ACCF ENCOURAGES AGENCY CAPACITY BUILDING

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, and believe you’ve each 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. Longtime 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.

Brittaney 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 of Ashland County director.

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On June 30th, ACCF wrapped-up its 22nd year of operation, and what an exciting year of opportunity it’s been!

Thanks to those that support the Foundation through all the ways that true philanthropy manifests itself…time, talent and financial resources…we continue to make great strides in impacting our community in a positive way.

Our all-volunteer board of directors, who are each donors themselves by the way, have provided outstanding leadership, allowing our staff to explore its full administrative potential, ensuring that we have the internal capacity to manage our amazing growth.

Those trustees that serve on our finance and executive committees have spent many hours fine-tuning our investment and distribution policies, to guarantee the long-term health of our funds.

With appreciation for the confidence of those in our community, new relationships have resulted in the adding of 35 new endowment funds, bringing the total number under stewardship to a whopping 390!

Assets have ballooned to just over $44 million, while more importantly, over $11.2 million has been returned to the Ashland County area, in the form of scholarships for worthy students and grants to benefit youth, women and all segments of our community.

ACCF’s IMPACT Youth Council will be entering its third year, where we’ve turned high-schoolers into grantmakers…and leaders. Area non-profit agencies, for whom we hold endowment and refer to as our valued partners, are being assisted in building operational capacity through a new ACCF estate-planning initiative.

Recognizing our role as a “convener” in the community, our building has been made available to groups, wishing to have meeting space, with modifications being contemplated to better accommodate those members of our community, as well as our volunteers, donors and staff.

In all our decision-making, we consider the emphasis on “community” in your community foundation, and you can be certain that we’re “Here for Good”!

Jim Cutright (Cutty)

Cover Story - continued

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.

www.accommunityfoundation.org
The Ashland County Community Foundation (ACCF) held its 22nd Annual Meeting on July 31, 2017. The group recognized the 6,646 donors whose generosity has made possible the distribution of $11,249,775 to the community by way of grants, scholarships and donor fund distributions. Invested assets of the organization total approximately $44,000,000.

Retiring trustees Patricia Byerly and Michael Huber were recognized at the meeting and will be honored at ACCF’s Annual Donor Appreciation Reception, to be held November 8, 2017.

Byerly has served on the Executive, Finance and Hess Loan Committees. She has also served as chair of the Women’s Fund Steering Committee where she is an Emeritus member and GEM. Huber served on the Executive and Advancement Committees and served as chair of the Scholarship Committee.

Kathy Davis and Connie Marble were elected to the ACCF Board of Trustees for four-year terms beginning July 2017. Davis, is the Owner/Operator of Ayers Farms, Inc. She will serve on the Hess Loan and Scholarship Committees. Marble, an Ashland City Schools Educator (retired)/AU Adjunct Professor, will serve on the Scholarship Committee and is the incoming Chair of the Women’s Fund Steering Committee.

The following officers were elected for 2017-2018: Kenneth Milligan, Chair; Peggy Yoder, Vice Chair; Jay Myers, Treasurer; Anne Cowen, Secretary; and Dr. Andrew Stein, Past Chair; Lucille G. Ford, President Emerita; James Cutsright, Executive Director/CEO; Kristin Aspin, Chief Program Officer; Brittaney Reep, Chief Financial Officer; Ann Guthrie, Recording Secretary. Irwin Financial Associates was elected as auditor for the 2017-2018 year.

**WOMEN’S FUND**

**Mother’s Day Cards**
Four hundred eighteen women were honored and remembered this past Mother’s Day with gifts to the Women’s Fund totaling more than $17,000. Since providing this Mother’s Day opportunity to honor and remember special women, over 2,600 Mother’s Day cards have been mailed with more than $122,000 raised to support women and children in Ashland County via grants to non-profit organizations from The Women’s Fund.

**Annual Gathering**
The Women’s Fund Annual Gathering will be held Tuesday, September 26th from 7:00 - 8:30 pm at Ashland University. This will be a dessert social to include presentation of the Lucille G. Ford “Freedom from Selfishness” Award and announcement of the 2017 grant recipients. Should you care to attend, please contact the Foundation office. We’d love for you to join us.

**Grants Impact**
Eleven Women’s Fund Grants were awarded totaling $17,427.

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

**GRANT OPPORTUNITIES**

**Community Grants**
Competitive grants awarded to 501(c)(3) and other qualifying charitable organizations contributing to the betterment of our community.

*Application deadline: September 1*

**Teacher Mini-Grants**
Competitive grants awarded to teachers grades K-12 in Ashland County accredited public and private schools.

*Application deadline: September 8*

**IMPACT Youth Grants**
Grants awarded to 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations, schools and governmental agencies to benefit youth.

*Application deadline: February 15*

Apply online at [www.accommunityfoundation.org](http://www.accommunityfoundation.org)
~INVESTING IN TOMORROW’S LEADERS~

187 SCHOLARSHIPS were recently awarded to students all across Ashland County. Recipients of the scholarships awarded in 2017 for the first time are pictured below.

Nikolas Beebe
Mapleton High School
Drew Bates Family Scholarship

Jackson Cleland
Ashland High School
Stephanie Jane White Stein Memorial Scholarship

Sarah Walker
Ashland High School
J. Gaillard & Mary Lawrence Hall Scholarship

Ilona Webel
Ashland High School
Freeman & Penny Hamilton Family Scholarship

Not pictured: Cheyenne Taylor, inaugural recipient of the Women’s Fund Scholarship Award

For a complete listing of 2017 scholarship recipients, please visit our website at www.accommunityfoundation.org/docpdf/scholarshipListing.pdf

YOUTH PHILANTHROPY NEWS

2016-2017 IMPACT Youth Grant Recipients
14 grants awarded totaling $13,365.30

Appleseed Community Mental Health Center
Ashland Bookcase Project, Inc.
Ashland County Family and Children First Council
Ashland High School
Ashland Parenting Plus
Associated Charities of Ashland Ohio, Inc.
Fostering Family Ministries
Friends of the Ashland Public Library
Hillsdale FFA Chapter
North Central Ohio Workforce Alliance
Perrysville Firefighters’ Association Inc.
Rape Crisis Domestic Violence Safe Haven
Savannah Lions Club
Young Life Capernaum

2017 Young “Difference-Makers”
Corinna Baker, Loudonville Jr. High School
Kennedy Estridge, Ashland High School
Anna Maust, Loudonville High School
Tristan Reiheld, Loudonville High School
Camden Snively, home-schooled student

2016-2017 IMPACT Youth Council Members

Nassem Al-Mehairi
Blayne Bartter
Elizabeth Hohler
Brennan Laser
Mikayla Myers
Alexa Rakosky
Hunter Rickett
Daniel Ritchey
Amberlynn Schuttera

Megan Shafer
Lily Smith
Kathryn Stein
Alyssa Steury
Hannah Strickling
Andrew Stump
Leah Watson
Will Yeater
Ginny Telego, Director
### 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>
<th>Founder (≥ $10,000)</th>
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<td>ACCF Unrestricted Fund</td>
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<td>ACCF Women’s Fund</td>
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Total Gift $_________________  Paid Herewith $_________________

Pledge Term __________________ year(s)  Balance $_________________

To be Paid: ___ Annually ___ Other ___

Name* ___________________________

Address ________________________

Signature _______________________

Date ____________________________

Memorial Name ____________________

*List charity charities for approved distribution(s)___________________________

*Limited to funds held by ACCF

*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.
Donald Stump joined the ACCF Board in 2014. He currently serves as Chair of the Community Grants and Teacher-Mini Grants Committees, as well as serving on the Finance and Nominating Committees.

Don has lived in Ashland since 1994. He is employed by Charles River Laboratories as the Senior Director of Toxicology.

Don has a PhD in Biochemistry from Vanderbilt University and completed a post-doctoral fellowship at the National Institutes of Health. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Toxicology.

Don is recognized as an expert in the field of Developmental and Reproductive Toxicology. He has published a large number of peer-reviewed research articles and book chapters. He has been invited to give lectures in the U.S., Europe and Asia. Don is currently on the editorial board of multiple journals in the field of Developmental and Reproductive Toxicology.

In addition to his career accomplishments, Don has been active in the community. He has coached numerous youth baseball and basketball teams. Also, he served on the Board of the Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce from 2006-2013 and is currently on the Board of Community Improvement Corporation.

In support of ACCF’s mission of providing educational opportunities to worthy Ashland County students, Don and his family established a scholarship fund at the Ashland County Community Foundation to assist Ashland High School graduating seniors, who have participated in Cross Country for a minimum of two years.

Don has been married to his wife, Ann, for 24 years. They have 3 children: Emily, a senior at Williams College, Andrew, who will be a freshman this fall at the University of Chicago, and Jacob, who will be in 8th grade at St. Edward School.