Bath Community Fund celebrates nearly $50,000 in grants

‘Tis the season for giving! This month, Bath Community Fund is celebrating nearly $50,000 in gifts back into the community since it was established less than five years ago. In December, the fund awarded its third round of grants totaling $19,800 to 10 deserving nonprofit organizations.

Created in 2014 by a group of committed Bath residents, Bath Community Fund is a permanent endowment that supports programs that preserve Bath’s historical and environmental legacy, enhance the local arts and culture landscape, serve youth through education and recreation, and meet residents’ social service needs.

To increase the fund’s impact, leaders of BCF have set an ambitious goal to raise $2.018 million in celebration of Bath’s bicentennial in 2018. With an endowment of more than $2 million, the fund will be able to award at least $100,000 to nonprofits in Bath every year, forever. Learn more and donate at BathCommunityFund.org.

Congratulations to our 2018 grant recipients

- **Apollo’s Fire the Cleveland Baroque Orchestra**
  - $1,000
  - For the construction of an additional restroom at Bath Community Park
- **Bath Park Board**
  - $5,000
  - To support Tiny Tillers, a gardening and nature exploration program for preschoolers from the Bath area
- **Crown Point Ecology Center**
  - $2,000
  - To provide free and discounted concert tickets for students and senior citizens of Bath Township
- **Girls on the Run Northeast Ohio**
  - $1,000
  - To support a running-based program for girls in Bath that combines physical activity with discussions about self-confidence and healthy relationships
- **Revere Power Pack Program**
  - $2,000
  - To provide food for Revere students in need to take home for the weekend
- **Stewart’s Caring Place**
  - $1,500
  - To provide support services for Bath residents on a cancer journey
- **Bath Volunteers for Service**
  - $1,000
  - To support the 42nd Annual Bath Tour of Distinctive Homes
- **Western Reserve Playhouse**
  - $1,000
  - To expand the welcome center at Hale Farm & Village
- **Western Reserve Historical Society**
  - $3,500
  - To build a new entryway that makes the playhouse more accessible to seniors and people with disabilities
- **Victory Gallop**
  - $2,000
  - To replace aging fencing on the farm, which offers therapeutic horseback riding programs for children with special needs and life-threatening illnesses
As the holidays approach, consider the benefits of giving your loved ones a gift that can’t be broken, stored away, or quickly consumed. Instead, why not celebrate the joy of the season with a gift in their name to Bath Community Fund?

A gift to Bath Community Fund is the perfect way to honor a friend, family member, or colleague while making a lasting difference in the community you live in and love. Recipients will receive a card letting them know of your gift, and you will be recognized as a donor to the “For Bath, Forever” campaign, which aspires to grow BCF to $2.018 million in honor of Bath’s bicentennial.

In addition, the end of the year is an ideal time to give to charity, particularly when making a gift of appreciated stock, because you can avoid paying capital gains while earning a deduction for the full fair market value of the stock.

Residents who are 70 ½ or older can also take advantage of a charitable IRA rollover, which allows you to transfer up to $100,000 from your IRA to charity, tax-free. This is an excellent way to satisfy your required minimum distribution and avoid paying taxes while supporting your community forever.

Learn more about all the easy ways you can give at akroncf.org/BCFwaystogive. Gifts can be made online with a credit card until 11:59 p.m. on Dec. 31 at akroncf.org/give/BCF. Stock transfers should be initiated by Dec. 14 to ensure year-end processing. For more information about how a gift to BCF can benefit both you and the community, contact Renee Scherick, major gifts officer at Akron Community Foundation, at 330-436-5612 or rscherick@akroncf.org.

With an endowment of more than $2 million, BCF will be able to grant at least $100,000 back into our community every year, forever. See a list of current donors and make your own gift at BathCommunityFund.org.

*as of Nov. 27, 2018