

## BRYAN AREA FOUNDATION

# INSIDE THE FOUNDATION

BRYANAREAFOUNDATION.ORG  
419-633-1156

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## FOUNDATION CONVENES AGENCIES

As a community leader, the BAF is making facilitation of community resources a priority. Realizing that the need for social services in Williams County is greater than ever, the Foundation, in partnership with United Way, convened a “Call To Action Community Forum.”

The Foundation invited Niki Messmore from the Governor’s Office of Faith Based Initiatives to explain to local agencies the opportunities, both resource-based and financial-based, that existed for community organizations to sustain and expand their capacity.

The goal of “Call To Action” is to connect groups within the community to existing resources in order to create sustainable,

effective programs that will fight poverty in our communities.

Covering everything from food pantries to financial education to recruiting youth mentors, the program brings together a diverse group of agencies in an effort to combat poverty on all levels.

Additionally, through the Ohio Benefit Bank, communities can help stimulate economic recovery by returning thousands of dollars to people who may not have the means or know-how to reclaim tax refunds.

The Bryan Area Foundation will continue to be a resource and facilitator for future initiatives involving the betterment of the Williams County area through programs such as “Call To Action.”

## DID YOU KNOW?

- *Community Funds have the greatest impact on our communities.*
- *Community Funds have the highest return on investment.*
- *Community Funds benefit our kids, parks, pets, seniors, schools and a whole lot more.*
- *Anyone can contribute any amount to the community fund. Contact the office at 419-633-1156 and find out how!*

## GIVING WISELY

Due to the positive feedback we received regarding our tips on year-end giving, we are reprinting this article. As we move into the holiday season, we encourage you to use the guidelines below as you make your giving decisions.

### **Know Your Charity**

Charities have an obligation to provide detailed information to donors. If a charity does not provide the information you request, you may want to think twice about giving. Honest charities encourage your interest and respond to your questions.

### **Know Where Your Money Goes**

Ask how much of your donation goes for general administration and fund-raising

expenses and how much is left for the program services you want to support. American Institute on Philanthropy’s *Charity Rating Guide* recommends that in most cases 60% or more of your charitable donation should go to program services. Less than 40% should be spent on general administration and fund-raising costs.

### **Keep Records of Your Donations**

Do not give cash. Also, do not give your

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## 2020 CLUB MEMBERSHIP!

How would you like to have a say in how to spend \$250,000?

Find out how you can purchase shares and vote on the next community project for just \$50 per month by calling the Foundation at 419-633-1156.



P.O. Box 651  
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E-mail: [foundation@bryanareafoundation.org](mailto:foundation@bryanareafoundation.org)

**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**

**BRYANAREAFUNDATION.ORG**

**COMMUNITY FOCUSED.  
COMMUNITY DRIVEN.**



## New Funds Established

### Bryan Area Foundation

Four County Career Center Endowment Fund  
Williams County Fair Foundation Endowment Fund  
Rigg Family Scholarship Honoring Richard Alan Rigg Fund

## Fund Definitions

*Community* - Created by an individual for the perpetual benefit of the community

*Designated* - Created by an individual for the perpetual benefit of a specific, qualified charitable organization

*Field of Interest* - Created by an individual for the perpetual benefit of an organization serving the needs in a particular area (e.g. animals, parks, youth, women)

*Scholarship* - Created by an individual for the perpetual benefit of students pursuing a college education

*Agency Endowment* - Created by a qualified charitable agency for the operational benefit of that organization

*Donor Advised* - Created by an individual to maintain advisory privileges over distributions with approval of Trustees

*Acorn* - Created to give individuals, families, and organizations a simple and flexible way to build an endowment fund with the Foundation

*Administrative* - Created to provide support for the ongoing operations of the Bryan Area Foundation

## GIVING WISELY (CONT'D)

credit card number to a telephone solicitor you do not know. Give your gift by check so you will have a record for tax purposes.

The IRS requires that you obtain a receipt from the charity for all tax-deductible contributions of \$250 or more. Get an independent appraiser if you plan to give appreciable property worth more than \$5,000. The IRS does not accept appraisals by the charity or the donor.

### *Do Not Be Enticed by Emotional Appeals*

Beware of the "sob story." The hard-luck appeal is a favorite of some organizations. Question phone solicitors or direct mail appeals that tell you nothing of the charity or offer vague explanations for spending your charitable dollars.

### *Beware of Charities Offering Gifts*

Some charities include free greeting cards, address stickers, calendars, key rings or other "gifts" in their direct mail solicitations. They

send these items to increase donations, but this can mean higher fund-raising costs. You are not bound to make a contribution to keep a "gift." It is against the law for a charity to demand payment for any unordered merchandise.

If this all seems a bit too complicated to sort out, I might suggest a different checklist:

### *Give locally*

Generally, the nonprofit groups you know best are your local charities. Not only do you see the results of the organization's work but also you know the people who govern them.

### *Give Generously*

Give as generously as you can. There are many good charities that need your help to operate valuable programs and provide needed services in our community. When you give wisely, you will be giving more effectively.

### TYPES OF GIFTS ACCEPTED BY THE FOUNDATION

- Cash
- Real estate, including business, residential or farmland
- Life insurance
- Securities traded on major exchanges
- Closely held stock
- Oil and gas leases
- Annuities
- Remainder and Lead Trusts
- Retained Life Estate