Where Local Good Grows

Hendricks County Community Foundation

The holidays are fast approaching! Thanksgiving is this week with many celebrations and the end of the year quickly following. Right after Thanksgiving, of course, are those secular holidays: Black Friday, Small Business Saturday and Cyber Monday, followed by Giving Tuesday. Giving Tuesday was started in 2012 as a day to encourage people to do good. Since then, it has grown into a yearly global movement that inspires millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity.

Here in our county, we're encouraging folks like you to take a few minutes out of your day and learn more about the great nonprofit organizations making a difference in our community. Visit our Facebook page to see videos featuring nonprofits to learn ways that you can get involved and give back. Please join us in giving back on Giving Tuesday!

We also hope you'll consider giving back to HCCF. Over the past year the Hendricks County Community Foundation continued our work to make our community a better place. We've conducted a comprehensive behavioral health survey leading to a community-wide plan, refreshed the data in our 2019 Needs Assessment, and partnered with county government to distribute $6.6 million in American Rescue Plan grants to nonprofits working in our community. And we made important grants throughout the year to support many charitable projects and programs making a difference in our community.

Did you know HCCF needs to raise approximately 30% of our annual operating budget from the community every year to make this work possible? **Won't you please join us by making a gift to support our daily work?**

Yours in Philanthropy,
William Rhodehamel
President & CEO

HCCF Helps Distribute $6.6 Million in ARPA Funds

HCCF partnered with the Hendricks County Commissioners and Council to assist with the distribution of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to nonprofits working in Hendricks County. Over the past 8 months, HCCF has designed and conducted a grant application process to distribute up to $6.6 million of these funds.

HCCF and the ARPA Planning Committee recommended noncompetitive grants of

approximately $5 million for community organizations that, along with their clients, were most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Through an open application process, the HCCF Program Committee also recommended an additional $500,000 in competitive grants in November 2022. Over the next two years, $800,000 more in competitive grants will be offered. See the list of recipient organizations here.

Give Local on Giving Tuesday!

#GivingTuesday2022 is next week! This national day of giving is November 29th and we are excited to partner with our local nonprofits to help them raise needed year-end support.

Visit our Facebook page on November 29th and choose your favorite nonprofit to support!

Support Your Community Foundation This Year

Did you know that HCCF needs to raise approximately 30% of our annual operating budget from the community each year? In order for us to address the greatest needs in our community and make Hendricks County a better place to live, we need your financial support!

Our vision is 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. Help us work towards this goal by making a gift this year to your Community Foundation here.

The HCCF Community Calendar is Live

We are excited to announce our brand new Hendricks Community Calendar! This calendar is designed to highlight local events and encourage people to explore all the exciting things to do in Hendricks County.

Do you have an event you'd like to add to the calendar? Click here to read the calendar guidelines and submit your event. Our team will review it and if approved, it will be added to the calendar!

My HCCF Story - Larry Paynter

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 Larry Paynter, retired owner of The Coachman in Plainfield, share his story as a volunteer and fund owner at HCCF.

A Board to Brag About

Dan Dunbar, CPA at ROAR Consulting, joined the HCCF Board of Directors in 2022 and serves on the Finance Committee. Read what Dan has to say in his own words about his service for the Community Foundation.

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 EveMarie Bessenbach, Director of Development & Communications at Hendricks Live!

What is your favorite movie? "The Sound of Music" & "The Christmas Secret" with Richard Thomas and Beau Bridges based on the book titled "Flight of the Reindeer" by Robert Sullivan.
Favorite Hendricks County restaurant? I love the charm and history of the Oasis Diner. Plus, the tenderloin sandwich is delicious!
If you could be a superhero for a day, who would you be? She might not be considered a superhero, but it would be so much fun to spend the day as "Glinda" from "The Wizard of Oz" film. Travel by bubble, wear a sparkly pink dress, and possess magical powers – sounds perfect!
If you could have dinner with someone from the past, who would it be? A Christmas dinner with my family that is no longer with us, especially my grandparents and my longhair miniature dachshund named Tutu.
What do you love most about our community? Everyone is very welcoming, friendly, and supportive of each other. I also love the beautiful scenery, the small town events, and the quaint charm of the historic downtowns throughout Hendricks County.
What is one need identified in HCCF's countywide assessment that we are addressing? How can we continue to improve?
I am very excited that the community is meeting the need of limited art and culture options in Hendricks County through the development of Hendricks Live!, a new performing arts center under construction in downtown Plainfield and serving all of Hendricks County and beyond. We are in the midst of planning an incredible season for our grand opening in 2024, and we want to know what kind of shows and performances the community would like to see in Hendricks County. Please take our survey at hendrickslive.org and let us know what you think!
Why do you do what you do? The arts have the power to change lives – it certainly changed mine, and I want to share the arts with as many people as possible.

Our Favorite Five in Hendricks County

The holidays are here and there are 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: Leadership Hendricks County Applications are Closing Soon!

The applications for Leadership Hendricks County's 2023 adult class are open now but are closing on December 1st! Don't miss your chance to participate in this outstanding leadership program. Click here to apply!

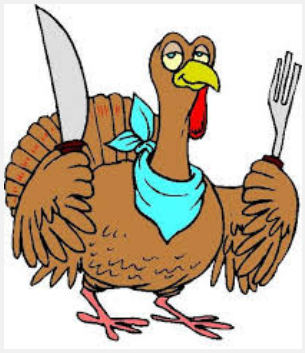
Fave Five #2: B&O Trail Breaks Ground on New Trail

The B&O Trail Assoc. celebrated a groundbreaking on November 9 for its newest trail section, which

runs from CR 500 East to CR 250 East in Hendricks County. Congrats B&O! Read more here.

Fave Five #3: Helping Hendricks Volunteer Index

A capstone group of Leadership Hendricks County class members created the "Helping Hendricks" volunteer searchable index of volunteer opportunities. Their goal is to connect volunteers with local organizations in need of help. Learn more here.



Fave Five #4: Free Thanksgiving Meals

The Guildford Township Community Center (1500 S. Center Street Plainfield) is offering free Thanksgiving day dinners from 11 am - 2 pm, with both dine-in and drive through available. To request meal delivery, call 317-839-2384 by 4 pm Monday, November 21.

Fave Five #5: Christmas on the Square

You can find all the magic of a small-town Christmas in Danville at the 16th annual Christmas on the Square on November 25th. There will be lots of fun activities for the whole family - find out more here.

Save the Date for Giving Tuesday 2022!

This national day of giving is November 29th and we are excited to partner with our local nonprofits to help them raise needed year-end support. Visit our website for more info!

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