



Sharing

today's gifts with the generations to come

SILVER ANNIVERSARY SEASON IN FULL SWING

A celebratory season is underway as Ashland County Community Foundation marks 25 years of giving and growth.

Throughout the first half of the year, the Foundation's anniversary committee is unveiling several Silver Anniversary Grants in the areas of Education, Compassion, Community Improvement and Economic Development.

The season will culminate in a festive Silver Anniversary Celebration Dinner August 20. ACCF's staff and board members encourage the entire foundation family—donors, agency partners, grant recipients and community members—to mark this special event on their calendars.

"The Silver Anniversary Celebration Dinner is an opportunity to pay tribute to the Foundation's significant history, celebrate the great impact we are making in the present and envision the possibility of what this community foundation can be in the future," said ACCF board member and 25th Anniversary Committee Chair Anne Cowen. "We hope to welcome a large crowd."

Executive Director James Cutright and Chief Program Officer Kristin Aspin kicked off Silver Anniversary activities in January with surprise visits to the offices of three local non-profit agencies.

They presented \$5,000 grants to Ashland County Cancer Association, Ashland YMCA and Hospice of North Central Ohio—the first three 'Partner Agencies' to create endowment funds with ACCF shortly after the Foundation's founding.

"As we celebrate this milestone anniversary, we wanted to

thank these agencies for believing in us, investing in us and growing with us for 25 years," Cutright said.

The following week, the foundation announced a one-time, 1:1 matching challenge grant opportunity to help 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations create new agency endowment funds.



Eight organizations took up the challenge, including Ashland Chautauqua, Ashland City Schools for Literacy Endowment Fund, CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) at Ashland Parenting Plus, Fostering Family Ministries, Loudonville Theatre and Arts Committee, Mental Health and Recovery Board of Ashland County, Park Street Brethren Preschool and Senior Citizens of Ashland County, Inc.

Each organization will receive \$5,000, which will be added to their own \$5,000 contribution

to total \$10,000—the minimum required to create an endowment fund.

"Our goal with this challenge was to assist our non-profit agencies in building financial capacity in order to become more self-sufficient," Cutright said. "Long-term, this lessens the need for agencies to engage in constant grant writing to support operations or specific programs."

In February, ACCF invited the mayors of Loudonville, Perrysville, Jeromesville, Hayesville, Savannah, Bailey Lakes, Polk and Mifflin to the Foundation and announced \$50,000 in grants for the municipalities to put toward special projects.

"It was important to us to make sure our Silver Anniversary grants touched not only the city (*cont'd on page 2*)

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ACCF Mission

To advance philanthropy and improve the quality of life in Ashland County by supporting charitable activities in the community, providing and administering a variety of planned giving programs, and serving as responsible stewards of designated scholarships and individual funds for specific charities.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (CUTTY'S CORNER)



Jim Cutright (Cutty)

"Hello, Friends and Neighbors in Ashland County and beyond! Did you know that we have received gifts from donors living in 46 different U.S. states? We only lack ND, SD, LA and NE. I keep telling folks there is something special going on here at our little community foundation in Ohio's heartland!

As our cover story indicates, ACCF is observing its 25th anniversary in 2020, and you'll see that we are working hard to make you, our valued donors, proud of what we've accomplished in our brief history. It's our hope that, with the special Silver Anniversary grants being made, we can make a significant impact now in our county, while creating the opportunity for growth in the future.

Capping it all off will be a festive, celebratory event on the evening of August 20th, so we hope you'll mark your calendars to attend, as we recap our 25th year and share our vision for the future.

As I meet with potential donors, one particular type of charitable fund is becoming a popular option...a "donor-advised fund"... a giving instrument that allows individuals and families to create their own grantmaking fund to provide support for the causes about which they truly care.

With the establishment of such a fund, you get what I call the "AAA" benefit of associating with ACCF:

Access to information that you might not otherwise get, due to our relationship with all of the non-profit agencies in our community and the vetting that occurs in our grantmaking to them; **Anonymity**, if you desire it, since your personal grant distributions come from ACCF, you can choose whether or not you'd like the recipient to know the source of the funding; and **Accountability**, since we will ask how your grant dollars were spent, making certain that your wishes are being met, avoiding what can be an awkward conversation sometimes. Contact me, if you'd like to know more.



And, finally, back in September, we were especially blessed with a significant gift from our friends, Jim and Barb Chandler, for the creation of six new endowment funds to benefit the following organizations: Ashland Fire Department, for Special Projects; Ashland Police Department, for Special Projects; Ashland County Sheriff's Office, for Special Projects; "Homeward Bound", for support of the new County Dog Shelter; Montgomery Township, for Cemetery Maintenance; and Montgomery Township, for Special Projects.

In keeping with the humble demeanor of these fine folks, they are allowing me to share this news with our "ACCF Family", as they wanted to keep the public fanfare to a minimum, and allow the important work of these agencies and the Foundation to be spotlighted.

Thank you so much, Jim and Barb! *That's it for now...hope to see you all on August 20th...!*

SILVER ANNIVERSARY (CONTINUED...)

of Ashland but also all four corners of Ashland County," Cutright said.

The Foundation is currently accepting grant proposals for programs or projects designed to support the education of youth, women and seniors. The Foundation's 25th Anniversary committee will select finalists in each category, and the winners of the three \$25,000 grants ultimately will be chosen through a community voting process.

"We truly are the community's Foundation, and it's only together that we have been able to come this far in 25 years," said Kristin Aspin, Chief Program Officer. "It's only fitting that members of our community help direct a portion of the Silver Anniversary grant dollars toward projects they find meaningful."

Additional Silver Anniversary grants will be unveiled prior to the Celebration Dinner in August. Funding for Silver Anniversary grants has been made possible through the careful management of the Foundation's resources as well as the participation of two donor families.

GRANTS AWARDED

2019-20 MINI-GRANT RECIPIENTS, 9 educators, \$6,187.00

Beth Babulski, St. Edward School, *Flexible Seating Classroom Options*
Martha Buckner, Dale Roy School, *Kristal Bell Method* (Brown Vocal Music)
Kristin Donley, McMullen Elementary School, *Flexible Seating & Sensory "Stuff"*
BreAnn Fennell, Ashland City Schools, *Tell Me A Story with Todd Parr* (ARTSDREAM)
Lynnette Kuschel, Mapleton Middle School, *Re-Building the Library*
Andrew Lewellen, Hillsdale Local Schools, *Original Fabric Design* (ARTSDREAM)
Megan Sellers, Loudonville High School, *Classroom Library*
Cassie Swanson, Mapleton Middle School, *STEM in Social Studies*
Danielle Thompson, McMullen Elementary School, *Sensory Path*

2019-20 COMMUNITY GRANT RECIPIENTS, 27 grants, \$205,902.99

Appleseed Community Mental Health Center, restroom improvements to accommodate additional residents at Safe Haven

Appleseed Community Mental Health Center, curriculum materials for Appleseed CMHC Co-Occurring Disorder Clinic

Ashland Bookcase Project Inc., materials for bookcases and new books to be given to children

Ashland Christian Health Center, purchase supplies for respiratory care and parking lot upgrade

Ashland City Schools, Jazz Enrichment & Education project at Ashland High School

Ashland County Cancer Association, fireproof vertical filing cabinets and new computer

Ashland County Historical Society, flooring and installation for 1st floor of Freer Home

Ashland Family YMCA, support for west pool main drain replacement project

Ashland Parenting Plus, Optima - client management software system

Ashland Symphony Orchestra Association, music commissioned in honor of Arie Lipsky

Community Help Mission, restroom updates

Flying Horse Farms, camps for Ashland County children with serious illnesses

Fostering Family Ministries, support for Stand Sunday Community event

Friends of Brookside Golf Course, permanent furnishings for the new golf course pavilion

Growing Mohican Families, Loudonville Riverside Park/phase two

Mohican Historical Society, Inc., purchase and installation of security equipment

Neos Dance Theatre, support for Advancing Access to Artists project

Ohio's Hospice LifeCare, support the LifeCare Hospice Mobile Care Unit

Olive Tree Care, program development and emergency funds

Perrysville Economic Development, Inc., Perrysville maintenance equipment upgrade

RePlay for Kids, adapted toy workshop held at Ashland University

Savannah Volunteer Fire Company, new gear for Savannah Volunteer firefighters

Grandfathered Organizations

*Ashland Public Library, Ashland University, First United Methodist Church,
UH Samaritan Medical Center, United Way of Ashland County*

ATTENTION STUDENTS

SCHOLARSHIPS available

for current year graduating high school seniors, recent graduates, non-traditional students and more

Apply online at
www.acommunityfoundation.org

Application deadline:
March 15



HESS EDUCATIONAL LOANS available

Interest-free loans of \$2,000 or more for current Ashland County residents or graduates of Ashland County high schools

Apply online at:
www.acommunityfoundation.org

Application deadline:
June 15

ACCF GRANTS AT WORK





Celebrating 15 Years of Empowering Women

Last fall, the Women's Fund marked a milestone anniversary with an event to celebrate the past and envision the future.

Dr. JoAnn Ford Watson inspired the crowd with a speech about the impact of women helping women. She opened with a quote from Barbara Bush.

"To empower a woman is to empower her children, her family and her community," she said. "The smartest investment we can make is in women."

Mother's Day Cards

This spring, honor or remember the special women in your life with a gift that lasts.

With any size contribution to the Women's Fund, we will send a beautifully-designed Mother's Day card to the honoree or her family.

Watch your mail or check our website. Online giving options are available.



Now Accepting Grant Applications

Grants are available to assist non-profit organizations with programs and projects designed to benefit Ashland County women. In 2019, ten organizations were awarded grants totaling \$16,000. Apply online by May 15.

Scholarship Available

The Women's Fund Scholarship helps female non-traditional students gain the education or job training needed to create a better life for themselves and their families. Apply online by March 15.

The mission of the Women's Fund is to create a permanent legacy that enhances the lives of Ashland County women.

To date, 80 grants totaling \$133,460 have impacted 10,165 women and children in Ashland County, thanks to the generosity of 590 donors to the Women's Fund.

DR. LUCILLE G. FORD "FREEDOM FROM SELFISHNESS" AWARD

Diana Brechbuhler was named the 2019 recipient of the "Freedom from Selfishness"

Award, created and named in honor of Dr. Lucille G. Ford, the Community Foundation's founding president.



As founding chair of the Women's Fund, Brechbuhler led the team that began the Fund to create a lasting legacy to serve Ashland County women. She was instrumental in setting the vision, gaining support and raising money to establish the Fund.

Brechbuhler's philanthropy also includes the creation of three funds at Ashland County Community Foundation.

Outside ACCF, Brechbuhler has been an active booster of Hillsdale's academic and athletic programs. She also served the Hillsdale district as a member and president of the school board.

Brechbuhler has served on the boards of Ashland Symphony Orchestra and Ashland County Historical Society. She was named an Ashland County Woman of Achievement in 2006.

The Dr. Lucille G. Ford "Freedom from Selfishness" Award was created in 2013 by ACCF's Women's Fund. Honoring Dr. Ford, who defines philanthropy as "freedom from selfishness," this award recognizes Ashland County women who demonstrate a long-standing commitment to philanthropy.

Nominate an exceptional woman

Visit www.accommunityfoundation.org/LEARN/Freedom from Selfishness Award to nominate a woman in our community who exemplifies a lifetime of philanthropy, a giving of self without reservation. Deadline to submit nominations is [June 1](#).

The Award recipient will be recognized at the Foundation's Silver Anniversary Celebration Dinner in August.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS



**2019 Ashland County-West Holmes
Career Center STEM Camp**



**24th Annual Donor Appreciation Reception
November 12**



**Teacher Mini-Grants Reception
November 6**



2019-20 IMPACT Youth Council

ASHLAND COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

300 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio 44805

419-281-4733, Fax: 419-289-5540, Email: accf@accommunityfoundation.org, www.accommunityfoundation.org

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30 am – 5:00 pm



PLEDGE CARD

Yes, I/we believe in the work of the Foundation.

I/We subscribe the sum of \$ _____ for the following.

Founder	Fellow+	Sustainer+
(\$10,000 +)	(\$1000-9999)	(\$1-999)

ACCF General Endowment	_____	_____	_____
Ford Leadership/Operations Endowment	_____	_____	_____
ACCF Community Grants Endowment	_____	_____	_____
ACCF Unrestricted	_____	_____	_____
ACCF Women's Fund	_____	_____	_____
ACCF Cutty Fund/Youth Empowerment	_____	_____	_____
Individual Fund*	_____	_____	_____

*List charity/charities for approved distribution(s) _____

+Limited to funds held by ACCF

Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law. Please make gifts payable to The Ashland County Community Foundation and mail to 300 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio 44805.

_____ I have included ACCF in my will/estate plans. _____ Please tell me how I can include ACCF in my will/estate plans.

Total Gift \$ _____ Paid Herewith \$ _____

Pledge Term _____ year Balance \$ _____

To be Paid: _____ Annually _____ Other _____

Name* _____

Address _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Memorial Name _____

*The names of Founders, Fellows and Legacies will be printed in our Annual Report as written above unless otherwise noted by you.



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Community Foundation
300 College Avenue
Ashland, OH 44805

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BOARD MEMBER PROFILE - CONNIE J. MARBLE



Connie J. Marble

Connie Marble joined the ACCF Board of Trustees in 2017.

She currently serves on the Scholarship Committee and Women's Fund Steering Committee where she previously served as chair.

Connie grew up in the small, rural town of Spencer, Ohio. She graduated from Ashland College with a degree in English and Speech in

1968 and from Ashland University with a M. Ed. in Curriculum / Instruction and Supervision in 1991.

She met her husband, Dann, in the Student Union of Ashland College. They married and lived in Ashland until their move to Cincinnati, returning to Ashland in 1976. They have two daughters, Michelle and Mindy, and two grandchildren, Tess and Myles, all graduates of Ashland High School.

Connie taught high school English for 31 years, 25 of those years at Ashland High School and retired in 2002. She continued her career as adjunct professor of English and Education at Ashland University until her retirement in 2019.

Connie has served for nine years on the ACCF Women's Fund Steering Committee and served as Chairman for two years. She also currently serves as Vice President of the Ashland City Schools Foundation, is a Neos M.A.D.E. in Ashland board member, serves as Vice President of Garden Study Club, Treasurer of Amicae per Annos Service Sorority, and is a member of First Presbyterian Church. Connie was recognized as an Ashland County Woman of Achievement in 2018.

Connie is beginning her third year on the ACCF board where she is a reader and evaluator on the Scholarship Committee and serves as a board liaison to the Women's Fund. Connie also works on the staff of Wappner Funeral Directors where she works with her husband serving Ashland families.

She especially enjoys reading and traveling to warmer climates.