

Where Local Good Grows



Hendricks County Community Foundation

Hi Friends,

Ah, spring. So many wonderful things happen in spring: the earth reawakens with flowers and greenery. We plant seeds full of hope for a bountiful harvest. We look forward to the joys of summer. And this year we are seeing so many other re-openings and re-awakenings as vaccines take effect and as the worst of the pandemic seems to fade. We are still making a few final COVID-related grants as described below.

One of those great beginnings of spring are graduations. Congratulations to all our county graduates! You've been through a tumultuous end of your school career and we salute you. We especially salute our Lilly Scholars, who have been profiled in the video below!

In a normal spring, we would also hold our Report to the Community to update you on our activities over the past year and release our Annual Report. This being a not-so-normal year, we've released a [virtual Annual Report](#) chock full of the same information as our past print versions. Please enjoy this interactive summary of our 2020 by visiting our [website](#).

In closing, please join me in offering congratulations and a huge shout out to our Vice President of Programs, [Eric Hessel](#). Eric was announced as the recipient of the 2020 Suzanne Whicker Distinguished Service Award at Leadership Hendricks County's Celebration of Leaders event on May 13. Well done Eric!



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

HCCF Still at Work Awarding COVID Response Grants

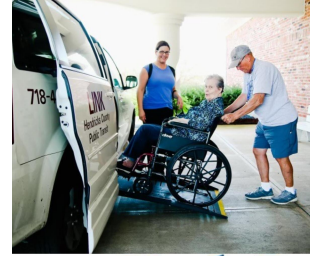
The Community Foundation has awarded over \$580,000 in [COVID response grants](#) since the beginning of the pandemic, and we are still working to help Hendricks County deal with the effects of COVID.

Last week HCCF awarded \$2,500 to [Hendricks County Senior Services](#) to support an expansion of programs for their reopening, providing more opportunities for our seniors to safely meet again in person.

In addition, HCCF awarded \$1,000 to [Hendricks County Meals on Wheels](#) to fund their programs to help those dealing with loneliness

and to re-engage in the community.

Consider making a gift to the [Opportunity Fund](#) so HCCF can meet community needs now and into the future!



HCCF Is Going Virtual!

The pandemic forced all of us to learn to live and work in the virtual world, and so it is only fitting that we offer our donors and supporters a virtual [Annual Report!](#)

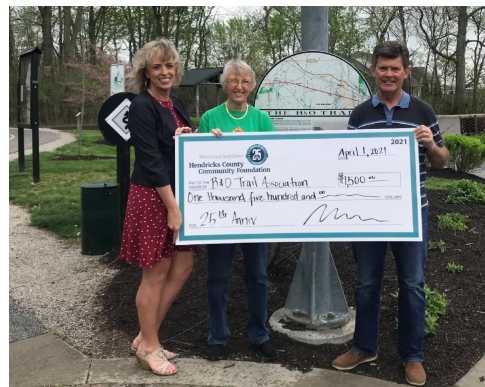
The report is interactive, and walks you through 2020 with videos, pictures and stories from our supporters. Learn about HCCF's donors, grantmaking, scholarships and community unity initiatives by exploring our virtual report [here](#).

Celebrating our 25th Anniversary!

In honor of our [25th anniversary](#), HCCF is awarding \$25,000 in grants to organizations all across Hendricks County, 13 of which represent grant recipients receiving inaugural grants in 1996. We are excited to tell you about two of our anniversary grantees.

Twenty-five years ago, HCCF awarded a grant to the [B&O Trail Association](#) for trail development, and they are still forging new trails today! The B&O Trail works to create recreational trails, improve the quality of life, enhance local communities and provide opportunities for citizens to enjoy Indiana's natural environment. Thank you B&O for creating space for all of us to enjoy the great outdoors in Hendricks County and beyond!

In addition to the nonprofit grants, two additional grants were made in honor of HCCF's first Board Chair, the Honorable Jim Spencer, and HCCF's first Executive Director, Deedee Daniel. Deedee served as the Executive Director from 1994 - 2008 and has stayed engaged with the Community Foundation ever since. Deedee chose to place the anniversary grant in her honor in [HCCF's Operating Endowment Fund](#), which provides operating support for HCCF every year. Deedee said, "I knew our Community Foundation was here to stay because Hendricks County has the most giving, caring people I have ever met." Thank you Deedee for being one of those people through your leadership and support for over 25 years!



Top: Diana Virgil & Jeff Smallwood, B&O Trail;
Bottom: Deedee Daniel

Help us celebrate our anniversary by giving to the [Community Foundations' 25th Anniversary Fund](#). Your gift will ensure that we can continue to do good in our county for the next 25 years!



HCCF Staff: William Rhodehamel, Eric Hessel, Frances Mock

A Proud Moment

Eric Hessel, HCCF's Vice President of Programs, was awarded the Suzanne Whicker Distinguished Service Award last week at the [Leadership Hendricks County](#) Celebration of Leaders event.

Eric was honored for his passionate and visionary leadership in his role at the Community Foundation, in particular for heading up [HCCF's COVID response grantmaking](#), which to date has awarded over \$580,000 in grants to meet the pandemic needs in our community.

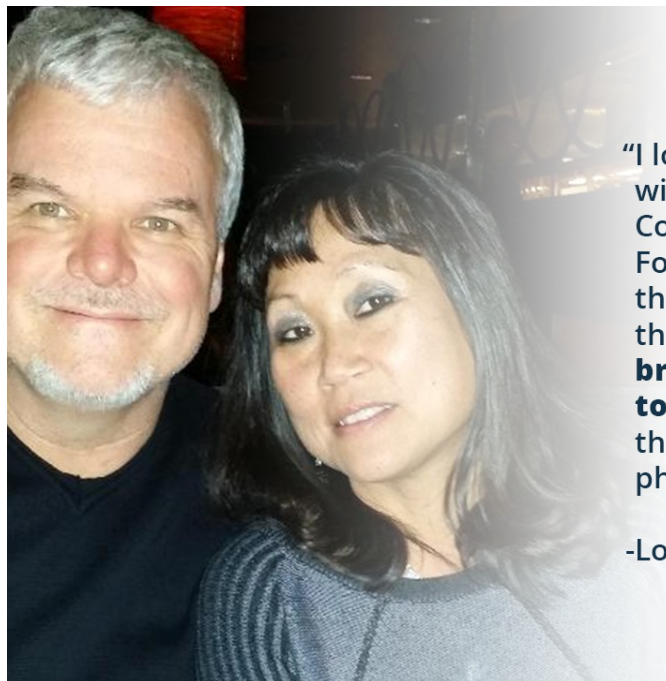
Eric said, "I'm incredibly humbled by this award. Many thanks go out across the community - especially to the HCCF Board and staff. I'm grateful every day for our teamwork and never more than the last year as, together, we met the needs COVID-19 created in our community."

Eric has served our community with excellence for over 10 years through his work at the Community Foundation, and HCCF would not be where it is today without him. We are incredibly grateful to have him on the team! Congratulations on a well-deserved honor Eric!

Do you receive the HCCF print newsletter? Stay up to date with us and all that is happening in our community by signing up [here](#)!

A Board to Brag About

Lori Lee, owner of LJ Philanthropy, joined the HCCF Board of Directors in 2018 and has served in multiple committee positions. Read what Lori has to say in her own words about her service for the Community Foundation.



"I love volunteering with the Hendricks County Community Foundation. Through the amazing work they do, **they are bringing our county together** and building the spirit of local philanthropy."

-Lori Lee

Click [here](#) to see a full listing of the HCCF Board of Directors and what they love about serving at HCCF!

Memorial and honorary gifts are a special way to keep your loved one's memory alive or honor a special person. Check out the listings updated quarterly on our website of all those who gave memorial and honorary gifts to HCCF.

Community Connections



HCCF 2021 Lilly Scholars

We are excited to announce HCCF's 2021 Lilly Scholars: Amelia Collier, Caroline Jackson, and Julia Muskat. Congratulations scholars!

Since 1998, the Community Foundation has been proud to partner with Lilly Endowment Inc. to offer the [Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Program](#). Over the last 24 years, HCCF has awarded 68 Lilly Scholarships to students from Hendricks County. 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. Hendricks County Lilly Scholars are awarded this prestigious scholarship based on significant community service, outstanding academic achievement and leadership skills.

Check out this video highlighting our three 2021 Lilly Scholars on a learning tour of Lisa Pelo's [Hot Blown Glass](#) workshop. Lisa is a local artist who creates amazing unique glass sculptures that HCCF awards to each Lilly scholar.

Our Favorite Five in Hendricks County

As the weather gets warmer, we are loving getting outside and enjoying activities going on in the county! Here are your Community Foundation staff's favorite picks for happenings around the community:



Hendricks Behavioral Hospital

#1: Hendricks Regional Health held a grand opening for the brand new [Hendricks Behavioral Hospital](#) last week. Located in Plainfield, this facility will provide mental health and chemical dependency care for adults, with plans to add adolescent and children's services soon. Read more [here](#).



#2: The [Parks Foundation of Hendricks County](#) awarded grants to several Hendricks County parks this month to provide new trees, flowers, signage, and trail maps. Grant recipients include Gary Eakin Park, Brownsburg Parks & Recreation, and Scamahorn Park. Read more [here](#).

The Parks Foundation is also hosting the 13th Summer Fun Run Series. Sign up [here](#).



T-shirts and Girl Scout Cookies for vaccine shots

#3: State health officials announced last week that anyone who gets vaccinated at specially designated sites will receive a box of Girl Scout cookies along with the jab!

In addition, the Indiana Department of Health and Indianapolis Motor Speedway unveiled special commemorative T-shirts to be given to people who are vaccinated at the Speedway this month. The white T-shirt proclaims, "Got My COVID-19 Shot." Find out where you can cash in on this offer [here](#).



Hendricks County art

#4: [Visit Hendricks County](#) is promoting public art in our community as a fun, family-friendly activity that is easy on your wallet. The number of outdoor public art displays in our county may surprise you!

Click this [link](#) to see 10 different locations in Hendricks County where you can find public art, all of it free-of-charge and publicly accessible.



#5: [Level Two Coworking](#) is putting on a [Small Business Accelerator](#) over the summer on Thursday evenings starting June 10th. This will be a great way for some local entrepreneurs to turn their business idea into a reality or maybe take their new business to the next level. Sign up [here](#).

Stay COVID Safe: Wash your hands, wear a mask where necessary, and get your vaccine!

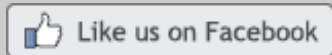
Did you know that Kroger Community Rewards Program allows customers to select a charity of their choice to receive a percentage of all their purchases? You would be surprised at how those dollars can add up! Visit the [Kroger Community Reward website](#), and select the Hendricks County Community Foundation (Org. # JY399) as your nonprofit of choice and support HCCF every time you buy groceries!



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**Hendricks County
Community Foundation**



STAY CONNECTED:



Thank you to our 2021 Corporate Partners:

Platinum Partner

Hendricks Regional Health

Gold Partners

Butler, Fairman & Seufert

Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds and Conference Complex

Hendricks Power Cooperative

State Bank

Silver Partner

North Salem State Bank

Foundation Friends

Elliott Company

Estep Burkey Simmons, LLP

First Merchants Bank

Hendricks County Business Leader/ICON

Photography by Sarah Crail