

Ashland County Community Foundation – Press Release – August 15, 2017

Gifts to ACCF Provide Funding for Dr. Lucille Ford Wing.



Ground Breakers

Left to Right -- Dr. Stan Brechbuhler, Diana Brechbuhler, Dr. Lucille Ford, Bill Buckingham, Martha Buckingham, Mike Buckingham, Tammy Buckingham, Jim Cutright

Ashland County Community Foundation recently broke ground on a new 768 square foot building addition, to be known as the Dr. Lucille Garber Ford Wing. Importantly, construction costs are being completely covered by specific charitable giving designated for this purpose, with the lead gift being provided by the building wing's namesake and ACCF's Founding President, Dr. Lucille Ford.

In providing details at the private ground-breaking reception held with staff, current and past trustees, ACCF's Executive Director, Jim Cutright, commented, "Two years ago, when we celebrated ACCF's 20th anniversary of existence, I selected as the theme of our Annual Report that year: 'Growing, Sharing, Inspiring, Leading'.

Those words could just as easily describe Dr. Lucille Ford, and her contributions to the success of the Ashland County Community Foundation. Simply put, we would not have a community foundation today, were it not for Dr. Ford's ability to lead and inspire.

As our Founding President, hers has not been lip service, or asking others to do what she was not willing to do herself, which has included being committed in all the ways that philanthropy manifests itself: through dedication of time, sharing of, in her case, extreme talent and, of course, in providing financial resources.

This lead gift, making this new building addition possible, is just one of many that she has made to ACCF over these past 22 years, providing support to our community in a myriad of ways, as well as

ensuring that we would have an operations endowment to secure the future of ACCF; an endowment that carries the name of 'Ford Leadership' for a very good reason.

And, so it's only fitting, that her latest gesture of kindness would once again secure the future of our organization."

The new addition will provide two much-needed first floor handicap-accessible restrooms, as well as three offices to house ACCF's Chief Program Officer, Kristin Aspin; Educational Programs Director, Lanie Hartge; and Chief Financial Officer, Brittany Reep.

Significant additional funding to provide naming rights for the three offices was provided through gifts made by Dr. Stan and Diana Brechbuhler, the Michael Buckingham Family, in honor of his parents, Bill and Martha Buckingham, as well as a gift from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous.

Cutright stated, "These donors are amazing people, who have demonstrated leadership and served ACCF in many ways over the years. I was particularly pleased that Mike Buckingham chose to honor his parents in this significant fashion."

Jay Myers, Bob Simonson and the entire ownership team at Simonson Construction Services, Inc. were also recognized for their expertise and assistance in leading the construction effort.

ACCF currently provides administration for over 390 individual endowment funds, having distributed approximately \$11.2 million in support of the Ashland County community through its scholarship and grants programs.



Dr. Lucille Ford



James Cutright addressing the guests.