



communitymatters

A newsletter from the Spencer County Community Foundation

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Spencer County
Community Foundation

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The Spencer County
Community Foundation, a
member of the Community
Foundation Alliance Inc., is
confirmed in compliance with
national standards for U.S.
community foundations.



Our Mission
To foster an attitude of
giving today for a better
tomorrow.

Winter 2011/2012

'Give and Grow with a Match' Initiative

For the first time ever, the Spencer County Community Foundation is matching contributions to new or existing permanent endowment funds dollar for dollar.

Our hope is this unique opportunity will encourage more individuals, organizations and businesses in our community to participate in philanthropy through endowment at the Foundation. What better way to involve more folks in philanthropy than by matching their contributions to endowments that support their favorite cause or provide a scholarship to a student?

Match Guidelines:

- Gifts eligible for the match must be made to any existing or new permanent endowment.
- To be eligible for the match, contributions must be received between April 2 and October 1, 2012, or until the funds for the match are expended.
- Minimum contribution to be matched is \$100. Maximum contribution to be matched is \$5,000.
- Limit of \$5,000 match monies per person.
- Planned gifts will not be matched.

For more information or to start your own fund, please contact the Spencer County Community Foundation Director, Laura Harmon, at 812-649-5724 or laura@spencercommunityfoundation.org.



*A new internship opportunity will be available through the Foundation soon.
We will be looking for someone who is good with people and a camera!*

Contact the Foundation office for more information.



Ready, Set... Apply!

Scholarship applications and opportunities now available.

The Spencer County Community Foundation announces scholarship opportunities are available through the Foundation's Community Scholarship program and the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship program.

The Community Scholarship program is made up of eleven scholarship funds, each with individual selection criteria and eligibility requirements, created by donors to provide Spencer County students with opportunities for advanced education. Awards are made by the Community Foundation following a competitive process. All awards are made without regard to race, creed, color, sex, religion, or national origin. **The deadline to apply for the Community Scholarships is Monday, February 27, 2012.**

The Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship, fully funded by Lilly Endowment, is administered locally by the Spencer County Community Foundation. Only one applicant will be awarded the scholarship, which covers tuition for four years of undergraduate study at an accredited Indiana college or university and an allowance for required fees, books, and equipment. Further criteria apply. **The deadline to apply is Friday, January 20, 2012.**

Applicants are required to submit their applications online this year. Detailed information and application forms for both programs are available at www.spencercommunityfoundation.org or by contacting Laura Harmon, director of the Foundation, at 812-649-5724 or laura@spencercommunityfoundation.org.

Community Scholarships Include:

- Raleigh and Thelma Abshier Scholarship
- Brauns Family Scholarship
- Community Trust Scholarship
- Narl and Hazel Conner Scholarship
- Harold and Thelma Hunter Scholarship
- Mabel Mason Ryan Memorial Scholarship
- Mike Ryan Memorial Scholarship
- Schmidt-Yeager Scholarship
- Gene and Christina Schwindel Scholarship
- Spencer Industries Incorporated Scholarship
- Alieene Vance Memorial Scholarship

Mark Your Calendars...

January 16 **Unrestricted grantmaking schedule announced**

January 20 **Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship applications due**

February 27 **Community Scholarship applications due**

March 15 **4C's training at Lincoln Commerce Center**

April 2 **Contributions towards match accepted**

Talk with Trustees

Traditionally in each edition of communitymatters, we spotlight members of our board. This month, we remember Ralph Kennedy - a member of our founding board and long-time Spencer County Community Foundation advocate.

Ralph Kennedy was known by some to be one of the founders of the Spencer County Community Foundation. It is due to his incredible generosity and dedication to the betterment of his community that the Spencer County Community Foundation is as successful as it is today.

In a brief telephone interview with Mr. Kennedy in September 2008, he

answered a few basic questions about the reasons for his giving and his devotion to Spencer County. When asked why he first became involved with the foundation, Mr. Kennedy said, "I saw it as a very simple

program that could help people support any charity that they were interested in."

As a result of Mr. Kennedy and his family's passion for giving and their community, the Spencer County Community Foundation is capable of providing Spencer County with a body of funds to support our community projects and scholarships while simultaneously passing on the desire to give.

Mr. Kennedy pushed the Foundation to work more closely with individuals on planned giving. "I hope that one half to one third of the people were including the Spencer County Community Foundation in their estate planning."

Rex Winchell, who served on the founding board of the Spencer County Community Foundation with Mr. Kennedy, says "Ralph was always ready to help move Spencer County in the right direction."



The Spencer County Community Foundation is represented by civic leaders who live in the county and who are motivated by a true desire to help their neighbors, colleagues, and friends connect with charities they care about in a meaningful and lasting way. They are dedicated to making grantmaking decisions based on their first-hand knowledge of the community's greatest needs as well as awarding scholarships to the most qualified candidates.

Officers

Daren Brown, President
Jane Boultinghouse, Vice President
Mary Jeanne Schumacher, Secretary

Trustees

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Our thanks to American Electric Power for providing the Foundation with office & meeting space.



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Return Service Requested



VISIT US @

www.spencercommunityfoundation.org

2011 Spencer County Community Foundation Priority Needs Assessment Released

The priority needs assessment is a collection of data that is compiled into a report. This report represents an effort to look at Spencer County’s most pressing needs in the proposed areas of Education, Health/Wellness/Recreation, Senior Citizen Initiatives, and Youth Initiatives.

The project began in September 2010, and since then surveys have been distributed, demographic and other data collected, and forums held to get input from the residents of Spencer County. All of this data will be provided in the Priority Needs Assessment Report.

Respondents ranked the four broad areas surveyed in order of importance: (Note: values were assigned to the choices of most important [3 pts], important [2 pts] and not as important [1pt]): Education (266 points), Youth (210 points), Health, Wellness, and Recreation (178 points) and Senior Citizens (170 points).

Some of the key findings were that:

- 90.1% of respondents agree/strongly agree that parents being involved in their child’s education is important. However, 72.9% don’t feel the issue is being addressed well in Spencer County.
- 78.1% of respondents agree/strongly agree that child and adult obesity is an important issue. 50.4% disagree that this issue is being addressed well.
- 83.5% of respondents agree that transportation for the elderly is important. 44.9% agree that this issue is being addressed well.
- 87.3% of respondents agree/strongly agree that safe, constructive youth activities are important. 42.7% disagree that this issue is being addressed well.

The complete packet is available on our website. For a printed copy, please stop by the Foundation office.

Find us on Facebook



Type into your Facebook search engine, Spencer County Community Foundation, and Like our page to receive updates about events and giving opportunities.

The Spencer County Community Foundation:

- * promotes philanthropy at all levels,
- * builds and maintains a permanent collection of charitable funds that benefit the entire community, and
- * serves as a trustworthy partner and leader in shaping effective responses to community needs.