



Connections

from our Home to Yours

President's Message

As is the case for individuals, families, and organizations everywhere, the Hamilton Community Foundation is charting its course and navigating through this interesting and unique year. Many things have changed as we progressed through 2020: we learned how to temporarily work remotely, we (mostly) mastered Zoom meetings, we utilized phone and email contact, when in-person meetings may have been preferred. Unfortunately, we had to cancel a number of events including the Scholarship Reception, the Legacy Society Dinner, the Harry T. Wilks Hamilton Celebrates Education Dinner, and the Annual Meeting. We certainly missed those wonderful events that always present an opportunity to visit with donors, scholarship recipients, educators and many neighbors and friends from our community. While not celebrating these events is a disappointment, we have continued to do the important work of serving as the philanthropic leader in our community.

Despite restrictions and limitations that have become common in 2020, the Hamilton Community Foundation continues serve our community and provide the vision and leadership that has been our hallmark for nearly 70 years. We continue to award scholarships to deserving youth, we continue to recognize outstanding educators, we continue to lead economic development efforts, continue to support important non-profit organizations in our community and continue to be a trusted source for philanthropic leadership for our generous donors.

We worked to make giving to and through the Foundation easier with our new software system.



John Guidugli
PRESIDENT/CEO

Addressing Community Need

Donors can now contribute simply and efficiently through our website. Additionally, individuals with Donor Advised Funds can suggest grants to non-profit organizations through our new secure donor portal. It makes giving easy and seamless.

Even with the best technology, we, like many others, miss the personal contact we enjoyed prior to this pandemic. Frankly, we miss our donors, our grantees, and our friends throughout our community. We remain hopeful that will be able to meet in person and

host community events next year. In 2021 the Foundation will mark its 70th Anniversary and we are certainly optimistic that we will have the opportunity to celebrate this major milestone with the community that has made it all possible.

As we move forward, please don't hesitate to reach out to us with any of your charitable giving needs. Whether you want to take care of your year-end giving, recognize someone with a holiday gift in their honor or would like to explore a gift from your IRA, the Foundation remains ready to help you achieve your goals. Please let us know how we can help you with any of your charitable giving.

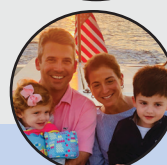
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Our new look

The Hamilton Community Foundation unveiled its new logo this summer. This logo is an updated take on a previous HCF logo – one that returns us to our home, literally. This logo, which incorporates the iconic Lane-Hooven House, reflects our commitment to our home and our community. The logo utilizes the house to demonstrate our roots, our home, our foundation.

The Lane-Hooven House was built by Clark Lane in 1863, several years before he built the Lane Public Library. Clark Lane was a famous Hamilton industrialist and is frequently mentioned as one of Hamilton's first philanthropists. The connection to Mr. Lane, the respect for our history and the spirit of philanthropy are important to the Foundation. We are fortunate to occupy such a special building in the community and our ability to share that image through our logo makes perfect sense to us. We hope you like the new look!



In Memory

The Foundation lost two of its most ardent supporters and friends when former Trustees William L. "Bill" Hartford and Joseph L. "Joe" Marcum passed away in September. Both Bill and Joe served the community in many ways, including as Board Members of the Hamilton Community Foundation. We will miss them and their involvement in the Foundation, but both Bill and Joe established funds that will ensure that their legacy will live on.



William "Bill" Hartford

1939-2020

**William L. and Linda M.
Hartford Scholarship Fund**



Joseph "Joe" Marcum

1923-2020

Marcum Park Maintenance Fund

Leadership at the Foundation

Foundation Elects New Trustees and Officers

The Foundation welcomes Andy Schuster and Susan Vaughn to the Board of Trustees. Both were elected to serve three-year terms beginning next month.

Andy Schuster is President of Matandy Steel and Metal Products. He is a graduate of Stephen T. Badin High School and Miami University. In addition to the Community Foundation, Andy serves on the boards of Great Miami Valley YMCA, Stephen T. Badin High School, and the Greater Hamilton Chamber of Commerce. He has served on the Foundation's Audit Committee for the past several years.



Susan Vaughn is retired from Miami University where she served as Director of the Office of Ethics and Conflict Resolution. She received her Bachelor and master's degrees from Miami. Susan and her husband John reside on Hamilton's west side. Susan serves on Hamilton City Council and the 17 Strong Neighborhood Board, as well the PARACHUTE board and the board of Miami University and Community Federal Credit Union. She is a member of Trouveres and the Hamilton Garden Club.

Foundation officers for 2021 will be:

John Kirsch
Board Chair



Cynamon Trokhan
Vice Chair



Bob Long
Secretary



Andy Schuster
Treasurer



Scott Hartford
Past Chair



Thank You to Outgoing Board Members

The Foundation is grateful for the outstanding service and leadership contributed by outgoing Trustees Heather Lewis and Craig Wilks. Both Heather and Craig served three, three-year terms which included many committee and leadership roles.

Craig and Heather each served as Board Chair and were members of the Foundation's Executive Committee. Their dedication, vision and wisdom will be hard to replace. The Foundation is a better organization because of the leadership of Heather and Craig.

Heather Lewis



Craig Wilks



We wish them well as they conclude their terms, and we hope they will stay engaged with the Foundation.

Unrestricted Community Grant



Garden Parade at Jefferson Park (corner of East and Henley Avenues)
Lead Artist and Designer: Lizzy DuQuette
Supporting Artists: Sarah Baker and Emilie Abrams

Unrestricted Grants Meeting Ever-changing Community Needs

Unrestricted Community Grants are made possible through the generous gifts from donors who establish an Unrestricted Fund. This type of fund allows the Foundation board to grant funds to address a broad range of local needs—including future needs that often cannot be anticipated at the time the gift is made. Unrestricted funds help the Community Foundation to support long-term solutions, respond quickly to emergencies, and meet changing social, cultural, educational, or environmental needs. The flexibility of an unrestricted gift enables the Foundation to respond to the community's most pressing needs, today and tomorrow.

Street Spark Beautifying Our Community One Mural at a Time

In this joyful mural design, we see a group of children parading between giant sunflowers and whimsical garden creatures. The children climb and play with the oversized flowers, mirroring activities at the nearby playset. Inspired by the mission of the Boys and Girls Club and the surrounding Jefferson community, this mural seeks to help children feel welcomed and instill a sense of belonging. This colorful design is full of hope and strives to reflect a sense of community solidarity.

"One of the things that stood out to me with this mural is how much the community members appreciated public art being added to this area. Community organizers and residents all expressed genuine excitement for the project. It seemed to become a positive visual representation of all the work and love they have been putting into the neighborhood," said Jennifer Acus-Smith, Street Spark Program Manager.



One of StreetSpark's goals is to increase the visibility of the arts in Hamilton and one of the ways is by including our smaller neighborhoods. Public art can be influential on a larger scale by creating BIG art on highly traveled streets, but it can make just as powerful an impact when it responds to a community on a personal level.

"Huge thanks to the Foundation for believing in our program!"

Donor makes a \$75,000 donation to purchase much needed truck - "Suzie"



Hunter as a UPS driver

Earlier this year, an anonymous donor advised fund holder made a significant gift to assist the local animal group that provides vital resources to underserved and independent animal care groups and advocates. United Pet Fund connects those who have goods or services to donate with those who need them most – an effort benefiting more than 30,000 animals to date.

"United Pet Fund has been blessed this past year in having access to a gift via the Hamilton Community Foundation....a 2020 Isuzu 18 foot box truck. During a difficult Pandemic year, this truck has been invaluable to our mission by providing us the ability to transfer resources from warehouses, deliver resources, and help carry out our mission of supporting 110+ animal rescues, shelters and advocacy groups in the region," stated Zeke Zekoff, DVM, President and Founder of UPF.

He continued, "When loads get beyond two pallets, the versatility of 'Suzie' makes this an ideal transition vehicle with our over-sized lift gate enabling us to deliver and pick-up resources from the most challenging locations. We look forward to growing the capabilities of our mission of support with this wonderful gift in the coming years. In addition, due to the 'wrapping' of the vehicle, Suzie becomes a traveling billboard for the United Pet Fund. We are very fortunate to have received this very valuable donation from the Hamilton Community Foundation and our gratitude for the trust in us using this blessing to its utmost is beyond compare."



Harry T. Wilks Hamilton Celebrates Education honors 19 educators

A total of 19 educators have been selected to be recognized as Educators of Excellence through the Harry T. Wilks Hamilton Celebrates Education program this year. Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the annual recognition event has been cancelled.

"In spite of not being able to be together to celebrate our nominees at our annual event, we're very pleased to support and recognize so many outstanding educators once again this year," said Katie Braswell, vice president of the Hamilton Community Foundation. "Carrying on the tradition of the late Mr. Wilks and his tremendous generosity to the community and to local education is something the Foundation and the Harry T. Wilks Foundation are proud to do."

Each school chose an Educator of Excellence to be recognized in 2020. All 19 educators receive a \$1,000 grant for their use in the classroom or school. Each educator will also receive a piece of custom glass art made by InsideOut Studio. To read more about each educator, visit our website at www.hamiltonfoundation.org.



Nikki Bowling - Language Arts Teacher, Riverview Elementary - *"Her work goes far beyond room 226 at Riverview-- Ms. Bowling leaves a positive impression on all those who she comes in contact with. Good instruction can be learned, but you can't teach personality. Ms. Bowling has the humor, compassion, and great personality needed to connect with the students at Riverview and make a lasting impact."*

Ty Captain - 3rd Grade Teacher, Fairwood Elementary School - *"Ty's greatest strengths are his personality, mindset and approachable demeanor. You can be knowledgeable and good at many things, but if people do not want to work with you it is hard to increase your sphere of influence and make positive change. This is not the case for Ty. He exudes a positive energy that attracts people to him. His positive energy is contagious."*



Dr. Katherine Christen - ELA Teacher, Hamilton High School Freshman Campus - *"One reason Dr. Christen is a phenomenal educator is her compassion and understanding of her students every day. She always has a smile on her face and warm greetings for her students. She is attentive to their needs. She goes above and beyond to help students out. She sends personal cards home weekly to her students. Students always come in beaming from ear to ear the next day after receiving one of her handwritten cards."*

Sarah Daniels - Art Teacher, Stephen T. Badin High School - *Sarah Daniels had no plans to be a teacher. But, as she puts it, teaching found her. Sarah Daniels brings so much creativity to Badin High School," Badin Principal Brian Pendergest remarked. "She's a tremendously talented person who brings out the best in her students."*



Carolyn Fuchs - Intervention Specialist, Wilson Middle School *"Carolyn's passion, enthusiasm, and dedication to the teaching profession is what all young teachers should aspire to achieve. Carolyn's passion to ensure that all students have equal opportunity to show success in school and in life is transfixed into the classrooms that she attends. She is a great collaborator with her colleagues in a manner that helps to educate and inform new innovative ideas of differentiation and relationship building, and best teaching practices."*

Emily Fuerbacher - Pre-Kindergarten Teacher, Ridgeway Elementary School - *"Emily is vivacious, loving, perpetually happy and is able to use humor to balance out the stress of working with her particular population. No matter what, Emily has a smile on her face and her positive attitude is infectious to students and staff. Emily provides the power of education to today's youth when they FIRST experience the educational setting, thereby giving them the possibility for a better future."*



Matt Gauck - 6th Grade Math/Science Teacher, Bridgeport Elementary School - *"Mr. Gauck is an incredibly innovative and devoted teacher. He makes Science come alive for students and his passion for the subject is contagious. Matt designs lessons that get kids moving, collaborating and problem solving. He is always looking for ways to engage our students and increase their learning!"*

Stephanie Glassmeyer - 3rd Grade Teacher, St. Ann's Catholic School - *"Stephanie works tirelessly to ensure that her students receive an optimal education. Creativity shines through her engaging lessons as you often see her students enthusiastically solving mystery clues to breakout riddles and so much more!"*



To read more about each educator, visit our website at www.hamiltonfoundation.org.



Cheryl Hunt - Kindergarten/Assist. Principal, Queen of Peace School - *"Beyond the call of duty" is the only way Mrs. Hunt knows how to do her job. She doesn't keep score or maintain any mental ledger of the time and labor she freely gives. That's not her gig. She's not in it for the awards (even though she deserves one!). The best ones never are. She's in it for the plain love of what she does."*

Joey Malone - 6th Grade ELA/Social Studies Teacher, Highland Elementary School - *"Students in Mrs. Malone's class are held to a higher standard because she is able to forge such positive relationships with them and their families. Mrs. Malone has been known to stay late into the evening making phone calls to parents or guardians of students who she knows could give a little more effort if given the right boost. All students know that Joey cares about them the moment they walk into her classroom."*



Amber Massey - Language Arts Teacher, Miami School - *"Amber is our 'Lucy' from the Charles Schultz's Peanuts cartoon. The 'doctor' is always 'in' after school around Amber's desk. She has a connection with each one of her colleagues, and she is quick to welcome new staff members to the team."*

Jennifer Meadows - Kindergarten Teacher, Crawford Woods Elementary School - *"Jennifer is a true example of making every minute count--transition times in the hallways and even dismissal are used to practice letter naming and sounds. Not a moment of the day is left to waste with Mrs. Meadows teaching bell to bell! But the learning doesn't stop at academics; Students grow in their maturity, communication, behavior self-management, and CONFIDENCE whenever they are in her presence."*



Kristy Neeley - Intervention Specialist, Hamilton High School Main Campus - *"Kristy is always available for support any time of day, any day of the week, for any reason. She has such incredible drive and passion for the field of special education that keeps our department strong. Teachers and administrators have learned so much from her. We are better educators for having worked with her."*

Betsie Ostermyer - 6th Grade ELA/Social Studies Teacher, Brookwood Elementary School - *"One needs only to walk into Ms. Ostermyer's classroom for a moment to feel the pulse of learning in action. Students quite literally jump out of their seats to participate in lively class discussions. The love of learning is palpable anytime you enter Ms. Ostermyer's class. It is a rare educator that is able to instill a love of learning in students that becomes the motivator for their learning, yet Ms. Ostermyer does exactly that."*



Jimi Sizemore - 7th & 8th Grade Physical Education Teacher, Garfield Middle School - *"Middle school is a challenging time for students as they search to discover who they are and what their interests are. Mr. Sizemore makes this challenge a bit more accessible and his students respect and admire him for that. When asked how he accomplishes this, his kind and honest response explains it clearly, 'I want them coming into class in a good mood and leaving in a better mood.'"*

Amy Starnes - 2nd Grade Teacher, Linden Elementary School - *"Ms. Starnes builds amazing relationships with her students. She creates a community of learners in an environment that is filled with enthusiasm and passion. She takes time to get to know her students and develops interest in their interests. She has a great sense of humor and will start the class with a joke of the day and a comic strip."*



Frances Verdon - Kindergarten Teacher, Immanuel Lutheran School - *"At the heart of Mrs. Verdon's innovation is a desire to reach the students. There are no two students alike. Knowing this, Mrs. Verdon does not insist on her way but adapts and adjusts to the learners in the room. She is always looking for ways to incorporate STEM into her student's learning. She includes many hands on, engaging activities to intrinsically motivate her students and generate a curiosity that makes them lifelong learners."*

Angie Wirtz - 8th Grade Teacher, St. Peter in Chains School - *"Ms. Wirtz impacts her students daily by always having a smile on her face and a willingness to help students with not only their academics but with social, emotional, and spiritual needs. Students love taking her classes because they feel nurtured and loved in her room. Ms. Wirtz is always pleasant and greets every one of her students each morning as they come into her room. She truly puts kids first."*



Bernadette Zimmerman - 7th & 8th Grade Teacher, St. Joseph Consolidate School - *"After many years of experience, Bernie still seeks the advice of her peers which demonstrates humility and her willingness to continue to learn. She sets high expectations of her students and designs cross-curricular projects that allow students to discover connections in the world. The students at St. Joseph are fortunate to experience and benefit from Bernie's passion and enthusiasm for education."*

The Hamilton Community Foundation is honored to carry out the charitable interests of our donors through the establishment of their funds. We are pleased to include the following donors to the Foundation family.

Leadership Hamilton 29 Class Project for the Boys and Girls Club Fund



The Greater Hamilton Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Hamilton program is a great way for professionals to come together to learn about the community and its needs. As a result, each class identifies a need they will address either with time, talent or treasures. Class 29 is no different as they saw the need to help the Boys and Girls Club create a space where the children can safely do their homework.



In June, Leadership Hamilton Class 29 chose their project to be one of support, growth and caring for the children who attend the Boys & Girls Clubs of Hamilton. The Boys & Girls Club currently use a converted locker room for their Homework Help Room, which is not conducive for learning. Leadership Hamilton class participants wanted to create a space that provided better lighting and room for the kids to do their work comfortably, as well as provide them with a space to relax, read and partake in additional activities.

"It was an easy decision for LH Class 29 to partner with the Hamilton Community Foundation in their fundraising efforts. Creating a fund at the Hamilton Community Foundation provided a sense of security to the individuals and organizations choosing to support this project. And the Hamilton Community Foundation made the donation process seamless for donors," commented Kim Neal Davis - Leadership Class 29 member.



Greater Hamilton Hamilton Chamber of Commerce Leadership Hamilton Class 29

Joe and Katie Lanni Advised Fund



Joe and Katie Lanni have been married for 15 years, they have two children Leo and Nina (5 and 3). The Lanni's currently reside in East Walnut Hills in Cincinnati but have strong family ties to Hamilton and Joe grew up here. Their primary charitable interests include the arts, education and hunger relief.

Quinn Family Fund

This donor advised fund was established by Denise and John Quinn to support their charitable interests in the community. John and Denise grew up in Syracuse, NY and for both their first move was to Hamilton. Their son who is now 24 years old was born here so they always felt Hamilton was their second home.

While living in Washington and Texas, Denise was involved in the Boys and Girls Clubs in those communities. When they made their last move back to Ohio, Denise was approached about her interest in the organization and has served as a Board member ever since. She is also member of the Fort Hamilton Hospital Foundation Board and Chair of the Butler County Port Authority Board.

Denise credits her alma mater, LeMoyne College, a little-known liberal arts college in Syracuse, as the place that influenced her understanding of the responsibility to give back and support others in any way you are able.

Choosing the Right Fund Option for You

How involved do you want to be in your charitable giving?

Do you want to give to a specific organization or a specific field of interest?

Create a scholarship to honor or memorialize a loved one?

Create or continue your business giving program?

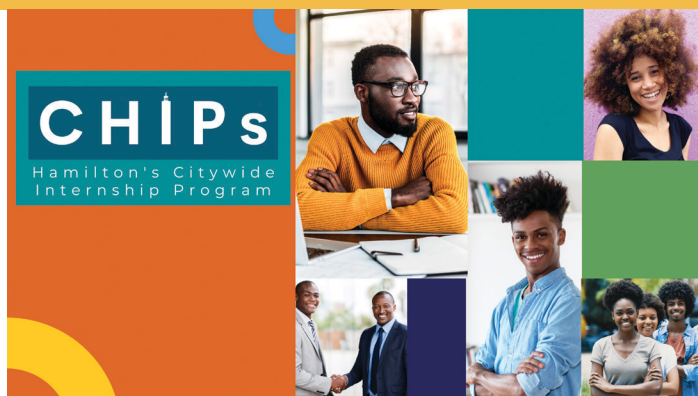
Maybe you want to allow the Foundation board to meet the needs of times through an unrestricted gift.

Whatever your goals, there is a fund option for you.

The Foundation offers a number of fund options for you, your family, your business and non-profit organization.

Contact us to begin achieving your charitable goals through the services of the Foundation.

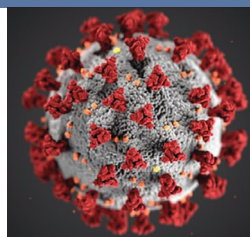
Citywide Hamilton Internship Program



This fund was established to assist Hamilton's Citywide Internship program. The mission of CHIPs is to become a conduit that connects companies and untapped talent from historically underserved populations. Through internships, workforce education and leadership experiences they create pathways to career opportunities, workplace development and cultural integration for more diverse and productive companies.

Butler County Covid 19 Relief Fund

The Butler County Covid-19 Response Fund was created in collaboration with the Butler County United Way to assist Butler County non-profit organizations with emergency and then ongoing needs as the pandemic continues. The Fund will allow ongoing assessment of emerging demand trends and provide the ability to pro-actively monitor and react to our county's needs.



New Funds(cont.)

Hamilton Pride Fund

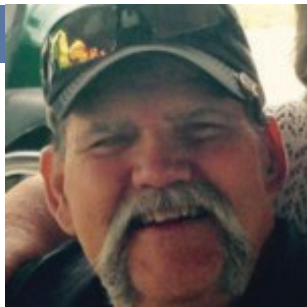


The Hamilton Pride Fund was established to support the charitable activities of the Hamilton, Ohio Pride Committee. They celebrate diversity, love, and fellowship within the community through gatherings, support networks, and the arts. They promote unity, inclusion, and awareness of sexual and gender diversity and aim to create a sense of community for LGBTQ individuals, their families, and their allies. Hamilton PRIDE strives to create an open and safe community for all to live and express their authentic selves.

Jared's Jam Concert Fund

This fund was established in memory of Jared Whalen, a 1993 Hamilton High School graduate and highly regarded chef in Butler County. This fund will help support RiversEdge Concerts each year at Marcum Park.

In 2019, the first Jared's Jam Concert, featuring Chris Robinson Brotherhood with special guest Dumpstaphunk was held in memory of Jared. Through this fund, annual distributions will be made to support the concert for many years.



John A. Trent Memorial Scholarship Fund

This scholarship was established by the family and friends of John Trent in his memory. John graduated from Taft High School and worked as an intake officer with the Butler County Juvenile Detention Center for many years. He also worked as a paraprofessional at Garfield High School and Hamilton High school where he was known as "Mr. T."

After returning to school and graduating from Miami University, he taught at Princeton City Schools and Hamilton City Schools. John was a passionate golfer, playing with the Chatterbox team in the Tavern League, the Cincinnati Lefties and the Ohio and National Association of

Lefthanded Golfers. He was a long time employee of the pro shop at Twin Run Golf Course where he most enjoyed helping with the junior clinics. To continue John's passion of working with young people, his renewable scholarship is offered to graduates of Hamilton and Talawanda school districts who enjoy golf and are furthering their education in any type of post-secondary program.

Louis Luke Barich and Donna Jean Barich Scholarship Loan Fund

This fund was established to support students pursuing higher education at Miami University Hamilton. Dr. Louis "Luke" Barich was a dermatologist in Hamilton for many years prior to his passing in 2019.

Billie Jo and David Spicer Scholarship Fund

The Spicer's created this scholarship fund to support area graduating high school seniors pursuing a career in the arts.

Dave spent his career at Champion/International Paper as a machinist. Billie Jo spent her career in sales of coke plant by-products, scrap, iron oxide, etc. at Armco/AKSteel. Both cancer survivors, they enjoy traveling around the United States and spend two weeks every March on the Florida beaches. When they are in town, they are involved with the Presbyterian church where they served as deacon, circle group, bible studies, office work, meals on wheels, etc.

In 1978, along with some friends they started the local Corvette Club. In October 2020, the Corvettes of Hamilton celebrated their 42nd anniversary. The club enjoys taking back road cruises, socializing, talking cars and giving to local charities.

Socializing, traveling, eating, cooking, playing cards and board games, sharing, supporting friends, nieces, and nephews – that's the Spicers!



Giving made easy, organized and transformative

The Foundation has been serving the needs of donors for nearly 70 years now. When you work with the Hamilton Community Foundation, you get personal, trusted service. You're also investing in a community foundation that gives back to the area by making nonprofits and the community stronger. We listen and offer you the tools, resources and insight to ensure that you can easily and confidently realize your giving goals. We want to ensure that your giving experience is fulfilling and impactful.

Our latest addition of services for donors is providing online access to their charitable funds. Through the new portal, donors can see the full picture of their charitable giving activities.



"We use our family donor advised fund at the Foundation for all of our charitable giving. We love having access to our fund through the new donor portal. It allows us to make grants and check our fund activity after hours when it is convenient for us. It is user friendly and a perfect addition to the services we receive from the Foundation staff."

– John and Heather Lewis

"Debbie and I wanted to let you know how nice it is to use the new donor portal. If we decide to make a donation to one of favorite causes the ease of access and the ability to make the donation at any time is fabulous. The website has everything we need to get the transaction completed quickly. We think the portal is great addition in accessing the Foundation information."

– Patrick and Debbie Pawling



"Love the new donor portal. I can instantly access my fund, see the amount, and make a grant within minutes. Another great feature is that the donor portal will list your previous grants which makes it simple to re-donate to your favorite charities."

– Steve and Linda Timmer

Considering your year-end donations?

As the close of the year approaches, the Hamilton Community Foundation is here to help you simplify your charitable giving. When you make a donation by December 31st to the Community Foundation, you aren't just giving money—you're making a difference in our community!

- Consider a gift of appreciated stock or mutual funds.
- Bunch multiple years' gifts into a Donor-Advised Fund.
- Use your required IRA distribution for giving, skip the taxes.
- Give in someone's honor.
- Donate in lieu of a holiday gift. Whether it's to your own Donor Advised Fund or one of our other funds.

Whatever your charitable interests we are here to help. Call the office at 513-863-1717 to begin the discussion.



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Upcoming Dates of Note

Accepting Scholarship Applications

December 14, 2020 – January 22, 2021

Community Unrestricted Grant Applications due

January 4, for February Board meeting

Youth Philanthropy Committee

Accepting Grant Requests until February 12, 2021

Last day to make your charitable gift for 2020

December 31, 2020

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."

