

Where Local Good Grows

Hendricks County Community Foundation



February is a great month for your Community Foundation. We're far enough into 2023 that our plans for the year are starting to hit their stride. And February is a big grantmaking month here at HCCF, and that's always exciting!

In February, we award grants from all our permanent, endowed Designated Funds. [Designated Funds](#) are those that donors create to support a specific nonprofit organization forever. It's a way to turn one's monthly or annual giving to a nonprofit into forever giving. So HCCF sends checks – **over \$300,000 in 2023** – to support those nonprofits and their work in our community. Our donors have started funds to support a wide range of community organizations, ranging from libraries, schools and churches, to our youth and social service organizations.

One of our newest Designated funds is the Willard Lydick Memorial Vocation Agricultural Education Fund. This fund was started by his family to honor the late Mr. Lydick and to provide support to the Future Farmers of America (FFA) Program in Mill Creek Schools with a preference for students facing financial barriers to participation. HCCF is making a grant from this fund this month to Cascade High School. When the Agriculture Educator at Cascade was notified, she stated, "That is great, thank you! We often have students who aren't sure about signing up because of the fee associated with membership." That's a perfect expression of our donors' intent matching a need in the community!

If you could support an organization or program in our community forever, what would it be? How would you honor your passion, or the passion of one of your loved ones? Would you like to learn about creative ways to leverage your gifts? [Contact me today!](#)

In the meantime, I am so thankful for the generous folks who created our Designated Funds, and for the local nonprofits doing such important work in our community.



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

HCCF Awards over \$300,000 in Designated Grants

HCCF awarded over **\$300,000** in grants this month to organizations in every corner of Hendricks County to support education, agriculture, health and human services, parks and recreation, senior services and more! These grants were made by our Designated Funds, funds established by donors with a passion to support



Designated grant awarded to the Avon-Washington Township Public Library

an organization important to them.

Here's a small sample of these impactful grants:

- **\$4,258** grant to the **Avon-Washington Township Public Library** from the Avon-Washington Township Public Library Fund
- **\$5,667** grant to the **Parks Foundation of Hendricks County** from the W.S. Gibbs Park Endowment Fund
- **\$4,258** grant to the **Plainfield Community Schools Legacy Foundation** from the Henry & Vivian Haase Memorial Performing Arts Fund

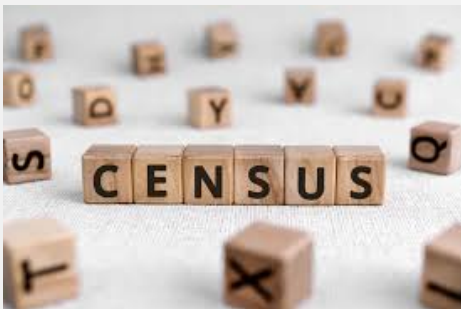
Do you want to make a difference by supporting an organization you care about? [Contact us](#) today about starting a Designated Fund that will give back to your chosen organization every year!

Housing Crisis Summit



HCCF, Duke Energy, Abstract & Title and the four county Chambers of Commerce sponsored a presentation and conversation this month with the MIBOR Realtor® Association to discuss Hendricks County's increasing population, the need for attainable housing for all income earners, connecting housing to workforce recruitment and retention strategies, and growing the placemaking and quality of life amenities of our county. If you missed it, click [this link](#) to view the full recording.

New Nonprofit Census



HCCF is currently conducting a census of all the nonprofits serving Hendricks County. The goal for this census is to ensure all nonprofits serving Hendricks County have equal access to our programming and for us to better understand the diversity of these organizations. It's our hope that through this census we can increase the impact of our Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives.

The results of this survey will be used to:

- Add new or new-to-us organizations to our database
- Update our records of nonprofits in our database
- Better understand the demographics of organizations serving Hendricks County
- Expand our reach to all the nonprofits in our community.

If you represent a Hendricks County nonprofit, take the census [here!](#)

A Board to Brag About

Jessica Ledford, District Vice President at the Hendricks Regional Health YMCA, is our newest Board Member, joining HCCF in January 2023. Jessica also serves on the DEI Committee. Read what Jessica has to say in her own words about her service for the Community Foundation.

"It's been a really exciting time to be a part of what the Community Foundation is doing in Hendricks County. The work around Diversity, Equity and Inclusion is inspiring and it's needed. As a new HCCF Board Member, I'm looking forward to working together to make our community a welcoming place to live and work."

- Jessica Ledford



The 2022 Needs Assessment Results are In

We are excited to share the results of the 2022 Needs Assessment Survey, an abbreviated version of the 2019 Survey designed to update the data resourced by people across the community. The survey reached 3,600 individuals that live, work, and play in Hendricks County, which provided data that is 99% accurate (with a 2% margin of error).

Please take a few moments to read through the report and learn what issues our community is currently facing. View the report [here](#) or check out all the details on our [website](#).

What new and exciting community events are you planning this year? Add them to our [Hendricks Community Calendar!](#)

My HCCF Story - Leadership Hendricks County

We are excited to continue our series of stories shared by our generous donors, supporters, grantees and volunteers who make our good work in this community possible! Click the link below to hear Jana Morrison and Dani Smith of [Leadership Hendricks County](#) share their story as an HCCF Strategic Partner.



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 **Becky Brownfield**, Business & Operations Manager at [Hendricks County Senior Services](#).

What is your favorite movie? Cinderella - Who wouldn't want animals to help them get their work done?

If you could be a superhero for a day, who would you be? Wonder Woman - Flying would be very handy, I could communicate with animals and the lasso of truth means I would get the straight story.

What book are you reading right now or have recently read? Atlas of the Heart - Brene Brown

If you could have dinner with someone from the past, who would it be? Abraham Lincoln - he had such a belief that everyone deserved equal treatment.

What piece of advice would you give your younger self? Worry less about what others think.

What is one need identified in HCCF's countywide assessment that we are addressing? How can we continue to improve? The county has improved on having concerts and festivals at the parks and art exhibits at some of the libraries. I would love to see the community and organizations like the Chambers put more effort into attracting businesses that focus on teens and families.

What do you love most about our community? Our parks and trails. There are wonderful walking paths and green space throughout Hendricks County.

Our Favorite Five in Hendricks County

You may not be happy about Punxsutawney Phil's prediction of more winter, but there are still lots of things to celebrate in Hendricks County! Here are your Community Foundation staff's favorite picks for happenings around the community:

Fave Five #1: Brett Clark Awarded the Sagamore



Recently retired Hendricks County Sheriff Brett Clark was presented with a Sagamore of the Wabash award by Governor Holcomb in the Governor's office at the state house. It is a personal tribute and one of Indiana's highest honors given to those who have rendered a distinguished service to the state or to the Governor. Congratulations Brett!



Fave Five #2: Joel Reichenbach Nominated for the Elevate Award

Congratulations to Joel Reichenbach, Foundations, Corporations, and Church Relations Officer at Sheltering Wings, for being selected as an ELEVATE award finalist for United Way of Central Indiana's Nonprofit Employee of the Year award!

[Click here](#) to vote for Joel!



Fave Five #3: HCN Hosts Dual Fair

Join Hendricks College Network (HCN) for a DUAL FAIR. On March 9, 2023 between 6-8 p.m., attend their open house style, annual Hendricks County College & Career Fair AND the Hendricks County Apprenticeship & Trades Fair. Same time, same location with two separate large spaces! [Click here](#) for more information.



Fave Five #4: Hendricks County Historical Museum Planning the Bi-Centennial

The Hendricks County Historical Museum hosted a meeting last week to begin planning the Hendricks County Bicentennial in 2024! The Museum Board is seeking ideas from the community on how to celebrate this historic event. Email your ideas hcmuseum@co.hendricks.in.us.gov.



Fave Five #5: Small Business Scavenger Hunt!

The 3rd Annual Hendricks County Small Business Scavenger Hunt is happening this month! Participants receive a punch card that they use when visiting small businesses. These businesses provide a deal or discount during the month to draw scavenger hunt participants into their store. A random drawing for the Grand Prize winner will take place at the end of the month. [Click here](#) for more

Thank You to Our 2022 Corporate Partners

Thank you to our amazing sponsors! 70% of consumers want to support companies that give back to their communities. If you are one of that 70%, please consider patronizing these local organizations for all they do for HCCF and our community.

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Where Local Good Grows

**Hendricks County
Community Foundation**

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