the building was quickly approaching a point where it either needed to be renovated or it would deteriorate beyond usefulness.

major giftscampaign

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Upon completion, the Smith Building will be transformed into the college's Center for Nursing & Health Careers and the Center for STEM Learning. Specialized spaces will include clinical simulation labs, preparation and debrie ng rooms, treatment rooms, a clinical testing and training apartment lab, science and biology labs, phlebotomy labs and specialized student learning spaces, as well as the addition of specialized equipment and technology.

MCC President Stacy H. Young, Ph.D., said investments made through the "Transforming Lives, Empowering People" campaign will bene t the community for years to come.

"It is our belief that investing in Montcalm Community College improves the entire community. Educating the students of this county grows the economy of this community and the region," Dr. Young said.

"In addition to creating modern, professional spaces for teaching and learning, the campaign will help fund

