

Where Local Good Grows



Hendricks County Community Foundation

There are many things about HCCF that make me proud: our effective grantmaking, generous donors, important partnerships, dedicated volunteers, knowledgeable professional staff, and our role as a community leader. The last is especially important because it allows us to address key issues in our community. One recent activity led to us addressing a key issue that we've identified as a challenge. That issue was our scholarship application process for the [Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship](#).

It had reasonable criteria, was accessible and open to all high school seniors. The problem was in the results: our recipients over the 25 years did not reflect our community, both in lack of men and students of color. So HCCF put together a task force made up of Board members, scholarship recipients, county high school and higher education representatives, and other community stakeholders. Led by HCCF's Vice President of Programs Eric Hessel and Community Inclusion & Engagement Manager Bryan Chatfield, the task force did a deep dive over four months into our application process and the best practices from the field to develop a recommendation for our Board. I was able to sit in on a couple of the meetings and found them to be among the most thoughtful and engaging conversations in my 11 years with HCCF.

The changes to the criteria and application have been approved by the HCCF Board, and Independent Colleges of Indiana, which oversees the program for Lilly Endowment. You can read more about the changes below, but our hope is that more of our high school seniors will apply for this important scholarship. And I know that HCCF will continue to lead on important issues in our community.



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



HCCF Completes Comprehensive Review of Scholarship Process

HCCF recently completed a comprehensive review of our scholarship program. This initiative is a testament to the HCCF's ongoing commitment to supporting equitable educational opportunities for aspiring scholars in Hendricks County.

In prior years, the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship in Hendricks County has primarily focused on Community Service, Leadership and High School Activities with a final determination at an interview. The updated program balances

Outside School Activities, School Activities, Academics, Financial Need, and Unique Circumstances outside of a student's control. The final determination will still be based on an interview.

This new program, along with all of HCCF's scholarships, will go live on August 1, 2023. To learn more about HCCF's updated Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Program and the application process, [visit our website](#).

An Inside Look at the Performing Fine Arts Center



HCCF staff recently enjoyed a hard hat tour of the Plainfield Performing & Fine Arts Center, currently under construction with opening slated for early 2024. The Center will house the brand new "[Hendricks Live!](#)," a local nonprofit organization operating this world-class venue for the performing arts in Hendricks County.

HCCF has awarded multiple grants to support the Fine Arts Center, and is currently serving as the fiscal sponsor for Hendricks Live! We love supporting the arts in our community!

Are you interested in starting a fund at HCCF to support the arts in Hendricks County? [Contact William](#) today!

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!

ARPA Grant Applications Close July 4th

HCCF is working with the Hendricks County Commissioners to assist with the distribution of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to nonprofits working in Hendricks County. Working with the county's ARPA Planning Committee, the



Community Foundation designed a process to distribute approximately \$1.5 million through a three-year competitive grant cycle, approximately \$500,000 each year.

The first grant cycle was completed in 2022. The application process for the second grant cycle of competitive grants is open now until July 4. Learn more [here](#).

HCCF Welcomes a New Intern



Christina Sally is HCCF's newest intern! Christina graduated from Indiana University in May with a major in public management and leadership and a minor in African American Diaspora studies. She is currently studying to take the LSAT to begin law school in the fall.

We are so excited to have her with us for the summer. Welcome Christina!

HCCF Volunteer Highlight

Nancy Hanna is a long-time Plainfield resident and currently serves on the HCCF Grants Committee. Read what Nancy has to say in her own words about her service for the Community Foundation.

"HCCF inspires me daily. What started as a group of friends creating a way to give back to their hometown of Plainfield has now become a thriving organization that continues to grow and support the entire county. For almost 30 years HCCF has remained an enduring and poignant partner in our county."

- Nancy Hanna



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

My HCCF Story - 2023 Lilly Scholars

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 our three [Lilly Scholars](#) share their HCCF Story and their day volunteering at one of our local nonprofits - [Meals on Wheels Hendricks County](#).



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 **Pete Brown**, Founder of [Ash Interactive](#) in Brownsburg.

What's your favorite movie? Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory (1971)

What book are you reading right now or have recently read? Dave Grohl's biography: The Storyteller

What is one thing still on your bucket list? A trip to Iceland and Greenland

if you could have dinner with someone from the past, who would it be? Henry Ford

What do you love most about our community? One thing I love about our community is that you get out of it what you put into it. Folks here are welcoming and appreciate those who engage and strive to make a positive impact.

What is one need identified in HCCF's countywide assessment that we are addressing? How can we continue to improve? It has been a transformative experience working with the Arts Council, Hendricks Live!, Leadership Hendricks County groups and the Community Foundation on a diverse set of arts and cultural experiences over the past few years; especially in creating our mural space at ASH Interactive. I truly see our community rallying in a powerful way.

Why do you do what you do? Prior to launching ASH Interactive I worked as an educator, an arts administrator, and also had associated side businesses. My heart belongs in service to non-profits and small businesses. I feel that the advancement of the internet, social media, ease of content creation and to an extent AI, have been great equalizers in terms of allowing organizations to share their stories and engage with the world. I want to be used to empower the messages of people and organizations that are

Our Favorite Five in Hendricks County

Check out the latest happenings in Hendricks County!



Fave Five #1: Chambers Awarded ICEA Innovation Award

Congrats to the four Hendricks County Chambers - Avon, Brownsburg, Danville and Plainfield - for receiving the 2023 ICEA Innovative Idea Award for their Hendricks County Public Policy Council. We love to see our community working together!



Fave Five #2: B&O Trail Association Opens Newest Trail Section

The [B&O Trail Association](#) recently opened a new trail section, the first of three planned construction phases. The Association held a ceremonial ribbon-cutting for this section which runs from County Road 500 East to County Road 250 East in Hendricks County.



Fave Five #3: Fun Things for the 4th!

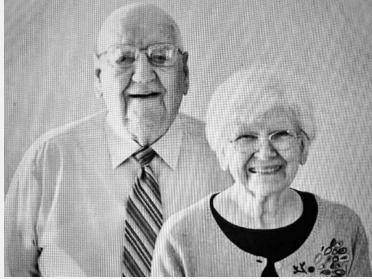
Independence Day is almost here and there's no shortage of fun, family-oriented activities to do right here in Hendricks County! Check out the local 4th of July events [here](#).



Fave Five #4: Welcoming All at Pride

HCCF Staff Eric Hessel & Bryan Chatfield staffed the Community Foundation table at the annual Pride picnic in Williams Park in Brownsburg this past weekend. HCCF is committed to making Hendricks County a welcoming community for all. Check out HCCF's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) [initiatives and Committee](#).

Fave Five #5: John & Lydia Gibbs Celebrate 75 Years of Marriage



Long time HCCF supporters and Danville residents John and Lydia Gibbs recently celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary! They were married on May 25, 1948 and have lived in Hendricks County their entire lives. Congratulations John & Lydia!

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!

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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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**Hendricks County
Community Foundation**

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