

Where Local Good Grows



Hendricks County Community Foundation

Wow! Now this is what I call an Indiana winter! Freezing cold last week with wind, ice and snow, and now rain and fog and more rain this week. I know our dogs will be happy it's not so cold outside, but my wife and I are dreading the return of "mud season." Hopefully we'll be back into the deep freeze soon!

I teased some exciting news from the Hendricks County Community Foundation in my last message. Now I can share more: Our community is embarking on a transformative journey with the launch of the **Stronger Together** campaign. In the spirit of unity, generosity, and positive change, the Stronger Together campaign aims to strengthen the fabric of Hendricks County. We believe that by joining forces, we can create a lasting impact that will benefit our community for generations to come.

For a limited time, our Board of Directors has chosen to provide you with a 2-to-1 matching opportunity for all donations to any new or existing Family Legacy Fund or Community Enhancement Unrestricted Fund. **That's right – you can Triple Your Donations! When you donate \$1, we'll match it with \$2!**

This campaign is not just about fundraising; it's a movement that invites every member of our community to be a part of something greater. Whether you're a longtime supporter or new to the Hendricks County Community Foundation, your involvement in the Stronger Together campaign will help shape the future of our community.

Together, we can build a better Hendricks County. To learn more or get involved, [reach out](#) to me today!



Yours in Philanthropy,
[William Rhodehamel](#)
President & CEO



Congrats 2024 Lilly Scholars!

We are excited to announce HCCF's 2024 Lilly Endowment Community Scholars! Congrats to **Tiba Altower** (Plainfield High School), **Aahan Bajpai** (Brownsburg High School), and **Haydan Gabbard** (Cascade High School).

HCCF is proud to have partnered with Lilly Endowment since 1998 in offering these scholarships to Hendricks County seniors. This scholarship provides full tuition to an accredited public or private nonprofit college or university in Indiana and a yearly stipend for required books and equipment.

Read more [here](#).

Year Two of ARPA Grants



The Community Foundation, in cooperation with the County Council and Commissioners, created a grant program in 2022 to distribute up to \$6.6 million of American Rescue Plan Act funds allotted to Hendricks County.

In the second year of ARPA grant applications, the HCCF Program Committee recommended \$564,789 in competitive grants, distributed late in 2023.

One of the grant recipients was [Hendricks County Special Olympics](#) who received \$11,730 to fund dance and equestrian programming and to purchase uniforms, and track and bowling supplies. Click [here](#) to read the list of all the nonprofit recipients.



Stronger Together

We are excited to announce our “Stronger Together: Building a Better Community” Campaign!

Between now and December 31, 2025, you can **triple your donations** to any new or existing [Family Legacy Fund](#) or [Community Enhancement Fund](#). When you donate \$1, we'll match it with \$2! Your contribution to the Stronger Together campaign is an investment in Hendricks County's resilience, unity, and lasting prosperity.

To learn more about Stronger Together, contact [William](#).

New Board Members' Roles

We are excited to announce new roles for two current members. Board member Tim Whicker



Tim Whicker & Stan Risser

(President , Electric Plus) is transitioning to Vice Board Chair, and Stan Risser (CFO, Senior Vice President of Finance at Hendricks Regional Health) is transitioning to Treasurer.

Our [volunteer leadership](#) embody the passion behind the good that HCCF does in this community. Thank you Tim and Stan for your service!

Grants at a Glance

Our vision is to make Hendricks County a place where everyone has the opportunity to have a fulfilling life and the tools they need to build a stronger future together.

[HCCF grantmaking](#) is the heartbeat of that vision! We are excited to share with you our latest month of grants, building a stronger future for our community.

[Contact us](#) to find out how you can be a part of this vision and partner with us!

Fund Name	Grantee	Amount
Hendricks County Food Pantry Coalition ARPA Fund	Hendricks County Food Pantry Coalition	\$ 16,589
Hendricks County Food Pantry Coalition Fund	Hendricks County Food Pantry Coalition	\$ 7,322
Anderson Family Fund	Plainfield High School	\$ 16,550
Anonymous Fund	Shepherd's Pathway	\$ 20,361
Indiana University Health West Hospital Cancer Center Fund	Indiana University Health	\$ 96
Hendricks County Bicentennial Celebration Fund	Hendricks County Bicentennial Celebration	\$ 200
Doris K. Parker Music Fund for Children	Doris K. Parker Music Fund for Children	\$ 3,050
Plainfield Performing and Fine Arts Center Fund	Plainfield Performing and Fine Arts Council/Hendricks Live!	\$ 11,719
TOTAL		\$ 75,887

HCCF Volunteer Highlight

Brad DuBois is the Executive Director of the Plainfield Chamber of Commerce and serves on the HCCF Governance Committee. Read what Brad has to say in his own words about his service for the Community Foundation:

"The Hendricks County Community Foundation helps bridge the gaps that exist between the various groups in the county. Whether it is the public, businesses, non-profits, or municipalities to mention a few, collaboration is vital for successful communities. It is a privilege to volunteer with such a wonderful organization in our county. HCCF is one of the many organizations vital for Hendricks County's growth."

- Brad DuBois



www.hendrickscountycf.org

Check out dozens of great events in our community on the [Hendricks Community Calendar!](#)



Community Connections

HCCF is committed to building community unity and creating a welcoming community for all our residents. Every month we are spotlighting community leaders who help make Hendricks County a great place to live, work and play.

This month we are highlighting **Linda Runyon**, Development Coordinator for [Hendricks County Senior Services](#).

If you could be a superhero for a day, who would you be? Not being a superhero expert, I would have to say any who have the gift of invisibility. I could get a lot accomplished.

What book are you reading right now or have recently read? "Before We Were Yours" by Lisa Wingate

What is your favorite Hendricks County restaurant? I've got to give this one to my new favorite, the Bee Hive in Danville. Everything I have had there has been delicious. I go quite often. I may have a problem.

What is one need identified in HCCF's countywide assessment that we are addressing? How can we continue to improve?

There is definitely a shortage of affordable homes in Hendricks County. Young people are paying astronomical monthly rents. How can they ever afford to put money back to one day buy a home? There are several neighborhoods in the building phase so hopefully that will help with the issue.

Why do you do what you do ? I've always had a heart for helping seniors, which I attribute to my undying love and adoration of my grandmother. Seniors deserve our respect, after all, they built

this community! They should be able to live the lives they choose for as long as they can, and do it with dignity! They should be able to congregate with others and partake in activities that give them joy. They are also the owners of some of the greatest life stories ever told. So if there's one handy, take a seat with a Senior and LISTEN. You won't be sorry.

Our Favorite Five in Hendricks County

Are you wondering how to beat the winter blues? We've got some great ideas for you! Here are your Community Foundation staff's favorite picks for happenings around the community:



Fave Five #1: Hendricks Live! Announces 2024 Season

[Hendricks Live!](#) is continuing to roll out plans, preview concerts, and community events for the brand-new performing arts center that is set to start hosting performances in March. Click [here](#) to learn more and get tickets!



Fave Five #2: Congrats to Paige Vanzo

Paige Vanzo, Development Director at [Sheltering Wings](#) was nominated for Volunteer of the Year for [ELEVATE](#) — United Way's signature event. ELEVATE raises funds for those in need and honors local young philanthropists, activists and volunteers. Congrats Paige!



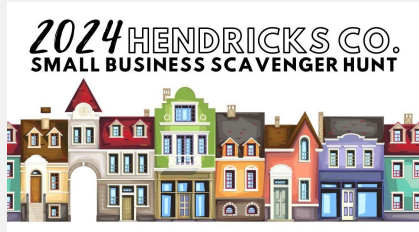
Fave Five #3: Local Artist Commissioned for NBA All Star Game

Tiffany Black, a Danville High School graduate, has been selected by the Indy Arts Council to design one of 24 six-foot high sculptures for the NBA All Star Game weekend at Gainbridge Fieldhouse this February. Way to go Tiffany!

Fave Five #4: School Board Appreciation Month

January is School Board Appreciation Month! Our community schools rely on the vision and passion of their school board members to continue to grow the standard of excellence in their educational programs. Thank you board members for your time, talents and

dedication!



Fave Five #5: Small Business Scavenger Hunt

About to kick off its fourth year, the Hendricks County Small Business Scavenger Hunt will return this February. This is a countywide event where families can have fun, experience a place they've never been and where our local small businesses benefit. Check it out [here!](#)



Hendricks County Community Foundation

Thank You to Our 2024 Corporate Partners

Thank you to our outstanding corporate partners! The support of these community-minded organizations is vital to realizing our vision of Hendricks County as a place where everyone has the opportunity to have a fulfilling life and the tools they need to build a stronger future together. Please consider patronizing these local businesses for all they do for HCCF and our community!

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HCBT Hendricks County Bank
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Foundation Friends

Elliott Company | Estep Burkey Simmons, LLC | Photography by Sarah Crail

Is your organization looking to expand your customer base? Join this group of community-minded organizations and become a HCCF Corporate Partner! Contact us to learn more.

Where Local Good Grows



**Hendricks County
Community Foundation**

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