

Latest Grants

14 Women’s Fund Grants totaling \$38,750 were awarded to benefit local women.

10 Spring semester Teacher Mini-Grants totaling \$12,390 were awarded by ACCF to educators serving Ashland County schools.

5 Spring semester Teacher Mini-Grants and 4 other grants totaling \$5,772 were awarded by Ashland City Schools Foundation.

19 IMPACT Youth Grants totaling \$25,000 were awarded to organizations serving local youth.

37 Community Grants totaling \$267,540 were awarded to area nonprofits in our spring cycle.

12 Strategic Grants totaling \$83,850 were awarded in the second half of the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

135 Donor Advised Fund Grants totaling \$415,383 were awarded in the second half of the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Find complete lists of recent recipients at www.ashlandforgood.org.



Ashland County Community Foundation

300 College Ave.
Ashland, OH 44805

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Ashland, Ohio
Permit No. 5



Here for Good

Fall 2026

Summer Fellowship Program completes first year

ASHLAND – Six young people who were part of the inaugural year of the Janet L. Archer Summer Fellowship Program got right to work this summer using their skills to help local nonprofits.

This was the first official year of the fellowship following last year’s pilot of the collaborative program between United Way of Ashland County, Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce, and Ashland County Community Foundation.



to lead the organization until stepping down in 1994. Since moving to Ashland in the 1970s, she and her husband, Bob, have loved the town and been longstanding supporters of the community. They have contributed to the betterment of Ashland through both financial support and with their personal involvement in many organizations throughout the county. In addition to her leadership at United Way, Jan has served as director of Leadership Ashland, a program of the Chamber, and has been a board member of ACCF, Rotary, and the Ashland Center for Nonviolence, which she helped found.

During the orientation, Jan shared her background and was eager to hear about the

This collaboration benefited both the students and the participating nonprofits. It connected young adults with meaningful, paid summer roles inside Ashland County nonprofits—providing real capacity support while building a future talent pipeline. Fellows got experience and used their skills to advance the missions of the nonprofits through various projects.

It is named for Jan Archer, who became the executive director in 1985 of what was then United Appeal. She led the change from United Appeal to United Way in 1990 and continued

participants and what projects they planned to complete for their organizations.

The 2026 Fellows were selected from a competitive application process and included Joshua Bonfiglio, Chloe Ediger, Mackenzie Parsons, Samantha Plank, Gabe Stack, and Layne Stitzlein. All are Ashland High School graduates apart from Stack, who is a Hillsdale graduate. He and Ediger participated in the pilot program and returned for a second year.

See FELLOWSHIP continued inside



Phone: (419) 281-4733 | Fax: (419) 289-5540
Email: accf@ashlandforgood.org | ashlandforgood.org
300 College Ave, Ashland, OH 44805 | Monday – Friday: 8:00am - 4:00pm

PLEDGE CARD

Yes, I/we believe in the work of the Foundation. I/We subscribe the sum of \$ _____ for the following:

	Ambassador (\$10,000+)	Supporter+ (\$1000-9,999)	Friend+ (\$1-999)
ACCF General Endowment	_____	_____	_____
ACCF Ford Operations Endowment	_____	_____	_____
ACCF Community Grants Endowment	_____	_____	_____
ACCF Unrestricted	_____	_____	_____
ACCF Women’s Fund	_____	_____	_____
ACCF Cutty Fund/Youth Empowerment	_____	_____	_____
Ashland City Schools Foundation	_____	_____	_____
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 Ashland County Community Foundation and mail to 300 College Avenue, Ashland, OH 44805.
Gifts may also be made online at ashlandforgood.org

Total Gift \$ _____ Paid Herewith \$ _____
Pledge Term year _____ Balance \$ _____
To Be Paid: ____ Annually ____ Other _____
Name* _____
Address _____
Email _____
Signature _____ Date _____
Memorial Name _____
Honoree Name _____

The names of donors will be printed in our Annual Report as written above unless otherwise noted by you.

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

Inside this Issue



Janet L. Archer Summer Fellowship Program welcomes six fellows



Scholarships - Our latest awards are an investment in future leaders



Read about realignments to our staff, and new hire, MaryAnn Wilson.

Website
ashlandforgood.org

Phone
(419) 281-4733

Address
300 College Ave, Ashland, OH 44805



Cutty’s Corner



GREETINGS,
TO OUR ACCF
FRIENDS AND
FAMILY..!

These have been exciting times at the Ashland County Community Foundation, as we’ve wrapped up our 31st year of operation with record numbers of gifts received and grants and scholarships awarded.

In these pages you’ll read how our board and staff are working hard to accommodate this growth with intentionality and purpose, and importantly, with an eye to the future.

We know that one of our chief roles is that of “Promise Keeper”.

When we are accepting gifts that will be placed into permanent endowment, we know that we’re not only making a promise to the donor that created that fund, but also to the recipients who will benefit from future distributions of earnings.

When Dr. Lucille Ford, our founding president, established the Foundation along with her supporting cast of trustees back in 1995, promises were made as each new fund was created.

FELLOWSHIP (continued from cover)

The nonprofits where they served, respectively, were: Advocates for Families, Ashland County Cancer Association, ACCADA, Nuhop Center for Experiential Learning, Pathfinder Farms, and Ashland Main Street.

The fellows served at these organizations from June 1 to August 12. They worked on projects ranging from improving mission transparency (Pathfinder Farms) to promoting awareness to college students of the risks of excessive alcohol use and party drugs (ACCADA). Other projects had the fellows assisting the nonprofits with social media exposure, data collection and analysis, donor relations, and promoting the organization’s mission.

When I stepped into this role in 2012, my job was to make certain that those promises were kept. I have also made promises to donors and their fund beneficiaries, and our staff, under the leadership of Kristin Aspin, newly appointed ACCF President, will be taking that responsibility very seriously going forward.

Recently, a couple whom many of you know, Bob and Jan Archer, came to us with our most significant gift this year, trusting us to forever support three causes, each with its own \$1 million endowment fund.

As a result, United Way of Ashland County will be blessed with annual operational support from a new fund, Ashland High School graduates will have ongoing scholarship support as will New London High School graduates.

Much thanks to the Archers for allowing ACCF to serve as their steward.

But it’s important to know that you don’t have to create a \$1 million fund for us to keep your promises of meeting needs in our community! In fact, we have named endowment fund opportunities where you can participate for as little as \$5,000!

Take care, Everyone, and remember, we’re “Here for Good”... we promise..!

Jim Cutright
CEO

“It was nice to see all of the ways these young people used their skills for the betterment of Ashland County nonprofits, as well as gain professional experiences along the way,” said ACCF President Kristin Aspin.

Aspin and ACCF Program Director Elizabeth Buttil led the program along with Stacy Schiemann of United Way of Ashland County, and Amy Daubenspeck of Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce.

The program was free for the chosen nonprofits, thanks to financial support from the three supporting organizations. This program helps the nonprofits by building future leaders, investing in the Ashland community and strengthening the missions of these organizations.

Investing in Tomorrow’s Leaders

We recently awarded **353** scholarships totaling **\$593,803** to students across the region. Congratulations to all of our recipients! Thank you to the donors who helped make it possible for these students to further their education, and helped ACCF make this a record year for scholarships distributed!



Pictured are six of the nine recipients who received awards from nine new scholarships making distributions this year. Top row, from left, are **Braylen Clever**, Mary Louise Braun Huber Scholarship; **Hannah Webb**, Brad and Maryanne Brehm Wise Nursing Scholarship, in memory of Geraldine Brehm; **Adilynn Helbert**, Shafer Family Scholarship for Leadership, Creativity and Compassion; bottom row, from left, are **Kiera Hutchins**, Chris and Sherri Shafer Family Scholarship; **Rubyjean Walker**, Rex and Linda Beattie Knee Legacy Scholarship, and **William Sas**, Paul Goard Scholarship. Not pictured are **Kaylee Bowen**, Sharon Donelson Ickes Scholarship; **Julia Herrera**, Barbara Lamson Miller Scholarship, and **Jessica Sweet**, Ed and Jackie Owens Family Post-Licensure Scholarship for Future Nurse Educators.



Scan the QR code to view the full list of scholarships and recipients.

Since 1995, we have awarded **4,588** scholarships totaling **\$5,815,133**.

New Staff, New Roles

We are excited to announce the promotion of two staff members and the addition of a new employee to fulfill needs spurred by our continuous growth.

With this growth, these changes help the Foundation meet our strategic priorities and maximize the skills of the staff to most efficiently meet the needs of a growing number of donors and nonprofit partners, ensuring organizational stability.

This realignment is also part of a succession plan to see that there is a smooth transition of duties at ACCF upon Jim Cutright’s retirement in June 2027. Effective July 1, as Cutright remains CEO, previous Chief Operating Officer, Kristin Aspin, assumes the role of President. Cutright will continue to focus on vision and strategy, overarching governance developing donors, while Aspin focuses on overseeing internal operations, staff leadership and program execution.



Aspin

and

The shift in these roles makes certain that ACCF’s more than 8,000 donors, 836 funds, and more than \$120 million in assets are managed seamlessly.

Continuing to help execute this mission is the promotion of Elizabeth Buttil to Program Director. She will be managing ACCF programs, including the Women’s Fund, IMPACT Youth Council, and co-managing the new Janet L. Archer Summer Fellowship Program, along with managing volunteers, and cultivating relationships with community partners.



Buttil

She joined the ACCF staff in November as an Operations Associate to assist with daily operations and programming.

MaryAnn Wilson joins the staff as Finance Administrator, assisting with the financial operations, recordkeeping, accounting duties, fund administration, and general administrative support for ACCF.



Wilson

Most of ACCF’s staff work part-time, flexible schedules, allowing the organization to employ highly skilled professionals on a modest budget. These additions and realignments help ACCF continue our tradition of great community service as our breadth of community impact continues to grow.

Given Back

In **31 years**, ACCF has reinvested **\$44,264,045** in our community.

Noteworthy

• Congratulations to Sue Heimann, our Women’s Fund Steering Committee’s 2026 recipient of the “Dr. Lucille G. Ford Freedom from Selfishness Award.”



• We are pleased to welcome Neil Hinkle to our board. He began his first three-year term at our annual meeting in July. An Ashland native and a CPA, he is a Principal at Whitcomb and Hess, and brings to the board his business and financial background. His dedication to community extends to his service on boards for United Way of Ashland County and Brethren Care Village. We are eager for him to bring his perspective to ACCF.

• We also wish farewell to one of our board members, Ken Milligan. We thank him for the insight, commitment, and leadership he brought to decisions that will continue to benefit our community.

• Ashland City Schools Foundation is building endowment to expand its impact and create long-term stability. The foundation’s goal is to raise \$500,000 for endowment in gifts to the ACSF Grantmaking Endowment Fund and individually named ACSF Grantmaking Funds. Donors can support the cause by creating a named grantmaking fund for ACSF or by purchasing an Archer Auditorium seat plaque or a Walk of Champions brick. Learn more at www.ashlandforgood.org/acsf.

• Our Women’s Fund continues to be successful with the EmpowHer Giving Circle, which enables Ashland County women to gather and support other community women through charitable giving.

Women in the circle collectively choose a local cause to receive a portion of the dollars raised through entry donations. The other portion goes directly to the Women’s Fund. The most recent Women’s Fund EmpowHer Circle event in June raised \$1,095 to support Matthew 25 Outreach Center.