





# The Power of YOU



# THE 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

# FROM THE CEO...



I am pleased to release the Muskingum County Community Foundation's 2022 Annual Report.

2022 was a year of change at the Muskingum County Community Foundation. We saw the ending of an eight-year Ohio Department of Education GEAR-UP grant at the Crooksville Exempted Village School District, as well as transition in staffing. At the first of the year, we welcomed Amy Luby to the staff as our Resource Development Officer.

In August, we added Beth Fox as the Director of Programs and Andrea Polen as our Scholarship Central manager. All three have been tremendous additions to MCCF.

Despite uncertain economic conditions, MCCF enjoyed one of our most robust fundraising years. Several large donations from planned gifts were received, and the community once again stepped up to help with our Community Cares fund, which supported artists impacted by the fire at the Masonic Temple in January 2022.

Our "Make Muskingum Home" program, a joint effort with the J.W. and M.H. Straker Charitable Foundation, was a fantastic success and has drawn state and national attention for its impact and creativity. We have a lot to be proud of here at MCCF and look forward to sharing our successes with you in this annual report. Feel free to reach out to us or stop by for a visit. We are YOUR Community Foundation!

Sincerely,

Brian Wagner Chief Executive Officer The Muskingum County Community Foundation

# **MCCF STAFF**



Brian Wagner Chief Executive Officer



Jamie Thomas Chief Operating Officer/ Chief Financial Officer



Amy Luby Resource Development Officer



**Chris Lacy** Director of IT Services



Beth Fox Director of Programs/ Scholarship Central



Andrea Polen Programs and Scholarship Manager



**Christy Rahrig** Donor Services and Media Relations Manager/CYF Advisor



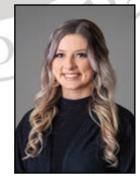
Becky Hill Administrative and Financial Assistant



Katie McCarty Manager of Education Programs (through March 2022)



Jenny Johnson GEAR UP Crooksville (through June 2022)



Summer Jacobs GEAR UP Crooksville (through June 2022)



Mary Brannon GEAR UP Crooksville (through June 2022)

# FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Friends,

In my first year as Board President, I am humbled by the continued successes of the Community Foundation because of those who came before me.



The seeds that were planted years ago are coming to fruition now. One of the shining examples of 2022 was introducing the Make Muskingum Home program. This idea began some time ago as Muskingum County saw the "brain drain" of young people leaving to find opportunities away from home and even out of state. With

the generosity of the Straker Foundation, 13 individuals and their families will stay in our community for the next five years, hopefully longer. We expect to award more young people this opportunity for student loan forgiveness in the near future.

MCCF is not only for the community, but also with the community. We raise funds to give back to non-profit organizations, and we collaborate with groups to support local events that bring people together. 2022 was the second year of the Southeastern Ohio Beer and Wine Fest, which made downtown Zanesville a hub for residents and visitors to spend an afternoon enjoying beverages made by local breweries and wineries. 2022 also saw the revival of Zane's Trace Commemoration, a weekend-long event to celebrate the history of Zanesville and showcase the many aspects that make our community unique. The Commemoration was supported, in part, by MCCF through the Spring Grant competition.

None of this would be possible without **you.** A community foundation is as strong as the people who support it, and MCCF has a wide net of supporters who believe in creating good change in Muskingum County. We are able to give back to the community because you give to the Foundation. Every contribution matters, and the stories in this year's annual report show the impact people like you have made.

I invite you to be a part of what MCCF is doing. We welcome the movers and shakers who see big opportunities in Muskingum County to collaborate with us. With a little dedication and a lot of communication, we can make it possible. We are here for you, we are here for giving, and we are here for good.

Sincerely,

Alton Thompson President MCCF Board of Trustees

# **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



Left to Right: Jim Wilson, Past President; Dr. Barb Hansen; Karla Frye, Secretary; Megan Durst; Lisa Karling; Tracy Elich; Maryjane Shackelford; Josh Joseph; Eva Sieber; Susan Holdren, Vice President; John Saunders; Jeannie McGlade; Adam Barclay; Alton Thompson, President; Chris Olney, Treasurer. Not Pictured: Brenton Baker, Bo Coconis, Al Iacovone, AJ Patel, Tom Poorman, Yan Sun, Gerry Zylinsky (term ended May 2022).

# **MCCF PAST PRESIDENTS**

Raymond W. Thomas*	1985-1991
Norma A. Littick*	1991-1996
J. Robert Beam*	1996-1998
William Phillips*	1998-2000
Douglas Mock	2000-2002
James McDonald	2002-2004
Donna Cole	2004-2006
M. Dean Young	2006-2008
Thomas Lyall	2008-2010
Richard Duncan	2010-2012

Timothy McLain	2012-2014
Greg Adams	2014-2016
James Lepi	2016-2018
Alana Ryan	2018-2020
Jim Wilson	2020-2022
Alton Thompson	2022-Present

\* Deceased

# FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

2022 saw the continued success of the second Great Groundhog Give-A-Way to raise money for our spring grant competition. MCCF awarded more than \$65,000 in grants to 16 local organizations to further their missions. By moving our second annual Pop and Pour to early June instead of late August, we had much nicer weather and a great turnout of young people at our event in downtown Zanesville. This helped us generate funds for our second annual fall grant competition, intended for capital improvement projects.



There are several opportunities to get involved and make your community a better place to live. I'm proud of the members of Council who put in a lot of effort to make these events possible and help the Foundation give back.

We continue to find new and exciting ways to fundraise and bring people together and welcome any young professionals in the community to join us. See what impact YOU can make!



Lisa Karling President MCCF Council

# **FOUNDATION COUNCIL**

### Lisa Karling, President

Nicole Coconis Jordan Hunkins Devin Kanavel Kieran Manzi

Katie McCarty Christy Rahrig Ryan Sheppard Krissy Tannehill

# **MCCF TRUSTEE EMERITI**

**Greg Adams** J. Robert Beam\* Michael Bennett Thomas Black Dr. Paul Brown\* Joan Cameron Steve Carter **Randy Coconis** Donna R. Cole Frank Dosch **Richard Duncan** Matt Elli **Robert Fellers\*** Carroll Fink **Robert Forker\*** Mary Vashti Funk\* Robert D. Goodrich II\* Thomas Holdren **Richard Johnson\*** Arthur Joseph\* Jack Joseph Rob Joseph **Robert Kessler** Sandra Kopf James Lepi Milman Linn II<sup>\*</sup> Norma A. Littick\* Thomas Lyall John Matesich III

**Robert Mattingly\*** Shirley McCollister James McDonald Susan McDonald **Timothy McLain** Larry Miller David Mitzel Douglas Mock Scott Moyer Walter Offinger William Phillips\* William Plummer\* **Steve Randles** William F. Randles\* Jack Russett Alana Ryan Karl C. Saunders, MD Tom Selock J. William Straker\* **Michael Steen Dan Sylvester Kristy Szemetylo** Raymond W. Thomas\* **Ronald Thomas** Donald Urban, MD\* M. Dean Young

\* Deceased

### **2022-2023 COMMUNITY YOUTH FOUNDATION**



2022-2023 CYF Officers left to right: Megan Morrow, Communications Chair; Madison Elson, President; Hayley Mitchell, Vice President; Luc Scott, Treasurer; Alivia Sims, Secretary; Avery Maxwell, Fundraising Chair

### **Class of 2023**

McKenna Barks Elle Davis Alyssa Derry Madison Elson Hans Holmes Gabby Ihlenfeld Lexi Klotzbach Marlee Lawson Vince Lin Jenna McLaughlin Izzy Milliken Hayley Mitchell Megan Morrow Grace Rana Luc Scott Jake Slaboden Caitlyn Wilson

### **Class of 2024**

Evan Backus Brendan Bernath Abby Cox Elle Folden Sarah Gardinsky Lily Gensor Hailey Lepi Abri Mallett Avery Maxwell **Brandon McNutt** Lexi Oldfield **Colleen** Piccone Alivia Sims Abby Solt **Ellah Stoneburner** Emma Wilson

#### Zack Boyd Chloe Buchanan Havlee Cornett Lillie Dosch **Carmin Farnsworth** Aiden Gamble Avery Garber Nash Hartman Ella Hawkins Sydnee Maxwell Maddie Mercer Lauren Morehouse Avie Mosebrook Halle Peck Rori Pletcher Ella Rollins Stephen Sagan **Rebekah Scott ONUO** Hurvah Shawar Cody Sheppard **Bailey Silver** Caitlyn Snode Elli Stoner Chris Wilson Destinee Worden

Class of 2025

### **Class of 2026**

Emmy Baird Abby Balsley Alex Boring Harmony Burns Elise Clark Stella Clark Liam Clinard Grace Fondale Reese Kornokovich Sophie Saunders Minh-Lien Scott Nathan Scott Isayah Sealey Cooper Valentine

# **CYF YOUTH GRANT WINNERS**

Since 2013, the Community Youth Foundation has held an annual Youth Grant Competition. This gives members, all high school students, the opportunity to learn about the grantmaking process and to award funding to non-profits and projects that benefit the youth of Muskingum County. To date, CYF has awarded **\$12,750** through this program.



Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Council \$300 for the Community Outreach Program



Zanesville High School Social Studies Department \$400 for the American Pride Tour Trip to Philadelphia



Muskingum County Literacy Council \$500 for Ohio Imagination Library Program

# **2022 CYF YOU MATTER 5K**



The Muskingum County Community Youth Foundation hosted its second annual "You Matter 5K" race on May 1.

The run was put on by CYF and I Am A Warrior Against Suicide, a local non-profit organization, to raise awareness about mental health struggles and suicide prevention. The event took place at the Collegial Woods Trail. Around 150 people participated in the race.

The 5K was originally slated to take place in May 2020, but the COVID-19 pandemic pushed everything back a year. The success of the first race in 2021 propelled CYF to host again in 2022.

Proceeds were shared between CYF and I Am A Warrior Against Suicide, raising **\$2,500** for each. I Am a Warrior Against Suicide used the proceeds for placing more crisis hotline signs throughout the county, and CYF used the proceeds for funding additional projects in the 2022-2023 year, including the annual Youth Grant Competition.

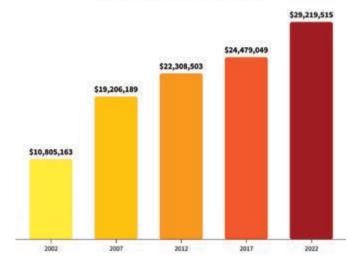
# **2022 FINANCIALS**

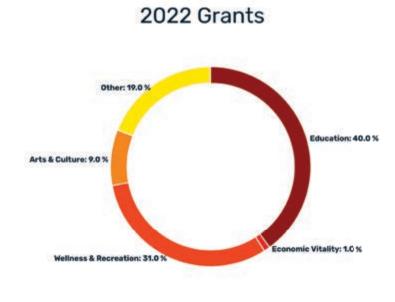
### Year 2022 Unaudited

The Muskingum County Community Foundation's assets continue to show growth as we look back over the last 20 years. Assets include cash, investment accounts, property, equipment, etc.

As of December 2022, MCCF's assets total more than **\$29 million.** 

### **Asset Growth**



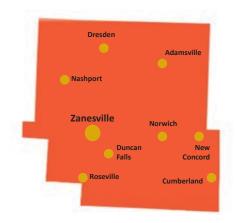


In 2022, MCCF awarded more than **\$1.2** million in grants and scholarships.

MCCF awarded grants four primary areas: *Economic Vitality, Education, Wellness & Recreation,* and *Arts & Culture.* These are the **Cornerstones** of our work.

Many grants awarded in 2022 were for educational and scholarship purposes (Education). Grants that went to human and social services fall under Wellness & Recreation. Causes in the Other category include animal welfare and religion.

# **SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY**



Adamsville New Hope Lutheran Church Cemetery

#### Cumberland

Ark Spring Baptist Church The WILDS

#### Dresden

Dresden Community Association Dresden Elementary PTO Tri-Valley Local School District Tri-Valley Middle School Baseball Village of Dresden

Duncan Falls Duncan Falls Baptist Church

#### Nashport

Thursday Music Club

#### New Concord

Muskingum University Otsego First Baptist Church Southeastern Ohio Symphony Orchestra Village of New Concord

#### Norwich

The American Red Cross

#### Roseville

Muskingum County Humane Society

The Muskingum County Community Foundation houses hundreds of funds that are used to support organizations throughout Muskingum County, in addition to our grant and scholarship programs.

The names and locations that received local funding through MCCF in 2022, **totaling more than \$800,000**, are listed below.

#### Zanesville

Allwell Behavioral Health Services Amy's Totes of Hope The Animal Shelter Society Bethel Mission. Inc. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Zanesville **Bishop Rosecrans High School** Caleb Cares 4 Kids Alfred S. Carr Center Central Trinity United Methodist Church **Choosing Freedom** Christ's Table Eastside Community Ministry Fellowship of Christ's Community Fetch Remedy Dogs ForeverDads Fraternal Order of Police – Zane Lodge #5 Genesis HealthCare Foundation Genesis HealthCare System **Genesis Volunteers** Grace United Methodist Church Helen Purcell Home Heroes Landing Children's Justice Center Hospice of Genesis HealthCare Systems Kind Hands 4 Paws Market Street Baptist Church Maysville Local School District Meadow Farm United Methodist Church Mid-East Career and Technology Centers **Muskingum County Center for Seniors** Muskingum County Children's Services Muskingum County Dog Warden and Adoption Center Muskingum County History Muskingum County Hunger Network Muskingum County Library System Muskingum County Literacy Council Muskingum County Senior Services **Advisory Council** 

Muskingum Economic Opportunity Action Group Muskingum Respiratory Care Association Muskingum Soil and Water **Conservation District** Muskingum Valley Council/ Boy Scouts of America Nelson T. Gant Foundation Noon Rotary Club of Zanesville Ohio University Zanesville **OSU Extension Muskingum County** PAWS of Muskingum County Pawsitive Hearts Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church Serenity Holistic Community Shrivers Hospice Foundation South East Area Transit St. John's Lutheran Church St. Luke Lutheran Church Transitions Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church **Trulight Ministries** United Way of Muskingum, Morgan, and Perry Counties VFW George Salem Post #1058 Woodlawn Church of Christ Zane State College Zane State College Foundation Zane's Trace Commemoration Zanesville Appalachian Arts Project Zanesville City Schools Zanesville Concert Association Zanesville High School Zanesville Memorial Concert Band Zanesville Museum of Art Zanesville-Muskingum County Chamber of Commerce

# **GREAT GROUNDHOG GIVE-A-WAY**

Due to public health concerns, the 2022 MCCF Groundhog Day Celebration was moved into a virtual setting.

In lieu of a live and silent auction held in person, the auction was moved entirely online. Images of the 50 featured items were listed on the auction website. The online auction began on January 28 at 6 PM and concluded at Noon on February 2.

The **Great Groundhog Give-A-Way Raffle Drawing** was livestreamed on the MCCF Facebook Page on February 2, 2022. Ten prizes, each valued at \$1,000 or more, were raffled off to lucky winners.

Additionally, CEO Brian Wagner and the MCCF groundhog visited representatives of the 2022 Groundhog Day sponsors in the days leading up to the start of the online auction. This allowed MCCF to thank the sponsors in person and to give them an opportunity to share other ways their organizations give back to the community.

The groundhog also learned his name through an online naming contest: Gus!

Despite cancelling the in-person event, the 2022 MCCF Groundhog virtual activities still met success. The event raised more than **\$45,000**, all of which benefited the annual Spring Grant Competition.



# **2022 SPRING GRANT WINNERS**

The MCCF Distribution Committee reviewed 26 grant requests submitted through the 2022 MCCF **Spring Grant Competition.** The Board of Trustees voted to provide funding, totaling **\$65,467**, to the following **16** organizations:

**4-H Camp Ohio - \$4,100** High Hopes for Camp programming

**Bethel Mission Inc. - \$4,100** 2022 summer programming

**Dresden Community Association - \$4,100** Community branding and marketing

**Eastside Community Ministry Inc. - \$5,000** Eastside's Summer Youth program

Habitat for Humanity of Southeastern Ohio - \$5,000 2022-2023 Mid-East Habitat program

Mid-East Career and Technology Centers - \$3,400 Career and Academic Readiness Education project of creating classroom environments for learning

Muskingum County Center for Seniors - \$4,100 Community education and program awareness

Muskingum County Literacy Council - \$5,000 Dolly Parton Imagination Library program Muskingum Soil and Water Conservation District - \$2,867 Urban Greens project

OSU Extension Muskingum County - \$2,870 Resources for teacher-led youth horticultural projects supported by master gardener volunteers

**PAWS of Muskingum County - \$3,280** Spay and neuter assistance program

Shrivers Hospice Foundation - \$5,000 Someday is Today program

**The Animal Shelter Society Inc. - \$4,100** Catapalooza 2022

**The Carr Center Inc. - \$3,450** Carr Kids programming

**Transitions Inc. - \$4,100** Salary for Advocacy project

Zane's Trace Commemoration - \$5,000 Zane's Trace 2022 Commemoration celebration

# **BUDDING GARDENERS**



"Our goal for this project was to provide teachers and youth educators with supplies to support educational horticultural gardening projects for youth while fulfilling the outreach mission of Ohio State University Extension and the **Master Gardener Volunteer Program**. This goal was achieved by providing seed starting kits to youth leaders to use in their classrooms or programs.

This program released project supplies to 16 educators in elementary schools, middle schools, child care programs, head start programs, public library, and a juvenile facility. An average of 17 students were reached across each project according to post-survey respondents. Populations included K-12th grade youth and youth with disabilities. A team of 5 adult volunteers helped administer the program."

### **OSU Extension Muskingum**

Excerpted from their grant report

# **A COMMUNITY TRADITION RETURNS**

"The primary goal for the **Zane's Trace Commemoration** was to create an annual event that will draw community members into celebrating the history of Zanesville. This goal was supported by the plans for the event to be fully funded by donations of community organizations, businesses, and individuals.

Zanesville citizens, Muskingum County residents, and individuals from the region flocked to the Zane's Trace Commemoration. The three-day event had solid crowds from early morning to late at night. The feedback received verbally and through social media postings confirmed that this event's first year was a true success...





The value of Zanesville and its history is immeasurable – children should be proud of how the community started and what is in store for the future. Seeing hundreds, if not thousands, of children with their families attending the 2022 event confirms that the work being performed will benefit our communities in many ways."

Zane's Trace Commemoration

Excerpted from their grant report

# **CHEERS TO SOUTHEASTERN OHIO!**

The Muskingum County Community Foundation, in partnership with Amity Lodge No. 5, the City of Zanesville, and the Muskingum County Convention and Visitors Bureau, hosted the second annual **Southeastern Ohio Beer and Wine Fest** on June 4.

Around 400 attendees enjoyed beverages from nine featured breweries and eight wineries. Live entertainment included Sonic Skyway, Hello Luna, and JD Simo.





Proceeds raised from

the Beer and Wine Fest went to support MCCF grant competitions and to Amity Lodge #5.

Photo credits go to Andrew Silvia.



# **MAKE MUSKINGUM HOME**

The Muskingum County Community Foundation and the J.W. and M.H. Straker Charitable Foundation are pleased to announce the names of the 2023 **Make Muskingum Home** program winners.

"Make Muskingum Home," a recently established talent attraction and retention program in Muskingum County, will make payments toward student loan debt of up to \$10,000 a year for five years for successful applicants who live and work in Muskingum County. The finalists went through a rigorous application process that began in fall 2022, which included an online application as well as a video submission to explain why they are choosing to make Muskingum County their home community.

A joint effort by The Muskingum County Community Foundation and the **J.W. and M.H. Straker Charitable Foundation**, the program sought applicants who recently graduated with student loan debt and who will commit to living and working in Muskingum County for five years. Noncounty residents must relocate to Muskingum County within 90 days of being accepted, and applicants must also become involved in the Muskingum County community.

"We are extremely pleased to be able to award this special grant program to 13 outstanding individuals," said MCCF CEO Brian Wagner. "This talent attraction and retention program is the first of its kind in the region, and we're excited to initiate the effort to keep Muskingum County thriving with people who are contributing to their community."

The winners of this year's round of Make Muskingum Home have committed to living and working in Muskingum County for the next five years. Additionally, they must be involved in organizations that are active in community improvement efforts. The Muskingum County Community Foundation and the J.W. & M.H. Straker Charitable Foundation intend to open the second annual Make Muskingum Home competition later this year if funds are secured.

"The J.W. & M.H. Straker Charitable Foundation's vision is 'building a stronger community with opportunity and promise," said Susan Holdren, President and Executive Director of the J.W. & M.H. Straker Charitable Foundation. "We believe the 'Make Muskingum Home' project aligns well with our vision since bringing working people to our community will enhance the area we call home."

Members of The Muskingum County Community Foundation and the J.W. & M.H. Straker Charitable Foundation spent the first few weeks of the new year surprising winners across the county. They were also honored at the MCCF Groundhog Day Celebration on January 27, 2023.

## **2023 MAKE MUSKINGUM HOME WINNERS**



**Madison Ashby** 



Samantha Berry



**Erin Britton** 



**Carter Brown** 



**Hannah Cameron** 



Alyssa Keely



Vanessa Morgan



**Ashley Nolan** 



**Tristan Rock** 



**Stacy Russell** 



**Madison Shackles** 



**Haley Shaw** 



Arika Swigart

# **2022 FALL GRANT WINNERS**

The following organizations were awarded **\$10,000** each to fund capital improvement projects:

Maysville Local Schools Two Outdoor Education "Reading Nooks"

Muskingum/Guernsey Mobility Management Wheelchair Ramp Building Materials

> **Trulight Ministries** Installation of two HVAC units

Y-City Midget Baseball League Replacement of roofing and flashing on dugouts

# **MCCF DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE**

Susan Holdren, Chair

Eileen Adams Megan Durst Tracy Elich Matt Elli Lisa Karling Maryjane Shackelford Susan Thompson

# **COMMUNITY CARES FOR THE ARTS**



An old photo of the Zanesville Masonic Temple from the National Register of Historic Places.

The Zanesville Masonic Temple was a six-story building originally built in 1903 that stood in downtown Zanesville. Not only was the Temple used for Masonic purposes, but it housed government and personal offices as well as commercial shops. It was also a popular site for the First Friday Art Walks. The Masonic Temple had became a staple to the downtown community, serving as a hub for of artists and small businesses alike.

On the night of January 6, a fire broke out at the Masonic Temple. The fire began on the third floor and quickly engulfed the entire building. While no one was injured, 120 years of local history was destroyed in a single night.

The morning after the fire, The Muskingum County Community Foundation reactivated the **Community Cares Fund** that was created in 2020 during the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. This time, MCCF partnered with the Zanesville Appalachian Arts Project to help raise funds for the Masonic Temple artists who lost their materials in the fire. More than **\$108,000** was raised by members of the community to give artists funds to purchase new art supplies.

Since the fire and eventual demolition of the Masonic Temple, the artists and businesses have found new homes throughout Muskingum County. Many former Temple tenants came together to help create the Y-Bridge Cultural Arts Center, located on Main Street as visitors come off the Y-Bridge. Others have taken up shop with businesses in the Zanesville area.

# **MEET A 2021 FALL GRANT WINNER**

Getting assistance at the right time can and does make a difference. This grant was the difference between watching a problem and resolving a situation. The Gant Foundation is composed of volunteers, individuals that donate their time energy and money to preserve and protect the Gant House. Sometimes looking at a list of problems without readily available solutions can demoralize even the best team. This grant gave us hope. It let us see that others believe in our mission for the community. It gave us an opportunity to solve some of the existing problems and take steps to prevent others.

Preserve and protect was the theme of this MCCF grant for us. We have along the way identified projects which will require more time and expertise. Our door, which we needed to protect so that we could someday restore it to its original beauty, and our windows that are not energy efficient, represent a major project for the future. We believe that our efforts with this grant attracted the attention of a special donor that will help us reach our new goal.

Since receiving this grant many doors of cooperation and assistance have opened and we will continue to benefit from the support and trust of the Muskingum County Community Foundation.



Nelson T. Gant Foundation 2021 Fall Grant Winner

# **PAST PRESIDENTS BREAKFAST**

The Muskingum County Community Foundation hosted a **Past Presidents Breakfast** on September 21. In addition to recognizing current and former leaders of MCCF, the ceremony also honored individuals with special awards.

# Brian Diamond was named as the 2022 recipient of the Brian T. Wagner Community Leadership Award.

Diamond is the owner of iTrack, LLC, a custom website development company located in Muskingum County. Through iTrack, Diamond works in the community to promote businesses and their products. Diamond and his wife, Mary, are also the owners of 630 Main, an event



Brian Diamond, Heather Sands-Davis, and Tom Barone

and meeting venue located in downtown Zanesville. They have also recently purchased the former Olde Towne Antiques building to start a multi-vendor food hall, similar to the Short North Market in Columbus. Additionally, Diamond is the head of the Zanesville Downtown Association and also a board member of The Zanesville-Muskingum County Chamber of Commerce and Goodwill Industries.

### Tom Barone was named as the honoree of the 2022 Dick Johnson Civic Leadership Award.

Barone's career spanned over 45 years in three states; he managed mental health facilities in New York and Indiana from 1969 to 1979. Upon moving to Zanesville in 1979, he worked at the Good Samaritan Medical Center until 1996. Barone then worked at Rankin and Rankin Insurance Services until his retirement in 2014. Barone has been active with the Zanesville-Muskingum County Chamber of Commerce, the Zanesville Port Authority, and the Zanesville Country Club. He has also been a board member for the St. Thomas Finance Committee, Bishop Rosecrans High School, Six County Mental Health, and The Community Bank.



Bob Grayson

## Bob Grayson was named the recipient of the 2022 Ray Thomas Community Service Award.

Grayson was the building manager for the Zanesville Masonic Temple. On the night of January 6, a fire broke out at the Masonic Temple and quickly ravaged the entire building. Over four dozen tenants lost their work in one night. Grayson kept the temple tenants together by hosting meetings as a way of coping with the loss and determining how to move forward. He worked with the Zanesville Appalachian Arts Project to redistribute donations generated from the MCCF Community Cares Fund to help artists purchase new supplies to continue creating new works.

Heather Sands-Davis was presented the 2022 Bob Beam Award.

Sands worked 18 years at MCCF in various positions, including director of Scholarship Central and GEAR-UP. Through her efforts, Scholarship Central's programming expanded to provide higher education assistance to high school and college students in and around Muskingum and Perry counties.

# THE FUTURE OF COLLEGE ACCESS



Scholarship Central Access Program was established in 2000 to provide local high school students and their families information about colleges, scholarships, and financial aid resources. This has included offering FAFSA workshops, one-on-one advising appointments, and events like College Night. Additionally, Scholarship Central has offered ACT prep classes.

Scholarship Central has worked with multiple grant programs, including the AmeriCorps Ohio College Guide program, to give recent college graduates the opportunity to delve

into helping their community with educational services. Scholarship Central also worked with a FAFSA grant program to encourage higher FAFSA completion rates at local high schools. Scholarship Central was also key in providing services through the GEAR UP Program, a federally funded grant that worked with students and families at their school to assist in setting their career and college goals after high school.

Like all things, the passing of time has indicated new needs in the community, and the way resources are provided has changed as well. Most MCCF scholarships are now available through an online application. Students and their families are able to fill out the FAFSA with little assistance. The ACT testing is now mandatory for all high school juniors, so the classes are not as in demand as they used to be.



The 2021-2022 school year saw the end of an era. The **GEAR UP** Program concluded its eighth and final year at Crooksville Exempted Village School District. GEAR UP collaborated with the staff of Crooksville and other community initiatives to create activities that encouraged participation among the student body, including college visits, day trips, Dude Be Kind Week, and Signing Day. Signing Day is a special event that celebrates graduating seniors in their choice of attending college, military, or workforce. In 2022, **69 seniors** at Crooksville High School participated in Signing Day.

All GEAR UP students were eligible to receive a GEAR UP Scholarship through this program. Over the 8 years of the program's existence at Crooksville, this scholarship was awared to **202** students, distributing **\$400,262.50** in scholarship funds to students who participated in the GEAR UP program and graduated from Crooksville High School.

With the changing of staff at Scholarship Central and the conclusion of the GEAR UP grant, The Muskingum County Community Foundation has taken this opportunity to reevalute how to best serve students and assist in their goals after high school. Since joining MCCF in August 2022, Beth Fox and Andrea Polen have dedicated their time to determine the best practices for working with scholarship funds and committees on selecting winners. They have also met with members of other community foundations to learn about their methods and what can be improved upon with our own methods.

Changes are being made to improve what Scholarship Central is currently doing, with the ultimate goal to adapt to the ever changing culture of our community. We look forward to improving our practices so we can better serve Muskingum County for years to come in the 21st century.

# **2022 MCCF SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS**

#### Josh Atwell Memorial Scholarship

Faith Ramsey, Philo High School

#### Bar G Oil and Gas Scholarship

Kaleigh Reigle Parr, Philo High School/Mid-East Career and Technology Center

#### Margaret Carol Barringer Scholarship

Kierston Harper, Philo High School

#### **Beckwith Farm Scholarship**

Lauren Bathrick, Philo High School Bethany Colling, Shawnee State University Brooke Colling, Philo High School Zoe Dodson, Philo High School Jonathan Green, Ohio University Mollee Jarrett, Philo High School Emily Keylor, Philo High School Jordan Lent, Ohio University Camber Revennaugh, Muskingum University Alexis Salsbury, The Ohio State University Kaitlyn Shreve, Muskingum University Marissa Staker, Muskingum University Austin Starcher, Zane State College Tomi Starcher, Bowling Green State University Carter Wickham, Muskingum University

#### **Todd Bickle Memorial Scholarship**

Kyleigh Hatfield, *Tri-Valley High School* Slade Young, *Zanesville High School* 

#### Wyatt Brown Memorial Scholarship

Gauge Samson, Maysville High School Mallori Bradley, Maysville High School Nathaniel Harper, Maysville High School

#### Ronna Bucci and Dr. Charles Dietz Art Scholarship Kelsey Price, West Muskingum High School

#### **Ryan Church Scholarship**

Nathaniel Harper, Maysville High School

#### Marc Cooper Scholarship

Parker Schehl, Ohio University Zanesville

#### Ashley Cordial Memorial Scholarship Josey Johnson, West Muskingum High School

### Muskingum County Democrat Club Scholarship in Memory of Brenda A. Anderson

Rachel Smith, Bishop Rosecrans High School

#### E.N. Dix Scholarship

Sydney Hill, Bowling Green State University Brielle Vernon, Muskingum University

#### **Dixon Family Scholarship**

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#### Oliver Flanagan Book Scholarship

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### **RaShaun Merriman**

2022 Zanesville High School Graduate Recipient of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship, the Cynthia McHenry-Shull Scholarship, and the Josephine Sebach Scholarship



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is that Muskingum County's quality of life attracts organizations and people to pursue their dreams and practice their passions.

### A Brief History of MCCF

In 1985, area civic leaders established the Zanesville Development Corporation to generate ideas that would enhance the quality of life in Zanesville. One of the group's suggestions was to establish a community foundation. The Zanesville Community Foundation was incorporated in 1985 and awarded tax-exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service in January 1986. The name was changed to "The Muskingum County Community Foundation" in 1988 to reflect a broader mission of serving the entire county.

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The Muskingum County Community Foundation The Straker Building 534 Putnam Avenue Zanesville, OH 43701

> 740-453-5192 www.mccf.org

