



Covid-19
Relief
page 2-3



HCF
Scholarships
page 3-4

Hamilton
community foundation

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Addressing Community Need



John Guidugli
President & CEO

We are certainly living in extraordinary times. I'm sure you've heard this more times than you would like, but it is an accurate statement. It seems as though we went from normal, by some definitions prosperous times to a completely different reality in a matter of weeks. In addition to what we are experiencing now is the uncertainty of what comes next.

Many times, after a traumatic event, we have an opportunity to plan and implement a recovery plan – a roadmap back to normalcy or at least some sense of normal. The current situation leaves us wondering what comes next, how do we respond, and will we ever return to what we thought was normal. Or, as some seem to be projecting, we may face a new normal – whatever that is.

I don't have answers to those questions, but I do offer some reassurance to our community: the Hamilton Community Foundation remains a community leader of philanthropy and stands ready to respond to the changing needs of our community. Since our creation in 1951 the Hamilton Community Foundation has helped see our community through traumatic events. Wars, financial collapses, natural disasters, national problems and local issues have been addressed by the Hamilton Community Foundation through the generosity of our donors.

PATHWAYS to Giving

Beginning several months ago, the Foundation began to prepare to respond to the local effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. We partnered with the Butler County United Way, the Greater Cincinnati Foundation, United Way of Greater Cincinnati and other funders to establish a regional recovery fund to support area non-profit organizations experiencing extraordinary need as a result of Coronavirus. Funding of up to \$450,000 was made available to organizations providing direct services to our neighbors in Butler County.

As we move forward, we are working on a plan to assist our community organizations as they navigate their future. The Hamilton Community Foundation will be ready to provide support to respond to new and existing community needs. Just as we have done for nearly 70 years, we will meet this challenge and make a commitment to lead the philanthropic response to the community.

These are indeed extraordinary times and they demand an extraordinary response. The Hamilton Community Foundation is poised to provide that response. We are able to do that today as we have done since 1951 because of the generosity of our donors. Now more than ever we need your partnership and support. I invite you to help us in this important work

**BUTLER COUNTY
COVID-19 RESPONSE FUND
GIVE NOW**

www.hamiltonfoundation.org/donate

BUTLER COUNTY COVID-19 REGIONAL RESPONSE FUND

Nearly \$450,000 Granted for Coronavirus Relief

The COVID-19 Response Fund has granted nearly \$450,000 to 28 organizations with a focus on directly assisting those in need including families, seniors and the homeless. The Hamilton Community Foundation Donor advisors have granted an additional \$178,000 directly to local agencies.

COVID-19 Response Fund grantees to date include:

Boys and Girls Club of Hamilton • Boys and Girls Club of West Chester Liberty • Butler County Educational Service Center • Caring Partners International, Inc. • Community First Solutions • Community Health Alliance • Easterseals • Fairfield Food Pantry • Hamilton Dream Center • Hamilton Young People Empowered (HYPE) • Lighthouse Food Pantry • Military Veterans Resource Center • Neighborhood Housing Services of Hamilton • New Life Mission • Open Door Food Pantry • Oxford Family Resource Center • People United for Self Help • People Working Cooperatively, Inc. • Primary Health Solutions • Princeton Pike Church of God • Salvation Army Hamilton • SELF • Society of St. Vincent de Paul Hamilton • St. Joseph Orphanage • The Emergency Money Fund of Hamilton • The Sanctuary Covenant Christian Fellowship • Village Food Pantry • Women Helping Women

"During these difficult times nonprofits are on the front lines assisting individuals and families facing extreme hardships and philanthropy remains of the utmost importance in our community."

-John Guidugli, President & CEO

Meeting community needs *Emergency Money Fund on the frontline*

Debbie Smith faced a difficult situation this winter. She had seven family members living in her Hamilton home, including three adults who had lost their jobs. Her utilities were about to be shutoff, but the Emergency Money Fund helped her through the crisis.

"We live in a two-story brick home with little insulation, and our utility bills were very high in January and February, and the City of Hamilton was going to shutoff service," Smith said. Fortunately, Hamilton City Schools Success Liaison Gina Walters learned about the issue while checking up on Debbie and her 15-year old granddaughter and began researching whether she could qualify for emergency help.

"I initially thought Gina was going to get me some extra time so I could use my next check to pay the utility bill, and I was just stunned to find out it had been paid," Smith explained. The Emergency Money Fund, managed by the Hamilton Community Foundation, paid \$458 of her utility bill.

Walters and other school liaisons in the

Success Program of Butler County Educational Services work closely with needy families, and she's grateful the Emergency Money Fund is one of the options she has. "If someone mentions they're facing a utility cutoff or they've received a three-day notice for being late on rent, I'll talk with them to learn about the circumstances that put them in this situation," Walters said.

If the family appears to be in a one-time emergency situation, they can qualify for help. "The committee overseeing the Emergency Money Fund is very diligent about ensuring these funds are used wisely," Walters said.

For several years, EMF was offered through Saint Raphael's. But when that agency closed, some new board members helped restructure the program so it could be managed by the Hamilton Community Foundation. HCF Finance Vice President Dan Sander is now on the EMF board. "His knowledge has been a Godsend to us," said Butler County Success Director Cari Wynne, a member of the volunteer EMF board.

BCESC receives \$3,500 a month during the nine months of the school year,



EMF Board of Trustees: Front Row Left to Right: Dan Sander, Deanna Cocina, Cecil Day, Cari Wynne, Rita Ringel, Back Row Left to Right: Scott Rosenweig, Pat Moeller, Terry Perdue, Gus Cocina, Aaron Simpson, Candice White, Not pictured - Eric Vincent

Class of 2020 *Congratulations to our graduating High School Seniors*

For nearly 70 years, the Hamilton Community Foundation has awarded and recognized our local graduating seniors. This year the Covid-19 pandemic forced us to cancel our annual scholarship reception and program for the first time in our history. Even though we cannot be together, we are still awarding more than \$1.3 million in scholarships to support our students' higher educational pursuits.

We are pleased to recognize our students using social media, local newspaper, as well as placing yard signs at the homes of our recipients. While it is not the same as meeting everyone in person, we are thankful for our generous donors who support these scholarships. Congratulations to all students on your accomplishments throughout high school and wish you all the best in the future!

Congratulations, 2020 HCF Scholars!



and Wynne said Butler County Success provides case management to identify families in need. The program also works with other social service agencies and specialists like mechanics to help split the cost of assisting families.

"I think our board is open to a variety of needs, but I would say what we see most commonly are issues with rent, utilities, car repairs or medical expenses," Wynne explained. "We have some new board members who are very compassionate about this cause, so we've really revitalized the program."

Wynne emphasizes the Emergency Money Fund is not for people who are chronically unemployed and in frequent financial distress. "What I like about our eligibility criteria is that it's meant for people who are experiencing a hardship that has placed them behind," she said. "This is designed to be a once a year type thing with the idea that with EMF's support, the family can sustain itself from there."

If you're interested in contributing to the Emergency Money Fund, go to www.hamiltonfoundation.org/donate.

Check out the full list with photos at www.hamiltonfoundation.org.

DONOR ACCESS

New Donor Portal provides easy access to charitable funds

We are excited to announce that we have moved to a new Foundation management system, which results in an improved experience for our donors, grantees and advisors. This upgraded technology makes make it easier than ever to connect with the Foundation, make informed decisions about your charitable giving, and stay up to date with your account.

One of the best features of this new software is the availability of a Donor Portal. Through this secure portal you can:

- Access your entire history at the Foundation.
- Easily make contributions and grants online.
- Get immediate access to receipts, documents.
- You can view your current and past fund statements at your convenience.

If we have your email, online access became available in June. If you would like to provide your email to us to access your fund, please contact the office or email Katie Braswell at kbraswell@hamiltonfoundation.org.



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Youth Philanthropy Committee *holds virtual meeting to award grants*

Every May, YPC meets to review and select grant recipients and this year was no different – except the meeting was held remotely. While the meeting was different the passion and commitment to selecting grant recipients remained the same. This year, sixteen grant applications were reviewed and more than \$35,000 was awarded. Please go to www.hamiltonfoundation.org to see the full list of awards.

Congratulations to our Youth Philanthropy Committee graduating seniors!

During these difficult times, we're here for you!

Although HCF offices are temporarily closed to the public, we are still just a phone call or email away.

Thank you for your continued support and patience during these difficult days.



Hamilton High School
Brooke Barney

College: *University of Cincinnati*
Major: *Architectural Engineering*



Stephen T. Badin High School
Garrett Eldridge

College: *Miami University*
Major: *Supply Chain Operation Management*



Hamilton High School
Victoria Hacker

College: *The Ohio State University*
Major: *Civil Engineering*

FOUNDATION MISSION STATEMENT

"Building a better community through creative philanthropy, vision and leadership."

FOUNDATION VISION STATEMENT

"Continue to be the trusted resource for growing philanthropy and leading change to improve our community."