

ANNUAL 2019 REPORT

# OPENING DOORS



“

*When we share, we open  
doors to a new beginning.*

—PAUL BRADLEY SMITH





## A LETTER OF GRATITUDE

We often open a door almost without thinking. We reach for a knob and swing open a piece of wood between us and where we want to go. Or we push on the handle to push open the glass. A man opening a door for a woman is considered chivalrous. Helping someone who needs a hand is an act of kindness. In our roles with the Community Foundation of Elkhart County, we're aware of how often thoughtful, generous people open a door for others. Again and again, we see people opening doors for others with gifts of time or money. Often we're able to assist folks so that their gifts will help others for generations to come. We remain truly humbled by your invitations to lend a hand to that process.

We've had another remarkable year at the Community Foundation due to your generosity. We received a total of \$22.3 million in gifts in the Fiscal Year 2018-19. Because of past giving and investment, we were able to give \$33 million in grants. The doors opened to the public at the Elkhart Health & Aquatic Center. The gorgeous building in the heart of Elkhart will soon host large swimming and diving competitions, but we're thrilled to see families coming to free open swimming nights and several thousand people sign up as members to further their health. The equipment and fencing is in front of the doors at the Goshen Theater, where a long-awaited renovation is underway of the beloved old theater.

In Nappanee, the WaNee 2020 project is progressing after hundreds of people gave contributions to the \$5.75 million capital campaign. The doors of the new Boys & Girls Club are swinging open to welcome children and families and the next phase will begin with renovation of the new Family Christian Development Center.

For those who prefer to head outdoors, another section of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail opened between Goshen and Middlebury.

By any measure, it was a remarkable year in Elkhart County. So much happens because of the impressive work of local nonprofit organizations who tend to so many aspects of our community. They are our partners in improving the quality of life for people in Elkhart County and we are fortunate to have such an array of services from the agencies and their employees and volunteers. We remain awed as well by the people who give of their time, talent and treasure so generously to others. In big and small ways, the people of Elkhart County share what they have so others can also thrive and go through doors that will give them greater opportunities.

Lilly Endowment Inc. continues to help Elkhart County and other communities thrive with generous gifts. The Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow (GIFT) grants (see pages 52-63) and the one resulting in South Bend - Elkhart Region's Labs for Industry Futures and Transformation (LIFT) Network & iNDustry Labs will both help us continue to grow. Part of the GIFT funds will help the Community Foundation work in new ways with partners in three Elkhart County neighborhoods to identify assets and leadership.

We take delight when the elevator doors open into our third-floor office at 300 Nibco Parkway. We never know who will step into our space and engage us in conversation or ask us to become a partner and we're delighted to be part of this community and it's ongoing progress, come visit!

Pete McCown  
President

Mike Schoeffler  
Board Chair

# IN LOVING MEMORY

*Two men who worked to make Elkhart County stronger both passed away in late August.*



*Phil Penn* died on August 29 at the age of 76. He led the Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce and played other roles in the city. We were able to interview him two weeks prior to his death about his friendship with Joyce Gerber and his role as executor of her estate. He asked that memorial contributions be given to the Elkhart Municipal Band Foundation tended by the Community Foundation of Elkhart County. See the full story on page 12.



*Al Ludwig*, 80, died after a long battle with cancer on August 30. He had begun developing Elkhart County properties in the mid-1960s and over the decades was both a successful, respected businessman and humble philanthropist. Al was one of the men who created the trust for Aux Chandelles that is described on pages 27 and 28.

*Both men worked at furthering the economic growth and well-being of Elkhart County and its residents. We are grateful to them and will miss them.*

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*Lilly*

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## 2018-2019 Board of Directors

Mike Schoeffler  
*Chairperson*

David Findlay  
*Vice Chair & Treasurer*

Dave Weaver  
*Treasurer*

Cien Asoera  
*Secretary*

Dick Armington  
Megan Baughman  
Deb Beaverson  
Becky Bontrager  
Todd Cleveland  
Rob Cripe  
Steve Fidler  
Ken Julian  
Del King

John Liechty  
Sharon Liegl  
Galen Miller  
Thomas Pletcher  
Kerri Ritchie  
Isaac Torres  
David Weed  
Ola Yoder

## Founding Members *Italicized: Deceased*

Charles Ainlay  
Jon Armstrong  
Lehman Beardsley  
Wilbert H. Budd  
Arthur J. Decio

Dr. John Foreman  
Samuel Hoover  
William Johnson  
Lee Martin  
James McNamee

William Myers  
Richard Pletcher  
Laura Rydson  
Oscar Schricker  
Thomas Warrick

## Founding Donors

*Founding Donors are those individuals or organizations that contributed \$50,000 or more from the inception of the Foundation in 1989 through June 30, 1995. The names of the donors will always be prominently displayed in the Foundation's Annual Report as the original endowment builders and supporters of the Community Foundation of Elkhart County.*

Bashor Home Endowment Fund  
Boys & Girls Club of Greater Goshen  
Foundation  
Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert H. Budd  
Charitable Fund of the First  
Congregational Church  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Corson  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Deahl  
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Decio  
The Decio Family:  
Terrence Decio, Jamee Decio,  
Lindy Decio Reilly, Jay Decio  
Christman, Leigh Decio Laird  
Sherrill and Helen Deputy Family  
Elkhart County Council on Aging  
Elkhart County 4-H Endowment  
Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Fidler

Dr. and Mrs. John Foreman  
Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Hartman  
Mr. F. L. Hascall  
Goshen College  
Goshen Rotary Club Scholarship Fund  
Greencroft Foundation  
Gunden Family Fund  
Paul and Joyce Hultin Family Fund  
KeyBank  
LaCasa of Goshen  
Lilly Endowment, Inc.  
Mervin D. Lung Family  
Martin Foundation  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Martin  
Mr. William F. Martin  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Naquin  
Northridge HS Dollars for Scholars

Oaklawn Foundation  
Mrs. Lee A. Rieth  
Ms. Martha Rieth  
Mr. and Mrs. Marly Rydson  
Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Sailor  
Salvation Army Elkhart Corps Endowment  
Mr. and Mrs. Dan Sherman  
Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Schricker  
Ina L. Strasser Endowment  
Trinity United Methodist Foundation  
Mr. and Mrs. Basil S. Turner  
United Way of Elkhart County  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard VanDerKarr  
Maynard W. Wells Family  
YMCA/YWCA Joint Community Project

*Our Mission*

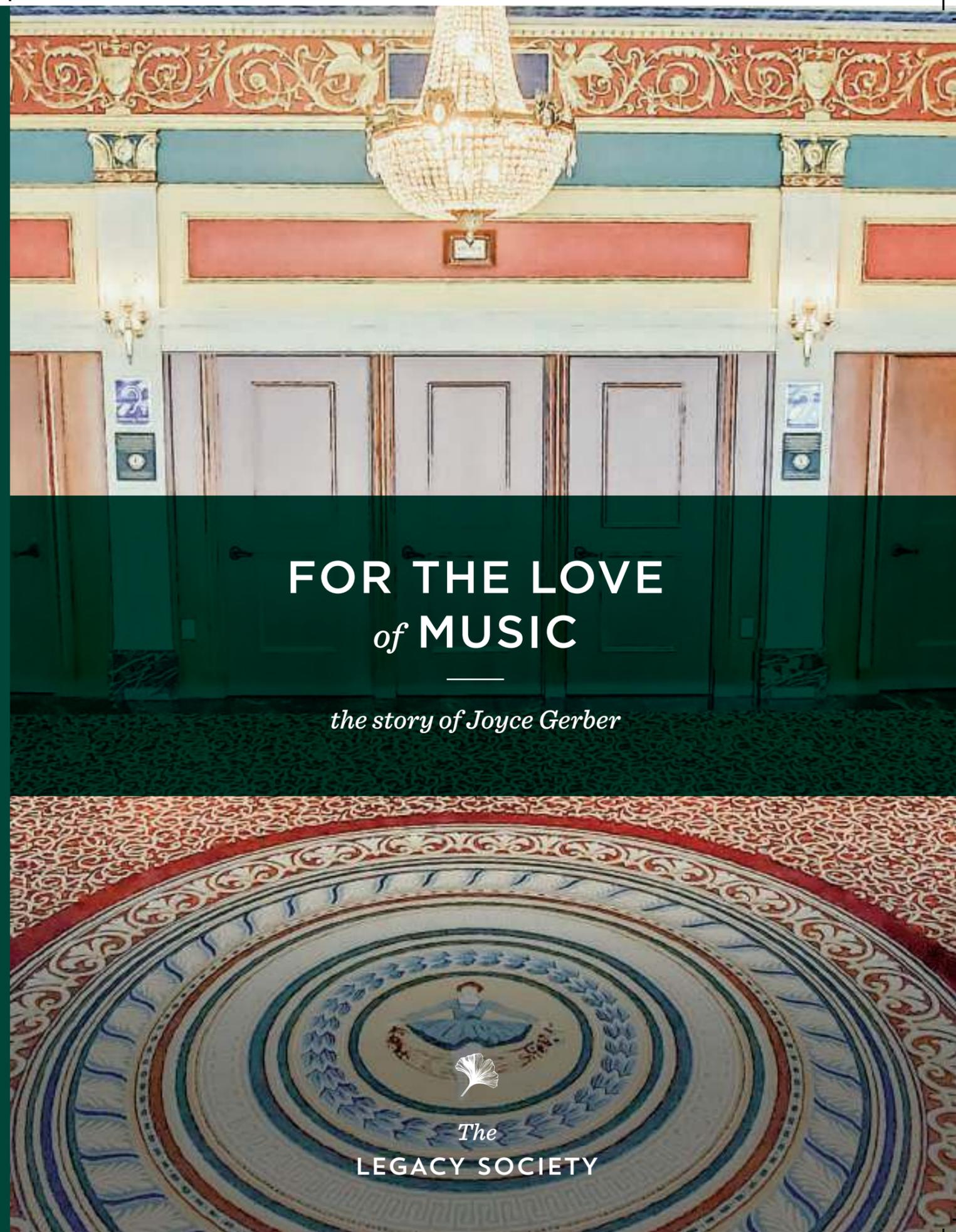
TO IMPROVE THE  
QUALITY OF LIFE IN  
ELKHART COUNTY

*by inspiring generosity.*



2018 - 2019

# DONOR STORIES



## FOR THE LOVE *of* MUSIC

*the story of Joyce Gerber*



*The*  
LEGACY SOCIETY

## Joyce Gerber lived a simple life full of music.



She grew up in Elkhart and graduated from Elkhart High School in 1947. Not long after that, she joined the Elkhart Municipal Band. She found the love of her life. The band became the thing she loved most on this earth.

“The band was her life, essentially,” says Phil Penn, who played with her in the band and got to know her over the decades. “She loved the Municipal Band.

She played cornet. She played it in practice after practice, concert after concert. Joyce was a member of the band for 67 years. She was honored for 50 years by Mayor Jim Perron in 1998, 55 years by Mayor Dave Miller and given the Honorary Lifetime Member Award by Mayor Dick Moore in 2012, when she was still an active member. Members get a pin to wear on the lapel of their black tuxedos they wear in concert for every five years of membership. Joyce ended up with 13 stars on her lapel and more in her figurative crown.

In a video on the band’s 75th anniversary, Joyce showed the stars and told the videographer, “Each year we end our summer series playing the ‘Stars and Stripes Forever’ by John Philip Sousa. That’s the best time of the year that I enjoy. I always feel proud when I can still go out front and still play.”

She was also the band’s secretary/treasurer for 42 years, meticulously managing the details of the city-funded band. She also worked in the accounting department at Miles Laboratories for 37 years. She lived in a modest Elkhart home and drove a small Chevy car. She traveled by bus with her friends and belonged to Riverside Bible Church. They knew her as being generous and good at conversation. What they didn’t know is how good she was at financial planning. Perhaps Joyce had a dollar for every time someone called her instrument a trumpet.

She had asked Penn to be her executor since she had no other family. He said he’d be honored.

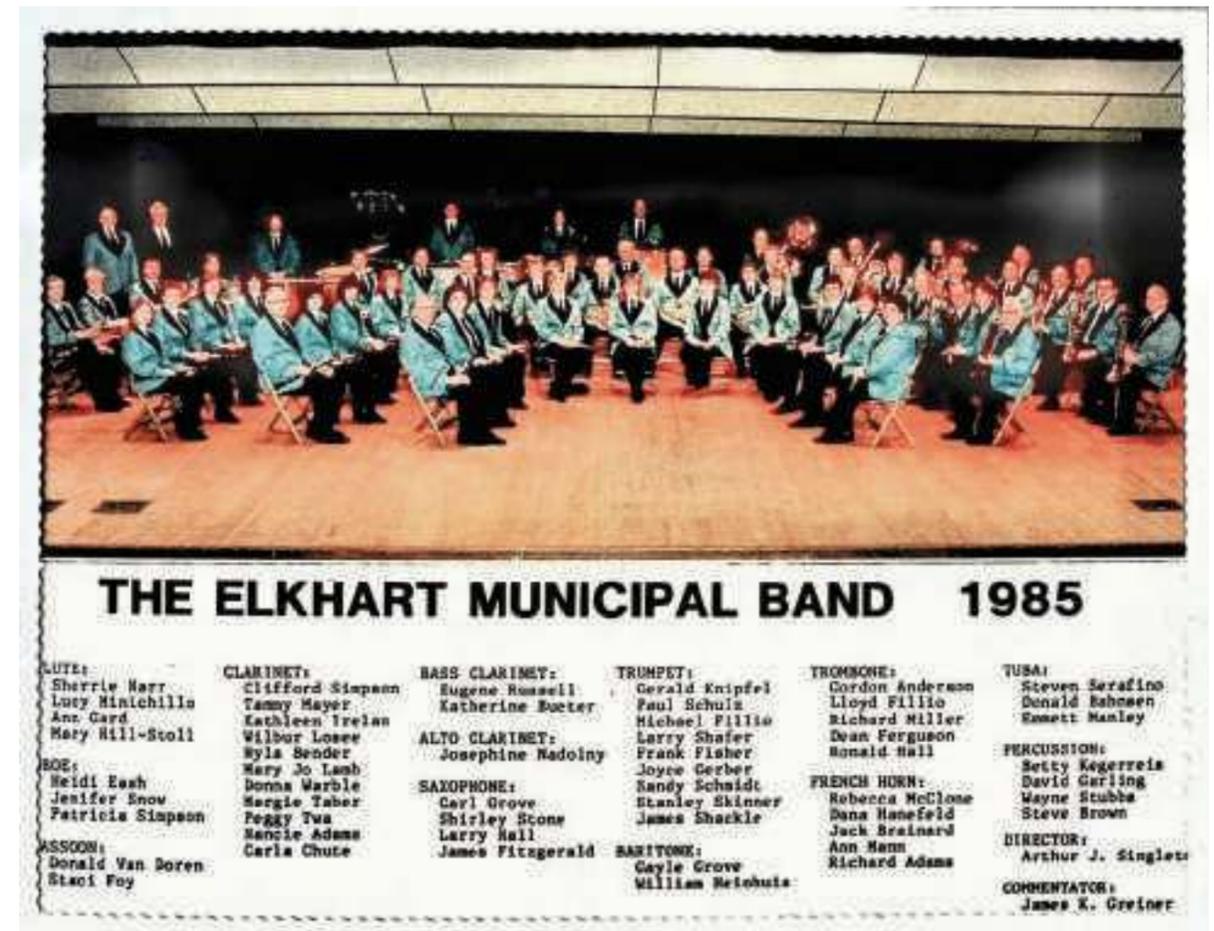
After her death on January 29, 2018 at the age of 88, she was buried in her band uniform with her cornet at her side. When Phil met with attorney Richard Noser about her estate,

“We sat down and went through her assets and I thought my goodness,” says Phil. “She was a very generous person. She wanted to contribute to the community. She wanted to contribute to the band.”

She had investments and savings. “She saved her money and was able to donate it through her will to a number of charitable organizations, including the community foundation,” he says.

The gift to the Community Foundation, just one of several large donations, went to the Elkhart Municipal Band Designated Fund.

The band Joyce loved is funded entirely by the city, but the fund supports the band programs in Elkhart and Concord schools and band directors have used the annual gifts for instrument maintenance, purchasing equipment and paying



for private lessons for students in need. “We have so much more money now thanks to Joyce,” says David Swihart, the Municipal Band director.

Kate Irelan, who took over as secretary/treasurer and has now been in the band 43 years, would take flowers on Saturdays to the East Lake Nursing and Rehabilitation Facility, where Joyce lived her last few years. They had a great time talking and became friends. So when Kate heard about Joyce’s gift that will help students in the former band instrument capital of the world, she wasn’t shocked. “I think anybody who knew her and who knew how important the band was to her would not be surprised by this. I was surprised by the amount of money, but not surprised that we would be a recipient of her generosity,” says Kate.

Allen Strike, longtime WTRC radio personality and emcee for the band’s concerts, used to call the group “The Joyce Gerber Municipal Band.” She would call him on his birthday. He took her Gerber daisies for hers in 2016. Strike became a regular visitor when Joyce was at East Lake Rehabilitation Center, taking her favorite foods: cherry Pop Tarts and

popcorn purchased at The Dollar Store. She would tell him stories about the band. He would update her on their recent accomplishments. “She didn’t have a regular family, a family as we would describe it,” he says. “The family she loved, consisting of the people she loved, was the Elkhart Municipal Band.”

Now that family has more resources to open doors for others who may want to join. 🌻

*The family she loved, consisting of the people she loved, was the Elkhart Municipal Band.*

— ALLEN STRIKE

# Legacy Society List 2019

*Italicized: Deceased*

The Legacy Society is a group of generous individuals who believe in impacting their community. Their stories and hearts are inspiring! The following list includes the names of those who have informed us of bequests, policies, trusts, and other end-of-life planned gifts, for the purpose of encouraging others. This list also includes members of society that have a donor advised fund with us, where they are living out their legacy during their lifetime. Some members of the Legacy Society, however, have chosen to inform us but otherwise keep their decision confidential.

Anonymous 1  
 Anonymous 2  
 Anonymous 3  
 Anonymous 4  
*Charles and Dorothy Ainlay*  
 Dick and Linda Armstrong  
 Janet Arnold  
 Tom and Dot Arnold  
 Harold "Doc" and Jane Atkins  
 Steve and Julie Bachman  
 Paris and Becky Ball-Miller  
*Glenn and Joan Banks*  
 John and Nancy Banks  
 Stephen and Holli Banks  
 Leon Bauman and Char Yutzy  
 William and Linda Beier  
 Al and Rebecca Benham  
 George and Mona Biddlecome  
 Jim and Joan Bock  
 Bertha Bontrager-Rhodes  
 Derald and Cindy Bontrager  
 Tyson and Sarah Bontrager  
 Wilbur and Sarah Bontrager  
*Dorothy Borger*  
 Thomas and Elizabeth Borger  
 Mary Jean Borneman  
 Brian and Jeannelle Brady  
 Patty and Coley Brady  
 Susan Branson  
 Terrence and Kathy Brennan  
 Michael P. Bristol  
*James and Patty Brotherson*  
 George and Martha Buckingham  
 George and Patricia Bucklen  
*Justine Sparks Budd*  
*Wilbert and Alice Budd*  
 Robert Burger  
 B. Jane Burns  
 Bill Caldwell  
*John Calvert*  
 Bill and Anita Cast  
 James and Anke Chandler  
*Brantly and Katie Chappell*  
 Betty Chatten  
 Jack and Karen Cittadine  
 Brian and Diana Clark  
 Todd and Missy Cleveland  
 Richard and Kathy Collins  
 Tom and Dot Corson  
*Donald and Margaret Covert*  
 Barbara Cowles  
 Betty Cox  
 Robert and Betty Cripe  
 Rick W. and Mary David, Jr.  
*June Deal*  
 Arthur and Patricia Decio  
*Elizabeth DeFries*  
 Donald and Melanie DeGross  
 Bob and Mary Pat Deputy  
 Lawrence and Sherrod Deputy  
 Michael and Mandi Deputy  
 Mike Dibley  
 Terry and Julie Diener  
 Todd W. A. Driver  
*Thomas and Lois Dusthimer*  
 Tom and Sara Elkin  
 Kay Ann Eller  
*Sharlene Eller-Preston*  
*Susan P. Ellington*  
 Jane Eslick

*Ned and Agda Farber*  
 Janice Farron  
*Frederick and Dorothy Feick*  
 Bill and Kristin Fenech  
 John and Lois Fidler  
*Lewis and Elizabeth Fidler*  
 Richard and Marlene Finnigan  
*Ivan Fisher*  
*John and Margaret Foreman*  
 Martha Foreman  
 James Foster Shea Jr.  
 Andrew and Kathy Frech  
 Daniel Fulmer  
*L. Craig and Connie Fulmer*  
 Bill and Sue Garvey  
 Dan and Suzanne George  
 Bob and Stevie Giel  
 John and Gwen Gildea  
 Gary and Debra Gilot  
 John and Judith Goebel  
 Joe and Rita Gold  
 William Goodsene  
*Christiana Graham*  
 Doug and Barbara Grant  
*Ralph and Opal E. Gunden*  
*Guy David Gundlach*  
 Steven Haines  
*John Harman*  
 Cindy and Dave Hawkins  
*Dan and Mary Henkin*  
 Steven Herendeen  
 Stan and Sharon Hess  
 Terry and Lu Hoogenboom  
 Floyd and Esther Hoover  
 Mary E. Hoover

Shirley Hoover  
*Joyce Hultin*  
 Eugene W. and Barbara Hungate  
 Tom Irions  
 Randall Jacobs and Rachel Miller Jacobs  
 Brian and Amanda Jamison  
 Rick and Sandy Jenkins  
 Levon and Dorrene Johnson  
 William P. and Toni Johnson  
 Stephen Kash  
*Carolyn Keefe*  
*Thomas and Suzanne Keene*  
 Donna Kercher Schrock  
 Robert and Kristy King  
 Richard and Susan Klepinger  
 Ted and Diane Kolodziej  
 Don L. and Jurate Krabill  
 Jeffery and Heidi Krusenklau  
 Michael L. and Rebecca Kubacki  
 Mark and Karen Kurtz  
 Chuck and Betty Lamb  
 James A. Leaverton  
 John and Jane Leavitt  
 Merritt and Dierra Lehman  
 Robert and Carolyn LeMaster  
*Walter and Jane Lerner*  
 John and Dianne Letherman  
 John and Joy Liechty  
 The Liegl Family Foundation  
 Tom and Marianne Lilly  
*Ralph and Rita Lockerbie*  
 Mary Jo Ludwick  
 Allan and Karon Ludwig  
 Mervin and Dorothy Lung  
 Philip and Jeannette Lux  
 Tony and Tammy Magaldi  
*Joseph Manfredi*  
 Frank and Marsha Martin  
 Rex and Alice Martin  
 Robert W. and Gail T. Martin  
*William and Margaret Martin*  
*Irma Mast*  
 Pete and Wendy McCown  
 Kathleen McCoy-Royer  
*Betty Jean McKeever*  
*James and Ann McNamee*  
 Bob and Sue Miller  
*Ruth Miller*  
*S. Ray and Linda Miller*  
 Ronald and Connie Minzey  
 Gordon and Marie Moore  
 Michelle Moore  
 G. Lynn and Linda Morris

Dan and Jan Morrison  
 James and Karla Morton  
*Don and Jane Mossey*  
 Tim and Sarah Myers  
*William and Patricia Myers*  
 Thad and Rachele Naquin  
*Thomas and Mary Naquin*  
 James and Joyce Nelson  
 Sam and Kristina Newlands  
 Dzung and Françoise Nguyen  
 Mike Nicolini  
 Myrl and Phyllis Nofziger  
 Quinton and Shannon Oakes  
*Virginia J. Pardee*  
 Cole Patuzzi  
 Jeffrey and Diana Peat  
 Richard and Suzanne Peterson  
*William O. and Loretha Phillips*  
 Mike and Judy Pianowski  
 Frank and Barbara Piaskowy  
 James and Sharon Piechorowski  
 Mac Pierce  
 Donald Pletcher  
 Kenneth and Jean Pletcher  
 Phillip and Nancy Pletcher  
 Richard and Susan Pletcher  
 Thomas and Dana Pletcher  
 John and Kathy Postle  
 Doug and Mary Putnam  
*Clayton and Carol Quimbach*  
 Larry and Elizabeth Renbarger  
*Florence Richardson*  
 Robert E. and Sandy Richardson  
 Martha Ann Rieth VanDyke  
*Mary Jane Rieth*  
 J. Douglas and Sharon Risser  
*Lucille Risser*  
 Kelly and Karen Rose  
 Charlene Rule  
 Marly and Laura Rydson  
 Matthew and Tricia Rydson  
 Janet Elaine Ryman  
*Vernon and Doris Sailor*  
 George and Terri Schmidt, II  
 William and Lorette Schmuhl, Jr.  
 Doug Schnell  
 Michael and Vickie Schoeffler  
 Kenneth and Doris Ann Schrad  
*Barbara Schricker*  
 Oscar W. and Marilyn Schricker  
 Nancy Schricker  
 Susan A. Schricker  
 Bob and Marie Schrock

*Harold Schrock* and  
 Donna Kercher Schrock  
 Janet Rae Scribner  
 Amy and Amish Shah  
 James Foster Shea, Jr.  
*Daniel and Josephine Sherman*  
 Stuart W. and Shirley H. Showalter  
 James and LaRayne Siegmann  
*William* and Bernice Simms  
 Brian and Lauri Smith  
 David and Nancy Smith, Jr.  
*Harold* and Patricia Smith  
 Mark and Vicki Smucker  
 F. Richard and Josephine Snyder  
 Christopher and Jodi Spataro  
 Bruce and Barbara Stahly  
*William D. Stimpson*  
 Donald and Claudia Stohler  
 Tim and Christy Stonger  
 Dick and Kay Stout  
*Marjorie M. Swift*  
 W. Earl and Linda Taylor  
 Michael and Sheila Terlep  
 Dr. Michael and Carole Thomas  
 George and Karen Thompson  
 Richard M. and Anne K. Treckelo  
 Gerald A. and Barbara J. Trolz  
 John and Carole Ulmer  
*Adrian* and Treva Vaksvik  
*Richard and Bellodene Van Der Karr*  
*Michael* and Meredith Vickrey  
*Mary Elizabeth Walker*  
 Thomas and Patricia Warrick  
 David Weaver  
*Laveta Weaver*  
 David and Dottie Webster  
 David Weed  
 Donald Weed  
 Robert and Peggy Weed  
 William and Sarah Weed  
 Chris and Jenny Welch  
 M. Scott and Kimberlee Welch  
 Ross and Linda Weldy  
 Jeff and Phid Wells  
 Karen R. Wesdorp  
 Aaron and Stephanie Wieand  
 John and Carolyn Wolf  
 Chris Wolfe  
 Wen and Susan Wu  
 Al and Marie Yoder  
 Candy and Darrel Yoder  
 Ola and Vera Yoder  
 Dorothy Zimmerman

# SETTING *the* TABLE

*Branching out to the next generation*

*Donor*  
ADVISED FUNDS

The Bontrager children learned to expect strangers at their dinner table and staying in their home.



Lloyd, who with his wife Bertha built Jayco Inc. and a multi-generation legacy of generosity, would invite people home for dinner, but it wasn't limited to that. "There was always a place at our table for whomever knocked on our door," says daughter Cindy Hawkins, who now lives in the original family home in rural Middlebury.

She sat at the dining room table with a dozen other family members, recalling not just her father's generosity, but how giving has been foundational for the family. Lloyd believed in the best of people and wouldn't just invite someone for a meal, but to stay with the family if it was needed.

There was that college student he met on a mission trip to whom he gave lodging, a job and a car to drive. There was the guy from North Carolina invited to use a bedroom instead of sleeping in his car as he was in Middlebury learning from Lloyd how to make recreational vehicles.

After Lloyd's death in a plane crash on Easter Sunday in 1985, Bertha continued that tradition and offered Lloyd's old Mercedes if someone needed it.

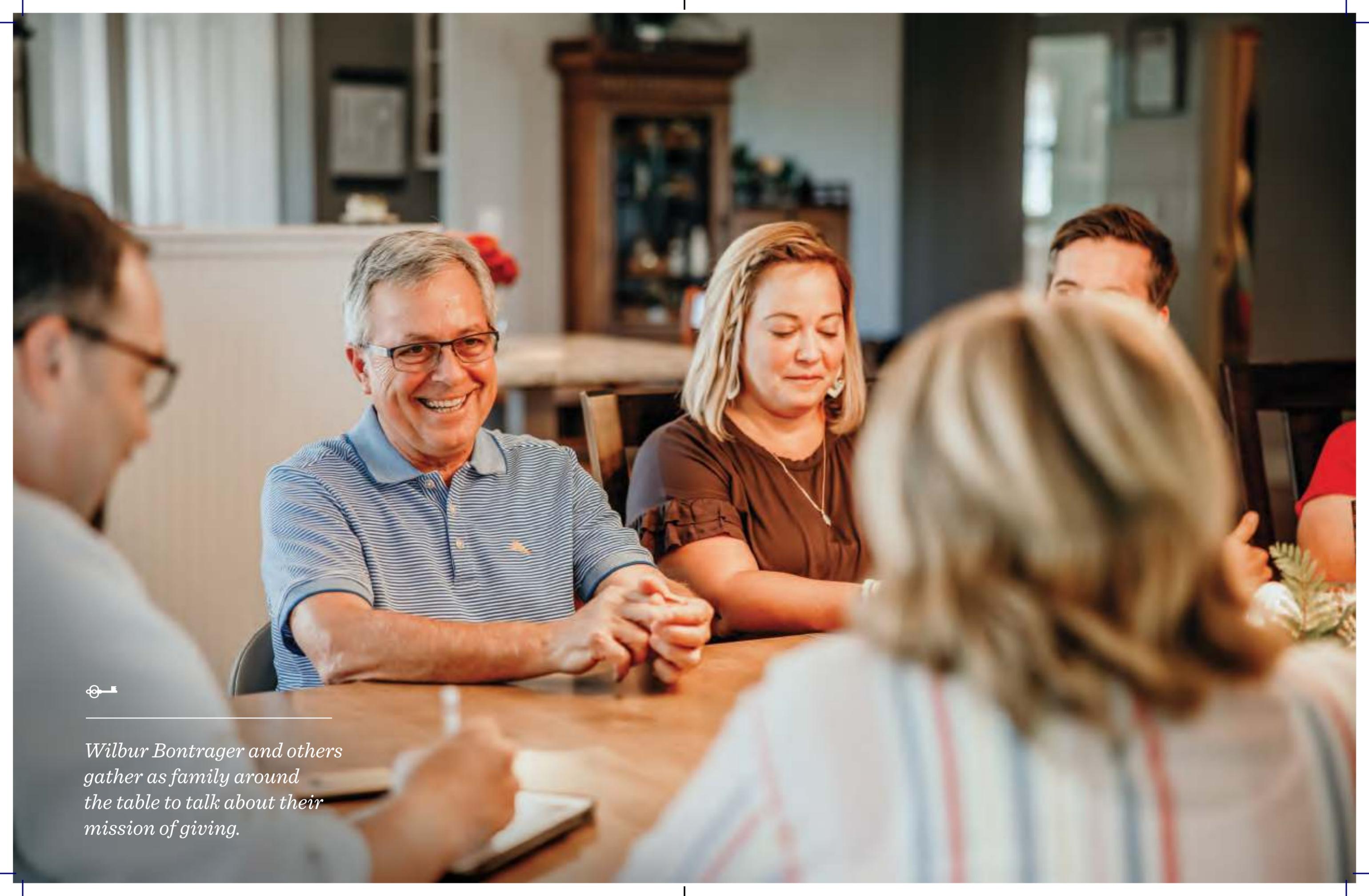
The door was always open and the generosity was in place to meet any need. The Bontrager Family Donor Advised Fund, established in 2016 after the Bontragers sold their company to Thor Industries, puts a structure in place that opens the door for multi-generational generosity.

The Bontragers started tithing as Lloyd worked in the recreational vehicle industry. After he started Jayco in their barn and chicken houses and patented a mechanism that made lifting the roof of a camper easier, they also tithed from the business as well. "Ten percent of what we earned, we gave to the Lord," says Bertha.

Personally and from the company, they supported children and an international hospital. They gave money toward Bible translation and built campers that had secret compartments for Bibles to be smuggled across the Iron Curtain.

The first two years of the family fund, Bertha Bontrager Rhodes and her children were at the table for the twice-a-year gatherings to review grant applications and make recommendations to give money from the fund's earnings.





*Wilbur Bontrager and others  
gather as family around  
the table to talk about their  
mission of giving.*

*There was always a place at our table for whomever knocked on our door.*

– DAUGHTER CINDY HAWKINS

This year, a grandchild from each family was also invited to participate, bringing in a third generation of family philanthropy.

The Bontrager siblings initially weren't sure if their children in the third generation would want to be involved in a fund moving forward. "It's almost irritating that they didn't think we'd want to," says Kim Huffman, whose father Wilbur is the oldest of Lloyd and Bertha's six children. "It's amazing how good it makes you feel when you're able to give."

Just as Wilbur and his siblings grew up watching Lloyd and Bertha give in a wide range of ways, his daughter Kim and her siblings and cousins saw the same thing from their parents. Jason Bontrager, Wilbur and Sarah's son and the oldest grandson, remembers watching his parents put money in the offering plate at church on Sundays.

Now Jaydn Huffman, Kim's oldest daughter, says she's never known anything different than giving to others. Jaydn

represents the fourth generation and she's gone to Ethiopia three times on mission trips and worked at a school. That giving nature that is part of her family and has always been part of her life is expressed through her passion for the children in this African country. Her cousin Casey Diener regularly makes trips overseas to volunteer for a month at a time as a nurse in a mission organization.

The 17 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren in the family follow the example and reputation that was one tithe and one generous act at a time. Their life has never been dull, says Wilbur.

Bertha, Wilbur and others wanted to get younger generations involved in giving. They were inspired by the John and Lois Fidler family to set up a fund that would make it easy for that to happen for years to come. Jodi Spataro, Chief Advancement Officer for the Community Foundation, met with them and helped make their giving easy, though the decisions on what to fund aren't always simple.

As the family grows, the range of causes its members are interested in does too. So as the family gathers around the table to make decisions on how to give, greater discussions take place, making unified decisions more challenging. Several family units have their own foundations from which they can support their personal passions.

Whether it's a gift from the fund or lending a car to someone in need, the Bontragers continue helping others. The older Bontragers are pleased with how younger generations are opening doors with their giving.

It's become a family tradition that is almost second nature. The Bontrager family's legacy of giving unfolds into new generations like the campers Lloyd created at the inception of Jayco. 🌱

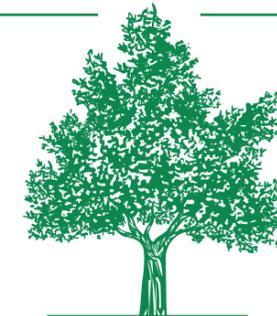
### DID YOU KNOW?

A donor advised fund can be one of the most effective ways for a family to bond in an expression of their common values. When family members are directly involved in grant making, their participation can act as a family statement saying, "This is who we are."

## Donor-Advised Funds by the Numbers FUNDS HELD AT YOUR COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



Funds  
**130**



Assets  
**\$43M**



Grants  
**\$19.7M**

## FUNDS HELD NATIONALLY

**463,622**  
donor-advised  
fund accounts in 2017

**\$110.01B**  
assets held in  
donor-advised funds in 2017

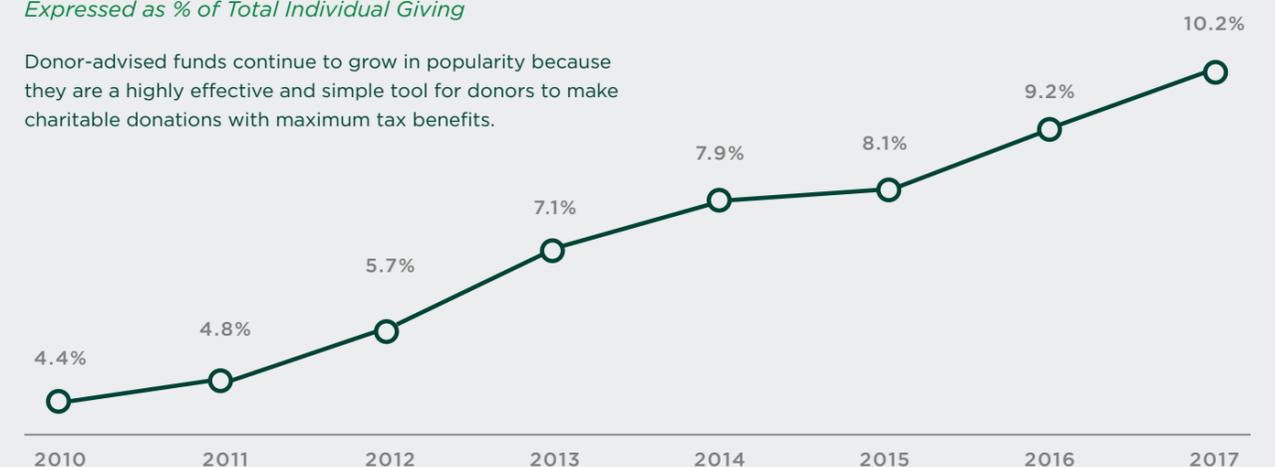
**\$19.08B**  
given to charity from  
donor-advised funds in 2017.

National Philanthropic Trust – Donor Advised Fund Report 2018

### NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS

Expressed as % of Total Individual Giving

Donor-advised funds continue to grow in popularity because they are a highly effective and simple tool for donors to make charitable donations with maximum tax benefits.



## Arthur Decio remembers his wife Patricia volunteering at Aux Chandelle Development Center.



She loved the children with special needs whom she helped while their children were at school, he says. That building along Hively Avenue opened in 1966 after a countywide capital campaign.

As the love of Art's life talked about her volunteer work, he got to know the agency.

In the 1950s, Aux Chandelle, which means "into the light," started as a way to help children with disabilities. In the 1960s and 1970s, programs grew to include a broader range of ages and offerings of services such as rehabilitation and assistance for the blind.

In 1974, after the Decios donated 35 acres where they planned to one day build a home for their family, the Association for the Disabled of Elkhart County opened the first licensed group home in the state of Indiana at 19670 S.R. 120. The master plan from 1973 still hangs on the wall at ADEC. "ADEC would not be here today if that group had not had the foresight to pull together and put it here," says Donna Belusar, ADEC president/CEO.

The Decios and others were involved along the way as organizations and individuals came together to build a better Elkhart and Elkhart County. Decio got a reputation as being the guy who could raise needed money for a range of efforts, including Elkhart General Hospital, United Way of Elkhart County and what came to be known as ADEC.

Kids needed love and care. Decio saw a way to help assure that the doors would stay open for years to come. "Some of these big community needs, they don't go away," says Decio. In the 1980s, the sale of a property resulted in money for the agency and Decio had an idea. He gathered a group of men to create a trust whose earnings would fund ADEC. Frank Martin, founder of Martin Capital Management, became the guy who handled the money. Al Ludwig, Frank Vite, Glen Banks became fellows. Decio became chairman of the group, which took

shape before the Community Foundation of Elkhart County was formed.

Martin was the first to turn in a personal contribution and the other men soon followed. Others in the community, including Walter Wells and Jack Feddersen, also contributed. Chuck Seavers, who had become the director of the agency that resulted from several mergers and name changes, would make an annual request to the group for funds. The fellows would meet and approve it.

In 2010, Martin became a non-voting member of the board, but kept managing the funds. The other men involved were aging and a conversation began about how to assure that the fund continue.

In 2015, the trust found a new home as a donor-designated fund at the Community Foundation of Elkhart County. ADEC now gets much of its funding from state grants for the services it provides people with disabilities, but Donna Belusar finds extraordinary ways to use the donor-designated funds. The dollars help open doors for young



# INTO *the* LIGHT

*Forging a new path to honor and educate*



Designated  
FUNDS



men and women as they finish high school and find a perch in the community. In past years, it's gone toward lighting and signage that emphasizes the ways Aux Chandelles has brought the community into the light of better understanding the personalities and contributions of people with disabilities.

Though the fund has a long history, not many know the story of the way a few people came together to assure that ADEC would have a bright future by opening doors. "When the Aux Chandelle center needed private funding, it was men like Arthur Decio and his fellows who really made it possible," says Frank Martin. "And that's why Elkhart, unlike so many towns our size, have a viable program

for disabled children and adults. This all came together because of some smart, human-oriented men like Art."

Martin says he learned about caring for others, about sharing what you have, from Decio, who gave himself and then called others to do so. "I think you have mentored so many of us, Art," he told Decio as they sat around a table, recalling the history of this trust and other community efforts.

Decio would rather talk about the goodness in Elkhart County and the community as a whole. "If you have success, no single person is responsible," he says. 🌱

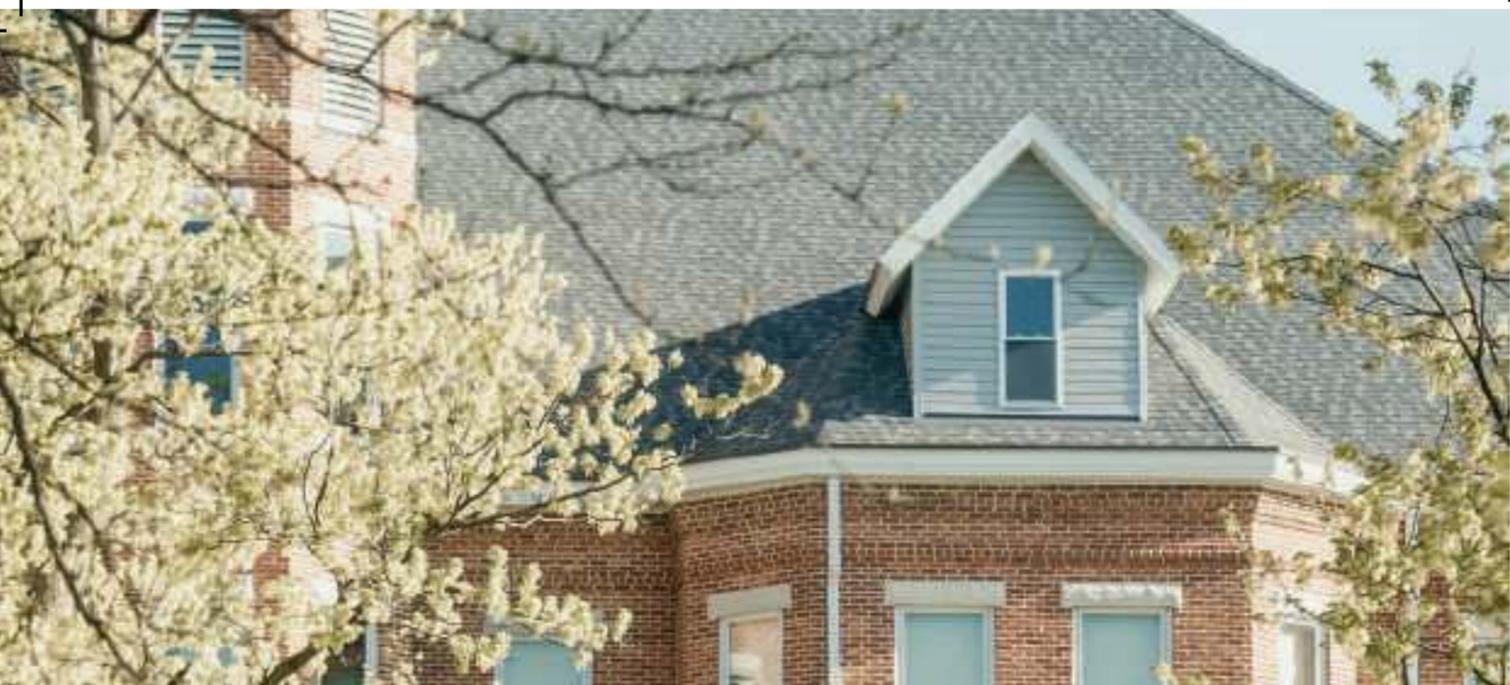
## A PLACE FOR PASSION

Perhaps you have developed a passion for specific nonprofit programs or initiatives through volunteering, support of annual fund drives or a personal interest. No matter what your motivation is, a designated fund ensures ongoing, reliable support for the nonprofit organizations you care about.

## Designated Funds by the Numbers

### FUNDS HELD AT YOUR COMMUNITY FOUNDATION





# A SMOOTH ROAD to HIGHER EDUCATION

*the story of Bob and Betty Cripe*



SCHOLARSHIPS

As Bob and Betty Cripe sit on the couch of their apartment, their hands nearly touching, they look at each other sweetly.



They smile readily as they talk about their life together, their family and how they're able to give.

It is Bob's 93rd birthday. His children had come for a surprise lunch before his interview and a few photos for the Community Foundation of Elkhart County. He had prepared a typed list of some thoughts before the interview about their family's scholarship fund.

Once the interview started, he made it clear that he doesn't want attention. He just believes in how well his family's scholarship fund works and how much he wants others to know about that.

It was a day like this in the summer of 2017 that a representative from Huntington University was visiting with them. The man suggested establishing a fund that would continue their legacy of generosity. The Cripes were thinking of doing something, but not what the development officer was thinking.

"We're not into buildings. We're into people," says Betty. They have always loved learning. They have always loved giving. The two came together in their new scholarship fund at the Community Foundation of Elkhart County.

The couple has tithed since they married 68 years ago. Bob grew up Mennonite and Betty was Methodist, but after they married, they started giving at least 10 percent away. They taught their four children — Rob, Melodie, Marcia and Marileah — that as well.

One year, as Betty sat in the pew with the four children, Bob gave a stewardship sermon and told the congregation that

he'd make up any financials losses for anyone who started tithing. Betty's eyes widened, but he wasn't asked for a dime. Five years later, Rob was giving a similar sermon and told the congregation that if someone tithed and felt like it cost them, his dad would make up the difference. The family laughs as they tell that story. "You never lose when you tithe," says Bob. "It's amazing how it works."

Bob and Rob both earn money from the family businesses. Bob had worked more than 60 years with other family members making and selling lightning protection systems through Independent Protection Co. in Goshen and buses through Turtle Top in Goshen and New Paris. His son Rob is now president and CEO of IPC/Turtle Top.

The two men are committed to operating their business with Christian principles and the family believes Huntington is a Christian college educating others on how to do that. A dozen of Bob and Betty's children and grandchildren have been students or worked at Huntington. Bob was a trustee on the board.

Rob, a board member for the Community Foundation of Elkhart County and chairman of its Career Pathways committee, urged them to talk to the local foundation about a fund that would help students at Huntington. He became the matchmaker between his parents and the foundation. Soon Chief Advancement Officer Jodi Spataro was in their living room helping them set up a scholarship fund to help students getting a Huntington MBA.

Bob says they were blown away by what the Community Foundation was willing to do. "So we said we want to use the foundation as the vehicle," he says.

That's no small thing. Bob, after all, is a guy who helped run a company that builds vehicles from the ground up so that they work well and are safe over time. The lightning protection side of the business puts systems in place that are grounded to protect what you've built against the unexpected lightning strike.

What they liked about using the Community Foundation to manage their scholarship fund is that they could establish the terms for the scholarship at Huntington and the

---

*We're not into buildings.  
We're into people.*

— BETTY CRIFE



funds are managed locally. Though they were using the Foundation for the first time, they liked that it was started 30 years ago by men Bob had grown up with and done business alongside in the community.

Two weeks after Jodi visited them at their home, they signed the paperwork. It was simple and easy.

As they gave the money to set up the scholarship fund, the Community Foundation matched 25 percent of the gift. “That’s like finding money,” he says, noting that it’s the icing on the cake.

This past year, the Cripes came across more icing to put on their cake. As part of its 30th anniversary celebration, the Community Foundation was matching gifts up to 30

percent, so the Cripes gave more money. “That was too good to pass up,” says Betty.

In addition to their generous giving, Bob and Betty are giving a lot of free advice to their friends and even other Huntington alums. They have urged them to use the Community Foundation of Elkhart County to set up vehicles that help them give away money. They explain that there are wise people overseeing the foundation and making good decisions.

But aside from what they’re telling people, something else is clear: They delighted in doing this. They just loved every part of this act that will open doors for students for years to come as their family continues the tradition of generosity. 🌱

### DID YOU KNOW?

You can invest your gift in your community’s future and show students you care with the guidance and personal services of the Community Foundation. You determine the criteria students must meet to receive the scholarship you establish. With your assistance, students achieve their academic and career-oriented goals – from preschool to postgraduate work.

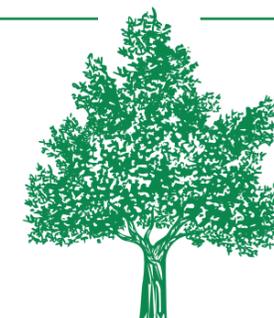
The universal application for the 2019-2020 scholarships, including all graduating high school seniors and adult scholarship opportunities, can be found at [InspiringGood.org/Scholarships](https://InspiringGood.org/Scholarships)

### Scholarship Funds by the Numbers

## FUNDS HELD AT YOUR COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



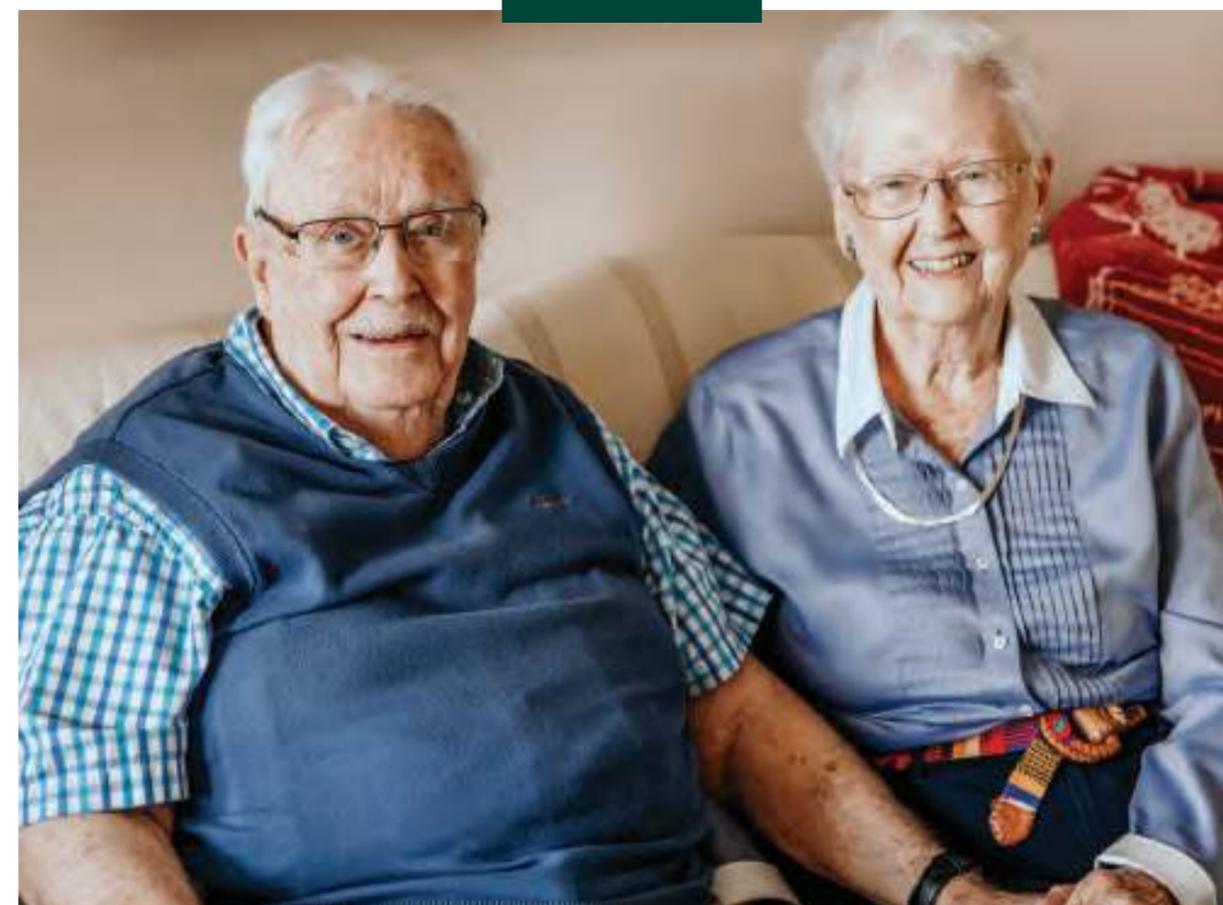
Funds  
**101**



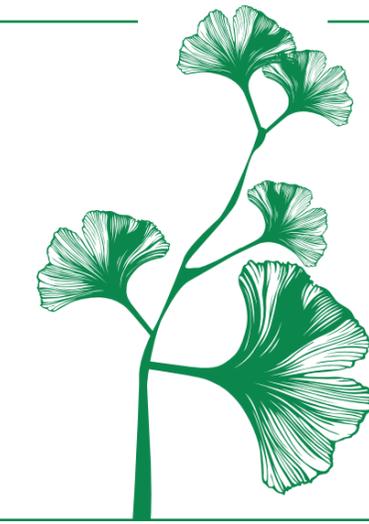
Assets  
**\$21.5M**



Grants  
**\$2.5M**

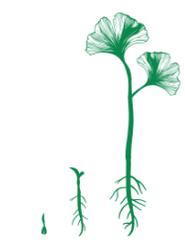


*Your Community Foundation*  
**AT A GLANCE**



*Grants*

**\$33M**



*Total assets*  
**\$302M**



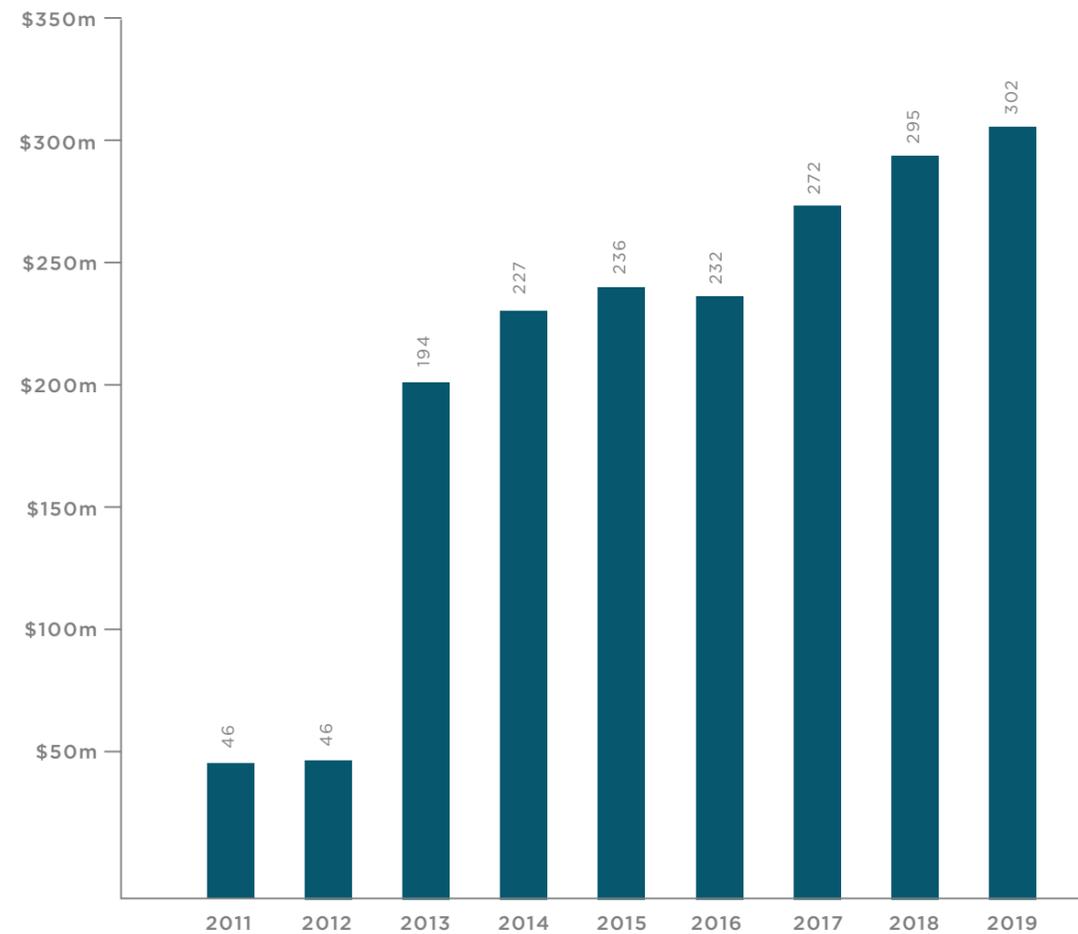
*Total funds*  
**523**

*2018 - 2019*

**FINANCIAL  
DOCUMENTATION**

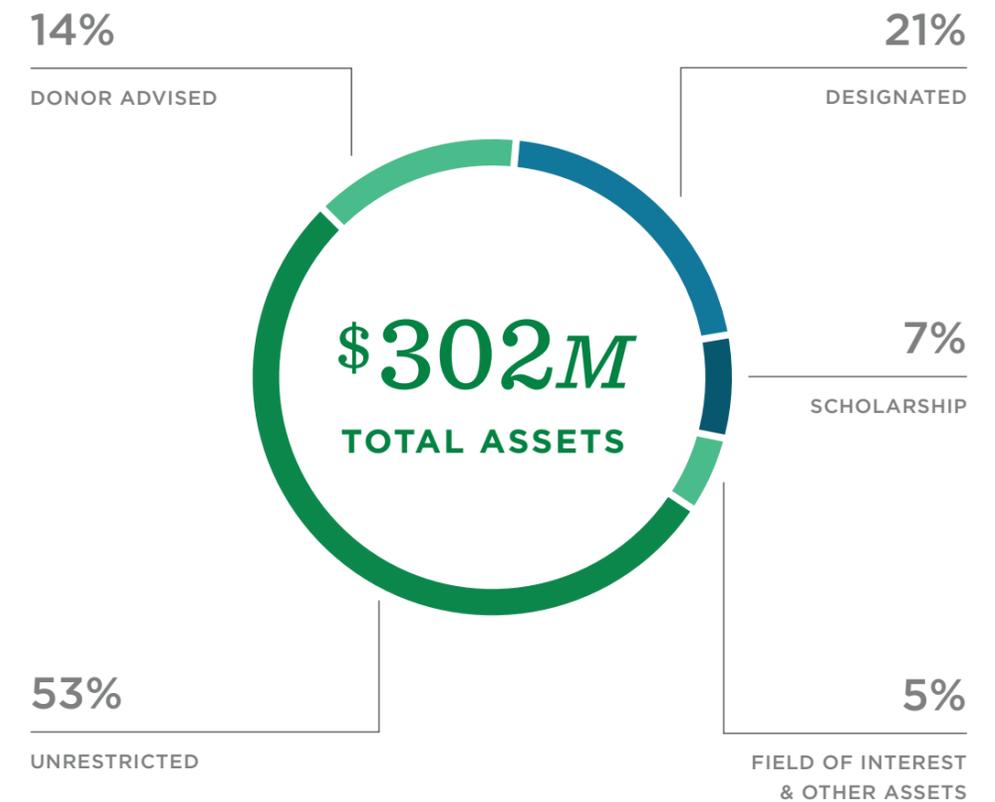


## Assets *by year*



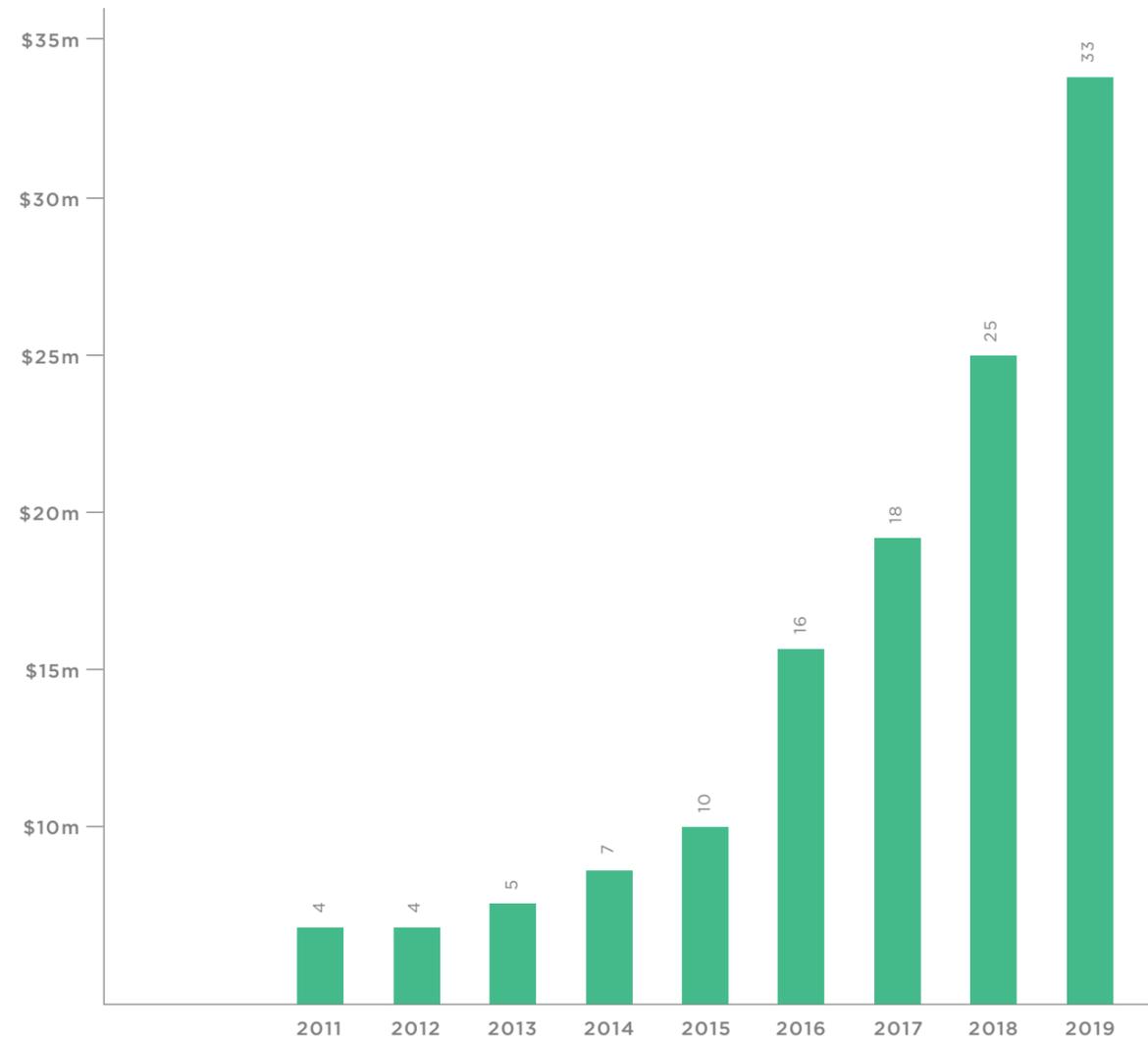
In 2013, the community received a wildly generous gift from Elkhart native Guy David Gundlach. The Gundlach gift was the start of a new era for the Community Foundation as other donors have become partners or deepened relationships to make our community stronger. Since 2013, over \$100 million in additional gifts have been invested for the betterment of Elkhart County.

## Assets *by fund type*



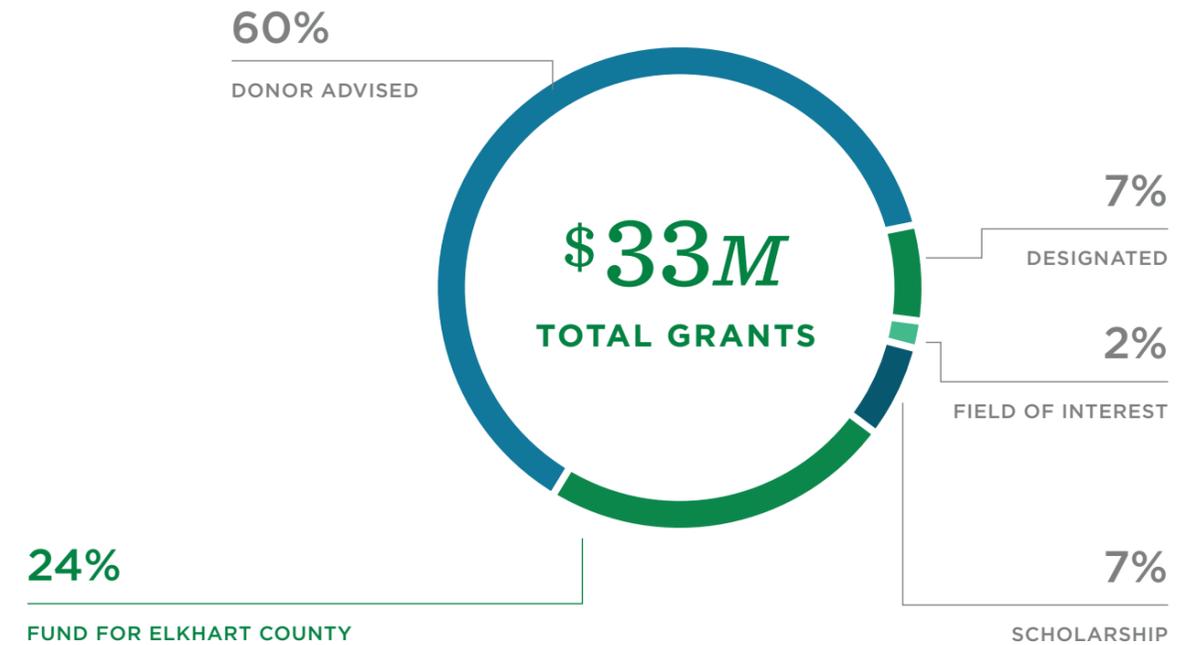
Since 1989 we have been working with passionate individuals, families, organizations, and businesses who are building a stronger community by supporting causes that strengthen and improve Elkhart County. Once we understand a donor's goals through giving and establish their intent, we work with them to decide on which funding option best brings their vision to life.

## Grants *by year*



Most of the grants that the Community Foundation is trusted to manage are for specific areas designated by donors. Some of the grants are unrestricted, empowering the Community Foundation to respond to needs and make strategic grants to better our quality of life. A description of how these unrestricted grants were used to improve our communities is found on pages 39-51 of this report.

## Grants *by fund type*



### FUND FOR ELKHART COUNTY

The Fund for Elkhart County, our unrestricted fund, supports our communities' greatest opportunities and emerging needs with responsive contributions. This year, \$8 million in grants were awarded in the three ongoing areas of priority for the Community Foundation.

### 53%

PLACEMAKING

### 9%

MATCHING GRANTS

### 14%

CAREER PATHWAYS

### 20%

KIDS & FAMILIES

### 4%

OPPORTUNITIES



# Statements of Financial Position

Unaudited Financial Statements for Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2019 and 2018.

	JUNE 30, 2019	JUNE 30, 2018
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$614,000	\$335,000
Notes receivable	-	\$595,000
Investments	\$299,726,000	\$292,627,000
Beneficial interest in trusts	\$614,000	\$506,000
Other assets	\$706,000	\$556,000
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$301,660,000</b>	<b>\$294,619,000</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
Accounts payable	\$17,000	\$63,000
Grants payable	\$2,278,000	\$3,865,000
Deferred revenue	\$317,000	-
Gift annuities payable	\$480,000	\$502,000
Custodial funds	\$23,688,000	\$23,731,000
Other liabilities	\$156,000	\$128,000
Net assets	\$274,724,000	\$266,330,000
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$301,660,000</b>	<b>\$294,619,000</b>

# Statements of Activities

Unaudited Financial Statements for Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2019 and 2018.

	JUNE 30, 2019	JUNE 30, 2018
<b>SUPPORT, REVENUES, GAINS AND LOSSES</b>		
Contributions and grants*	\$18,299,000	\$17,472,000
Investment return, net	\$14,105,000	\$24,492,000
Fund administrative fees	\$2,123,000	\$2,138,000
Other	\$-125,000	\$-89,000
<b>TOTAL SUPPORT, REVENUES, GAINS AND LOSSES</b>	<b>\$34,402,000</b>	<b>\$44,013,000</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Program services**	\$24,402,000	\$24,852,000
General & administrative	\$1,140,000	\$1,069,000
Fundraising	\$466,000	\$488,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$26,008,000</b>	<b>\$26,409,000</b>
Change in net assets	\$8,394,000	\$17,604,000
Net assets, beginning of year	\$266,330,000	\$248,726,000
<b>NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$274,724,000</b>	<b>\$266,330,000</b>

\* Accounting standards require certain incoming monies to be presented as a change in the Custodial Fund liability. For the Annual Report, these monies have been reported as gifts. As such, gift activity reflected throughout the report varies from Contributions and Grants reflected in the Statements of Activities.

\*\*The Annual Report is designed to showcase the recommendations received from fundholders and the commitments made by the Board of Directors. Accounting standards, which stipulate what qualifies as a grant for financial reporting purposes, do not fully capture the recommendations received and commitments made. As such grant activity reflected throughout the report varies from the grant activity reflected on the Statements of Activities.

## Opportunity Fund

The following Community Investment Grants were awarded from the Fund for Elkhart County to improve the quality of life in our communities. This applies to all the grants, and more specific detail is found in the descriptions.

MEMBERSHIPS AND SPONSORSHIPS	\$148,050
GREATER ELKHART CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Tolson Center Planning Support	\$20,000
INDIANA GRANTMAKERS ALLIANCE Strategic Planning Efforts	\$15,000
SOUTH BEND ELKHART REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP Program Support	\$120,000
WNIT Elkhart Health & Aquatics Center Documentary	\$20,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$323,050</b>

## Match Grant

In celebration of our 30th year, we increased the impact of your giving by matching 30% of your dollars placed into endowment funds. All cumulative gifts made by individuals totaling \$100,000 were matched with an additional \$30,000 to the corresponding fund. Your generosity opened the door for \$747,009 in matching dollars.

30% MATCHING GRANT 30th Anniversary	\$747,009
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$747,009</b>

## Kids and Families Grants

The following Community Investment Grants were awarded from the Fund for Elkhart County to organizations or programs serving our Elkhart County citizens.

ADEC Staff Development	\$2,700
AGAPE MINISTRY 20th Back-to-School Backpack Giveaway	\$3,000
BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF ELKHART COUNTY Strategy Consultant	\$6,000
BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF ELKHART COUNTY Middlebury Capital Campaign	\$350,000
CAMPUS CENTER FOR YOUNG CHILDREN Music Together	\$6,750
CAMPUS CENTER FOR YOUNG CHILDREN Dishwasher Replacement	\$5,000
CANCER RESOURCES FOR ELKHART COUNTY Operating Support	\$40,000
CAPS Staff Development	\$2,700
CAPS Building Blocks Program	\$100,000
CENTER FOR COMMUNITY JUSTICE YR1 of 2: Victim Offender Reconciliation Program 1:1 Challenge*	\$50,000
CENTER FOR HEALING AND HOPE Diabetes Program	\$5,000
CENTER FOR HEALING AND HOPE Staff Development	\$1,000
CENTER FOR HEALING AND HOPE Cervical Cancer Prevention	\$5,160

## Kids and Families, Continued

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH Child Care Ministry Building Improvements	\$50,172
CHILDREN'S HOPE HOUSE Operating Support	\$3,000
CHRIST'S COMMISSARY Freezer Replacement	\$970
CHURCH COMMUNITY SERVICES Greenhouse Move and Improvements	\$14,000
CITY OF ELKHART PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT Gym Rental - Gym Rats	\$4,560
COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC Strategic Planning Retreat	\$500
COUNCIL ON AGING OF ELKHART COUNTY Computer Upgrade	\$4,100
ELKHART CHRISTIAN ACADEMY Hot Water Heater	\$5,500
ELKHART COUNTY CLUBHOUSE Staff Development	\$6,095
ELKHART COUNTY DRUG-FREE PARTNERSHIP Elkhart & Goshen Schools Staff Training	\$15,000
ELKHART EDUCATION FOUNDATION Mobile Eye Exam Unit	\$46,199
ELKHART PUBLIC LIBRARY Summer Reading Kickoff	\$10,000
FAMILY CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT CENTER Client Outreach/Event Coordinator	\$12,000

FIVE STAR LIFE Event Sponsor	\$800
GIRLS ON THE RUN MICHIANA 5k Support	\$5,000
GOOD SHEPHERD MONTESSORI SCHOOL YR1 of 2: Preschool Expansion in Elkhart County	\$50,000
GROWING ABEL DBA ELIZABETH ABEL FOOD PANTRY Technology Upgrades	\$1,114
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF ELKHART COUNTY Staff Development	\$804
HEART CITY HEALTH CENTER Dental Center Expansion and Renovation	\$100,000
HOOSIERS FEEDING THE HUNGRY Meat the Need	\$15,000
HORIZON EDUCATION ALLIANCE ECoSistema & Goshen Boys & Girls Clubs Partnership	\$25,000
HORIZON EDUCATION ALLIANCE YR2 of 2: Triple P Positive Parenting Program	\$145,000
LACASA Youth Summer Academy at Roosevelt Center	\$20,000
LACASA Financial Freedom Fair	\$2,000
LOVEWAY INCORPORATED YR2 of 2: Volunteer Coordinator	\$24,500
MAPLE CITY HEALTH CARE CENTER Staff Training - Bridges Out of Poverty	\$5,775

## Kids and Families, Continued

MDC GOLDENROD Middlebury HVAC Unit Repair	\$2,396
MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS Reading Initiative-Heritage Intermediate	\$5,000
NAPPANEE OPEN DOOR Additional Freezer	\$500
NORTHERN INDIANA HISPANIC HEALTH COALITION YR2 of 2: Healthy Hearts Program	\$25,000
OAKLAWN PSYCHIATRIC CENTER YR2 of 2: Partnership for Children	\$150,000
OPERATION 6:12, BEREAN COMMUNITY CHURCH 15 Passenger Van	\$2,500
PRAIRIE STREET MENNONITE CHURCH Renovations to Jubilee House	\$15,000
RIBBON OF HOPE Volunteer Training Program Expansion	\$4,000
RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES OF MICHIANA Strategic Planning	\$4,000
RUTHMERE FOUNDATION YR2 of 2: Elkhart County Field Trips 1:1 Challenge*	\$12,500
RYAN'S PLACE Grief Support Seminar Sponsor	\$5,000
RYAN'S PLACE YR2 of 2: Operating Support	\$30,000
RYAN'S PLACE Staff Development	\$3,323

RYAN'S PLACE YR1 of 2: Children's Grief Support Programs 1:1 Challenge*	\$40,000
SERVANTS AT WORK - SAWS Handicap Ramps	\$3,500
ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Saving Grace Tea Sponsor	\$500
ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Christmas Shoppe	\$500
THE POST Staff Development	\$1,900
ULEAD Staff Development	\$6,000
UNITED WAY OF ELKHART COUNTY Event Sponsor	\$250
VISUALLY IMPAIRED PRESCHOOL SERVICES Early Childhood Intervention Program	\$2,000
WAKARUSA HISTORICAL SOCIETY Educational Days	\$300
WALNUT HILL EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER Early Childhood Literacy Program	\$10,000
WOMEN'S CARE CENTER Operating Support	\$98,000
YWCA NORTH CENTRAL INDIANA Domestic Violence Awareness Event	\$3,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,570,068</b>

\* Challenge grants awarded, full funding is dependent on the organization's fulfillment of the challenge.

# Career Pathways

The following Community Investment Grants were awarded from the Fund for Elkhart County to organizations or programs serving our Elkhart County citizens.

ANABAPTIST MENNONITE BIBLICAL SEMINARY Advancing Intercultural Leadership	\$5,000
BAUGO COMMUNITY SCHOOLS Baugo Promise 1:1 Challenge	\$10,000
CLINTON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL ASSOCIATION Event Sponsor	\$2,500
CONCORD COMMUNITY SCHOOLS Leader in Me Intermediate Program	\$10,000
ELKHART COMMUNITY SCHOOLS Elkhart Art Cafe	\$10,000
ELKHART COMMUNITY SCHOOLS Thought Leadership Conference	\$2,500
ELKHART COMMUNITY SCHOOLS YR1 of 2: Engineering, Technology & Innovation Building Project	\$284,500
ELKHART EDUCATION FOUNDATION Presenting Sponsorship	\$10,000
ENFOCUS Baugo Schools IT & Process Improvement	\$20,000
ENFOCUS Fellowship and Internship Program	\$100,000
ENFOCUS Elkhart County Downtown Vibrancy Assessment	\$20,000
ENFOCUS Elkhart Community Schools Food Services Efficiencies	\$20,000
ENFOCUS Elkhart Community Schools Teacher & Administrator Retention	\$15,000

ENFOCUS WorkHere Youth Retention Program	\$15,000
ENFOCUS ETHOS Growth and Sustainability	\$10,000
ETHOS Robotics Program Support	\$50,000
ETHOS YR2 of 2: STEM Coordinator	\$50,000
FIVE STAR LIFE Learning Management System	\$7,500
GOSHEN COLLEGE YR1 of 2: Recruiting & Retaining Diverse Teachers	\$28,500
GREATER ELKHART CHAMBER OF COMMERCE What's Next	\$10,000
GREATER ELKHART CHAMBER OF COMMERCE YR1 of 2: Startup Moxie Elkhart County	\$20,000
HORIZON EDUCATION ALLIANCE Gallup Student Poll	\$18,250
HORIZON EDUCATION ALLIANCE YR1 of 2: Operational Support	\$300,000
HORIZON EDUCATION ALLIANCE CareerWise Elkhart County	\$25,000
INDIANA BLACK EXPO - ELKHART CHAPTER Community Conversation	\$2,500
INDIANA BLACK EXPO - ELKHART CHAPTER Trailblazer Awards	\$1,000

## Career Pathways, Continued

INDIANA BLACK EXPO - ELKHART CHAPTER Historical Black College Tour	\$3,830
INDIANA BLACK EXPO - ELKHART CHAPTER Youth Leadership Summit	\$3,000
JAIL MINISTRY OF ELKHART COUNTY Tattoo Removal Machine	\$25,000
JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF NORTHERN INDIANA Lemonade Day Elkhart County	\$3,500
MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS Leader in Me Elementary Program	\$16,750
SCORE Monthly Entrepreneur Workshops	\$5,000
THE CROSSING NATIONAL Staff Development	\$10,285
UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME Elkhart Catalyst	\$23,500
WNIT Education Counts Michiana	\$10,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,148,115</b>

\* Challenge grants awarded, full funding is dependent on the organization's fulfillment of the challenge.

## Placemaking

The following Community Investment Grants were awarded from the Fund for Elkhart County to organizations or programs serving our Elkhart County citizens.

BAUGO COMMUNITY SCHOOLS District Wide Free Wifi Pilot	\$21,500
BEACON HEALTH FOUNDATION Elkhart General Hospital Training Center Relocation	\$100,000
BETHANY CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS Great Strides Campaign 1:1 Challenge*	\$390,000
BIKE MICHIANA COALITION Michiana Bike to Work Week	\$500
CHAIN REACTION BICYCLE PROJECT Building Energy Efficiency Improvements	\$2,500
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF GOSHEN Annual Membership 2018-2019	\$5,000
CITY OF ELKHART Restoration of the Beardsley Monument	\$17,400
CONCORD LITTLE LEAGUE Building & Grounds Improvements	\$6,000
CREEKSIDE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN Container Gardens	\$5,000
DOWNTOWN GOSHEN First Fridays	\$10,000
DOWNTOWN GOSHEN River Bend Film Festival Capacity Building	\$2,500
ELEVATE VENTURES YR3 of 3: Northern Indiana RDA Partnership	\$75,000
ELKHART CIVICTHEATRE Seasonal Support	\$10,000
ELKHART COUNTY 4-H & AGRICULTURAL EXPOSITION Elkhart County 4-H Fair Sponsor	\$10,000

## Placemaking, Continued

ELKHART COUNTY ARTS ALLIANCE YR2 of 2: Operating Support	\$30,000
ELKHART COUNTY COMMISSIONERS County Courthouse Clock Tower Restoration	\$40,000
ELKHART COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU Little Big Idea Program	\$25,000
ELKHART COUNTY FERAL CAT COALITION Building Project	\$15,000
ELKHART COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY Capacity Building	\$7,500
ELKHART COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY Research Trip	\$1,300
ELKHART COUNTY PARKS DEPARTMENT Seasonal Support	\$5,000
ELKHART COUNTY SHERIFFS DEPARTMENT Crisis Intervention Team Training	\$1,650
ELKHART COUNTY SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION Seasonal Support	\$5,000
ELKHART COUNTY SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION YR1 of 3: Capacity Building	\$100,000
ELKHART COUNTY VIBRANT COMMUNITIES YR2 of 3: Partnership (CFEC/ECCVB)	\$60,000
ELKHART ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER Envirofest	\$1,000
ELKHART FESTIVALS Jazz Festival	\$50,000
ELKHART FESTIVALS Hall of Heroes Comic Con	\$5,000
ELKHART FESTIVALS Downtown Soul Art and Music Series	\$3,500
ELKHART FOP 52 LITTLE LEAGUE Field and Fencing 1:1 Challenge*	\$12,000

ELKHART HEALTH & AQUATICS CENTER Building Construction	\$2,000,000
ELKHART LODGE 599 MOOSE Rugby Grounds Improvement Project 1:1 Challenge	\$5,000
FRIENDS OF THE LERNER Endowment Fund	\$500,000
GOSHEN ART HOUSE Seasonal Support	\$5,000
GOSHEN ART HOUSE Regional Artist DocuSeries	\$4,000
GOSHEN COLLEGE Music Center Seasonal Support	\$10,000
GOSHEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY Outreach Efforts	\$2,000
GOSHEN THEATER Seasonal Support	\$10,000
GOSHEN THEATER YR1 of 2: Programming Development	\$50,000
GOSHEN YOUTH ARTS Art Annex Renovation and Expansion	\$100,000
GOSHEN YOUTH ARTS Segura Studios	\$5,000
GREATER ELKHART CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Event Sponsor	\$2,000
GREATER ELKHART CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Annual Membership 2018-2019	\$5,000
GUIDANCE MINISTRIES Homeless Program Expansion	\$10,000
HISTORIC ELKHART RIVER QUEEN New Windows and Canopy	\$10,000
INDIANA BLACK EXPO - ELKHART CHAPTER 45th Anniversary Celebration	\$3,000

## Placemaking, Continued

INDIANA UNIVERSITY SOUTH BEND Elkhart County Quality of Place Survey	\$11,735	NAPPANEE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION Seasonal Support	\$4,000
LACASA Help-A-House Event	\$5,000	NAPPANEE POWER FROM THE PAST The Farm Grounds	\$187,200
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF INDIANA Meet the Candidate Forums	\$4,000	PREMIER ARTS Seasonal Support	\$10,000
MICHIANA MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION Elkhart County Garden Expo	\$5,000	RUTHMERE FOUNDATION Holiday Tour Season	\$5,000
MID AMERICA FILMMAKERS River Bend Film Festival	\$10,000	SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN PICKLEBALL ASSOCIATION Tournament Sponsor	\$1,000
MIDDLEBURY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Summer and Fall Festivals	\$5,000	ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH Stained Glass Windows Preservation Project	\$15,000
MIDDLEBURY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Technology Upgrades	\$1,000	THE LERNER Seasonal Support	\$10,000
MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY PUBLIC LIBRARY Middlebury Literary Carousel	\$2,000	TOWN OF MILLERSBURG Community Pocket Park	\$21,300
MIDDLEBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY Seasonal Support	\$1,000	VISIT NAPPANEE Nappanee Friday Fest Series	\$3,000
MIDDLEBURY THEN AND NOW Pumpkin Races	\$1,500	WAKARUSA HISTORICAL SOCIETY Ag Days	\$350
MIDDLEBURY THEN AND NOW Trail Tales	\$1,500	WAKARUSA MAPLE SYRUP HERITAGE Maple Syrup Festival	\$5,000
MIDDLEBURY THEN AND NOW Hometown Happenings	\$200	WAKARUSA MAPLE SYRUP HERITAGE Town Center Pumpkin Tree	\$500
MIDWEST MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART FOUNDATION Seasonal Support	\$5,000	WELLFIELD BOTANIC GARDENS Seasonal Support	\$30,000
MIDWEST MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART FOUNDATION Strategic Plan	\$5,000	WELLFIELD BOTANIC GARDENS Origami in the Garden2	\$50,000
NAPPANEE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Apple Festival	\$10,000	WNIT PBS Kids 24/7 Channel	\$50,000
NAPPANEE ARTS COUNCIL The Art Path Project	\$15,000	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,213,635</b>

\* Challenge grants awarded, full funding is dependent on the organization's fulfillment of the challenge.

2018 - 2019

# LILLY ENDOWMENT INC.

*widens foundation's outreach*



## LEADERSHIP, IMAGINATION AND GENEROSITY



The Community Foundation of Elkhart County is again partnering with Lilly Endowment Inc. to make Elkhart County stronger.

In 1990, Lilly Endowment created Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow (GIFT) and invited the state's community foundations to apply for funds. There were less than 12 at the time with a combined \$100 million in total assets. Now a community foundation or affiliate fund serves every community and assets in 2017 totaled nearly \$3.6 billion. For the seventh time Lilly Endowment is using GIFT to again help community foundations "enhance the quality of life in their communities by convening conversations among people of diverse ages, socioeconomic backgrounds, occupations, races and cultural traditions about their communities' most compelling needs and opportunities as well as the best ways to address them."

In 2018, Lilly Endowment offered the Community Foundation of Elkhart County \$1.9 million as part of GIFT VII.

It will result in \$3.4 million of new assets for the Community Foundation when matching is completed and falls into four categories:

- \$300,000 is a grant with no needed match to fund community leadership initiatives in three Elkhart County neighborhoods.
- \$1 million from Lilly if the Community Foundation can raise \$500,000 in local donations to go into the Fund For Excellence established by GIFT Phase VI.
- \$500,000 from Lilly as a 1-to-2 match of local contributions toward the Elkhart Health & Aquatics Center. That \$1.5 million a year ago helped inspire giving at the end of the capital campaign to get the fundraising push for the center across the line.

Lilly offered a final \$100,000 to the unrestricted Fund for Elkhart County if the Community Foundation could get 100 percent participation from board members giving toward challenge grants. "Our board members and their generosity has qualified us for that \$100,000," says Pete McCown, Community Foundation president.

In past GIFT cycles, Lilly helped establish the Fund For Excellence (see pages 58-59) and helped the Community Foundation of Elkhart County thrive in and engage its community in key ways.

"We continue to be grateful for the support of Lilly Endowment Inc.," says McCown. "Indiana and Elkhart County are better because of the leadership, imagination and generosity of this institution and we are so fortunate to receive assistance and funding."





*The late Kelby Love's mural  
arose from past community  
building work in Elkhart.*

# COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP



Awarding a grant is often an answer to a question.

When someone asks for funding, staff members and committee members review grant applications and look at whether the proposal can make an impact. They make a decision on whether and how much to invest in the agency, person or program wanting to make Elkhart County stronger. It answers the question.

However, a GIFT VII grant from Lilly Endowment to the Community Foundation of Elkhart County is raising a different set of questions whose answers could have far-reaching implications.

The Community Foundation received a Community Leadership Grant for planning, including \$100,000 for a planning process and \$200,000 for implementation of ideas. The Community Foundation is taking a multi-pronged approach. The first step involves looking internally. What capabilities and assets does the Community Foundation have, and where is the opportunity to grow as a community leader? The exploration and strategizing about these questions is taking place within the staff as well as the board of directors.

Secondly, the Community Foundation will actively engage three Elkhart County neighborhoods. Conversations are underway to look at the assets in the three neighborhoods, get to know residents and stakeholders, and listen as they determine what would help the neighborhoods.

The primary goal of the grant is to better understand the issues in the three areas by engaging residents. Action is only one part of the efforts. Relationships, processes and thinking also matter, according to Candy Yoder, Chief Program Officer for the Community Foundation. She's eager to work with others to focus on identifying assets in each community by listening, learning about potential change, and thinking strategically once assets are identified. In the Chamberlain Neighborhood, this means exploring ways to identify and grow a culture of abundance, belonging and imaginative vision. It could look different in the other neighborhoods, but the key question is the same: "Are we positioned well to be leading in the community?" asks Candy, who is hopeful that the grant spurs conversations and relationships rather than quick fixes. This will be a slow process focused on people more than predetermined outcomes.

The Community Foundation could opt to apply for a \$5 million grant from Lilly Endowment for future initiatives.

*Are we positioned well to be leading in the community?*

— CANDY YODER, CHIEF PROGRAM OFFICER  
for COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
of ELKHART COUNTY



*My hope is that we can together build some capacity and give the neighborhoods support in any way. My hope is that we can create some structure for neighborhood sustainability*

— DANIELA PANETTA OF LACASA INC.

That's a competitive process resulting in 30 awards across the state as part of GIFT VII. Daniela Panetta, community building specialist with Lacasa Inc., is working most closely with the Prairie Creek Run neighborhood as part of the contract with Elkhart County to create a redevelopment plan. She has listened as neighbors talked about what hasn't worked in the past and asked them what they would like to see. At a neighborhood gathering on August 3, she watched as those in attendance bypassed face-painting and other booths to talk about their neighborhood with some of the resident leaders, who became the hit of the event, according Daniela. "My hope is that we can together build some capacity and give them support in any way. My hope is that we can create some structure for neighborhood sustainability," she added.

As that work takes shape in the coming months, staff members and board members are having conversations about the processes that are part of the ongoing work of the Community Foundation and undergoing training on how to think more strategically. Community Foundation President Pete McCown and Board Chair Mike Schoeffler attended the Community Foundation Leads conference in Chicago in July and board members are going through a CF Leads training this fall.

Yoder expects any change, either on the process or community levels, will take time. Phil Metzler with the Community Resilience Guild said using the conversations in the neighborhoods are like laboratories for potential larger implementation. "Process matters," he says. "How we go about it is going to inform the future."

So why tackle the hard questions? Community matters now more than ever. In a fractured world, neighborhoods can be key places for connection and even positive change. Investing time in relationships and conversation will open doors that the Community Foundation may not have known even existed in this community. 🌱

## THE NEIGHBORHOODS

*The Chamberlain neighborhood* in north Goshen is home to Chamberlain Elementary School, the Goshen clubhouse for the Boys & Girls Club, and Maple City Health Care Center/Vista Community Health Center, and Lacasa

*The Prairie Creek Run neighborhood* in northeast Elkhart is a residential area with 400 homes near Osolo Elementary School, but not in the city limits. Elkhart County government, Lacasa Inc. and social research company Dovetail Projects are working in the neighborhood.

*The Tolson neighborhood* has been the focus of more attention since the city of Elkhart defunded Tolson Center in the summer of 2018. A number of conversations are underway about the future of Tolson and the surrounding area.

## FUND FOR EXCELLENCE



Sometimes grants from the Community Foundation of Elkhart County help build playgrounds or buildings, but the Fund for Excellence invests directly in people.

Our goal is to create a community of well-managed, collaborative nonprofit agencies by providing resources and development opportunities for their employees.

As they learn and grow, the agencies and those they serve benefit.

“The Fund for Excellence allows us to play an active role in providing our nonprofit partners with leadership development and educational opportunities,” according to Jodi Spataro, Chief Advancement Officer for the Foundation.

Initially the umbrella these efforts were under was called the Organizational Effectiveness Resource Center, but the name has become The Learning Center (TLC). As Jodi likes to say, this is how the Community Foundation shows tender, loving care to our organizations.

Since its inception in 2016, the fund helps underwrite the cost of our CEO Roundtables where leaders of nonprofits serving Elkhart County regularly gather to both get to know each other and learn from each other. Once a year, the CEOs come together for an annual Nonprofit Leadership Retreat with even more networking and educational opportunities. Workshops on writing grants, strategic planning and storytelling in the last two years have been attended by hundreds of people.

In addition, the Fund For Excellence has provided opportunities for employees of nonprofits to earn certifications at the University of Notre Dame.

Nonprofit leaders in the community often tout how meaningful it is for them and their team members to come together for these events. In addition, the Fund for Excellence helps nonprofits get specialized training. In June, a grant allowed three senior staff members from Ryan’s Place, an organization focused on helping families with grief, to attend the National Symposium on Grieving Children. “We were with our specific tribe,” said Aileac Deegan, president/CEO. She attended with Laurene Hamlin, program director, and Peyton Petty, program coordinator.

The trio was able to plan how to attend as many workshops as possible to meet their educational goals. Because of what they learned, they are planning how to evaluate their programs in new ways, says Aileac.

Attending would have been difficult without the financial assistance from the Community Foundation. “It was a great opportunity for us. More than any conference we attend because it’s so specific to our work,” says Aileac, who also participates regularly in CEO Roundtables, the retreat and other workshops.

The TLC activities help donations and grant dollars become better investments in our community. Dr. Pete McCown believes, “The rationale behind The Learning Center is this premise that if we invest in the efficacy of our nonprofits, the other grantmaking we and other respective institutions make goes farther.” The Learning Center is opening new doors for greater impact. 🌱



## Fund for Excellence FOUNDING DONORS



Founding Donors are those individuals or organizations that contributed to the Fund for Excellence through the Lilly Gift VI Initiative from 2014 through 2016. The names of the donors will be prominently displayed in the Community Foundation’s Annual Report as the original endowment builders and supporters.

Gary and Connie Adamson	Gordon McCormick Corporation	MutualBank Charitable Foundation, Inc
Dick and Deb Armington	Joseph and Holly Hosinski	Dzung and Francoise Nguyen
Paris and Becky Ball-Miller	Dean and Ruth Hupp	Myrl and Phyllis Nofziger
Megan and Troy Baughman	Irions Foundation	Mike and Judy Pianowski
Deborah and David Beaverson	Jayco	Donald Pletcher
Roy Beck	Rick and Sandy Jenkins	Marly and Laura Rydson
Bill Deputy Foundation	Bill and Toni Johnson	Mike and Vicki Schoeffler
Brian and Margot Borger	Thomas and Donna Kauffman	Oscar and <i>Marilyn</i> Schricker
George and Marty Buckingham	Donna Kercher Schrock	Bob and Marie Schrock
Corson Family Foundation	Levi and Joanna King	Brian and Lauri Smith
Rob and Vicki Cripe	Delmar and Sherri King	Carl and Emilie Tiedemann
Cripe Family Foundation	Richard and Susan Klepinger	Thomas and <i>Patricia</i> Warrick
Arthur J. Decio	Chuck and Betty Lamb	David Weed
Lois Dusthimer	John and Jane Leavitt	Jeff and Phid Wells
Estate of Guy David Gundlach	<i>Allan</i> and Karon Ludwig	<i>Madelon</i> Wells
John and Lois Fidler	Pete and Wendy McCown	Welter Foundation
David and Susan Findlay	Bob and Sue Miller	John and Carolyn Wolf
John and Gwen Gildea	Gordon and Marie Moore	<i>*Names in italics are deceased Founding Donors</i>



## HISTORIC GIVING FLOWS INTO NEW FACILITY



Until you walk through the doors of the Elkhart Health & Aquatics Center it's not really possible to imagine the scale. The light streaming into the building illuminates two full-size gymnasiums, the running track and the areas where people perch on a machine for a workout. The largest of the pools holds 1.1 million gallons of water. The seating area a story above it will hold 1,200 people. But then there's also a commons area that will have a fireplace, a library and an outdoor terrace. There's a lot to take in as you walk through the 170,000 square-foot building.

The process to build this started years ago when the YMCA of Elkhart County building was still standing at 200 E. Jackson Boulevard. The structure and facilities were showing their age and volunteer board members were discussing what could come next.

When unexpected maintenance costs prompted the closure, the conversation became more urgent. Sharon Liegl was one of a number of people who transitioned from a board member to become part of the fundraising and planning steering committees. Her husband Pete Liegl, founder of Forest River, made his voice heard as well.

"Pete was the visionary. He really was," says Pete McCown, president of the Community Foundation of Elkhart County.

"His challenge to us was to make the facility a world-class swimming centerpiece. He wanted the facility to make a statement about Elkhart County."

It was Liegl who thought the community could mount the effort to build such a place. It was Liegl who first wanted Elkhart to have a place that you'd be more likely to find in a bigger community.

The project grew in scale, both in collaboration and the money being raised. The list of partner organizations grew to include Elkhart Community Schools, Beacon Health System/Elkhart General Hospital and the Community Foundation of Elkhart County.

The fundraising effort also swelled as the conversation opened doors with more donors. The Regional Cities project of the Indiana Economic Development Corp. contributed \$9 million. Perhaps the bigger story is how personal philanthropy helped this facility become reality.

More than 100 families, businesses or organizations gave at least \$10,000 in what was the largest capital campaign in Elkhart County history. Half of the cost of the \$70 million raised, including \$10 million for endowment to maintain the facility, came from local people and institutions.

When the finish line was in sight for fundraising, Lilly Endowment's GIFT VII offered \$500,000 if the local community would contribute \$1 million. That helped spur the final gifts to complete the fundraising.

Now that the facility is open, health memberships are being purchased rapidly, but as important is the way in which community programs are growing, according to Paul Sharbaugh, director of health and fitness at the facility.

The free open swims are popular. Middle school students are learning to swim and high school and Bethel University swim teams are practicing. The Boys & Girls Club of Elkhart County Brian and Jeannelle Brady Center is starting a traveling basketball team to practice at the facility. Beacon Health anchors the west wing by offering physical therapy and rehab services. The east wing is anchored by the Community Commons, a space where nonprofits and other groups are being invited to offer programs.

The size of the building is impressive. The way the facility works appeals to people. How the community enters the doors to utilize it will be the legacy of these generous people to current and future generations. 🌟

### FUNDRAISERS

Bob Deputy	Pete McCown
Sharon Liegl	Jodi Spataro
Joel Duthie	Shelley Moore
Tom Housand	Mel Jacobson
Dave Weaver	Tom Pletcher
Dianne Benko	

### BOARD

Michael Schoeffler, <i>Chairman &amp; Secretary</i>	Karen Carter Cole Patuzzi Carl Risk Jill Sigsbee
Jeffrey Costello, <i>President &amp; Treasurer</i>	Brian Smith Doug Weaver

## The new center BY THE NUMBERS



**1.1M**

Gallons of water in the competition swimming pool



**100+**

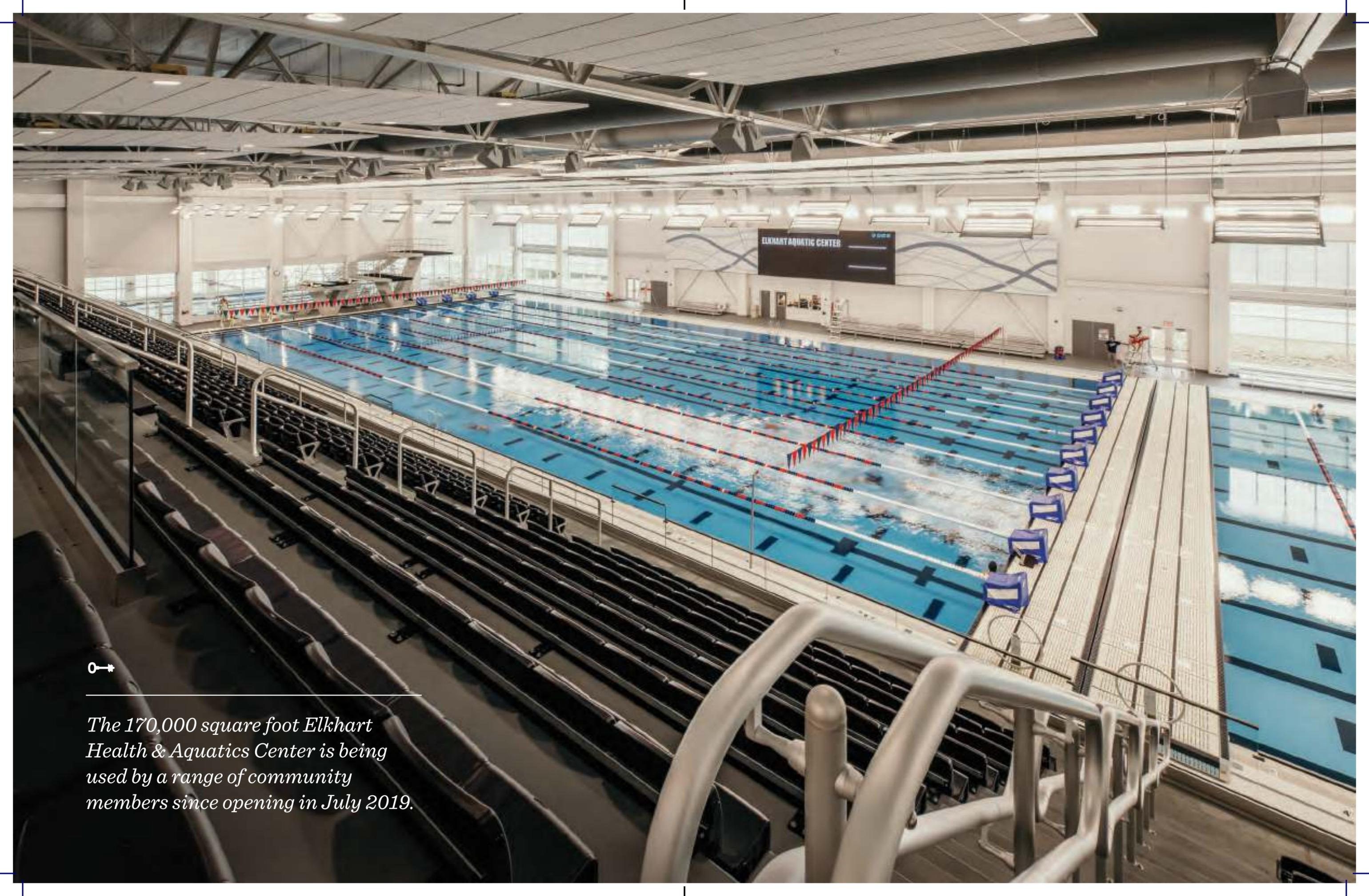
Pieces of strength and cardio equipment

**03**

Large regional swimming events scheduled starting this fall in that pool

**2,400**

Fitness members as of the end of August



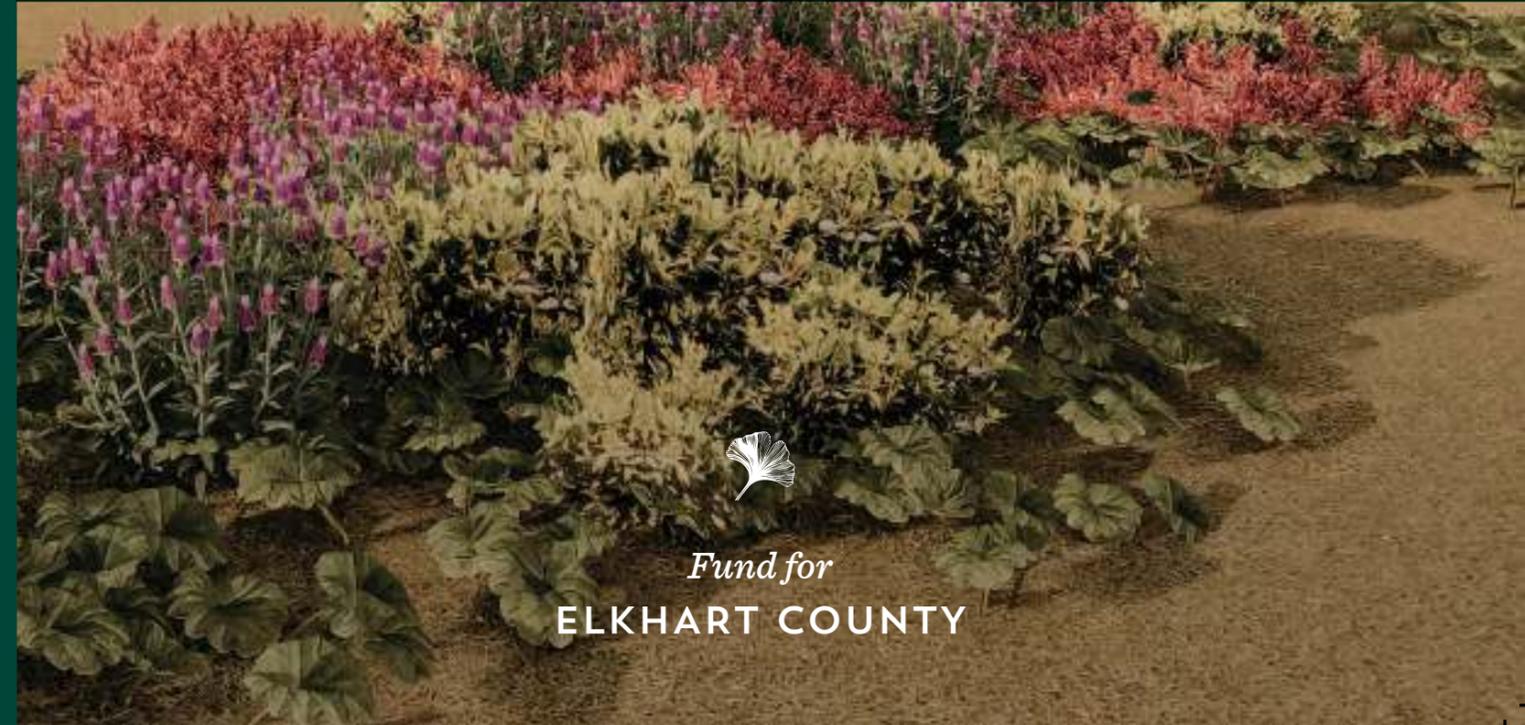
*The 170,000 square foot Elkhart Health & Aquatics Center is being used by a range of community members since opening in July 2019.*

2018 - 2019

# FUND FOR ELKHART COUNTY



**FORGING A NEW PATH**  
*to Honor and Educate*



*Fund for*  
**ELKHART COUNTY**

## Since her husband Tom died in 2010, Charlotte Mittler had been on a search.



She wanted to find a way to honor his work and life. It had to be distinctive and full of life, the way he was before his death at the age of 67 related to a stroke. As his obituary stated, Tom Mittler was a “lucky son of a gun who did the things he wanted, his way.”

He joined his father’s business in 1969, two years after he married. He built Mittler Supply, a little mom & pop business, into one of the country’s largest independently owned gas and welding supply chains. It had more than 200 employees and locations in three states when the family sold it to Praxair in 2007.

Charlotte is a member of the Greenleaf family, a distinctive group that helped shape the city’s future. Her father was an engineer who would talk regularly about how difficult it was to get skilled employees.

Tom loved engines, vintage cars and speed, but what developed in his memory took time to develop. After trying a scholarship fund, Charlotte still longed for something bigger to honor Tom’s legacy.

In May 2019, Charlotte was touring the Elkhart Area

Career Center with some others. She knew the late Basil Turner from CTS Corp. and remembers when the center that teaches vocational skills to students from about 20 high schools was constructed. The welding area made an impression, but more for what it wasn’t. As she walked out, she told Kerri Ritchie, who oversees Corey Partners (the Mittler family office) to ask the administrators what their wish list included.

At a lunch that followed, career center administrators told of how Elkhart Community Schools’ new strategic plan included an Engineering, Technology and Innovation track and a new building between the career center and Memorial High School, which will become the new Elkhart High School building for 10th through 12th graders.

Charlotte got excited. She’d found what would honor Tom. “I was happy to give some money,” she says.

Alongside her significant gift, the Community Foundation of Elkhart County awarded a \$500,000 grant. Other grants, donations and public funding total nearly \$10 million for the project. If the school system and Elkhart Education Foundation can raise an additional \$1.6 million by the end

of 2019, the building’s second phase can be included in the initial construction for a total of \$14 million.

Initial plans were to retrofit the existing administrative offices into classrooms. Charlotte’s gift, which those involved say was part of a perfect alignment of interests and timing, resulted in quick plans to make it modern and state of the art. “As long as we’re doing it, let’s do it right,” says Charlotte.

Construction has just begun on the beautiful new Mittler Engineering, Technology and Innovation Center. It’s scheduled for completion in summer 2020 for use next school year and full usage starting in August 2021.

Welding, machining, logistics, data analysis, robotics and other skills will all be taught in the new center, which will include labs, classrooms and a gathering space for 300. Mechatronics, the management of advanced manufacturing robotic devices, will be a new program offered.

In addition to dual-credit classes for high school students, school officials are planning evening classes for adults wanting to learn new skills, according to Superintendent Steve Thalheimer. The Mittler Center will also adapt as jobs change in this global economy and how things are made in Elkhart County evolves. “The world is moving on. If we’re not moving with it, we’ll be in trouble,” say Charlotte.

“We’re a manufacturing county,” says Brandon Eakins, director of the career center. “If we don’t find a way to not only engage students in advanced manufacturing, what does that mean for the longevity of our county? This is long overdue. This is paramount to making sure we don’t re-experience 2008.”

This will change the way students of all ages experience school, the ways they gain expertise. The doors will swing open for them as education connects them with their futures. Charlotte believes her late husband, who supplied the materials to help welders connect metal, would be proud. 🌱

*As long as we are doing it,  
let’s do it right.*

— CHARLOTTE MITTLER

### Fund for Elkhart County CAREER PATHWAYS



14%

CAREER PATHWAYS

The Fund for Elkhart County, our unrestricted fund, supports our communities’ greatest opportunities and emerging needs with responsive contributions. This year, \$8 million in grants were awarded in the three ongoing areas of priority for the Community Foundation.



TATTOO REMOVAL

# REMOVING BARRIERS

*by Erasing Ink*



Fund for  
ELKHART COUNTY

## James Wright made a strong first impression on people.



It wasn't the best impression though. The tattoo of a handgun on his left temple made him memorable.

He'd gotten his first tattoo at the age of 12 and over time covered his chest, arms and neck. Yet the one that got attention was the handgun above his eye that a tattoo artist in Westville Correctional Facility gave him in 2017. The tattoo literally was a gift on a "free face Friday" that the man offered to James to help advertise his work.

When James got out of prison, the tattoo limited his job options. Even after he got a job in the recreational vehicle industry, his supervisor asked him to avoid being seen during public tours. "It definitely closed a lot of doors," says James. "It definitely wasn't the smartest thing to do."

He had gone to a tattoo artist in Elkhart to try to get the gun tattoo removed, but the process was cumbersome and expensive. He continued to carry the gun he no longer wanted.

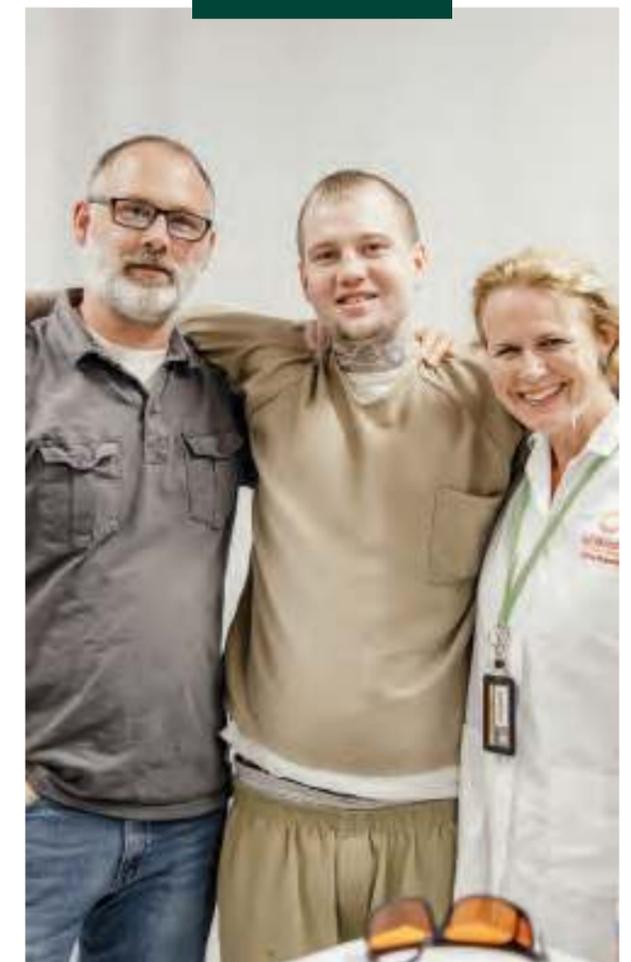
In 2018, he was arrested and once again came through the doors of the Elkhart County Jail. As he was being booked, he encountered Chaplain Cory Martin, who asked if he wanted to get that tattoo removed. James got excited and still talks about that conversation as "an appointment with God."

Soon, he had an appointment with Holly Young, the tattoo removal technician for the Elkhart County Jail Ministry. On August 1, 2018, she started wielding a powerful laser to break up the ink particles in someone's skin. As she points the wand at an embedded image or word, that ink absorbs the energy and literally explodes. After six to 10 treatments, the tattoo fades to near invisibility. James' gun is now a faint shadow on his smiling face and he is getting others removed. As Holly works on a tattoo on his hand, he winces and squeezes a stress ball with his other hand.

In the first year, Holly and volunteer assistants treated numerous tattoos on 343 inmates in the medical ward at the jail. That pace is among the top five percent in the country among those using the Astanza brand of laser machines. "Every day I come here I can't believe I get to come here," says Holly, something few would say of jail. "I'm just amazed and just humbled I get to do this."

The free service, supported by donations to the jail ministry and grants from the Community Foundation of Elkhart County, removes face, neck and hand tattoos and with special attention being paid to gang tattoos. If someone is heading from jail to prison with a gang tattoo, they're automatically in.

One of the tattoos was a 35-year-old swastika. An inmate who had Aryan views but now has biracial grandchildren has good reason to want those tattoos gone.





Chaplain Cory Martin got the idea for the machine at the jail from Homeboy Industries, which removes tattoos from former gang members in Los Angeles. After raising the \$55,000 for the machine, Holly and others went through training and started erasing those moments. The late Carolyn Schrock-Schenk raised the money for a machine that super cools air to lessen the intense pain that is part of the removal.

The program to remove tattoos while someone is on the “inside” had gone so well, Cory eyed the next step. Because the removal process takes time and treatments are needed after someone is released from jail, Cory looked for partners to get another machine for the “outside,” as those in the jail ministry refer to the alternative to incarceration.

Dr. James Nelson Gingerich and the staff at Maple City Health Care Center in Goshen were eager for the chance to become partners. “This is how we welcome reentering citizens and hear their stories and have them feel welcome. This is how we tell them they belong,” says James.

Maple City hired Bobby and Lisa Gunnoe as part-time technicians. They are available for appointments four days a week and one Saturday a month and also work full-time elsewhere. The tattoo removal is the job these former inmates would do even if they weren’t getting paid money. They get paid in smiles and gratitude as people’s lives are being changed, says Lisa.

Not having to explain your past is a huge step in changing. Getting rid of gang tattoos can save someone’s life and help them find a job. As Bobby and Lisa remove tattoos from themselves and others, they wince and then heal. That process repeats itself as they find more and more wholeness.

The process opens doors as the visible reminders of bad decisions disappear. “It’s hard to move forward when the worst moments of your life are tattooed all over your body,” says Cory.

Removing permanent ink from someone changes how they’re viewed. Their mothers are thrilled. They get a chance to change.

“We can give them that chance to change,” adds Bobby. “They don’t have to explain themselves anymore. Our whole goal is to change not just our community, but people’s lives.” 🌱

*Fund for Elkhart County*  
**KIDS & FAMILIES**



**20%**

**KIDS & FAMILIES**

The Fund for Elkhart County, our unrestricted fund, supports our communities’ greatest opportunities and emerging needs with responsive contributions. This year, \$8 million in grants were awarded in the three ongoing areas of priority for the Community Foundation.



**A NEW HOME**  
*for History*



**PLACEMAKING**



## Every group has its stories.



While fishermen tell tales of the ones they landed and the one that got away, farmers tell of the animal that escaped from the pasture or how hot it was when they got the hay in the barn.

The stories farmers tell, often laced with humility and humor, often include a dose of history and tradition. A group of men in Nappanee are making sure the stories of the last century keep getting told, even as farming and the tools change.

Nappanee Power from the Past, which has about 150 members and continues to grow, has a new 57-acre plot of land it purchased from Amish Acres, the tourist attraction in Nappanee created to tell the story of the Amish and years gone by.

The new home for the club of antique power enthusiasts, which incorporated in 2010, means that its early summer and fall shows have a permanent location. That has spurred increased interest and the tractor pull that was part of the Nappanee Apple Festival Antique Tractor, Engine, and Toy show needed four additional classes to accommodate all the entries, according to Brian Metzler, president of the

organization. The Indiana Pullers Association is returning to the competition which tests the power of tractors by attaching a weighted sled. People in this part of the world love this sporting competition that tests the limits of machines.

The group started when a few men displayed some equipment downtown during the city's Apple Festival. That grew into more displays and a sawmill demonstration at the sports complex. Starting in 2010, the group used a field near Dutch Village.

The purchase of the Amish Acres property, which includes farm buildings, pasture and wetlands, gives the group a chance to grow on a permanent location into an educational showcase. School field trips and regular public events will offer a chance to tell the story of Nappanee and Elkhart County as a farming community, not just a manufacturing hub.

The group submitted a grant application to the Community Foundation of Elkhart County for \$187,000. The grant committee was impressed with personal commitment from the group's members, both in gifts of time and money, and

their commitment to long-term success. It awarded the full amount to help the group get closer to its vision for the new property. "I was pleasantly surprised. And very thankful," says Brian.

The money helps the group rebuild a maple sugar camp, construct new bathrooms, create the pulling track and add other infrastructure to accommodate crowds. It will also help restore a still used to turn mint plants into oil, an activity common in the area for decades.

"Nappanee has a great agriculture heritage," says Brian. His ancestors and others came for the fertile land. An Amish community settled here and its members continue to farm with horses. Historically, tractors have been forbidden for farming, though it varies a bit by community. Delbert Borkholder, one of those Amish members, explains that it's OK for him to have the old equipment. "I got four threshing machines. I got two corn shredders. A stationary baler. This is all old equipment that does work," he says, continuing to add to the list.

In Nappanee, about 40 percent of the club's membership is Amish. Borkholder and other Amish and non-Amish have Rumelys, a kerosene-powered machine that was built in LaPorte in the early 1900s.

Lamar "Popcorn" Slabaugh has the Rumely his Amish grandfather bought at the factory in 1929 and drove home to Nappanee, finishing the trip on a gravel road called U.S. 6. Popcorn was 7 years old when he first said he wanted that tractor and now he's talking about recreating the trip in 2020 when Nappanee Power from the Past's fall show featured Rumelys. Now his son wants the machine that has a rumbling, putt-putt sound.

In five or 10 years, the group may build a heritage center. Some of the members talk longingly of storage buildings so they can move some of the machines out of their own. Yet this plot is also likely to be used in a variety of other ways. "I want to see this property used for all sorts of community events and it doesn't have to be agriculture-related," says Brian.

Even when horsepower only came from horses, farmers would compare notes and shoot the breeze as they stood in the sun on a summer evening. They talk about how they want to teach young people about how farming used to be so that they better understand where to go from here. They talk about opening doors to the past so that we can together create a better future. 🌱

## Fund for Elkhart County PLACEMAKING



**53%**

PLACEMAKING

The Fund for Elkhart County, our unrestricted fund, supports our communities' greatest opportunities and emerging needs with responsive contributions. This year, \$8 million in grants were awarded in the three ongoing areas of priority for the Community Foundation.



*Nappanee Power From the Past  
showcases agricultural heritage.*

2018 - 2019

# FOUNDATION STAFF



## Community Foundation Staff



Carrie Berghoff  
*Donor Engagement Specialist*



Karla Copenhaver  
*Grants Administrator*



Tressa Huddleston  
*Executive Assistant  
& Office Manager*



Amanda Jamison  
*Senior Program Officer*



Samantha Lambert  
*Associate Program Officer*



Renee Mansfield  
*Donor Services Coordinator*



Pete McCown  
*President*



Joe Mehl  
*Director of Marketing  
& Communication*



Sophie Metzger  
*Associate Program Officer*



Dallis Miller  
*Controller*



Cole Patuzzi  
*Chief Financial Officer*



Jodi Spataro  
*Chief Advancement Officer*



Vonnie Trumble  
*Associate Program Officer*



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