

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Acorns for Young and Old**

There is an enduring cliché about “mighty oaks from little acorns grow,” and the Wayne County Community Foundation (WCCF) has been proving that for nearly 30 years.

“In December 1978, our very first donation was \$1,000 from William Baer, then president of Will-Burt in Orrville,” said Ferenc Relle, Jr. Executive Director. “Over those years we have been able to return nearly \$40 million back to this community in the form of grants and scholarships... all generated from the investment income and gifts of thousands of generous and caring donors.”

To encourage multi-generational philanthropy, the WCCF has recently created *Acorn Funds* so donors have a way to begin their journey of giving with a smaller initial gift. This is followed by regular contributions to reach the traditional endowment minimum guidelines, which all qualify for annual charitable tax deductions. To further encourage giving, all administration fees are being waived for Acorn Funds until they mature.

Acorn funds can be named for an individual, family member, or for a designated non-profit organization. With an early start, children can be exposed to the volunteer spirit of the many community groups that work to keep the quality of life here high.

Plant a seed in our community now and watch it grow into a charitable legacy to last forever.

“But Acorn Endowments are not just for the young, but also for the young-at-heart,” said Relle. With a smaller initial gift, many of our older citizens can be able to participate in building their legacy; leaving a permanent and lasting difference to their community. It is also a secure way to ensure that charitable bequests are established before death and properly referenced in the donor’s will.

Great things can come from small beginnings by helping make grant awards to schools, historical societies, human service agencies, churches, conservation groups, music and arts centers, and others.

“If you are a parent, there is no better time to get your child’s Acorn Fund started, or if your parents are still living, help them begin with a gift that grows over time,” Relle added.

For more about funds, please contact Ferenc Relle, Executive Director of the Wayne County Community Foundation, at (330) 262-3877.