Donor services team welcomes two staff members

Fundholders at Akron Community Foundation now have two more knowledgeable people on staff to help them with their giving.

Laura Fink and Laurel Held joined the donor services team in October as part of the foundation’s plan to more deeply engage charitable people in Summit County. Laura, the new director of development, will be meeting with current and prospective fundholders in the community, as well as professional advisors, including tax planners, accountants and estate attorneys.

As the part-time administrative assistant for development, Laurel will use her database expertise to record important information about donors and their families. In addition to tracking staff contacts with fundholders, she will also work with the Women’s Endowment Fund in their fundraising efforts.

Both Laura and Laurel said they are excited to work at Akron Community Foundation and learn about donors’ philanthropic passions. “My specialty has always been in building relationships,” Laura said. “I see myself as an ambassador for our donors, someone who makes connections for them in the community and helps fulfill their vision of giving.”

Laura lives in West Akron with her two sons and has worked in development her entire professional career. Most recently, she served as director of development for the Akron Symphony Orchestra. She said her love for Akron is what inspires her to keep raising resources for the community.

“I moved to Akron in 1989 and was immediately impressed,” she said.

“Everyone here is very philanthropic, very community-minded.”

Laurel agreed, saying she is thrilled to work at an organization where she can help people give back to the causes they care about. A resident of Hudson, Laurel is heavily involved in musical theater and said she was excited to learn that many of the foundation’s donors are avid supporters of the arts.

“Anybody can give a gift, but the important thing is why you give it,” Laurel said. “Knowing people’s stories makes it more impactful.”

To share your own story or start a fund in your name, call the foundation at 330-376-8522. Laura can be reached directly at lftink@akroncommunityfdn.org. Laurel can be contacted at lheld@akroncommunityfdn.org.

Considine honored with Polsky Award

A record crowd gathered Oct. 18 to celebrate William H. Considine, the 42nd recipient of the Bert A. Polsky Humanitarian Award.

See more event photos on page 5
President’s Letter

It’s always been about the donor! Ever since Edwin Shaw made a bequest to start Akron Community Foundation 56 years ago, we have seen and experienced extraordinary vision and generosity from our contributors.

Selfless philanthropy is very often the catalyst that causes individuals and nonprofits to rally to solve community problems that directly affect our quality of life.

In our most recently published annual report, we were proud to share just a few of your inspiring stories about how you have used Akron Community Foundation to impact people all over Summit County. Simply put, we’re working hard to position ACF as the most relevant, impactful and knowledgeable place in our community for charitable people to express their permanent philanthropy.

Over the past three years, ACF has set funding priorities for early education and basic human needs; we’ve changed policies and agreements that enable fundholders to engage multiple generations of family members in their philanthropy; we’ve embraced donor advisors by sharing valuable information about community needs gleaned through our board’s discretionary grant-making process; and we’ve adopted a policy that will permit donor advisors to continue working with their own investment managers while conducting their philanthropy through Akron Community Foundation.

Even more changes are on the way. In the new year, fund advisors will be able to review their account information online and learn about and fund unmet community needs; Akron Community Foundation’s website will be redesigned to be an interactive, engaging portal to organizations that are improving the human condition in our community; and nonprofits will be able to apply for grants online, which will make it easier for us to share funding opportunities with you, our donors.

As you read on page 1, we recently added staff expertise in our development and donor services department to meet donors’ needs quickly and comprehensively. We also reconfigured our office space to allow for increased productivity and future expansion. I encourage you to come in for a tour.

In all of these improvements, one thing remains at the center: a commitment to the charitable individuals, families and businesses that make a permanent commitment to the good of our community.

In the end, we hope to better equip you to meet important community needs in the way that is most fulfilling for you and for future generations. Thank you for inspiring us, greater Akron!

My regards and holiday wishes,

John T. Petures Jr.
President & CEO

Foundation’s portfolio averages 5.5% in 10-year period

Akron Community Foundation’s portfolio experienced an average net loss of 12.6 percent during its second quarter ending Sept. 30, 2011. This brings its 10-year average annualized net gain to 5.5 percent for the 10 years ending Sept. 30.

In comparison, the Balanced Index earned -7.8 percent and 3.9 percent, respectively, during the same periods. The Finance and Investment Committee continues to closely monitor the foundation’s portfolio in accordance with its long-term investment strategies.

For questions about the foundation’s investment policies or your fund, please contact Steve Schloenbach, vice president of finance, at 330-376-8522 or sschloenbach@akroncommunityfdn.org.

For the periods ending 9/30/11

Investment Returns

As of 9/30/11

- Fixed Income 24%
- Alternatives 6%
- Large-cap Domestic Equity 19%
- Small & Mid-cap Domestic Equity 19%
- International Equity 20%
- Cash 6%

Fall newsletter correction
Established in June, the Esther Simonetti Owen Future Educators Scholarship Fund honors Esther’s half-century of work in the education field.
Akron Community Foundation’s board approved more than $1.7 million in grants on Friday, Nov. 18.

Discretionary, or board-directed, grants totaling $468,100 were awarded to 33 nonprofit organizations, with the majority going to programs that meet residents’ basic needs.

The board also ratified 142 grants totaling $1,312,019 from 44 designated, donor-advised and scholarship funds. The following organizations received discretionary grants:

- Access Inc., to shelter homeless women and children, $25,000
- Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank, for the Direct Distribution program, $25,000
- American Red Cross of Summit & Portage Counties, for medical transportation services, $10,000
- Battered Women’s Shelter, for general operating support, $25,000
- Beacon Journal Charity Fund Inc., for oral health education for third-graders, $7,500
- Blick Clinic, for health and wellness education for individuals with disabilities, $8,100
- Bridges out of Poverty Summit County Collaborative, for a mentoring program that pairs people in poverty with middle-class professionals to help them become financially independent, $25,000
- Children’s Hospital Medical Center of Akron, to provide early intervention services for children with hearing impairments, $15,000
- Christ Child Society of Akron, to purchase new school clothes for children from low-income families, $5,000
- Community Support Services Inc., to train case managers of patients with schizophrenia, $10,000
- Community Outreach Resources Exchange – CORE Furniture Bank, for the transport and handling of donated furniture, $5,000
- Evant Inc., for a strategic plan, $5,000
- Family & Community Services Inc., for the Senior Companion program, $10,000
- First Glance Student Center Inc., for the Teen Moms program, $15,000
- Freedom House for Women Inc., for programming to prevent homelessness and preserve the family unit, $15,000
- Good Neighbors Inc., to purchase food, $15,000
- H.M. Life Opportunity Services, to provide services to children transitioning from homelessness, $20,000
- Info Line Incorporated, for the Summit County food pantry clearinghouse, $20,000
- International Institute of Akron Inc., for a refugee volunteer coordinator, $18,000
- Jewish Family Service of Akron, Ohio, for a counseling and care management program to help older adults remain independent, $5,000
- Mental Health America of Summit County Inc., for the PEERS Project to help parents and caregivers of children with mental health diagnoses, $12,000
- Mobile Meals Inc., for free and subsidized meals and medically prescribed supplements for children, elderly individuals, and people with disabilities, $35,000
- National Society to Prevent Blindness Inc., to provide vision care for uninsured children and adults, $10,000
- Nazareth Housing Development Corporation, to rehabilitate abandoned properties in Springfield Township for low-income residents, $7,500
- North Coast Community Homes Inc., to install safer windows in a housing complex for people with mental illness, $7,500
- The Oak Clinic, for an educational outreach seminar for caregivers of people with multiple sclerosis, $2,500
- Opportunity Parish Ecumenical Neighborhood Ministry, to provide free medical treatment to the uninsured working poor, $15,000
- Portage Path Community Mental Health Center, for roof replacement, $20,000
- The Salvation Army, for the hot meals program, $10,000
- United Disability Services Inc., to provide employment training to severely disabled individuals, $15,000
- Victim Assistance Program Inc., for general operating support, $20,000
- Victory Gallop Inc., for the therapeutic horseback riding program, $5,000
- Waiting Child Fund, for the Summit Permanency Collaborative, $25,000
Gay Community Endowment Fund awards $29,161 to LGBT initiatives

The Gay Community Endowment Fund recently awarded grants totaling $29,161 to 10 local nonprofits. Since 2005, the fund has reinvested more than $150,000 in community initiatives. The following grants were made this year:

- **Akron Area Pride Collective**, for the LGBT youth support group, $1,700
- **Akron Film + Pixel Festival**, for the premiere of “Hit So Hard,” a documentary about the life of Hole drummer Patty Schemel and her marriage to Christina Soletti, $1,218
- **Battered Women’s Shelter**, for a community outreach program that educates people about same-sex domestic violence, $1,500
- **Friends of 91.3**, to broadcast anti-bullying messages on KIDJAM!, an online children’s radio station, $3,500
- **Fusion Magazine**, for Kent State University’s award-winning, student-produced publication, which strives to unify people of different backgrounds and orientations, $1,300
- **Jewish Family Service of Akron Ohio**, for counseling and support groups for LGBT senior citizens, $5,000
- **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Union**, to send Kent State, Stark State, Mount Union and University of Akron students to the 2012 National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Creating Change Conference, $5,608
- **Mobile Meals Inc.**, to promote Mobile Meals’ free food and supplement services to LGBT individuals, $1,250
- **Summa Foundation**, to educate forensic nurses about same-sex domestic violence and assault, $5,085
- **Verb Ballets**, for the creation and local performance of a new work that depicts tango from a same-sex perspective, $3,000

Donate your last hour’s pay of 2011 to the Millennium Fund for Children

What will you do with your last hour’s pay: brave crowded malls for a trinket that will likely end up in the attic, or touch the lives of local children who desperately need your help?

Akron Community Foundation and the Akron Beacon Journal ask you to ring in the holidays by giving your last hour’s pay to the Millennium Fund for Children, which supports local youth programs. Your $50 gift could teach a refugee child English. A $35 donation could give milk to a needy child for a year. Twenty-five dollars could provide a professional photo shoot for a child battling cancer. Even $5 could provide a day of music, food and games for a child victim or witness of violence.

Visit www.akroncommunityfdn.org/millennium to learn more about the fund, whose mission is to support programs where even a small grant can make a difference.
Akron Children’s Hospital CEO William Considine honored at Polsky Humanitarian Award celebration

A record crowd of more than 500 people gave a standing ovation Oct. 18 as Bill Considine accepted the 2011 Bert A. Polsky Humanitarian Award. Hundreds of Bill’s friends, family, colleagues and fellow community leaders packed the Hilton Akron/Fairlawn to celebrate his remarkable accomplishments, both as an advocate for children’s health and as a champion for dozens of community initiatives.

“It would be difficult to find a CEO in modern times who has chaired more organizations, led more fundraising drives, and volunteered for more worthwhile community boards than Bill Considine,” said Akron’s deputy mayor and event emcee, Dave Lieberth.

Upon accepting the Polsky Award from Akron Community Foundation’s board chair, Michael A. Sweeney, Bill recognized his friend and mentor, former First Energy Chairman and CEO Peter Burg. Burg’s wife, Akron Community Foundation board member Eileen Burg, chaired the event.

“Never take more than you give. My dear late friend Pete Burg had that belief,” he said. “You get so much more back when you give. You learn more about others, and you learn so much more about yourself.”

2. Bill Considine hugs honorary event chair Eileen Burg, an Akron Community Foundation board member and the wife of his late friend and mentor, former First Energy Chairman H. Peter Burg.
3. The day of the event was also Becky Considine’s birthday. She was surprised with a personal birthday cake as the entire audience sang to her.
4. Becky looks on as Bill unveils a portrait of himself that will be prominently displayed in the lobby at Akron Community Foundation.
Memorial gifts to Akron Community

Foundation for:

Memorial gifts by:

- Bill & Laura Burg
- Eileen Burg
- Robert Burg
- Amy Burg Cole

H. Peter Burg

- Bill & Laura Burg
- Eileen Burg
- Robert Burg
- Amy Burg Cole

Memorial gifts by:

- Barbara Ann Hudak
- Joan Andrews Schrank
- Ruth Olson
- James L. Hilton
- Jane Communale
- Joanne Batton
- Tom & Laura Kasner
- Beth A. Kartarius
- Chris Junjulas
- Steve Johnson
- The Chris Jensen Family
- Dennis & Linda Jackson
- The Chris Jensen Family
- Steve Johnson
- Chris Junjulas
- Beth A. Kartarius
- Tom & Laura Kasner
- Mike & Karen Kaufman
- Mr. & Mrs. J. Kerwood
- Paul & Lyn-Ann King Jr.
- Danny Kleckner
- Kleen Polymers Inc.
- John & Judy Krajewski
- Carl & Ingeborg Kroeger
- Sidney Landskroner
- Ken & Kathy Larson
- William Leavy
- Lori Lehman
- Edie Leszak
- George & Mary Leuca
- Rosemary & Lee LeVoyer
- Wayne & Diana Lingafelter
- Virginia & Virgil Lisle
- Nancy Lorenzo
- Jon Lucivansky
- Ronald & Suellen Luxon
- Sin, Nancy, Abby & Amanda Mariano
- Jerry & Roberta Markbreit
- Theodore & Martha Maruca
- Steve Matarante
- Brian Matoren
- Dean & Joanne Mayors
- Terry & Val McAulay
- Mr. & Mrs. James McCabe
- Jerry McGinn
- Kevin McGrath
- Lou Meadows
- Jim Mello
- Dave & Sarah Metzger
- William & Melanie Metzger
- Greg & Debby Meyer
- Micro Mold Company Inc.
- Terrence Miles
- Dr. & Mrs. Wm. Moats
- Sandra Moore
- Tommy Moore
- Peter Morelli
- Peter Morelli Crew
- Michael & Melinda Murphy
- Louis & Patricia Nazzaro
- David & Nancy Neal
- Larry & Sherry Nemmers
- Ralph Newell
- Nichols Mold Inc.
- Richard & Elsie Oldfield
- Roger Owen
- Carol Pagel
- Michael & Louise Papp
- Michael & Marie Parker
- David & Patricia Parry
- NFL Parry Crew
- J. Rick & Malinda Patterson
- Kent Payne
- Kent & Pamela Payne
- Mark Pellis
- Thomas & Nancy Pettier
- Joan & Lou Perry
- Ron & Beth Phares
- Phi Delta Theta Northeast
- Ohio Alumni Club
- Michael Pottinger
- Popa Family
- Wayne Price
- Minnie & William Pritchard
- Professional Therapy Associates Inc.
- James Quirk
- Ron Raymond
- Judy & Roger Read
- Ray, Kim & Matthew
- Redman
- RHS Football Program
- Al Riveron
- Nancy & Pat Roberts
- Jim Saracino & Kathryn
- Taigen
- Bill & Dianne Schmitz
- Gregory & Susan Schoen
- James & Tia Schrank & Family
- Jeffrey Seeman
- Rev. Sandra Selby
- Carolyn Smith
- Gregory & Christine Smith
- John Smith
- Loretta Snyder
- Don & Mickey Spangnolo
- Michael & Kathleen Spanier
- Spector Family
- Allison Spencer
- Rick & Cindie St. Pierre
- Thomas Stabile
- Paul & Mary Stansberry
- Ronald Starr
- Mary Jo Stasell
- Greg Steed
- Arlene Steinkerchner
- Karen, Brad, Kathy, Matt, Pat, Sara, Scott, Greg & Diane Steinkerchner
- Gene Steratore NFL Officiating Crew
- Greg & Sharon Stiff
- Summit Portage Football Officials
- Sureflow Corporation
- Tom & Frances Symonette
- Samwil & Shomala
- Tambañana
- Mr. & Mrs. William Tauber
- Richard & Mary Thomas
- Nancy Thompson
- Lisa E. Thomsen
- Richard & Margaret Tirpak
- Suzanne Todd
- Tom Tomczyk
- Betsy Trem
- Jeff Triplette
- URE Service Co. Inc.
- Kay & Lee Van Horn
- Linda Van Fossen
- Paul Vargo
- Ben Vassconcellos
- Barbara A. Venesy
- Robert & Julie Vernatchi
- Tony & Maureen Vetteri
- Tom & Diane Vukovich
- Douglas & Peggy Porter
- Wagner
- Trish & Glenn Wagner
- Jan and Ken Wallace
- Buddy Ward
Memorial gifts to the Richard L. Averitte
Memorial gifts to the Medina County
Marissa A. Norwood by
Kindness Charitable Giving Fund for:
Alexandra Norwood
Legacy of
Janet Kay Allio by
Memorial Fund for:
Memorial gifts to the Janet K. Allio
John R. Harper by
Roy Copeland by
Endowment Fund for:
Doc Dawson Ford by
Bill & Barb Beiling
Jack Lasher by
Margaret Gabriel
June Phillips by
Kathy Dixon
Friends of the Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library
Roger & Therese Herold
Therese Keenan
Brian & Karen Koch
Hermine Meyer
Ethel Stokes
Helen & Lou Pinzone by
Jim and Susan Falkman
Sara Throop by
Barbara Beiling
Friends of the Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library
Memorial gifts to the Gay Community
Endowment Fund for:
Roy Copeland by
Rod Wellman
John R. Harper by
Rebecca Hermann & Tomya Mollohan
Larry Zvara
Memorial gifts to the Janet K. Allio
Memorial Fund for:
Janet Kay Allio by
Terry & Sandra Albright
Wally & Jean Christianson
Marcella Lane Foundation
Mary Pycz
Albert & Bobbie Struharik
Heidi Waller
Memorial gifts to the Marissa
Alexandra Norwood Legacy of
Kindness Charitable Giving Fund for:
Marissa A. Norwood by
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Buckner
Memorial gifts to the Medina County
Women’s Endowment Fund for:
Sam Salaga by
Debbie Dankowski
Memorial gifts to the Richard L. Averitte
Memorial Scholarship Fund for:
Richard Averitte by
Yvonne Averitte
Memorial gifts to the Wilkinson-Gudikunst Designated Family Fund for:
Helen Gould by
John E. Wilkinson
Anna R. Gudikunst by
John E. Wilkinson
Earl & Marie Gudikunst by
John E. Wilkinson
Anna Hickman by
John E. Wilkinson
Bessie MacMillan by
John E. Wilkinson
Harry & Anne Siglar by
John E. Wilkinson
Al & Viola Wilkinson by
John E. Wilkinson
George Wilkinson by
Glenn C. Burkholder
John E. Wilkinson
Tribute gifts to Akron Community
Foundation for:
Eileen Burg by
Vince & Judy DeLuca
Fred & Sandy Ziegler
William H. Considine by
Francia A. Albrecht
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce S. Bailey
Myrna Berzon
Charles E. & Mary K. Booth
Martha Booth
Ann Brennan
Cedarwood Development
Lydia Colopy
Chris, Teresa, Sara & Megan Considine
James N. Crutchfield
John & Betty Dalton
Farmers Trust Company
Don & Cathie Finn
Greg & Jean Foust
Ron & Joyce Fowler
Bill & Marie Ginter
GOJO Industries Inc.
Frank & Robbin Harvey
Joe & Sue Henninger
Kathryn M. Hunter
Cliff Isroff
Dr. Tom & Mary Ann Jackson
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Judy & Roger Read
Karl A. Reuther & Dr. Gayle Galian
Lola Rothmann
Edwin Schrank
Rev. Sandra Selby
Sally & William Sharp
Tom & Diane Vukovich
Bob & Shari Whitfield
Susan & Darran Wimer
Kipple “Making a Difference”
Scholarship Fund for:
Clifford Isroff by
Patty Graves
Tribute gifts to the Leadership Akron
Endowment Fund for:
Mary Beth Carroll by
Lauri K. and Robert Culp
Rev. Dr. Sandra Selby
Sally & William Sharp
Tom & Diane Vukovich
Bob & Shari Whitfield
Susan & Darran Wimer
Tribute gifts to the Women’s
Endowment Fund for:
Susan Edgar by
Dr. Merle D. Griff
New funds at ACF
Donor-Advised Funds
Harvey and Kimberly Nelson Family Fund
Agency Endowment Funds
Gardeners of Greater Akron Endowment Fund
Income from this fund will support the agency’s mission, which is to promote gardening as a desirable hobby; to help residents develop their gardening skills; and to encourage community beautification through gardens.
Scholarship Funds
John N. Economou Scholarship Fund
Established in memory of John Economou, this fund will award scholarships to students enrolled at the University of Akron who demonstrate a clear understanding of, and commitment to, the principles of democracy.
Did you know?
A new policy allows multiple generations of your family to actively participate in your fund’s grant-making. The Roger T. and Judith A. Read Fund and the H. Peter Burg Fund are both taking advantage of this, and you can, too. Call Dr. Suzanne Allen at 330-376-8522 to learn more.
Does your private foundation need more time to make its annual payout?

Akron Community Foundation can help you meet your payout now, in a single transaction, giving you the time you need to decide on grants. A minimum of $5,000 establishes a donor-advised fund. Because Akron Community Foundation is a publicly supported charity, there is no minimum payout requirement for your fund, so you can take your time making distributions.

In addition to the obvious financial benefits, there are community benefits to having a donor-advised fund, as well. As a fundholder at Akron Community Foundation, you join a 56-year-old organization with a family of nearly 400 funds, all of which were started by philanthropy-minded residents just like you.

You also gain access to our broad base of community knowledge, as well as connections with other philanthropists and non-profit leaders who can show you firsthand how your grants benefit the community.