DECEMBER 2022

Foundation Focus
A Community Foundation Newsletter

Dear Friends,

We’ve spent the past year celebrating our 50th Anniversary. This celebration allows us to reflect on our long, rich history of community impact and honor those who helped us along our way.

We’re grateful to our many generous donors who’ve established funds with us to support their passions. This year, we distributed a record $1.5 million in monetary support to 190 charitable organizations working to create healthy communities, strong youth, accessible recreation, beautiful environments, support for the arts, safe seniors, effective nonprofits and an engaged and more diverse east central Illinois.

Our team also enhanced and expanded our Center for Nonprofit Excellence offerings. In addition to the training, support and resources we offer through our Board Bootcamps, Executive Director Leadership Network and Community Solutions Incubator, we’ve added another annual granting cycle to offer nonprofits opportunities for capacity-building. These flexible grants are an investment in the effectiveness and future sustainability of nonprofits in our region.

With your help, the Foundation will continue to offer monetary support, build nonprofit capacity, invest in future generations and celebrate the legacies of those who’ve paved the way. In the next 50 years, we will be here to connect donors to community needs—and to strengthen our local nonprofit sector.

This giving season, please consider a donation to our Foundation.

Your generosity helps ensure our founder’s vision of a community where we can all live, learn, work, create and prosper becomes a reality.

Here’s to the next 50 years...

Angie Hatfield Marker
President & CEO
Community Impact Powered By YOUR Philanthropy.

We've distributed another $1.5 million in annual support through grants and scholarships. As a result of this support, more than 190 charitable organizations were able to improve, expand or enhance the vital services they provide in our area.

2022 Community Commitment Grants Recipients
Boys & Girls Club of Danville, Champaign County Christian Health Center, Champaign County Environmental Stewards, Champaign County Farm Bureau Foundation, Champaign Urbana Schools Foundation, City of Champaign Township, Community Resource & Counseling Center, Community Service Center of Northern Champaign Co, CRIS Healthy Aging, Crisis Nursery of Champaign County, Cunningham Children’s Home, Eastern Illinois Foodbank, Family Service of Champaign County, Feeding Our Kids, FIT-2-SERVE, Girl Scouts of Central Illinois, Grand Prairie Friends Land Trust, Habitat for Humanity of Champaign Co and ReStore, Illinois Amish Information Exhibits, Inc., Immigrant Services of Champaign-Urbana (ISCU), Iroquois Mental Health Center, Piatt County Mental Health Center, Prairielands Council, Boy Scouts of America, Promise Healthcare, Sola Gratia Farm, Survivor Resource Center, The Dwelling Place of Vermilion County, The Salvation Army of Champaign County, The Salvation Army of Vermilion County, Urbana Parks Foundation, WorkSource Enterprises, X-Time, YMCA of the University of Illinois and YWCA of the University of Illinois.

As the size of our available granting dollars grows, our distribution strategy has evolved to reflect our commitment to using our donors’ dollars wisely, making sustainable differences in each of the nine counties we serve. We believe the combination of grants we offer serve as tools that will yield measurable and lasting impact results from our investment.

Nonprofit Capacity-Building Grants Recipients
Champaign County Environmental Stewards, Champaign Urbana Jewish Federation, Community Choices, Crisis Nursery of Champaign County, East Central Illinois Refugee Mutual Assistance Center, Family Service of Champaign County, Four Osprey, Grand Prairie Friends Land Trust, Illinois Amish Information Exhibits, MAYC Foundation, Rape Advocacy, Counseling & Education Services, RISE Behavioral Health & Wellness and Sola Gratia Farm.

"The Foundation is always my FIRST go-to! I feel so fortunate to have had endless guidance and support from your staff throughout my 25-year career in the sector. This grant funding helps us continue to honor our commitment to preserve and restore tallgrass prairie and woodlands in east central Illinois."

- Sarah Livesay, Executive Director

Sarah Livesay
Grand Prairie Friends

Thank you to these community members who served on our grants and scholarship committees this year: Chadwick Anderson, Holly Clemons, John Cotner, Carol Hatfield, Austin Hill, Wynne Korr, Jacob Kuebler, Beth Mathews, Tami McKane Verbin, Terrica Miller, Joe Murphy, Mark Palmer, Diane Pritchard, Jaclyn Ridge, Mike Royse, Todd Salen, Tracy Sholem, Dena Slade, Joe Stovall, John Stuff and Angie Wolters. Your time is a gift to our Foundation.
We Help Nonprofits Do Good Work, Better.

This year we have taken measurable steps to expand the offerings of our Center for Nonprofit Excellence to strengthen our local nonprofit sector. Your ongoing support helps us help the helpers. And we’re grateful.

STRENGTHENING PERFORMANCE THROUGH OUR TRAININGS, WORKSHOPS AND BOARD BOOTCAMPS

"Thank you again for the informative Board Bootcamp presentations on roles and responsibilities of nonprofit board members. The fiduciary duties breakdown (duty of care, duty of loyalty, duty of obedience) will be particularly helpful to my board. Best wishes, with appreciation for all the good work that you do."

- William Weber, Charleston, IL
  Board Bootcamp Attendee

PROMOTING COLLABORATION THROUGH PEER CIRCLES AND INFORMATION SHARING

"Thanks so much for hosting these meetings. The resources and connections you provide are very helpful--more than you realize! We are an organization that really appreciates this and looks forward to implementing what we are learning so that we can grow."

- Crystal Hogue, MBA, Executive Director
  Champaign County Christian Health Center

SUPPORTING EMERGING VENTURES THROUGH OUR COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS INCUBATOR

"The Community Solutions Incubator has provided the knowledge and support that made forming and operating our new nonprofit possible! There is no question—we wouldn’t be where we are today without the Incubator."

- Susan Monte, Founder
  Champaign County Environmental Stewards

Interested in attending an upcoming training or workshop? Visit www.cfeci.org for more information or e-mail cne@cfeci.org for our current offerings.
50 YEARS OF COMMUNITY IMPACT

- 690 Charitable Organizations and Causes Served
- $22 Million Distributed to Nonprofits in East Central Illinois
- $33 Million in Total Assets

As we look to the next 50 years, we’re building momentum for an even more exciting future of community philanthropy—making a real difference in east central Illinois. Please join us.

If you don’t have a fund with us, consider establishing one to support your favorite charities now and forever. The arts. The environment. Your Alma Mater. Your place of worship. Current and future community needs. You can support ALL the organizations that are important to you, now and forever.

With your help, we can continue to build upon our rich history, expand and enhance our current initiatives and inspire life-changing philanthropy for the next 50 years—and beyond.