

*Inspiring & sustaining generosity,  
leadership & service in our community*



# 2008 Annual Report



# To Our Community



## From our President...

2008 brought many challenges for residents of LaGrange County and surrounding areas. The rise in unemployment and problems within the overall economy impacted many lives. In January, LaGrange County Community Foundation

(LCCF) clarified our vision of providing all citizens with: educational opportunities; basic health and human services; a clean and healthy natural environment; participative arts, culture and history programs; and recreational programs that restore spirit, mind and body. Education was identified as our top priority because of its impact on the other areas. As the year continued and the economy worsened, foundations everywhere were impacted. One philanthropic publication estimates assets of charitable foundations dropped an average of 28 % in 2008. LCCF did not escape this.

We continued to believe education was critical, but we realized our major focus had to become assisting families struggling as a result of the economic downturn. In December the Good Samaritan Fund

was established with a founding gift from Parkview LaGrange Hospital. This pass through fund will support existing not-for-profits as they provide basic needs for those who are struggling.

LCCF was one of many community foundations to partner with schools to support and promote the 21st Century Scholars Program which provides post high school educational assistance to qualifying students. SAT seminars were also offered for graduating seniors. During this year of serious economic challenges, LCCF was able to serve county residents in new ways and to remain intent on our mission of inspiring and sustaining generosity, leadership and service in our community. Thank you for joining with us in this worthwhile endeavor.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steven L. Gage".

## Innovative partnership benefits county



*By early 2009 the Parks Department was able to obtain necessary funds to complete the purchase of additional ground adjacent to Pine Knob Park from the community foundation who assisted the parks in being able to respond quickly when the property was offered.*

When problems become large, we quickly realize the need for collaborations and partnerships in order to address them.

In spring 2008 LCCF was able to leverage foundation assets to benefit the community during a down economy by purchasing additional property which became available adjacent to Pine Knob Park on Meteer Lake.

This gave the Parks Department time to obtain grants from other sources and to buy the property from LCCF. Previous successful partnerships between LCCF and the Parks Department made the project feasible.

The nonprofit and service community of LaGrange County rec-

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# Over \$250,000 awarded in grants & scholarships

## 2008 grants

### Caring Community Fund Grants

4-County Vocational—Auto Body/Collision Program  
Jr. Achievement—JA Success Skills Classes  
LaGrange Communities Youth Center—Bowling Class  
LaGrange County COA—Transportation Program  
LaGrange County Parks—Summer Program  
Lakeland High School—Disability Awareness Event  
Lima-Scott Food Pantry —Pantry operations  
Menno-Hof—Quilt Garden  
Noble House—LaGrange County homeless  
The Shed—Facility improvement  
United Fund—2-1-1 Referral  
Women in Transition—Recovery House privacy fence

### Proactive Grants

Community State Bank—Dave Knopp Memorial  
First Church of God—Counselor Training  
Ft. Wayne Philharmonic—Holiday Pops/Education Series  
Habitat for Humanity—Grantsmanship Training  
LaGrange Co. Clothes & Food Basket—Operating support  
LaGrange County COA—Food Pantry, Pac-a-Sac  
Pheasants Forever—Youth Hunt at Pigeon River  
Purdue Coop. Extension—Free Junior Golf Program  
Tobacco Free LaGrange County—Anti-tobacco Campaign  
Topeka Elementary—David Rogers Park Pioneer Days  
Video For Hire, Phil Bir—Millenium Task Force

### Advised, Designated, Field of Interest Fund Grants

4-H Horse & Pony Club  
Auditor of LaGrange County  
LaGrange County Amish Schools  
LaGrange County Animal Shelter  
LaGrange County Chamber of Commerce  
LaGrange County Clothes and Food Basket  
LaGrange County Library  
Lima-Scott Food Pantry  
Menno-Hof  
Parkview Hospital Foundation Mobile Mammography  
Rainbow Years Learning Center  
SCAN, Inc Prevention through Education Workshops  
Scott Cemetery Association  
Wolcott Mills PTO  
Youth For Christ

### Pass Through Grants

ARK Animal Rescue and Adoption  
LaGrange County Economic Development Corporation  
LaGrange Co. Animal Shelter Improvement  
LaGrange Communities Youth Center  
LCYC Disc Golf  
Monggo Community Association  
Stroh Youth League  
Topeka Library Fund



2008 Terry Schmidt Memorial Basketball Scholarship recipient, Skylar King, pictured with donor, Michelle Schmidt.

The Hostetler Hudson Auto Museum made an interesting site for 2008 LCCF scholarship donors and recipients to interact. (See complete scholarship list on page 4.)

## LIFE grants

American Cancer Society Relay for Life  
Jr. Achievement business education  
LaGrange Co. Mentor Moms  
LaGrange Co. Parks Summer Program  
Lakeland High School Walk for Life Program  
Lakeland High School motivational speaker  
Milford Elementary loudspeaker system  
Purdue Extension GPS Equipment & Training  
Women in Transition operating support

### Tax Deductible Contribution

Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution to  
LAGRANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

My gift is in (honor/memory) of:

\_\_\_\_\_

Please notify the following that a gift has been  
made in his or her name(s):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my gift to go into the following  
fund:

- Caring Community Grant Making Fund  
 LCCF Operating Fund  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (specify fund)

**Mail to: LaGrange Co. Community Foundation  
109 E. Central Ave., Ste. 3, LaGrange, IN 46761**

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ognizes as never before the importance of innovative partnerships and a unified emphasis on looking to the future in order for the county to remain a desirable place to live and raise a family.

All of us working together with ongoing goals of economic development, education, and helping one another will result in a brighter future.



109 E. Central Ave., Ste. 3  
LaGrange, IN 46761

The 2008 financial report of LaGrange County Community Foundation is available in the office or online at [www.lccf.net](http://www.lccf.net). Call 463-4363 for information.

## 2008 Volunteer Board of Directors

Steven Gage, Pres.	Jan Olinger, V.Pres.
Paul Johnston, Sec.	Jeff Wible, Treas.
Gene Mory, Sr. Advisor	Charles Ashcraft
Mahlon Bontrager	Dr. John Egli
Colleen Hostetler	Ryan Riegsecker
Stephan Scott-Welty	Dr. Rhonda Sharp

## 2008 Staff

Laura Lemings, Ex. Director	Loren Heinlen, Program Officer
Jan Pilgrim, Ex. Assistant	Keith Stanton, Development
Jennifer Tuttle, Finance	Rebecca Ramer, Communications



Confirmed in compliance with national standards for U.S. Community Foundations

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# 2008 Scholarships Awarded & Recipients

Bruce Brown Memorial.....	Cara Cross	Paul & Marion Krebs.....	Nicole Pfenning
A. Carney LeRoque Memorial.....	Ashton Schwartz		Brian Sherck
Olive B. Cole.....	Jessica Berkey	LaGrange Co. Lakes Council.....	Paul Eastwood
	Lauren Eash	LCCF.....	Joseph Raber
	Dylan Forbes	Olivia B. Lemings Memorial.....	Abby Neff
	Dillon Pranger	Kevin Lewis Memorial.....	Luke Kaiser
Keith & Arlene Davis Memorial..	Melissa Mast	Lilly Endowment.....	Kyley Eagleson
Ellsworth Fanning Memorial.....	Luke Kaiser		Shannon Mehrling
	Courtney Osborn	LIFE.....	Rachel Lantz
	Trevor Perkins		Melissa Mast
Farmers State Bank.....	Hans Avildsen		Caitlin Wilson
	Brooke Gray	Matthew Terry Memorial.....	Dillon Pranger
	Austin Miller	J. O. Mory Company.....	Dillon Pranger
	Julie Schmidt	Mory Family.....	Dillon Pranger
Farmwald.....	Michelle Haney	Craig & Ronda Neff Memorial.....	Jessica Coffman
	Angela Helman	Holly Petersen Memorial.....	Ashley Hughes
	Joshua Hunsberber		Samantha Simon
	Andrea Miller	Duane & Heide Rheinheimer.....	Melissa Mast
	Philip Reed	Schlemmer.....	Rachel Lantz
Judy Gage Keenan Memorial.....	Amy Young	Terry Schmidt Basketball.....	Skylar King
V. & F. Hardin Memorial.....	Alexis Arnold	Ned H. Stump Memorial.....	Luke Kaiser
Healthcare.....	Alexis Arnold	Joseph J. Willard Memorial.....	Todd Richardson
HOPE Nursing.....	Alexis Arnold	George O. Witwer Journalism.....	Octavia Lehman
James F. Kalb Memorial.....	Michelle Haney		
	Lauren Lee		