Nearly 60 supporters of Bath Community Fund gathered at Hale Farm & Village on April 19 to celebrate the fund's growth and impact in the community at its fourth annual meeting.

Fund officials announced the endowment had grown to more than $660,000, thanks to the gifts of nearly 170 individuals, families and organizations.

"Four years ago, a group of us shared an idea for a community fund that would benefit the residents of Bath," said Jody Miller Konstand, chair of the fund’s advisory board. "And in that short time, your generosity and the generosity of so many others in this community made it possible to fulfill our promise to give back to the community through charitable grant making."

In 2017, BCF awarded $14,135 in grants to eight nonprofits, bringing its cumulative grant making to nearly $30,000 since the fund was established at Akron Community Foundation in 2014.

Debbie McKinney, owner of Time to Spare LLC, was elected to the fund’s advisory board. McKinney is a founding member of the Bath Business Association and a volunteer through Bath Volunteers for Service and Bath United Church of Christ.

Advisory board officers re-elected at the meeting include Konstand as chair, Nancy Fay as vice chair, Kathy Sidaway as secretary and Kevin Kroskey as financial officer. Their terms begin July 1.

Konstand thanked outgoing board members Nadine Clar, who served four years, and Dr. Robert Hemphill, who will become an emeritus member.

The evening culminated in a challenge to help BCF achieve its “For Bath, Forever” endowment goal of $2,018 million by the end of the year. The endowment would enable BCF to grant at least $100,000 to nonprofits in Bath each year.

Co-chairing the campaign are three couples with Bath roots: Dr. Tom and Mary Ann Jackson, Thom and Lisa Mandel and Brad and Amy Bowers.

Each co-chair will host an event this summer to spread the word about the campaign. To receive an invitation, contact Konstand at 330-618-4477 or jmkmedia@msn.com.

Learn more about BCF at BathCommunityFund.org.