

Message from the Director

I am proud to serve as your president for the next two years. Thank you for the opportunity. I feel the foundation is a key part of what makes our county great. We gave \$970,000 back last year. Think of that impact! It is due to all of your efforts, and for that, I thank each of you. I still believe we are a secret to many in the county. I want to challenge each of you to share the DAF efforts with your friends and neighbors. Help get the word out. Also, do not be bashful in asking if they want to come alongside us and be a part of a great organization. If we continue growing, we can continue to give at an even larger level. I look forward to the next year and all the good we can accomplish together. Thank you again for your contributions to the DAF with your time, talents, and treasures. - **Jim Williams**



Annual Meeting



The Defiance Area Foundation held its Annual Meeting on September 26th at Kaitlyn's Cottage with 75 community and foundation members present. During this meeting, we thanked (and roasted) Bill Koester for his 19 years of service as Trustee and Treasurer for The Defiance Area Foundation. Pictured is Bill with a "big check" showing grants award of \$970,635 during this last fiscal year. Throughout the evening, words used to describe Bill were....a man of integrity, loyal, detailed, frugal ("use both sides of the toilet paper") visionary, a leader, reliable, organized, and knowledgeable – just to name a few. We have been truly blessed by Bill (and Carol for sharing him) and his leadership for two decades. For your commitment to helping us carry out our Mission in Defiance County, we say THANK YOU! Best wishes in your retirement from the DAF from the Staff and Board of Directors.

Our gratitude and appreciation to the following Trustees who completed six years of service with The Defiance Area Foundation:



John Boesling



Jon Gathman

The following Trustees were elected to serve a three year term!
Pictured (L to R) Dennis Gable, Myra English, and Don Hange. Laurie McCann was also elected to serve a second three year term.



The following incoming Officers were elected (L to R) Jim Williams – President, Dan Michel – Vice President, Anne Murray – Past President, Terry Melton – Secretary, and Ted Penner – Treasurer.



Randy Wright – Board Member of the Friends of Independence State Dam – shared an update on the new happenings and renovations at our State Park!

Did you know

- ★ The dam was built in 1924 which replaced an old wooden structure.
- ★ In May through September of 2022, that 7,248 vehicles entered the park – many from various states!
- ★ In the summer they have "no motor nights" on Tuesdays from 6 – 8 p.m. (the park is closed to traffic).



TO ENHANCE, ENRICH, ENCOURAGE, AND SUPPORT THE DEFIANCE COUNTY COMMUNITY

Grants to Defiance County approved at fall Trustee Meeting

The following grants were funded in part by the DAF Community Funds, and the following unrestricted named funds: Beane, Brose, Defiance Clinic Charitable and Education Fund, Hanna, Hench, Howarth, Kaemming, Schmenk, Smart, and Sterling and Wahl.

- * Hicksville Community Fund – Splash Pad
- * ProMedica Defiance Reg Hosp – Laboring Tub
- * The Victory Center – start up and furnishings
- * Holy Cross – HVAC Upgrade
- * The Defiance College – furniture/admissions
- * DCCC for Defiance Choral Society – Messiah 50th Anniversary Performance
- * Fort Defiance Humane Society – back-up generator
- * CPC Women's Health Resource – curriculum for EWYL
- * Defiance Area YMCA – defibrillators
- * Ronald McDonald House – housing and food for Defiance County patient families



Community Impact Fund

In 2004, the Urban Institute along with several partners conducted a large survey of nonprofits that found investing too little in an organization's basic infrastructure (such as staff salaries, strategic planning costs, marketing, and fundraising budgets) diminished its effectiveness. In 2009, researchers at The Bridgespan Group found that despite these results, many nonprofit leaders planned to cut spending on overhead. Nearly two decades have passed and the philosophy on overhead spending has not changed for most small and mid sized nonprofit organizations.

The negative consequences of starving nonprofits of general operating expenses, aka overhead, stymie mission impact and organizational growth. The Community Impact Fund was established to assist nonprofit's with strategic overhead grants aimed at scaling nonprofit mission impact.

To donate to the Community Impact Fund, please visit <https://defianceareafoundation.org/donate-to-a-fund/> and select Community Impact Fund located in "Community Initiatives II". Those interested in learning more about the Community Impact Fund are encouraged to attend Community Impact Fest 2023 (in celebration of National Philanthropy Day) on November 15 from 5pm-7pm at the Defiance Northtowne Mall. Admission is free and more information can be found at www.communityimpactfest.org. Thank you for helping our nonprofit organizations build their capacity!

Aileen Meyer, MOL, CFRM, BOLDCertified
CEO, Center for Community Impact, LLC
"Love One Another" -John 13:34

What's Happening in Defiance County?

- * Women's Giving Circle event – October 31st
- * Community Impact – National Philanthropy Day Celebration – November 15th – 5-7p.m. Northtowne Mall
- * Leadership Seminar January 11th and 12th 2024

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