Spring 2024 Issue

THE DIFFERENCE



NONPROFIT FEATURE

AN EXCEPTIONAL JOURNEY

From camp to school, the Golden Key Center for Exceptional Children has evolved to meet the changing needs of children with special needs.

The Golden Key Center for Exceptional Children embarked on its journey in 2007 as a summer camp catering to special needs children. Nearly two decades later, it has undergone a remarkable transformation, evolving into an accredited, non-public charter school dedicated to educating preschoolers through eighth graders with Autism and other developmental disabilities.

With small class sizes, enhanced therapy services, individualized curriculum and a deep understanding of disabilities, the private school offers a unique learning environment for its growing student body.

HOW IT STARTED

The inception of the Golden Key traces back to an ongoing conversation between Terry Frank, who at the time was an autism intervention and educational specialist at Stark MRDD (now Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities), and her friend Katherine Catazaro-Perry, a registered nurse and mother of a child with Down Syndrome. They often discussed the absence of after-school programming for special needs children and their shared passion for addressing this gap. Thus, the Golden Key Center for Exceptional Children was born, initially as a summer camp in collaboration with Stark MRDD.

The Golden Key later became an official nonprofit in 2008, with an established board of directors, including businessman and philanthropist Guy Cecchini. Guy knew co-founders Terry and Kathy were looking for a place to rent and he offered a building he owned at 30th Street NW in Canton for $1 a year in rent.

Reflecting on the Golden Key's beginnings, Terry shared how one heartfelt inquiry prompted the school's development: "When we started our childcare program, we were serving three students. Those families asked us: 'Why can't they go to school here?' We started exploring it and it really evolved from there."

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The Foundation achieved significant milestones in its 60th anniversary year, thanks to generous support from our community.

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A MILESTONE YEAR

Stark Community Foundation's 60th anniversary year in 2023 was truly something special.

We started the year with a sincere intention to express gratitude and honor those who've made our six decades of impact possible. What transpired in 2023 exceeded our expectations— our generous community responded by giving at an extraordinary level, supporting meaningful causes throughout Stark County and beyond.

Together, with our growing family of donors, we awarded an all-time high of $23 million to more than 800 organizations. On pages 4-6, we invite you to explore some of the inspiring stories behind these impactful grants and learn more about the caring individuals who made them possible.

In 2023, the Foundation achieved significant milestones not only in grantmaking but also in fundraising. Thanks to the generous support from individuals, families, businesses and organizations, we raised $28 million, with $27 million in outright gifts and $1 million in planned gifts. These gifts helped establish a historic 53 new charitable funds, bringing the total number of funds managed by the Foundation to 950.

By the close of the year, the Foundation's assets surpassed $380 million—an invaluable resource dedicated to enhancing the well-being of our community. With this asset size, the Foundation proudly remains among the top 10 percent of community foundations in the United States.

We genuinely appreciate your support and for celebrating our 60th anniversary with us all year long. It was a year of record-breaking firsts, made possible only by our community's generosity. Thank you for your commitment to making a difference and your continued partnership.

We look forward to the positive impact we'll make together in the decades ahead.

With appreciation,

Mark J. Samolczyk
President and CEO

$23M NEW RECORD

WAS AWARDED IN GRANTS, BRINGING OUR TOTAL TO MORE THAN $250 MILLION AWARDED SINCE 1963.

$28M

WAS RAISED IN PLANNED AND OUTRIGHT GIFTS, MAKING 2023 THE THIRD-HIGHEST FUNDRAISING YEAR IN THE FOUNDATION'S HISTORY.

53 NEW RECORD

NEW CHARITABLE FUNDS WERE ESTABLISHED, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CHARITABLE FUNDS MANAGED BY THE FOUNDATION TO 950.

THE ONE-YEAR RETURN ON STARK COMMUNITY FOUNDATION'S INVESTMENTS TOTALED

13.3%.

STARK COMMUNITY FOUNDATION'S ASSETS FOR THE BETTERMENT OF OUR COMMUNITY TOTALED OVER

$380M.

2023 figures are preliminary and unaudited

SPRING 2024 ISSUE

OUR STAFF

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Nancy A. Varian

OUR MISSION

We partner with individuals, families, businesses and nonprofits to help them achieve their charitable goals.

OUR VISION

We seek a thriving, engaged and inclusive community.

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[continued from cover]

As the school responded to the evolving needs of its students, its curriculum expanded from serving kindergarten through third grade, to then fifth grade and later eighth grade. This growth was guided by a deep understanding of the specialized education required by its students.

One parent, profoundly impacted by their son's experience at the Golden Key, shared:

"The Golden Key provides peace of mind that our child is guaranteed to be treated with respect and dignity even though he may be different from his peers.

Within the first 90 days after enrolling in the program, he went from a five-word vocabulary to well over 100. That was the moment we knew we found the right place for our son!"



Oftentimes, when a family comes to the Golden Key for assistance, they are stressed and looking for a school that can meet their child's unique needs, knowing that their chance of success would be greater in a different educational environment. As a provider of the State of Ohio's Jon Peterson Scholarship and Ohio Autism Scholarship, no family pays out of pocket for the education, intervention services and therapy support their children receive at the Golden Key. Taking the financial stress out of the equation allows families to focus solely on their children's education.

HOW IT'S GOING

Today, the Golden Key is the area's largest private special needs school, serving nearly 130 students from 22 local school districts in preschool through eighth grade.

The school serves both verbal and nonverbal children and places students in classrooms based on ability, not age, unlike a traditional school system.

Students receive education, intervention, speech-language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, music and arts programming, tech and library science, social skills intervention, food therapy,



relational and behavioral support and nursing services all under one roof— making it easier on students and their families.

One unique program even focuses on addressing eating difficulties common among children with autism. Staff are trained in Sequential Oral Sensory Therapy to help expand students' diets.

While the school's programming has evolved over the years, so has its physical space.

In 2012, Golden Key purchased the building it was renting from Guy Cecchini on 30th Street NW with assistance from five local charitable foundations.

However, the school found itself rapidly outgrowing the building in the following years due to increased student interest and expanded services. Although the possibility of acquiring a different building was entertained, it was deemed essential for the Golden Key to remain at its current location. This decision was made with students and their families in mind—a physical relocation could disrupt current students, who often struggle with change.

It was through the generous support from local foundations and other community partners that Golden Key underwent a $2.4 million renovation and expansion in 2022 to add more classrooms and restrooms, additional office and therapy spaces, a functional gym for increased physical activity programs and a functional living space to teach independent living skills.

Since the expansion, Golden Key has increased its enrollment by 20%, now up to 126 students. Despite this growth, there's still a lengthy waiting list, highlighting the ongoing need for specialized education in the community.

For students who attend Golden Key, the impact can be life-changing. Take DJ's family, for instance.

Before enrolling at Golden Key, DJ struggled in a mainstream public school, dealing with daily behavior issues that frequently resulted in him being sent home. Recognizing the need for a change, his parents began looking for a different educational environment.

DJ's mother reflected on their decision, sharing: "I researched many schools, but when we talked with the Golden Key, I knew that was the right choice for my son. I was scared as a mother to send my autistic child to a new school, on a bus and expect him to have good days. The team really stepped up and walked us through every process of the transition. Since that day, DJ has not been sent home from school one time. The Golden Key embraces who my child is and sees all the potential he has.

I now have a child that values, loves and respects himself. As a parent with a special needs child, this is life-changing."

NEXT STEPS

Most recently, Terry has announced her retirement as Golden Key's executive director after 17 years of serving medically fragile, autistic and neuro-typical developing children.

Golden Key's operations director Gina Bannevich has been named Terry's successor. Gina's connection to Golden Key runs deep— her own son spent his formative years there before moving on to high school.

When asked if the Golden Key has reached its fullest potential, Gina shared: "Based on the calls we get, no, we are not done growing. There's such a need in the community for the education and services we provide."

Future plans for the Golden Key include prioritizing staff development to ensure the team remains uniquely qualified and continuing to adapt to the changing needs of students and their families.

Learn more about the Golden Key at **www.goldenkeyschool.com**



IMPACT STORIES

In 2023, Stark Community Foundation and its growing family of donors reached a monumental milestone by granting a historic $23 million to benefit over 800 organizations, both locally and beyond.

Throughout the year, a total of 2,829 grants were awarded to support a variety of meaningful causes within the community— ranging from youth arts programming and college scholarships to services for veterans and resources for cancer patients.

Explore the stories behind eight of those impactful grants, uncovering the motivations and passions of the compassionate individuals, families, businesses and nonprofits that have established charitable funds through Stark Community Foundation. These fundholders award grants of all sizes throughout the year, demonstrating their care and commitment to making a difference in our community.

Here's a glimpse into their inspiring stories:

IN 2023...

$1,369,478 WAS AWARDED IN GRANTS FROM COMMUNITY CHARITABLE FUNDS





FEATURED FUND

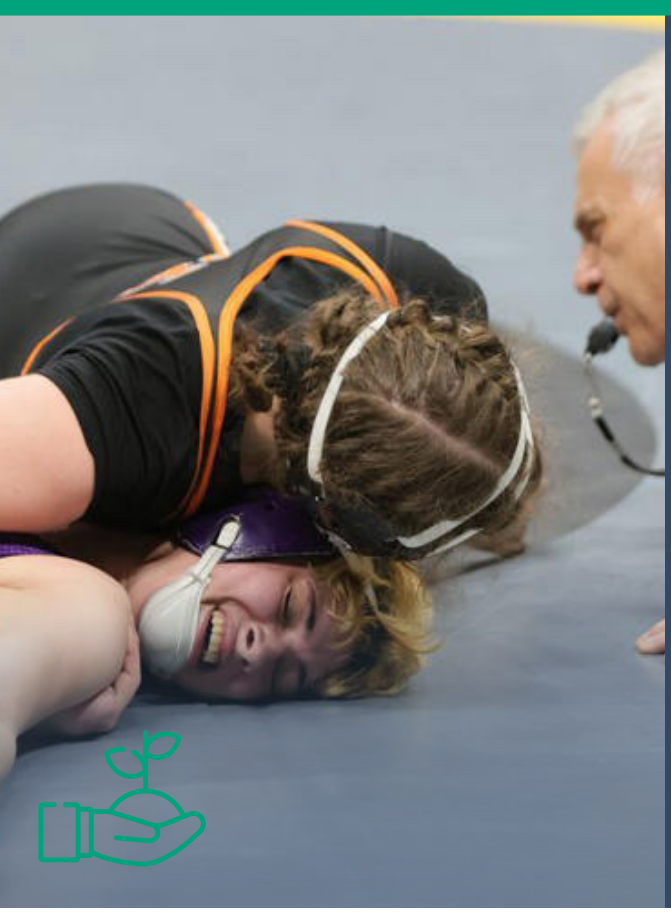
WILLIAM K. AND LOTTE E. WILSON PHILANTHROPIC FUND

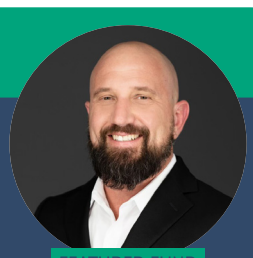
GRANTEE: ARTSINSTARK
PURPOSE: RECLAMATION OF THE ZIEGLER BUILDING AS COMMUNITY ARTS SPACE

William "Bill" Wilson, who retired as Diebold's vice president of marketing and later served as the executive director of Stark Community Foundation from 1980 to 1988, left an indelible mark on the community. Known for his warmth, generosity and tireless dedication, Bill was a major force in Stark County. Following his passing in 1988, his family, friends and colleagues came together to establish a charitable fund in his honor, aimed at meeting the evolving needs of the community he devoted his life to strengthening.

Most recently, the William K. and Lotte E. Wilson Philanthropic Fund generously supported the transformation of the Ziegler Tire building, located on ArtsinStark's campus in downtown Canton, into a vibrant community arts space. This new facility will serve as the future home of Bluecoats affiliate EN-RICH-MENT, with ample space to accommodate its growing arts programs and the hundreds of students involved. The renovated facility will include music and dance rehearsal spaces, several classrooms and practice rooms, a sensory room tailored for students with autism and administrative offices. Thanks to the Wilsons' generosity, local youth will have access to a diverse array of artistic experiences, ranging from symphonic music to modern dance, ballet, painting classes and ceramics.

$3,124,074 WAS AWARDED IN GRANTS FROM DESIGNATED FUNDS





FEATURED FUND

MICHAEL CARIOTI SCHOLARSHIP FUND IN PERSEVERANCE

GRANTEE: NORTH CANTON CITY SCHOOLS
PURPOSE: SCHOLARSHIPS TO MALE AND FEMALE ATHLETES

Kelly Carioti and Stephanie Carioti Mohar established the Michael Carioti Scholarship Fund in Perseverance to honor the memory of their brother and ensure that his legacy of perseverance and passion for athletics lives on forever. Michael, a Hoover High School and West Liberty University alumnus and disciplined wrestler, cherished the bonds he formed with his coaches and teammates throughout the years. Sports were integral to his life, fostering a lifelong commitment to teamwork and competition and epitomizing the "Will to Win" always.

Despite facing adversity, he overcame challenges and persevered through sports, life and his career. When Michael lost his battle to COVID-19 in 2021, his family decided to honor his memory by supporting high school students from his alma mater who exemplify the same dedication and drive. Each year, the fund provides scholarships to two North Canton Hoover High School athletes who, like Michael, defied the odds and showed resilience. The fund has already supported four students, including women's wrestler Jordan Palmer and football player Jeremy Kish in 2023. Jordan is continuing her wrestling career while studying at John Carroll University, and Jeremy is pursuing a degree at the Ohio State University.

$9,439,371 WAS AWARDED IN GRANTS FROM **DONOR ADVISED FUNDS**





FEATURED FUND

ANNETTE AND MICHAEL MCCANN CHARITABLE FUND

GRANTEE: SERVING AREA MILITARY AND VETERANS (SAM CENTER)
PURPOSE: GENERAL SUPPORT

Annette and Michael McCann, long-time residents of Stark County and the founders of McCann Plastics, established a Donor Advised Fund through Stark Community Foundation to deepen their philanthropic efforts and instill in their children the value of making a positive impact. Each year, the McCanns actively support various causes that are important to their family, including a special cause deeply rooted in their family's history: veterans. Annette's father was an Army Air Force pilot during World War II, transporting troops and supplies across the globe. Annette and Michael have always had an appreciation and respect for the sacrifices of our military, and their children do too.

In 2023, their family supported Serving Area Military and Veterans (SAM Center), a local nonprofit providing support to active-duty military personnel, veterans and their families in Stark County. With the McCanns' and community members' support, the SAM Center expanded its reach by opening a second location in Canal Fulton to complement its original location in Massillon. From mental health support and benefits assistance to food and lodging kits, the SAM Center assists over 700 veterans' families annually to ensure they receive the care, compassion and recognition they rightfully deserve.

$1,686,833 WAS AWARDED IN GRANTS FROM **FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS**





FEATURED FUND

GRACE WALLACE SULLIVAN FIELD OF INTEREST FUND

GRANTEE: AKRON ZOOLOGICAL PARK
PURPOSE: AKRON ZOO IN STARK COUNTY CLASSROOMS

Born in Akron, Ohio, Grace Wallace Sullivan graduated from McKinley High School in 1923 and later earned a bachelor's degree in education from the University of Akron. She dedicated her professional career to nurturing our community's youth, teaching for 25 years at South Market Elementary School in Canton. Upon her passing in 2004 at the age of 98, she made plans through her estate to create a charitable fund to support innovative programs for youth organizations—a fitting tribute to her passion for children.

Recently, Grace's fund helped bring the Akron Zoo to nearly 1,000 Stark County elementary students. Throughout the school year, younger students engaged with animal friends to develop classroom skills such as handling anxiety, embracing differences and building empathy. Meanwhile, older students took a hands-on approach by learning the daily tasks of four STEM-focused zoo careers: animal care, veterinary, horticulture and facilities/grounds. Fifth graders researched, designed and prototyped solutions for a real-world problem facing the Akron Zoo, all while receiving expert feedback from the Zoo's staff. These programs honored Grace's legacy by providing unique learning experiences, a cause she would have undoubtedly cherished as an educator.

$4,828,117 WAS AWARDED IN GRANTS FROM **ORGANIZATION ENDOWMENT FUNDS**



FEATURED FUND

LAKE ACADEMIC BOOSTERS ENDOWMENT FUND

GRANTEE: LAKE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
PURPOSE: STEAM NIGHT

The Lake Academic Boosters established an endowment fund aimed at enriching the educational experience of both current and future students within the Lake Local School District. This fund plays a pivotal role in directly influencing student learning by providing essential resources such as programming, support services, equipment and other necessities crucial for maintaining excellence in Lake's education system.

In November 2023, Lake hosted a record-breaking Fall Family STEAM Night, made partly possible through the generosity of the Lake Academic Boosters Endowment Fund. Families and children of all ages had the unique opportunity to engage, learn and immerse themselves in the world of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) through 42 hands-on stations developed by dedicated teachers, enthusiastic volunteers, local nonprofits and area businesses. During the night of exploration, Lake Elementary School buzzed with excitement as participants took part in various science experiments, tackled engineering challenges suitable for all ages, embarked on creative art projects and delved into math games and puzzles. Families left the event with joyful memories of learning, thanks to the support of the Lake Academic Boosters and other community partners that made STEAM Night a successful celebration.

$720,003 WAS AWARDED IN GRANTS FROM **SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS**





FEATURED FUND

ADRIENNE O'NEILL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

GRANTEE: FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS
PURPOSE: SCHOLARSHIPS

In honor of Dr. Adrienne O'Neill's retirement, the Timken Foundation of Canton established a scholarship fund to recognize her years of exemplary service as an educational leader in Stark County. Reflecting Adrienne's commitment to lifelong learning, the fund awards scholarships annually to first-generation college students in Stark County with financial need.

The fund has provided scholarship assistance to 55 first-generation college students since it was created in 2015, including Carmyn Warren who received support in 2023. Carmyn's journey is a testament to the value her mother placed on education and academic excellence. Her mother's relentless encouragement and dedication paid off when Carmyn graduated from GlenOak High School last year with a 3.9 grade point average. Today, with assistance from the Adrienne O'Neill Scholarship Fund, Carmyn is pursuing a degree in computer engineering at Hampton University in Virginia and furthering her interests in robotics, coding and building and designing computers.

$1,350,998 WAS AWARDED IN GRANTS FROM **SUPPORTING FOUNDATIONS**



Health Foundation of Greater Massillon

FEATURED FUND

HEALTH FOUNDATION OF GREATER MASSILLON

GRANTEE: AULTMAN HEALTH FOUNDATION
PURPOSE: AULTMAN CANCER DIETITIAN PROGRAM

In 1999, the Health Foundation of Greater Massillon (HFGM) was established through a collaboration between Massillon Community Hospital and Akron General Medical Center. Each year, HFGM's board, comprised of local active and retired business professionals, funds projects addressing health and wellness challenges in Western Stark, Eastern Wayne and Northern Tuscarawas counties, with a special emphasis on helping economically disadvantaged residents.

Most recently, HFGM provided vital support to Aultman Hospital's Cancer Dietitian Program to improve access to nutrition services for cancer patients free of charge. Research has shown that even minor adjustments to a patient's diet can significantly alleviate treatment side effects like nausea, fatigue and headaches. The program initially began with one cancer dietitian, but expanded in 2023 to include two additional dietitians due to growing demand—doubling the number of patients able to be served within the first month. By working alongside a dietitian, patients from HFGM's targeted counties received personalized nutritional guidance and were able to spend more time with their families and friends enjoying the simple things in life, including eating. Thanks in part to HFGM's invaluable support, Aultman Hospital's Cancer Dietitian Program has witnessed increased patient demand, positive patient feedback and most importantly, improved health outcomes.

$406,643 WAS AWARDED IN GRANTS FROM **INITIATIVES** FUNDS



stark county NEIGHBORHOOD partnership program

FEATURED FUND

STARK COUNTY NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

GRANTEE: NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS
PURPOSE: NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Since its early beginnings, Stark Community Foundation has been investing in neighborhoods. In 1997, the Foundation launched an initiative to strengthen Stark County neighborhoods through a collaborative grant program. Over the years, this program has awarded more than $3 million to neighborhood associations, fostering the creation of safe, well-maintained neighborhoods that are inviting places to live, work, play and raise a family. These grants have supported a variety of community improvements, ranging from beautification projects to neighborhood newsletters and engagement activities.

In 2023, 16 neighborhood associations received grants, including Alliance's Maple Beach Neighborhood Association. With funding from the program, Maple Beach coordinated a neighborhood cleanup and organized a neighborhood picnic, both aimed at restoring community pride. Residents came together one morning to clean up, collect trash and tend to the yards of neighbors in need, and concluded their day admiring the visible improvements to their homes and neighborhood. In October, the association's annual neighborhood picnic saw record attendance. As residents gathered for a day of connection and celebration, they reflected on the achievements of the association and the neighborhood. Maple Beach now boasts a safer and cleaner environment, thanks to the diligent efforts of the Maple Beach Neighborhood Association, supported by Stark Community Foundation.

OUR FAMILY TREE

19 charitable funds were established through Stark Community Foundation from October 1 through December 31, 2023.

Subfunds (2)

Amsterdam Area Foundation
Established by the Amsterdam Area Foundation in 2023, this endowment fund's purpose is to provide an income stream to address the ongoing needs and opportunities in the Amsterdam area. A caring community member with a desire to uplift his hometown provided the seed money to establish this fund.

Beech Creek Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve Endowment Fund
Established by Beech Creek Botanical Garden & Nature Preserve, this endowment fund generates a consistent income stream to preserve its education programs, exhibits and land for future generations. The fund's initial seed money was provided by the Six for 60: Endowment Fund Challenge, a community voting challenge in celebration of Stark Community Foundation's 60th anniversary, where Beech Creek was the winner of the Environment & Animal Welfare category.



Garrett and Megan Brown Charitable Fund
Garrett and Megan Brown created a charitable fund to contribute to local causes that are important to their family and address community needs. Their fund will eventually be passed down to their children – Audrey, Margo and Marshall – to continue their family's tradition of giving back.

Steven J. and Lori J. Burger Charitable Fund
Steve and Lori created a charitable fund to support the meaningful work of area nonprofits and involve their family in creating a stronger community. Their fund will eventually be passed down to their daughters, Cassidy and Abigail, to uphold their family's commitment to making a positive impact.



Shawn Coon Memorial Fund
The Shawn Coon Memorial Fund was established in 2023 by Shawn's family as a lasting tribute to his life and the impact he had on Louisville and the surrounding communities. Shawn, a St. Thomas Aquinas High School and Ohio University graduate, is remembered for his infectious smile, charismatic personality, adventurous spirit and unwavering dedication to his family, friends and coworkers. By supporting the causes he cared about, the fund aims to honor his legacy and continue his positive influence, which family members will carry on for generations to come.

Eastern Ohio Extension Camps Endowment Fund
With a foresighted approach, Eastern Ohio Extension Camps established an endowment fund in 2023 to provide long-term sustainability and continuous support for Camp Piedmont. This perpetual funding source ensures area youth at 4-H Camp Piedmont can always benefit from its personal and environmental educational opportunities and social interaction in a natural setting.

Albert W. and Edith V. Flowers Foundation
Originally established as a private foundation in 1968, the Albert W. and Edith V. Flowers Foundation supports charitable causes benefitting the Stark County community. Albert Flowers, former owner and president of Flowers Welding & Machine Co. in Canton, and his wife, Edith, were actively involved in supporting local initiatives. Edith passed away in 1972, followed by Albert in 1974.

Joseph and Cathy Gerzina Charitable Fund
Joseph, a longtime bank executive, and Cathy, a registered nurse, established a charitable fund to support their giving interests in Stark County, with a special focus on Catholic education. Their fund will eventually be passed down to their children, Kathleen and Andrew, to continue supporting causes that are important to their family.

William E. Kalkreuth Charitable Fund
Local clinical counselor and psychometrist William Kalkreuth created a charitable fund to give back to nonprofits he cares about in Stark County and beyond. After his passing, his fund will provide ongoing support to Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank, Salvation Army Canton Corps, Stark County Humane Society and the USO.

Klimo Donor Advised Fund
Jackson Township residents Carole and Gerald Klimo created a charitable fund focused on supporting organizations close to their hearts. With a strong focus on family and helping others, the couple's fund will be passed down to their daughters, Kasey and Kelly, to continue their family's philanthropic legacy.

Robert W. Krause Charitable Foundation

Legacy of Honor Endowment Fund
This endowment fund provides a steady stream of income to help Legacy of Honor serve active military, veterans, first responders and their families now and for generations to come. A generous gift from Karin Riggs in loving memory of her husband and Legacy of Honor co-founder Ross Riggs jump-started this fund.

Tony Peterson Charitable Fund



Dr. Tricia and Andrew Pugh-Pennell Family Foundation
Red Star Veterinary Clinic Founder and Veterinarian Dr. Tricia Pugh and her husband, Andrew Pennell, created a family foundation to provide support for causes throughout the region that align with their interests and passions. Their fund will eventually be passed down to their son, Hudson, to continue their family's legacy of compassion and care for both animals and people.

Marilyn E. Riehl Charitable Fund
Marilyn E. Riehl, an alumna of Hoover High School and the University of Akron who dedicated her life to advocating for people and animals, passed away in 2022. With a bequest from her estate, this fund was created to perpetuate Marilyn's legacy by responding to our community's most pressing needs for future generations.

Mary Ellen Riehm Charitable Fund
As part of Mary Ellen Riehm's estate plans, she created this charitable fund to provide housing and shelter for Stark County residents in need.



Simmons Family Charitable Fund
Partner of 415 Group, Natalie Simmons, and her husband, Nathan, created a charitable fund to support a wide variety of causes that are important to them. Their fund will eventually be passed down to their children – Brandon, Christian and Allyson – to carry on their family's legacy of helping others.

Thank you to the following advisors— Jim Contini from Krugliak, Wilkins, Griffiths & Dougherty, Rich Craig from 415 Group, Mark Crawford from Maloney + Novotny and David Simmons from David J. Simmons & Associates— for referring their clients to achieve their charitable goals with a fund at Stark Community Foundation this quarter.

INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING YOUR OWN FUND?

Learn how you can support the causes that matter most to you with a charitable fund at Stark Community Foundation.

Contact Bridgette L. Neisel, vice president of advancement, at bneisel@starkcf.org or 330-454-7992 for more information.

SERVING WOMEN AND VOLUNTEERING

This spring, consider spending time volunteering at one of the many organizations serving women in our community, including:

HELPING FAMILIES OF DVPI

The **Domestic Violence Project, Inc. (DVPI)** provides advocacy, programming, transitional housing, prevention efforts and education to raise awareness and support survivors of domestic violence and their families. Volunteers can assist in a multitude of ways, including sorting donations for DVPI's clothing closet, picking up locally donated food, driving clients to appointments, answering hotline calls, serving as an office greeter and more.





BECOMING A MENTOR FOR HANNAH'S HOUSE 119

Hannah's House 119 Ministries provides physical and emotional support for young women in Stark County through a growing set of programs and mentorship to offer guidance, life skill training and opportunities. The nonprofit is looking for caring adults interested in making a difference through mentorship at its weekly prevention groups on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, along with additional opportunities for one-on-one connection.

DONATING PRODUCTS TO THE HEART OF OHIO DIAPER BANK

The **Heart of Ohio Diaper Bank,** serves women and children in our community and beyond by organizing drives, raising funds and distributing diapers and menstrual hygiene products to alleviate need. Volunteers can donate products at one of its three drop box locations, support its efforts financially or spend time packaging diapers and products for distribution on a Wrap & Pack team.





DELIVERING MEALS FOR YWCA OF ALLIANCE

YWCA Alliance supports women's economic advancement through advocacy, housing, clothing, employment, transportation and assistance programming. Additionally, YWCA Alliance is the only hot meal delivery provider for the City of Alliance. Community members can volunteer with the YWCA by dropping off meals as a Meals on Wheels delivery driver or helping kitchen staff prepare and package the meals for those in need.

Learn how to get involved in these volunteer opportunities at **starkcf.org/volunteer**