

ACCF HAPPENINGS

ACCF ENCOURAGES CAPACITY BUILDING



Ev DeVaul assumes new ACCF role

At a recent luncheon, the Ashland County Community Foundation's executive director, Jim Cutright, spoke to a group of non-profit leaders, whose agencies currently have endowment dollars placed at the Foundation. The theme was emphasizing sustainability through capacity building measures, with an offer of assistance from ACCF.

Cutright stated, "We know that endowment,

if managed properly, works as a means of long-term support. We know that each of you believe in that concept, and we admire you so much for having that sort of thinking process. It's tough, when many times your cash flow model can be quite tenuous, maybe dependent upon the whims of government or the uncertainty of grants or circumstances that are well beyond your control."

He went on to say, "When we think of each of your organizations having taken that first step of creating an endowment fund at ACCF, an instrument of amazing potential, where dollars of any amount can be added at any time, it gets us very excited about what the future could hold for each of you."

With the instrument in place, a fund into which any amount can be added at any time, I really believe you've taken that first step into building the type of sustainability that will be essential for your continued growth.

It's just a matter of recognizing the potential, and devising a plan to take advantage of the

opportunities that may exist.

It's a matter of recognizing the importance of capacity-building as a tool that can guarantee that your mission will continue to be executed well into the future."

Over the past few months, ACCF has been reorganizing staff to improve the way it offers stewardship and grantmaking services. Long-time employee, Kristin Aspin has been assigned the role of Chief Program Officer, where she will concentrate on ACCF's numerous grants programs. Kristin will be assisted by Executive/Grants Administrative Assistant, Mindy Howman.

Brittany Reep was introduced at the lunch event, having recently joined the ACCF staff as its Chief Financial Officer. Lanie Hartge moves into the position of Educational Programs Director, having responsibility for ACCF's significant scholarship and Hess Loan Fund programs. All are part-time positions, to allow for maximum cost efficiency.

At the luncheon event, Cutright announced the creation of another one-day-per-week position, that of Community Relations Director, which has

been filled by Ev DeVaul, former United Way director.

Cutright went on to explain, "Ev's primary responsibility, in this new role, will be to work with each of your agencies, with whom we currently have endowment relationships, with a view to assisting you in building capacity in those funds."

It's our hope that we can, in some ways, become an extension of your staff, and provide information and education to, primarily, potential estate donors that already care deeply about your respective organizations.

Over the past couple years, we have seen the results of those types of seeds being planted, where significant estate gifts have come to the community foundation, for the benefit of organizations like the YMCA, the Ashland Park District, Ashland University, the Ashland Symphony and many others."

Ashland County Community Foundation provides stewardship for 33 different endowment funds for 27 local non-profit agencies and churches.

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FOUNDATION CELEBRATES YOUTH PHILANTHROPY



Ashland County Community Foundation, on May 9, with over 100 in attendance at the Ashland University Convocation Center, recognized the philanthropic achievements of young people in Ashland County.

Jim Cutright, ACCF's executive director, spoke about ACCF's newest program, the IMPACT Youth Council. IMPACT is an acronym for "Imagine Making Philanthropy an Ashland County Tradition".

Now in its second year, the IMPACT Youth Council is made up of new and returning sophomores, juniors and seniors, representing Ashland, Hillsdale, Loudonville and Mapleton High Schools. The program includes a nine-month-long curriculum, incorporating modules on the meaning of philanthropy, the community foundation model, needs assessment, site visits to non-profit agencies, and the grant review process. Students also learn leadership skills that can be applied now and in their future careers.

ACCF has provided a small pool of dollars designated for youth-oriented projects and initiatives, over which this council has been given sole responsibility for making grant decisions. Any qualified organization that provides programs serving youth in Ashland County is encouraged

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to apply for an IMPACT youth grant.

Ginny Telego, Diversity Programs Director for ACCF, who directs and facilitates the IMPACT Youth Council was introduced at the event to recognize the student participants. "The high school students participating on the IMPACT Youth Council are future leaders in our community and beyond. They have great ideas and insight into how grant funding can improve the lives of youth in Ashland County and are dedicated to being active in creating positive change and making a difference in the community," said Telego.

A total of 31 grant requests from local agencies, which have programs benefiting youth, were received until the application deadline of February 15, 2017, after which the council selected those that would receive funding.

Telego further explained: "The IMPACT Youth Council worked as a team to gain awareness of the needs of youth in Ashland County, after which they carefully reviewed the grant applications from our agencies providing services to meet those needs. After much thoughtful deliberation, the council awarded \$13,365 to 14 different agencies this year."

IMPACT Youth Grants

14 grants awarded in 2016-2017 totaling \$13,365.30

IMPACT Youth Grants are awarded to 501 (c) (3) and other qualifying charitable organizations to benefit youth in Ashland County.

Applesseed Community Mental Health Center

Create new therapeutic program for youth impacted by trauma that teaches mindfulness techniques to manage anxiety, worry & stress.

Ashland Bookcase Project, Inc.

Provide up to 80 hand built bookcases, each w/ approximately 40 books, to at risk youth ages 3-4 years old.

Ashland County Family and Children First Council

AU Pool facility rental fees for 4 sessions for families with special needs to connect with each other and enjoy fun family time.

Ashland High School

Obtain adaptive equipment for students with sensory needs.

Ashland Parenting Plus

10 group sessions of equine education for Ashland County youth involved in the Teen Pregnancy Prevention program.

Associated Charities of Ashland Ohio, Inc.

Purchase new clothing for New Clothes Closet - available to children in Ashland County.

Fostering Family Ministries

Provide supplies such as educational aids, sensory assistance items, skill-building items and weighted blankets to foster children.

Friends of the Ashland Public Library

Install "Little Free Libraries" in 8 locations within the City of Ashland.

Hillsdale FFA Chapter

Start a safety education program for Hillsdale Elementary School.

North Central Ohio Workforce Alliance

Fund a day-long career education event that highlights women in "non-traditional" female roles in the workplace. I.E. Construction, welding, etc...

Perryville Firefighters' Association Inc.

Funds for materials to start a youth fire and safety program.

Rape Crisis Domestic Violence Safe Haven

Purchase educational materials for new Teen Awareness Council for outreach to schools on human trafficking, sexual violence & dating violence.

Savannah Lions Club

Funding for summer meal and education program for children not able to travel to City of Ashland for programs.

Young Life Capernaum

Provide funding for approximately 6 youth to attend Capernaum Camp.

2016-2017 IMPACT Youth Council Participants

Ginny Telego, Director

Ashland High School

Nassem Al-Mehairi
Mikayla Myers
Megan Shafer
Lily Smith
Kathryn Stein
Alyssa Steury
Hannah Strickling
Andrew Stump
Leah Watson

Hillsdale High School

Blayne Barter
Elizabeth Hobler
Will Yeater

Loudonville High School

Brennan Laser
Amberlynn Schuttera

Mapleton High School

Alexa Rakosky
Hunter Rickett
Daniel Ritchey

2017 Young "Difference-Makers" were recognized as follows:

Corinna Baker,

Loudonville Jr. High School

Kennedy Estridge,

Ashland High School

Anna Maust,

Loudonville High School

Tristan Reiheld,

Loudonville High School

Camden Sniely,

home-schooled student

Representatives from each of the organizations receiving grants were also in attendance. Catherine Swope, executive director of Ashland Parenting Plus thanked the council on behalf of the agencies.

Additionally, at the event, five young students, representing those that ACCF has labeled as "Young Difference-Makers" were also recognized for their respective efforts to look beyond themselves to the needs of others.

Each student was given a certificate, and a perennial planting, signifying the concept of endowment, as well as fifty dollars of support that could be forwarded to the charity of the student's choice.

Cutright concluded the event, "We, at the community foundation, are strongly aware that our youth represent our future. We owe it to future generations to instill in our children qualities of leadership, citizenship, integrity and generosity. At ACCF, we will continue to develop and financially support programs that foster those qualities in our youth. In fact, an endowment fund has been started to provide annual youth grant funding."

Individuals or businesses interested in supplementing endowment support for ACCF's youth empowerment program are encouraged to contact Jim Cutright for more information.

ACCF HOSTS LEADERSHIP ASHLAND

Ashland County Community Foundation recently hosted the final class day of Leadership Ashland, a nine-month-long leadership development program, sponsored by the Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce.

Executive Director Jim Cutright, along with volunteer trustees Sue Shafer and Peggy Yoder, as well as Chief Program Officer Kristin Aspin and Nassem Al-Mehairi, a second-year student participant in ACCF's IMPACT Youth Council, presented a module on "philanthropy", as represented by ACCF's mission in the Ashland County community.

Included were segments on the history of ACCF, the IMPACT Youth Council, the Women's Fund,

and the three primary roles of ACCF, namely to serve as Donor Agent, Grants Provider and Community Player.

Leadership Ashland students participated in an exercise demonstrating how the Foundation's Community Grants program provides much-needed funding support to area non-profit organizations.

The Foundation is very proud that two of its staff, Mindy Howman, Executive/Grants Administrative Assistant, and Lanie Hartge, Educational Programs Director, were part of the Leadership Ashland Class of 2017, as now all ACCF staff are graduates of this program.

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Later, in that same day, at the Leadership Ashland graduation ceremony, Cutright congratulated the new graduates and confirmed ACCF's continuing financial support of Leadership Ashland.

In his remarks, Cutright encouraged the graduating students to simply "be dependable" in their dealings with others, whether family members, friends or work associates. He said, "It is the most appealing of all character traits, and will result in you being the type of leader that you want to be, and of whom we can all be proud."

This is the sixth year that ACCF has been included in Leadership Ashland's curriculum.



Lanie Hartge and Mindy Howman, Leadership Ashland Class of 2017



Ashland County
Community Foundation
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