BUILDING CAPACITY TO BETTER SERVE THE COMMUNITY

It is our great pleasure to announce that construction has just been completed on the “Dr. Lucille Garber Ford Wing” at the Ashland County Community Foundation.

Four cherished donor families provided 100% of the cost of construction and furnishings, led by its inimitable namesake, Dr. Lucille Ford, Founding President of the Community Foundation.

This 768-square-foot building addition is the manifestation of ACCF’s vision of building capacity within its own organization, in order to facilitate the expansion of capacity in those whom we serve on both sides of the philanthropic exchange.

The new wing consists of three new offices, providing much-needed space for staff members Kristin Aspin, Chief Program Officer; Brittaney Reep, Chief Financial Officer; and Lanie Hartge, Educational Programs Director. Each of them had previously been working in cubicle spaces, or on the lower level of the building.

Also, this provided the opportunity, and necessity, of creating first-floor, handicap-accessible restrooms. The previous configuration had restrooms that only existed on the lower level of the building, with no elevator access for elderly or affirmed visitors.

Funding for the three professional offices were provided by long-time ACCF supporters Charles and Jane Taylor, Dr. Stan and Diana Brechbuhler and Mike and Tammy Buckingham, in honor of his parents, Bill and Martha Buckingham.

“We’re extremely grateful to the donors that have made this possible, and proud of the progress that we’ve made over the past 22-plus years, culminating in this significant event in our history,” stated ACCF Executive Director/CEO Jim Cutright.

Simson Construction Services, Inc. was the general contractor providing the design/build expertise, as well as some generous in-kind services, to keep the new addition on-time and under budget.

Cutright went on, “It is only fitting that this wing carry Dr. Ford’s name. Her leadership in the formational years of ACCF has led us to this point in time, where we can set the stage for an even greater future. As she passed the torch to me in 2012, my goal has been to preserve our history, while building what I call a ‘Template of Success’ for the future. This has included strengthening our stewardship capabilities, through the building of staff capacity, which has in turn required us to think about, not just monetary assets, but physical assets, as well.

In order to demonstrate stability to our donors and encourage long-term sustainability for the agencies we serve, it’s important that we be viewed as an anchor institution in our community. Nothing says that better than a permanent home. Our 300 College Avenue address, and its beautiful new Dr. Lucille Garber Ford Wing, is the perfect representation of that permanence.”

A formal dedication/open house is planned for early Spring.

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www.accommunityfoundation.org
FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (CUTTY'S CORNER)

So many positives...so little newsletter space...!

With December 31 marking the halfway point through our fiscal year, we pause to thank our valued Donors and Partner Agencies that have embraced ACCF’s unique model of philanthropy, that of establishing long-term support of our community through endowment-building.

Already, through 6 months, 28 new funds have been created with 28 unique stories of why:

**Scholarships**

Two were created in loving memory of a deceased spouse; two others specifically for nursing or education majors; one by a high school class, celebrating its 50th class reunion.

**Donor-Designated Funds**

Nine total, including those that will provide annual support for a donor’s church or university; non-traditional educational opportunities; the arts; and a local high school athletic program.

**Community Grants Funds**

Three new funds were created, the assets of which will be pooled with many other funds to provide a discretionary grants pool for distribution each year through ACCF’s Community Grants program.

**Agency Funds**

Four new permanent endowment funds were established to provide long-term support to non-profit agencies providing much-needed community services.

**Donor-Advised Funds**

Seven new funds will allow donors the opportunity of making their own personal grants to organizations about which they care, with the ability to vary which agencies will be the recipients, year-to-year.

I must say that donor-advised funds have definitely struck a chord with new donors, as they enjoy the tremendous flexibility that these instruments can afford. Also, with the new tax laws potentially limiting tax deductibility of some charitable giving, based on your individual circumstances, donor-advised funds can be an excellent tool for maximizing gifting capacity.

As we look ahead, we continue to look for opportunities to make an impact in our community with the gifts you have made possible.

This past year, we offered seed money to the “North Central Workforce Alliance” for a program where teachers were bussed to area manufacturing and construction firms, so that they could become aware of career opportunities for their students that may exist outside the college pathway.

We provided a “kick-start” grant to a group branded as “Ashland Young Professionals,” a new generation of youthful leaders, ages 21-40, who want to make a difference in our community.

Additionally, we funded, in collaboration with others, the production of a video addressing the mental health and opiate addiction challenges associated with adverse childhood experiences.

Thanks to each of YOU, we continue to make a difference in Ashland County!

NEW $500,000 FUND ESTABLISHED

Mr. Bob Simonson, Founder of Simonson Construction Services, Inc., met with ACCF Executive Director Jim Cutright in late December to create a new $500,000 donor-advised fund, to be known as the “Robert Simonson Family Charitable Fund.”

“Obviously, we’re ecstatic to receive such a remarkable gift. Bob has been a long-time supporter of ACCF at a high level, so he appreciates the concept of endowment as a means of giving back to the Ashland community,” said Cutright.

Simonson stated, “Cutty and I have been friends and business associates for many years. Sitting and having the conversations about where to go with this round of gifting to ACCF was very easy and comfortable, with him answering questions and covering all my available options. This simply furthered my belief in the Foundation, and about how helpful their directions and suggestions will be for my family in making this decision. The Ashland community has always supported me and my companies. Giving back has always been important to our family and is the right thing to do. Hopefully, this allows us to continue supporting local athletics and other community projects.”

Many local families are choosing ACCF donor-advised funds as a means of encouraging multi-generational giving. If you would like to learn more, please contact Jim Cutright.
GRANTS AWARDED

2017-18 MINI-GRA NT RECIPIENTS, 16 educators, $10,434.27

Allyson Baker, Hillsdale Middle School, Developing Life-Long Readers With a 40 Book Challenge
Carly Black, Ashland Middle School, Blog All the Books
BreAnn Fennell, Reagan Elementary School, Mag-nificent Science for Early Grades
Stephanie Hanson, Ashland City Schools, Utilizing Tech to Enhance the Music Classroom (ARTSDREAM/Brown Vocal Music)
Nichole Henthalal, Ashland County Community Academy, Reading for Their Future
Katie Hennessy, Mapleton Middle School, Middle School Creative Writing Program (ARTSDREAM)
Carol Kinney, Ashland Middle School, Percussion Instruments for 6th Grade General Music (ARTSDREAM)
Troy McMillen, Mapleton High School, Electricity - Forces, Fields and Electrons
Christine Mickley, Ashland County-West Holmes Career Center, Health Wise Living
Jeri Millhouse, Ashland Middle School, DON’T Save the Drama for Your Mama! (ARTSDREAM)
Tiki Peterson, Hillsdale Middle School, Lab Supplies
Kristy Shearer, Ashland Middle School, Ping Pong Projectiles
Christy Vance, Reagan/Edison Elementary Schools, 3D Printing for Elementary Students
Jarrod Vance, Ashland Middle School, Move Towards Excellence - Ramping It Up
David Woltber, Ashland Middle School, World Music Experience (Brown Vocal Music)

2017-18 COMMUNITY GRANT RECIPIENTS, 28 grants, $207,403.03

ACCESS - Training program for four new in-home (Part B) certified childcare providers
American Red Cross Lake Erie/Heartland Chapter - Smoke alarm installation for Home Fire Campaign in Ashland County
Appleseed Community Mental Health Center - Expansion of the SPARK program for 2017-18 school year
Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce - New office equipment and building signage
Ashland Area Economic Development - Funding for a permanent office for AAED
Ashland County Airport Authority - Storage building for airport equipment
Ashland County Cancer Association - New computers and building signage
Ashland County Council on Aging - Purchase of a handicap-accessible vehicle
Ashland County Sheriff’s Office - Turn key Child Safety Fingerprint ID System and supplies
Ashland Main Street - Annual downtown flowers
Ashland Symphony Orchestra - New office equipment
Boy Scout Troop #521 - New cooking equipment and storage trailer
Fostering Family Ministries - Trauma Informed Caregiver Training
Greater Cleveland Food Bank - Supplies for BackPacks for Kids and Summer Feeding programs in Ashland County
Hospice of North Central Ohio - Match to establish a Palliative Care Endowment Fund
Jeromesville Community Fire Department - Rescue boat
Loudonville Public Library - Improvements to the after-school area for middle school students
Loudonville Theatre & Arts Committee - Equipment for the Theatre Lighting Project
Montessori Good Shepherd at Trinity Lutheran Church - Montessori Room Renovation Project
Neos Dance Theatre - “M.A.D.E. in Ashland” artists in residence program
Olive Tree Care - Equipment for the STEAM program and tuition assistance support
Rotary Club of Ashland - 2018 Ashland Community Fireworks display
Society for Handicapped Citizens of Medina County, Inc. (The Link, Ashland) - Mini-van to provide transportation for clients of The Link, Ashland

Grandfathered Organizations - Ashland Public Library, Ashland University, First United Methodist Church, University Hospitals/Samaritan Medical Center, and United Way of Ashland County.
WOMEN’S FUND

Women’s Fund Annual Gathering

This past fall, approximately 80 women gathered to recognize the impact of the ACCF’s Women’s Fund. The Women’s Fund Annual Gathering served to bring Women’s Fund donors and friends together to learn about the Women’s Fund, hear highlights of the year, recognize current year grant recipients and present the Dr. Lucille G. Ford “Freedom from Selfishness” Award. To date, 61 grants totaling $98,418 have impacted 6,965 women and children in Ashland County, thanks to the generosity of 489 donors to the Women’s Fund.

We’re excited to continue awarding...
Women’s Fund Scholarship

Are you a female non-traditional student looking to get more education to move your life forward with a better job?

If so, we encourage you to apply for the Women’s Fund Scholarship! The goal of this minimum $500 scholarship is to create opportunity for any female Ashland County resident who may need “a boost” to create a better life for herself and her family.

Apply at www.accommunityfoundation.org
“Learn/Women’s Fund Scholarship”
Deadline to apply: March 15

Now Accepting Grant Applications

Non-profit organizations with programs and projects to benefit Ashland County women are eligible to apply for Women’s Fund grants. A new online grants process is available this year with the application deadline being May 15. In 2017, eleven organizations were awarded grants totaling $17,427.

2018 grants will be awarded this summer and announced at the Women’s Fund Annual Gathering in September.

Mother’s Day Cards

The opportunity to honor or remember the special women in our lives will be available again this year. Watch your mail or check our website. An online giving option is available for sending your Mother’s Day cards.

The mission of the Women’s Fund is to create a permanent legacy that enhances the lives of women and children in Ashland County.

www.accommunityfoundation.org
Pledge Card

Yes, I/we believe in the work of the Foundation.
I/We subscribe the sum of $_____ for the following.

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<th>Fund</th>
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Total Gift $_____ Pledge Term _____ year
Paid Herewith $_____ To be Paid: _____ Annually _____ Other _____

Name*
Address

Signature
Date
Memorial Name

*List charity charities for approved distribution(s) ____________________________
*The names of Founders, Fellows and Legacies will be printed in our Annual Report as
written above unless otherwise noted by you.

Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law. Please make gifts payable to The Ashland County Community Foundation and mail to 300 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio 44805.

_____ I have included ACCF in my will/estate plans. _____ Please tell me how I can include ACCF in my will/estate plans.
Peggy Yoder joined the ACCF board of trustees in 2014. She currently serves as vice chair of the board, and will move into the chair slot in July 2019. Peggy also serves on the Advancement and Scholarship Committees.

Peggy grew up in western Ohio in the small town of New Knoxville. She attended Ohio State University and graduated with a degree in business administration and a major in accounting.

She met her husband, Steve, at Ohio State University. Peggy and Steve were married in 1975 and lived in Columbus for a year; Iowa City, Iowa for 5 years; and then moved to Ashland in 1982. They have three children: Chris, Dan, and Liz, all graduates of Ashland High School, and now have 4 grandchildren.

Peggy was the recipient of the Women of Achievement Hearth Award for Ashland County in 1996 and graduated from Leadership Ashland in 2001. She served in a volunteer capacity in the Ashland City school system for over 20 years, serving at the elementary, middle school and high school levels in a variety of positions such as PTO fundraising chairman, PTO treasurer, Osborn craft show coordinator, as well as serving on district leadership teams.

Peggy served on the Ashland City Schools Board of Education for 8 years and was board president for four of those years. She received the Ohio School Boards Association Award of Achievement – Master Board Member Award in 2005. She was also the Office Manager for her husband’s physician office practice until 2011.

Peggy has been involved with the United Way campaigns, serving on the Pacesetter Committee for many years. Peggy is currently the treasurer at First Presbyterian Church and is also a trustee, Stephen Minister and coordinator of a Presbyterian Mothers’ group.