Where Local Good Grows

Hendricks County Community Foundation

I'm off this week on the trip of a lifetime: a float plane fishing trip to the Sutton River in far northern Ontario. The Sutton flows into Hudson Bay through Polar Bear Provincial Park and is said to be one of the best Brook Trout rivers in the world. The trip has been in planning for five years and I'm thrilled to be able to share it with my son Ben. Spending time in nature is very important to me, as is giving back to our community.

Your Community Foundation has been focusing on nonprofit capacity building for many years. We've offered specific grants, held trainings, facilitated networking events, and provided many other activities to help our nonprofit partners do their important work better. And we'll continue this work since we're uniquely positioned in our community to offer this service and we see it as critical to our mission of making Hendricks County a better place.

For the first time, we're trying capacity building from a different angle: training volunteers to be better board members. In a partnership with Leadership Hendricks County we're offering "Lead with Purpose," a webinar series to help prepare individuals to be volunteer leaders for nonprofits in our community. There is something for everyone – whether you're new to volunteering or a seasoned board member – in this exciting and informative series. See more information below.

We believe educating and strengthening the volunteer base will make our nonprofits better. Won't you consider joining this important educational series?

Yours in Philanthropy,
William Rhodehamel
President & CEO

HCCF & LHC Offer Board Training Series

Are you considering board service but not sure if you have the tools you need? Then Lead with Purpose Hendricks County is for you!

HCCF is partnering with Leadership Hendricks County and Hedges to provide an 8-part webinar series to prepare individuals to be a great board member for a local nonprofit.

The virtual sessions will be held over lunch (12-1:30 pm) every other Thursday starting on August 10th. On November 30th, there will be

an in-person graduation and networking event at Level Two Coworking at the Shops at Perry Crossing in Plainfield.

You can find a description of all the sessions and register at this link. We have scholarships available as well so sign up today!

HCCF Scholarships Opening Soon!

Men account for only 30% of scholarship applicants, and only 40% of college students overall. Don't let financial barriers hold you back from getting a college education because scholarships can make a big difference!

HCCF Scholarship applications open August 2 - click here to learn more.

Check out the video below from men in our community encouraging you to apply for scholarships that will lead to a better tomorrow for YOU!

HCCF's Women & Children's Fund Awards $45,000 in Grants

A new fund at HCCF, the Hendricks County Women & Children's Fund, recently awarded **$45,000** to 9 local nonprofits ($5,000 each) serving the needs of women and children in our community. The recipients were:

- Damar Services, Inc.
- Firefly Children & Family Alliance
- Hendricks County Food Pantry Coalition Fund
- Hope Healthcare Services
- Plainfield Youth Assistance Program
- Radiate Power Inc.
- Sheltering Wings
- Susie's Place
- The Miles We Walk

Volunteer at HCCF

Are you looking to make a positive impact in your community with your time and talents?

Consider volunteering with the Community Foundation! HCCF is sending out an open call for volunteers for Committee and Board service. Nominations and self-nominations are welcome.

Visit our website for more information and to apply for consideration. Learn about joining a dynamic team working together to make our community better!

HCCF Volunteer Highlight

Brad Casselman and his family are long-time residents of Hendricks County and believe in the value of giving back. Read what Brad has to say in his own words about his service for the Community Foundation on the Grants Committee.

"Hendricks County is a great place to raise a family, and HCCF's decades of work in identifying and addressing our county's needs have played a vital role. As a parent of two young kids, I'm thrilled to be able to take part in HCCF's mission of keeping our county a great place to live and grow up."

- Brad Casselman

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Check out dozens of great events in our community on the Hendricks Community Calendar!

My HCCF Story - Hendricks Power Cooperative

We are excited to carry on with our collection of stories shared by generous individuals and organizations who support the Community Foundation, all of whom play a crucial role in enabling our positive impact within this community!

Click the link below to hear Heather Thompson of Hendricks Power Cooperative, one of our valued Corporate Partners, share their HCCF Story.

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 **Tonya Geans,** Founder and Executive Director of The Miles We Walk nonprofit.

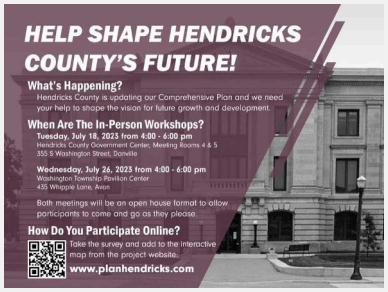
What's your favorite movie? Love Jones
What book are you reading right now or have recently read? Grief Is Love By Marisa Renee Lee
What is one thing still on your bucket list? To visit Africa
if you could have dinner with someone from the past, who would it be? My late son D'Mile
What do you love most about our community? I love the people and the effort community leaders provide to new residents, which made me feel a sense of community connection.
What is one need identified in HCCF's countywide assessment that we are addressing? How can we continue to improve? As a child, I witnessed what unhealthy addictions did to my community. There were very few youth activities. I was embarrassed to tell people where I lived, because of the stigma connected to my community. I remember thinking no one cares. The stigma of unhealthy addiction can create a number of barriers. It can cause a person to suffer in many other ways.

Hendricks County cannot turn a blind eye to what is happening with the drug epidemic in our schools and community. We can help our residents by asking those uncomfortable questions. Show them that we care, by offering support. The reality is our unhealthy addicted population is growing rapidly. We need to be fast and strategic to mitigate future issues our youth will face. We can begin by asking youth what they want. Offer ways to combat current and future crises. As a child, I recall feeling like I was suffocating, with nowhere to go. We can continue to financially support local organizations that service youth and offer community programming. Local organizations can play an important role in helping us foster pathways to a healthy community and youth.
Why do you do what you do? As the Executive Director of a local non-profit The Miles We Walk, I get to share and connect with others. I'm able to spend time with people who may be looking for a second chance at life or who may have a loved one with an addiction and/or a mental disorder. If my son

D'Mile's personal life struggles can help someone, I have done my work. I enjoy saying his name and assisting others to create their pathway to success through our workshops. I get to encourage people to start a new beginning. Facing losing D'Mile had to be by far the toughest moment in my life. Death showed up and took what belonged to me. It's about what you do with these energies. Yes, the spirit of death is paralyzing, but I knew it was up to me to keep D'Mile's legacy aLIVE.

Our Favorite Five in Hendricks County

Check out our latest Five Favorite happenings in Hendricks County!

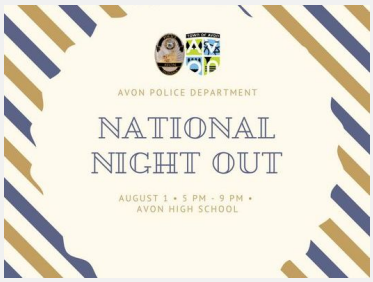


Fave Five #1: Make Your Voice Heard!

Hendricks County is updating its Comprehensive Plan and wants the community to help them develop a vision for the future. Click here to learn more and take the survey!

Fave Five #2: New Bicentennial Logo

The Hendricks County Bicentennial has an awesome new logo! Do you have ideas for how to celebrate Hendricks County's 200th birthday in 2024? The steering committee would love to hear from you! Click here to submit your ideas.



Fave Five #3: National Night Out 2023

National Night Out Against Crime sponsored by the Town of Avon and the Avon Police Department is coming soon! This event will be August 1st from 5-9 pm at Avon High School. Learn more here.

Fave Five #4: Brownsburg Track Team Wins First Ever State Title

After two runner-up finishes in 2021 and 2022, the Brownsburg High School Boys' Track and Field team won first place in the 2023 IHSAA State Competition. Congratulations Bulldogs!

Fave Five #5: Madison Parker Places Third in National Competition

Madison Parker, a resident of Pittsboro and graduate of Tri-West High School was selected as the second runner-up in the Distinguished Young Women National Finals competition last month. Congrats Madison!

Thank You to Our 2023 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!

Platinum Partners

Hendricks Regional Health

STATE BANK
Indiana strong. Locally loved.

Gold Partners

BF&S Butler Fairman Seufert Civil Engineers

Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds and Conference Complex

Hendricks Power Cooperative

Silver Partners

Abstract & Title
All people. Always.

Electric Plus

Hendricks County ICON

NSSB North Salem State Bank 100 Years

The Republican Newspaper

Whipple Eye Center

Bronze Partner

TKO Graphix

HCBT Hendricks County Bank and Trust Company

Foundation Friends

Capital Cities | 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.

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