



SPENCER COUNTY *Community Foundation*

2009 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

“What are you giving back to your community? How will your generosity be remembered?”



This past year has been one of growth and opportunity for the Spencer County Community Foundation. During my first months at the Foundation, I have had the extraordinary experience of working with a group of trustees who are genuinely committed to the Foundation and, through it, to improving the quality of life and well-being of our community. Their willingness to consider the tough questions, to commit to positive change, and to work together for the future has been a source of real encouragement.

In addition, the Community Foundation awarded more than \$130,000 in grants and scholarships to area youth and nonprofit agencies in 2009 for various charitable needs and projects. You can read more about those awards in this report.

I look forward to continuing the growth and success of the Spencer County Community Foundation. As always, the need for charitable dollars continues to grow as our community grows. We are fortunate to live in Spencer County and we continue to encourage everyone to consider:
“What are you giving back to your community? How will your generosity be remembered?”

For good. For ever. For Spencer County.

Laura Harmon
Laura Harmon

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GRANTMAKING

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

Our discretionary grants are made possible by contributions that are not restricted for a particular purpose. Grantmaking decisions are left to our board of trustees, who are uniquely positioned to evaluate specific local needs and opportunities in our community. Discretionary grantmaking aims to assist charitable programs, address community issues, support community agencies, launch local initiatives, and support leadership development.

Carter Fire District, \$1,000 to assist with the purchase of large diameter hose fittings.

Town of Chrisney, \$9,000 for the purchase of books, computers, and bookshelves for the Chrisney Library.

Town of Chrisney, \$502 to assist with the purchase of benches for the Chrisney Library.

Chrisney Volunteer Fire Department, \$923 to assist with the purchase of a computer and accessories.

Christian Resource Center, \$1,000 to provide free mammograms to uninsured Spencer County women in need.

Christian Resource Center, \$1,300 for the purchase of a fire resistant filing cabinet.

Crisis Connection, \$2,500 to purchase materials to establish crisis prevention education centers in each of the seven libraries in Spencer County.

Dale Park and Recreation Board, \$6,000 for the purchase of treadmills for the community center.

Town of Gentryville, \$5,000 to provide matching funds for the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs Community Focus Fund grant application to purchase and clear the old Gentryville School Building and site.

Girl Scouts of Raintree Council Inc., \$2,500 for the “Glam Jam Program” which encourages self-esteem, personal well being, exercise, healthy choices, and creative activities for girls in 5th through 8th grades.

Grandview Civic Association, \$375 for the purchase of additional letters for the Grandview Civic Building electronic sign.

Grandview United Methodist Church, \$4,000 to assist with the purchase of a backup generator to provide emergency shelter to residents of Grandview.

Jackson Township Volunteer Fire Dept., \$1,000 to assist with the purchase of hose nozzles, foam educator equipment, and foam.

Lifetime Education Academy, \$600 to provide ten GED fee scholarships to Spencer County residents.

Rockport-Ohio Township Fire Department, \$1,000 to assist with the purchase of a fire hose.

Saint Meinrad Archabbey, \$1,000 to assist with the purchase of a generator for use by the St. Meinrad Archabbey Fire Department and the St. Meinrad Volunteer Fire Department to serve residents during emergency situations.

Saint Meinrad Chamber of Commerce, \$227 to assist with the replacement of playground equipment at the St. Meinrad community park.

SonShine Early Learning Ministry, \$400 to assist with staff training, First Aid and CPR recertification, and Childhood Development Accreditation courses.

Spencer County 4-H Club Association, \$1,690 to help refurbish the driveway of the 4-H/Youth and Community Center located near Chrisney.

Spencer County Emergency Ambulance Service, \$4,000 for instructor fees to present the Basic Emergency Medical Technician course.

Spencer County Emergency Management Agency, \$1,100 for the purchase of water rescue thermal flotation suits.

Spencer County Hospice Inc., \$460 for the purchase of office furniture for a newly hired Registered Nurse to accommodate expanded services.

Spencer County Humane Society Inc., \$570 for the purchase of an escape-proof containment system for stray dogs awaiting adoption.

Stir-N-Up Hope Inc., \$2,500 for the purchase of a portable mounting ramp.

Visiting Nurse Association, \$2,880 to sponsor two Telehealth Monitors for Spencer County residents in need of in-home nursing care.

The Way of Rockport, Indiana, Inc., \$1,200 to provide recovery program scholarship to clients.

TOTAL \$52,727



DESIGNATED AND DONOR-ADVISED GRANTS

Association for a Better Rockport, \$1,000

Christian Child Care and Preschool, \$741

Christian Resource Center, \$1,500

Dale Women's Organization, \$150

Habitat for Humanity of Spencer County, \$1,493

Heritage Hills Scholarship Foundation Inc., \$9,302

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, \$1,271

James Parker Cemetery, \$500

Lincoln Boyhood Drama Association, \$4,457

Lincoln Heritage Public Library, \$431

Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, \$1,794

North Spencer Community Action Center, \$400

Peace Episcopal Church, \$1,747

Rockport-Ohio Township Fire Department, \$1,000

Rockport Police Department, \$1,000

Santa Claus Campground Inc. Fund, \$2,960

Shiloh Cemetery Association, \$359

Shiloh Methodist Church, \$359

Shriners Hospitals for Children, \$708

South Spencer Scholarship Foundation, \$1,296

Spencer County Community Foundation, \$500

Spencer County Council on Aging, \$2,686

Spencer County Fair, Inc., \$1,000

Spencer County Hospice Inc., \$4,702

Spencer County Humane Society Inc., \$601

Spencer County Mental Health Association, \$1,010

Spencer County Public Library, \$578

Spencer County School Corporation, \$5,000

St. Bernard's Catholic Church of Rockport, \$1,180

St. Peter United Church of Christ, \$497

St. Vincent DePaul Society of St. Joseph Parish, \$244

Trinity United Church of Christ of Fulda, \$708

Zion United Church of Christ, \$667

TOTAL \$51,840

GRANTS AT A GLANCE

Discretionary Grants \$52,727

Designated and Donor-Advised Grants \$51,840

Community Scholarship Grants \$31,699

Total \$136,266

COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS

Raleigh and Thelma Abshier Scholarship

\$560 to Abigail Lewellyn, University of Southern Indiana

Brauns Family Scholarship

\$440 to Lukas Deskin, Ivy Tech State College

Community Trust Scholarship

\$90 to Jennifer Tempel, University of Southern Indiana

Mabel Mason Ryan Memorial Scholarship

\$3,675 to Jordan Morrison, University of Southern Indiana

\$3,675 to Candice Parsley, Purdue University

Mike Ryan Memorial Scholarship

\$2,092 to Kelsie Ball, Dentistry, Indiana University

\$2,092 to Dakota Schmitt, Bio-Medical Engineering, Purdue University

\$2,092 to George Schnur, Professional Flight Technology, Purdue University

\$2,092 to Jenna Vaal, Accounting, Indiana State University

\$2,092 to Matt Van Camp, Computer Sciences, University of Evansville

Gene and Christina Schwindel Scholarship

\$1,173 to Seth LaGrange, Biology, Purdue University

\$1,173 to Samantha Seckinger, Accounting, Indiana University

\$1,173 to Haley Smith, Social Studies Education/History Degree, Indiana University

Spencer Industries Incorporated Scholarship

\$7,030 to Miranda Kline, Occupational Therapy, Indiana University

Alieene Vance Memorial Scholarship

\$1,000 to Kyla Edwards, Accounting, Western Kentucky University

\$1,000 to Deann Edwards, Special Education, Indiana University S.E.

\$1,000 to Elaura Hoesli, Nursing, Western Kentucky University

\$1,000 to Erica Young, Biology, Indiana University

TOTAL \$31,699

LILLY ENDOWMENT COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS

The Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Program, established and fully funded by Lilly Endowment, aims to raise Indiana's level of educational attainment. The scholarship, which is administered by local community foundations throughout Indiana, provides full tuition for four years of full-time undergraduate study at the Indiana college or university of the recipient's choice. The number of scholarships awarded is based on the population of each county (the awards listed represent projected attendance costs).

Abby Wilmes, Psychology/Pre-Occupational Therapy, University of Indianapolis, \$90,383

Samuel Wilhite, Biology/PreMed, University of Notre Dame, \$165,854

TOTAL \$256,237

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DONOR STORY

Kathryn Meyer came from a family of sturdy German stock who settled in Mariah Hill and built their home there to last for generations. The barn is still standing as straight and true as when it was built in 1906. Kathryn likes to point out the hand carved wooden pegs that join the massive beams supporting the building. The barn swallows flit about the ceiling while the cows enjoy a cool breeze coming across the hilltop and through the open barn doors.



Looking at the lush gardens, the sturdy grape arbor and the abundant fruit trees, one can see her ancestors' qualities still running true in Kathryn's life, a life abundant with the beauty of a job well done, hard work and independence. Yet, the crinkles around her eyes when she tells a humorous story about her growing-up years betray a wit and a liveliness that make her blue eyes dance. She shares a memory of when she was a child of about five. Her elementary school house did not have running water, so she and her girlfriends would go up to the school master's home to fill a wash basin for drinking and hand-washing. One day her brother played a prank and put a crawdad in the water pail. Oh, did the little girls squeal!

One of the qualities Kathryn's parents instilled in her was devotion to her Catholic faith and her beloved church, Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church. When she decided to establish a fund with the Spencer County Community Foundation, she knew the lasting qualities of an endowment were just what she wanted for her church. She knows that for generations to come her desire to see her church prosper can be a reality because of the Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church Preservation Fund. The fund is not meant for everyday operations but rather for special projects that will enhance the meaning of the holy worship which takes place there.

Having worked for 20 years in school administration, Kathryn also created the Kathryn Meyer Scholarship Fund to benefit students who graduate from Heritage Hills High School. She wanted, she says, to help students get a quality education. Kathryn Meyer is a talented woman who will be remembered for many things, her famous grape jelly, her generous spirit and her title of "the greatest Bingo caller in Southern Indiana." Most of all, through her funds with the Community Foundation, she will be remembered for continuing her family's legacy by touching the lives of people in Mariah Hill forever.



**SPENCER COUNTY
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

Member of the Community Foundation Alliance Inc.

Lincoln Commerce Center
2792 N. US HWY 231 PO Box 3
Rockport, Indiana 47635

Phone 812.649.5724
laura@spencercommunityfoundation.org
www.spencercommunityfoundation.org

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