



The COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
of JACKSON COUNTY

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*Together, we grow tomorrows*

**2025** Annual Report

*April 2026*



# About the Community Foundation of Jackson County

**The Community Foundation of Jackson County was established in 1992 to serve the charitable needs of the community and support local philanthropy.**

**Since 1994, the Foundation has awarded more than \$15 million in grants and scholarships, supporting nonprofit organizations, educational opportunities and community initiatives throughout Jackson County.**

**As of December 31, 2025, the Foundation manages 322 charitable funds with assets exceeding \$28 million.**

**The Foundation helps donors achieve their charitable goals, strengthen nonprofit organizations, support students pursuing higher education and provides community leadership.**

**The Foundation is guided by 19 community leaders serving on the Board of Directors and supported by a professional staff of four who work to advance our mission.**



***Together, we grow tomorrows.***

## Mission Statement

To promote philanthropy in Jackson County

The Foundation is a community-focused organization dedicated to:

- Building visionary partnerships with donors and local service organizations.
- Trustworthy stewardship of gifts.
- Providing funds to enhance the quality of life across Jackson County.
- Being a catalyst for positive change in the community.

### Join our E-News List

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Excellence. Accountability. Impact.™

The Community Foundation of Jackson County has received accreditation with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations®. This accreditation, signified by the Seal shown here, indicates that the Foundation meets the highest standards for philanthropic excellence. We have met rigorous standards for donor services, investment management, grantmaking and administration. The Foundation is also a member and supporter of the Indiana Philanthropy Alliance.



*Champion. Support. Connect.*

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**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF JACKSON COUNTY**  
**A MESSAGE TO**  
**OUR COMMUNITY**



Andrew Nehrt, Board Chair



Daniel L. Davis, President & CEO

## **A strong year of gifts, grants, good work**

**Donor gifts top \$1.2 million; grants to community top \$2.5 million in 2025**

Our donors came through in 2025. Again. Our nearly 300 funds came through. Again. Lilly Endowment Inc. blessed our community. Again.

Gifts from donors to the Community Foundation of Jackson County during 2025 totaled more than \$1.2 million while our funds awarded more than \$2.4 million in grants and scholarships. Grants that invested in the good work going on across Jackson County. Scholarships that helped educate and train our children.

And Lilly Endowment Inc. returned to the Foundation with another multi-layered initiative, the Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow or GIFT IX program all the while grant dollars from its GIFT VIII initiative continued to support important work in our community around mental health and substance use disorder recovery.

All fantastic news helping the Foundation assist others in growing better tomorrows all across Jackson County as our motto and mission statement direct us.

Through the GIFT VIII initiative and a \$3.44 million

grant awarded in December 2024, Indiana Health Centers started demolition and construction work at its property at 118 St. Louis Ave. in downtown Seymour during 2025, taking steps to create the Whole Health Connection Hub to provide mental health and other important services to area residents. Also through that grant, Centerstone opened the county's first Level 3 recovery home in Seymour in October 2025.

Looking ahead, Indiana Health Centers will complete its construction and open the Whole Health Connection Hub and Centerstone will open two Level 2 recovery homes – one for men, one for women – all in 2026.

A wonderful opportunity for our community to take some huge strides forward in helping our friends, neighbors, co-workers and family members who struggle with mental health issues and substance abuse.

And it truly is a community effort that brought our collaborating partners together to tackle these needs by creating much-needed services, some of which

simply have not existed in Jackson County. Other services will be enhanced.

Regarding the GIFT IX initiative, the Foundation learned in December 2025 that it was awarded a \$750,000 Community Support Grant. Community conversations around that work started in 2025 and will continue into 2026.

Just as we worked on encouraging local buy-in for the GIFT VIII mental health and substance use disorder recovery projects, the Foundation will work with community partners to raise local skin-in-the-game dollars to help stretch those Lilly Endowment grant dollars to enhance the work that we can help get done.

The timing at the end of the year was a big shiny star on what proved to be a busy, productive year for the Foundation and our community.

The Foundation brought in \$1,223,587.05 in gifts, combined with an investment performance that yielded an 8.4 percent gain. All of that helped push our invested assets past the \$21 million mark for the first time and \$28 million overall. Some of those gifts created 26 new funds during 2025. We truly appreciate our donors and their generous gifts

Also during 2025, the Foundation awarded more than \$171,000 through our annual Fall Grant cycle, more than \$162,000 in scholarships and \$2,521,782 in overall grants. We are proud of that impact on our community and the programs and people who benefit from them.

For the sixth year in a row, our Board of Directors approved our maximum 5 percent grant rate, helping generate more grant dollars to return to the community, living out, we believe, the intention of our many generous donors.

Those grants provided much needed food and

other supplies for our local food pantries, bought diapers and other supplies for the Sweet Cheeks Diaper Pantry and supported tuition for the child-care center operated by Child Care Network. Other grants supported volunteer firefighters, mental health services and youth organizations such as Boys & Girls Club, Girls Inc. and Big Brothers Big Sisters.

We believe – we are convinced -- that the increase in giving to the Foundation in recent years is a reflection of the community responding to the good work being funded through the Foundation and the intentions of our donors. We appreciate our donors and those agencies and organizations that benefit from those gifts. Yes, 2025 was another successful year for the Foundation and those benefiting from the generosity of our donors and as a result of leadership provided by the Foundation and collaborating partners.

We look forward to another successful year in 2026.. Again, we thank you.

Sincerely,

Andrew Nehrt  
Chair, Board of Directors

Daniel L. Davis  
President & CEO

**The Community Foundation of Jackson County**



Indiana Health Center will rehabilitate a building at 118 St. Louis Ave. to house an out-patient mental health center.

**Board of Directors**

Andrew Nehrt - Chair  
 Donald Schnitker - Vice Chair  
 David Waskom, Jr. - Treasurer  
 Jill Glover - Secretary  
 Bill Braman  
 Todd Bollinger  
 Jason Bukowski  
 Eric Fish, MD  
 Kevin Gabbard  
 J.B. Hackman  
 Connie Hernandez  
 Mary Ellen Jaynes  
 Brent Kilgas  
 Steven Sunbury  
 Nate Tormoehlen  
 Trina Tracy  
 Tony Wesner  
 Ann Windley  
 Bruce Wynn

**Staff**

Daniel L. Davis - President & CEO  
 Jordan Richart - Donor Relations Manager  
 Cindy Rinehart - Finance Manager  
 Lori Miller - Grants Manager

**Board Members Emeritus**

Tom Bryant  
 Robert N. Cartwright  
 David M. Geis  
 Chris Klaes, D.C.  
 Thomas J. Lantz  
 Gary F. Myers  
 Lawrence E. Welker  
 David H. Windley

**Community Volunteers**

Lois Bryden  
 Karen Davis  
 Dean Dringenburg  
 Ray Eakins  
 Mike Fleetwood  
 Linda Eggersman  
 David M. Geis  
 Stephanie Mellenbruch  
 Andy Royalty  
 Marvin S. Veatch  
 Stacey Waskom  
 Dennis Wayman

**Past Board Members**

Steve Ackerman	Judy Lester
Andy Applewhite	Jeff Lorenzo
Bill Bailey	Gary A. Meyer
John Beatty	Gary F. Myers
Susan Bevers	Amy M. Motazed
Donn Bishop	Susan Nehrt
Nancy Bishop	Tom Nolting
Dana J. Bollinger	Darrell Persinger
John Bottorff	Jim Plump
Julie Bradley	Elaine Pollert
John Brooks	Frederick M. Pollert
Patricia Butt	Jim Potts
Tim Clark	Vicki Johnson-Poynter
Denise Connell	DonJay Rice
Terrye Davidson	Mike Riggins
Richard Davis	Joe Robertson
Dr. Andrew Day	Andy Royalty
W. Andrew Denny	Erin M. Royalty
Ray Eakins	Debra R. Schill
Mike Fleetwood	Jo Ann Scully
Tom Furnish	Carl Shake
Jim Gabbard	Ron Sibert
Bob Goecker	Larry R. Spurgeon
Ruth Hall	Cheryl Stuckwish
Ron Harrison	Trina Tracy
Monica Hartung	Jim Thompson
Ruth Ann Hendrix	Rexanne Ude
Rosemary Jenkinson	Marvin S. Veatch
Susan Judd	Tom Voss
Gene Johnson	Ken Warbritton
Jim Johnson	Dennis Wayman
Dennis D. Kern	Priscilla Wischmeier
Delbert Kilgas	Phyllis Zabel
Thomas J. Lantz	

Community Foundation of  
 Jackson County  
**est. 1992**



## Foundation welcomes three new board members

Three area residents joined the Foundation Board of Directors as two veteran members completed their final terms in April 2025.

Joining the Foundation Board were J.B. Hackman, Mary Ellen Jaynes and Steven Sunbury. Leaving after completing three, three-year terms on the board were Monica Hartung, Vick Johnson-Poynter, Gary F. Myers and Marvin S. Veatch. Myers had previously served on the board and was a founding member of the board of Directors.

“The Board of Directors of the Community Foundation of Jackson County was pleased to welcome our new members,” Board Chair Andrew Nehrt said. “We are honored that they are willing to share their time and talents with the Community Foundation and that they see the value of the Foundation for all citizens of Jackson County.”

Members of the Board of Directors help the Foundation in many ways, from sharing its story with the community to participating in the grant and scholarship review processes, Foundation President & CEO Dan Davis said. They also help with fundraising, a vital part of every nonprofit organization, and are donors themselves.

The Foundation put the new Board members – Hackman, Jaynes and Sunbury – to work on its various committees. Each bring their own personalities, expectations and experiences to the Board of Directors.

“I have always wanted to give back to our community, but with young children and starting businesses, it was always a challenge. Now that my children were grown, Dan saw an opportunity,” Hackman said. “My wife shared with me that I needed to find hobbies, other than work, to be involved in. I had been a donor and knew that the Foundation was a special organization.”

Hackman, who owns Bob Poynter Family of Dealerships, serves on the Foundation’s grant committee. The committee is tasked with reviewing grant requests, conducting site visits



Mary Ellen Jaynes



J.B. Hackman



Steven Sunbury

for Fall Grant applicants and awarding grants.

Hackman said he enjoyed meeting with local nonprofits during site visits to gain an understanding of the work they do and the impact a Fall Grant has on their organization.

“It was neat to work with everyone and try to solve this puzzle of trying to get every organization part of the grants,” he said.”

Jaynes, senior vice president at JCBank, said she was excited to become a member of the Board of Directors because of the Foundation’s demonstrated history of addressing needs in the community.

“The first year has been a little overwhelming – the Foundation is a complex organization so it takes a little time to understand the ins and outs of the work, but hearing about the donors that set up funds, or donate to funds and getting to see firsthand the impact those dollars are making in our community is incredibly enjoyable,” she said.

Jaynes serves on the Foundation’s Finance & Investment Committee, guiding the organization’s strategy for long-term growth and solvency.

“It has been enlightening to see how much time, energy and effort goes into meeting those objectives,” she said. “It gives you a new level of respect for the foundation.”

Sunbury said he joined the board because he felt it was important to be involved in the community. He said the Foundation’s work and role in the

community made it a great fit.

“The Foundation does so much to support and benefit our community, and to be able to be a part of that is wonderful,” he said. “This first year on the board has been a big eye-opener for me as I have been able to see the inner workings and just how much the Foundation really does.”

Sunbury is a member of the scholarship committee, which reviews student applications and awards scholarships. It also determines the Foundation’s recipient for the annual Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship.

Sunbury said he has enjoyed the work of the scholarship committee, adding that its work makes a difference in the lives of young people.

“Knowing that so many students will benefit from this is a great feeling,” he said.

Representing all of Jackson County on the Board of Directors is important to the Foundation’s mission and work, Nehrt said. When the Foundation was created in 1992, those founding directors made it clear the organization would serve all of Jackson County.

“The Foundation strives to reach all across Jackson County, and the Board of Directors is vital to our continued success in helping the community,” he said.

Davis said the outgoing Board members will be missed.

“We are grateful for their support and expertise for the board and their respective committees,” he said.



The Conference Center at the Foundation finds itself in regular use, allowing local, regional and state nonprofits and governmental units to convene meetings. For information about making use of the space, call the Foundation office at 812-523-4483. Nonprofits may use the room at no charge. Otherwise, the Foundation requests a donation. You can learn more about the space online at [www.cfjacksoncounty.org](http://www.cfjacksoncounty.org).

## Types of Funds *At the Community Foundation of Jackson County*

**Community Funds** Community funds are the least restricted and largely fund the Fall grant program.

**Scholarships** Scholarship funds provide financial aid to students attending college or vocational training.

**Field of Interest** Field of interest funds support specific areas of interest, such as youth, performing arts and more.

**Designated Funds** Designated funds support a specific organization or activity.

**Agency Funds** Agency funds support a specific nonprofit organization such as Girls Inc. or Anchor House.

**Donor-Advised** Donor-Advised Funds are for donor who want to select the nonprofits they wish to support.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF JACKSON COUNTY

**PRESIDENT’S GRANTS**

The President’s Grants are available at any time during the year for needs that may arise outside of the annual granting cycle. These grants are awarded at the discretion of the President & CEO of The Community Foundation of Jackson County.

In 2025, President’s Grants were made to Scott County Community Foundation, Anchor House and St. Ambrose Catholic Church for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF JACKSON COUNTY

**FIELD OF INTEREST GRANTS**

**Owen-Carr Township Community Fund**

Medora United Methodist Church - \$2,500

Jackson County History Center - \$3,000

Medora Brick Plant & Historical Sites - \$4,850

Medora Senior Citizens - \$11,000

Carr Township Volunteer Fire Department - \$5,311.95

Lake Monroe Water Fund - \$3,000

Leadership Jackson County \$500

Medora Pentecostal Church - \$4,000

Medora Police Department - \$1,359

Norman Station Conversation Club - \$5,000

Leadership Jackson County - \$1,400

Girls Inc. of Jackson County - \$2,500

Medora Christian Church - \$3,000

Medora Community Schools - \$5,000

Light Up Medora - \$4,500

Medora United Methodist Church - \$1,500

Rebecca Lanier - \$400

Meghan Turner - \$400

**Jackson County Youth Foundation**

Sweet Cheeks Diaper Pantry - \$1,500

Leadership Jackson County - \$500

Anchor House Inc. - \$1,500



Applicants to the Owen-Carr Township Community Fund Committee present requests during the Dec. 15 meeting at the Medora Senior Citizen Center.

The committee meets quarterly to review applications, hear from applicants, discuss proposals and award grants.

In 2025, the committee awarded \$61,806.90 to nonprofits, local governments and charitable organizations doing work in Carr and Owen townships.

The fund is supported by gifts from Rumpke of Indiana, which operates a landfill near Medora. The committee has awarded \$562,025.31 from 2006 through the end of 2025.

See a full story on Page 16.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF JACKSON COUNTY

DONOR ADVISED GRANTS

**Tom and Dana Bollinger Family Endowment**

Boys & Girls Club of Seymour - \$1,800  
Community Provisions, Inc. - \$1,500  
First Presbyterian Church - \$1,019  
Girls Inc. of Jackson County - \$1,800  
Jackson County United Way - \$4,700

**Crothersville Community Schools Fund**

Crothersville Community Scholarship Fund - \$1,700

**W. Andrew Denny and Carol Denny Fund**

Jackson County Bank Administrative Endowment Fund - \$743

**Jackson County Sertoma Club Endowment**

Jackson County Sertoma Club - \$2,685

**Carl and Doris Kovener Endowment**

Town of Crothersville - \$500  
Community Foundation Fall Grants - \$500

**Everett V. and Maria Moritz Fund**

Boys & Girls Club of Seymour - \$1,500  
Community Provisions, Inc. - \$700  
Jackson County Bank Administrative Endowment Fund - \$497

**Francis "Pat" & Dorothy M. Myers Fund**

Distinguished Young Women of Jackson County - \$250  
Jackson County Community Theatre - \$250

**Janet L. and Gary F. Myers Charitable Fund**

IU Foundation - \$500  
Peace Lutheran Church - \$12,000  
Schneck Foundation - \$500

**Orville and Mary Schnitker Memorial Endowment**

Community Foundation Fall Grants - \$1,500  
Foundation for Lutheran Child and Family Services - \$1,500

**Seymour Noon Lions Club Donor Advised Fund**

Child Care Network, Inc. - \$250  
Hoosier Burn Camp - \$123  
St. Ambrose Catholic Church - \$123

**Dennis and Nancy Sterling Fund**

Between the Crowd, Inc. - \$250  
Boys & Girls Club of Seymour - \$1,000  
Clarity of Central Indiana - \$1,800  
Feeding America - \$250  
Immanuel Lutheran Church - \$11,000  
Mercy Rescue and Adoption Inc. - \$250  
Schneck Foundation - \$1,000  
Special Olympics Indiana Jackson County - \$500

**Nancy Hoevener Stewart and Rick Stewart Endowment**

Community Foundation Peer Recovery Fund - \$2,569  
Community Provisions, Inc. - \$1,000  
Trinity Lutheran High School - \$5,000

**Hobert Thompson Memorial Fund**

Community Foundation Fall Grants - \$495

**Dave and Ann Windley Fund**

Ann Windley Leadership Jackson County  
Scholarship Fund - \$1,050  
Columbus Indiana Philharmonic - \$250  
Community Fairbanks - \$250  
Compassion & Choices - \$250  
Girls Inc. of Jackson County - \$1,000  
Jackson County United Way - \$3,000



Foundation President & CEO Dan Davis shares information about the Seymour Noon Lions Club Donor Advised Fund with members during a meeting in July 2025. The group's fund provided assistance to Child Care Network, Hoosier Burn Camp and St. Ambrose Catholic Church last year.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF JACKSON COUNTY

DESIGNATED AND AGENCY GRANTS

**Jessica Barkman/Girls Inc. Athletic Scholarship Fund**

Girls Inc. of Jackson County - \$2,062

**Clarice Beineke Fund**

Developmental Services, Inc. - \$2,513

**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Jackson County Endowment Fund**

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Jackson County - \$433

**Don Brown High School Art Endowment**

Seymour Community Schools - \$250  
Trinity Lutheran High School - \$250

**Conner Family Seymour Museum Center Fund**

Seymour Museum Center - \$2,838.50

**Ernest N. Birge Boy Scout Fund**

Hoosier Trails Council, Boy Scouts of America - \$369

**Ellis E. Bland and Marjorie J. Wriighthouse Bland Endowment**

Brownstown Central High School \$7,821

**Don and Emmylou Bollinger Endowed Scholarship Fund**

DePauw University - \$6,686

**Boys & Girls Club of Seymour Endowments**

Boys & Girls Club of Seymour \$31,798

**Branaman Family Endowment for Jackson County Community Theatre**

Jackson County Community Theatre \$538

**John Britton Seymour High School Baseball Fund**

Seymour Community Schools - \$1,619

**Brownstown Christian Church Endowment Fund**

Brownstown Christian Church - \$4,916

**Brownstown Presbyterian Church Fund**

Brownstown Presbyterian Church \$2,366

**Tracy Bullard Memorial Endowment**

Boys & Girls Club of Seymour - \$1,815

**Marie Burgess Memorial 4-H Sewing Award Fund**

Jackson County 4-H Council - \$615

**Child Care Network, Inc. Endowment**

Child Care Network, Inc. - \$507

**Child Care Network Child-Care Center Endowment**

Child Care Network Child-Care Center \$13,707

**Katie Collman Playground Fund**

Crothersville Community Schools \$408

**Community Kids Net Endowment**

Brownstown Elementary School - \$931  
Brownstown Central Middle School \$931

**Community Provisions of Jackson County, Inc. Endowment**

Community Provisions of Jackson County, Inc. - \$304

**John H. and Thomas W. Conner Antique Print Shop Museum Endowment**

Seymour Museum Center- \$2,798

**Crothersville Jr/Sr High School Vocational/Technical Fund**

Crothersville Community Schools \$341

**Jody Deckard Workforce Development Endowment Fund**

Jackson County Industrial Development Corp. - \$3,275

**Mary Ellen Easterday Education Support Fund for St. Ambrose School**

St. Ambrose School - \$1,564

**Lee S. Ertel Memorial 4-H Endowment**

Jackson County 4-H Club Committee \$1,046

**Freeman Army Air Field Museum Endowment**

Freeman Army Air Field Museum - \$1,682

**Les Gilkey Music Fund**

Seymour Community Schools - \$562

**Girls Inc. Endowment**

Girls Inc. of Jackson County - \$321

**Girls Inc. of Jackson County Fund**

Girls Inc. of Jackson County - \$8,735

**Nick Greemann First Presbyterian Church Endowment**

First Presbyterian Church - \$591

**C. B. Hess 4-H Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Indiana 4-H Foundation - \$4,000

**Edward H. Howard and Dorothy E. Howard Boys & Girls Club of Seymour Fund**

Boys & Girls Club of Seymour - \$5,387

**Humane Society of Jackson County Endowment**

Humane Society of Jackson County \$554

**Immanuel United Church of Christ Cemetery Fund**

Crothersville Cemetery Board - \$6,130

**Immanuel United Church of Christ Children's Fund**

Indiana Kentucky Conference United Church of Christ - \$1,469  
Crossroad Child & Family Services \$1,469

**Immanuel United Church of Christ Vernon Township Community Endowment**

Immanuel United Church of Christ Vernon Township Community Fund - \$1,728

**Jackson County History Center Fund**

Jackson County History Center - \$767

**Jackson County Learning Center Endowment**

Jackson County Learning Center Capital Projects Fund - \$10,270

**Jackson County Public Library Fund**

Jackson County Public Library - \$1,345

**Jackson County Sertoma Christmas Miracle Endowment**

Jackson County Sertoma Christmas Miracle Fund - \$706

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF JACKSON COUNTY

DESIGNATED AND AGENCY GRANTS

**Jackson County Sertoma Hearing Aid Endowment**

Jackson County Hearing Aid Fund for School Age Children - \$1,286

**Jackson County United Fund, Inc. Endowment**

Jackson County United Way - \$7,850

**Delbert D. Kilgas and Marlis Kilgas Endowment**

Community Foundation Operating Fund - \$2,860

**Mail Masters, Indiana University Southeast Endowment Fund**

Indiana University Southeast - \$940

**McCoy Family Endowment Fund**

Schneck Foundation - \$2,028

**Larry McDonald Band Fund**

Seymour Community Schools - \$422

**Nita Mousa YoJack Fund**

Leadership Jackson County - \$2,316

**Thomas M. and Mary Louise Nolting Endowment**

Community Foundation Operating Fund \$437

**Owen-Carr Twp. Community Endowment**

Owen-Carr Twp. Community Fund - \$4,905

**Jane and Dick Parman Health Endowment**

Ascension St. Vincent Foundation - \$531  
Schneck Foundation - \$531

**The Point Endowment**

The Point Ministry Fund - \$287

**Frederick M. and Karen L. Pollert/Immanuel Lutheran School Endowment Fund**

Immanuel Lutheran School - \$1,710

**Reddington Christian Church Endowment**

Reddington Christian Church - \$273

**Grant Alan Reedy Athletic Training Endowment**

Brownstown Central Community Schools \$2,898

**Carl and Marie Rucker Endowment Fund**

Leader Dogs for the Blind - \$7,850  
Pleasant Hill Cemetery - \$3,948  
Whites Chapel United Methodist Church Cemetery - \$3,951

**Seymour Industrial Association Fund**

Jackson County Industrial Development Corp. - \$4,322

**SIHO Schneck Foundation Endowment**

Schneck Foundation - \$1,763

**Southern Indiana Center for the Arts Fund**

Southern Indiana Center for the Arts - \$720

**St. John's Sauers Lutheran Church Endowment**

St. John's Sauers Lutheran Church Capital Projects Fund - \$6,587.10

**State Bank of Medora Scholarship Fund**

Medora High School/Gossman Scholarship Fund - \$1,014

**Ken and Cindy Stella, Indiana University Endowment Fund**

Indiana University Foundation - \$8,113

**Dennis and Nancy Sterling/Brownstown Community Schools Fund**

Brownstown Central Community Schools \$1,777

**Larry and Joanne Sunbury Endowment Fund**

Community Foundation Operating Fund \$4,075

**T & W Corporation Junior Golf Endowment**

Indiana Golf Foundation - \$941

**Terkhorn Lutheran Central School Endowment Fund**

Lutheran Central School - \$2,726

**Terkhorn Memorial Endowment Fund**

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church \$3,147

**Trinity Lutheran Church Endowment**

Trinity Lutheran Church - \$10,346

**Trinity Lutheran Church Organ and Music Fund**

Trinity Lutheran Church - \$6,119

**Trinity Lutheran High School Endowment**

Trinity Lutheran High School - \$16,137

**The Tuesday Club Library Endowment**

Jackson County Public Library - \$263

**Tuskegee Airmen Memorial Endowment**

Tuskegee Airmen Education and Maintenance Fund - \$964

**Mary Vehslage Seymour Museum Fund**

Seymour Museum Center - \$412

**F. Walter Voss and Tom G. Voss Boys & Girls Club of Seymour Fund**

Boys & Girls Club of Seymour - \$5,728

**C.W. "Bud" Walther Learning Center Endowment**

Jackson County Education Coalition \$2,045

**Don Waltz First Baptist Church Endowment**

First Baptist Church, Seymour - \$2,673

**Bessie J. White Endowment Fund**

WHAS Crusade for Children - \$2,308

**Zion Lutheran Church Education Fund**

Zion Lutheran Church - \$884

**Zion Lutheran Church Endowment**

Zion Lutheran Church - \$7,825

**Zion Lutheran Church Foundation Music and Education Fund**

Zion Lutheran Church - \$2,070

# Centerstone opens county's first Level 3 Recovery Home

## Two Level 2 recovery homes set to open in 2026

Recovery is more than one person's journey – it is a community triumph that impacts everyone.

Jackson County reached a milestone to provide services to those who experience substance abuse disorder with the opening of the first Indiana Division of Mental Health and Addiction certified Level 3 Recovery Home in the community.

The home was started and will be operated by Centerstone of Indiana.

"This is a tremendous day," Ben Beatty of Centerstone said during the public open house September 30. Beatty and many others collaborated for multiple years to bring community leaders together to establish the home.

The home is the seventh Centerstone has opened in Indiana. It will serve eight men at a time who aim to reach long-term recovery from addiction. They will receive support and programming with the goal of transitioning back into society or into a more independent transition home.

Centerstone plans to open two Level 2 homes in Jackson County in 2026 with one being available to women.

The Community Foundation of Jackson County provided funding to help launch the home and furnish it. This funding came from the \$3.4 million Lilly Endowment Inc. GIFT VIII Implementation Grant awarded to the Foundation in December 2024 along with local gifts including opioid settlement dollars from the City of Seymour and the Jackson County Board of Commissioners and the Jackson County Council.

In addition to this recovery home, the overall grant will support mental health services in the community including the addition of mental health services and enhancement of services at Indiana Health Center, two Level 2 Recovery Homes, training for peer recovery coaches, training of crisis intervention team members and more.

Jennifer Fillmore, Centerstone's Director of Substance Use Residential and Specialized Services, said the men will live in the home for 90 days. She added some may continue to stay at the house if they do not have arrangements.

"Everyone's situation is different," Beatty said. "No one is going to get kicked out."



Foundation President & CEO Dan Davis speaks with Centerstone employees during the Level 3 Recovery Home open house.

Medical insurance including Medicaid and HIP will cover medical care services and programming while Recovery Works will pay for rent for those who qualify for the 90 days. There are a few other payment options – including self-pay – if residents do not meet those qualifications.

Staff at the home include a full-time coordinator, recovery coaches and recovery specialists. Residents also will have access to a therapist and nurse. Staff will help manage medications and other needs.

Peer recovery coaches serve an important need at the home, Beatty said, because they provide a living example of those who are in long-term recovery who have gone through similar challenges and programs.

"They provide a lot of hope that, 'hey, if this person can do it, maybe I can do it, too,'" he said.

Each day will be structured and address multiple issues beyond recovery.

Beatty said structure is a point of emphasis for the home and, in many cases, key to the success of the residents.

The structure includes daily reflections, life skills, education, employment coaching and more.

In the evenings, each client will attend recovery meetings or have community partners come in to educate them and share information on resources in the community.

"It's a very structured schedule from the time you get up until the time you go to bed and it is very treatment focused," Beatty said.

The home is equipped with an alarm system and cameras are placed throughout.

Fillmore said those measures are taken to not only keep the residents safe, but to make the neighborhood and community feel safe about the home.

Beatty added that clients also are expected to work 20 to 25 hours per week to begin the steps to establishing independence.

"We are trying to prepare people for independent life for when they get back into the community," he said.

That is one way Centerstone will measure success of the home, Fillmore said.

"I want to see people who are sober, employed, paying taxes, reunited with their family and children," she said.

Each success has a ripple effect on the lives of not only those who enter long-term recovery, but for family, friends and the community.

"Long-term sustained recovery is not only healing that person, but it's also healing the family members, it's repairing relationships, it's getting kids reunited with their families," Beatty said. "It's tremendous the impact this will have over time in the community."

# Fall grant awards hit record high

Meeting basic human needs such as food and health services account for a large share of the more than \$170,000 in 2025 Fall Grants approved by the Community Foundation of Jackson County.

The Board of Directors fully or partially approved 24 grant requests totaling \$170,331, a record amount for the Fall Grant cycle, Grant Committee Chairman Donald Schnitker said.

Three other grant requests were funded fully or partially by businesses that stepped up to take on those costs, bringing the total impact of the Fall Grant cycle to \$186,773. We appreciate the help of Rose Acre Farms, N-I-Tech and the Bob Poynter Family of Dealerships for that assistance.

All grant requests had totaled more than \$300,000.

“Each year, we are faced with more requests than we can fund, we are seeing growth in the grant dollars we have as a result of donors’ generosity and desire to help others in our community,” Schnitker said.

The Foundation approved three grants totaling \$36,000 to help fight food insecurity, providing grants to Anchor House, Community Provisions and Gleaners Food Bank of Indiana, providing funds to help make foodstuffs available to those in need across Jackson County.

Community funds are an important part of the work administered by the Foundation in that they provide flexibility in our granting to support

## How to help

You, too, can help our community by making a gift to any of the community funds or field-of-interest funds administered by the Community Foundation of Jackson County. For information, contact President & CEO Dan Davis at the Foundation, 107 Community Drive in Seymour. Or call him at 812-523-4483. Gifts may be mailed to the Foundation at P.O. Box 1231, Seymour, IN 47274. You may also make a gift through the Foundation’s website at [cfjacksoncounty.org](http://cfjacksoncounty.org) and clicking on the “Donate Now” button.



Foundation Grants Manager Lori Miller, left, presents a Fall Grants check to Lorie Miller of ARC of Jackson County.

community work, initiatives and emerging needs. These funds and the grants that they provide can make a huge impact on our community.

“Helping meet vital needs for people calling Jackson County home is exactly what community funds are all about,” Board Chairman Andrew Nehrt said. “These

funds and the grant dollars they provide are a tremendous way of giving back to our community. We truly appreciate the generosity of all of our donors.”

Five other grants totaling \$37,320 will meet other vital, human needs – those of physical and mental health services. Those grants were awarded to Catholic Charities, Clarity of Central Indiana, Indiana Health Centers, Healthy Jackson County and Reins to Recovery.

Winnowing requests that outdistance available grant dollars is always part of the equation when the Grant Committee meets each autumn.

“It means the Fall Grant cycle can be especially competitive,” Schnitker said.

The committee strives to review all of the grant applications and figure out how to best grant the dollars we have and best help meet the needs throughout Jackson County, he added.

Site visits by Grant Committee members help with that work. Members can become advocates for the applications they are assigned to review.

Funding for the Fall Grant cycle primarily comes from earnings of community funds and field-of-interest funds. In addition, the Foundation had other grant dollars added to the mix from several donor-advised funds: The Immanuel United Church of Christ Vernon Township Community Fund, the Carl and Doris Kovener Endowment, the Orville



Seymour Firefighter Logan Isenhower, right, demonstrates how the department's new buoyancy suits work alongside Seymour Firefighter Carter Murphy during a training at a retention pond in Seymour. The suits were included in the ice water rescue equipment purchased by the department through the 2025 Fall Grant cycle. Prior to the grant, the department had the training to conduct ice water rescues, but lacked the equipment and relied on other agencies to provide it.



Sweet Cheeks Diaper Pantry Director Jessica Olsen, right, works alongside a volunteer to pack diaper bags for the pantry. The organization received funding from the Foundation's Fall Grant program.

*Continued from page 14*

and Mary Evelyn Schnitker Memorial Fund and the Vital Farms Good Neighbor Fund.

And as Andrew said, we truly appreciate our donors who make a difference every day through their gifts to our funds here at the Foundation.

Without them, the work of so many nonprofit organizations would be an even greater financial struggle.

## 2025 Fall Grants

- Actors Community Theatre - \$4,000
- Anchor House - \$20,000
- The Arc of Jackson County - \$3,445
- Boys & Girls Club of Seymour - \$27,400
- Catholic Charities Indianapolis - \$5,000
- Child Care Network - \$4,610
- Clarity of Central Indiana - \$15,000
- Community Provisions of Jackson County - \$10,000
- DSI - \$5,000
- First Presbyterian Church for Sweet Cheeks Diaper Pantry - \$10,000
- Freeman Army Air Field Museum - \$2,000
- Girls Inc. of Jackson County - \$1,000
- Gleaners Food Bank - \$6,000
- Indiana Health Centers - \$5,658
- Jackson County History Center - \$3,025
- Jackson County Public Library - \$6,195
- Jackson County United Way - \$6,000
- Owen-Salt Creek Volunteer Fire Department - \$10,000
- Reins to Recovery - \$5,655
- Riverview Cemetery Association - \$1,800
- Schneck Medical Center - \$6,000
- Seymour Fire Department - \$4,728
- Seymour Museum Center - \$3,415
- Southern Indiana Center for the Arts - \$6,500
- St. Peter's Lutheran Childcare Ministry - \$2,000
- Su Casa Indiana - \$7,315
- Turning Point Domestic Violence Services - \$7,000

### New Community Funds Established in 2025

- Tom and Harriet Conner Fund
- VFW 1925 Patriot Community Fund
- Vital Farms Community Fund
- Elevate Endowment
- Debi & Dennis Wayman Family Community Fund
- Dan Walters & Sue Wolfe-Walters Community Fund
- Carrie A. Hackman Memorial Endowment

## Grant targets recovery, mental health

Lilly Endowment Inc. grant elevates work targeting public health needs

The Community Foundation of Jackson County received a \$3.443 million Lilly Endowment Inc. GIFT VIII Implementation Grant in December 2024, providing key funding in 2025 of work to help in three areas:

- Several community partners, led by Indiana Health Centers Inc., bring to life the visions of creating a one-stop space dubbed the Whole Health Connection Hub.
- Centerstone establish one state certified Level 3 recovery residence and two certified Level 2 recovery homes in our county.
- And help the Foundation establish three endowments, one to help sustain the IHC mental health center and two to sustain training of peer-recovery coaches and crisis intervention first responders for staffing.

These projects aim to enhance lacking and – in some cases – create non-existent mental health and substance use disorder treatment and recovery services.

As a community, we are excited about the work commenced so far, as we review in this quick-hit recap:

- Indiana Health Centers continues construction at its 118 St. Louis Ave. property as work progresses on the Whole Health Connection Hub. Although IHC hoped to open the pharmacy by the end of 2025, it now expects to open it by mid-2026. It expects to complete the rest of the Hub by year's end.
- Centerstone has trained workers for its Level 3 recovery home, which opened October 1 and soon became fully occupied by 10 residents. It served 12 people in December 2025. Centerstone will establish two certified Level 2 recovery homes (one for men, one for women) in 2026, possibly sooner than expected.
- And the Community Foundation of Jackson County established three

endowments. One will fund operating costs at the IHC mental health center, one will provide sustaining grants to train peer-recovery coaches for the Centerstone group homes and the third will provide sustaining grants for the county's crisis intervention team. These funds will pay their first grants in March 2026.

- The Implementation Grant application process is already paying dividends with improved collaboration among partners. It became clear we needed this convening and sharing to continue with monthly meetings where community partners share their work, concerns and resources.

Also, the Foundation and its partners committed to \$400,000 in local skin-in-the-game funding toward this work. They and other partners have also committed to an estimated \$1.1 million of in-kind work over three years supporting these projects.

### *Work continues*

Construction work at the Indiana Health Center picked up considerably during the last six months of 2025. The physical location of the Whole Health Connection Hub is being created as part of a capital project that involves the expansion and renovation of the current IHC clinic.

*Continued on Page 17*

### **About Lilly Endowment Inc.**

Lilly Endowment Inc. is an Indianapolis-based private foundation created in 1937 by J.K. Lilly, Sr. and his sons Eli and J.K. Jr. through gifts of stock in their pharmaceutical business, Eli Lilly and Company. Although the gifts of stock remain a financial bedrock of the Endowment, it is a separate entity from the company, with a distinct governing board, staff and location. In keeping with the founders' wishes, the Endowment supports the causes of community development, education and religion. The Endowment funds programs throughout the United States, especially in the field of religion, and maintains a special commitment to its founders' hometown, Indianapolis, and home state, Indiana.



*Continued from page 16*

The project has seen some changes since the original plan was mapped.

“As a result of ongoing analysis, an adjustment to the original construction plan was made during the fourth quarter of 2025,” IHC President & CEO Ann Lundy reports. This includes relocating an existing dental clinic to the second floor of the renovated space to support increased capacity.

This also allows for creation of administrative offices for Whole Health Connection Hub partners in the current dental suite space. Other elements of the renovation remain unchanged, including the addition of a pharmacy on the first floor and creation of a Healthy Living Kitchen on the second floor.

“These changes will support simultaneous growth for both the dental clinic and the Whole Health Connection Hub for behavioral health,” Lundy adds. “It aligns with the IHC vision for integrated behavioral health and is consistent with research studies that have demonstrated a direct link between oral health and behavioral health, including individuals with substance use disorders.”

### ***Timeline***

The changes are creating a slight change in the project timeline, however. Completion of the first floor remains on pace for completion during the first half of 2026, including the new pharmacy and the addition of chiropractic services.



Robert Perkins with Patterson Horth Inc. works on framing at Indiana Health Centers in downtown Seymour as part of a \$3.443 million Lilly Endowment Inc. GIFT VIII Implementation Grant project.

The pharmacist position has been posted. Meanwhile, the decision to relocate the dental clinic to the second floor of the renovated space has pushed back the projected opening of that space until mid-year 2026, with the Whole Health Connection Hub administrative space moving into the current dental suite shortly after.

Although patient services under the expansion and collaboration have not yet started, the project has already produced meaningful and measurable impact at the systems and partnership level.

“From the outset, this initiative has served as a catalyst for bringing organizations together not as competitors, but as collaborators working toward a shared goal,” Lundy notes. “Through intentional planning and regular coordination, partners have demonstrated a strong commitment to honoring one another’s expertise, clearly defining roles and avoiding unnecessary duplication of

services. This approach has been especially important given the limited resources across the community and has allowed the project to function as a true collective effort rather than a series of parallel activities.

“Led by the Community Foundation of Jackson County, several Jackson County community partners are meeting bi-monthly to provide updates, discuss challenges and work together on solutions,” she adds.

“These meetings have resulted in strengthened relationships and increased inter-organizational collaboration.”

Partners include IHC, Schneck Medical Center, Centerstone, Catholic Charities, Celebrate Recovery, Jackson-Jennings County Community Corrections and others.

The process of building this collaboration has also had a significant internal impact.

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Continued from page 17



Jeremy Caudill with Caudill Construction works on windows at Indiana Health Centers.

“As the project has developed, it has brought the IHC team together in ways we have not previously been able to capture through standard operations alone,” Lundy says. “The shared planning, problem-solving and visioning required by this initiative has strengthened team cohesion and reinforced a collective focus on whole-person health.”

As a result, these early outcomes highlight the project’s value beyond direct service delivery. Even before patient-facing implementation, the initiative has strengthened partnerships, aligned organizational culture and laid a strong foundation for sustainable, integrated, whole-person community care.

Centerstone moved into a remodeled house to serve as a Level 3 recovery home. An open house before accepting clients into the residence took place September 30 and drew 50 public officials and community partners involved in the projects. Jennifer Fillmore of Centerstone reports the home continues to operate at its capacity of 10 residents.

They are predominantly white/Caucasian with one multi-racial client, ranging in age from 23 to 54.

Implemented interventions included Motivational Interviewing, Medication Assisted Treatment, Relapse Prevention Planning, Peer Support, Life Skills Training, Person-Centered Planning, DBT, CBT, Assertive Community Treatment elements, Group Therapy (including boundary education), Individual Therapy and Moral Reconciliation Therapy. Community partners facilitated peer groups and CBT skills classes.

“December marked significant growth and system development for Seymour CRT,” she says. “Despite increased client turnover -- primarily due to clients leaving because of medical reasons -- staff ensured safety, accountability and continuity of care through proactive follow-up and harm reduction strategies.”

**Key successes include:**

- One client transitioning to independent housing, showing

improved stability and self-sufficiency.

- Several clients gaining local employment and engaging in transition planning, including budgeting and housing readiness, supported by partnerships with local banks.

- Strengthening collaboration with 180 RCO to maintain engagement for clients exiting early.

- And all current clients actively participating in programming and receiving coordinated medical, psychiatric and medication management services through Centerstone Health Services.

Client turnover due to medical discharges created operational and emotional strain, requiring increased crisis response and follow-up while maintaining program stability. Additionally, a new referral from Jackson County Probation Department presented behavioral challenges but improved staff engagement and clear expectations.

“Balancing firm boundaries with compassionate care remains an ongoing challenge, particularly in managing relapse risk and high acuity situations,” Fillmore adds. “Continued supervision and support are essential as the program matures.”

Centerstone continues work toward opening the two Level 2 recovery homes in 2026. One will serve men, and the other will serve women. The Community Foundation of Jackson County and Centerstone signed off on a memorandum of understanding regarding the two Level 2 homes in December.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF JACKSON COUNTY

ENDOWMENTS AND FUNDS

**Field of Interest Funds**

Abbott-Cooper Family Fund	Nippon Steel Pipe America Inc. Charitable Endowment for Education
The Brownstown Foundation	Seymour Schools-Elementary Schools Fund
The Cartwright Endowment for the Arts	Seymour Schools-Seymour Middle School Fund
Carl Hemmer Memorial Fund	Seymour Schools-Seymour High School Fund
Crothersville United Methodist Church Vernon Township Fund	Seymour Schools-Athletic Department Fund
Jackson County Youth Foundation	Seymour Schools-Fine Arts Fund
Donald J. Klaes Music & the Performing Arts Fund	The Shelter Fund
Leadership Jackson County Youth Fund	Granger H. and Ruth M. Smith Drug Abuse Prevention Fund
	Tri Kappa Endowment

**Community (unrestricted) Funds**

Aisin U.S.A. Mfg., Inc. Endowment	The Mary Evelyn Mellencamp Memorial Fund
John & Kay Beatty Community Endowment	The Nehrt Family Community Endowment
The Donn Bishop Family Endowment	Virginia G. Otto Endowment Fund
Bob Poynter GM Community Fund	Potts Family Endowment
The Don Bollinger Memorial Fund	Psi Iota Xi Sorority, Alpha Beta Chapter Endowment
Brownstown Ewing Main Street Community Endowment	Todd Schleibaum Community Endowment
Tom and Harriet Conner Fund	Schneider Nursery Community Endowment
Elevate Endowment	Cathy and Grant Schneider Community Endowment
Michael and Ardith Fleetwood Unrestricted Endowment	Jim Schneider Community Endowment
Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie 655 Community Fund	Seymour Oktoberfest Community Endowment
Carrie A. Hackman Memorial Endowment	SIHO Insurance Services Community Endowment
J.B. and Carrie Hackman Community Fund	Mark & Sue Smith Community Endowment
Bob and Kate Hall Endowment	Larry and Joanne Sunbury Community Endowment
Irwin Union Bank & Trust Co. Fund	Helen and Bill Swain Community Endowment
Jackson County Community Endowment	Ralph and Carol Sweany Community Fund
Jackson County Unrestricted Endowment	VFW 1925 Patriot Community Fund
Jackson Lodge #146 F & AM Endowment	Vital Farms Community Fund
Donald J. Klaes Community Endowment	Sarah M. Waldkoetter Community Fund
Brent and Sandra Kilgas Community Fund	Johnny Walter Memorial Fund
The Thomas J. Lantz/ Montgomery, Elsner & Pardieck Community Endowment	Dan Walters & Sue Wolfe-Walters Community Fund
Lasater Family Community Fund	Debi & Dennis Wayman Family Community Endowment

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF JACKSON COUNTY

ENDOWMENTS AND FUNDS

**Non-Endowed Funds**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Brownstown Central Turf Project Fund                            | Owen-Carr Township Community Fund                       |
| Crothersville Community Scholarship Fund                        | The Point Ministry Fund                                 |
| Laikyn Field Memorial Fund                                      | Gary E. Plumer Memorial Agricultural Scholarship Fund   |
| Immanuel United Church of Christ Vernon Township Community Fund | Margie Redmon Fund                                      |
| Jackson County Canine Shelter Fund                              | Rust Companies Foundation                               |
| Jackson County Hearing Aid Fund for School Age Children         | Seymour Firefighters Local 577 Scholarship Fund         |
| Jackson County Learning Center Capital Projects Fund            | Seymour High School Wall of Fame Fund                   |
| Jackson County Sertoma Christmas Miracle Fund                   | Sparksville Park Fund                                   |
| Jackson County Veterinary Scholarship Fund                      | St. John’s Sauer Lutheran Church Capital Projects Fund  |
| Marvin and Mary Klaes Memorial Adult Scholarship Fund           | Dennis and Nancy Sterling Fund                          |
| Duane Martin Vocational Scholarship Fund                        | Tri Kappa Scholarship Fund                              |
| Medora High School/Gossman Scholarship Fund                     | Tuskegee Airmen Memorial Education and Maintenance Fund |
| Marilyn Mellencamp Scholarship for the Arts                     | Vital Farms Good Neighbor Fund                          |
| Muscatatuck Wildlife Refuge Fund                                | Daniel A. Walters and Susan Wolf-Walters Fund           |
| Janet L. and Gary F. Myers Charitable Fund                      | Adria Ann Waskom Memorial Fund                          |

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**Donor Advised Funds**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Bender Lumber Co., Inc. Fund               | Carl and Doris Kovener Endowment                  |
| Tom and Dana Bollinger Family Endowment    | David R. Lange Memorial Fund                      |
| Tom and Harriet Conner Fund                | Everett V. and Maria Moritz Fund                  |
| Crothersville Community Schools Fund       | The Francis “Pat” & Dorothy M. Myers Fund         |
| W. Andrew Denny and Carol Denny Fund       | Orville and Mary Schnitker Memorial Endowment     |
| Theodore “Tom” Groce Endowment             | Seymour Noon Lions Club Donor Advised Fund        |
| The Hoevener Endowment Fund                | Nancy Hoevener Stewart and Rick Stewart Endowment |
| Jackson County Sertoma Club Endowment      | Hobert Thompson Memorial Fund                     |
| Dr. George and Tiffany Mansfield Endowment | Dave and Ann Windley Fund                         |
| Chris Johnson Memorial Endowment           |   |

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF JACKSON COUNTY

ENDOWMENTS AND FUNDS

**Designated and Agency Funds**

The Jessica Barkman/Girls Inc. Athletic Scholarship Fund	Community Kids Net Endowment	Immanuel United Church of Christ Children's Fund
Clarice Beineke Fund	Community Provisions of Jackson County, Inc. Endowment	Immanuel United Church of Christ Vernon Township Cemetery Fund
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Jackson County Endowment Fund	Conner Family Seymour Museum Center Fund	Immanuel United Church of Christ Vernon Township Community Endowment
Ernest N. Birge Boy Scout Fund	John H. and Thomas W. Conner Antique Print Shop Museum Endowment	The Jackson County Bank Administrative Endowment Fund
Ellis E. Bland & Marjorie J. Wriighthouse Bland Endowment	Crothersville Jr/Sr High School Vocational/ Technical Fund	Jackson County Economic Development Fund
Board of Directors Endowment	Crothersville United Methodist Church Crothersville-Vernon Township Volunteer Fire Department	Jackson County History Center Fund
Don and Emmylou Bollinger Endowed Scholarship	Jody Deckard Workforce Development Endowment Fund	Jackson County Learning Center Endowment
Boys & Girls Club of Seymour, Inc. Endowments	Developmental Services, Inc. Endowment Fund	Jackson County Public Library Fund
Branaman Family Endowment for Jackson County Community Theatre	Lee S. Ertel Memorial 4-H Endowment	Jackson County Sertoma Christmas Miracle Endowment
John Britton Seymour High School Baseball Fund	Mary Ellen Easterday Education Support Fund for St. Ambrose School	Jackson County Sertoma Club Hearing Aid Endowment
Brooklawn Child & Family Services Endowment Fund	Freeman Army Airfield Museum Endowment	Jackson County United Fund, Inc. Endowment
Don Brown High School Art Endowment	Girls Inc. Endowment	Delbert D. Kilgas & Marlis Kilgas Endowment
Brownstown Christian Church Endowment	Girls Inc. of Jackson County Fund	Donald J. Klaes Classroom Education Grant Endowment
Brownstown Presbyterian Church Fund	Les Gilkey Music Fund	Mail Masters, Indiana University Southeast Endowment Fund
Tracy Bullard Memorial Endowment	Nick Greemann First Presbyterian Church Endowment	McCoy Family Endowment Fund
Marie Burgess Memorial 4-H Sewing Award Fund	Habitat for Humanity of Jackson County for Building Trades Fund	Larry McDonald Band Fund
Child Care Network Child-Care Center Endowment	Help Jackson County READ Fund	Nita Mousa YoJack Fund
Child Care Network, Inc. Endowment	C.B. Hess 4-H Memorial Scholarship	Edmund and Verna Murray Industrial Development Fund
Katie Collman Playground Fund	Edward H. Howard and Dorothy E. Howard Boys & Girls Club of Seymour Fund	Thomas M. and Mary Louise Nolting Endowment
Community Foundation Crisis Team Training Fund	Humane Society of Jackson County	Owen-Carr Township Community Endowment
Community Foundation Mental Health Fund		Dick Parman Brownstown Fund for the Arts
Community Foundation Peer Recovery Fund		

## Designated and Agency Funds, continued

<p>Jane &amp; Dick Parman Health Endowment</p> <p>The Point Endowment</p> <p>Frederick M. and Karen L. Pollert/Immanuel Lutheran School Endowment</p> <p>Reddington Christian Church Endowment</p> <p>Grant Alan Reedy Athletic Training Endowment</p> <p>Cliff Kerrigan Roberts Family Fund</p> <p>Carl and Marie Rucker Endowment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leader Dogs for the Blind</li> <li>• Pleasant Hill Cemetery</li> <li>• Whites Chapel Church Cemetery</li> </ul> <p>Seymour Industrial Association Fund</p> <p>SIHO Schneck Foundation Endowment</p> <p>SOS Endowment Fund</p> <p>Southern Indiana Center for the Arts Fund</p> <p>Edward Spray Cultural Enrichment Program Endowment</p> <p>State Bank of Medora Scholarship Fund</p> <p>Ken and Cindy Stella, Indiana University Endowment Fund</p> <p>Dennis and Nancy Sterling/Brownstown Community Schools Endowment</p> <p>Larry and Joanne Sunbury Endowment</p> <p>St. John's Sauers Lutheran Church Cemetery Fund</p> <p>St. John's Sauers Lutheran Church Endowment</p>	<p>T &amp; W Corporation Junior Golf Endowment</p> <p>Terkhorn Lutheran Central School Endowment Fund</p> <p>Terkhorn Memorial Endowment Fund</p> <p>Trinity Lutheran Church Endowment</p> <p>Trinity Lutheran Church Organ and Music Fund</p> <p>Trinity Lutheran High School Endowment</p> <p>The Tuesday Club Library Endowment</p> <p>Turning Point Domestic Violence Services Endowment Fund</p> <p>Tuskegee Airmen Memorial Endowment</p> <p>Mary Vehslage Seymour Museum Fund</p> <p>Dan Walters &amp; Susan Wolfe-Walters Endowment</p> <p>The F. Walter Voss and Tom G. Voss Boys and Girls Club of Seymour Fund</p> <p>C.W. "Bud" Walther Learning Center Endowment</p> <p>Don Waltz First Baptist Church Endowment</p> <p>Debi and Dennis Wayman Family Endowment</p> <p>Weddleville Lutheran Cemetery Fund</p> <p>Bessie J. White Endowment Fund</p> <p>Phyllis Ruth Zabel Vallonia State Nursery Endowment</p> <p>Zion Lutheran Church Endowment</p> <p>Zion Lutheran Church Education Fund</p> <p>Zion Lutheran Church Foundation Music and Education Fund</p>
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Members of the Columbus City Band perform during its annual Patriotic Program June 29, at Heritage Park in Brownstown. The cost for the annual program is paid for through the Dick Parman Brownstown Fund for the Arts, which is a designated fund administered by the Foundation.

The band features 60 musicians from the region who practice and perform in the area throughout the year. The 2026 concert is scheduled for June 28, at Heritage Park. You, too, can make a gift to the Dick Parman Brownstown Fund for the Arts by logging onto [cfjacksoncounty.org](http://cfjacksoncounty.org) and clicking "Donate Now".

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF JACKSON COUNTY

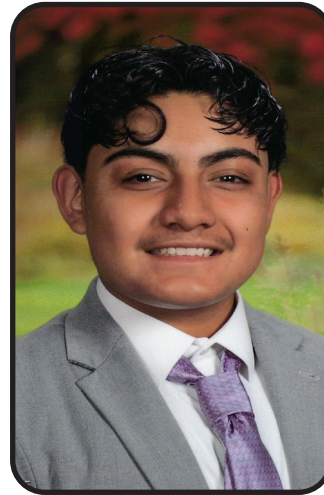
ENDOWMENTS AND FUNDS

**Scholarship Funds**

Gina Shepard Ballard Scholarship	The Elmer and Ida Lacey Scholarship	Seymour Kiwanis Club Scholarship
Bateman Engineering Scholarship	Orville and Laura Lubker/Purdue University Scholarship	Seymour Municipal Scholarship Fund
Louis and Judy Bobb Scholarship	Ruby and Floyd W. Martin Scholarship	Seymour Oktoberfest Richard Schwade Memorial Vocational Scholarship
Branaman Family Scholarship	Harold "Teep" and Oguerita McKinney Scholarship	William B. Sharp Scholarship
Dr. & Mrs. R. Todd Bergman Scholarship	Jane E. Meyer Nurse Practitioner Scholarship	SHS Class of 1972 Scholarship
Central Pharmaceutical - Virginia B. Toulmin Arts & Music Scholarship Fund	Ken A. Miller Memorial Scholarship	Stuckwisch Educational Scholarship
Central Pharmaceutical - Virginia B. Toulmin Health & Science Scholarship Fund	Julie A. Moore Scholarship	Omer and Jean Terkhorn Scholarship
Marc Owen Chandler Memorial Scholarship	Ethel Bedwell Overshiner & Anna Louise Wheeler Trowbridge Scholarship Fund	James Ralph Thompson Memorial Scholarship
Clodfelter Family Scholarship	Nippon Steel Pipe America Inc. Scholarship	James Temple Thompson Memorial Scholarship
The Laura Culp Memorial Scholarship	The Bob and Eileen Prather Memorial Scholarship	Jasper N. Thompson Memorial Scholarship
Richard "Dick" Elmore Scholarship	Premier Companies / Bob Myers Memorial Scholarship	Dr. Charles Trumbo Endowment
Madge and Jack Fountain Scholarship	John E. and Ruth A. Reedy Scholarship	Marcella Trumbo Seymour Alumni Scholarship
Frische Family Endowment	Charles and Eileen Roeger Scholarship	J. David Vandivier/Dicksons Scholarship
George Gossman Family Scholarship	The Royalty Scholarship Endowment	The Kenneth N. and Helen Warbritton Memorial Scholarship
Tom and Juanita Groub Scholarship	Brian T. Rudolph Memorial Nursing Scholarship	Kenneth S. Warbritton Scholarship
Habitat for Humanity of Jackson County Building Trades Scholarship	Walter & Cora Schlehuser - Clark & Ruth Thompson Scholarship	Richard West Memorial/Mr. & Mrs. Ruel West/ Dr. & Mrs. Donald Cummings Scholarship
Brenda M. Holzworth Memorial Scholarship	George Schneider Scholarship	VFW 1925 I love America Scholarship Fund
Connie Bowling Hehman Teacher Scholarship	The Seymour American Legion Post 89 Achievement Scholarship	Ann Windley Leadership Jackson County Scholarship
Immanuel United Church of Christ Scholarship	Coach Donna Sullivan Title IX Legacy Scholarship	Jeremy Wischmeier Vocational Scholarship
Jackson County Community Scholarship	Marietta Louise and Erwin August Henry Surenkamp Scholarship	Charles Frederick Wolter Memorial Scholarship
Jackson County FFA Scholarship		C. Sidney Zabel Scholarship
Jay C Food Stores Scholarship		
The Klaes Memorial Scholarship		

LILLY ENDOWMENT COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Program began in 1997. It was created to “raise the level of educational attainment in Indiana and increase awareness of the potential of Indiana’s community foundations to improve the quality of life of the state’s residents.” The Community Foundation of Jackson County currently has 4 Lilly Endowment Community Scholars attending Indiana colleges. The program provides full tuition, fees, and a stipend for books and equipment for four years of undergraduate study, full time basis, leading to a baccalaureate degree at any Indiana public or private college or university accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.



**Ismael Santiago Cruz**  
2025 Lilly Endowment Community  
Scholarship Recipient

**Current Lilly Endowment Community Scholars**

**Jenna Bolte**  
2024  
*Indiana University*  
**Ekaterina Cox**  
2023  
*Purdue University*

**Grant Elliott**  
2022  
*Hanover College*  
**Ellie Cornn**  
2021  
*Butler University*

**Lilly Endowment Community Scholars Alumni**

- |                    |                   |                       |                  |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Robert Levi Bays   | Jason Fish        | Jacob Henley          | Adam Peters      | Tara Smith        |
| Jami Bennett       | Marc Fountain     | Evan Hill             | Nathan Press     | Jordyn Stuart     |
| Samuel Borcharding | Luke Gallion      | Anna May Huff         | Jordan Raynor    | Elizabeth Sunbury |
| Josh Brewster      | Amy Gibson        | Allison Klinge        | Madison Reynolds | Caitlin Thomas    |
| Andrew Brock       | Karissa Glenn     | Stephanie Mellenbruch | Andrew Rudge     | Jaclyn Tormoehlen |
| Lauren Carr        | Jacquelyn Hackman | Kyle Minton           | Joseph Rust      | Rachael Voss      |
| Samuel Durham      | Kerry Hackman     | Luke Onken            | Sam Schmidt      | Cameron Wiethoff  |
| Caitlin Fife       | Trey Hackman      | Abby Peters           | Braden Sciarra   |                   |

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF JACKSON COUNTY

2025 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

**Gina Shepard Ballard Scholarship Fund**

Audrey Scarlett

**Bateman Engineering Scholarship Fund**

Andrew Roberts

**Dr. & Mrs. R. Todd Bergman Scholarship Fund**

Abbygail Lorenz

**Marc Owen Chandler Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Jonathan Pumphrey Braden Richey  
Ethan Rubin

**Crothersville Community Schools Fund**

Blake Robinson

**The Laura Culp Scholarship Fund**

Greer Henry

**Richard “Dick” Elmore Scholarship Fund**

Kathy Francisco

**George Gossman Family Scholarship Fund**

Braedyn Stidams

**Habitat for Humanity of Jackson County Building Trades Scholarship**

Juan Fernandez-Flores

**Connie Bowling Hehman Teacher Scholarship Fund**

Tori Reed

**Jackson County Community Scholarship**

Addison Darlage

**Jay C Food Stores Scholarship Fund**

Averie Linville Kensley Koester  
Nicole Rebber

**Seymour Kiwanis Club Scholarship Fund**

Ava Sunbury

**Orville and Laura Lubker/Purdue University Scholarship Fund**

Jenna Klosterman

**Duane Martin Vocational Scholarship Fund**

Jeremiah Myers

**Ruby and Floyd W. Martin Fund**

Abram Yee

**Harold “Teep” and Oguerita McKinney Scholarship Fund**

Haylee Sons

**Medora High School/Gossman Scholarship Fund**

Brelee Underwood

**Jane E. Meyer Nurse Practitioner Scholarship Fund**

Amie Brunner Tessa Patrick

**Julie A. Moore Scholarship Fund**

Valeria Galicia

**Nippon Steel Pipe America, Inc. Charitable Endowment for Education**

Sophia Wayt

**Gary E. Plumer Memorial Agricultural Scholarship Fund**

Madison Schrader

**Premier Companies / Bob Myers Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Jackson Cathey Carson Darlage

**The Royalty Scholarship Endowment**

Levi Curry

Addison Garcia

Landon Gasaway

**Brian T. Rudolph Memorial Nursing Scholarship Fund**

Whitney Branaman

**Walter & Cora Schlehuser-Clark & Ruth Thompson Scholarship Fund**

Mason Nugent

**The Seymour American Legion Post 89 Achievement Scholarship Fund**

Amberlee Ames Darry Bo Avila  
Luke Hildreth

**Seymour Firefighters Local 577 School Fund**

Abigail Followell Presley Hampton

Elizabeth Kirby Claire Schepman

Karli Spray Harrison Wetzel

**Seymour Oktoberfest Richard Schwade Memorial Vocational Scholarship Fund**

Ethan Northcutt

**William B. Sharp Scholarship Fund**

Abigail Tovey

**Stuckwisch Educational Scholarship Fund**

Addie Brock

**Marietta Louise & Erwin August Henry Surenkamp Scholarship Fund**

Jay Herbert

**Omer and Jean Terkhorn Scholarship Fund**

Brynn Burton

**James Ralph Thompson Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Claire Schepman

**Jasper N. Thompson Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Dalton Reedy

**Tri Kappa Scholarship Fund**

Patrick Hatfield

**Dr. Charles Trumbo Endowment**

Jacob Loebker

**Marcella Trumbo Seymour Alumni Scholarship Fund**

Allison Rodriquez Salas

**J. David Vandivier/Dicksons Scholarship Fund**

Jaidyn Nichols Mary Higdon

Macy Casner Joel Stevens

Bryce Petro

**The Kenneth N. & Helen Warbritton Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Ashley Darlage

**Kenneth S. Warbritton Scholarship**

Grace Hufty

**Ann Windley Leadership Jackson County Scholarship Fund**

Keira Linville

**Charles Frederick Wolter Memorial Scholarship**

Claire Combs Claire Sanders

**C. Sidney Zabel Scholarship Fund**

Evan Schneider

**The Klaes Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Camila Utrera Sheyla Francisco

Hank Reichenbacker

**Jackson County Veterinary Scholarship Fund**

Abigail Angebrandt Cole Wilcox

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF JACKSON COUNTY

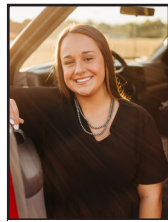
2025 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Amberlee Ames



Samuel Baker



Whitney  
Branaman



Addie Brock



Brynn Burton



Claire Combs



Addison  
Darlage



Ashley Darlage



Greer Henry



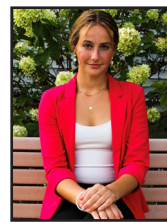
Jay Herbert



Luke Hildreth



Keira Linville



Abbygail Lorenz



Mason Nugent



Bryce Petro



Jonathan Ross  
Pumphrey



Dalton Reedy



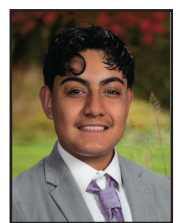
Braden Richey



Ethan Rubin



Claire Sanders



Ismael Santiago  
Cruz



Claire  
Schepman



Evan Schneider



Madison Schrader



Braeydn  
Stidams



Abigail Tovey



Brelee  
Underwood



Sophia Wayt



Harrison Wetzel



Adram Yee

**Learn more about our scholarship  
program by logging onto  
[cfjacksoncounty.org/scholarships](https://cfjacksoncounty.org/scholarships)**

**Questions? Call 812-523-4483 and ask for  
Grants Manager Lori Miller**

## Gift of Grain yields record harvest of gifts



The Foundation's 2025 Gift of Grain program harvested more than \$8,000 from our farm community.

Donors provided eight gifts of cash, corn and soybeans totaling \$8,331.04 with those gifts directed into five endowed funds administered by the Foundation: The Jackson County Community Endowment, the Mary Evelyn Mellencamp Memorial Fund, the Orville & Mary Schnitker Memorial Endowment, the Todd Schleibaum Community Endowment and the Marietta Louise and Erwin August Henry Surenkamp Scholarship fund.

The funds have provided grant dollars for a number of needs all across Jackson County, from scholarships through the Surenkamp fund to support of volunteer fire departments, Sweet Cheeks Diaper Pantry, the Boys & Girls Club, Girls Inc., the Jackson County Public Library, Community Provisions food pantry, Anchor House homeless shelters and food pantry, Jackson County History Center, Seymour Museum Center and so many others.

"We appreciate the donors of these gifts of grain and the donors who started the funds that provide assistance to such a wide-ranging part of our Jackson County community," said Donald Schnitker, chair of the Foundation's Grant Committee.

Schnitker, a Hamilton Township farmer, also participates in the Gift of Grain program.

"Our family involvement with the Community Foundation began

several years ago when Jackson Jennings CO-OP visited farms during harvest with a semi-trailer asking farmers to put a few bushels into the trailer," Schnitker said. "When the trailer was full the grain was sold with the proceeds going to the Community Foundation.

"This is when I took an interest in the Foundation," he added. "I wanted to learn more about where my money was going. I can tell you the more I learned the more I was impressed with how the Foundation filled a need in our communities. Now my sisters and I are continuing our giving by donating one load of corn each year from the farm our mom grew up on."

That giving comes to fruition through grants provided by the family's donor-advised fund, which means they decide as a family where they would like to recommend grants be made.

"Over the years, we have granted to organizations that involved literacy as this was a passion of our mom, and combating hunger," Schnitker said. "We as farmers, by donating a small portion of our abundant harvests, can and do make a difference in our communities."

Foundation President & CEO Dan Davis added the organization appreciates the help of local grain elevators in helping handle these gifts of grain – Bundy Bros., Premier Ag, Rose Acre, Tampico Grain and White River Nutrition.

The winning team this year in the Head to Head: Green vs. Red contest is the Green Team. The Green vs. Red contest is a friendly competition among fans of their favorite equipment lines.



Donald Schnitker

For information about the Giving a Gift of Grain program, or its companion program, Giving a Gift of Livestock, contact the Community Foundation of Jackson County at 812-523-4483, or send an email to [president@cfjacksoncounty.org](mailto:president@cfjacksoncounty.org).

"We'll be happy to work with you as you harvest your crops and sow the seeds to help us grow better tomorrows," Davis said. "Stored grain may be donated any time of the year, by the way."

The Foundation also invites tractor enthusiasts to stand up and vote – with their donations -- for their favorite implements in the Head to Head: Green vs. Red competition.

A \$25 donation entitles the donor to cast one vote for their favorite equipment line. A \$100 donation entitles the donor to five votes.



## One classroom's story

Brownstown teacher shares students' experience  
Dear Community Foundation of Jackson County,

I would like to extend my increasing gratitude for the support you have given to my students' classroom this year.

Education is becoming increasingly difficult, so your support is truly year-changing.

The money our classroom was granted was used to create and utilize Soft Start Bins. These things included kinetic sand, magnetic rods, Play Doh and more.

My students loved the soft start bins.

They often beg to use them when we are doing other academic things. They have provided the opportunity for my students to be creative in ways they might not be able to through core academic instruction. It also provided the opportunity for students to collaborate with each other.

These are opportunities that came naturally with having these supplies in my classroom.

I thank you for aiding me in teaching my students key social and life skills vital for success in the world today.

Lauren Voss  
Fourth-grade teacher  
Brownstown Elementary School

**Help increase the impact  
with a gift to the  
Donald J. Klaes Classroom  
Education Endowment**

Scan Here!



Brownstown Central Middle School student J.D. Scales uses a toaster during a lesson in Sheryl Settle's classroom. Settle received a 2025 Donald J. Klaes Classroom Education Grant to equip a small kitchen for her special needs class.



Seymour High School student Caylin Davis paints during Adam Robinson's art class at the school. Robinson used a 2025 Donald J. Klaes Classroom Education Grant to purchase supplies.

## Grant program supports teachers

The Donald J. Klaes Classroom Education Endowment provided 26 grants to teachers across Jackson County during 2025.

Those grants totaled \$9,553 and are aimed at helping teachers deliver innovative, low-cost ideas within their classrooms, from kindergarten through high school. The program was started in 2001 and was renamed in 2023 following a bequest from the estate of Seymour resident Donald J. Klaes.

Prior to the Klaes bequest, Classroom Education Grants were funded with earnings from the Jackson County Unrestricted Endowment, administered by the Foundation. It was established by the Board of Directors with gifts from Lilly Endowment Inc. to help meet community needs within Jackson County.

“Generally, not all applicants can receive funding,” Foundation President & CEO Dan Davis said.

“The Foundation takes a number of factors into consideration when awarding the classroom education grants. We have long wished that we could fund more of the requests and provide larger grants. With this generous endowment from the estate of Don Klaes, we saw that come to fruition.”

Simple but poignant conversations among siblings led to the creation of a new fund, a larger, more impactful grant amount and a new name for the classroom teachers grant program at the Community Foundation of Jackson County.

Klaes’ sister, Julie Bradley of

Brownstown, helped guide the bequest to the Classroom Education Grant program.

“My brother Don was committed to education,” she said. “During our conversations, he expressed an interest in helping today’s students with their education. By establishing this fund for classroom grants, it is our hope that each grant awarded will be used to enhance the curriculum, benefitting many students at once.”

The classroom education grant program was designed to help bring to the classroom bold, creative ideas that will inspire students.

“It is our goal to encourage students and teachers to think creatively.” Foundation Grants Manager Lori Miller said.

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## 2025-2026 Awarded Classroom Grants

### **Crothersville Elementary**

Audrey Jolissaint - \$385  
Macey Stuckwisch - \$400

### **Crothersville Junior/Senior High School**

Tammy Hensley - \$400  
Jared Kempton - \$397  
Matthew Otte - \$392  
Tammy Robbins - \$325

### **Immanuel Lutheran School**

Sarah Bumbleburg - \$400  
Charlotte Elkins - \$100  
Megan Keller - \$400  
Jordan Spieker - \$400  
Alex Zaring - \$400

### **Lutheran Central School**

Nickie Isaacs - \$385

### **Medora High School**

Rebecca Lanier - \$400  
Reuben Nehrt - \$380

### **Medora STEM Academy**

Meghan Turner - \$400

### **Seymour High School**

Mike Kelley - \$250  
Adam Robinson - \$400

### **Seymour Middle School**

Ryan Culbreth - \$300

### **St. Ambrose Catholic School**

Kate Burbrink - \$399

### **Zion Lutheran School**

Tamara Galloway - \$400  
Justin Hall - \$240  
Autumn Hill - \$400  
Johnni Hoene - \$400  
Breanna Klinge - \$400  
Stacie Robinson - \$400  
Stacy Wright - \$400



A 2025 Donald J. Klaes Classroom Education Grant provided funds for Crothersville Elementary School to purchase three Boxley Robot kits for Macey Stuckwisch’s third-grade class. The robots respond to codes the students program into remotes to perform a variety of functions. The program teaches students Science, Technology, Engineering and Math skills in a fun way. Stuckwisch said the robots have had a great impact on critical thinking and teamwork.

# Rumpke continues to make impact through Owen-Carr Township Community Fund

The Owen-Carr Township Community Fund is administered by the Community Foundation of Jackson County and is supported through gifts from Rumpke of Indiana.

Rumpke operates a landfill in Medora and contributes 10 cents to the fund for every ton of waste brought to the landfill.

Those gifts become grants that are awarded by a committee of residents to nonprofits, local government entities and charitable organizations that serve the needs of residents of the two townships.



This committee meets quarterly to review applications, hear from applicants and award the grants.

The committee awarded \$61,806.90 in 2025 to address a variety of needs in the community.

Grants from 2025 can be separated into four categories that include community development, education, human needs and public safety.

Community Development is a broad category that can include quality of life improvements to local parks, festival support, renovations at community centers and more.

The bulk of the committee's awarded grants in 2025 went to support basic human needs. Grants totaled \$24,500 – or 40 percent – for such needs.

Those grants stocked a pantry with personal hygiene products, purchased diapers for a pantry and will help establish a food pantry in Medora through the efforts of Medora Christian Church.

Food insecurity is an issue everywhere, including Medora.

State data show all of Medora Community Schools' 201 students were eligible for free lunches in 2024.

The committee awarded \$18,350 – or 29 percent – of its grants to address quality-of-life projects in 2025.

Those grants supported the town of Medora's Christmas decorating program, offset costs of a Fourth of July festival and helped with the continuing restoration of the Medora Brick Plant.

The committee continued to focus on public safety in 2025, providing funding to local volunteer fire departments and the Medora Police Department.

A significant project in 2025 included the replacement of amplifiers in the town of Medora's tornado siren. The siren operates with four amplifiers and three stopped working sometime in 2024.

"The need has been there," Carr Township Volunteer Fire Department Chief Joe Barnes said during installation of the new amplifiers. "We assume the three were hit by lightning. We noticed it at the end of last year."

The town of Medora paid for half of the overall cost while the committee awarded a grant for \$1,000 for the other half.

The final category the committee addressed was education. A total of \$5,200 in grants went to support education projects in the townships.

Girls Inc. of Jackson County received \$2,500 to offer the Informed and In Charge Program and Too Good for Drugs Program in Medora and Brownstown schools. Those programs focus on healthy relationships and drug use prevention.

Hillary Ladig, Senior Communications Coordinator for Rumpke, said the company's commitment to giving back is rooted in its belief in supporting the communities where it operates and employs local residents.

"It's really important that we support the communities that we are a part of and that's really the emphasis behind the fund," she said. "To think about the amount of programs and individuals helped is just incredible."

**By the numbers**  
The Owen-Carr Township Community Fund has paid  
**\$562,025** in grants to nonprofits & organizations  
in Carr and Owen townships since 2006.

## Shelter house dedicated to longtime Foundation donor

CROTHERSVILLE — A shelter house was dedicated in 2025 to a pillar of the Crothersville and Jackson County communities at Countryside Park.

Ninety-two-year-old Doris Kovener cut the ribbon herself during the dedication ceremony of a shelter house named in her honor at the park at 5725 S. County Road 1000E.

Steve Plasse, secretary of the Crothersville parks board, opened the ceremony by offering background information on the origins of the Doris Kovener Shelter House.

“About a year ago, the parks department, after crunching numbers with a survey, made it a priority to build a shelter here and hopefully have a day camp for kids, and we wrote a grant through the Community Foundation of Jackson County,” Plasse said. “We won an award for funding last fall and we also had a generous donation from Cerrowire.”

The Foundation grant was for \$15,000 with funds coming from the Jackson County Community Endowment fund, the Unrestricted Endowment Fund, the Carl and Doris Kovener Endowment Fund and the Immanuel United Church of Christ Vernon Township Community Fund, all administered by the Foundation.

Installation of the concrete pad and the shelter at the park was completed by Woodfield Homes in December 2024. S & L Electric then installed electrical equipment in January.

“The town chipped in to fund the labor and materials to trench in water and electric lines to the shelter,” Plasse added. “We look forward to this shelter getting a lot of use and [we look] forward to the community to be able to come together for all kinds of events in the future.”

Foundation President & CEO Dan Davis emphasized the organization’s willingness to participate in community projects such as the shelter house and bringing together a variety of fund advisors to help increase a grant’s impact in the community.

“Community is certainly part of our name and part of our focus is helping bring people together to see good things in communities all across Jackson County,” he said. “We’re real excited, you already have plans in place to do things here. That’s terrific. Doris, congratulations.”

One of Doris Kovener’s sons, Scott Kovener, spoke on her many contributions to the Crothersville and Jackson County communities.

“She was involved in the community,” he said. “She was a Cub Scout den mother for many years. She’s donated her blood to Red Cross, though she’s got some left. She was also a member of Jackson County

Community Concert Association, which is no longer in operation, but she was the secretary-treasurer of that organization. She served on the Jackson County Mental Health Association board, and she was a vocalist and sang at a lot of funerals and weddings. She was also on the Indiana Farm Bureau Board and helped serve ice cream at the Jackson County Fair. She’s got a lot of family members to help out with that. And she was

a founding member of the Crothersville Red, White & Blue Festival.”

The philanthropist’s financial contributions have helped to fund more than the new shelter house at the park. She has also helped fund a new roof at the park ball field concession stand and the pollinator garden at the park.

Following Scott’s summary of his mother’s contributions, town council member Chad Wilson praised Kovener and offered congratulations to her.

“Doris, you have done so much for us here in this community, so congratulations,” he said.

Kovener said it is “quite an honor” to have a structure dedicated in her honor.

“It’s more than I deserve,” she said. “I look forward to [the shelter house] being an asset for Crothersville. It is open to everybody, so all come and make use of it.”



Doris Kovener, center, is pictured along with community members during the dedication of the Doris Kovener Shelter House in May 2025.

## Richart joins Foundation staff Miller begins new role as Grants Manager

The Community Foundation of Jackson County had multiple staff changes in 2025.

The Foundation welcomed Donor Relations Manager Jordan Richart in June following the retirement of Vice President Sue Smith. Smith was part of the staff for 27 years.

Since starting, Richart has led the Foundation's social media and marketing strategy and assisted with the administration of gifts and funds.

That work has included the development of the Foundation's storytelling through video.

Richart has featured the Foundation's grant recipients, donors and funds as well as educational pieces and interviews with community leaders.

Those videos can be viewed on the Foundation's social media platforms.

Lori Miller's role with the Foundation changed, and she was named Grants Manager.

Miller has led the management and processing of grants and scholarships.

She oversaw the implementation of a new software system for scholarship applications and evaluations in 2025.

Miller also serves as a resource to applicants, recipients, parents, universities and local high school staff.

Miller also led the Foundation's scholarship committee, which is made up of Board members and community volunteers who evaluate applications and select recipients -- including the Lilly Endowment Community Scholar.

Richart said the commitment from staff, Board of Directors, volunteers and grantees has made the experience of joining the field inspiring.

"Over the last year, it has been a great experience learning about the Foundation, meeting donors and working with our staff, board and committees to carry out our important work," Richart said.

Miller said she has enjoyed the new role at the Foundation after serving for 19 years as a development associate.



"I have enjoyed the first year in my new role of working with our Scholarship and Grant committees, nonprofits, students, universities and local schools," she said. "I am grateful for the work of Sue Smith, who laid a solid foundation for the scholarship and granting processes."

Before joining the Foundation, Richart served as Public Relations Manager at the Jackson County Visitor Center. His career also includes a background in journalism.

Miller and Richart serve alongside President & CEO Dan Davis and Finance Manager Cindy Rinehart.

## YoJack visits Foundation to learn grant process



Volunteer Terry Davidson aides a discussion about evaluating grant proposals during YoJack's Youth in Philanthropy Day during the fall session at the Community Foudnation of Jackson County. Each year, YoJack, the youth program of Leadership Jackson County, visits the Foundation for Youth Philanthropy Day. Eighth-graders from across Jackson County hear about philanthropy, learn about the Foundation and its work and hear grant requests from three local nonprofits each fall and spring semester of the school year. Students hear the pitches, discuss their thoughts on the proposals and then make a recommendation for a \$2,500 grant. During 2025, YoJack students recommended grants to Anchor House, Inc. and Sweet Cheeks Diaper Pantry.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF JACKSON COUNTY

DONORS

John Abbott and Amanda Cooper	Dan Deputy	Development Corporation
Alliance for Substance Abuse Pro	Claudia Dominik	Mark Jacobi
Fred and Cindy Andris	Rochelle Doty	JCBank
Dan Arnholt	Brent Dove	Douglas and Mary Ellen Jaynes
Terry Ault	Dudleytown Conservation Club	Tom Johnson
Pamela Baker	Thomas Easterday	Gene and Mary Johnson
Jean Barkman	Patricia Elmore	Marian Judd
Bill and Ruth Bateman	Mark and Conchi Emkes	David Jungclaus
John and Kay Beatty	Dr. Bernard and Marta Emkes	Anne E. Keller
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Michelle Benefiel	Anna Ertel	Shelly Kilgas
Nancy Bishop	Charlene Farrow	Darren and Elizabeth Kimmel
Randy Bobb	Louis Federle	Benjamin Kimmel
Stephen Boggs	Rick & Tammy Fields	Travis and Blair Kimmel
Todd and Kandi Bollinger	First United Methodist Church	Neal and Beth Koeller
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Dody Bowman	Bryan Fish	Kohl's
Bryan Bowman	Mike and Ardith Fleetwood	Garth Kovener
Joseph and Julie Bradley	Fraternal Order of Eagles, Aerie 655	Doris Kovener
Bill and Amy Braman	Kevin Gabbard	David Kovener
John and Ann Britton	Anthony Gamron	Galen and Mae Krumme
Robert J. and Kathy Brown	Danny and Tammy Giles	Land O'Lakes Foundation, Inc.
Curt and Shawni Brown	Andrew and Jill Glover	Tracie Lane
Donald and Carol Brown	James Goebel	John and Alice Laskowski
Brownstown Ewing Main Street	Grant Graves	Jane L. Laupus
Bill and Lois Bryden	Karen Grindlay	Christina Letsinger
Brownstown Exchange Club	J.B. Hackman	Jesse Lipson
Kevin and Barb Burbrink	Julie Haimbach	Jeff and Susan Lorenzo
Bureau of Motor Vehicles	Krystal Harrell	Matt Lucas
Dr. Jerry Cartmel	Ron Harrison	Jane Lucas
Isaac Chadwell	Robert and Vivian Haubry	Terry Lyon-McCarthy
Andrea Chu	Lyndel Helmkamp	Kevin Main
Mark Clark	Bryan and Ruth Ann Hendrix	Steve and Natalie Mann
Georgiann Coons	Darren and Stephanie Hess	Campbell & Carol Mansfield
Harold Cooper	Wilbur Hoevener	Carolyn Martin
Laura Cottrill	Jim Hume	Connie McCoy
Larry Covert	Melinda Hypes	Sarah McGill
Jeff and Martha Culp	Independent Colleges of Indiana	Mark McKinney
Jeanne Culp	Jackson County Sertoma Club	Jeff McNeely
Cummins Foundation	Jackson County 4-H Club	Amy Metheny MD
Gary Darlage	Committee	Suzanne Mittenthal
Mark and Terrye Davidson	Jackson County Industrial	Willie and Linda Moenning
Dan and Karen Davis		

## DONORS

Timothy Molinari	Rumpke	Roland Sturgeon
William Montgomery	Rust Farms LLC	Joanne Sunbury
Dallas Munter	Mark Scheidler	Steve and Leisa Sunbury
Dama Napier	Karen Schepman	Dennis and Sandra Sunderman
Andrew and Cheryl Nehrt	Rick Schleibaum	Jeffrey Thompson
Brigette Nolting	Grant and Cathy Schneider	Joe and Robin Tormoehlen
Tom Nolting	Maggie Schneider	Nate and Ann Tormoehlen
Patrick and Brenda Papin	Donald and Susie Schnitker	Trina Tracy
Toby and Lisa Paswater	Luke and Katelynn Schnitker	Tim Trimpe
Phi Beta Psi Sorority	Emily Schnitker	Randy and Michelle Turmail
D & B Pfaffenberger & Sons	Jerry and Julia Schrink	Rexanne Ude
Matthew and Malinda Plumer	Stanley Schroer	Marvin and Beth Veatch
Jim and Jana Plump	Gregg and Ann Sciarra	George Vehslage
Alan Pollert	Schneck Foundation	William Villafranco
Michael Pottinger	City of Seymour	Joe Vondielingen
Jim Potts	Seymour Firefighters Local 577	Daniel Walters and Susan Wolfe-Walters
Bob and Vicki Poynter	Seymour High School	Kenneth Warbritton
Daniel Prather	Seymour Kiwanis Club	David and Stacey Waskom
Mark Press	Sherri Sears	David and Sharon Waskom
Jeffery Prewitt	St. John's Sauers Lutheran Church	Judith Watts
Gary Purlee	David and Nicole Shepard	Dennis and Debi Wayman
Read Jackson County	Gregory Spalla	Forest Weld
Jim and Ruth Ann Rebber	Edward and Donna Spray	Paul and Cathy Wessel
Linda Reichenbacker	Douglas Spray	Mike Willey
Tom Reinhart	Mary Sue Spurgeon	Rodney Willman
Erin Reinhart	Jerry and Cheryl Stark	Sheila Wilson
Joel Reuter	Dennis Sterling	Priscilla Wischmeier
Paul and Francis Richart	Rick Stewart	Julie Wright
John Richcreek	Chrystal Street	Bruce and Susan Wynn
Jerry Roberts	Joyce Stuckwisch	Erik and Skye Zakrzewski
Andy and Misty Royalty	Jason Stuckwisch	David Zike
Kathryn Rudolph	Danny and Teresa Sturdivant	

## Memorials

R.C. and Bobbie Seal	Willard H.C. Schepman	Bob Biro	Marc Owen Chandler
Joseph Gallion	Carrie Hackman	Florence Royalty	Larry Montgomery
Theodore Thomas Groce	Brian Rudolph	Fred Pollert	Donnie Cooper
Jim Eglen	Mike Rudolph	Mary Lou Veatch	Hazel Tracey
Andy Price	Donald Glen Clodfelter	Frank Cummings	Helen Swain
Adria Waskom	Nancy Ann Fox	Donald Hill	<b>Tributes</b>
Ann Schwein	Curtis Eugene Benter	Phyllis Zabel	Donald and Susie Schnitker
Robert "Bob" Mahan	Dale Shepard	Gary Plumer	Kendall Sterling
Gladys Fenneberg	Blake Hackman	Wayne Williams	Sue Smith
Carmen Toerne	Jessica Barkman	Richard West	

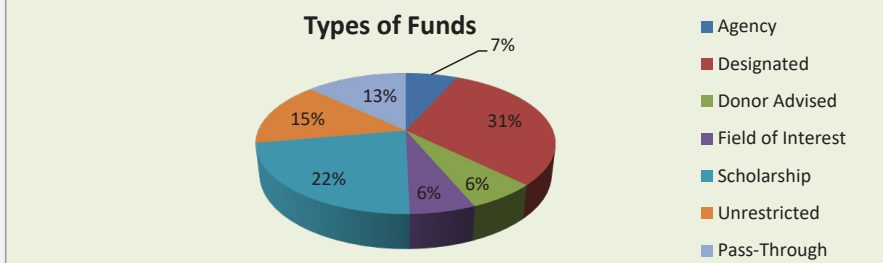
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF JACKSON COUNTY

FINANCIALS

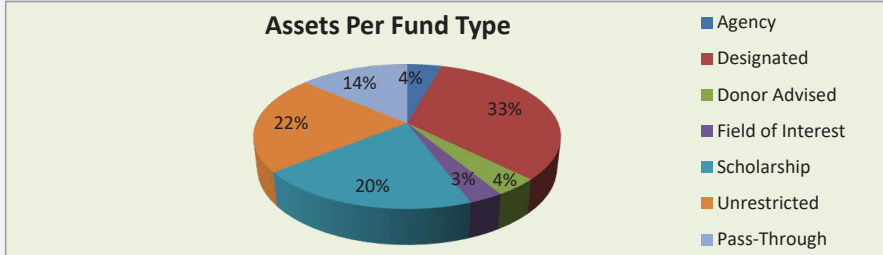
**Community Foundation of Jackson County**

December 31, 2025

Type of Fund	Number
Agency	19
Designated	87
Donor Advised	18
Field of Interest	17
Scholarship	64
Unrestricted	42
Pass-Through	37
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>284</b>



Agency	\$	1,135,796
Designated	\$	8,657,683
Donor Advised	\$	1,028,510
Field of Interest	\$	799,538
Scholarship	\$	5,232,791
Unrestricted	\$	5,761,315
Pass-Through	\$	3,596,025
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>26,211,658</b>



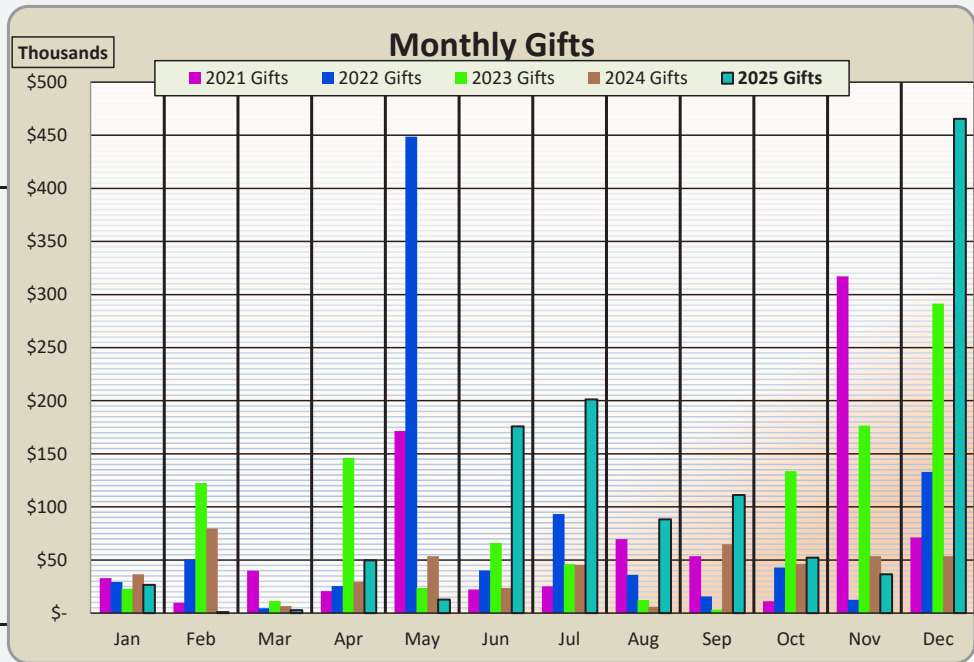
**NEW FUNDS THIS YEAR: 26**                      **NEW FUNDS LAST YEAR: 7**

2025 Gifts	
Jan	\$26,631.02
Feb	\$910.00
Mar	\$2,803.00
Apr	\$49,732.32
May	\$12,725.00
Jun	\$175,939.77
Jul	\$201,209.32
Aug	\$88,256.18
Sep	\$111,193.09
Oct	\$52,296.86
Nov	\$36,459.47
Dec	\$465,431.02
<b>TOTAL GIFTS</b>	<b>\$1,223,587.05</b>

<b>YTD 2025 Gifts</b>	<b>\$1,223,587.05</b>
<b>YTD 2024 Gifts</b>	<b>\$445,913.37</b>

<b>Largest Gift 2024</b>	<b>\$57,710.05</b>
<b>Largest Gift 2025</b>	<b>\$175,000.00</b>
<b>Scholarship Awards:</b>	<b>2024: \$164,095.13</b> <b>YTD 2025: \$162,700.00</b>
<b>All Other Grants:</b>	<b>2024: \$779,352.12</b> <b>YTD 2025: \$2,359,082.00</b>
	<b>2024: \$943,447.25</b> <b>YTD 2025: \$2,521,782.00</b>

2024 Gifts	
Jan	\$36,511.19
Feb	\$79,713.78
Mar	\$6,533.38
Apr	\$29,590.96
May	\$53,569.65
Jun	\$23,756.17
Jul	\$45,445.60
Aug	\$5,926.09
Sep	\$65,016.45
Oct	\$46,375.56
Nov	\$53,474.54
Dec	\$53,607.89
<b>TOTAL GIFTS</b>	<b>\$499,521.26</b>



*The* **COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**  
*of* **Jackson County**

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*Together, we grow tomorrows*

**P.O. Box 1231**  
**Seymour, IN 47274**



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