

The Signal

An Akron Community Foundation Magazine

A RECIPE FOR CRISIS

Ending of emergency
benefits, inflation
place squeeze on
healthy food
access



Seen on Cedar Street



On display throughout Akron Community Foundation's building are works by talented local artists, including this piece called "Eve" by Sylvia Sykes.

For information about the artist, or if you are an artist interested in renting your artwork to the foundation, contact Chris Miller at cmiller@akroncf.org or 330-436-5627.

The Signal

An Akron Community Foundation Magazine

ISSUE 14 / SPRING 2023

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GOOD SAMARITAN HUNGER CENTER
MOBILE FOOD PANTRY



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AKRON
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
ENRICHING LIVES SINCE 1955



By John T. Petures Jr.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO

It's hard to believe 15 years have passed since my first day here at Akron Community Foundation on May 1, 2008. During that time, we've seen so many business and nonprofit leaders come and go, including at local universities, hospitals, anchor employers and government offices. Now, we're eagerly anticipating the vision and energy new leaders will bring to our community at city hall and through the search for a new Akron Public Schools superintendent. As I reflect on these changes, I always realize that our time as professional leaders is temporary. We arrive, we build upon the shoulders of those who came before us, and we grow and embrace the teams that surround us as we collectively fulfill the work and missions of our organizations.

When I think back to the first six months of my tenure here at Akron Community Foundation, I recall the extreme market volatility and steep economic downturn that had only been rivaled in America during the Great Depression. By spring 2009, the foundation had reached a low-water mark of roughly \$92 million in assets and 325 charitable funds. Since that time, our community's commitment to our quality of life has been demonstrated so wonderfully, and we've experienced unprecedented growth with approximately \$260 million in current philanthropic capital and more than 820 charitable funds today. Most importantly, in the last 15 years, we've distributed more than \$150 million in grants to life-changing programs throughout Summit and Medina counties and beyond. We're so thankful to you, our donors, for your remarkable generosity and unwavering desire to create a stronger, more vibrant community.

This spring, we've seen two powerful examples of charitable legacies that will continue to impact our community for generations to come. As we started our new fiscal year in April, Akron Community Foundation received notification of a nearly \$7 million unrestricted bequest – the largest in our 68-year history – from the estate of John Charles Frentz, a devoted supporter of our Millennium Fund for Children. This planned gift will generate over \$250,000 annually in additional board discretionary grantmaking in our four quarterly grant cycles. We're so grateful for his trust and generosity.

Finally, we also received a communication in late March from donor-advised fundholders Bill and Laurie Harkey, who, after relocating recently to Florida, asked that ACF's board of directors reclassify their \$4 million fund to a board discretionary fund, relinquishing their advisement on any future grantmaking. This selfless and generous decision means their fund will annually generate an additional \$160,000 to help meet our community's most pressing needs in the name of the Schrank-Harkey family. Thank you, Bill and Laurie!

I hope you'll reach out to us soon to discuss your own philanthropic legacy and how Akron Community Foundation might be a resource in fulfilling your charitable giving today and forever. I wish you a safe and memorable summer. 🌿

BACK & FORTH

SOCIAL SHOUTOUTS

Heart to Heart Leadership

@hearttoheartlead

We're excited to partner with the Akron Public Schools Middle School Academies program at Litchfield CLC made possible through funding from Akron Community Foundation. Last week, 14 sixth grade students visited the Heart to Heart offices to learn from our executive director, Jeremy Lile, about nonprofit leadership and the power of purpose. We appreciate the opportunity to support these young leaders in their development. The future of Akron is bright!

Dominican Sisters of Peace

@DominicanSistersofPeace

We are grateful to Akron Community Foundation for their generous gift to our ministry at Crown Point Ecology Center. The new tractor will help our Crown Point farmers feed our neighbors and maintain our natural prairie habitat.

Girl Scouts of North East Ohio

@girlscoutsofnortheastohio

Thank you to Akron Community Foundation for their support of our STEM Center of Excellence! You are helping us build the next generation of female leaders in #STEM! #girlsinstem

Girls on the Run Northeast Ohio

@gotrneo

Presenting energy awards to our girls at the end of each lesson is a way to celebrate girls empowering girls! Today we celebrate the Medina County Women's Endowment Fund of Akron Community Foundation for their continued support of our program participants!



STUDENTS FROM LITCHFIELD CLC VISIT HEART TO HEART

The Executive Committee of the Black Economic and Wellness Coalition of Akron would like to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude for the grant from your Community Fund. It is our expectation that through our partnerships, BEWCA can diligently and effectively provide solutions for the Black community and low-income families in the Greater Akron area and help restore the County of Summit to an equitable healthy position. We truly believe "all of us are greater than any one of us" and that "together we can achieve more." In the Spirit of the Nguzo Saba,

Charmaine Thurman

Black Economic and Wellness Coalition of Akron

I write to express our sincere gratitude for the funding Akron Community Foundation provided in support of our half-day workshop on "Understanding the Effects of Racial Trauma." We are still receiving accolades from those who attended and from those who watched online. As always, our goal is to inform, educate and serve as a resource to our church and community, and the funds we received from Akron Community Foundation helped us to do just that.

Marilyn S. Mobley, Ph.D.

Arlington Church of God

Your love and support for South Akron Youth Mentorship is greatly appreciated. We are overwhelmed by the kindness and wisdom your team has shared, especially over the past couple years. Thanks for having our back and the community's back!

Ron Kent

South Akron Youth Mentorship

Thank you for the wonderful Wish Book funding. In fulfilling this wish, the generous donors brought 26 other wishes to life. That's right — 26 kid's hopes and dreams of having their stories come to life in front of their peers came to stunning fruition. So cool.

Dennis O'Connell

Magical Theatre Company

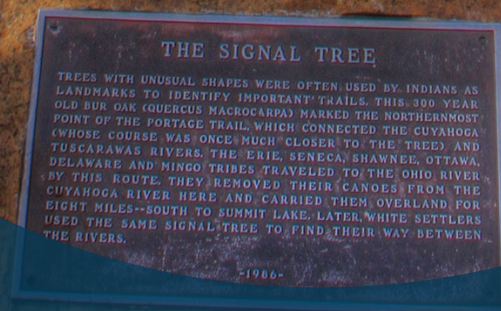
I just received the email for the revamped "On the Table" format and wanted to share how much I absolutely love how it has been modified to really help people evaluate their own beliefs and connect with others in a meaningful way.

SColette Taylor

Cleveland International Film Festival

New To Our Family

NEW FUNDS



During the second half of fiscal year 2023 (Oct. 1, 2022 - March 31, 2023), we were pleased to welcome 22 new funds established by charitable individuals, families and organizations throughout Summit and Medina counties.

Donor-Advised Funds

Hoffmann Joseph Fund
JSGB Fund
Matt and Morgan Lasher Family Fund
Heather and Ross Licata Family Fund
Jim and Sally Little Fund
Brian and Diana Moore Family Fund
The Charles and Salome Reymann Foundation Fund
Silas and Butler Family Fund
Tegel Family Foundation Fund
Georjette and Brian Thomas Fund

Designated Funds

-  **Gray-Kurczynski Family Fund**
Established to support the Regents of the University of Michigan (Rackham Graduate School), Akron Children's Hospital Foundation, and Case Western Reserve University's School of Medicine and College of Arts and Sciences
-  **Frank Heckel and Jerilynn Ferguson Fund**
Established to support the Akron Symphony Orchestra and Summit Metro Parks Foundation
-  **O Family Designated Fund Two**
Established to support the Humane Society of Summit County, All Hands and Hearts, Patriot PAWS Service Dogs, and VANTAGE Aging
- St. Mary Urban Education Arts, Drama and Music Fund**
Established to support arts, drama and music education programs at St. Mary School in Akron
- Wadsworth Drug Free Community Coalition Fund**
Established to support substance abuse education programs for students and families in the Wadsworth City School District

Agency Endowment Funds

-  **Free Clinic of Medina County Fund**
- Friends of Camp Christopher Endowment Fund**
- Friends of Richfield Heritage Preserve Endowment Fund**
- Portage Path Behavioral Health Endowment Fund**

Scholarship Funds

Summit, Portage, Stark, Carroll Nursing Scholarship (SPSCNS) Fund
Established to provide scholarships for registered nurses pursuing an advanced nursing degree who live or work in Summit, Portage, Stark or Carroll counties

Field-of-Interest Funds

Green Community Fund
Established to strengthen the Green community by supporting meaningful civic and community initiatives

Board Discretionary Funds

Marcia Deist Fund

For a complete list of our more than 820 charitable funds, visit akroncf.org/OurFunds.

 *Permanently endowed funds*

Professional Advisor Partners

Thank you to the following accountants, attorneys and financial advisors for helping their clients achieve their charitable goals with a fund at Akron Community Foundation from Oct. 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023:

Thomas J. Clark Clark Guillian Bertsch Wealth Management of Wells Fargo Advisors
David A. Kucharski Legacy Wealth Advisors LLC
David P. Staats Staats Rizor Financial Group of UBS Financial Services Inc.

Are you an advisor? Learn how we can assist you at akroncf.org/Advisors.

6 TYPES OF FUNDS

Do It Yourself

Donor-Advised Funds

A great private foundation alternative – you choose the grants

Designated Funds

Support one or more of your favorite organizations

Agency Endowment Funds

A predictable stream of income for your nonprofit

Do It With Help

Scholarship Funds

Fund students' education in your or a loved one's name

Field-of-Interest Funds

Permanently advance a cause or causes you're passionate about

Board Discretionary Funds

Meet the community's ever-changing needs



By Chris Miller, Communications & Community Investment Officer

GOOD SAMARITAN HUNGER CENTER MOBILE FOOD PANTRY



On a sunny April afternoon, dozens of cars line up in single file at Summit Lake Community Center in South Akron. Volunteers adorned in orange fill the trunks of the vehicles with boxes of happily received groceries and goods.

This food distribution site is one of five Akron locations served by the Good Samaritan Hunger Center's mobile food pantry. Unlike other food pantries, which primarily distribute food from a centralized location, Good Samaritan sets up operations in some of Akron's food deserts, or neighborhoods without a walkable full-service grocery store.

Since March 1, Good Samaritan and other food pantry operators have seen a steady increase in clients after the emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits – established to help lessen the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic – came to an end. Across Ohio, this means a loss of more than \$120 million in aid each month to more than 700,000 households, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. And in Summit County, an estimated 78,000 people will lose about \$7.6 million in benefits monthly. Individually, this amounts to a reduction of about \$90 per month per person.

"More people are coming to get food from us," said Michele Smith, executive director of Good Samaritan Hunger Center, which has seen an increase of up to 40 people per site since the emergency benefits ended. "And it's ticking upward."

Smith points out that existing food assistance guidelines require a recipient to spend one-third of their own income on food. "I don't know anybody living in restricted income guidelines that can afford to spend a third of their income on food," she added.

Linda Brown, treasurer of Sarah's House Inc., a food pantry she and her sisters started about 10 years ago, has seen an immediate increase in local food needs. "We are up about 50

families from last year," she said, adding that unlike other similar organizations, Sarah's House does not have the backing of a church or larger organization. "We're supported by only friends, family and neighbors."

"In Summit County, we served more than 57,000 visits to our pantry network from January through April," said Katie Carver Reed, vice president of the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank. "During the same time period in 2022, our pantry network served about 42,000 visits. This demonstrates the increased need in the community, which we believe is a result of inflation and the loss of the SNAP benefits."

According to Reed, the food bank saw a 19% increase in the number of visits to its hunger-relief network by people seeking help – nearly 100,000 more visits than in previous years. In addition, the food bank saw a 31% increase in people served by its pantry network year over year.

OLDER ADULTS AFFECTED

One population that was already struggling with food insecurity before some of these more recent developments is the community's aging adults.

"In March, we served 397 seniors. That means 25% of those we served in March were seniors," said Smith. "I'm so amazed when I find out the amount of money some of our seniors live on a month." She told the story of a former professional athlete who is now food insecure and is a monthly recipient of Good Samaritan's food distributions. "He and his wife come to the food pantry a couple times a month," she said. "That, to me, is tragic."

Brown, from Sarah's House, said she knows of seniors who only have about \$18 a month to spend. The organization has added a senior program to its monthly offerings called Senior Community Circles, which includes games, prizes, guest speakers and a hot

meal, along with distributions of food boxes tailored to older adults. These programs, she added, reach capacity nearly every time. “People should expect more for our community,” she stressed. “We should do more for our seniors than we do.”

Good Samaritan also has a senior box program that distributes more than 400 boxes each year, giving each recipient about 30 pounds of food per month.

“In the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank’s eight-county service area, approximately half the people seeking help with groceries are children under the age of 18 and senior citizens – our most vulnerable populations,” said Reed.

INFLATION PRESSURES

While the lifting of COVID-related food benefits was always the plan, other pressures have since mounted. Inflation, for example, has impacted nearly every facet of life, from gas and food prices to rent and building materials.

Food prices have risen 11%, according to the most recent USDA Consumer Price Index. As residents have seen a strain on their personal budgets, so too have the charities that are helping to get this food to the people they serve.

Each year, Good Samaritan hosts a turkey and trimmings giveaway, said Smith, who added that the cost of turkeys has gone up by 39%. In 2019, the turkeys cost the nonprofit \$5,000; last year, they were \$15,000. Thankfully, she said, the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank helped absorb some of that cost. But this year, Good Samaritan expects to spend \$13,000 on turkeys. “That’s a lot, but we’re committed to doing it,” she said.

Inflation also has affected food pantry donations. “With the way the market has been up and down, when people use the residual incomes from their investment accounts and they see a loss rather than a gain, then they might not have the money to necessarily donate,” said Smith. “That’s tough.”

Brown said Sarah’s House has lost a reliable annual donor due to inflation and other economic strains.

Inflation and COVID also have spurred several community connectors and non-pantry service providers to step up and help address food insecurity, including churches, schools, individual philanthropists, and even animal shelters (see the sidebar on page 9 for more information).



FOOD INSECURITY MISCONCEPTIONS

Food insecurity is a nuanced and complex issue, going far beyond people not having food. One misconception, said Smith, is that people who are food insecure will always be food insecure.

“Sometimes their food insecurity is situational,” she said. “A good portion of our (clients) come to us once a year. Often, somebody’s hit some kind of a hard time, so they need to come to us so that they can make other ends meet.”

Hunger is an invisible condition that affects people from all walks of life, said Reed. “Food insecurity is a challenge that impacts people from all backgrounds,” she added. “Hunger can be felt by senior citizens trying to live on fixed incomes, families maneuvering the costs of child care and education, children receiving free and reduced meals at school, or rural residents navigating transportation barriers. It affects individuals temporarily out of work and those living with illness or disabilities, and it is disproportionately experienced by vulnerable populations such as communities of color or LGBTQIA+ individuals.”

Another misconception is that there’s not enough food, although a lot of good food is wasted or thrown away each day. Several area food pantries work with local food-based corporations to “rescue” some of this food for their clients before it gets discarded. For example, a number of Starbucks locations donate food to Good Samaritan.

Brown says Sarah’s House receives donated goods from companies like Walmart or Amazon with non-food items for their clients. According to Brown, another mistaken belief is that food

pantries have everything they need given to them, when most food pantries have to pay for the bulk of their food and other items needed to do business.

FOUNDATION TO SUPPORT AREAS OF HIGHEST NEED

On the horizon, the existing SNAP program is set to expire on Sept. 30 of this year, and some federal legislators are pushing for more stringent work requirements for benefits.

Smith says many people don't realize there are currently work requirements for these benefits. "Are you guaranteeing them a job to make that work requirement?" she asked, pointing out that many clients could face additional hurdles like discrimination and ageism while trying to meet these guidelines.

Later this year, Akron Community Foundation will help to address local food insecurity by making funding available through its Food Pantry Capacity Fund. Food pantries in roughly a dozen ZIP codes that were identified through Healthy Northeast Ohio's Food Insecurity Index as being the highest need, measured by both food access and economic household hardship, will be eligible for this funding.

In the meantime, there are many ways people can help the organizations included in this article, along with the dozens more throughout the area that are also feeling the pinch. One of the easiest ways to offer support is by making a monetary donation, but you can also contribute through your time or ties, either as a volunteer or by helping to connect the organizations to people and resources within your own personal network. Many food pantries are still struggling with the loss of volunteers due to the pandemic and because current volunteers are often stretched thin.

People can also donate used appliances. Like many food pantries, Sarah's House needs freezers and other storage-based items. "We always need storage for food," said Brown.

Smith said 97 cents of every dollar donated goes toward supporting Good Samaritan's programs. 🌱

Learn more about the organizations featured in this article by visiting their websites:

- goodsamaritanhungercenter.org
- sarahshouseakron1.org
- akroncantonfoodbank.org

To donate to the Food Pantry Capacity Fund, visit akroncf.org/give/FoodPantryFund.

ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITY IN UNIQUE WAYS

In Summit County, food pantries take many shapes and forms, addressing both human and animal food insecurity.

The Celiac and Allergy Friendly Food Initiative, located in Cuyahoga Falls, is a gluten-free food pantry that serves allergy-friendly food to low-income families, typically serving 60 to 75 people a month. Program organizers point out that people with food allergies who are food insecure are often compelled to eat donated food that may make them sick. For more information, visit allergyfriendlyfood.org.

The Humane Society of Greater Akron offers a pet food pantry for animal owners. Since 2020, the organization has distributed 30,000 pounds of dry dog and cat food to nearly 3,500 pets in Summit County. For more information, visit summithumane.org/pet-food-pantry.

Food insecurity also affects local college students, as evidenced by the University of Akron's Campus Cupboard. The program offers nonperishable food and hygiene items to students who are food insecure. Visit uakron.edu/cupboard for more information.

Nonprofits in a range of service areas have set up food pantries to help meet the increasing needs of their clients. Akron Children's Hospital earlier this year set up a food pantry in the Considine Professional Building called the Food Pharmacy, which provides food and household items to patients and their families in conjunction with the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank. Visit akronchildrens.org for more information.

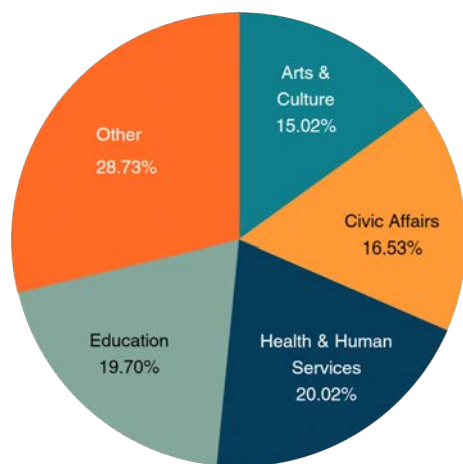
At the grassroots level, nonprofits like Himalayan Arts Language & Cultural Academy, halca.org, and the Karen Community of Akron, akronkaren.org, offer fresh food and perishables for their clients, many of whom are immigrants and refugees.



OUR GRANTS & GRANTEEES

From April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023, Akron Community Foundation and its 820+ charitable funds distributed \$14.1 million in grants to nearly 750 nonprofits in Summit and Medina counties and beyond. From grants that have supported causes near and dear to our donor-advised fundholders' hearts to the nearly half a million dollars in scholarships you will read about on page 18 to the millions distributed through our competitive grant processes, these grants are making an impact on our community thanks to the hard work and dedication of our nonprofit partners. Thank you, nonprofits, for all you do to enrich and strengthen our community every day.

Grants Distribution



GRANT RECIPIENTS APRIL 1, 2022 – MARCH 31, 2023

#

100 Black Men of Greater Akron
33 JordynStrong Foundation

A

A Better Shot Foundation
A Kid Again
A Special Wish Northeast Ohio Chapter
Access the Arts
ACCESS Inc.
ACE Mentor Program of Greater Akron-Canton
Adopta Una Familia Inc.
Aerial Global Community
Akron AIDS Collaborative
Akron Area YMCA
Akron Art Museum
Akron Blind Center
Akron Boxing Academy
Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank
Akron Children's Hospital Foundation
Akron Children's Museum
Akron Civic Theatre
Akron Development Corporation
Akron Fossils & Science Center
Akron Garden Club
Akron General Foundation
Akron Inner City Soccer Club
Akron Marathon
Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
Akron Municipal Court
Akron Parks Collaborative
Akron Press Club
Akron Promise
Akron Public Schools
Akron Rotary Camp
Akron Roundtable
Akron Soul Train
Akron Summit Community Action Inc.
Akron-Summit County Public Library
Akron Symphonic Winds
Akron Symphony Orchestra
Akron Urban Agriculture
Akron Urban League
Akron Zoo
Alchemy Inc.
Alexander Guyton
Allegro Foundation
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority

Alpha-1 Foundation
Alzheimer's Association Greater East Ohio Chapter
Alzheimer's Disease & Related Disorders Association
Alzheimer's Foundation of America
American Cancer Society
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
American Heart Association
American Kumihimo Society
American Legion Post 202
American Red Cross
American Red Cross Northern Ohio Region
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
Apollo's Fire
Archbishop Hoban High School
Arlington Church of God
Art Bomb Brigade
Art Sparks
ArtsNow
Arts in Stark
Asian Services in Action
Athena Akron
Autism Society of Greater Akron
AxessPointe Community Health Centers
Axia International

B

Back on My Feet
Baldwin Wallace University
Ball State University
Ballet Excel Ohio
Ballet Theatre of Ohio
Ballet West Academy
Barberton Community Foundation
Bath Church, United Church of Christ
Bath Township, Ohio
Bath Township Police Department
Battered Women's Shelter
Bay Harbor Foundation
BBless2 Outreach Ministries Inc.
Benedictine High School
Berkshire Theatre Group
Beth El Congregation
Bethany College
BHA Riding Academy
Big Brothers and Sisters of Summit, Medina & Stark Counties
Big Love Network
Birthing Beautiful Communities
Black Economic and Wellness Coalition of Akron
Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church
Blessed Trinity Parish
The Blick Center

COMPETITIVE GRANTS

Approximately \$3.5 million in grants was distributed this past fiscal year through our competitive grant cycles, which includes Akron Community Foundation's Community Fund grants, affiliate fund grants and more.

ARTS & CULTURE

59 grants | \$652,500
akroncf.org/Arts

CIVIC AFFAIRS

48 grants | \$563,000
akroncf.org/Civic

Bluecoats Inc.
 Blues Alley Jazz Society
 Bob Jones University
 Boca Grande Child Care Center
 Boca Grande Health Clinic Foundation
 Boca Grande Historical Society
 Boca Grande United Methodist Church
 Bounce Innovation Hub
 Bowling Green State University
 Boy Scouts of America Council
 Boy Scouts of America, Lake Erie Council
 Boys and Girls Clubs of Cleveland
 Boys and Girls Clubs of Northeast Ohio
 Boys Hope Girls Hope Northeastern Ohio
 Breaking Barriers – Hope is Alive
 Breast Cancer Research Foundation
 Bridge the Village
 Bright Star Books
 Broadway School of Music and the Arts
 Broken Chains Jail & Prison Ministry
 Brunswick City Schools
 Brunswick Family Assistance Agency
 Buckeye Trail Association
 Buddy Up for Life
 Building for Tomorrow
 Bulldog Bags Inc.
 Burt Lake Preservation Association
 BVU: The Center for Nonprofit Excellence

C

California State University
 CANAPI
 Candid
 Can-Do Foundation
 Canine Companions for Independence
 Cantors Assembly
 Caring For Kids Inc.
 Cary Ballet Conservatory
 Cascade Locks Park Association
 Case-Barlow Farm
 Case Western Reserve University
 Cast It Forward
 Catholic Charities Diocese of Cleveland
 Catholic Charities of Summit County
 Catholic Community Foundation
 Celiac and Allergy Friendly Food Initiative
 Center for Applied Drama and Autism
 Center for Applied Theatre and Active Culture
 Center for Disaster Philanthropy
 Chabad Jewish Religious Association
 Chabad at Kent State
 Chair-ity

Chautauqua Institution
 Child Guidance & Family Solutions
 Children's Cancer Research Fund
 Children's Concert Society of Akron
 Christ Child Society of Akron
 Christ Church Madison
 Chuck Neptune Memorial Scramble for a Cure
 Citizens Akron Church
 City of Akron
 City of Strongsville
 Cleveland Ballet
 Cleveland Clinic Foundation
 Cleveland Eye Bank
 Cleveland Foundation
 Cleveland Institute of Art
 Cleveland International Film Festival
 Cleveland Museum of Art
 Cleveland Museum of Natural History
 Cleveland Play House
 Cleveland Pops Orchestra
 Cleveland State University
 Clinton Presbyterian Church
 Coleman Health Services
 College of Charleston
 College Now Greater Cleveland
 Columbus State Community College
 Communities in Schools of Brunswick County
 Community College of Beaver County
 Community Legal Aid Services
 Community Oriented Recovery
 Community Support Services
 Stephen A. Comunale Jr. Charitable Foundation
 Congenital Hyperinsulinism International
 Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park
 ConxusNEO
 Copley United Methodist Church
 CORE Furniture Bank
 Cornerstone of Hope
 Cosmopolitan Ballet Theatre
 Meredith A. Cowden Foundation
 Crafty Mart
 Crawford County Humane Society
 Crawford Heritage Community Foundation
 Crown Point Ecology Center
 Curated Storefront
 Ben Curtis Family Foundation
 Cuyahoga Community College
 Cuyahoga Valley Art Center
 Cuyahoga Valley Countryside Conservancy
 Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad

D

DanceCleveland
 Dancing Classrooms Northeast Ohio
 Dartmouth College
 Direction Home Akron Canton Area Agency on
 Aging & Disabilities
 Discover Church
 Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio
 DNA Rising
 Doctors Without Borders USA
 Dominican Sisters of Peace
 Downtown Akron Partnership
 Doylestown Community Food Cupboard
 Dr. Bob's Home
 Dreams Academy International
 Duke University

E

Eastern Michigan University
 Kaitlyn Eckelberry Memorial Fund
 Economic & Community Development
 Institute (ECDI)
 Economics Center for Education and Research
 Embracing Futures
 Emmanuel Christian Academy
 Empower Her Network
 Evangelical Church of the Holy Trinity

F

Fairlawn Lutheran Church
 Fairlawn West United Church of Christ
 Faith Lutheran Church
 Faithful Servants Mission
 Famicos Foundation
 Family & Community Services Inc.
 Family Promise of Summit County
 Fathers and Sons of Northeast Ohio
 Fearless Fighters Foundation Inc.
 Feeding Medina County
 Fellowship of Christian Athletes
 Fighting To Understand
 Firestone High Aquatic Association
 Firestone High School Engineering Club Boosters
 First Congregational Church of Hudson
 First Glance Student Center
 First Presbyterian Church of Granville
 First Tee – Greater Akron
 First United Methodist Church
 Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University
 Food Bank of Northern Nevada
 Forever Amber Acres Animal Sanctuary
 Forever R Children

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

65 grants | \$679,359
akroncf.org/Health

EDUCATION

41 grants | \$683,000
akroncf.org/Education

CAPITAL PROJECTS

41 grants | \$300,000
akroncf.org/Capital

SUMMIT COUNTY OPIOID HEALING FUND

10 grants | \$145,000

Forget-Me-Not Baskets
 Fort Lewis College Foundation
 Free Flight
 Freedom House for Women
 Friends of Boca Grande Community Center
 Friends of Breakthrough Schools
 Friends of Historic Glendale Cemetery
 Friends of Medina County District Library
 Friends of Metro Parks
 Friends of Mott Hall II
 Friends of Richfield Heritage Preserve
 Friends of The Summit
 Friends of WKSU
 FRONT Exhibition Company
 Front Steps Housing and Services
 Fund For Our Economic Future

G
 Garden City Church
 GASP: Guardians Advocating Child Safety and Protection
 Gasparilla Island Conservation and Improvement Association
 Genesis Theatre
 Girl Scouts of North East Ohio
 Girls on the Run Northeast Ohio
 GlobalGiving
 Global Ties Akron
 Good Neighbors Inc.
 Good Samaritan Hunger Center
 Goodwill Industries of Akron
 Grace Brethren Church
 Grace House Akron
 Grand Valley Public Library
 Great Lakes Center for the Arts
 Greater Akron Amenities Inc.
 Greater Akron Chamber Foundation
 Greater Cleveland Congregations
 Greater Cleveland Food Bank
 Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society
 Green Intermediate School
 Greenleaf Family Center
 GriefCare Place
 GroundWorks DanceTheater
 Grove City College
 Guideposts Foundation
 Guilford College
 Guys & Gals Community Partnership Inc.

H
 Habitat for Humanity East Central Ohio
 Habitat for Humanity International
 Habitat for Humanity of Medina County
 Habitat for Humanity of Summit County
 Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary
 Harmony House
 Hattie Larlham
 The Haven Home
 Haven of Rest Ministries
 Healthnetwork Foundation
 Heart 4 the City
 Heart to Heart Leadership
 Heart of Revere
 He Brought Us Out Ministry
 Heidelberg University
 Heifer International
 Helping at Risk Kids
 Henderson Memorial Public Library
 Herberich Primary School PTA
 Highland Foundation for Educational Excellence
 Highland Square Neighborhood Association
 Himalayan Arts Language and Cultural Academy
 Hinckley Historical Society
 Hiram College
 H.M. Life Opportunity Services
 Holy Family Parish
 Holy Family School
 Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
 Hope Homes Foundation
 Hope Meadows
 Hope Recovery Community
 Hope United
 Hospets
 Hospice of the Western Reserve
 Hudson City School District
 Hudson Community Foundation
 Humane Society of Summit County

I
 IBH Addiction Recovery
 Ideastream Public Media
 Illinois Central College Foundation
 Indian River Area Library
 Inland Lakes Educational Foundation
 Integrated Community Solutions
 International Documentary Association
 International Institute of Akron
 International Medical Corps
 International Rescue Committee
 International Soap Box Derby

International Women's Air and Space Museum
 Island School

J
 Jewish Community Board of Akron
 Jewish Family Service of Akron
 Jewish Family Services of WNC
 JoAnna House II
 JOBS: Jump on Board for Success
 Johann Fust Library Foundation
 John Carroll University
 Julie Billiard Schools
 Junior Achievement of North Central Ohio

K
 Kahn Academy
 Kansas State University
 Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation
 Karen Community of Akron
 Keep Akron Beautiful
 Keepers of the Art Education
 Kenmore Athletic Booster Club
 Kenmore Neighborhood Alliance
 Kent State University
 Kent State University Foundation
 Kent State University Museum
 Kent State University, Tuscarawas
 Keuka Comfort Care Home
 Kidney Foundation of Ohio
 Kids' Needs Greater Englewood, FL, Inc.
 Kingsville Public Library
 Knoxville College
 Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Inc.

L
 Lake Anna YMCA
 Lake Erie Foundation
 Lakeside Chautauqua Foundation
 Lansing Catholic High School
 Law and Leadership Institute
 Leadership Akron
 Leadership Influencing Teen Empowerment
 Leadership Medina County
 LeBron James Family Foundation
 Legacy III Inc.
 Legal Aid Society of Cleveland
 Les Délices
 Let's Grow Akron
 Let's Make a Difference
 Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
 LGBT Community Center of Greater Cleveland

BATH COMMUNITY FUND
 20 grants | \$50,000
akroncf.org/BCFGrants

GAY COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND
 15 grants | \$71,354
akroncf.org/GCEFGGrants

MEDINA COUNTY COMMUNITY FUND
 15 grants | \$33,700
akroncf.org/MCCFGGrants

MEDINA COUNTY WOMEN'S ENDOWMENT FUND
 9 grants | \$24,700
akroncf.org/MCWEFGGrants

Liberty Aviation Museum
 Lifecare Hospice
 L.I.F.E. Ministries International Church
 Limitless Ambition
 Linc Worldwide
 Links Community & Family Services
 The Lippman School
 Little Traverse Conservancy
 Live Inspired
 Love Akron
 Lower Cape Fear LifeCare
 Loyola Retreat House
 Loyola University Chicago
 Lutheran World Relief

M

Magical Theatre Company
 Magnificat High School
 Make-A-Wish Foundation of Eastern North Carolina
 Malone University
 Joseph and Florence Mandel Jewish Day School
 Marietta College
 Marine Corps League
 Master Singers Chorale of Northeast Ohio
 Matthew 25 Coalition
 Medina Cares
 Medina City Schools Foundation
 Medina County Arts Council
 Medina County SPCA
 Medina Creative Housing
 Medina Raptor Center
 Mercy College
 METAvivor Research and Support
 Metro Catholic Parish School
 MetroHealth Foundation
 Metropolitan Area Neighborhood Nutrition Alliance
 Miami University
 Miami University Foundation
 Mint Theater Company
 Missionvale USA
 Mobility Worldwide OH-Stow
 The MODE
 Montrose Zion United Methodist Church
 Music from the Western Reserve

N

NAACP Akron
 NAMI Summit County
 Nashville Ballet
 National Center for Choreography
 National Inventors Hall of Fame

National Wheelchair Basketball Association
 Natural Resources Defense Council
 Nature Conservancy Inc.
 The Navigators
 Neighborhood Development Corporation of Akron
 NEO Leadership Foundation
 NEOMED Foundation
 New Directions Inc.
 Newbridge Place
 NewPointe Community Church
 The Nightlight Cinema
 NIHF STEM Booster Club
 NIHF STEM High School – Akron Public Schools
 None Too Fragile Theatre
 North Carolina Arboretum Society
 North Hill CDC
 Northampton United Methodist Church
 Northeast Ohio Black Health Coalition
 Northside Christian Church
 Nurse-Family Partnership

O

The Oak Clinic
 Ohio CPA Foundation
 Ohio Crime Prevention Association
 Ohio Debate Commission
 Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation
 Ohio Environmental Council
 Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition
 Ohio Light Opera / College of Wooster
 Ohio Living Communities
 Ohio Parkinson Foundation Northeast Region
 Ohio Shakespeare Festival
 The Ohio State University
 Ohio State University Foundation
 Ohio University
 Ohio Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park
 Ohio Wesleyan University
 OhioCAN
 OhioDance
 Old Trail School
 One of a Kind Pet Rescue
 OneEighty Inc.
 Open Arms Adoptions
 OPEN M
 Open Tone Music
 Opening Act Inc.
 Operation HOMES
 Orwell North Presbyterian Church
 OST Network
 Our Lady of the Elms School
 OutSupport Inc.

P

Parkside Church
 Parma Animal Shelter
 PBS Western Reserve
 Peace Together Inc.
 Pegasus Farm
 Pelotonia
 Peninsula Foundation
 The Peter Maurin Center of Akron
 Phi Gamma Delta Educational Foundation
 Phoenix Performing Arts
 Planned Parenthood Federation of America
 Planned Parenthood of Greater Ohio
 Playhouse Square Foundation
 Plexus Education Foundation
 Popeye's Boxing Gym
 The Porchlight Project
 Portage Path Behavioral Health
 The Power of Will Inc.
 Pregnancy Choices
 Prevent Blindness Ohio
 Progressive Alliance CDC
 Project GRAD Akron
 Project: LEARN of Medina County
 Project Learn of Summit County
 Project Outrun
 Project Ujima
 Providence House
 Proyecto Raices
 Purdue Foundation
 Purdue University

Q

Queen of Heaven Parish

R

Rachels Angels
 RAHAB Ministries
 Ralph E. Waite Elementary School PTO
 Rape Crisis Center
 Rebuilding Together Northeast Ohio
 Red Oak Behavioral Health
 Regents of the University of Michigan
 Regina Health Center
 reLink
 RePlay for Kids
 Resources for Human Development
 Restore Addiction Recovery
 Revere Community C.A.R.E.
 Revere Power Pack Program
 Revere Road Synagogue

MILLENNIUM FUND FOR CHILDREN

33 grants | \$55,000
[akroncf.org/
MillenniumGrants](http://akroncf.org/MillenniumGrants)

VERNON L. ODOM FUND

11 grants | \$10,000
[akroncf.org/
OdomGrants](http://akroncf.org/OdomGrants)

WOMEN'S ENDOWMENT FUND

31 grants | \$175,000
akroncf.org/WEFGrants



Revere Youth Football Association
Rice University
Rock Creek Public Library
The Rock School for Dance Education
Ronald McDonald House Charities of
Northeast Ohio
Rotary Club of Asheville Foundation
Rowan University Foundation
ROX (Ruling Our eXperiences)
Rubber City Theatre
Rural Relief Mobile Food Pantry

S

Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish
Safe Families for Children
Safety Forces Support Center
Saint Aloysius-Saint Agatha Catholic Parish
St. Cloud Citizens Foundation
St. Hilary Parish
St. Hilary Parish Foundation
St. Johns Riverkeeper
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
St. Mary Catholic Central High School
St. Mary Parish School
Saint Mary's Parish of Massillon
St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church
St. Paul Catholic Parish
Saint Sebastian Parish
Saint Sebastian Parish Foundation
St. Vincent de Paul Parish School
St. Vincent-St. Mary High School
St. Vincent-St. Mary High School Foundation
The Salvation Army
The Salvation Army of Canton Citadel
The Salvation Army of Medina
The Salvation Army of Wadsworth
Samaritan's Purse
Samford University
Sarah's House
Scenic America
Scenic Ohio
The Paul Schulte Foundation
Ian Patrick Schwarber Foundation
Second Chance Village
Shanti Community Farms
Shawnee State University
Shelby County Historical Society
Shelter Care Inc.
Shriners Hospitals for Children
Sierra Club Foundation
Sigma Chi Foundation
Singers Companye
Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Diocese of Cleveland
South Akron Youth Mentorship
South Street Ministries
Southern New Hampshire University
Southport Oak Island Interchurch Fellowship
SOZO Coalition
Spring Garden Waldorf School
Springfield Assembly of God
Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens
Stark State College
Stark State College Foundation
Stewart's Caring Place
Stow High School Alumni Association

Stow-Munroe Falls Library Foundation
Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library
Stow Schools Foundation
Strongsville Emergency Food Bank
Students With A Goal
Summa Foundation
Summa Health
Summer Reinforcement Program
Summit Artspace
Summit Choral Society
Summit County Astronomy Club
Summit County CASA
Summit County Community Partnership
Summit County Deputies F.O.P. Lodge #139
Summit County Fatherhood Initiative
Summit County Historical Society
Summit County Public Health
Summit County Sports Hall of Fame
Summit Education Initiative
Summit Metro Parks Foundation
Suncoast Humane Society
SUNY Cobleskill
Surflight Theatre
SustainEd

T

Telos Leadership Foundation
Temple B'nai Israel of Petoskey
Temple Israel
Texas A&M University
Tinkers Creek Watershed Partners
Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council
To Your Rescue
Tom Gold Dance Foundation
Torchbearers
Transformations by Cleveland Angels
Tri-County Jobs for Ohio's Graduates
Trinity Rose Foundation
True Vision Community Development Corporation
Truly Reaching You
Trustees of Princeton University
Truth for Life
Tuesday Musical Association
Twinsburg Historical Society

U

UNICEF USA
Unitarian Universalist Church of Akron
United Disability Services
United Way of Defiance County
United Way of Greater Stark County
United Way of Portage County
United Way of South Sarasota County
United Way of Summit & Medina
University of Akron
University of Akron Foundation
University of Alabama at Birmingham
University of Chicago
University of Cincinnati
University of Dayton
University Hospitals Health System
University of Maryland, Baltimore
University of Mount Union
University of Notre Dame
University Parish Newman Center
University of Phoenix

University School
University of South Florida
University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
University of Wisconsin Foundation
Urban Vision

V

Values-in-Action Foundation
VANTAGE Aging
Verb Ballets
Victim Assistance Program
Victory Gallop
Vieques Conservation and Historical Trust
The Village at St. Edward Foundation
Village of Silver Lake
Village to Village Network
Vincennes University
The Vine Fellowship Church

W

Wadsworth City School District
Walsh Jesuit High School
Wandering Aesthetics
Wayne County Community Foundation
Weathervane Playhouse
The Well CDC
West Hill Baptist Church
West Virginia University
Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
Western Reserve Academy
Western Reserve Community Fund
Western Reserve Historical Society
Western Reserve Land Conservancy
Western Reserve Playhouse
Westerville Central Music Boosters
Westerville Community Bands
Williams Challenge
Windsong, Cleveland's Feminist Chorus
Wings Over Cuyahoga Valley
WiNS Project Inc.
Women Revived Ministries
Women's Auxiliary Board of Summit County
Children's Services
Woodlands Center for the Performing Arts
Woodridge Foundation
Woodridge Local Schools
Wooster High School Alumni and Friends
Association
World Central Kitchen
Woven with Promise
Wreaths for Western Reserve

Y

Yale University
YMCA Endowment Foundation of Akron
YMCA of Greater St. Petersburg
Young Entrepreneur Institute at University School
Young Life of the Western Reserve
Youngstown Edison Incubator Corporation
Youngstown State University
Youngstown State University Foundation
Youth Excellence Performing Arts Workshop
Youth Opportunities Unlimited
YWCA of Alliance
YWCA of Greater Cleveland

FUNDS & INITIATIVES

BATH COMMUNITY FUND

Bath Community Fund announced 20 grants totaling \$50,000 this past December to nonprofits serving the Bath and Revere communities. This latest round of grants brings the fund's cumulative grantmaking total to more than \$200,000 since it was created in 2014. Congratulations to the advisory board members, volunteers and donors who helped the fund reach this tremendous milestone! For a complete list of grants, visit akroncf.org/BCFgrants.

Bath Community Fund will host its 2023 annual meeting on Aug. 17 at the historic Regal Beagle pavilion in the Bath Nature Preserve. The event celebrates Bath Community Fund's impact in the community and recognizes its most recent grant recipients. To receive an invitation, sign up for the fund's e-newsletter at akroncf.org/BCFnews.

Applications for the fund's next round of grants are due Oct. 1. Apply online starting Sept. 1 at akroncf.org/applyBCF.

GAY COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND

In March, the Gay Community Endowment Fund celebrated a milestone of \$750,000 in grants awarded since the fund was created in 2001. This milestone was achieved as the fund announced its latest round of grants totaling more than \$70,000, including its fifth round of impact grants to programs that create safer environments for LGBTQ+ youth, combat phobias of the LGBTQ+ community, and support mental health and suicide prevention programs for LGBTQ+ people. Among this year's recipients is Summa Health, which received a \$12,500 grant to purchase gender-affirming hormone therapy injection kits for transgender and nonbinary patients to use between visits to the Pride Clinic. For a complete list of grants, visit akroncf.org/GCEFGGrants.

On June 2, the Gay Community Endowment Fund hosted its 2023 annual celebration, "exhALE: Advancing Lived Equality." Proceeds from the event benefited the GCEF Scholarship Fund, which awards academic scholarships to LGBTQ+ and allied students in Greater Akron. Planning is also underway for the 22nd annual Sugar Plum Tour of Holiday Homes on Sunday, Dec. 3. To receive event news and updates, sign up for the fund's e-newsletter at akroncf.org/GCEFnews.

GREEN COMMUNITY FUND

A new affiliate fund has been established at Akron Community Foundation to support civic initiatives throughout the City of Green. The Green Community Fund was founded in 2022, the city's 30th anniversary, by a group of committed Green residents who wanted to create an enduring source of support for their community. Grants from the fund will be awarded annually to qualified nonprofit organizations that enhance the cultural, educational, health and civic well-being of the Green community.

This new fund was announced to the public in January during the State of the City Address by Green Mayor Gerard Neugebauer, who shared the community's vision for the fund. "(The Green Community Fund) will serve our community for generations to come and will be managed by Green residents for the benefit of Green residents," Neugebauer said.

Members of the fund's steering committee are hosting a series of small gatherings this summer to spread the word about the Green Community Fund. To receive an invitation to these events or to learn more about how you can get involved with the fund, contact Deb Hoffman, affiliate fund engagement manager, at 330-436-5614 or dhoffman@akroncf.org. For more information

about the Green Community Fund or to become a founding donor, visit greencommunityfund.org.

MEDINA COUNTY COMMUNITY FUND

Established in 1994, the Medina County Community Fund serves as a permanent philanthropic endowment for Medina County. Grants from the fund support a wide range of cultural, educational, health and community service programs that improve the quality of life of all Medina County residents. Since it was created, the fund has grown to \$1.1 million and awarded more than \$680,000 in grants. The fund's 2023 grant awards will be announced June 15 at a joint event hosted with the Medina County Women's Endowment Fund. To register, visit akroncf.org/MedinaGrants.

The Medina County Community Fund continues to increase its grantmaking impact through its Pillars of Giving Circle. Donors who join this giving circle receive special recognition at the fund's annual meeting and advance communications about its latest news. For more information, visit akroncf.org/PillarsofGiving.

MEDINA COUNTY WOMEN'S ENDOWMENT FUND

The Medina County Women's Endowment Fund supports programs that create opportunities for the educational, physical, emotional, social, artistic and personal growth of women and children in Medina County. Since its establishment in 1998, the fund has awarded nearly \$270,000 in grants. The fund's 2023 grant awards will be announced June 15 at a joint event hosted with the Medina County Community Fund. To register, visit akroncf.org/MedinaGrants.

To grow its impact in the community, the Medina County Women's Endowment Fund created the Legacy Tree of Giving. Donors to this strategic giving circle have pledged to give at least \$1,000

each year to increase the fund's grantmaking to programs that meet the growing needs of women and children in Medina County. To learn more about the Legacy Tree of Giving, visit akroncf.org/LegacyTree.

MILLENNIUM FUND FOR CHILDREN

In December, the Millennium Fund for Children awarded 33 grants totaling \$55,000 to children's programs throughout Greater Akron. This newest round of grants provided water safety skills classes for children with autism, warm winter clothes for children who have experienced abuse, and literacy kits for area kindergarten students, among other initiatives. For a complete list of grants, visit akroncf.org/MillenniumGrants.





GREEN MAYOR GERARD NEUGEBAUER ANNOUNCES THE CREATION OF THE GREEN COMMUNITY FUND

Created in 1999 as a partnership between the Akron Beacon Journal and Akron Community Foundation, the Millennium Fund for Children has since grown to \$1.2 million and awarded nearly \$950,000 in grants to grassroots children's programs. Applications for the fund's next round of grants are due Sept. 1. Apply online starting Aug. 1 at akroncf.org/applyMillennium.

VERNON L. ODOM FUND

This spring, the Vernon L. Odom Fund awarded 11 grants totaling \$10,000 to programs that promote diversity and enrich the quality of life within local minority communities. Several of this year's grants supported fine arts programs for local youth, including a ballroom dance residency program for students at Akron Public Schools. Other grants awarded this year will provide literacy and life skills programs for children in the Summit Lake neighborhood, empower Black students at Buchtel CLC to pursue a career in STEM fields, and help fathers who were recently incarcerated to build stronger relationships with their children. For a complete list of grants, visit akroncf.org/OdomGrants. To make a donation to the fund, visit akroncf.org/give/Odom.

WOMEN'S ENDOWMENT FUND

On June 7, the Women's Endowment Fund welcomed more than 500 community leaders to its 30th Anniversary Celebration at the Akron Civic Theatre. The event featured a keynote address by Debra Adams Simmons, Vice President of Diversity, Equity and

Inclusion at National Geographic Media. The fund also honored Tracy Carter, System Director, Government Affairs and Health Policy at Summa Health, with the 2023 Judith A. Read Tribute Award for Service & Advocacy for Women.

That evening, the fund celebrated a milestone of \$2 million in cumulative grants to programs that uplift, empower and educate local women and girls. For a complete list of grants awarded in 2023, visit akroncf.org/WEFgrants. Applications for the fund's next round of grants are due Nov. 1. Apply online starting Oct. 1 at akroncf.org/applyWEF.



This spring, the Women's Endowment Fund also invited community members to honor the important people in their lives through its "Who Is Your SHero?" campaign. The campaign celebrates inspiring mentors, friends, colleagues and family members who have made a significant impact through their personal and professional achievements. Meet this year's SHero ambassadors and learn more about the campaign at yourshero.org.



STUDENTS

▶ On The Move

More than 80 scholarship funds have been established at Akron Community Foundation to help students from all across the region pursue their educational dreams. From funds that help students attain specific degrees to those that reward athletes with stellar academic records, scholarship funds provide life-changing opportunities for the next generation of leaders.

In fiscal year 2023, Akron Community Foundation funds awarded 230 scholarships totaling \$479,889 to help area students achieve brighter futures.

Richard L. Averitte Memorial Scholarship Fund

AngelMae Harper, Stark State College
Charlotte Marks, Kent State University

Black Tiger Gridiron Alumni Club Scholarship Fund

Olivia Bartlett, Kent State University
Jacob Capaldi, The Ohio State University
Zachary Dalton, Case Western Reserve University
Adam Puchajda, Kent State University

Ciearra Brown Memorial Scholarship Fund

Nico Teodosio, The University of Akron

Richard Chenoweth Qualified Designated Scholarship Fund

Melissa Adrion, The University of Akron
Angelia Bryan, Kent State University
Charnae Chatman, The Ohio State University
Ryan Dippolito, The University of Akron
Casey Ha, Kent State University
Tamia Henderson, The University of Akron
Makayla Kennerly, Kent State University
Charles Murphy, Kent State University
Troy-Shawn Starks, Kent State University
Helen Trujillo, Case Western Reserve University
Kiyara Wade, The University of Akron
Olivia Williams, Kent State University

Tara Lynn Clossman Memorial Fund

Kennedy Gordon, The Ohio State University
Noria Nuru, The University of Akron

Coming Together Diversity Scholarship Fund

Charles Murphy, Kent State University

Michael Corbett Memorial Fund

Zachary Dalton, Case Western Reserve University

Dirk J. Desanzo Memorial Scholarship Fund

Grant Andrews, Kansas State University
Brian Cena, California State University
Kia Lor, The Ohio State University
Andrew Monnin, University of Dayton

Margot Eiseman Scholarship Fund

Grace Gallagher, Ball State University
Stella Hudson, Miami University

Roland E. Gamble Memorial Fund

Quinn Berichon, University of South Florida

Ann Lane Gates Scholarship Fund

Charnae Chatman, The Ohio State University
Karley Scott, The University of Akron

GCEF Scholarship Fund

Sam Caley, The College of Wooster
Brooklynn Campbell, The University of Akron
Rachel LaFlame, Kent State University
Blake Nicholas, Cleveland Institute of Art
Shawn Schreckengost Jr., Kent State University

Erwin & Katherine Geis Scholarship Fund

Calvin Dempsey, Benedictine High School
Nathaniel Jones, Shawnee State University
Regan Krist, College of Charleston
Billie Lockhart, University of Phoenix
Robert Ethan Martin, Holy Family School
Sophia Martin, Archbishop Hoban High School
Carson Miller, Ohio University
Alyssa Rightnour, Ohio University
Elaina Sheeler, The University of Akron
Mercedes Shultz, The Ohio State University
Juan Simancas, University of Cincinnati
Hilary Woytek, University of Cincinnati

**Hanlon Family Scholarship Fund**

Lucille Langen, St. Vincent-St. Mary High School

Morgan Hasbrouck 4-H Scholarship Fund

Nicholas May, University of Notre Dame

Timothy L. Holston Scholarship Fund

Jaylynn King, Cuyahoga Community College
Isaiah Perry Simpson, Kent State University

Leppo Group Employee Scholarship Fund

Kaylee Bonnot, Texas A&M University
Christopher Jordan, Southern New Hampshire University
Abigail May, Marietta College
Nicholas May, University of Notre Dame
Madelyn Perry, Ohio Wesleyan University
Grace Salvatore, The University of Akron
Abigail Sczpanski, The University of Akron

Abby Lipply Memorial Scholarship Fund

Laura Jones, The Ohio State University
Julia Noble, University of Tennessee

Litchfield Community Scholarship Fund

Maximus Lococo, The Ohio State University
Joseph Maitland, Cuyahoga Community College
Chase Miller, Bowling Green State University
Becky Smith, Bob Jones University

Joan Lutz Scholarship Fund

Laurel Gomersal, Samford University
Neveah Harvey, Kent State University
Luke Osburn, Kent State University, Tuscarawas
Wending Wu, Dartmouth College

Kate Lieberth Lytton Education in Dance Fund

Sofia Cseplo, Cosmopolitan Ballet Theatre
Madison Epps, The Ailey School
Macy Fenimore, Nashville Ballet
Caroline Kajimura, Cary Ballet Conservatory
Ariana Moneskey-Jones, Ballet Excel Ohio
Layla Motley, Chautauqua Institution
Megan Murphy, Ballet West Academy
Jeralynn Rudiak, The Rock School for Dance Education

Scott T. Malson Memorial Scholarship Fund

Cash Halter, John Carroll University
Ryan Suydam, The Ohio State University

Daniel C. McClelland Commitment to Community Scholarship Fund

Morgan Fisher, The George Washington University

Frank Meadows Scholarship Fund

Trenton Fink, Hiram College

Medina Sunrise Rotary Fund

Taylor Csanyi, The Ohio State University
Nolan Freeland, University of Cincinnati
Maxwell Gabrielsen, Miami University
Keighley Graham, Cleveland State University

Esther Simonetti Owen Future Educators Scholarship Fund

Angelia Bryan, Kent State University
Karley Scott, The University of Akron

Anne K. Petry Scholarship Fund

Karley Scott, The University of Akron

Judith A. Resnik Memorial Fund

Kylee Bernel, Ohio University
Gabriel DiFiore, The Ohio State University
Jason Do, The University of Akron
Ethan Koehler, The University of Akron
Chase Mizell, SUNY Cobleskill



Scholarships (Cont.)

Chika Nkwocha, The Ohio State University
Milan Radonjich, The Ohio State University
Helen Trujillo, Case Western Reserve University

Judith A. Resnik Scholarship Fund of the Women's Network Inc.

Breya Gardner, The Regents of the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
Sydney Moshier, West Virginia University
Madelyn Searle, The University of Akron

Joseph L. Ruby Student Scholarship Fund

Beverly Baddley, Malone University

Vincent R. Sandridge Employee Caring Fund

Sophia Anderson, The University of Akron
Jordan Brichford, Bowling Green State University
Hope Conrad, Kent State University
Nathan Conrad, Vincennes University
Amanda Day, Cleveland State University
Isaiah Downs, Community College of Beaver County
Alexa Gruber, Kent State University
Darren Hartley, The University of Akron
Joseph Hubert, Bethany College
Hannah Ihrig, Eastern Michigan University
Reagan Karns, Kent State University
Austen Kreakie, Stark State College
Isabella Matranga, Mercy College
Mark Ogden, Illinois Central College
Jacob Persic, University of Cincinnati
Chelsey Webb, The College of Wooster

Joseph P. Siegfert Sr. and Family Fund

Brooklyn Brake, The University of Akron
Charles Murphy, Kent State University

Faye L. Smith Memorial Scholarship Fund

Michael Corbo, University of Cincinnati

John T. and Julia A. Spellman Scholarship Fund

Ana Crangle, Cleveland State University
Jeremy Dang, Youngstown State University
Olivia Litvin, The Ohio State University
Charles Murphy, Kent State University

Strongsville Women's League Edna Brun Scholarship Fund

Caroline Grace Niederhausen, University of Cincinnati
Emma Ogg, Purdue University

Norma B. Summerville Scholarship Foundation Fund

Melissa Adrion, The University of Akron
Aunique Blackwell, Columbus State Community College
Ashanti Brooks-Donnie, Kent State University
Kendell Faircloth, The Ohio State University
Helen Gao, University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB)
Breya Gardner, The Regents of the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
Grace Kosco, William & Mary
[Mia Nagle, Rice University](#)
Da'Veonna Nash, University of Mount Union
Chika Nkwocha, The Ohio State University
Lacey Somerville, The University of Akron
Kayla Suansing, The University of Akron
Helen Trujillo, Case Western Reserve University

Eugene and Arlene True Memorial Scholarship Fund

Charles Baker, The University of Akron
Brooke Brodie, Grove City College
Rhett Brodie, The University of Akron

Michelle M. Vasenda Fund

Grace Zupancic, The University of Akron

Richard S. Wagner Memorial Swimming Scholarship Fund

Mia Nagle, Rice University



Edith Wiskind English Literacy Scholarship Fund

Benjamin Fisher, Loyola University Chicago

Witan Presidents' Scholarship Fund

Kassie Boland, The University of Akron

Woman's Club of Hudson Scholarship Fund

Delaney DiGeronimo, The Ohio State University
[Caroline Von Ville, The Ohio State University](#)

Anthony Wunderle Memorial Scholarship Fund

Nicholas Hakes, The University of Alabama at Birmingham

Vincent Yambrovich Engineering Scholarship Fund

Nicholas Bostic, The College of Wooster
Isaiah Gerdeman, Cleveland State University



HUDSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS ENDOWMENT FUND RECIPIENTS

In 1990, family farm owner and 1933 Hudson High School graduate Donald Barlow established the Hudson Public Schools Endowment Fund to help fellow Hudson High graduates pursue post-secondary education. It has since led to the creation of more than a dozen funds benefiting the system's five schools and their students.

Marion Albee Scholarship Fund

Mia DiNardo, Indiana Wesleyan University

Barlow Fund

Thomas Banko, The Ohio State University
Ella Beard, Pratt Institute
Quinn Berichon, University of South Florida
Maria Berman, The Ohio State University
Peyton Binns, Ohio University
Anastasia Cocieru, The Ohio State University
Samantha Collins, Belmont Abbey College
Mia DiNardo, Indiana Wesleyan University
Kerissa Duliga, Northeastern University
Megan Earp, Purdue University
Benjamin Fisher, Loyola University
Audrey Fuller, The University of Akron
Laurel Gomersal, Samford University
Cash Halter, St. Thomas University
Andrew Hartline, The Ohio State University
[Neveah Harvey, Kent State University](#)
Andrew Hu, Duke University
Olivia Innamorato, The University of Alabama
Meredith Judson, Grand Canyon University
Benjamin Just, Auburn University
Grace Kempf, Indiana University
Shane Kilfoyle, Miami University
Klaudia Kosa, Emory University
Josephine Lawler, John Carroll University
Qiao Li, The Ohio State University
Constance Loring, The Ohio State University
Sarah Lozina, William & Mary
Benjamin Madar, Georgia Institute of Technology
Mariana Manzo Puente, Miami University
Celena McCabe, The College of Wooster
Hannah McCray, The Ohio State University
Aidan McStay, Ohio University
Alison Menendez, Baldwin Wallace University
Brooke Morgan, Ohio University
Julia Noble, University of Tennessee
Claire Ortiz-Witter, Northwestern University
Nina Ozello, University of Dayton
Benjamin Parnell, The Ohio State University
Jenan Qaraqish, Kent State University
Kaci Ramlow, University of South Carolina
Ethan Ross, The Ohio State University
Laurel Rotunno, West Virginia University
Madeline Seifert, The Ohio State University
Maryn Shanley, Kent State University
Ryan Suydam, The Ohio State University



Eliana Szabo, Carnegie Mellon University
Emily Uijtewaal, The Hague University of Applied Sciences
Caroline Von Ville, The Ohio State University
Hailey Walker, Georgetown University
Hannah Weldon, Villanova University
Alaina Yanak, Ohio University
Megan Zhao, The Ohio State University

Helen Barlow Art Scholarship Fund

Ella Beard, Pratt Institute

Kenneth Blower Memorial Scholarship Fund

Benjamin Parnell, The Ohio State University

Harry D. Bubbs Scholarship Fund

Teagan Webber, University of Arizona

Arthur Caniglia Scholarship Fund

Hamza Hamad, Kent State University

Scott Case Memorial Fund

Ryan Pappano, Purdue University
Grace Preslock, Michigan State University

Les Dingledine Memorial Scholarship Fund

Aubrey Hill, Elmhurst University
John MacKay, Auburn University

Rosemary Gibbes Memorial Scholarship Fund

Jenan Qaraqish, Kent State University

Hudson Bicentennial Scholarship Fund

Claire Ortiz-Witter, Northwestern University
Hailey Walker, Georgetown University

Hudson Fire Department Association Scholarship Fund

Grace Pellegrino, Miami University
Meghan Stein, Bowling Green State University

Raymond Marshall Hyser Sr. Memorial Scholarship Fund

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Benjamin Romano, The Ohio State University

Pauline Klupinski Memorial Scholarship Fund

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Shane Kilfoyle, Miami University
Cole Trautmann, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Burton D. Morgan Foundation Scholarship Fund

Kerissa Duliga, Northeastern University

June Young Pak Memorial Scholarship Fund

Josephine Lawler, John Carroll University
Sarah Lozina, William & Mary

Stevenson Award Fund

Maria Berman, The Ohio State University

STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

Thank you so much for this generous award. I can't tell you how much this scholarship means to me and my career as a young artist. Choosing a career in the visual arts and design industry is something that wasn't easy for me because of encouragement to choose a path with more "stability." However, it is something I feel destined to do. Knowing that there are people to encourage young artists to pursue their passions and translate that into a career means so much to me. With this money, I'm able to better afford an education in graphic design. Thank you so much, and I hope you are able to touch other young artists' lives like you all have touched mine.

**Stella Hudson, Margot Eiseman
Scholarship Fund**



I am immensely grateful to receive the Anthony Wunderle Memorial Scholarship. Carrying on Anthony's legacy is a tremendous honor and privilege. Cancer has affected us all, but instead of allowing cancer to be any more devastating than the disease already is, I commit to using my, my family's, Anthony's, and my future patients' experiences to augment my empathy. Listening to and understanding my patients' experiences is the least I can do as I train to be a skillful, compassionate physician.

**Nicholas Hakes, Anthony Wunderle
Memorial Scholarship Fund**



Thank you so much for giving me this scholarship. It means so much to me that you are helping me afford this amazing program. I am learning a lot at Ballet West from the amazing teachers and my fellow dancers. I am grateful to attend Ballet West's Summer Intensive.

**Megan Murphy, Kate Lieberth Lytton
Education in Dance Fund**



Start A Scholarship! Build a brighter future for local students by starting a scholarship fund in your family's or organization's name. To learn more, contact Margaret Medzie, vice president and chief development officer, at mmedzie@akroncf.org or 330-436-5610.



The Signal Wish Book



NOTEWORTHY

WELCOME, GREEN COMMUNITY FUND!

In January, City of Green Mayor Gerard Neugebauer announced that a group of local residents established a new affiliate fund at Akron Community Foundation to benefit nonprofit organizations serving the Green community. "Much of what we have invested in over the years has a limited lifespan: The roads and school buildings we build today will someday need to be replaced, safety vehicles will eventually tire and grow obsolete – but this fund will grow and live on forever," said the mayor. To learn more about the Green Community Fund, visit greencommunityfund.org, or to make a gift, visit akroncf.org/give/GCF.

ACF'S WISH BOOK RAISES \$130,000

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, Akron Community Foundation's first-ever Wish Book raised more than \$130,000 to grant the wishes of nearly 50 nonprofit organizations in our community. In this first iteration of the Wish Book, the foundation's agency endowment fundholders were invited to submit wish requests of up to \$5,000, and 17 of those wishes were fully funded through the program. For more information or to see the full list of requests, visit akroncf.org/WishBook.

ACF WELCOMES NEW STAFF MEMBER

Malia Rivera officially joined the community foundation staff this spring, following an internship in our community investment department. Malia will serve as our new Affiliate Fund Event & Volunteer Coordinator. In her role, Malia provides administrative support to our eight affiliate



funds and serves as a liaison between the funds' volunteers and the foundation's staff. She received her master's degree in arts administration from the University of Akron this spring and has worked within the education and community engagement departments of the Akron Symphony Orchestra and Cleveland Orchestra. Please join us in welcoming Malia!

COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT AVAILABLE NOW

Akron Community Foundation and The Center for Community Solutions released their most recent Community Needs Assessment, detailing current critical needs in Summit and Medina counties. More information about how this data will inform grantmaking will be coming, but the full report is available to read at akroncf.org/NeedsAssessment.

ON THE TABLE ACTION CHALLENGE 2023

In February, Akron Community Foundation hosted the On the Table Action Challenge, which tasked residents with completing seven action items, including a one-on-one conversation with someone with a different lived experience. The goal of the event was to help people better connect with the community, while providing the foundation feedback to consider for strategic planning and grantmaking. Participants who completed all seven steps were entered for a chance to win a donation to a local nonprofit of their choosing. Congratulations to the following winners and their selected grant recipients!

- **First Place:** Heather Coughlin, \$2,500 total with \$1,500 to Building for Tomorrow and \$1,000 to Project Learn
- **Second Place:** Gina Betti, \$1,500 to Limitless Ambition
- **Third Place:** Shelley Orloski, \$500 to Akron Zoo
- **Fourth Place:** Cathy Baer, \$500 to Temple Israel

NONPROFIT NEWSROOM LAUNCHED IN AKRON

Akron Community Foundation joined other local funders, including the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and GAR Foundation, to launch Signal Akron, an 11-person nonprofit newsroom operated by the statewide news bureau Signal Ohio. Approximately \$5 million in funding has already been secured to fund the organization. Signal Cleveland, an 18-person newsroom, launched in the Cleveland market last year and has been seeing increasing success. To learn more about Signal Ohio, visit localnewsforohio.org.

ACF BOARD, PROFESSIONAL ADVISOR COUNCIL MEMBERS HONORED

Akron Community Foundation board member Theresa Carter was recently honored by two local nonprofit organizations for her impact on the community. On Dec. 15, Theresa received the Distinguished Patron Award from ArtsNow, and on May 10, she was honored as the 2023 Canal Boat Captain by the Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition.



Theresa Carter

Rick Fedorovich, our immediate past chair, was also recently honored with the H. Peter Burg Economic Development Leadership Award by the Greater Akron Chamber at its annual meeting on March 15. The award recognizes a local leader who has demonstrated their commitment to economic and community development within Greater Akron.



Rick Fedorovich

In addition, Don Miksch, Professional Advisor Council member and vice president of wealth and investment at Huntington Private Bank, was honored on April 11 with the Excellence in Business Leadership Award from Leadership Medina County. The award recognizes business leaders who apply leadership skills in civic activities and promote entrepreneurship and financial opportunities in Medina County.



Don Miksch

Congratulations to all three leaders on these well-deserved honors.

EVENTS

ACF ANNUAL MEETING TUESDAY, JULY 11 | 5:30 P.M. HILTON AKRON/FAIRLAWN

Please join Akron Community Foundation for our 68th annual meeting at the Hilton Akron/Fairlawn. The meeting begins with hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar, followed by the program at 6:15 p.m. The event is free, but registration is required. Please reserve your spot by Friday, June 30, at akroncf.org/AnnualMeeting.

BERT A. POLSKY HUMANITARIAN AWARD TUESDAY, OCT. 17 | 6 P.M. HILTON AKRON/FAIRLAWN

Save the date for this year's Polsky Award dinner. The recipient will be announced in late June, with tickets going on sale at the end of summer. For sponsorship information, contact Margaret Medzie at mmedzie@akroncf.org or 330-436-5610.

FOR ADVISORS: GIFT PLANNING CE SEMINAR THURSDAY, OCT. 19 | ALL DAY NEOMED

Presented in collaboration with Akron Children's Hospital, the Professional Advisor Council of Akron Community Foundation invites you to attend its continuing education seminar featuring keynote speaker Bryan Clontz. Up to six CE credits will be available. Early bird pricing of \$75 ends Aug. 31. For more details or to register, visit akronchildrens.org/seminar.

IS A DONOR-ADVISED STARTER FUND RIGHT FOR YOU?

Akron Community Foundation is proud to offer a strategic giving option for those who dream of making a difference in their community but may not have the \$5,000 minimum donation amount ready to give upfront. Like any donor-advised fund, the starter fund is a simplified, flexible and affordable option for beginning your strategic philanthropic journey.

You can establish a donor-advised starter fund with an initial donation of just \$300 and then build it up to the \$5,000 balance requirement over a period of three years. Donations can be made on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual basis – it's your decision. Once your fund reaches \$5,000, you can begin making grants to

the causes you care about. You can also continue to build your fund over time through tax-deductible contributions so that you'll have greater giving power in the future.

The benefits of a donor-advised starter fund include:

- Flexibility to give on your timeline
- Simple, automated giving options
- The opportunity to make a positive difference in your community

Is a donor-advised starter fund right for you? Learn more at akroncf.org/DAFStarter.

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O.C. Barber by
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Libert Bozzelli by
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