Spring-Summer 2024



Randolph County Relief Fund

Support Relief and Recovery in Randolph County!

The Community Foundation has activated the Randolph County Relief Fund. All contributions to the Relief Fund will go towards recovery efforts in response to the March 14th tornado(es) and storms in Randolph Co.

See special insert of donors to the Relief Fund--Thank you!!





Letter from Lisa

With extensive damage from the devastating tornado, the Community Foundation of Randolph County launched an ongoing emergency and disaster relief fund to help support recovery and relief efforts in Randolph County. The donation fund provides an avenue for those wishing to contribute and is set to prioritize immediate and long-term recovery and relief efforts for those impacted by the storms in Randolph County. Local volunteers are assisting us as we partner with local nonprofit agencies and local government to fully assess the situation. Recent estimates indicated the tornado left 38 injured, 1 death and it destroyed 43 structures and damaged 70 more. The tornado destruction has resulted in over \$15 million loss in assessed value in Randolph County. Through the Relief Fund, we are seeking contributions to distribute to recovery and relief efforts in Randolph County.

The Community Foundation will be in close communication with our nonprofit colleagues to ensure the funds go to relief and recovery efforts for our neighbors most affected. The Community Foundation and the all-volunteer Long-Term Recovery Committee are charged to thoughtfully determine criteria for distribution by listening to our nonprofit partners and coordinating with local government and funders. The fund's launch comes as a line of devastating storms tracked across the area the evening of March 14, producing tornados and excessive winds. The Community Foundation of Randolph County has waived the administrative fees associated with the Relief Fund. 100% of all donations received are held exclusively for tornado relief related efforts.

We appreciate every contribution and so many individuals have reached out offering support in many ways. Thank you! We have a long road to recovery, and any donations will be used to support those in need as we build back stronger.



Lisa Jennings, Executive Director



Welcoming New Staff Arrivals



Kate Elliott

Lilly Intern



Bisa Jennings

Linda Wood



Promise Coordinator

Faces at the Foundation Spotlight



Zinden Holly Dennis

A member of the Foundation board since fall 2018, Linden has found that being a part of an organization that serves the students, citizens and organization of Randolph County now and also in the future to be a very rewarding experience.

Linden was raised in Lorain County, Ohio, on the outskirts of Cleveland. Her parents owned and operated floral greenhouses until 1970 and were active in many community and civic organizations.

Upon graduation from high school in 1970, Linden enrolled at Wilmington College to study biology. After two years at Wilmington College, she left Wilmington, married her husband, Philip, and moved to Randolph County. She then enrolled at Ball State University and went on to receive three degrees in School Library Media Services and Earth Science. She taught at the middle school level with Richmond Community Schools in Richmond, Indiana for forty years and retired in 2015. She also wrote book reviews for Library Media Connection and other review sources.

Linden lives outside Lynn with her husband. Phil is a retired industrial chemist and safety director, and continues to farm. They have had a succession of yellow Labrador Retrievers, all totally spoilt. The current inhabitant is an eighty five pound lab named Libby.

Linden enjoys reading, cross stitch, needlepoint, cooking, walking, birdwatching, swimming, and music. She serves on the board for Civic Hall Associates and volunteers with Friends of Morrisson-Reeves Library, both in Richmond. She and Phil have visited forty-two states and seven countries.

She has previously served as secretary for the Board as well as a member of the Executive Committee. Linden currently serves on the grants, local scholarships and events committees and is very supportive of the work of the Foundation and their work of help the citizens and organizations of Randolph County now and into the future.

New Faces at the Foundation



Amy Chamberlain

Amy Chamberlain is a lifelong resident of Stoney Creek Township, south of Parker City. From volunteering with children at church to advising pre-service teachers, she has been involved in educational service for over two decades. She holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in educational psychology from Ball State. Amy is active on the launch team for the All Pro Moms organization at Monroe Central, encouraging moms and building character in children. She is also assisting with the local World Vision Global 6K for Water. She enjoys listening to podcasts, walking in nature, book club, and occasional quiet evenings at home. Usually, you can find Amy with her husband, Jason, cheering on their three children at school or sporting events.



Doreen Culy

A serial philanthropist, Doreen Culy, alongside husband Chris, has made numerous impacts on the Randolph County community through her generosity, including through the Chris & Doreen Culy Family Charitable Fund, an unrestricted fund at the Community Foundation. She has served on the Board of Directors and the finance committee for the Randolph County YMCA. She also has been a strong supporter of the Foundation's Randolph County Promise program, which encourages families to save for post-secondary education and training. Having served as a community liaison to the Foundation's Finance Committee, Doreen now brings her financial expertise and love of Randolph County to service on the Board of Directors.



Brandon Elmore

Brandon Elmore is a resident of Union City and works remotely as Software Consultant for C&R Software. Married to Rosemarie, they have three children: eldest son Isaiah is an Airman in the US Air Force and he is currently deployed overseas; middle son Gavin is a Junior at Union City High School; and youngest son Colton is an 8th grader. Rosemarie is an English as a Second Language (ESL) Teacher for Randolph Eastern schools. Through his work on the Community Foundation board, Brandon hopes to learn more about the scholarship creation process with the intention of starting a scholarship aimed at students who have participated in the ESL program who are furthering their education.



Matt Taylor

Matt Taylor is a lifelong resident of Farmland and graduated from Monroe Central Jr. Sr. High School in 1992. He grew up farming alongside his grandpa Herschel, dad David, and brother Mark. Matt and his wife, Shawna, have been married for 26 years and have two sons. Upon graduation in 2021 their oldest son, Landon, joined the family farming operation. Their youngest son, Hayden, is finishing his senior year at Monroe Central. Matt and his family attend Bear Creek Friends Church where he serves as head usher and assists with the youth group.

RANDOLPH COUNTY TRAILS MASTER PLAN



The Community Foundation of Randolph County (CFRC) is excited to announce the Randolph County Trails Master Plan is in its beginning stages! As a part of the Cultivating Community report, the findings inspired initiatives that are ongoing. Cultivating Community, a partnership between CFRC and Randolph County United (RCU), found fives themes of improvement of the report: Housing and Blight, Drug Epidemic, Broadband Infrastructure, Education, and Quality of Life. From the report findings, outdoor recreation and healthy living were noted as improvements wanted in the county, trails being specifically mentioned. As a result, the CFRC Trails Subcommittee was formed within the Quality of Life Committee.

In January 2024, CFRC received a \$50,000 planning grant as part of the eighth phase of Lilly Endowment Inc's initiative, Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow (GIFT VIII). With the grant, the community foundation will develop a Master Trails Plan for Randolph County. The Master Trails Plan will provide a roadmap to the development of a trail network within the county and to connect us to surrounding regional trail systems. This is the beginning of the study process that will take place over the course of this year.

CFRC conducted an online survey receiving hundreds of responses and hosted a public open house at the Best Way Center (Husted Hall) on May 16, 2024, both of which provided great insight into how to best proceed. If you missed the chance to take that survey or attend the public open house, another opportunity for the public to learn about the progress will be at the draft plan public presentation occurring during Fall 2024.











FUND SPOTLIGHT

Max & Dianne Jones Memorial Music Lesson Scholarship Fund and

Walter L. Shaw Music Lesson Scholarship Fund



Max and Dianne Jones

The Max & Dianne Jones Memorial Music Lesson Scholarship Fund was established to ensure that each and every band and choir student at Winchester Community High School can participate in private music lessons. The fund provides financial assistance, based on need, to cover 50% of the cost for a private music lesson.

During the 2023-2024 school year, 91 scholarship lessons were provided.

Max Jones served the band students of Winchester Community High School from 1971 through 1983. In December 1978, Mr. Jones and the Winchester Community High School "The Force" Marching Band won the "Great Bands of the Orange Bowl" National Band Championship. The late Dianne Jones, a graduate of Winchester's Lee L. Driver High School, was a talented musician and instructor in her own right with over 30 years of impacting young vocalists and musicians.

Alumni of The Force will gather this summer to reminisce with the hope of raising money for the Jones Music Lesson Scholarship Fund to ensure support for music education at WCHS for generations to come.

To support Winchester Community High School band and choir students through the Max & Dianne Jones Memorial Music Lesson Scholarship Fund, donate through our website or via the blue business-reply envelope and note the fund name.



Walter L. and Alice Shaw

Like its counterpart supporting students at Winchester Community High School, the **Walter L. Shaw Music Lesson Scholarship Fund** provides assistance to students at Union City Jr./Sr. High School. However, the Shaw Fund covers not only 9th- through 12th-grade students, but also offers the opportunity for 6th- through 8th-grade students to receive financial assistance for music lessons.

Walter Shaw served the music students of Union City West Side High School from 1937 through 1948. In 1962, Mr. Shaw received the "Music Man of the Year" award from Ball State University for excellence in contributions to public school music.

During the 2023-2024 school year, 12 scholarship lessons were provided to high school students while 66 scholarship lessons were provided to middle school students.

To support Union City Jr./Sr. High School band and choir students through the Walter L. Shaw Music Lesson Scholarship Fund, donate through our website or via the blue business-reply envelope and note the fund name.



Promise Indiana Randolph County

Making it easy for families to start a CollegeChoice 529 savings account for future education

Saying Goodbye



Karen Dillow, Promise Coordinator

Over the last three years, so much has changed with the Promise program. When I first started working with Promise in April of 2021, the Indiana Youth Institute had just taken over as the new convener for the program statewide. We were all dealing with the pandemic and how that changed how we enrolled families into the program. However, we persevered and did as well as any county. Additionally, we saw the addition of trade schools and licensed apprenticeships to 529 eligibility.

I have enjoyed talking with families at the county fair, back to school events and parent-teacher conferences about the program and the advantages that it provides their students. I have emailed our account owners quarterly about opportunities to win contributions to their account and have kept our Facebook page active with information that may be of interest to our families.

Within the last year, Randolph County along with about two dozen other counties have decided to part ways with the Indiana Youth Institute. While some counties have decided to discontinue their program altogether, the Community Foundation of Randolph County decided to change our Promise program to an early scholarship program. While still requiring families to enroll in a 529 account, instead of contributions from the Community Foundation being sent to their 529 account the contributions will now be deposited in a scholarship fund held at the Community Foundation in their child's/children's name(s). I am excited about this change and think it will entice more families to enroll their children in the Randolph County Promise program.

As my time as coordinator comes to an end, I would like to thank Lisa Jennings and all the employees at the Community Foundation of Randolph County, both past and present, who have made this such an enjoyable experience. I would, also, like to thank Cathy Stephen-Miller who has been my sounding board and advisor for three years. Also, I would like to thank the Promise liaisons at each of the elementary schools for being the face of Promise within your community. Finally, I would like to thank the Community Foundation board for their continued support of the program.

As of June 1st, I will no longer be the Promise coordinator. My plans at this time involve more traveling with my husband, knitting, spending more time with my extended family and possibly adopting another dog.





Cultivating Community has continued

As local residents have connected through Cultivating Community sessions, one result has been the creation of Gracie's Gift, a not-for-profit organization which is highlighted below.

Earlier this year, the Randolph County Forum of Funders announced its first round of grants, awarding \$19,260. The grant recipients and projects were as follows:

- \$10,000 to **Randolph County Tourism Commission** for Come Get Mooned in Randolph County;
- \$7,660 to **Randolph County United** for a countywide community event calendar via Yodel; and
- \$1,600 to **Randolph County United** for countywide park signs.



Gracie's Gift





Gracie then and now

Gracie's Gift is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to providing spay-neuter financial assistance to Randolph County residents. The inspiration behind our name comes from a two-week-old abandoned kitten found on a dirt trail. Low cost spay-neuter programs have been established in surrounding areas and we would like to see this important program implemented in Randolph County. We are reaching out to all residents, local businesses, and civic groups for donations to assist with our efforts. However, the following challenges still need to be addressed:

- resolving conflict in neighborhoods where cats are being fed, but neighbors no longer want the cats in their yards because the population has become overwhelming
- providing financial support for spay-neuter surgeries
- establishing a shelter in Randolph County where cats can briefly and safely be housed until surgeries are performed and recovery has taken place
- establishing partnerships with local vets willing to provide low cost spay-neuter surgeries to meet the significant demand we have received for assistance
- finding assistance with trapping and transportation to/from surgery
- promoting adoption opportunities for non-feral cats until they can transition to their forever home
- developing a base group of volunteers with the ability to serve in any of the above-mentioned areas of need

Please visit us at https://graciesgift.net to offer your donation. Gracie and her feline friends thank you!

Spring 2024 Grants

The Community Foundation's Board of Directors approved and awarded \$51,500 to local nonprofit organizations in the Spring of 2024.

Grants were made possible by these funds held at the Foundation:

Community Foundation Enrichment Fund; Union City Community Fund; Chris & Doreen Culy Family Charitable Fund; David & Lisa Jennings Charitable Fund; EDP Renewables Charitable Fund; Goodrich Bandshell Fund; Joel & Jane Flesher Family Endowment Fund; Randolph County Heroes Fund; Starr Family Fund; Thomas L. & Janice A. Powers Family Charitable Fund; Whitacre Family Charitable Fund, In Honor of Lowell and Kathryn Whitacre; and Wick's Employees Giving Fund.



Art Association of Randolph County

| \$2,500 | Two Languages Together: Reading, Art, Fellowship

Countryside Christian Church

| \$4,000 | Summer Faith Concert: Texas Star

Farmland Friends Food Pantry

\$4,000 | The Most Important Meal of the Day

Gracie's Gift

\$ 2,000 | Spay-neuter program

Monroe Central School Corp.

\$2,000 | Elementary school recess equipment

Preservation Society of Union City, IN-OH

| \$6,000 | Body Company Museum Mural

Randolph County United

\$2,000 | Technology update (OWL technology)

Randolph County YMCA

| \$4,000 | Y Summer Camp

Randolph Southern School Corp.

\$2,000 | Empowering Education: Introducing Sensory Rooms

Second Harvest Food Bank of

East Central Indiana

| \$5,000 | Mobile distributions & mobile market in Randolph County

Start with Art

| \$2,000 | Little Picassos

State Line Heritage Days

\$6,000 | Entertainment at 2024 festival

Union City Education Foundation

| \$2,000 | Advanced Guidance Counseling for Randolph Eastern Schools

Vision Corner

\$4,000 | Signage

Winchester Main Street

\$4,000 | Growing Downtown Winchester (sound system)

The application period for the Fall 2024 Grant Cycle is
August 15th through September 30th.

Roll of Donors 11/01/2023 to 04/30/2024

529 Randolph Co. Promise Community Fund

Cathy Stephen Miller & Dr. Tom Miller Lynn Lions Club Susan Symons

529 Randolph County Promise Endowment Fund

Robert K. Gentry & Barbara Landess-Gentry Susan Symons

529 Randolph County Promise Operating Fund

Treasurer of Randolph County Winchester Foundation

Abernathy Family Memorial Scholarship Fund

Todd & Tamara Abernathy

Amber Morrow Mem. Scholarship Fund

Twisted Wrenches Car Club

Butch Mullen Scholarship Fund

Cathy Stephen Miller & Dr. Tom Miller

Chip & Ruth Loney Fund*

Chip and Ruth Loney

Chris & Doreen Culy Family Charitable Fund*

Chris & Doreen Culy

Community Foundation Operating Fund

Indiana Arts Commission Indiana Philanthropy Alliance

Jack & Louise Hart

Peter D. Haviza

Robert K. Gentry & Barbara Landess-Gentry

Stephanie Ward

David Hyre Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Blackbaud Giving Fund

David & Lisa Jennings Charitable Fund*

Owens Family Farms LLC

In memory of Johnnie & Lois Owens

Dr. Jane Segal

In memory of Ruth Mills &Jim Davis

David & Lisa Jennings

Diana Fahl Sciences Scholarship Fund (New)

Shoestring Enterprises Inc.

Forum of Funders

City of Union City City of Winchester

Treasurer of Randolph County

- County Commissioners
- County Council

Community Enrichment Fund*

Byron J. Park

Charles B. Shaw

Christopher & Carla Peacock

Cobalt Civil LLC

Conan & Kathy Wallace

David Rodgers

Delores Williams

Don & Terri Matchett

Eugene & Johanna Richardson

Gary & Krista Kiser

Greg & Kathy Beumer

Jack and Louise Hart

James & Mary Meinerding

Jeff & Karen Oswalt

Judy Cole

KSMJ Holdings, LLC

Lisa Short

Mark & Angie Moody

Mary Frances Feistritzer

Matthew D. Taylor

Mel & Ann Barnell

Kathryn S. Lahn & William Marshuetz

Peter D. Haviza

Richard & Dianne Gough

Shelby & Conner Hoyt

Threewits Farm

Delta Theta Tau Sorority Iota Mu Chapter

Suzan Dillon Myers, Attorney

Swallows Landscape Services Inc

Thomas & Linda Osborn

Timothy and Claudia McCoy

<u>In honor of CFRC Board Members</u>

Ashley R. Stephen

Grant Cox

<u>In honor of Chelsey Sullivan</u>

Indiana Real Estate Consultants LLC

In memory of Danny Mills

Errol Klem Properties

In memory of Don & Virginia King

Robert & Candis King

In memory of Fred Pries

Cynthia Pries

<u>In memory of James W. Gartley</u>

Susan Symons

<u>In memory of Jim Davis</u>

Cathy Stephen Miller & Dr. Tom Miller

Michelle Bronakoski

In memory of Leon & Ruhama Hendrickson

Winchester Farm Corporation

In memory of Pam Welch

Errol Klem Properties

In memory of Philip Lee Hinshaw, US Navy (ret.)

Charles & Karen Bragg

In memory of Richard & Vivian Peterson

Jon & Carol Meeks

In memory of Dr. V. Richard Williams

Marilyn Williams

Donald Forrest Hahn & Wilma Fraley Hahn **Scholarship Fund**

In memory of Donald & Wilma Hahn

Gregory F. & Elizabeth Quinn Hahn Family Donor-Advised Fund, a fund of the Indianapolis Foundation

Dr. Dianna K. Wolfe Scholarship Fund

Jane Bogard

Gary Horner Memorial Scholarship Fund

Cathy Stephen Miller & Dr. Tom Miller Randolph County Athletic Association

Herold Scholarship Fund

Susan Symons

James & Linda Noffsinger Fund*

Linda Noffsinger

In memory of Jim Noffsinger

Bill & Joyce Husmann

Jason Rickert Memorial Fund

Duane & Nancy Wright

Jill Rickert

Ryan & Cari Prinkey

<u>In honor of Jill Rickert</u>

Anonymous

<u>In memory of Jason Rickert</u>

Anonymous

June Potter Memorial Scholarship Fund

Kevin & Linda Potter

Kellie Stephen & Dave Furby Memorial Scholarship Fund

Dallas & Nikki Kunkle

Gary J. Junco

Randolph County Athletic Association

Susan Symons

In memory of Kellie Stephen

Cathy Stephen Miller & Dr. Tom Miller

Lana Wolfe

Kylee Renee Wells Scholarship Fund

<u>In honor of Kylee's Birthday</u>

Cobie & Cristy Wells

Leon & Ruhama Hendrickson Family Scholarship Fund

Winchester Farm Corporation

Make a Difference Scholarship Fund in Memory of Chet Mock & Jim Noffsinger

In memory of Chester Mock & Jim Noffsinger

Owen & Toni Griffith

Roll of Donors 11/01/2023 to 04/30/2024

Max & Dianne Jones Memorial Music Lesson **Scholarship Fund**

Mel & Ann Barnell Susan Symons *In memory of Dianne Jones* Joe and Jill Tanner Max Jones <u>In memory of Margo Varner</u> Chauncey Varner

Merrett R. Monks Scholarship Fund Margo Monks

Monroe Central Scholarship Fund In memory of Anna Marie Craig Damon & Jane Grove

Phillip A. Hawley Scholarship Fund Mel & Ann Barnell

Preservation Society of Union City, IN-OH Fund Rvan & Cari Prinkev

Randolph County Cancer Patients Fund In memory of Randy Cates Errol & Pat Klem

Randolph County Heroes Fund*

Robert K. Gentry & Barbra Landess-Gentry In memory of Dallas Osting Al & Missy Williams <u>In honor of CFRC Board Members</u> David & Lisa Jennings

Rickert-Shierling Educational Fund

In memory of Tom Shierling Thomas Brazda & Peter Owh

Robert G. Jones Scholarship Fund Jane Bogard

Robert & Rachel Stump Mem. Scholarship Fund Mel & Ann Barnell

Rosemary Shockney Mem. Scholarship Fund

Darwin & Carla Johnson **Errol Klem Properties** Lake City Bowl LLC

Rural Randolph Cares Ag. Endowment Fund*

Dean Dawson **Duane Barr** Gregory & Lisa Chalfant Damon & Jane Grove Michael & Shari Anderson Philip & Linden Dennis Robert Gentry & Barbara Landess-Gentry

Stephen Family Fund for Community Scholarships

Cathy Stephen Miller & Dr. Tom Miller

Tammy Hall Scholarship Fund

Danny & Kathy Antrim <u>In memory of Tammy Hall</u> Charles & Patricia Hall

Thomas Herold Fund for Health Care Education

Mel & Ann Barnell Susan Symons Tom Herold

Union City Community Fund

Ryan & Cari Prinkey

Union City Public Library Fund

Ryan & Cari Prinkey

Union City HS Class of 1970 Scholarship Fund

Beth Bennett Charitable Fund

Walter L. Shaw Music Lesson Scholarship Fund

<u>In memory of Philip G. Shaw</u> Steven & Irene Shaw

Welcoming Indiana's Next Generation (WINGS) Fund

Volunteers of America

Wagner Family Mem. Scholarship Fund Lake City Bowl LLC

Whitacre Family Charitable Fund, In Honor of Lowell & Kathryn Whitacre*

Kevin R. Whitacre Charitable Fund, a DAF of Renaissance Charitable Foundation

Wick's Employees Giving Fund*

Mike & Julie Wickersham

Winchester Alumni Association **Endowment Fund**

Susan Symons Winchester Alumni Association

Women's Fund of Randolph County

Cathy Stephen Miller & Dr. Tom Miller David & Lisa Jennings Halderman Real Estate and Farm Mgmt. LifeStream Services Mary Meinerding Old National Bank Phillip & Ruth Ann Zicht Randolph County Recycling District Susan Symons Tonia Williams Winchester Rotary Club In memory of Ruth Mills

Bunnie Riedel

Damon & Jane Grove

Ray Boggs

In memory of Virginia McCormick

Sherry Beshears

Donate \$1 And We Will Multiply It! Starred (*) funds are eligible for this opportunity.



GIVE YOUR GIFT AND SUPPORT YOUR

COMMUNITY



YOUR UNRESTRICTED DONATION IS MATCHED 2 TO 1



YOUR GIFT WILL IMPACT RANDOLPH **COUNTY FOREVER**

How To Donate?

- Return the enclosed envelope with your donation, or
- Donate online at randolphcountyfoundation.org/donate or use the QR code.







ACCREDITED FOUNDATION

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage P A I D Winchester, IN Permit No. 213

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Contact us and say "I'm going GREEN" to receive publications via email.

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Please Join Us August 10th!

Purchase tickets by July 26th at our office or by using the QR code.

