

# Home Sweet Home



## 2015 Annual Report

# From the director

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Dear Friends,

2015 was an exciting year at the LaGrange County Community Foundation! The board and staff worked with generous local donors to accomplish raising the Lilly GIFT VI challenge match offered to LaGrange County through the Lilly Endowment. The challenge for our foundation was \$500,000. Generous donors made gifts large and small to the “Home Sweet Home” campaign to make it a success. These gifts were all matched by Lilly Endowment. The GIFT VI challenge increased the endowment at the foundation by well over a million dollars. Thank you to everyone who helped accomplish this goal during the year.

In 1991, LCCF was established with the idea of shared philanthropy, a new concept. LaGrange County residents embraced that concept, which meant that regardless of the size of their gifts, they could all make a difference to causes that they cared about right here at home, in their community. Our community has many generous donors who have given much, time, talent and treasure — all from their hearts.

It is also important to acknowledge the volunteers, past and present, who have worked tirelessly toward the shared vision of LaGrange County’s potential. The LCCF Board of Directors give generously of their time for regularly scheduled meetings as well as other community events.

Additionally, members of the Grants Committee review competitive grant applications and make informed recommendations to the Board of Directors. The Scholarship Committee wades through mountains of paperwork every spring to make sure our scholarship selection is fair and equitable. By giving the gift of time, all of these individuals have strengthened and guided the Foundation’s reach.

Other LCCF committees made up of more volunteers are: Investment, Audit, Heart of Gold, Facilities and LIFE (a Youth Philanthropy group-LaGrange County Independent Foundation for Endowments), as well as a number of ad hoc committees that come together when needed, get up early and stay late, loosen their collars and re-fill their coffee cups as they work to make sure the foundation’s mission of inspiring and sustaining generosity, leadership and service is realized to its fullest ability.

During this past year, LCCF awarded more than \$250,000 in grants and scholarships to worthy LaGrange County citizens and organizations – all because people like you have chosen to maximize your power to do good through the LaGrange County Community Foundation. We thank you for choosing LCCF as your gateway to do good work in LaGrange County.



All the best,

*Laura Lemings*

Laura Lemings, Executive Director

## 2015 By the numbers

Awarded **85** scholarships to graduating seniors and returning college students totaling **\$66,950**.

Granted **\$67,420** to health and human service organizations.

Impacted education with **\$47,286** in grants.

Supported community development with **\$56,586.46** in grants.

# Spotlight on funds

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## NEW ENDOWMENT FUNDS

The LaGrange County Community Foundation concluded 2015 with 115 endowed funds, all with unique purposes. Each fund is established by a donor with a special purpose in their hearts. In 2015, we were pleased to add the following funds for a long-term benefit to our community:



### *The Dale Sturtz Memorial Fund*

Dale Sturtz dedicated his professional life to public service. Sturtz served as the Sheriff of LaGrange County from 1980 to 1990. From 1992 to 2002, he served as a democratic Indiana State Representative of LaGrange and Noble Counties (District 52). Sturtz was awarded the Sagamore of the Wabash in honor of his dedication to public service. After his passing in 2015, his family established this endowed memorial fund to be used for any charitable purpose.

### *LaGrange County Council on Aging Agency Fund*

The LaGrange County Council on Aging created its own endowed fund at the foundation in 2015. Once the COA receives donations from local community members, they can add the donation to their endowment and watch as the investment continues to live on. Set up as an agency fund, the COA will be able to receive an annual payout that can be used to support their work at the Council on Aging.

### *College Club Education Fund*

The College Club, a group of women who used a local scholarship fund as a way to loan money to local college students, elected to bring the balance of their fund to the foundation in 2015. The balance of the scholarship fund was transferred to the foundation to create an endowed fund that could be used for any charitable project.

### *R.E. Lee Family Fund*

Robert E. Lee is one of the founding board members of the LaGrange County Community Foundation. Living his lifetime in LaGrange and Elkhart Counties, he graduated from Scott High School in 1943 and from Purdue University in 1951 in Ag Education. Mr. Lee was the former owner and operator of the dairy farm, Bob-O-Lou Farms, Inc. in Van Buren Township and the former owner and operator of Maple Lanes Bowling Alley in LaGrange. Lee passed away in 2012. A bequest through his charitable trust was passed onto the foundation to establish an endowment fund that could be used for any charitable purpose.

### *McKenzie Family Fund*

Members of the McKenzie family gave a gift to start their own endowment fund in 2015.

### *Willard Family Community Fund*

After the foundation sold the Willard Home to Parkview LaGrange in 2015, the proceeds were used to create the Willard Family Community Fund in honor of Joseph and Elsie Willard.

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## On the cover

During the 6th Annual Heart of Gold Brunch, the LaGrange County Community Foundation Board of Directors announced Sue Keenan as the recipient of the 2015 Heart of Gold award. It was evident by her humble acceptance of the award that recognition is not something she seeks from her service to the LaGrange community. LCCF is very thankful for the gold hidden within our community. Those nominated unselfishly give of their time, talent and treasure to make this a better place. Gathered at the brunch were: 2015 Heart of Gold Recipient Sue Keenan (center) surrounded by nominees: Judy Cook, Dennis Wagner, David Traylor, Carrie Jo Schrock, Chris Speicher (representing Wes Speicher Family/LaGrange Monument Works), Kathy Hopper, J. Burton DeRusha, Jenny Zolman (accepting posthumous nomination for Lee Zolman). Mike Metz and Dan Votaw are not pictured.

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# Spotlight on funds

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## New Program Funds

### *Clothes and Food Basket Building Fund*

Started by generous donors, this fund supports the building fund for the Clothes and Food Basket of LaGrange County.

### *Career Success Coalition*

The Indiana College Success Coalitions is a network of state and local organizations interested in increasing college access and success within the State of Indiana. The pass-through fund was started with funds from the state after the LaGrange County group met its startup goals in 2014. The LaGrange County group, called the Career Success Coalition, looks to build awareness in the county for **both** college and career.

### *LaGrange County Youth Leadership Camp*

The brainchild of Steve Sherk, the camp brings together youths of LaGrange County to learn about leadership, team building skills and job interviewing skills. The camp is offered to sophomores and juniors in LaGrange County.

### *Save the Wolcott House Fund*

Donors came to the community foundation to save the Wolcott Home, built by George Wolcott circa 1836, the founder of Wolcottville. With the money, the foundation purchased the home and donated it to Indiana Landmarks. Indiana Landmarks is restoring the home to maintain the historical value.

## Grants

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Veterans Headstone Project;  
preserving veteran headstones, \$2,600.00

Topeka Area Historical Society Inc.;  
Depot Museum computerization, \$750.00

Lima Township Trustee; new lighting  
for the Lima Township Community Center,  
\$1,650.00

Junior Achievement of LaGrange Co.;  
Finance Park, Our Community Program,  
\$6,000.00

The McMillen Center for Health Education;  
educational programming, \$1,000.00

Lutheran Outdoor Ministries of Indiana-  
Kentucky, summer reading program,  
\$3,500.00

The Lakes County Cluster; Lakes Country  
Invasive Trio treatment, \$2,500.00

Community Harvest Food Bank of North-  
east Indiana; Farm Wagon mobile pantry,  
\$3,200.00

Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry;  
meat donation, \$2,000.00

Scott United Methodist Church;  
Scott Emergency Food Pantry, \$2,000.00

Parkview Hospital Foundation; 4th Grade  
Safety Program, Health & Safety Camp,  
\$1,119.23

Mad Anthonys Children's Hope House,  
Support for LaGrange County families,  
\$1,000.00

Bill Lewis Center for Children; forensic  
interviews for alleged child sex abuse cases,  
\$500.00

PBNJ Ministries, Inc.; Rhett Walker Band and  
Red Roots 4-H concert, \$2,500.00

LaGrange County Promise, Matching dollars  
for students enrolled in College 529 Plan,  
\$26,860.00

Northeastern Indiana Tri-State  
Regional Science Fair, \$200.00

LaGrange County Food and Clothes Basket,  
programming expenses, \$21,290.00

LaGrange Communities Youth Center; Kite  
Komotion kits, \$1,000.00

Friends of LaGrange County Parks, \$200

Prairie Heights Community School Corp.;  
new lighting for the softball diamonds,  
\$657.46

LaGrange County  
4-H Horse and Pony Club, \$100.00

LaGrange County Youth Leadership Camp,  
\$1,000.00

LaGrange County Library - Topeka Branch,  
\$100.00

LaGrange County Extension Homemakers,  
First Books for Kids program, \$527.80

Topeka Ministerial Association,  
Christ's Community Cupboard, \$2,438.00

Ark Animal Rescue & Adoption, Inc., \$100

LaGrange County Council on Aging, \$100

Elijah Haven Crisis Intervention Center, \$975

Reason 4 Hope, \$125

Stroh Lions Club, new baseball/softball fields,  
\$3,660

YMCA Camp Potawatomi, \$113

Prairie Heights FFA, Washington Leadership  
Conference, \$800

Rainbow Years Learning Ministry, \$1,435

# Scholarships

## Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Program



Abigail Thompson, the daughter of Jerry and Angie Thompson of Wolcottville, received the 2015 LaGrange County Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship provided through the Lilly Foundation.

Thompson, a 2015 graduate of Lakeland High School is currently studying biochemistry at Indiana University with plans to enter the medical field.

Since 1998, the foundation has awarded a full-tuition scholarship plus a \$900 stipend for books to students who display exemplary service in their community and strive to achieve high standards. Today, many of the LaGrange County cohorts are employed in the tech industry, education, medicine, communications and engineering.

## 2015 Scholarship recipients

**Black Hawk College**  
Parker Fought

**University of Indianapolis**  
Kimberly Stutzman

**Indiana University-  
Purdue University Fort Wayne**  
Zackery Allen

**Goshen College**  
Jared Berkey

**Huntington University**  
Sarah Bish

**Taylor University**  
Austin Borg

**Purdue University**  
Dillon Brower

**Hesston College**  
Erika Byler

**Glen Oaks Community College**  
Sidney Byrkett

**Trine University**  
Shawna Carbone

**Indiana University  
South Bend**  
Kelsey Carmack

**Indiana University-  
Purdue University Fort Wayne**  
Garrett Chrisman

**Trine University**  
Alexandria Claudy

**Wabash College**  
Benjamin Cramer

**University of Indianapolis**  
Laken Detweiler

**Trine University**  
Taylor Eash

**Concordia University**  
Elizabeth Flynn

**John Brown University**  
Bethany Foley

**DePauw University**  
Paige Frost

**Rose-Hulman Institute  
of Technology**  
Logan Good

**Valparaiso University**  
Tristan Good

**Rochester Institute  
of Technology**  
Monali Grossman

**Cedarville University**  
Dillon Henschen

**Kendall College of Art & Design  
of Ferris State University**  
Anthony Hostetler

**Bluffton University**  
Micah Hunsberger

**Western Michigan University**  
Dominique Hunter

**Manchester University**  
Britanie Jernigan

**IPFW**  
Charlotte Jones

**Indiana University-  
Purdue University Indianapolis**  
Isaac Kilgore

**Indiana University**  
Xander Laughlin

**Purdue University**  
Riley Lewis

**Huntington University**  
Jaron Lewton

**Indiana Wesleyan University**  
Kathryn Lovell

**Indiana University**  
Brianna Marks

**Purdue University**  
Kaitlyn Mast

**Purdue University**  
Nicole McKibben

**Indiana Wesleyan  
University**  
Abigail Miller

**University of Indianapolis**  
Erin Miller

**Indiana University South Bend**  
Josiah Miller

**Indiana University-Purdue  
University Indianapolis**  
Katelyn Miller

**University of Indianapolis**  
Logan Miller

**Indiana Wesleyan University**  
Michelle Mowery

**Manchester University**  
Chandler Mynhier

**Ivy Tech Community College**  
Janae Norris

**Black Hawk College**  
Reed Oesch

**Purdue University**  
Jason Perkins

**Purdue University**  
Marshall Perkins

**Indiana Wesleyan University**  
Nicholas Raber

**Trine University**  
Travis Riddle

**Indiana University-Purdue  
University Fort Wayne**  
Brooke L. Schwartz

**Indiana University**  
Tori Scott

**Indiana Wesleyan University**  
Ashley Springer

**Indiana University-Purdue  
University Indianapolis**  
Gavin Troyer

**Indiana University**  
Jessica Valentine

**Huntington University**  
Jamar Weaver

**Indiana Wesleyan  
University**  
Kayla Borg Yoder

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Mr. and Mrs. John Swartz  
Ms. Katherine Swartzentruber  
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Anderson Automotive Ltd.  
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Ark Animal Rescue & Adoption, Inc.  
Athena Club  
CDFLC  
Citigroup Global Markets, Inc.  
College Club  
Curran Miller Auction/Reality, Inc.  
E & S Sales, LLC  
Eberhard & Weimer, P.C.  
F S Bancorp  
Farmers State Bank  
Horizon Bank  
Independent Colleges of Indiana  
Indiana Commission for Higher Education  
Janpaul Consulting LLC  
LaGrange Communitities  
Youth Centers  
LaGrange County Council on Aging  
LaGrange County Dodge  
LaGrange County Treasurer  
LaGrange Rotary Club  
Lake Area Veterinary Group  
Lakeland High School  
LC Indiana Genelological Society  
Lewis Quality Homes, Inc.  
Maple Lane Farm  
Miller Poultry  
Mostrom & Associates, Inc.  
National Fish & Wildlife Federation  
NIPSCO  
Olive B. Cole Foundation  
Parkview LaGrange Hospital  
Pretzels, Inc.  
Quality Floor Care  
S & H Metal Products, Inc.  
Sons of American Legion Post 215  
Stroh Lions Club  
The Dekko Foundation  
Topeka Pharmacy  
Town of LaGrange  
United Fund of LaGrange County  
Westview Jr-Sr High School

## Grant Spotlight

The Stroh Lions Club received \$3,660 to make improvements to the Stroh Ball Park. With the expansion of the park, 115 children will be able to enjoy more space. The new fields enabled the creation of the Sandy Koufax League and eliminated the gap between Little League and school teams.

# Financials

## LaGrange County Community Foundation, Inc.

### Statements of Financial Position

	December 31	
	2015	2014
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 370,767	\$ 166,308
Other assets	7,796	9,235
Pledge receivable	25,000	50,000
Investments	13,164,425	13,167,705
Interest and dividends receivable	26,816	24,663
Beneficial interest in charitable remainder trust	-	79,371
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 13,594,804</b>	<b>\$ 13,497,282</b>
<b>Liabilities and net assets</b>		
<b>Liabilities:</b>		
Accounts and other payables	\$ 20,864	\$ 7,305
Funds held for others	140,587	83,403
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>161,451</b>	<b>90,708</b>
<b>Net assets:</b>		
Unrestricted	5,348,227	5,291,051
Temporarily restricted	1,819,735	2,069,081
Permanently restricted	6,265,391	6,046,442
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>13,433,353</b>	<b>13,406,574</b>
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>\$ 13,594,804</b>	<b>\$ 13,497,282</b>



### We Give Thanks

Members of the Clothes and Food Basket of LaGrange County Board gathered in March 2015 with grateful hearts for a supportive community as LCCF Executive Director Laura Lemings delivered a check in the amount of \$21,290 from the 2014 We Give Thanks campaign. From left to right: Clothes and Food Basket Board Member Ted Peachey, LCCF Executive Director Laura Lemings, Clothes and Food Basket Board Member Martha Brundey, LCCF Board Secretary Sue Keenan and Clothes and Food Basket President Richard Yoder.



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[www.lccf.net](http://www.lccf.net)

### *Board of Directors*

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Curriculum Director  
Sue Keenan, Secretary; Retired educator  
Jan Olinger, Treasurer; Farmers State Bank  
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Ryne Krock, Member; LaGrange County  
Economic Development President & CEO

### *Staff*

Laura Lemings, Executive Director  
Jennifer Tuttle, Financial Officer  
Jan Pilgrim, Executive Assistant  
Laney Kratz, LIFE Navigator  
Octavia Yoder, Program Officer

The mission of the LaGrange County Community Foundation is to inspire and sustain generosity, leadership and service in our community.