At a recent workshop, fellow participants watched a clip of Simon Sinek’s TED Talk called “Find Your Why.” While it was not the first time I’d watched his thoughtful commentary about zeroing in on purpose, I’d never been asked to define the “why” of the Hancock County Community Foundation. Well that’s easy…I can recite HCCF’s “why” in my sleep!

- We connect caring people with causes they wish to support and serve using the highest standards of community foundation excellence.
- We invest and steward charitable gifts to ensure the $40 million endowment forever generates perpetual grantmaking.
- We invest in nonprofits that provide vital resources to Hancock County.
- We deploy resources that enhance the quality of life for those who choose to live, work, and play in this great place we call home.
- We support literacy from birth to the aging adult and carefully administer over 100 scholarships.

These were just the thoughts that bubbled up in less than 60 seconds. Pretty proud of myself…and then it was time to share with my small group. I was quickly informed that these are the “what,” not the “why.” Time to rethink…

Why do I personally give to the Gibble Family Community Development Fund?
- Because I love Hancock County!

Why did Jeanne Meddock give to HCCF to create the Bob Tracy Scholarship?
- Because she loved her son and the idea that students would benefit from his legacy.

Why did the English/Muegge Family establish the Matt English Scholarship?
- Love. It’s all about loving people and a community.

This giving season, please consider the many fund options at HCCF to love where you live.

May you and your loved ones have a safe and blessed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year!

Yours in philanthropy,

Mary Gibble
Your Gifts at Work
When you give where you live, you grow where you live. Gifts are permanently invested in endowment funds that generate income benefitting charitable causes here and wherever your favorite charitable organizations call home. Strategic management of endowments through intelligent asset allocation, skillful investment management, and prudent grantmaking policies have resulted in steady growth of the Hancock County Community Foundation’s pooled endowment funds with a combined value of more than $40 million. By helping people who care connect to causes that matter to them, HCCF has granted more than $14 million since its inception in 1992.

WHY HCCF?
1 Local organization
2 Understands issues and needs
3 Personal and confidential service
4 Builds funds to benefit our community forever

PICK A FUND (or funds) to support
- Bequest
- IRA
- Stocks
- CGA
- Life Insurance
- Grain
- Cash

DONATE Mail gift or give online

SPREAD THE GIVING SPIRIT!

Mail Gifts to: HCCF, 312 E. Main Street, Greenfield, IN 46140 | Give online at: giveHCgrowHC.org

Support the Work of These Nonprofits through a Gift to Their Endowment Fund

Agape East
Arc of Hancock County, Inc.
Boys and Girls Club of Hancock County, Inc.
Bradley United Methodist Church
Town of McCordsville
Eastern Hancock Education Foundation
Families First Indiana, Inc.
Fortville-Vernon Township Library
Friends of Recovery, Inc.
FUSE
Greenfield Central School Foundation, Inc.
Greenfield Main Street, Inc.
Greenfield Parks and Recreation
Hancock County Children’s Choir
Hancock County 4H Agricultural Association, Inc.
Hancock County Food Pantry
Hancock County Historical Society
Hancock County Public Library
Hancock County Senior Services, Inc.
Hancock County Veterans’ Park
Hancock Hope House
Jane Ross Reeves Octagon House
Kenneth Butler Memorial Soup Kitchen
Leaders in Navigating Knowledge
Love INC of Greater Hancock County
Meals on Wheels of Hancock County
Mental Health Partners of Hancock County
Mt. Vernon Education Foundation
Nameless Creek Youth Camp, Inc.
Psi Iota Xi - Upsilon Chapter
Shares, Inc. Hancock County
Southern Hancock Education Foundation
Sugar Creek Parks Department

For a full list of HCCF administered funds, please visit giveHCgrowHC.org/our-funds/
The philanthropic legacy of Greenfield-native Matt English, who was widely known for his exemplary basketball career, has been secured through the establishment of a new scholarship endowment fund. Matt fought cancer until his passing on December 10, 2018, leaving behind a legacy of living and coaching that exemplified his “We Before Me” spirit. Matt’s sister, Jill Muegge, and her husband, Zach, have honored Matt’s selfless character and core value of sacrifice by naming a fund with his signature motto “We Before Me.”

The criteria of the scholarship encourages young people to serve others and spread the We Before Me spirit. Given that Matt’s influence has reached all corners of the state, founders hope to award scholarships to applicants from across Indiana.

Former Beech Grove educator Mark Jaynes said, “He was always looking to see what he could do for others, not just himself. Matt was never an ‘I’ guy. If it didn’t include helping someone else in the process, then he was not involved in it.”

To donate to this endowment fund visit: giveHCgrowHC.org

Remembering Jeanne Meddock

Long-time friend of HCCF, Jeanne Meddock passed on September 26. Growing up in Hancock County, she graduated from Greenfield High School, then studied at Butler University and the Arthur Jordan Conservatory of Music. A gifted pianist, Jeanne loved to pass on her knowledge to her students. She taught piano lessons at both her home and at St. Michael’s School.

In addition to music, Jeanne loved playing golf, bridge, and being involved at Bradley United Methodist Church and at the Greenfield Country Club. Most importantly, she was a beloved wife, mother, and grandmother.

In November of 2000, Jeanne established the “Bob Tracy Business Scholarship Endowment Fund” on behalf of the Ernest Tracy Family in memory of her son, Bob. This scholarship memorializes his successful career using his skills and passion for business development. The renewable annual award supports college students who are pursuing degrees at Indiana University Bloomington’s Kelley School of Business.

Jeanne will forever be remembered for her kindness, generosity, and her family’s legacy at the Hancock County Community Foundation.

To donate to this endowment fund visit: giveHCgrowHC.org
Connecting Community Grants Spark Fun

Who doesn’t like having fun?! HCCF’s Connecting Community Fund, established in 2018 as a strategic initiative, is designed to support fun projects and events that encourage county residents to meet each other, socialize, and enjoy nature in public places. In 2019, we awarded Connecting Community Grants across the county for carnivals and family events, a play celebrating the 19th Amendment, a Go Green event and bicycle rodeo, and pop-up eco lessons.

For the first time this year, New Palestine Main Street organized a series of concerts called Music on Depot to complement New Pal Summer Fest. These concerts kicked off on May 24 with Gordon Bonham Blues Band and continued in July, August, and September with Boogie Knights, Nick Harless Band, and Levi Driskell, respectively. HCCF made a $1,000 Connecting Community Grant to New Palestine Main Street to support these concerts.

The concerts took place in the alley at the intersection of U.S. 52 (Main Street) and Depot Street, next to the New Palestine Museum. In addition to the live music for all ages, barbecue, beer and wine were available to purchase. An estimated 775 people attended the four concerts.

“New Palestine is a small town with a big heart,” says Kim Taylor, New Pal Summer Fest chair. “Our goal was to bring people to the center of town, experience community once a month, and reunite with old friends, classmates, neighbors, and hopefully meeting new people. The support we received from the residents, plus the surrounding area such as Greenfield, enabled us to have a successful first year of monthly entertainment. We succeeded!”

New Palestine Main Street plans to host concerts on fourth Fridays in May, July, August, and September in 2020.

Give Where You Live

Congratulations to the 2020 Lilly Finalists

Top row L-R:
Ben Blachly
New Palestine High School
Anthony Fleming
Mt. Vernon High School
Tessa Freeman
Mt. Vernon High School
Ellie Griesmeyer
Eastern Hancock High School

Bottom row L-R:
Nolan Hemminger-Jones
Greenfield-Central High School
Emma Nobbe
New Palestine High School
Logan Overman
Greenfield-Central High School
Paige Wickard
Eastern Hancock High School
“This grant cycle granted a total of $128,585.54 to 36 organizations from a collection of HCCF’s unrestricted resources and field of interest funds.”

With the help of a $2,000 grant, the Sugar Creek Township Park placed a 12’ x 20’ shaded pavilion roughly mid-way along the park’s one-mile walking trail. The pavilion is situated along the walking trail and between two arms of the nature trail that winds through several acres of park property undergoing active reforestation. It will be used by trail walkers and will also serve as an outdoor classroom for Dani’s Dreams ecology-based educational programs.

Field of Interest Funds allow donors to address a cause or issue of particular importance to them without being locked into naming specific charities. The donor names the purpose of the fund, such as arts, animal welfare, environment, or youth. The Foundation identifies projects that can most effectively accomplish that goal each year.

HCCF stewards three Field of Interest Funds in the area of animal welfare – Sharon Yates Endowment Fund for the Care of Animals, William Harold and Mary Katherine Kingery Friends of Domestic Animals Endowment Fund, and Animal Welfare Fund of Hancock County.

In 2019, these collectively granted $27,611 to four animal rescue groups in Hancock County – Frenzy Animal Rescue, Greenfield Hancock Animal Management, Hancock County Humane Society, and Partners for Animal Welfare Society. The funds support projects such as spay/neuter and medical care for animals.

HCCF is honored to steward these resources gifted to the community by generous donors and takes great pride in partnering with charitable organizations to create positive change in Hancock County.

The 2019 Annual Grant Cycle was open to any tax-exempt organization serving Hancock County for charitable projects. The available grant categories were Strategic Operating Support, Program and Project Support, Capital Improvement, and Endowment-Building. This grant cycle granted a total of $128,585.54 to 36 organizations from a collection of HCCF’s unrestricted resources and field of interest funds.

Community Development Funds together create the pool of unrestricted funds that HCCF leverages to meet community needs as they change over time. By making a gift or bequest to create a Community Development fund, a donor can create a living legacy that will evolve as the community does.

The Shirley Police Department and the Sugar Creek Township Park were two recipients of funds from unrestricted resources through the Annual Grant Cycle.

The Shirley Police Department received a $5,000 grant to help them purchase Vigilant Solutions’ software offering national vehicle data and facial recognition technology. Their goal is to utilize the software to more efficiently generate leads and reduce crime.

Annual Grant Cycle Supports Nonprofits

BECAUSE OF GENEROUS DONORS, HCCF IS IN THE PRIVILEGED POSITION TO DEVELOP RELATIONSHIPS WITH CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS SERVING HANCOCK COUNTY AND RESPONDING TO THEIR FINANCIAL NEEDS.

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““This software will help us identify information that can be directly related to a crime we are currently involved with or advise us of possible threats that may be imminent,” says Det. Brent Burris. “We are a small department with a practically non-existent budget, yet the types of crime that happen in our area can be just as dramatic or worse than in the bigger cities.”

With the help of a $2,000 grant, the Sugar Creek Township Park placed a 12’ x 20’ shaded pavilion roughly mid-way along the park’s one-mile walking trail. The pavilion is situated along the walking trail and between two arms of the nature trail that winds through several acres of park property undergoing active reforestation. It will be used by trail walkers and will also serve as an outdoor classroom for Dani’s Dreams ecology-based educational programs.

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Excellence Academy

Engaging Nonprofits through Exclusive Workshops

This August, HCCF launched its inaugural class of a new capacity-building program called the Excellence Academy. The Excellence Academy is a three-year series of quarterly, half-day workshops focusing on topics critical to nonprofit success.

HCCF’s goals with this series include deepening relationships with locally-based grantees and providing an opportunity for no-cost professional development for nonprofit leaders.

HCCF has partnered with Bryan Richards of Aspen Impact to design the curriculum and present the material. Each of the 12 sessions will have an introductory segment followed by a reflective conversation, a core topic, a preview of the next session, and a concluding segment. Topics covered will include board engagement, resource development, organizational leadership, and nonprofit management.

The mascot for the program is an owl and the participants are known as “Owls,” an acronym for “Outstanding Wise Leaders.” The five participating organizations are the Boys and Girls Clubs of Hancock County, Friends of the Theater, Hancock County Senior Services, Love INC of Greater Hancock County, and Meals on Wheels of Hancock County.

“The timing was perfect for our organization,” says Hancock County Senior Services Executive Director Bob Long. “The curriculum was thoughtfully designed to address four cornerstones of nonprofit success. The class includes four other organizations that we share with and learn from. Bryan, our facilitator, keeps the sessions entertaining and meaningful, through case studies, humor, and a genuine passion for the material.”

The current class will “graduate” from the program in Summer 2022. At the successful completion of each year, participating organizations will receive a $500 unrestricted grant, totaling $1,500 each upon graduation.

HCCF is honored to embark upon this journey with organizations providing critical services for our community and learning right alongside them.

Capacity building is an investment in the effectiveness and future sustainability of a nonprofit. It strengthens a nonprofit’s ability to fulfill its mission over time, thereby enhancing the nonprofit’s ability to have a positive impact on lives and communities.

— National Council of Nonprofits

Give Where You Live
The LevelUp Grant Program’s goal is to support leaders so they can more effectively advance the mission and vision of their nonprofit organizations. LevelUp is an expression of HCCF’s profound respect and support for the nonprofit leaders who are doing the hard work that is vital to improving the quality of life in Hancock County.

LevelUp starts with a foundational question: *Where does your organization want to go, and what support and resources does it need to get there?* The program engages executive directors, senior staff, and board members to think strategically about their goals and the skills, infrastructure, and organizational systems needed to carry out their work.

LevelUp 2018-19 grantees are the **Hope House** and **Nameless Creek Camp**. Both began the process with staff and board completing a comprehensive assessment of the organizations’ capacities in nine areas of nonprofit management, eventually narrowing to one area of focus. HCCF made a grant of $10,000 to each organization to hire a consultant to build and execute a plan to develop that area of focus.

Nameless Creek, an all-volunteer-run camp in eastern Hancock County, has focused on building its internal organizational structure by creating a strategic plan, implementing a committee system, and adding task management software to its daily operations. Hope House, a homeless shelter in Greenfield, is working to develop a donor relations plan to streamline and boost their fundraising efforts. Both organizations are working with Rozzi and Associates, a consulting firm based in Hendricks County.

“LevelUp is an expression of HCCF’s profound respect and support for the nonprofit leaders who are doing the hard work that is vital to improving the quality of life in Hancock County.”

“Our 68-year history was mostly unstable until the last 12 years of renewal and revitalization,” says Nameless Creek President Jerry Bell. “This grant has given us the opportunity to create a sustainable structure for our board of directors and our volunteers. We have developed a vision for our camp and its vitality for the next 68 years with our involvement in this program.”

HCCF is currently working with Kenneth Butler Memorial Soup Kitchen and The Landing for 2019-20 LevelUp grants.
November 1 - February 7
TRADITIONAL SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATION CYCLE

November 18
FAFSA DAY
Eastern Hancock HS | 2:00-7:30 PM

November 19
NONPROFIT NETWORKING
HCCF | 11:30 AM-1:00 PM
FAFSA DAY
New Palestine HS | 2:00-7:30 PM

November 21
FAFSA DAY
Greenfield-Central HS | 2:00-7:30 PM

December 2
ADULT NON-TRADITIONAL
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION LIVE

December 6
LILLY ENDOWMENT
COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP
RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

January 8 - February 21
MARTHA BECKENHOLDT
PHILANTHROPY AWARD
APPLICATION CYCLE

January 18
FAFSA DAY
HCPLibrary – Greenfield Branch
10:00 AM-2:00 PM

February 3
ANNUAL GRANT CYCLE LIVE