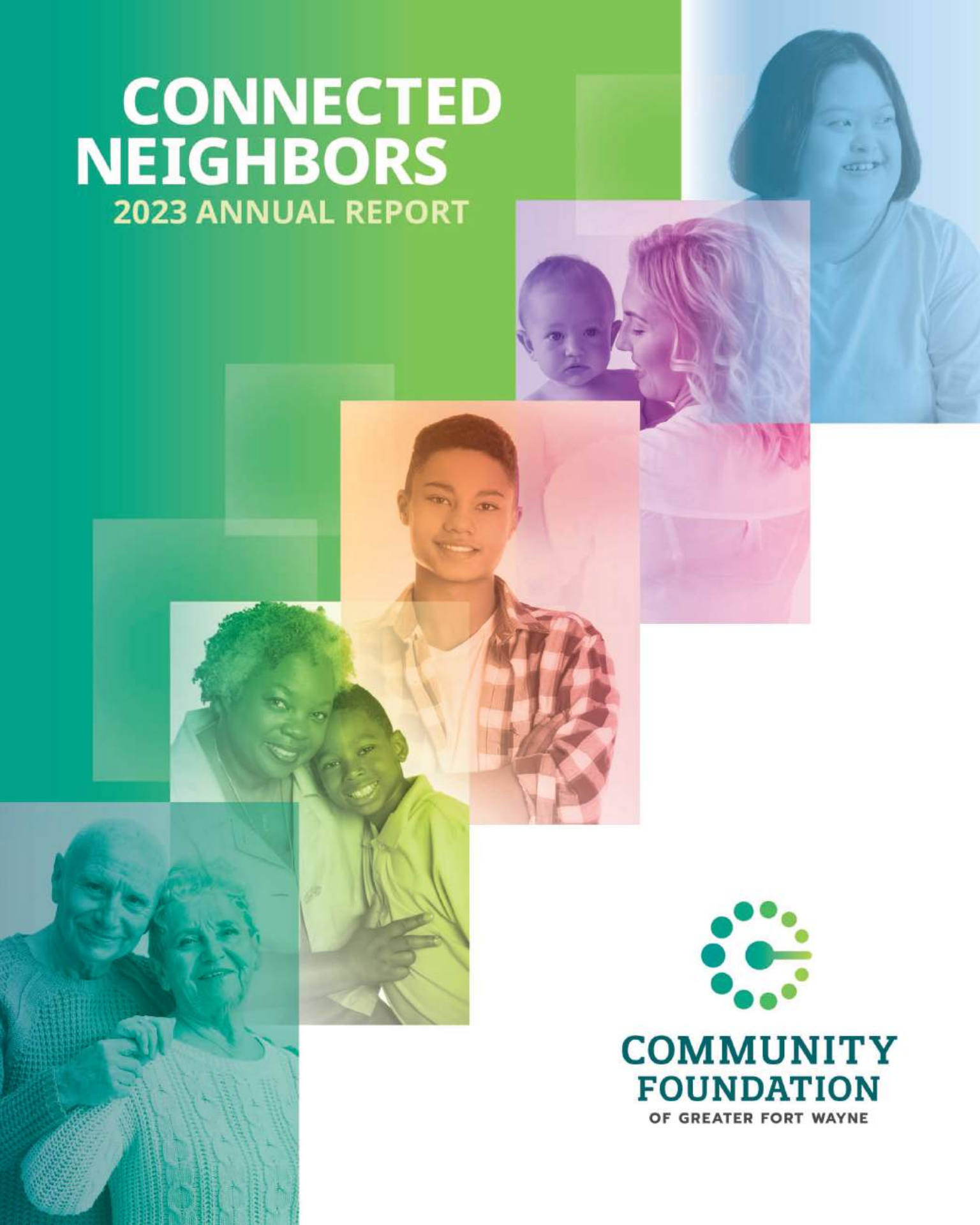


CONNECTED NEIGHBORS

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**
OF GREATER FORT WAYNE



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t the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne, we have made significant strides in our abilities to connect with, understand, and support our neighbors. From our grantees and donors; to our teammates, volunteers, and partners; to our community members and beyond—we're driven by fostering strong, meaningful relationships with each person we work alongside. We're proud that we continued to carry forward our more than 100-year legacy in 2023, deepening our connections in every facet of our work!

Highlights include:

- We have remained committed to continuing to embed diversity, equity, access, and inclusion into all we do—internally and externally—through our work with Ellequate, our HR committee, and our DEI subcommittee.
- To better serve our donors and grantees, we identified the need to add more staff, and have added five more members to our team.
- We integrated more subject matter experts from the community into the advisory process for grants in each of our five pillars.
- To uncover new opportunities to strengthen our community, we formed an impact investment study group to explore alternate funding methods for projects that aid the greater good and align with our strategic plan.

Our work is ever-evolving in response to the needs of our community, and each person in it. While we celebrate all we accomplished together in 2023, we look forward to being *even better* connected neighbors in 2024—envisioning a community where the boldest dreams can come true, and finding the relationships and resources to make that happen.



Ron Menze
Ron Menze
Board Chair



Brad
Brad Little
President and CEO

Organizational Overview

Our Vision

Allen County will advance as a stronger, more vibrant community, where our neighbors experience greater wellbeing and quality of life.

Our Mission

The Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne inspires enduring philanthropy by encouraging charitable giving, conducting meaningful grantmaking, and leading community initiatives.

We Do Three Things

- 1 We help people make their charitable giving more impactful.
- 2 We connect resources to nonprofits through grantmaking and education.
- 3 We provide leadership to address community needs.

What We Support

We work in these five areas to affect change and move us toward a stronger, more vibrant community.



CONNECTED COMMUNITY

We believe that being an advocate for the underserved, instilling pride, and building relationships creates a sense of belonging.



INSPIRING PLACES

We believe a community filled with inspiring spaces engages, connects, and energizes residents and visitors.



EVERYONE'S ECONOMY

We believe in an economy where every citizen has the opportunity for upward mobility and increased security, and is motivated to achieve their goals.



LIFELONG LEARNING

We believe a culture of lifelong learning helps people flourish—strengthening our workforce, and increasing resiliency.



HEALTHY MIND AND BODY

We believe each person in our community can reach their highest potential when they have access to tools and resources that support their mental and physical health.





Our Values

CONNECTEDNESS

We're driven by fostering strong, meaningful relationships with each person we work alongside.

EQUITY

We strive to honor the unique needs of each individual and organization, providing equitable access to resources and opportunities.

IMPACT

Each decision should move us toward positive and lasting change, encouraging growth, and propelling our community forward.

INTEGRITY

Our stakeholders trust us with their resources, in perpetuity. We honor donor intent, and act with our community's needs in mind.

PASSION

We pursue our work with enthusiasm and dedication because we love our community.

Organizational Excellence

We rise together as an organization by investing in ourselves to consistently exceed established, measurable, and influenceable benchmarks in a sustainable way. ➡

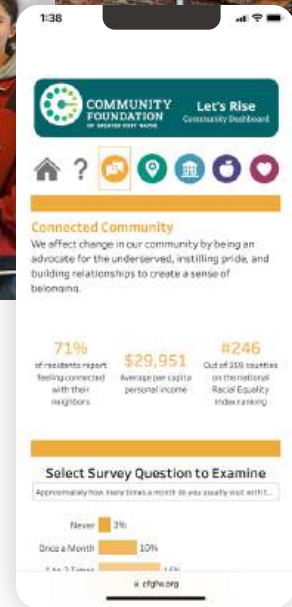




Community Dashboard

The Community Dashboard is a user-friendly, one-stop dashboard that contains publicly available and local aggregated data detailing key indicators in the Foundation’s five pillars. Each pillar has a webpage built around it, showing maps, charts, and more information.

The data will help organizations evaluate programs and services, gather additional data needed to research and/or highlight gaps in the community, and collaborate to help each of our neighbors experience greater well-being and quality of life.



**CONNECTED
COMMUNITY**



**INSPIRING
PLACES**



**EVERYONE'S
ECONOMY**



**LIFELONG
LEARNING**



**HEALTHY MIND
AND BODY**

The Community Foundation is working to establish committees in each of these key areas, who will develop formal plans that include strategies and tactics to help move initiatives forward. The Everyone’s Economy report was completed in 2022, and the Connected Community report was launched in 2023.



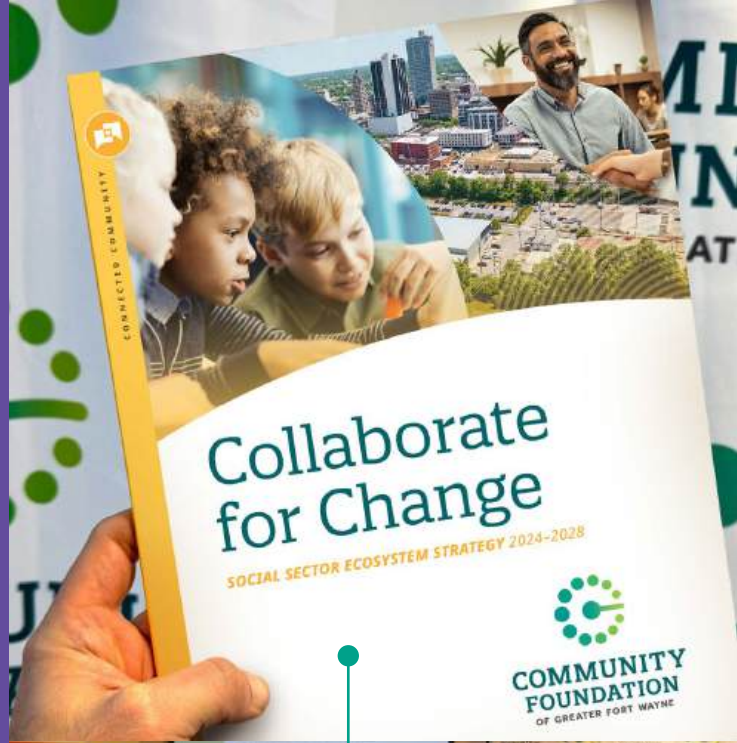
Visit cfgfw.org/community-dashboard to view the most up-to-date data and learn more!



Five-Year Social Sector Ecosystem Plan

We believe that an effective nonprofit ecosystem contributes to a **Connected Community**, and set out to understand our social sector as a way to support the work of this pillar. The result is a report that examines the current state of the social sector in the Greater Fort Wayne area and includes opportunities to improve the social sector and create positive change: the **Collaborate for Change Social Sector Ecosystem Strategy**.

Informed by stakeholder feedback and research, this plan will produce a more connected and supported system. It will be improved *internally* through workgroups and increased opportunities for cross-sector communication, and *externally* through increased resources for infrastructure, innovation, and community awareness.



GOALS



1 Increase Awareness



2 Improve Data and Information Sharing



3 Strengthen Infrastructure and Collaboration



4 Ensure Equal Access for All

Learn more and read the full report at cfgfw.org/connected-community.

Welcoming Progress



Welcoming Fort Wayne Initiative Grant

For Allen County to advance as a stronger, more vibrant community, each of our neighbors must feel a sense of welcoming, and ultimately, belonging. Amani Family Services' Welcoming Fort Wayne initiative sets out to create meaningful, lasting change for immigrants and refugees in our community.

"Immigrants have played a crucial role in the population growth of Allen County, making up 24% of the total population increase," said Ewelina Connolly, Amani Family Services' Chief Executive Officer. "They are valuable in the community's demographic landscape, highlighting the importance of continuing our work to foster an environment that supports their integration and well-being."

The Welcoming Fort Wayne initiative is a community development and advocacy platform focused on reducing inclusion barriers and increasing opportunities for immigrants and refugees. Its main components include the implementation

of the Welcoming Plan, expansion of cultural competency training programs, and hosting inclusive community events like Welcoming Week. These efforts are designed to enhance the overall cohesion of Fort Wayne, celebrate diversity, and foster a sense of belonging among all community members.

The overarching goal of the initiative is to collaborate with civic and community leaders to design an actionable plan to decrease social, cultural, and economic barriers and maximize the potential of all Fort Wayne / Allen County residents.



The Welcoming Plan will support a welcoming, engaging, and equitable community for immigrants and refugees by focusing efforts in four areas: Connected Communities and Public Safety, Economic Development and Entrepreneurship, Civic Engagement, and Education. This initiative aligns with the Foundation’s strategic goals in the *Collaborate for Change* report, which include ensuring equal access for all—making it a great match for a grant from the Foundation.

In its efforts to partner with donors to help them find fulfilling charitable giving opportunities, the Community Foundation brought this plan to the attention of Dick Waterfield, who is passionate about building a more connected and welcoming global economy. Together, the Community Foundation and Dick Waterfield have proudly supported Amani Family Services through a \$200,000, two-year grant to strengthen the Welcoming Fort Wayne initiative.



“Generosity transforms lives one by one, and that’s how we change the world,” explains Dick. “I believe we have a duty to help immigrants and refugees become productive citizens and residents, and I am proud to use my financial means to support an initiative that aligns with my belief in global citizenship.”

“‘Welcoming’ begins as an attitude and an intention to invite newcomers into local communities,” Ewelina explained, “but it takes a sustainable, collective effort to ensure that such attitudes and intentions develop into actions, policies, and networks that make welcoming possible at the community level. To that end, Amani has embarked on a yearlong project to organize a committee of local champions and stakeholders across industries to identify current challenges and barriers our immigrant community faces and develop a welcoming plan based on a nationally recognized blueprint—the Welcoming Standard.”

“With the two-year funding, Amani will strengthen community advocacy efforts, support the pursuit of the Certified Welcoming designation, execute the Welcoming Plan, and develop a strategy for the next steps and sustainability of the Welcoming Fort Wayne initiative,” said Ewelina.





Our Funds

For over 100 years, forward-thinking community members have created opportunities to improve the quality of life in Allen County through donations to Community Foundation funds. Your gift provides crucial means for our community's growth and success. Every gift, at every size, reflects your commitment to improving our community.



Let's Rise!
Vision Fund

Uplift each of our neighbors.

We truly thrive when all our neighbors experience greater well-being and quality of life. Your donation to the *Let's Rise!* Vision Fund impacts our community in our five pillars of well-being: Connected Community, Inspiring Places, Everyone's Economy, Lifelong Learning, and Healthy Mind and Body. Your support amplifies research that identifies the root causes of inequities that exist locally, and invests in long-term solutions that create a stronger community for all.

Community Impact Fund

Make one gift, help countless nonprofits.

The Community Impact Fund supports our Rising Together grant program, helping hundreds of local nonprofits make an impact in our community. Grants from this fund reflect our community's ever-changing people, needs, ideas, and issues. By donating to this fund, you instill hope in our neighbors by supporting a wide range of nonprofits and charitable organizations across our community, such as soup kitchens and food banks, transitional housing facilities, after-school programs for underserved kids, case management providers for families in need, emergency housing organizations, organizations serving people with disabilities, and countless other entities.

Community Scholarship Fund

Invest in the future of our youth.

The Community Scholarship Fund provides scholarships and financial assistance to qualified students in Allen County. Your support allows Allen County students to achieve their dreams of higher education and sets them on the path to success while helping to alleviate some of the financial burdens associated with obtaining a degree.

Organizational Excellence Fund

Support the force behind change.

The Community Foundation exists to help people make their charitable giving more impactful, to connect resources to nonprofits through grantmaking and education, and to provide leadership to address community needs and improve the quality of life for the place we call home. Your support makes this work possible—creating change for issues that impact our community the most.

GIVE TODAY!

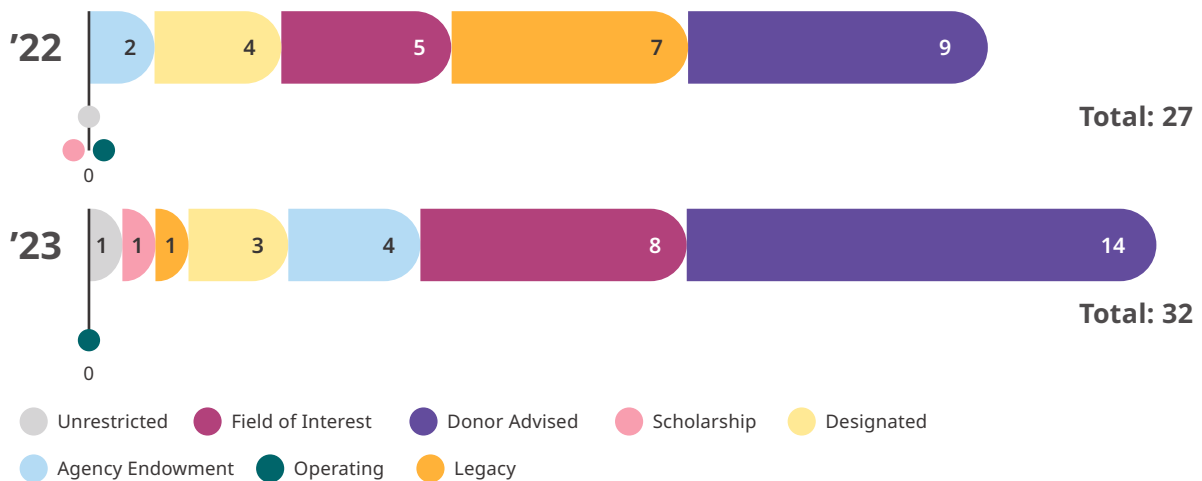


Charitable Giving

We help people make their charitable giving more impactful.

By connecting donors to organizations and people who are making a difference near or far, they create a legacy in the place where their lifelong memories were made.

NEW FUNDS BY FUND TYPE



TOTAL GIFTS BY FUND TYPE

	2022	2023
Unrestricted	\$113,361	\$105,700
Field of Interest	\$1,148,210	\$1,066,705
Donor Advised	\$3,629,095	\$10,383,223
Scholarship	\$273,164	\$143,885
Designated	\$1,484,013	\$1,492,308
Agency Endowment	\$457,519	\$406,810
Operating	\$943,235	\$376,734
Total	\$8,048,597	\$13,975,365

Professional Advisor Partners

Thank you to participants in our Donor and Advisor Partner Program! This customized investment approach allows donors to work with an investment advisor they know and trust, while our expert staff works with the donors to help them accomplish their philanthropic goals.

- **Edward Jones (Shawn Wall)**
- **Northern Trust**
- **Pathstone**
- **Phillips Financial**
- **Rockefeller**

Professional Advisor Leadership Council

The Professional Advisor Leadership Council aims to network with like-minded professionals, share trends, unique challenges, and opportunities, and expand our collective knowledge of philanthropy in our work and the community. We are grateful for this close group of advisors, who work to create a strong network for philanthropy in our community!

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Chloe Blythe,
Galecki Financial
Management | • Christopher
Nusbaum,
Carson LLP |
| • Stephanie Carper,
FORVIS | • Robert Patrick,
1st Source Bank |
| • Jeffrey Coil,
STAR Financial Bank | • Matthew Schmidt,
Baird |
| • Lauren Denton,
FORVIS | • Brad Stiles,
One Resource
Financial
Consultants |
| • Damian Gosheff,
Gosheff Estate &
Trust Law, LLC | |

New Fund List

- Allen County Bicentennial Fund
- Allen County Public Library
Monroeville Branch Fund
- August Tomusk Foundation
Designated Fund
- Bill and Marilyn Moran-Townsend
Charitable Fund
- Chris and Carol Popp Donor
Advisor Fund
- CollabUnity Fund
- Floyd A. & Betty Lou Lancia
Non-Permanent Charitable Fund
- Fort Wayne Media Collaborative Fund
- Fort Wayne Urban Enterprise
Association Endowment Fund
- Four D Endowment Fund
- Gifts from Me to You Fund
- God's Gifts to Me Become Blessings
for You Fund
- H & E Family Foundation Fund
- Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry Fund
- Hungry Hill Fund
- John and Lita Leffers Fund for
Young Parents
- LatinFuse Fund
- LGBTQ+ High School Freedom Fund
- MAJOR Fund
- Make Space Fund
- Marion Lee Fund
- Openings Wetland Mitigation Bank –
Phase II Long Term Management Fund
- Spy Run Neighborhood
Association Fund
- The Arena Theatre Endowment Fund
- The Biggs Family Foundation Fund
- The Drakewood Fund
- The Hope Fund
- The Norm Getzin "Play Ball!" Fund
- Ubuntu Collaborative Fund
- Willow Zurawski Fund
- (2) Anonymous Funds



Norman and Nancy Getzin

Strengthening Opportunities

The Norm Getzin “Play Ball!” Fund

Norman Getzin was passionate about baseball and softball, watching the Chicago Cubs devotedly and playing recreationally well into his 90s. But, growing up in a rural area without an organized league, he never had the opportunity to play as a kid. When he moved his family to Fort Wayne to take an engineering job at Magnavox in the 1970s, he began volunteering with the Georgetown Little League, hoping to improve the opportunities for youth baseball that he didn’t have.

Norman embedded himself in the Georgetown Little League community, contributing at every level—from daily upkeep, to opening new fields for the league, to contributing to administration and leadership. “No job was too small, and everyone in our family got involved,” said Alan, Norman’s son. “From umpiring and groundskeeping, to scorekeeping and coaching, our dad did it all—and so did we. Every part of the game was important.”

When Norman passed away in 2023, his sons—Alan, David, Eric, and Scott—knew the best way to honor his legacy would be by creating the Norm Getzin “Play Ball!” Fund. This fund removes barriers to participation by providing annual funds to offset the fees for kids who may not be able to play baseball otherwise. This fund currently supports Georgetown Little League, where Norm started his efforts 50 years ago to expand opportunities for kids to *play ball*.

That’s where the name comes from, Dave explains. “Play Ball!” is what the umpire says to signal the start of the game, giving the pitcher the ‘okay’ to throw the first ball. Dad was well-suited to the umpire position—he was a practical, no-nonsense man, and had a strong and forceful voice appropriate to commence the game. He knew the rules and was never shaken if kids or parents didn’t like his call. ‘Play Ball!’ elicits his presence—that, to this day, he’s allowing more kids to get their sport underway through these funds.”

The Getzin family believes that the game is bigger than sports, too. “It’s not just about being an excellent ball player,” said Dave. “Kids will learn the skills, build character, be a part of a team, and most of all, have fun! There are lasting lessons to garner: learning to keep hope while losing, rallying late in the game to win, learning to lose and win gracefully, and supporting teammates in triumph or struggle.”

“Mom and Dad spent more than 50 years in Fort Wayne, and had a great affinity for it,” Alan explained. “While my brothers and our families have all moved out of Fort Wayne, we felt it was most appropriate to honor him by opening a fund to benefit the league in the city that he dedicated so much of his life to. So we connected with the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne.”



Sandra Ladd

Meeting Legacy

Sandra Ladd, Paul Clarke Legacy Society Member

Sandra Ladd's relationship with The Foundation dates to 2008. We got to know her, helping her identify her passions in the community and bringing organizations that match those passions to her attention. When she passed away in January 2023, she included the Community Foundation in her estate planning to create the James & Sandra Ladd Foundation Fund. It provides support to children who face challenges that preclude them from experiences other children might have. Her generosity funded adaptive services at World Baseball Academy and the development of an accessible archery range at Camp Red Cedar.

Caleb Kimmel, World Baseball Academy CEO, said, "Our 'On-Deck' adaptive services is a series of programs that serve 1,800+ area at-risk youth to help them reach their full potential, overcoming challenges including socioeconomic status and intellectual or physical disability. The support from the James & Sandra Ladd Foundation Fund will allow our staff to continue looking at ways to build an inclusive environment for all kids, not just those whose families can afford lessons and teams, or those who are physically or developmentally capable of mainstream competitive sports."

"Camp Red Cedar is one of the few places in our community that provides truly inclusive outdoor recreation for individuals with disabilities," explained Michael Kuhn, Camp Red Cedar Development Director. "So often, children with disabilities don't get to partake in the formative life experiences that able-bodied and typically developing children do. People like Sandra understand the importance of those experiences and bring the oftentimes forgotten children into the spotlight to make sure they are remembered and treated with dignity and respect. Sandra's legacy will live on through Camp Red Cedar's inclusive archery range as hundreds of children with and without disabilities get to enjoy it together each year for many years to come."

Dave added, "It was important to us, especially since none of us live in Fort Wayne anymore, that these funds are managed locally, and with long-term stewardship in mind—well beyond our generation. The credibility and history of the Community Foundation, and the generous support they provide, made it an easy decision for us."

In its first year, the "Play Ball!" Fund assisted ten players with a portion of the cost of registration at Georgetown Little League, but the Getzin brothers acknowledge there is plenty of room for growth. "We hope the fund continues to help more kids enjoy the sport and grow into responsible, generous young adults. We also hope to someday extend to other Little League districts in the city."

Give Greater Allen County

On April 12, 2023, Give Greater Allen County fostered philanthropy in Allen County by using the power of community to encourage individuals and businesses to support the nonprofits and causes they're passionate about. During this one-day, 12-hour initiative, more than 1,900 donors gave a total of \$613,190 benefiting 110 Allen County nonprofit organizations. \$60,450 was raised by the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne in matching and prize dollars thanks to generous sponsors and fundholders at the Community Foundation. This money was leveraged to help raise the \$613,190 total.

To create more bandwidth to implement our Let's Rise! Vision Plan, 2023 was the final year of the Give Greater Allen County initiative. Thank you to each nonprofit that worked with us to make the giving day a success over the past three years.

CHARITABLE GIVING





#GivingTuesdayFW Challenge

Giving Tuesday is a global day of giving that encourages individuals to donate to nonprofit organizations every year on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. In 2023, we continued to celebrate Giving Tuesday through our #GivingTuesdayFW Challenge! Leading up to Giving Tuesday, local nonprofits raised money for their endowment funds. This year, local nonprofits raised \$162,000! The nonprofit that raised the most money in each of our five strategic pillars received a surprise \$5,000 check on Giving Tuesday.

- Connected Community: **Fort Wayne Sister Cities International**
- Inspiring Places: **Arena Dinner Theatre**
- Everyone’s Economy: **Vincent Village**
- Lifelong Learning: **Boys & Girls Clubs of Fort Wayne**
- Healthy Mind and Body: **Ronald McDonald House Charities of Northeast Indiana**

Gifts from the Heart

All year long, the Community Foundation offers donors a matching incentive for contributions made to an agency endowment fund held at the Foundation. Leading up to Giving Tuesday, we make a concentrated effort around this matching opportunity through our Gifts from the Heart initiative, through which we raised an additional \$125,026!

Donor Appreciation Event

We held our annual Donor Appreciation Event at the Fort Wayne Children’s Zoo in celebration of the remarkable philanthropic efforts of our community! More than 150 board members, fund holders, and donors joined us for an evening of food, drinks, music, and zoological fun. Our team connected with many of our attendees and had the opportunity to continue building relationships with our partners.

This event is one of the ways in which we appreciate our donors. **Save the date for this year’s event—Wednesday, September 4, 2024!**

Grantmaking

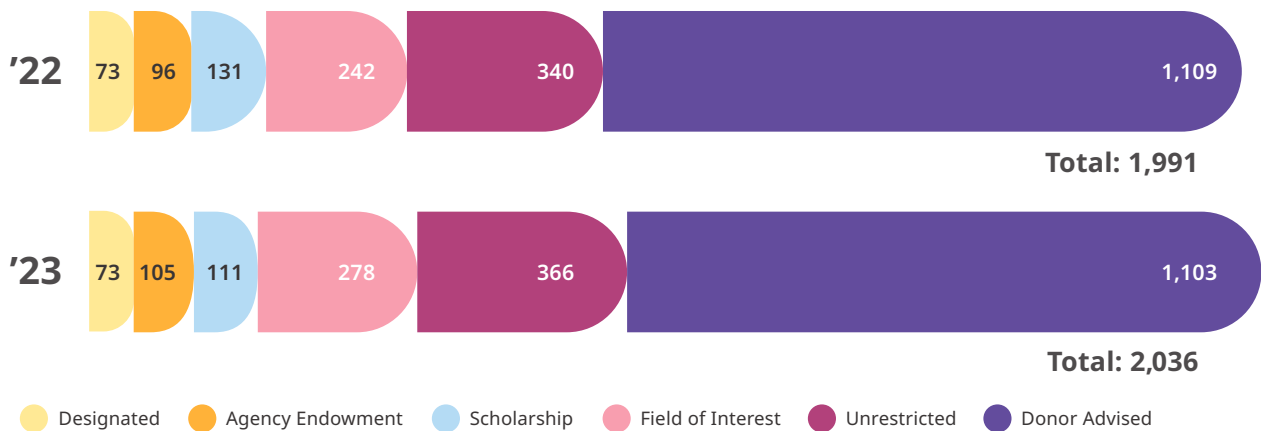
We connect resources to nonprofits through grantmaking and education.

Our grant programs bring about positive change and impact, while making our community the best place to live, work, and play.

In 2023, the Community Foundation restructured its grantmaking opportunities, in the interest of creating broader impact and equitable opportunities for the community while strengthening relationships with its grantees. The restructured grants better align with the pillars of our *Let's Rise!* Vision Plan and now include *Rising Together Grants*, *Agile Grants*, *Engage Grants*, *Emergency Grants*, and *Foundation-Guided Grants*.

Learn more about our grant opportunities at cfgfw.org/grant-opportunities.

GRANTS BY FUND TYPE



GRANTS BY IMPACT AREA

	2022	2023
Arts & Culture	\$796,122	\$1,106,540
Basic Human Needs	\$1,001,812	\$1,194,924
Physical & Mental Health	\$1,347,787	\$2,610,282
Youth & Education	\$2,789,788	\$2,539,910
Other	\$3,337,711	\$3,224,254
Total	\$9,273,220	\$10,675,910

Nonprofit Trainings

Jumpstart

In partnership with Bonterra (formerly Network for Good), we offered Jumpstart, a 12-month fundraising capacity-building program. Seven participating nonprofit organizations received personal coaching, professional services, software, and an evidence-based framework in this immersive, year-long program. A total value of \$32,600 was invested into these organizations, resulting in an additional \$126,601 in net new revenue raised by participants.

Participating Organizations

- Euell A. Wilson Center
- Fort Wayne Center for Learning
- Hope Alive
- Just Neighbors Interfaith Homeless Network
- Out of a Jam
- St. Joseph Missions Women's Shelter

“Jumpstart helped us highlight our programs and services and organize campaigns in a meaningful way that allowed us to highlight our mission to potential donors.”

– Liz Murphy, Euell A. Wilson Center



Helping Youth Make an Impact

Engage Grant Recipient: Boy Scouts

The Community Foundation awarded a \$3,000 Engage Grant to the Anthony Wayne Area Council BSA (Boy Scouts of America) for a Scout's project: building a fishing dock at Fox Island County Park.

Korben Hatfield, a sophomore at South Side High School, led this service project to demonstrate his leadership abilities and achieve Eagle Rank. Korben combined his love for fishing with his love for parks by securing a new fishing dock for Fox Island County Park, after their previous dock had been vandalized and destroyed. He selected a floating dock that would require little maintenance from the park, and it was important to him that the dock be accessible to people of all abilities. He was responsible for managing the project from start to finish while engaging other Scouts in the process, including collecting quotes, managing logistics, and funding the project—raising a total of \$6,200.



“Everyone should have the opportunity to experience the outdoors, including fishing, and this dock will help make that possible. The Community Foundation's support allowed me to make an impact on my community—to leave my mark.”

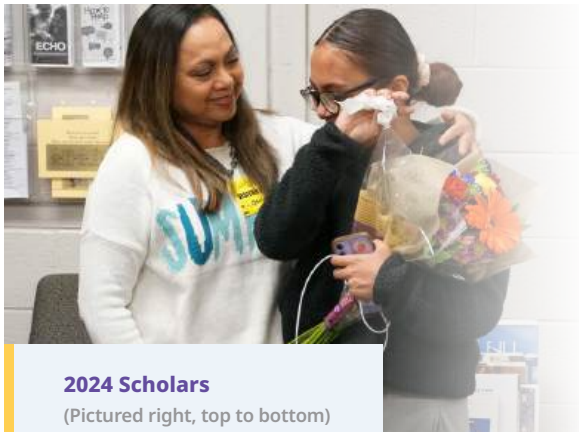
– Korben Hatfield

Lilly Endowment Community Scholars

The Community Foundation partners with Independent Colleges of Indiana (ICI) to provide the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship to five Allen County students each year. ICI received a grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. to fund the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship program, awarding full-tuition scholarships to any Indiana college or university.

Lilly Endowment Community Scholars are known for their community involvement, academic achievement, character, and leadership. To be eligible, Allen County students must demonstrate successfully overcoming an obstacle, as well as show financial need, academic performance, and community involvement and provide a personal statement of goals.

GRANTMAKING



2024 Scholars

(Pictured right, top to bottom)

- **Eh Nay Taw Dah Day**, South Side High School
- **Madison Franklin**, Woodlan Jr./Sr.High School
- **Samantha Morris**, Northrop High School
- **Tiffani Swe**, Snider High School
- **Ezra Yoquelet**, New Haven High School





Aspiring for Inclusion and Belonging

2023 Lilly Scholarship Recipient: Aubrey McCraney

In December 2022, Aubrey McCraney was surprised when her school called an impromptu senior class meeting. As she waited with her peers, she wondered why news cameras began showing up—followed by her family.

“When I saw my whole family walk into the room, I wondered, ‘What is going on?’” Aubrey explained. “Then they announced that I’d received the Lilly Scholarship. I stood in the back of the room, and I was in shock. When the Community Foundation handed me the award, I felt amazed, and then proud that I’d accomplished something so significant.”

This award provides Aubrey with a full-tuition scholarship, including required fees and book stipend, for four years. A freshman at Ball State University, Aubrey is now pursuing her bachelor’s degree in women and gender studies, while also minoring in counseling, African American studies, and leadership. She hopes to become an advocate for mental health, working for an organization that serves diverse populations, such as the YWCA.

Aubrey said, “This scholarship helps me be able to make the most of my college experience. I have the flexibility to focus on my education without the stress of having to work a job to support my education goals. It also enables me to pursue a combination of minors that is perfect for what I want to do in my life without worrying about the cost.”

“My goal in life is to help people feel included, embrace their differences, and understand that they matter. I hope we continue to embrace our diversity, because it’s what makes us special.”

Congratulations, Aubrey—we can’t wait to see all you accomplish in our community!



Community Initiatives

We provide leadership to address community needs, helping move forward important issues, ensure continued innovation and collaboration, and make the place we call home—and everyone in it—the best we can be.



Youth Empowered Philanthropy



Youth Empowered Philanthropy (YEP) teaches youth about charitable giving while empowering participants to make real decisions, with real money, to create an impact in Allen County. In 2023, we had students from each Fort Wayne Community School high school represented, in addition to students from New Haven and Canterbury. This year, students who have been a part of YEP since its inception (three years) will be rolling off as they graduate from high school.

Students scored over 50 grant applications and held their own student-led grant cycle. They conducted site visits, meeting with nonprofit executives to learn more about their organizations. The group decided to grant a total of \$10,000 to three organizations: Made Strong, MLK Montessori, and Blessings in a Backpack. Five students presented their decision to the Community Foundation board of directors, and the program is working toward becoming entirely student-led. The students had professional headshots taken, and \$1,000 scholarships were awarded to two graduating seniors.

Learn more at cfglfw.org/yep.



Women's Fund of Greater Fort Wayne

The Women's Fund provides research, education, and advocacy centered on making Allen County more equitable for women, their families, and our community. These efforts are directed towards three focus areas: economic security, personal safety, and young women and girls.

➔ Economic Security

We invited local employers in the nonprofit, healthcare, and manufacturing industries to roundtable discussions that included access to our *Employer Toolkit*. Our goal is to facilitate conversations about the trends we observed in the *Women in the Workplace Report* and give employers the opportunity to discuss innovative ways to uplift women in the workplace through supportive benefits and policies. We also conducted our second annual *Compass Survey*, the results of which were published in the *Employer Scorecard*, which measure where our community stands when it comes to women in leadership, compensation of women, supportive benefits and policies, and equitable hiring and promotion practices.



➔ Personal Safety

In partnership with GFW Inc.'s Leadership Fort Wayne Class of 2023, the Women's Fund conducted a QR code *No Matter What* coaster campaign for Domestic Violence Awareness Month. 18,000 coasters were distributed at 40 local bars and restaurants. Over the month, we saw an 189% increase in unique visitors to the website who spent at least two minutes reviewing the resource page. The Women's Fund also partnered with Judge Lori Morgan to support the launch of the state's first Family Domestic Violence Recovery Court. This approach to supporting families experiencing domestic violence in Allen County will focus on restorative justice and survivor support, using data and resources from the Women's Fund's research.

➔ Young Women & Girls

The Women's Fund provided new training for area youth programs through the *See the Girl Summit*. Dr. Lawanda Ravoira led training in girl-centered practice for community programming, designed to increase knowledge of girl-centered principles and core building blocks for creating gender-responsive policies, programs, and services. Through interactive activities, group discussions, lectures, and personal reflection, participants were able to increase their knowledge and understanding of the core principles of girl-centered practice and apply strategies for translating knowledge to practical application. We had 34 participants representing 21 area nonprofits with youth-serving programs.



Support this work at womensfundfw.org.

Financial Snapshot



2022	2023
TOTAL ASSETS	
\$192M	\$221M
NEW FUNDS	
27	32
TOTAL GIFTS	
\$8M	\$14M
TOTAL GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS	
\$9.3M	\$10.7M
TOTAL FUNDS	
537	566



View our Form 990, Audit, and more at cfgfw.org/investment-finances.

Board of Directors

Ron Menze, Chair

Retired Partner/Architect,
MKM architecture + design

Sherry Early, Vice Chair

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Christine Boles, Secretary

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Northern Indiana

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Market President, Farmers
& Merchants State Bank

Stephanie Carper

Tax Partner, FORVIS

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(L to R): Damian Gosheff, Nikki Quintana, Stephanie Crandall, Rob Slusser, Sherry Early, Ron Menze, Christine Boles, Jason Knothe, Gary Shearer, Stephanie Carper, Susan Wesner (Not pictured: Cindy Goodman, Edmond C. O’Neal III, Paul Sauerteig, Shelley Walker, Denita Washington)



Thank You

To our donors, partners, staff, volunteers, community members, and beyond—thank you for a tremendous year! At the intersection of generosity and momentum, your support propelled our community forward, toward greater well-being and quality of life for each of our neighbors.

Together, we'll continue to **Imagine Greater.**

Many CFGFW event and board photos throughout this report courtesy of Stephen J. Bailey, With a PH Digital



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