

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LumenFlow Corp. receives grant from Barry Community Foundation

Hastings, MI- Thanks to a scholarship from the Barry Community Foundation (BCF), local start-up company LumenFlow, will receive consulting services from InnovationWorks. Based in Middleville, LumenFlow offers services in lean-design photonics solutions. "Given InnovationWorks track record for helping West Michigan companies bring products to the market, we are very happy to receive this scholarship.", said LumenFlow Operations Officer Brian Zatzke.

Zatzke said LumenFlow heard about the scholarship from BCF President Bonnie Hildreth, while attending the Innovation and Inventors Workshop at Pierce Cedar Creek Institute. "This scholarship is for local entrepreneurs and businesses who will benefit from InnovationWorks wealth of experience in business consulting services," noted Hildreth. A dozen entrepreneurs attended the workshop, sponsored by the Barry County Chamber of Commerce and the Barry County Economic Development Alliance. Participants heard from Innovation Works Director Bill Foley and Dan Clark, President of the Grand Rapids Inventors Network (GRIN). Foley and Clark spoke on the tools needed to bring a product to market, when patents are appropriate and how to overcome the traditional obstacles that entrepreneurs face. Foley cited the book ***Innovate Like Edison***, and encouraged the group to think about how to improve existing products and solve problems with their inventions. One such successful product, developed with InnovationWorks assistance is the Klever Kutter invented by Orville Crain of Muskegon. The new box cutter's unique design, allows it to pass new airport security regulations.

Valerie Byrnes, President of the Economic Development Alliance, invites anyone with an invention or idea or to learn more about the Innovation Scholarship to contact the Barry County Economic Development Alliance at 269/945-2454 for assistance. To learn more about InnovationWorks, visit www.innovationworkswestmichigan.com. To attend a GRIN meeting, see their website at www.grinventors.org for details.