



Est. 1969

BRYAN AREA  
Foundation

# Inside the Foundation

BRYAN AREA  
Foundation

## Founders Grant

"The true meaning of life is to plant trees  
under whose shade you do not expect to sit."

-Nelson Henderson



### Founding Members

Randolph O. Bard  
Bruce O. Benedict  
G. Grant Brown  
Ford Cullis  
John B. Dwyer  
Henry E. Ford  
John A. Hall  
Lemuel L. Hawk  
George Isaac  
P. Thomas Johnston  
William C. Killgallon, Jr.  
James A. Lockhart  
Robert D. Lowe  
Dr. Harold Mayberry  
C.B. Melton  
Frederick P. Parker  
Richard L. Reed  
Wayne Shaffer  
Theodore Spangler  
John Tomlinson  
William W. Weaver  
Forest E. Witzerman  
A.W. Yahraus

### *It all began in 1969...*

and the story goes like this!

A group of enthusiastic civic leaders began researching the establishment of a community foundation in Bryan, Ohio. Discussions ranged from investment philosophy to grant-making, to donor solicitation. Many meetings were held before one fateful meeting, when G. Grant Brown, owner of a local restaurant stood up and said, "The lunch crowd will be coming into Brownies soon, and I have to go. Stop talking about this and just do it!" At this, he pulled \$50 out of his wallet and put it on the table. This was the first contribution made by a donor to the Bryan Area Foundation. By the end of the meeting, \$200 had been given to the fledgling organization.

Today, the Bryan Area Foundation has over \$30 million in assets, all because our 23 Founding Members took the initiative to each make a "small" contribution. By acting together, our Founders made a "big" and lasting impact on our community. In this same spirit, the Bryan Area Foundation is excited to announce our new "Founders Grant" program.

## New Grant Opportunity



Founders Grants will fund projects/programs up to \$2,500. The Founders grant application has been abbreviated from our traditional grant application as a means of simplifying and expediting the application process for non-profits seeking funds for smaller (yet still impactful) projects and programs. Founders grants will follow the same deadlines for submission and include the same eligibility requirements.

For more information on our new Founders Grant program join us for a webinar on March 25<sup>th</sup>. Turn the page for more details.



## Message from our Chairman

Spring will soon be here and the winter will be a distant memory. The winter weather and COVID restrictions have certainly limited our ability to attend events and mingle with friends and acquaintances. High praise to Amy Miller and the BAF staff for continuing to work diligently to achieve the goals identified in our recent strategic plan. A major goal of that strategic

plan is to develop a strategy for the Bryan Area Foundation to become more intentional and active in injecting available funds into the community. One specific goal identified by the leadership team is to spearhead an initiative to enhance the downtown for area residents and visitors to the community.



The BAF has engaged Small Nation, a firm located in Bellefontaine, Ohio with an excellent track record in small downtown development. The Community Impact Committee recently hosted a tour of downtown with representatives from Small Nation. The group came away with appreciation for the number of engaged entrepreneurs who own buildings around the square who all share a passion for downtown Bryan. We heard many wonderful and enthusiastic stories from local owners with a vision to make downtown Bryan a destination experience. The BAF is committed to highlight and support these entrepreneurs and others with a passion and vision to bring new business to downtown.



Please continue to support our existing downtown businesses. I am also asking community members to stimulate conversation about what new commercial or residential offerings are needed to build on the recent momentum. Let's all work together to put this downtown enhancement initiative into action.

*Michael A. Shaffer*

Michael A. Shaffer  
Chairman of the Board

Join us  
**FREE**  
**WEBINAR**

**Thursday, March 25th**  
**12 - 1pm**

Learn how to apply for a Founders Grant!

To Register Visit [www.BryanAreaFoundation.org](http://www.BryanAreaFoundation.org)  
and click on the link to register.

New Grant Opportunity!



Founders Grant

# New Funds!



Community Fund  
Donations

## Meet YOUR Match

### 25% Community Fund Match

EXTENDED  
to  
June 30th  
2021

The Bryan Area Foundation has extended the 25% MATCH for donations to any NEW or EXISTING Community Fund until June 30, 2021 or until the \$50,000 allocated is matched! *(Just \$15,500 left as of March 1, 2021.)*

**Act soon to secure your match!**

## New Funds

Beals Family Community Fund

Carl and Kim Chaney Community Fund

Larry and Mona Harsila Community Fund

Stephen and Mindy Hess Family Community Fund

Bula M. Whitman-Measel-McQuade Community Fund

Ryan and Amy Miller Family Community Fund

Peters Family Community Fund

Jackson J. and Gina R. Short Family Community Fund

Steve and Kelly Voigt Family Community Fund

Ann E. and Howard B. Vreeland, Jr. Community Fund

John and Joan Witzerman Community Fund

*Thank You Donors...  
for Investing in our Community!*

## Community Funds

Community Funds are unrestricted funds that are used to provide grants that address the most urgent needs of our community.

You may choose to establish a fund in your name allowing the Foundation to determine where grants will do the most good or make a gift to an existing community fund.

Start your own named Community Fund with a gift of \$4,000. The Foundation will match with \$1,000 (25%) meeting the \$5,000 minimum required to establish a community fund.





## Montpelier Fire Department

# Foundation Organizational Funds



## Foundation Organizational Funds

Organizational Funds are established by nonprofit organizations to provide annual income and long-term security for their own operations. The Foundation manages the administration of the fund, allowing your staff and board the opportunity to focus on your mission. The Foundation will work closely with your organization to help establish a fund that supports your goals for today and in the future. The minimum gift to establish an Organizational Endowment Fund is \$10,000.

### Bryan Area Foundation

ACRES, Inc.

David Betts Double Play Diamond Fund

Black Swamp Area Boy Scouts Fund

Bryan Academic Booster Club Fund

Bryan Rotary Foundation, Inc. Fund

First Presbyterian Church Fund

Four County Career Center Fund

Northwest Ohio Educational  
Service Center Fund

St. Patrick Catholic Church Fund

Stryker Schools Foundation Fund

Trinity Lutheran Church Fund

United Way of Williams County Fund

Veterans Memorial Building Fund

Wesley United Methodist Church Fund

Williams County 4-H Fund

Williams County Fair Foundation Fund

Williams County Historical Society Fund

Williams County Humane Society Fund

Williams County Senior Center Fund

Williams County Sportsmans Fund

Williams County Family YMCA Fund

### Montpelier Area Foundation

Hip Klotz Athletic Booster Fund

Montpelier Fire Department Fund

Montpelier Rotary Fund

Williams County Parks Fund

*Thank you to our nonprofit organizations who help to secure their future by establishing an Organizational Fund. The Foundation currently manages 25 Organizational Endowment Funds, listed above. If your organization would like more information on how to establish a fund, please contact the Foundation office at 419-633-1156.*

# Williams County 4-H Educational Advancement Fund

**Preparing Youth for Success** is the headline on the Williams County 4-H website. Through educational youth development programs, offered to children from kindergarten to age 19, 4-H programs focus on experiences that stimulate lifelong learning. To continue to foster these educational programs, Williams County 4-H established the Williams County 4-H Advancement Organizational Fund through the Bryan Area Foundation in 2002. Through their endowment, award approximately \$10,000 in scholarships each year to Williams County 4-H youth.



## Featured Organizational Fund

Williams County 4-H makes learning fun through their many clubs, camps, activities, and summer programs. Youth gain self-confidence and personal life skills while learning about specific subjects like animals, computers, public speaking, cooking, art, gardening, and the environment. To help fund many of these activities, three designated funds have been established through the Bryan Area Foundation by individual donors. In 1976, Glen and Irma Fitzenrider, established the 4-H Activities Designated Fund that supports youth to attend 4-H Camp Palmer as well as national and state level trips. The Jerome J. Hartman Designated Fund, established in 2008, also assists youth to attend summer camps. The George and Delores Mellott Memorial Designated Fund, established in 1976, is also directed to Williams County 4-H and their many activities and programs. Through these designated and organizational funds, Williams County 4-H continues to prepare our youth for success for many generations to come!

## Citizenship Washington Focus



In 2019, two youth from Williams County represented the county as part of the Ohio delegation to the Citizenship Washington Focus at the Capitol in Washington DC. This week long trip was an opportunity for 4-H'ers to develop communication, leadership and citizenship skills as well as meet other 4-H youth from all over the nation. They also meet with Ohio's members of Congress.





## Thank You Donors

# Foundation Designated Funds

*Do you have a passion for a specific cause or nonprofit?*

Then a Designated Fund is for you! Designated Funds are established by individuals who have a desire to support a specific nonprofit(s). By providing an annual, sustainable revenue stream, Designated Funds ensure that the causes

you care about will continue to

receive your support today and beyond your lifetime.

Once the gift is made, the Bryan Area Foundation will manage the annual distribution and you can rest assured that your fund will continue to invest in the success of the organization and create a legacy of support. The minimum gift to establish a Designated Fund is \$25,000.

*Start your Designated Fund today!*



### Bryan Area Foundation

4-H Activities Fund

Catherine Markey Anderson Library Fund

Howard L. and Laurena L. Arnos  
American Cancer Fund

Howard L. and Laurena L. Arnos  
American Heart Fund

Edward and Elma Auchard Fund

Darrell D. Bayes and Eleanor E. Bayes  
Wms. Co. Humane Society Fund

Benedict Family Outstanding Educator  
Award in Memory of Greg Benedict Fund

Laura Lee 'Lolly' Benner Booth Fund

Brown Cemetery Fund

Roger O. Burkholder Fund

C. Library Fund

Etoll-Essi-Isaac Fund

Linda Wiley Fox Fund

Jerome J. Hartman Fund

Howard C. and Mary Allene Hawk Fund

Thomas M. and Susan Y. Herman Fund

Cora Isaac Fund

Gladys E. Isaac Fund

George Azar and Mary Ade Isaac Fund

Lilly George Isaac Wesley United  
Methodist Church Fund

Marion Isaac Fund

Rosa Isaac Alliance Church Fund

Rosa Isaac Bryan City Parks Fund

Rosa Isaac Roseland Park Fund

Ewing Pendleton Knox, Eleanor Jane  
Knox and Evelyn Jepson Gotshall  
Wms. Co. Humane Society Fund

Ewing Pendleton Knox and Eleanor  
Jane Knox Wms. Co. Library Fund

Ed Likes Designated Fund

Bob and Joyce Markey Fund

Robert Markey Fund

William and Nancy Martens Fund

George and Dolores Mellott Fund

Thoral and Marjorie Mitchell Fund

Bill and Helen Stine Fund

Denver G. Taylor and Mildred P. Taylor  
Fund

Earl Walters and John Patten  
Wms. Co. Fair Foundation Fund

Henry and Wanda Walters  
Wms. Co. Historical Society Fund

Henry and Wanda Walters Wesley  
United Methodist Church Fund

### Edon Area Foundation

John G. and Marilyn C. Tonor  
Wms. Co. Historical Society Fund

John G. and Marilyn C. Tonor  
Wms. Co. Veterans Memorial Fund

### Montpelier Area Foundation

Bob E. Rose Fund

### Millcreek West-Unity Area Foundation

James A. and Jane A. Hutchinson Fund  
Carter Kissel Friends of the Library Fund  
Carter Kissel Village Park Fund

*Thank you to our Donors who build and strengthen our community by establishing Designated Funds. The Foundation currently manages 43 Designated Endowment Funds, listed above. If you would like more information on how to establish your own designated fund, please contact the Foundation office at 419-633-1156.*

# BHS Band and Choir Uniforms

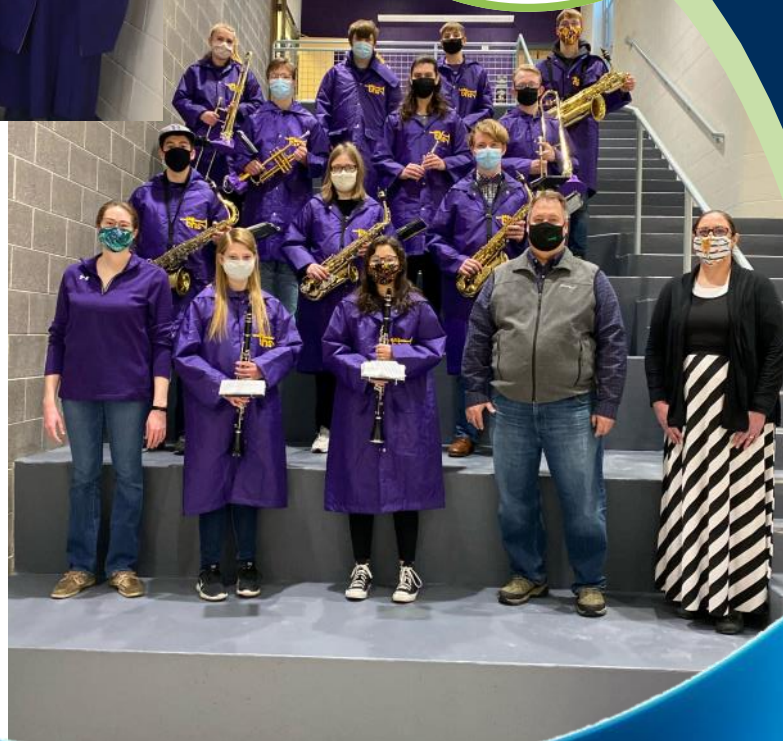


\$10,000  
Community  
Grant



The Bryan High School Choir and Band have a tradition of musical excellence....and now they will look as excellent as they sound!

A \$10,000 grant was awarded to the Bryan Music Boosters, Inc. to support their project to replace the choir robes and band raincoats. After at least three decades of use the mended, patched, and fraying uniforms were in dire need of replacement. The new choir robes and band raincoats will visually unify the groups and build a sense of team pride.



**BHS Band Entertains Residents!** What a treat it was last fall for residents at Fountain Park Assisted Living and Hillside Country Living when the Bryan High School Band serenaded them. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, residents viewed the performance through their windows, and some were even able to take advantage of the sunny day and enjoyed the concert outside. High Five to the band students who brought so much enjoyment to these residents!







BRYAN AREA  
**Foundation**

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Seeking  
Nominations



**Outstanding Educator!**

This prestigious award, endowed through the Foundation by the Benedict Family, in memory of Greg Benedict, is presented annually to one of Bryan's outstanding educators. Last year due to COVID-19 this award was postponed. Don't miss your opportunity to nominate a teacher who has met the challenges and is an Outstanding Educator!

The criteria and past recipients are listed on the nomination form that can be downloaded on our website at: [BryanAreaFoundation.org](http://BryanAreaFoundation.org)

**The deadline for nominations is April 15, 2021**

Please submit the nomination form to the Foundation office  
or mail to PO Box 651, Bryan, Ohio 43506.



The 2019 Outstanding Educator, Ben Osterland, greets student.