

New Home. Same Mission.

ANNUAL REPORT
2025-2026



Wayne County
**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

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In an effort to conserve costs and the environment, various lists, noted throughout the report, are available online at www.wccfoh.org. If you prefer a printed copy of any of the lists, we would be happy to mail them to you. Just give us a call!

Letter to Our Community

Dear Friends,

Every community has places that become part of its heartbeat—spaces filled with stories, memories and moments that matter. When those places are renewed, something powerful happens: they spark new energy, new ideas and new possibilities.

This year, Wayne County Community Foundation stepped boldly into that moment.

In 2026, we opened the doors to our new home in downtown Wooster—a space that doesn't just look different but lets us do things differently. By revitalizing the former Larry's Music building, we invested in a beloved landmark and helped fuel the continued momentum of East Liberty Street and downtown Wooster.

Our belief is simple: communities flourish when we invest in the places where people connect. And now, we have a place designed for exactly that.

A place where donors can dream about impact. Where nonprofit leaders can collaborate on solutions. Where our Affiliate Funds such as GIVE 365, The Women's Fund and the Youth Foundation can gather and turn ideas into action. Where Trustees can chart the future of Wayne County with clarity and purpose.

Our new home puts us right where we want to be—visible, accessible and woven into the daily fabric of our community. It opens the door to more conversations, more partnerships and more opportunities to help people understand what a community foundation can do.

Because at its heart, the Foundation is about people.

People who care. People who act. People who believe Wayne County can always grow stronger.

This building is simply the place where those people come together.

As you read this annual report, you'll see the difference that caring people make when they choose to invest in their community.

This is our new home. But it belongs to the community.

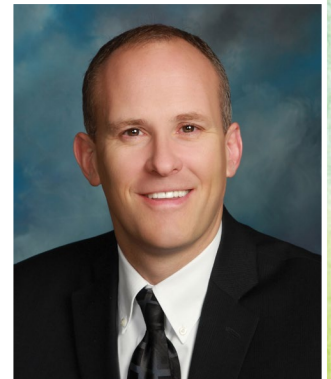
We cannot wait to see what we will build together.



Brent Steiner
President, Board of Trustees



Melanie Reusser Garcia
Executive Director





GIVE

You give to a new or existing fund and receive a tax deduction when it makes sense for you.



GROW

We grow your charitable assets through effective investment management strategies.



GRANT

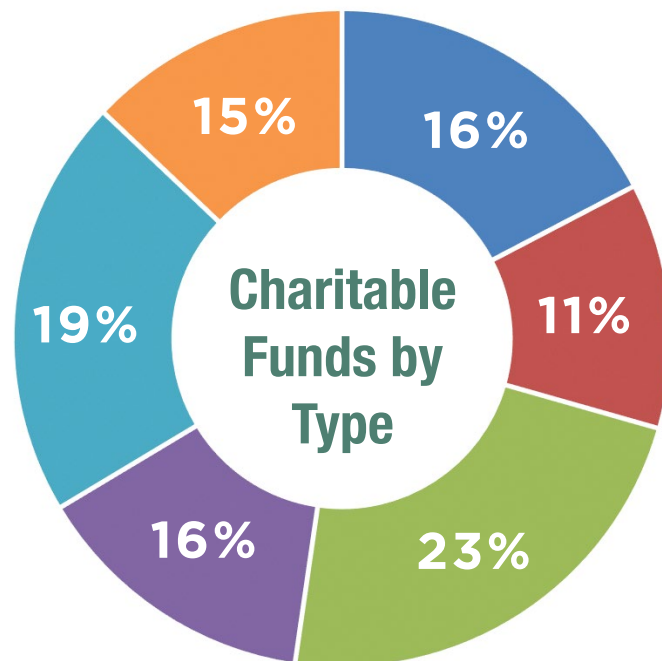
Together, we grant money to area nonprofits to improve the quality of life in our community.

By the Numbers

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026

\$180,138,816

in Total Assets
as of June 30, 2026



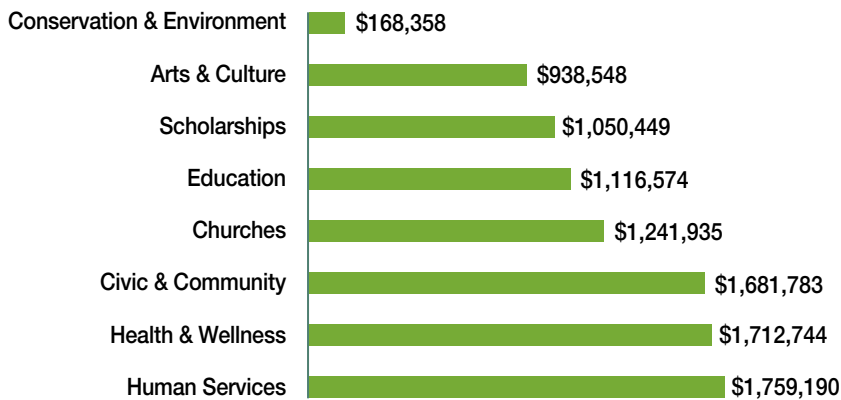
- Community Funds
- Field of Interest Funds
- Designated Funds
- Donor or Corporate Advised Funds
- Scholarship Funds
- Agency Funds

623
Charitable
Funds

\$9.2 Million
in Contributions
Received

\$9.6 Million
in Grants and Scholarships Awarded
in Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Grants Awarded by Area



\$132+ Million
Awarded in Grants and
Scholarships Since Inception

VISION

To effectively leverage
Wayne County's
philanthropic resources to
improve the quality of life
in our community.



MISSION

To provide philanthropic
leadership to our
community.



GOALS

To encourage individuals,
organizations, and
businesses to share part
of their resources for the
good of our community.

To assist community
charitable organizations
in the creation and
management of
endowments.

To provide oversight
of investment and
disbursement of funds
devoted to charitable
purposes.

RUTH M. TIECHE FRIEND OF PHILANTHROPY AWARD

John and Judy Kropf

For more than five decades, John and Judy Kropf of Orrville, Ohio, have quietly shaped the lives of countless individuals across Wayne County through a philosophy of service rooted in compassion, faith, and community responsibility. While many philanthropists are known primarily for financial contributions, the Kropfs have built a legacy defined equally by personal involvement, advocacy, and hands-on support for those facing hardship. Their lives demonstrate that philanthropy is not simply about giving money, but about investing time, energy, leadership, and love into the well-being of others.



John and Judy Kropf have long been recognized as pillars of the Orrville and Wayne County communities. Married since 1970, they have dedicated themselves to helping individuals who are often overlooked or underserved, including survivors of domestic violence, struggling families, individuals battling addiction, at-risk youth, and LGBTQ+ students seeking educational opportunities. Friends and colleagues frequently describe the couple as people who work quietly behind the scenes, rarely seeking public recognition for their efforts.

The couple's commitment to education is reflected in their longstanding support of learning opportunities throughout Wayne County and beyond. John played an instrumental role in the establishment of The University of Akron-Wayne College in Orrville, helping expand access to higher education for students across the region. Among their most meaningful contributions was the creation of the Scholarship for Inclusion and Diversity at Wayne College, which supports LGBTQ+ students pursuing higher education. The scholarship reflects the Kropfs' belief that every student deserves the opportunity to learn, grow, and succeed, regardless of personal identity or circumstance.

John has also demonstrated a lifelong commitment to higher education through his service as a trustee of Baldwin Wallace University since 1981, including six years as president of the Board of Trustees. During his tenure, the university completed its most ambitious

fundraising campaign to date, raising approximately \$94 million to enhance educational opportunities and support future generations of students.

The Kropfs' philanthropy has also deeply influenced social service organizations throughout Wayne County. Both John and Judy have served in leadership positions with OneEighty, (formerly Every Woman's House and STEPS), an organization that provide services for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and substance abuse. John served on the Every Woman's House Board of Trustees and helped lead a successful \$4.2 million capital campaign that funded a new shelter and renovated facilities for survivors and their children. Judy served eight years on the STEPS Board of Trustees, including two years as president, and continues to support the organization through committee service and advocacy.

In addition, the couple has dedicated years of volunteer leadership to The Village Network, an organization serving vulnerable and at-risk youth. Both John and Judy have been honored through induction into The Village Network Hall of Fame in recognition of their extraordinary commitment and service. Judy also served on the Orrville City Schools Board of Education and has been a staunch advocate for the Orrville Public Library, demonstrating her belief that strong communities are built through educational and civic engagement.



RUTH M. TIECHE

The Friend of Philanthropy Award is named in honor of Ruth M. Tieche. Ruth worked at Freedlander's Department Store for nearly 60 years, retiring in 1975 as the personnel director. She passed away in March 1989, at the age of 90, leaving no survivors. Through a bequest, Ruth left \$384,000 to the Foundation as an unrestricted gift.

Ruth's generosity brought the total assets under the care of the Foundation to more than \$1 million – a major milestone for the young organization. With careful stewardship, her initial gift has continued to grow while also awarding funds back into the community through the Foundation's competitive grant cycle. Unrestricted gifts, like the one provided by Ruth, allow the Foundation to meet the ever-changing needs of our community for years to come.

Faith is central to the Kropfs' approach to philanthropy. As active members of the United Church of Christ in Orrville, they have consistently put their faith into action through practical acts of service. John is affectionately known within the congregation as the "Jolly Rancher Guy" for the candy he shares with children each Sunday. For decades, he has also operated the church "wood lot," chopping and delivering firewood to support youth mission trips and charitable outreach.

Perhaps the most remarkable aspect of John and Judy Kropf's philanthropy is the deeply personal nature of their giving. Beyond boardrooms and fundraising campaigns, they have helped individuals secure transportation, navigate legal systems, recover from addiction, escape abusive situations, and pursue education and employment opportunities. Their generosity is not limited to organizations; it extends directly into the lives of people who need encouragement, dignity, and hope.

Through quiet leadership, unwavering compassion, and a lifelong dedication to serving others, John and Judy Kropf embody the true spirit of philanthropy. Their legacy is evident not only in scholarships, buildings, and nonprofit organizations, but in the countless lives they have strengthened through kindness, advocacy, and faith-driven service.

Previous Award Recipients

Stanley C. & Flo K. Gault, 2013

The J.M. Smucker Family, 2014

The Donald & Alice Noble Family, 2015

Greg & Kathy Long, 2016

Barry Romich, 2017

Stephen & Cheryl Shapiro, 2018

Michael & Stephanie Reardon, 2019

Richard & Judy Seaman, 2022

John C. Johnston III, 2023

Ron & Prue Holtman, 2024

Mary Alice Streeter, 2025

**No recipients in 2020 or 2021 due to COVID-19 pandemic*

The Friend of Philanthropy Award was created to honor those who make a difference in our communities with their philanthropic activities – the giving of treasure, time, and talent – for the betterment of the Wayne County area. It is presented at Wayne County Community Foundation's Annual Dinner. For more details on the award and nomination process, please visit us online at www.wccfoh.org or call 330.262.3877.



Giving Your Way

Flexible options to fit your needs

For individuals, families, or organizations that want a strategic and simple approach to their long-term philanthropic giving, a charitable fund at Wayne County Community Foundation is a smart choice. These funds offer flexibility for donors, allowing them to choose their level of involvement.

With a variety of fund types, Wayne County Community Foundation has a solution to fulfill nearly every donor's charitable wishes. You can get started by meeting with our staff to discuss the fund options that best fit your goals.

WHAT IS YOUR GOAL?



Invest in the future of Wayne County.

Giving to a **Community Fund** provides the most flexibility to respond to the changing needs in our community, now and forever.



Strengthen a particular community or specific area of interest.

A **Field of Interest Fund** directs grants for a specific purpose—such as supporting disadvantaged children, literacy, the performing arts, or your hometown.



Support a specific charitable organization.

By establishing a **Designated Fund**, you can provide annual grants in perpetuity for one or more organizations of your choice.



Enable students to realize their educational dreams.

A **Scholarship Fund** enables you to support our local students with scholarships to pursue post-secondary education.



Actively participate as a grantmaker.

With a **Donor** or **Corporate Advised Fund**, you can actively participate by recommending grants to the causes you care about most.



Build an endowment for your nonprofit.

Charitable organizations can establish **Agency Funds** to benefit their mission now and in the future.

GETTING STARTED IS EASY

The choice is yours! Establish a fund today so you can witness its impact during your lifetime, or give through a bequest or other planned gift.

We are able to accept a variety of gifts – cash, stocks and bonds, life insurance, IRA distributions, or even gifts by bequest – to create a named fund that fits your needs. Most funds may be opened with a minimum gift of \$10,000; to open a new scholarship fund, the minimum is \$20,000. Each of our fund types may begin as an Acorn Fund, allowing for it to be funded on an installment basis over 5 years.

Our professional staff is ready to meet with you to talk about your goals, and create a plan that matches your charitable interests and financial situation. Whatever your philanthropic objectives, we have the flexibility and tools to help you reach them. To learn more about establishing your fund at Wayne County Community Foundation, please call 330.262.3877 or email contact@wccfoh.org.

New Funds



For a full list of funds, scan the QR code or visit us online at www.wccfch.org.



Each charitable fund created through Wayne County Community Foundation is unique and begins with a passionate donor with a personal story. This fiscal year, 29 new funds were established.

COMMUNITY FUNDS

Michael and Sharon Flinner Community Fund
Don and Dee Nelson Community Fund

DONOR OR CORPORATE ADVISED FUNDS

The Boen Family Fund
Dush Family Fund (Roger and Rita)
Jon and Sara Hubacher Fund
Michael and Robyn McClintock Family Fund
Rittman Ripple Effect Fund
**One Donor Advised Fund wishes to remain anonymous*

DESIGNATED FUNDS

ACRFB Food Security Fund
Mary Tarry Douglas Fund
Homeward Bound Endowment Fund
Mt. Zion Cemetery (Milton Twp.) Capital Improvement Fund
OABGC Great Futures Fund
Schmid Family Legacy Fund for Orrville Area Boys & Girls Club
Teacher Appreciation Fund for Orrville City Schools

AGENCY FUNDS

A Whole Community, Inc. (AWC) Fund
Bobbi Douglas OneEighty Legacy Fund
Friends of Wooster Memorial Park Fund
Sacred Ground Fund
Carol A. Thompson Fund for the Friends of Wooster Symphony Orchestra
Viola Startzman Clinic Greatest Needs Fund

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Maddox Graser Memorial Baseball Scholarship Fund
Mr. Gregory Education Scholarship Fund
Bob Knight Scholar Athlete Scholarship Fund
Mary Ellen Musser Memorial Scholarship Fund
Karen M. Nickle Scholarship Fund
Bill and Mabel Rottman Career Center/Triway Scholarship Fund
Bill and Mabel Rottman Triway Scholarship Fund
Bill and Mabel Rottman Village Network Scholarship Fund



By establishing the **Michael and Robyn McClintock Family Fund**, the McClintocks have created a powerful vehicle for local impact. A Donor Advised Fund offers individuals and families a seamless, deeply collaborative way to engage in philanthropy. Through this partnership, the McClintocks gain access to the foundation's knowledge of community needs and challenges, ensuring their giving makes the greatest possible difference. While the family actively guides grants to the causes they care about most, the Community Foundation handles all administrative, legal, and compliance details. It is a flexible, cost-effective, and efficient alternative to a private foundation, allowing the McClintocks to focus entirely on the joy of giving back to their community.

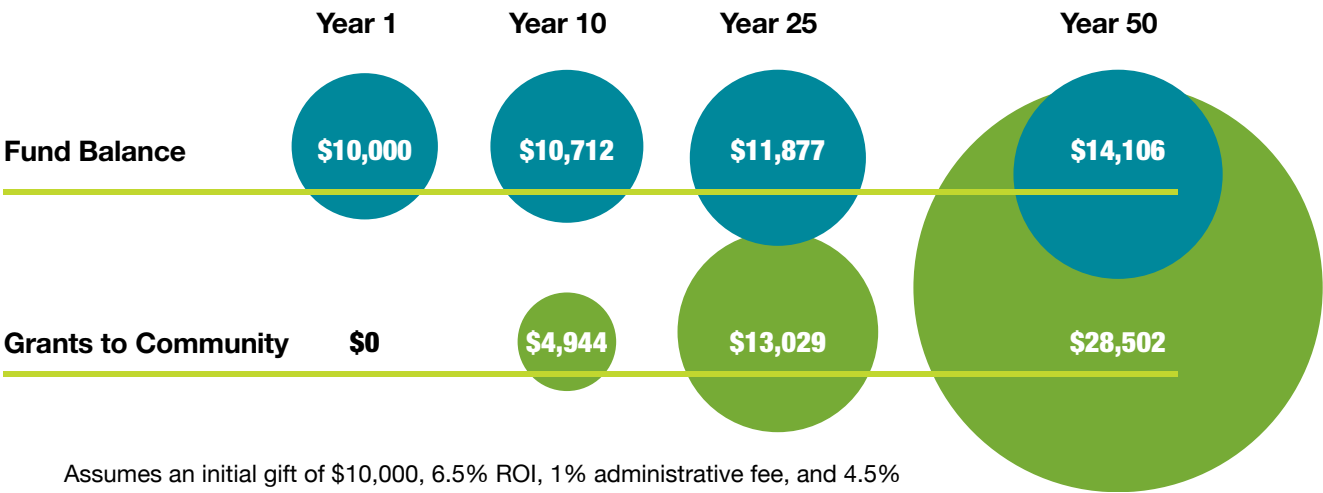


Power of Endowment

Supporting your community for generations to come

We understand the power of permanence. We believe it is the key to ensuring that our community’s future will be even brighter than its past. When you create a charitable fund through the Foundation, you can benefit the community forever with a permanent endowment.

The graphic below shows how your endowed gift can grow over time, while still providing grants to the causes you care about most.



Assumes an initial gift of \$10,000, 6.5% ROI, 1% administrative fee, and 4.5% grant payout each year. This example is not a guarantee of return on investment.

Community Funds

Addressing needs today and tomorrow

Since our founding in 1978, visionary donors have been making gifts and creating funds to address the community's most pressing needs. Community Funds are unrestricted – meaning that Wayne County Community Foundation has the flexibility to address ever-changing community issues, including future needs that may not be evident yet.

The Foundation's Trustees evaluate all aspects of community well-being such as arts and culture, education, environment, health and wellness, human services, and more. Unrestricted gifts empower us to strategically distribute grants, when and where the need and opportunity are greatest.

If you want to help Wayne County and its residents thrive while maximizing the impact of your charitable contributions, a Community Fund is the ideal choice.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF A COMMUNITY FUND?

Establishing an unrestricted fund is the ultimate way to support the community you love.

- Your money stays in your community and is used to make grants, when and where they are needed most.
- You may initiate your fund with a gift today, or through a bequest.
- You, or others, can add to the fund you have established at any time, receiving tax benefits with each new gift.
- It is a long-term fund created for long-term impact.
- It is flexible to address current and future needs and opportunities.

START YOUR FUND IN THREE EASY STEPS



CHOOSE YOUR PASSION

We'll help you determine the best fund type to support your charitable interests. Your fund can impact a particular organization, field of interest, or emerging community needs.



CHOOSE WHEN TO GIVE

Decide if you prefer to establish a fund today, so you can witness its impact during your lifetime, or if giving through a bequest or other planned giving option is best for you.



CHOOSE WHAT TO GIVE

WCCF is able to accept a variety of gifts – cash, stocks and bonds, life insurance, IRA distributions, or even gifts by bequest. We will work with you and your professional advisor to determine how best to achieve your charitable and financial goals.



Community Grants in Action

\$1,230,787.81 awarded to 51 area nonprofit organizations through the Foundation's Competitive Community Grants.

Adaptive Sports Ohio to help purchase an enclosed trailer for transporting sport wheelchairs to practices and competitions; supporting the expansion of the Interscholastic Wheelchair Basketball program, a fully inclusive team for student-athletes with physical disabilities.

Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank to support the Wayne County Direct Distribution Program, which partners with Wooster Hope Center, to provide groceries to neighbors facing hunger.

American Heart Association, Inc. to purchase refrigeration/freezer units and food to expand student access to healthy foods in the Wooster City School District.

Anazao Community Partners to support the transition to a sustainable, referral-driven outpatient school model by implementing the Patient Engage platform, staff training, and referral enhancements to improve timely behavioral health care for 600 Wayne County students.

Ballet Wooster to support artistic and production expenses for their 2027 Annual Spring Production including venue rental, lighting equipment, sets, backdrops, and costumes.

Boys & Girls Club of Wooster to purchase a 30-device class set of The Walking Classroom "WalkKits" to engage auditory and kinesthetic learners and reduce learning disparities through movement-based instruction.

Catholic Charities to support the development of a community collaboration to meet the specialized needs of drug-endangered children and the planning of Rise Above 2.0 to break the cycle of substance abuse within the family.

Central American Medical Outreach Inc. to purchase and install nine computer workstations at the CAMO Orrville Headquarters for local staff and volunteers.

Christian Children's Home of Ohio to cover costs associated with therapeutic outings (transportation, admission fees, meals, and activity supplies) that support children's social skill development and emotional growth.

Church of the Brethren (for Inspiration Hills Camp) to construct a 1,200-sq-ft, ADA-compliant pavilion to host a new Outdoor Education program for schools and school-break day camps for regional youth and community groups.

City of Rittman (Parks & Rec) to purchase a new RTVX2 Kubota Side by Side to be used for landscaping, ball diamond work, park upkeep, etc.

Coleman Health Services to support their youth employment program, including community outreach, developing more relationships with diverse partners and enhancing working experiences for youth with disabilities and behavioral health challenges in Wayne County.

The College of Wooster/AMRE to support the AMRE Consulting projects of three local non-profits: 1) Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank - to evaluate potential uses for the donated Smucker site; 2) Homeward Bound - to create systems to improve intake times, track inventory, item and meal donations, and a database for guests; and 3) Boys and Girls Club of Wooster - to create a feasibility report for the Boys & Girls Club of Wooster to determine the possibility of launching a large-scale capital campaign.

Community Action Wayne/Medina for initial start-up expenses for a community health clinic in West Salem, in partnership with the Viola Startzman Clinic and the Charitable Health Network.

Downtown Arts Theater, Inc. to purchase additional live event equipment for The Lyric, provide staff training, and purchase improved cleaning equipment to enhance operations and extend the facility's lifespan.



Friends of Hospice Wayne County recently completed a major renovation of the Friendtique showroom. The removal of interior walls has significantly increased shopping square footage and improved overall traffic flow. This updated layout creates a welcoming environment for supporters, directly boosting efforts to fund vital hospice care in Wayne County.

Friends of Hospice Wayne County, Ohio to make a safer and more consumer-friendly showroom, utilizing current square footage. The project included removing interior walls for easier traffic flow and visibility and replacing worn carpet.

Friends of Secrest Arboretum to help finance a professionally-executed, long-range Master Plan for Secrest Arboretum.

Friends of Wayne County Park District Inc. to restore and maintain the meadow and grasslands habitat at Barnes Preserve.

Hope Homes Foundation, Inc. to support enhancements to their four properties for disabled residents in Wooster, including smart technology, minor modifications, quality of life improvements, and upgraded safety systems.

IncludeAbility to purchase a motorized hiking wheelchair, giving individuals with severe physical disabilities the dignity, independence, and opportunity to explore nature alongside their families and communities.

Innovated Opportunity to expand “Dream Big, Achieve More” into “Dream Big, Innovate More,” offering Wayne County youth ages 10–14 hands-on learning in entrepreneurship, STEM, game development, and 3D design to build skills for future success.

Junior Achievement of North Central Ohio to impact students in Wayne County with vital financial literacy, work readiness, and entrepreneurship programming.

Kidney Foundation of Ohio Inc. to provide direct dollars to kidney patients from Wayne County to pay for prescription medications and nutritional supplements, transportation costs, and emergency necessities relating to health care.

Mental Health & Recovery Board of Wayne & Holmes Counties to purchase a digital sign for their new location on Route 585 and Benden Drive to get messages out to the community about available services.

Neighborhood Bridges Wooster to assist in fulfilling basic needs for Wooster City Schools’ students, such as personal hygiene and clothing items.

OneEighty, Inc. to improve safety and security in OneEighty facilities by replacing and upgrading the door control systems.

OrrVilla Inc. to support “Vision 2027,” a three-year capital campaign to expand infrastructure for 18 new independent living units, a community clubhouse, and two pickleball courts.

P. Graham Dunn Park Inc. to construct a 10’x20’ wooden pavilion with a metal roof to house an ADA-accessible portable restroom, handwashing station, and utility storage, improving accessibility and amenities at Silver Linden Park, in Dalton, for visitors of all abilities.



Through its EquipME Lending Hub, **IncludeAbility** is expanding access to the outdoors with a motorized hiking wheelchair designed for individuals with paralysis or limited core function. Available free of charge, this specialized equipment opens the door to experiences that might otherwise be out of reach—from exploring a local trail to enjoying nature alongside family and friends. By removing barriers to outdoor recreation, IncludeAbility is helping ensure that everyone has the opportunity to experience the freedom, connection, and joy of being outdoors.

At **Sacred Ground**, building a true sense of belonging and purpose for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) means ensuring they can always connect with their community. This van bridges that gap, providing vital transportation to day programs and community-based activities.



Pathway Caring for Children to support year-round, evidence-based prevention programs for 75 children, ages 2–10, at Kids & Giggles Daycare and Preschool in Wooster, building social-emotional skills for children affected by trauma, adversity, or behavioral challenges.

Pregnancy Care Center to help purchase high-demand items, including diapers, wipes, formula, baby hygiene products, infant and toddler clothing, and baby monitors for Wayne County clients.

Quota of Wayne County to be used towards classroom amplification systems requested by schools that were not able to be funded by Quota. The systems are for classrooms in grades K–6.

Rails to Trails of Wayne County to support the cost of necessary earthwork not originally included in the project's construction costs for the trail section between Orrville and Marshallville.

Rittman Historical Society to move the Rittman B&O Train Station 1/10th mile to a greenspace owned by the City of Rittman using modern structural moving technology.

The Rittman Server to purchase a new commercial coffee maker, electric range stove, and refrigerator/freezer for the Rittman location.

Sacred Ground to purchase a handicapped accessible van for transportation to and from their day program as well as trips for community involvement.

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Catholic School to purchase library enhancements, including age appropriate book series for K–8th grade students.

Stewart's Caring Place to support cancer-specific intake and assessments, support groups, and pantry services for Wayne County residents facing cancer-related challenges.

Tri-County Educational Service Center (ESC) to support the continuation of the local Children's Chorus program.

Treasurer of Wayne County, Ohio/Wayne County Sheriff's Office to purchase an American-made drone to replace a current outdated drone, along with associated support equipment, software and training.

United Way of Wayne & Holmes Counties, Inc. to purchase colored tarps and flags for each of the Wayne County school districts participating in the Reading Under the Lights program.

Village of Dalton (Fire Dept.) to help purchase a new Utility Task Vehicle (UTV) equipped for emergency medical response, enhancing the department's ability to access remote, off-road, and difficult-to-reach areas, as well as parks, trails, and large outdoor events such as football games.

Village of Mt. Eaton to support Phase II of its park renovation project, including improvements to pickleball courts, construction of a volleyball court, upgrades to two parking lots, and installation of safety fencing near the park's ravine to enhance recreation opportunities and improve public safety.



The Village of Shreve received a grant to help build Harold Miller Park, creating an inclusive, accessible gathering space for residents of all ages. The new park will enhance the community's quality of life and provide a lasting investment in recreation, connection and community.

The new Arts Park at **Wayne Center for the Arts** features state-of-the-art playground structures that blend sensory play with dynamic physical activity to serve the community daily. Visitors of all ages engage with public art installations and outdoor musical instruments, highlighting the Center's commitment to enriching lives through creative expression.



Village of Shreve to support the construction of Harold Miller Park, a new community park featuring inclusive playground equipment, ADA-accessible amenities, safety surfacing, benches, and walking paths, creating a safe, accessible, and welcoming outdoor gathering space for residents of all ages.

Wayne Center for the Arts to support inclusive play structures and surfacing on the playground in the new Arts Park at Wayne Center for the Arts.

Wayne County Children's STEAM Playlab to support "Camp Explore," a summer camp designed to cater to youth in Wayne County from K-8th grade, providing them with opportunities to engage in STEAM activities.

Wayne County Fire & Rescue Association DBA Wayne County Regional Training Facility to purchase and install a new breathing air compressor, cascade and fill station to replenish the breathing air bottles that firefighters use.

Wayne County Humane Society to repair the severely cracked floors in one of their dog rooms by applying durable epoxy to create a safe, sanitary environment for the animals.

West View Healthy Living to replace flooring and repaint the Carrington Wing to create a safer, more calming environment for residents living with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

Wooster Community Hospital Foundation to launch a Crisis Prevention and De-Escalation Training Program at WCH.

Wooster Township Fire and Rescue Association to purchase a side-by-side utility vehicle to provide fire suppression and emergency medical services in areas not accessible by traditional fire department apparatus.

YMCA of Wayne County to support "Y on the Fly," a mobile YMCA outreach initiative that transforms an existing YMCA bus into a fully branded, non-transport engagement hub designed to bring YMCA programs, activities, and resources directly into the community.



The "Y on the Fly" mobile outreach initiative brings the **YMCA of Wayne County** directly to the people and places that make up our community. This fully equipped mobile hub enables "pop-up" activities, transforming parks, schools, and neighborhood events into opportunities for connection, creativity, and healthy activity. With fitness equipment, art supplies, and games on board, the YMCA is breaking down barriers and expanding access to its programs—meeting people where they are and bringing the Y to them.

2025-2026

GIVE 365 MEMBERS

Patty Alioto	Kelly Kuzma
Betty Aylsworth	Brett & Renee Lanz
Charles & Sarah Baker	Rebecca Lauffenburger
Pat & Wayne Bare	Joe & Sue-Min Lee*
Terry & Mary Ann Bauman	Mimi Lewellen
Dave & Melnee Benfield	Matt Long & Lynette Mattson*
Matthew & Johnathan Benko-Scruggs	Jim & Georgene Lytle
Robert & Joyce Blanchard*	Mike & Connie Mann
Adam & Bernadette Bogner*	Ryan & Karrie McAllister
Brian & Amy Bogner	Robyn McClintock
Mike & Kelli Bogner	Lisa McDougall
Nancy Bogner	Julie Mennes*
Brian & Olivia Boyer	Clyde & Kathy Miller
Scott & Susan Boyes*	Constance Miller
Adam & Vikki Briggs*	Lynn Moomaw*
Marty & Denise Broda	Becky Moore
Laurie Buehler*	Lacie Neal & Robert Ortoft*
Maribeth Burns	Pat & Patty Neyhart
Tod & Pat Carmony	Dave & Sharron Nielsen*
Sara Cassidy & James Cassidy	Cyril Ofori & Amelia Laing*
Wanda Christopher-Finn	Sara Patton*
Kathie & Billy Clyde	Marnie Paumier*
Marian Cropp	Jeff Perkins & Mary Stockton
Ruth & Paul Crowley	April Pesicek
John & Patty Crum	Candace & Ferenc M. Relle, Jr.
Christine & James Davis*	Lisa & Dennis Reusser*
Donna Dale & Jim Davis, Jr.*	Sam Reusser*
Mark & Patty Del Propost	Brent & Sharon Rice
Bobbi Douglas	Marcia Richard
Joanne Downs	Molly & Michael Richard
Jere Dutt	Edwin & Betty Rider
Mary Eberhart*	Shelly Rider
Glenda Lehman Ervin*	Bob & Karen Rodda
Annette Fejes*	Jack & Nicholette Rogers
Karen Boyer Ferrara	Bill Ross
Richard & Susan Figge	Robbie Ross
James Fox & Stephanie Strand	Mary Schantz
John & Helen Fravel	Troy & Alison Schmidt
Barb Friedhoff	Betty Schuler
Scott Friedhoff	Kenneth Shafer*
Melanie & Stefan Garcia	Jake & Teeka Sheets
Jim & Lana Gesler	Daphne Silchuk-Ashcraft
Dick & Patty Glessner	Lee Simpson
Andrew & Kara Good	Melody Lawrence Snure
Eileen Good	Dottie Snyder
Mark & Diane Gordon	Larry & Rita Stallings
Bob & Peggy Gralinski	Carol Stewart
Katherine & Russ Grant	Mary Alice Streeter*
Tom & Catherine Graves	Tim & LuAnn Suppes
Charles Gray	Kevin Trent & Marcia Lehman Trent*
Joel Gray	Curtis & Cindy Vaughn
MacKenzie Haiss	Bala Venkataraman*
Dianne Hange	Clint & Deanna Walenciak
LeRoy Haynes	Rita Goudy Weinblatt
Mary Beth Henthorne	Beth & Al Westfall
James & Natalie Hessler	Yvonne Williams
Connie Hodgdon	Jerry & Tiffany Witmer
Joel & Carrie Horst	Charles Wright
Linda Houston	Deb Zeiters & Richard Maxwell
Mike & Diane Jarrett*	
James & Margaret Jones	
Jon & Carrie Jones	
Wyn Jones	
Joy Kleinhenz	
Joe & Elizabeth Knutson	

Four member have opted to remain anonymous

*Indicates Life Membership

GIVE 365

Wayne County

Philanthropy on a dollar-a-day

GIVE 365 unites emerging philanthropists in Wayne County, empowering them to pool their resources for a shared cause.

By contributing just \$1 a day, or \$365 annually, members amplify their philanthropic contributions while gaining insight into our community's challenges and opportunities. This initiative also provides nonprofit organizations addressing these issues with a platform to showcase their effectiveness and potential to GIVE 365 members.

This year's grant-making focus for the Wayne County Community Foundation's GIVE 365 program was "Healthy Foundations: Housing, Hunger, and Healthcare." After reviewing grant applications, the group voted to award a total of \$28,000 to four nonprofit organizations:

Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank received \$5,000 to purchase powered equipment like pallet jacks, inventory scan guns, and other items needed to operate in the newly acquired Wayne County Campus.

Habitat for Humanity in Wayne County, Inc. received \$3,000 to be used in combination with other donated funds and a collaboration grant with Community Action Wayne/Medina to build 3 affordable homes.

Homeward Bound of Wooster and Wayne County Inc. received \$10,000 to sustain and expand the day center and overnight shelter by supporting staffing, meals, basic-needs services, and essential operational costs that ensure people experiencing homelessness have safe, reliable access to care.

The Viola Startzman Clinic received \$10,000 to expand psychiatric mental health services by adding a full-time Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner to assess, diagnose, and treat mental health and substance use disorders for underserved Wayne County residents.



HOW DO I BECOME A PART OF GIVE 365?

It's simple!

Contact the Foundation at 330.262.3877 or visit us online at www.wccfoh.org to complete the membership card.

Homeward Bound of Wooster and Wayne County opened its doors in February 2025 to provide a safe place for people experiencing homelessness or food insecurity. Grant funding from GIVE 365 Wayne County helps sustain and expand services, allowing Homeward Bound to meet basic needs and connect more people with resources for lasting stability.



Wayne County Community Youth Foundation

An affiliate fund of Wayne County Community Foundation

Philanthropists in the making

The Wayne County Community Youth Foundation (WCCYF) offers students across Wayne County a unique chance to explore the impact of philanthropy. This year, 45 students from nine local schools gained hands-on leadership experience while deepening their understanding of charitable giving and how investments help grow philanthropic funds.

The program emphasizes the core principles of community-based philanthropy, including fundraising and grantmaking to support projects that benefit Wayne County youth. In addition to these activities, Youth Foundation members hone their teamwork, leadership, and communication skills, and engage in community service projects that enhance the quality of life throughout Wayne County.

This year, after evaluating grant applications, WCCYF student advisors voted to award \$20,000 in grants to ten organizations serving youth in Wayne County.

A Kid Again – Northern Ohio Chapter received a \$2,500 grant to support their “2026 Adventures” program, helping to create joyful, lasting memories for children with life-threatening conditions and their families.

Adaptive Sports Ohio received a \$2,000 grant towards the purchase of an enclosed trailer for the new Norwayne Interscholastic Wheelchair Basketball Team.

Anazao Community Partners received a \$5,000 grant to support embedded mental health and substance use services for Wayne County youth participating in summer programs, helping ensure continuity of care during the months when school-based services are unavailable.

Catholic Charities received a \$500 grant to provide hygiene kits for youth participating in their various programs – supporting basic needs so youth can

confidently and meaningfully engage in programs and the community.

Children’s Advocacy Center received a \$1,900 grant to support secure electronic storage of client documentation while enhancing access to educational information and community resources at the CAC and through local partner agencies.

The Counseling Center of Wayne and Holmes Counties received \$1,500 to purchase materials, such as art supplies and weighted blankets, to be used by clinicians who are working with youth receiving mental health support.

Girls on the Run East Central Ohio received \$1,500 towards their community service project, allowing for an even bigger impact in Wayne County.

Goodwill Industries of Wayne and Holmes Counties received a \$2,000 grant to help low-income youth in obtaining their driver’s license – including driver’s education, exams, and additional behind-the-wheel instruction.

OneEighty, Inc. received \$600 for the “Turning Point Coalition’s RIDERS Program,” which provides youth-led substance prevention programming.

Wayne Center for the Arts received \$2,500 for the “Behind the Curtain: Artist Workshops”, which provides students with hands-on learning directly from professional artists.

Youth Foundation Student Advisors gained firsthand insight into the challenges of making lifesaving decisions with limited resources through a program led by CAMO Founder and International Director Kathy Tschiegg. Her real-life experiences as a young nurse in Honduras tested students’ ability to think critically about needs, resources and community impact.

Thank you to the Romich Foundation for supporting WCCYF.

AFFILIATE FUNDS

2025-2026 WAYNE COUNTY YOUTH FOUNDATION MEMBERS

Emma Altman, Northwestern
Hailey Bode, Wooster
Brooklyn Chelakadan, Wooster
Elizabeth Chong, Orrville
Lydia Dunlap, Wooster
Graham Edwards, Wooster
Ryleigh Farner, Northwestern
Lucy Goodrich, Chippewa
Kenzie Grimwood, Wooster
Reilly Grosjean, Triway
Jay-Cee Hackett, Wooster
Zoey Hess, Orrville/WCSCC
Cadence Hinkle, Wooster
Cayden Indorf, Norwayne
Hailey Jung, Wooster
Nicholas Kakanuru, Wooster
Sarah Keiper, Norwayne
Olivia Kelly, Wooster
Dane Kuzma, Wooster
Matthew Lee, Wooster
Taylor Leidigh, Northwestern/WCSCC
Addison Liston, Norwayne
Wilson Lones, Central Christian
Delaney Marshall, Chippewa
Noah Marty, Norwayne
Makayla Maxwell, Wooster/WCSCC
Aidan McMillan, Wooster
Cohen Mensching, Wooster
Sophia Morris, Northwestern
Tarren Norman, Norwayne
Ivah Parker, Wooster
McKenna Ramsier, Northwestern
Brock Reifsnyder, Homeschool
James (Trey) Richard, Wooster
Lillian Ritchie, Triway
Clara Saal, Northwestern
Tristen Shaffer, Wooster
Claire Smith, Wooster
Lily Tudor, Wooster
Luke Walenciak, Wooster
Alex Williams, Rittman
Ethan Williams, Rittman
Madelynn Winkler, Norwayne
Kade Wood, Wooster
Samantha Yost, Central Christian



THE WOMEN'S FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Pat Bare
Maribeth Burns
Marian Cropp
Christine Davis
Glenda Lehman Ervin
Madeline Fuller
Cheryl Goff
Diane Gordon
Prue Holtman
Carrie Horst
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Yvonne Williams



An Affiliate Fund of the Wayne County Community Foundation

Changing lives – one woman at a time

Since 2013, **The Women's Fund (TWF)**—an affiliate fund of the Foundation, has united individuals who believe in the power of investing in Wayne County women. By connecting donors, volunteers, and nonprofit partners, the Fund supports programs that help women build brighter, more independent futures.

What began with the vision and generosity of just 20 founding members has grown into a permanent endowment of more than \$1 million. This enduring source of support ensures that resources will continue to be available for programs that empower women for generations to come.

The Women's Fund directs its grantmaking toward three priorities: education, economic opportunity, and health and wellness. By partnering with organizations that expand access to these essential resources, the Fund helps women gain the tools and support they need to thrive. Since 2013, TWF has allocated more than \$315,000 in grants to initiatives benefiting women and children throughout Wayne County.

Empowering women in Wayne County

Through effective grantmaking, The Women's Fund has the potential to transform the lives of women for the better – improving their life circumstances and making a positive, lasting impact on their families and communities. This year, the Advisory Committee awarded a total of \$50,075.84 in grants to nonprofit organizations serving women and girls in Wayne County.

Boys & Girls Club of Wooster received a \$1,575.84 grant to implement two 6-week SMART Girls programs for girls aged 10-12 that build physical and mental health, self-esteem, healthy relationships, and lifestyle habits through evidence-based curriculum, trained staff, and evaluation.

Girls on the Run East Central Ohio received a \$2,500 grant to provide financial assistance for girls to participate in GOTR in Norwayne, Northwestern, Rittman, Triway, and Wooster City Schools for Spring 2026.

Healthcare 2000 DBA The Viola Startzman Clinic received a \$24,000 grant to expand affordable women's health services by providing contraception (IUDs and implants), STI testing and treatment, and preventative wellness care to women in Wayne County who otherwise could not access essential care.

OHuddle received a \$10,000 grant to establish new asset-based programming related to vocational development and healthy relationship programming to support female youth and parents living below the poverty line.

OneEighty, Inc. received a \$12,000 grant to fund evidence-based programming in all of Wayne County public schools that educates and supports adolescents developing healthy relationships and lifestyles free from violence.

In addition to the annual grant cycle, The Women's Fund committed \$25,000 over a four-year period to Wooster Community Hospital for a designated "Sexual Assault Nurse Exam (SANE) Room" in the new Emergency Department.

Viola Startzman Clinic (VSC) is striving to expand access to affordable women's health services in Wayne County by removing financial barriers and ensuring that every woman, regardless of income or insurance status, can obtain contraception, STI testing and treatment, and preventative care. By strengthening access to these core services, VSC can help empower women in making informed choices about their health, reduce unplanned pregnancies and untreated infection, and support long-term wellness.



Mother's Day Initiative

The **Mother's Day Initiative** invites everyone to celebrate the women who have made a lasting difference in their lives, while also fostering positive transformation in the lives of women and girls throughout Wayne County. This year, 249 women were honored or remembered on Mother's Day, adding \$17,725 to The Women's Fund permanent endowment. Donations to The Women's Fund will continue to generate funds for grants to nonprofit organizations serving Wayne County women and girls – for generations to come.

For a list of women honored and memorialized through this initiative, scan the QR code or visit us online at www.wccfoh.org.



Scholarship Funds

Empowering the next generation

Scholarship funds play a crucial role in enabling students to follow their educational dreams. Beyond supporting high school seniors, there is an increasing need to provide financial aid for individuals seeking to either complete their college education, undergo re-training, or pursue advanced studies in specialized fields. Thanks to our generous donors, the Foundation awarded over \$1.2 million in scholarships to 337 individual recipients for the 2026-2027 academic year. Below are just a few of this year's recipients:

For a full list of scholarship recipients, scan the QR code or visit us online at www.wccfoh.org.



James Cassady
Northwestern High School



Jayden Clay
Wooster High School



Parker Clippenger
Triway High School



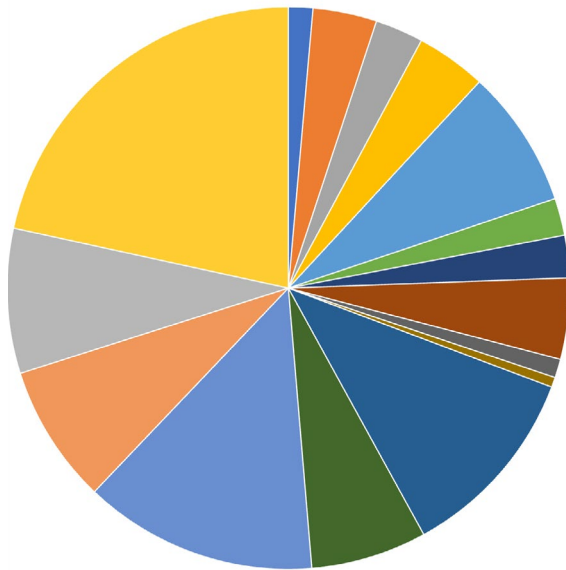
Pamela Govea Morales
Orrville High School



Madycin Rupp
Norwayne High School



Wyatt Utter
Chippewa High School



\$1,236,169

**Total Scholarships Awarded for the
2026-2027 Academic Year**

■ Chippewa High School Seniors	\$17,300
■ Dalton High School Seniors	\$45,400
■ Northwestern High School Seniors.	\$34,250
■ Norwayne High School Seniors	\$49,975
■ Orrville High School Seniors.	\$98,389
■ Rittman High School Seniors	\$26,400
■ Smithville High School Seniors.	\$30,100
■ Triway High School Seniors	\$57,600
■ Wayne County Schools Career Center Seniors	\$13,240
■ Waynedale High School Seniors.	\$7,100
■ Wooster High School Seniors.	\$139,465
■ College Students – New Awards.	\$82,400
■ College Students – Renewed	\$166,150
■ Other Students.	\$98,800
■ Graduate School Students	\$102,900
■ Non-Traditional Students	\$266,700
Total.	\$1,236,169



BECOME A SCHOLARSHIP EVALUATOR!

Passionate about education and its power to transform lives? Consider becoming a Scholarship Evaluator and help shape the future of deserving students in our community.

As a Scholarship Evaluator, you bring your life experience, perspective, and local insight to the selection process. Most importantly, you add the human touch that ensures each decision honors the intent of donors who believe in the value of education.

Why Be a Scholarship Evaluator?

This volunteer role is more than reviewing applications—it's about investing in the next generation. Your participation can open doors for students, helping them achieve their dreams and contribute to a stronger, more vibrant community. By joining our team of dedicated evaluators, you play a key part in creating a brighter tomorrow for students and their families.

What's the Commitment?

Each evaluator is assigned about 30 student applications. The time commitment is approximately three to four hours during late March and early April. You'll review applications based on academics, leadership, extracurricular and community involvement, essays, financial need, and recommendations. Reviews are completed online, allowing you to work from any computer or mobile device at your own pace.

Interested in this meaningful opportunity?

Contact us at contact@wccfoh.org to join us in supporting education and empowering future leaders.

Bob Knight Scholar Athlete Scholarship

Honoring a legacy of leadership, learning, and community commitment



Orrville Red Riders captain Bob Knight, front, with other members of the 1958 boys basketball team.



Long before Bob Knight became one of the most recognizable figures in college basketball, he was a young student and athlete growing up in Orrville, Ohio. A 1958 graduate of Orrville High School, Knight often credited his hometown—and the teachers, coaches, neighbors, and family who invested in him—with shaping the principles that guided his life. It was in Orrville that he developed the discipline, work ethic, respect for education, and sense of personal responsibility that would define both his character and his coaching philosophy. The lessons he learned there became the foundation for a lifetime of leadership, teaching, and service.

Those values carried Knight to one of the most accomplished careers in college basketball history. As head coach at Indiana University, he led the Hoosiers to three NCAA national championships, including the undefeated 1975–76 team, guided the United States to an Olympic gold medal in 1984, and earned induction into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. Known as “The General,” Knight built his teams on preparation, accountability, and mastery of fundamentals. Although his competitive intensity often drew national attention, those closest to him consistently pointed to his commitment to education, integrity, discipline, and helping young people reach their full potential—qualities first nurtured during his years in Orrville.

Despite achieving national prominence, Knight never forgot where those lessons began. He remained deeply connected to Orrville throughout his life, returning often and quietly supporting the community that had given him so much. His generosity included funding improvements to the Orrville High School gymnasium and supporting the Orrville Public Library, the Boys & Girls Club, the YMCA, and many other local organizations. Knight often described Orrville as “one of the greatest towns in the United States,” expressing gratitude for the educators, coaches, and mentors whose influence extended far beyond the classroom and athletic fields.

The Bob Knight Scholar Athlete Scholarship carries those same values forward. Established to honor Knight’s enduring connection to his hometown, the scholarship recognizes graduating seniors from Orrville High School who demonstrate academic achievement, athletic participation, leadership, service, discipline, and strong character. Like the teachers and coaches who invested in Knight, it encourages young people to pursue excellence while making a positive difference in their communities.

Through the **Bob Knight Scholar Athlete Scholarship**, Knight’s story comes full circle. The lessons he learned in Orrville shaped one of basketball’s greatest coaches and now help inspire future generations of Orrville students. While Bob Knight will always be remembered for his victories on the court, perhaps his greatest legacy is the enduring influence of the community that shaped him—and his commitment to ensuring those same opportunities continue for those who follow.



Bobbi Douglas OneEighty Legacy Fund

A legacy of hope. A future of impact.

For more than four decades, Bobbi Douglas has been one of Wayne County's most influential nonprofit leaders, dedicating her career to helping individuals and families overcome addiction, trauma, domestic violence, and sexual assault. Her retirement in 2026 marks the culmination of an extraordinary 44-year career defined by service, innovation, and collaboration. The establishment of the **Bobbi Douglas OneEighty Legacy Fund** ensures that her commitment to strengthening the community will continue for generations to come.

Douglas began her career in 1982 with Wayne County Alcoholism Services and became its Executive Director in 1985. Recognizing the close connection between substance use disorders and family violence, she later assumed leadership of Every Woman's House in 1997. Rather than leading the organizations independently, she championed a collaborative approach that transformed behavioral health and victim services in Wayne County. Under her leadership, the agencies completed a \$4.23 million capital campaign that resulted in the construction of the Gault Liberty Center and a new emergency shelter, providing safe, modern facilities for those seeking hope and healing.

Douglas also led the strategic merger of the two organizations, creating what is now **OneEighty, Inc.** During her tenure, the agency expanded services throughout Wayne and Holmes counties, developed innovative peer recovery programs, strengthened prevention initiatives, and secured additional

capital investments to build residential treatment facilities for individuals recovering from substance use disorders. Her philosophy of collaboration over competition fostered partnerships among healthcare providers, schools, law enforcement, and community organizations, creating a comprehensive continuum of care that has served thousands of residents.

Throughout her career, Douglas earned widespread recognition for her leadership, including the ATHENA Leadership Award and the Women of Achievement Award. Beyond OneEighty, she served on numerous local and statewide boards, helping shape behavioral health policy while advocating for dignity, compassion, and access to care. Her influence extends far beyond the walls of any one organization and is reflected in the countless lives transformed through recovery, safety, and renewed opportunity.

To honor this remarkable legacy, the Board of Trustees for OneEighty, Inc. established the **Bobbi Douglas OneEighty Legacy Fund**, while an anonymous donor came forward with a \$50,000 dollar-for-dollar matching gift to inspire others to invest in the Fund's long-term impact. The charitable fund celebrates a lifetime devoted to serving others and provides an enduring opportunity for donors to support the causes that defined Douglas's career. As the fund grows over time, it will continue investing in programs that strengthen individuals, families, and communities—ensuring that Bobbi's vision of hope, collaboration, and lasting change will benefit Wayne County for generations to come.



ACRFB Food Security Fund

Partnering to fight hunger in Wayne County.



Food insecurity remains a real challenge in Wayne County. Thousands of residents—including many children and seniors—do not always know where their next meal will come from. Addressing this need requires collaboration, bringing together businesses, nonprofits, and community partners with a shared goal: ensuring every neighbor has access to nourishing food.

At the center of this effort is a growing partnership between **The J.M. Smucker Company** and the **Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank**, working together to expand food access and strengthen the safety net for families facing food insecurity. A major milestone in this effort came when Smucker donated its former retail facility and surrounding land in Orrville to the Foodbank. The property includes a nearly 19,000-square-foot building and more than 30 acres of land—space that will allow the Foodbank to establish a dedicated Wayne County campus focused on hunger relief.

For the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank, the new location represents an important step forward. The organization already serves hundreds of food pantries, meal programs, and community partners throughout Northeast Ohio. By expanding its presence in Wayne County, the Foodbank will be able to store and distribute food more efficiently, strengthen partnerships with local agencies, and reach more families who need support.

For Smucker, whose headquarters has been based in Orrville for generations, the initiative reflects a long-standing commitment to the community it calls home. The company has consistently supported local programs that improve quality of life, and helping neighbors access nutritious food is a natural extension of that mission.

Beyond the building and land donation, Smucker also worked with the Wayne County Community Foundation to establish the **ACRFB Food Security Fund**, pledging \$1 million to support food access programs and hunger-relief efforts throughout Wayne County. These resources will help strengthen local distribution networks, expand outreach, and ensure food assistance reaches people where they live.

The new campus will serve not only as a distribution center, but also as a hub for collaboration among local food pantries, social service organizations, and volunteers working to support neighbors in need. With increased capacity and stronger partnerships, the region will be better equipped to address both immediate hunger and the underlying causes of food insecurity.

While no single organization can solve hunger alone, this partnership demonstrates what can happen when community leaders unite around a shared goal. By investing in resources, infrastructure, and collaboration, they are helping ensure more families across Wayne County have consistent access to the food they need to thrive.

Maddox Graser Memorial Baseball Scholarship Fund

**Beyond the diamond:
a story of heart,
character, and opportunity**

Some people leave a lasting impression not because of the number of years they live, but because of the impact they have on the people around them. Maddox Graser was one of those people. A gifted athlete, loyal friend, devoted teammate, and beloved son, Maddox's sudden passing in the spring of 2026 deeply affected the Wooster community and inspired an extraordinary outpouring of love that continues through the [*Maddox Graser Memorial Baseball Scholarship Fund*](#).

A sophomore at Wooster High School, Maddox was known for his competitive spirit, tireless work ethic, and infectious personality. He excelled on both the baseball diamond and the wrestling mat, but those who knew him best remember him most for his kindness, generosity, and ability to bring people together. Family and friends often described him as "all sports, all dirt, all heart"—a young man who loved baseball, fishing, dirt bikes, and time spent with the people he cared about most. Whether making teammates laugh, encouraging a friend, or offering a helping hand, Maddox had a gift for making others feel welcome and valued.

His sudden passing left an immeasurable void for his family, friends, teammates, coaches, teachers, and classmates. Yet it also revealed the remarkable impact one young person can have on an entire community. Tributes poured in from every corner of Wooster as people shared stories of Maddox's character, humor, and unwavering loyalty. His baseball team dedicated its season to his memory, while countless acts of kindness and support reflected the deep respect and affection so many held for him. Even in death, Maddox continued to help others through the gift of organ donation, providing hope to families facing unimaginable circumstances.

To honor his life and preserve the values he exemplified, family, friends, and community members established the [*Maddox Graser Memorial Baseball Scholarship Fund*](#). The scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior who plans to continue playing baseball at the collegiate level, with first preference given to graduates of Wooster



High School. More than recognizing athletic ability, the scholarship seeks to honor students who demonstrate the perseverance, humility, sportsmanship, and commitment to teammates that defined Maddox's life.

The scholarship is more than financial assistance—it is a lasting tribute to a young man whose influence continues to be felt throughout the community. Each recipient will carry forward his legacy by pursuing both academic and athletic excellence while embodying the character that made Maddox such a positive force in the lives of others.

Although Maddox's time on the field was far too short, the example he set continues to inspire those who knew him. Through the opportunities created by this scholarship, future student-athletes will honor his memory by investing in their teammates, their communities, and the game he loved.

Leave a Legacy

The gift of a lifetime

More than great wealth, philanthropy requires a generosity of spirit and the desire to improve the quality of life for others. By carefully planning your estate, you can create benefits for yourself, your family and your community. With thoughtful preparation now, you can be assured your legacy gifts will be directed to the causes you care about most.

HOW CAN I LEAVE A LEGACY?



Leave a Bequest – Include the Foundation in your will as the beneficiary of assets you wish to donate. Committing a portion of your bequest this way removes the assets from your taxable estate. These gifts can be cash, stocks, bonds, or tangible property.



Retirement Funds and IRAs – Name the Foundation as the beneficiary of your IRA, 401(k), or 403(b) to avoid income and estate taxes upon your death. Continue to withdraw from your plan during your lifetime, then benefit your favorite causes with the remainder of the fund.



Life Insurance – Pay an annual premium for a new or existing life insurance policy and designate the Foundation as the primary or contingent beneficiary. You can also gift a life insurance policy you own and no longer need or make the Foundation the owner of a new policy for which you pay the annual premiums.

Our staff will work closely with you and your financial advisor to help facilitate the type of gift that is right for you. Contact us to learn more about the ways we can help you have a positive impact on the community and causes you cherish.

CAN I FOCUS MY PHILANTHROPY?

Absolutely yes! Because philanthropy is intensely personal, it's important to match your desire to give with a community need that “speaks to you.”

Your planned gift with WCCF can create a field of interest fund that will allow WCCF to give grants in the areas you are most passionate about – whether it is education, nature conservation, or the arts. Or you can design a designated fund that will benefit one or several of your favorite nonprofits. If you want to make a difference in the lives of students, you can establish a scholarship fund. You can also donate unrestricted gifts, known as Community Funds, which provide the most flexibility to address emerging needs in our community – now and in the future.



Bill and Mabel Rottman built a legacy of generosity rooted in faith, family, and opportunity. Through thoughtful planned giving, three new scholarship funds established in their honor at the Wayne County Community Foundation will create opportunities for local trade students, Triway High School athletes and young people supported by The Village Network for generations to come.

Legacy Society

The Legacy Society recognizes individuals who have made plans to leave a gift to the community in partnership with the Foundation.

We gratefully acknowledge all those who have plans to leave a legacy to the community through the Foundation. Please talk with your professional advisors and us to find out how easy it is to leave a lasting impression on what matters to you.

We appreciate the compassion, generosity and foresight of our Legacy Society members*:

Larry and Cindy Acker
Jerry L. Amstutz
Jeff and Kathy Bielek
Terry D. Blough
Elsa Boen
Robert M. and Sheila Bricker
Carol and David M. Briggs
James H. and Yvonne A. Brown
Susan Daly Buchwalter
Maribeth Burns
Kathie and Billy Clyde
William and Susan Delac
Leonard and Nancy Douce
Robert and Patricia Douce
Delores Durbin
Karen Boyer Ferrara
Mike and Sharon Flinner
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Carol Gates
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Linda R. Kline
Robert B. Landis
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Karen and Ed Sims
Ken and Helen Walkerly
Mark and Irene Weaver
Betty and David Wilkin

** Seven members preferred to remain anonymous*



Your Gift. Your Impact.

Start a fund today and support the causes you care about most.

Since 1978, we've partnered with individuals, families, businesses, and nonprofits in Wayne County to establish charitable funds that will support their philanthropic passions today, tomorrow, and forever.

With a variety of charitable fund types, Wayne County Community Foundation has a solution to fulfill nearly every donor's charitable wishes.

We suggest getting started by meeting with our staff to discuss the fund options that best fit your charitable goals.



Wayne County
**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

LET'S CONNECT.

Contact us to learn more about the ways we can help you have a positive impact on the community and causes you care about most.

✉ contact@wccfoh.org

☎ 330.262.3877

🌐 www.wccfoh.org



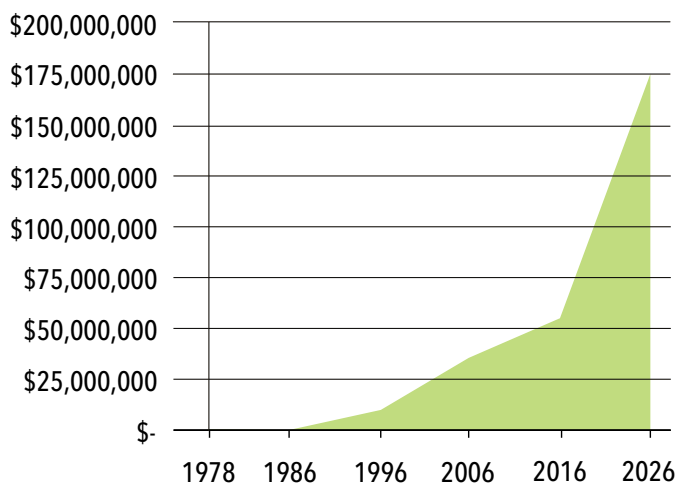
Financial Stewardship



At Wayne County Community Foundation, we are dedicated to nurturing and expanding the philanthropic resources that strengthen our community. By practicing prudent and responsible financial management, we ensure that we can address immediate needs while also securing and growing our assets for the future.

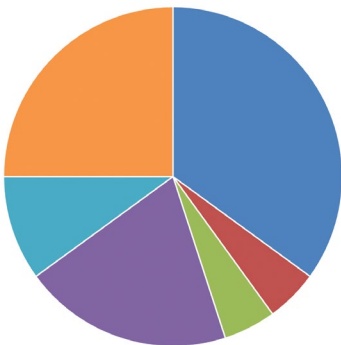
Our investment strategy is designed to safeguard and enhance the value of every donor’s gift, building a solid foundation for long-term impact while meeting today’s community needs. We achieve these goals through a carefully diversified investment portfolio, managed with expertise by both our investment committee and a seasoned professional investment management firm. Your generous support helps us make a lasting difference now and for generations to come.

Assets Since Inception



Asset Allocation

- U.S. Large Cap Equities 35%
- U.S. Mid Cap Equities. 5%
- U.S. Small Cap Equities 5%
- International Equities 20%
- Alternatives. 10%
- Fixed Income and Cash 25%



Investment Performance as of June 30, 2026

(net of all investment and banking fees)

YEAR	RETURN
1	15.3%
5	7.0%
10	8.4%

2025-2026 INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

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Marlene Barkheimer

Mike Jarrett

Roger Proper

Brent Steiner

Ron Holtman, Emeritus

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AUDITOR

Rea & Associates, Inc.

INVESTMENT CONSULTANTS

Clearstead Advisors, LLC

CUSTODIAL MANAGERS

The Commercial & Savings Bank

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To view our Audited Financial Statements, scan the QR code or visit us online at www.wccfoh.org.



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for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2026



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At Wayne County Community Foundation, we are incredibly grateful for our community. If not for each of you, we would not be able to do the work that we do each and every day.

For a list of our generous donors, scan the QR code or visit us online at www.wccfch.org.





Wayne County
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

302 East Liberty Street, Wooster, OH 44691

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**When individuals, families, businesses and nonprofits
support their passions, Wayne County thrives.
Join us in making an impact!**



The Wayne County Community Foundation is recognized for having
organizational and financial practices that are in compliance with
National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations.