

*The Darke County Foundation is a community foundation dedicated to improving the lives of Darke County residents by receiving, managing and distributing charitable gifts.*

## Pohls Start Scholarship Fund

Versailles residents Harold and Deb Pohl have established a new scholarship fund at the Darke County Foundation. Exclusively for Versailles High School graduates, the first scholarship will be awarded to a 2026 graduate and will be renewable for 4 years.

As a permanent endowment, the fund will provide a renewable scholarship every year to a graduating senior. Distributing only investment income, the Harold and Debra Pohl Scholarship will remain a lasting legacy.

The Pohls have been lifelong supporters of the Versailles community, contributing to many programs and projects that have fortified and enriched their village. Their strong allegiance to Versailles Schools, student activities, and career development motivated the couple to set up the scholarship. They especially wanted to assist students with limited financial resources and those who work hard but don't get perfect grades.

"We have been thinking about starting a scholarship for a long time and finally decided to take the step," said Harold. "We believe strongly in education, whether it's gaining a technical certificate, a 4-year degree, or more."

"We hope that announcing this scholarship will inspire other donors to start a fund of their own to help students," added Harold.

Deb said, "We just love watching Versailles students participate in their activities, from athletics to music, academics, and the theater. We are proud to see them excel at so many things! We want our scholarship to reward a student who puts their heart into their work."

The impact the Pohls have made in Versailles runs deep. Both Harold and Deb graduated from Versailles, as did their 4 children. So did/will their 5 grandchildren. Harold began working as a diesel mechanic in 1957 and went on to establish Harold J. Pohl, Inc. and Pohl Transportation. Deb is a founding member and board president of the Versailles Area Historical Society, dedicating decades to research, collection, documentation, and display of artifacts at the Versailles Area Museum. Because of their commitment to numerous causes, the couple was named grand marshals of the 2014 Poultry Days parade, and Deb was named Versailles Citizen of the Year in 2013.

The Darke County Foundation is honored to assist the Pohls in supporting an endeavor they believe in. Thank you, Harold and Deb, for making college more affordable for deserving Versailles students!



*Deb and Harold Pohl*

## Leave Your Legacy of Love

Joy Marchal of Greenville dedicated her life to making a meaningful difference in the lives of others. Joy worked as a nurse and hospice director, she lovingly raised four children with her husband John, and she volunteered for many organizations that improved lives in her community. Some charitable causes were so important to Joy that she wanted to continue supporting them after she was gone. Especially close to her heart were her children's elementary school, her church, and her college alma mater.

Joy's family ensured her generous spirit would live on by establishing a permanent fund at the Darke County Foundation to benefit her three beloved organizations. Each year, a portion of the fund's investment income is distributed to the groups, while the original gift amount remains intact. The annual gifts honor Joy's life, assist worthwhile interests, and remind others of her legacy of love.

How do you want to preserve your legacy or perhaps the legacy of a loved one? Honoring a cause you care about could result in lasting benefits for a charitable purpose. Two ways the Darke County Foundation furthers legacies are through financial support to non-profit organizations and scholarships to students pursuing higher education.

The Foundation's Legacy Society allows individuals to name the Darke County Foundation in their will or trust, transferring assets when they die and establishing a fund at that time. Alternatively, many donors set up funds while still living so they can receive a tax benefit, see the fruit of their philanthropy, or make changes to



*Joy Manier Marchal*

*(Continued on back page)*

Website:  
www.darkecountyfoundation.org

E-mail:  
dcf@darkecountyfoundation.org

Address Service Requested

## Board of Trustees

Tammy Abell	Holly Hill
Jim Atchley	Nathan Hosek
Amanda Baker	Kent James
John A. Barga	R.E. Laughlin
Susan Barker	Susan Laux
Ryan Cox	Eileen Litchfield
Jim Detling	John Marchal, Jr.
Diane Evans	Caroline Schmidt
Terri Flood	Kent Zechar
Jonathan Hein	

## Staff

Christy Praker, *Executive Director*  
Beth Serraino, *Finance Manager*

Thanks to Lead Sponsors of  
the 2025 Sunshine 5K



Ray & Bettye Laughlin



## Sunshine 5K Benefits Local Groups

The Darke County Foundation's 13<sup>th</sup> Sunshine 5K/1-Mile welcomed a record 664 registrations and raised \$22,000 for local non-profit organizations. The following groups rallied runners and walkers for their teams and received proceeds from the event:

- AddieGirl for Cancer Association of Darke County
- Darke County Pregnancy Help Center
- DeColores Montessori School
- Edison College Foundation
- Final Bow Center for Children's Performing Arts
- LifeWise Academy Greenville and Versailles
- Y.O.L.O. of Darke County

(Legacy continued from p. 1)

Joy Marchal of Greenville dedicated her life to making a meaningful difference in the lives of others. Joy worked as a nurse and hospice director, she lovingly raised four children with her husband John, and she volunteered for many organizations that improved lives in her community. Some charitable causes were so important to Joy that she wanted to continue supporting them after she was gone. Especially close to her heart were her children's elementary school, her church, and her college alma mater.

# Thank You, Donors to the Darke County Foundation

The Darke County Foundation is grateful to these donors who made gifts the past year. 100% of donations to the **Friends of the Foundation** went back into the community for programs that benefit local residents. Gifts to **Scholarship and Community Funds** include any donation to one of our other 110 funds established by donors for causes they believe in. Your generosity is helping the Foundation strengthen Darke County through education, the arts, health and wellness, community projects, and more.

## Friends of the Foundation

Mark and Tammy Abell  
Bill and Barb Ahrens  
R.J. and Nita Allread  
Doug and Kim Amspaugh  
Steve and Julie Amspaugh  
Andersons Ethanol  
Brenda Arnett  
Matt and Angie Arnold  
Jim and Liz Atchley  
Ed and Gloria Ault  
Authorized Service  
David and Amanda Baker  
Dennis and Cathy Baker  
Ted and Jennie Baltes  
Dennis and Susanne Barga  
Jerry and Diane Barga  
Bill Barga  
Randy and Janel Barga  
Ron and Jessica Barga  
Jeff and Susan Barker  
Ted and Linda Barlage  
Clyde and Chris Bateman  
Jeni Berger  
Steve and Linda Berger  
Brian and Lisa Bergman  
Tom and Marilyn Blakeley  
Leo Blanchard  
Ron and Mary Bonfiglio  
Chad and Amy Booher  
Tim Booher  
Gary and Marlene Boone  
Boring, Richard & Associates  
Mike and Kim Bowers  
Drs. Rick and Julia Bowlin  
Merna Brenner  
Brethren Retirement Community  
Dick Brown  
Dr. Tom and Suzie Brown  
Brumbaugh Construction  
Bruns Animal Clinic  
Jim Buchy  
Tom and Debbie Bueter  
Dennis and Lois Bunger  
Ken and Ruth Burkhardt  
Steve and Kim Burns  
Larry and Beth Campbell  
Cheryl Campbell  
Shane and Tess Clark  
Classic Carriers, Inc.  
Rick and Janell Claudy  
Gary and Jane Cloyd  
Bryan and Aliana Clymer  
Jack A. and Carole A. Coblentz

Judy Collins  
Alex and Clarissa Cordonnier  
Steve and Judy Cordonnier  
Cox Insurance  
Catherine Custenborder  
Todd and Beth Dammeyer  
Darke Co. Chamber of Commerce  
Darke Elks Benevolence Group  
Dave Knapp Ford-Lincoln  
Dave and Barb Dent  
Dick Lavy Trucking  
Kevin and Julia Didier  
Dennis Eckstein  
Eldora Speedway  
Roger and Loretta Etzell  
Diane Evans  
Family Health Services  
Farmers State Bank  
Roberta Feltman  
Travis and Kelly Fliehm  
Terri Flood  
David and Ann Fullenkamp  
Garbig, Schmidt & Pohlman, LLC  
GNB Banking Centers  
Doug and Michelle Gordon  
Chris Graves  
Mike and Diane Gray  
Owen and Toni Griffith  
Gary and Jeannie Grosch  
Catherine Grow  
Bill and Shelly Haber  
Hansbarger Home Solutions  
John and Krista Harman  
Lorraine Hart  
Hartzell Veterinary Service  
Jon and Rose Hein  
Peter and Nancy Hemer  
Vickie Hetrick  
John and Karen Hilgefort  
Hittle GMC, Inc.  
Adela Hoke  
Larry and Carol Holmes  
Ted and Rochelle Holsapple  
Sue Holzapfel  
Don and Ceil Hosfeld  
John and Shirley Huddle  
Kent and Lynn James  
Wes and Patti Jetter  
Jones & Fry CPA, Inc.  
David and Janet Julian  
Mary Beth Kell  
Keller Grain & Feed  
John Keller  
David and Dixie Kepler  
Steve Kerns and Karen Funk  
Rob and Anne Klamar

Leon and Sue Knore  
Ruth Koverman  
Mike and Sharon Kramer  
Lester Kuertman  
Charles and Jo Langenkamp  
Don and Barb Leis  
Ken and Deb Liette  
Steve and Eileen Litchfield  
Gary and Judy Lloyd  
Don and Kathy Lockhart  
Jim and Marilyn Lorton  
Mark and Pam Loxley  
George and Becky Luce  
Bob and Arlene Luttmer  
Jack and Janet Lutz  
Doug and Jeanne Lyme  
Paul and Angie Mangen  
John and Jeanne Marchal  
Jim Marker  
Rebecca Maurer  
May Financial Group  
Terry and Jane Ann May  
Eugene and Denise Mayo  
Scott and Lee Ann McAlpine  
Mike and Sandy McClurg  
Peter and Constance Menke  
Tom and Barbara Menke  
Michael and Nancy Maher  
Michael and Alice Hogg  
Sue Mills  
Montage Cafe  
John and Fran Montgomery  
Mary Moran  
Chris and Christy Mortensen  
Dora Mosier  
Dan and Gail Mueller  
Becky Muhlenkamp  
Linda Newbauer  
Herb and Ginny Nieport  
George and Kathy O'Dell  
Randy and Lisa O'Dell  
Tim and Robin O'Donnell  
Nick and Linda Palmer  
Park National Bank  
John and Ruth Peters  
Carolyn Phelan  
Mike Pinney  
Poepelman Materials  
Harold and Deb Pohl  
Brenda Pohl  
Don and Pam Pohlman  
Todd and Sara Porter  
Mike and Christy Prakes  
RJ Warner Insurance Agencies  
Larry and Joan Roll  
Brian and Lisa Rosenbeck

Scot and Starla Ross  
Hank and Mary Roush  
Scott and Kimberly Rudnick  
Jim and Susan Schaar  
Dan and Marty Schipfer  
Roger and Shirley Schlater  
Sharon Schmidt  
Joe and Starr Schmitmeyer  
Bill and Connie Schuette  
Tom and Cindy Scott  
Dan and Chris Seger  
Jerry and Reyna Shardo  
Dick and Beckie Shumaker  
Joel and Cindy Sink  
Shirley Slyder  
David and Bonnie Snider  
Annie Sonner  
Pat and Marci Spearman  
Speech Pathology Services  
Jim and Chris Stamcoff  
Jeff and Connie Stammen  
Marv and Millie Stammen  
Ron and Judie Stauffer  
Judy Stemley  
Dr. Steve Stentzel  
Jim and Kathy Steyer  
Monty and Krista Stump  
Superior Implement & Supply Co.  
John and Diane Swallow  
Stephen and Marla Threewits  
Jason and Denise Trimble  
Troutwine Auto Sales  
Dick and Sharon Troutwine  
Jim and Susan Troutwine  
Jeanne Turpen  
James and Mary Vandenbosch  
Paul Wagner  
Alex and Kathy Warner  
David and Sharon Warner  
John and Ginger Warner  
Dan and Jackie Watren  
Weaver Bros., Inc.  
Ed and Elizabeth Weaver  
Tim and Kristin Weaver  
Jeff and Robyn Whitaker  
Ron and Rachael White  
Robert and Claire Williams  
Wuebker Farms  
Dick and Cindy Wuebker  
Jerry and Jean Young  
Zechar Bailey Funeral Homes  
Kent and Nancy Zechar  
Scott Zumbrink

## Donors to Scholarship and Community Funds

Mark and Tammy Abell  
John and Tara Adams  
Bradley Alsop & Meghan Ryan  
Jim and Liz Atchley  
Dennis and Cathy Baker  
Barga Farms, Inc.  
Ron and Doris Barga  
Jeff and Susan Barker  
Elizabeth Mulvey Bennett  
David and Mary Beth Berger  
Treva Berger  
Kurt and Jaime Bergman  
Ryan and Rachel Bergman  
Virginia Bertram  
Matt and Laura Bigelow  
Nancy Bohman  
Tim Booher  
Chris and Kim Borchers  
Mark and Therese Borchers  
Eric Brand, Attorney  
Brethren in Christ Foundation  
Brethren Retirement Community  
Jacob and Christina Broering  
Joan Brown  
Dr. Tom and Suzie Brown  
Ralph and Phyllis Brumbaugh  
Bruns Animal Clinic  
James and Beth Bruns  
Lavern and Catherine Brunswick  
Jim Buchy  
Steve and Kim Burns  
Brittany Chiavetta  
Classic Carriers, Inc.  
Eric Cole  
Comm. 313 Maria Auxiliary  
Cox Insurance  
Sam and Toni Custer  
Todd and Beth Dammeyer  
Darke County Land Title Agency  
Mary Riffle  
Lauren Henry  
Jennifer deBest  
Jim and Sharon Deeter  
Dick Lavy Trucking  
Steve and Amy Dues  
Dennis Eckstein

Edwin F. Nickol, Inc.  
Esarey & Associates  
Roger and Loretta Etzell  
Diane Evans  
Jerry and Ann Everman  
Duane and Kristie Evers  
John and Mary Jean Evers  
Family Health Services  
Financial Achievement Services  
Christy Fisher  
Flinn & Detling Law Group  
Gary Flinn & Susan Muntean  
Richard Frantz  
Friends of Megan Galloway-Cole  
Phil and Peg Fullenkamp  
Stacey Galloway  
Mackenzie Galloway-Cole  
Garbig, Schmidt & Pohlman  
Irene Gehret  
Carolyn Gerold  
Joe and Linda Giere  
Mary Gigandet  
GNB Banking Centers  
Curt Goubeaux  
Mike and Diane Gray  
Adam and Natalie Greenhouse  
Kate, Jared and Sol Greenhouse  
Stacie and Michael Greenhouse  
Greenville Federal  
Greenville VFW Post #7262  
Alan and Barbara Greiner  
John and Louise Grilliot  
Tom and Melanie Guillozet  
Hanes Law Group  
Ken and Joyce Haraughty  
Nicholas Harrod  
Jeff and Joyce Hartings  
Ken and Mary Hartke  
Hartzell Veterinary Service  
Jon and Rose Hein  
Dave and Deb Hemmelgarn  
Ben and Susan Hill  
Johanna Hill  
Mike and Alice Hogg  
Adela Hoke  
Holy Family St. Ann's Sodality  
Orval and Helen Homan  
Stan and Carolyn Homan  
Jason and Amy Hoying

Marlene Huelsman  
Kent and Lynn James  
Wes and Patti Jetter  
Meghan Johnson  
Jones & Fry CPA, Inc.  
Tim and Jill Keller  
David and Dixie Kepler  
Kevin and Kate Kerg  
Michael and Marjorie Kitzmiller  
Knights of Columbus Charities  
Mark and Marya Kopetsky  
Aimee Kraft  
Debra Kraft  
Patricia Kramer



*Main Street Greenville installed its fifth mural in downtown Greenville, thanks to a grant from the Darke County Foundation.*

Tim and Angie Kramer  
Dr. Robert and Jan Lantz  
Ray and Bettye Laughlin  
Loren and Susan Laux  
Jon and Stacey Lavy  
Leis Realty  
Don and Barb Leis  
Tom and Sharon Link  
Steve and Eileen Litchfield  
William Lohr  
Michael and Nancy Maher  
Marchal & Marchal, Ltd.  
Don and Janice Marchal  
May Financial Group  
Sam McCoy  
Melvin and Mary Ann Stucke  
Carl and Linda Meyer  
Paul and Mary Jean Meyer  
Drs. M. Michalak and M. Hardesty  
Jeff Mills  
MJS Plastics  
Virginia Moorman  
Elizabeth Myers  
Paul Myers  
Denny and Shirla Neff  
Herb and Ginny Nieport  
North Star Community Assoc.  
Rodney Oda Estate  
David Oliver  
Greg Olwine  
Dennis and Sharon Ontrop  
Osgood Foundation

Bill and Kris Osterbur  
Park National Bank  
Phelan Insurance Agency  
Carolyn Phelan  
Brian and Kathleen Pinchot  
Dick and Joyce Platfoot  
Poeppelman Materials  
Mr. and Mrs. Darrin Poeppelman  
Pohl Transportation  
Harold and Deb Pohl  
Production Paint Finishers  
Steve and Marlene Puthoff  
Andrew Rammel  
Mike and Kathy Re  
Reid Health  
Joe and Amy Reis  
RJ Warner Insurance Agencies  
Mike and Sharon Roessner  
Larry and Joan Roll  
Cindy Schaub  
Regina Schieltz  
Dan and Marty Schipfer  
Roger and Shirley Schlater  
Dr. Greg and Christina Schmiesing  
John Schmitmeyer  
Matt and Liz Schmitmeyer  
Steve and Karen Schmitmeyer  
Joan M. Schnabel  
Dale and Nancy Schwieterman  
Deb Seger  
Serra Club of Cincinnati NW  
Steve and Pam Spitzer  
St. Joseph Holy Name Society  
Jerry and Linda Stammen  
Marv and Millie Stammen  
Brian Stemley  
Judy Stemley  
Jim and Kathy Steyer  
Matt and Mindy Steyer  
Dave and Irene Stonebraker  
Keith and Marge Stucke  
Mark and Mary Ann Stucke  
Melvin and Mary Ann Stucke  
Rose A. Subler  
Jim and Jan Thomas  
Dean and Margie Treon  
Jared and Kylie Turner  
U.S. Bank  
Versailles Modern Mothers  
Versailles Vision, LLC  
Charles and Erna Voisard  
Walmart  
John and Ginger Warner  
Wayne HealthCare  
Charles Wenning  
Herb and Doris Wilker  
Williamson Insurance  
Terry and Madonna Winner  
Paul Wolters  
Emily Wu  
Jerry and Jean Young  
Zechar Bailey Funeral Homes

## Donate to Friends of the Foundation

If you are a past donor to the Friends of the Foundation Fund, your 2025 invitation will arrive in the mail soon! If you don't receive a Friends of the Foundation mailing, we invite you to become a member. All gifts to the Friends Fund go entirely into our community to support meaningful projects and programs. Two ways to donate:

1. Make checks payable to Darke County Foundation.  
Mail to DCF, P.O. Box 438, Greenville, OH, 45331.
2. Donate online by scanning the QR code or visiting [www.darkecountyfoundation.org](http://www.darkecountyfoundation.org).



## \$290,000 Granted to Non-Profit Groups

## Funds Providing Community Grants



The Darke County Foundation recently distributed \$290,000 in community grants, including awards to the following non-profit organizations that provide meaningful services to local residents. Here is how some grant recipients are using the money they received. Funding came from donor-directed funds and also the Friends of the Foundation Fund that is bolstered each year by hundreds of supporters.

ACES Alternative School  
 Anna Bier Art Gallery  
 Annie Oakley Committee  
 Arcanum H.S. Band  
 Arcanum M.S. Drone Team  
 Arcanum H.S. Academic Team  
 Arcanum Public Library  
 Arcanum Wayne Trail Histor. Soc.  
 Bear's Mill – Darke County Parks  
 Big Brothers/Big Sisters  
 Boys & Girls Club of Greenville  
 Bradford Schools  
 Bradford Schools Band  
 Breast Wishes Foundation  
 Bridges to College  
 Cancer Association of Darke Co.  
 Community Help Center  
 Darke Co. Bd. Develop. Disabil.  
 Darke County Center for the Arts  
 Darke County Senior Outreach  
 Darke County United Way  
 Empowering Darke County Youth  
 EverHeart Hospice  
 Fish Choice Pantry  
 Fort Greeneville DAR  
 Franklin-Monroe M.S. Lego League  
 Franklin-Monroe Grades K-3  
 Franklin-Monroe H.S. Algebra  
 Garst Museum  
 Gateway Youth Programs  
 Greenville Fire Department  
 Greenville Community Unity

Art instructor for twice weekly art class  
 High school art show awards and supplies  
 Annie Oakley Days bus tours to Darke County sites  
 Updates/repairs on band instruments  
 Drone equipment and competition fees  
 Entry fees, materials to enter academic tournaments  
 Outdoor gazebo at the library  
 New furnace  
 Better lighting on Bear's Mill second floor  
 Expand Lunch Buddies program: games, snacks, supplies  
 After-school meals for children  
 Art displays in school/town to highlight railroad heritage  
 Assist students in paying for band supplies  
 Support for Darke County breast cancer patients  
 College visits for high school students  
 Nutritional supplements for cancer patients  
 Wooden carts to transport food and supplies  
 Sensory kits for first responders to give in trauma cases  
 Family Theatre Series of 3 live performances  
 Line dancing class for senior citizens  
 Postage for free books mailed to all children age 0-5  
 Homework help for students, tutors, materials  
 Celebrations for patients' birthdays or anniversaries  
 4 months of milk for pantry clients  
 Performing artists for America 250 events  
 Robot kits, supplies, and contest fees  
 Book bundles for struggling readers  
 TI-84 graphing calculators to keep in classroom  
 New air conditioners  
 Field day supplies for at-risk youth  
 Fire safety and prevention programs for kids  
 Rent and utility assistance for families in need

J. Michael Beard Community Fund  
 Harold & Betty Brewer Fund for  
 Darke Co. Humane Society  
 Harold & Betty Brewer Fund for  
 Wayne HealthCare  
 Ralph and Phyllis Brumbaugh Fund  
 Darke Co. Agricultural Society Fund  
 Darke Co. Foundation Endowment Fund  
 Darke Co. Foundation Unrestricted Fund  
 Darke Co. Legal Aid Fund  
 Darke Co. Special Olympics Fund  
 Darke Co. United Way Fund  
 DeColores Montessori School Fund  
 Friends of the Foundation Fund  
 Ruth Elaine Furlong Fund  
 Grace Resurrection Community Center  
 Greenville City Park Fund  
 Helen L. Hawkey Music Project  
 Johanna Hill Community Fund  
 Dixie & David Kepler Community Fund  
 John & Miriam Knick Fund for  
 Darke Co. Center for the Arts  
 John & Miriam Knick Fund for  
 Darke Co. Historical Society  
 Kremer Family Farms Fund  
 Low Vision Support Group for FAME  
 Michael & Nancy Maher Fund  
 Joy M. Marchal Fund  
 Ami McClurkin Community Fund  
 Wm. Michael & Caleb Knick Fund for  
 Darke Co. Special Olympics  
 Neff Family Fund for Darke Co. YMCA  
 North Star Community Park Fund  
 Oliver Family Fund  
 Principal's Fund for St. Mary's School  
 St. John Lutheran Church Cemetery Fund  
 St. Paul Lutheran Church Cemetery Fund  
 Greyson James Steyer Memorial Fund  
 Sunshine 5K Event  
 Jean Louise Thieme Children's Theatre  
 Dr. Marlin D. Thompson Founder's Fund  
 Marlin & Shirley Thompson Fund  
 Ella VanDyke/St. Clair Home Fund for  
 Brethren Retirement Community  
 Beth Warner Fund for Darke County  
 Humane Society

(Continued on next page)

## Community Grants (continued)

Greenville Grades K-1  
Greenville Grades 1-4  
Greenville H.S. Zoology Lab  
Greenville Municipal Concert Band  
House that Lulu Built  
Illumination Ministries  
Main Street Greenville  
Main Street Greenville - Murals  
New Madison Public Library  
Osgood Fire Department  
Pittsburg Fireman's Association  
Pittsburg Village  
Recovery & Wellness Centers  
Ronald McDonald House Dayton  
SafeHaven  
Shelter From Violence  
Tri-Village Gr. 2 "Patriot Partners"  
Upper Valley Career Center Aspire  
Versailles Grades K-6 STEM  
Versailles M.S. Civic Leadership  
YMCA of Darke County

Sensory hideaway to calm students with disabilities  
Extra STEM (science, technology) activities  
Assist students in purchasing anatomy kits  
Free Sunday concerts in the park  
Free lodging for families during funerals  
Stage rental for Illumination Festival  
New speakers for Broadway light poles  
Vinyl and supplies for downtown murals  
Live performance of Harriet Tubman  
Replace MARCS base station radio  
Wildland/tech rescue protective equipment  
Asphalt for basketball and tennis courts  
Mental health leadership training for youth  
Housing at Children's Hosp. for Darke Co. families  
Mental health services one day a weekend  
Technology upgrade, new freezer and meat  
Transportation to retirement home, books, bags  
GED testing fees for Darke County residents  
Hands-on building activities  
Food to make 200 lunches for the homeless  
Snacks and supplies for Healthy Kids Day

## Tips for Tax Savings on Charitable Giving

As you review your year-end financial plan, keep in mind that a gift to the Darke County Foundation can benefit causes you care about and also provide a tax benefit to you. Consider the following tax-wise methods for supporting non-profit organizations or scholarships. Consult your financial advisor for the best option for you.

### 1. Transfer an IRA distribution.

If you are age 70½ or older, you can transfer up to \$108,000 from your traditional Individual Retirement Account (IRA) directly to a charity. If you are 73 or older, the transfer counts towards your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). Because the distribution is not recorded as income, you avoid paying income tax, even if you don't itemize deductions. You can direct your IRA gift to any existing fund at the Darke County Foundation or set up your own fund to support designated organizations, scholarships, or fields of interest.

### 2. Give appreciated stock or mutual funds.

Donating appreciated securities that you have held for more than a year can provide a double tax benefit. You avoid the capital gains tax that you typically pay when you sell an asset that has appreciated in value. You can also claim the full fair market value of the stock at the time of the donation as a charitable deduction on your tax return, reducing your taxable income.

### 3. Bunch multiple years' gifts into one.

The standard deduction of \$15,750 for individuals/\$31,500 for couples may make it difficult to itemize charitable giving. Consider bunching multiple years' worth of donations into one tax year to push itemized deductions over the standard deduction. You get the tax deduction now to set up your fund at the Foundation. Then you can decide over time how you want to support causes that matter to you.

## Organizations Show their Community Grants at Work

Greenville H.S. student Jocelyn Reier won Best of Show at the Darke County High School Art Show, hosted by the Anna Bier Gallery. Volunteers stock food at FISH Choice Pantry. At Tri-Village Elem. School, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and their Littles celebrate completing the Lunch Buddies program.



## 2025 Darke County Graduates Receive \$300,000 in Scholarships



**Ansonia H.S.:** Front: Lauren Warner, Zoey Elson, Gabriella Leeper, Ryan Ward. Back: Sophia Aultman, Ethan Sparks, Cooper Riffle, Isaiah Hartzell, Zane Henderson. Photo by Carla Ungerecht.



**Bradford H.S.:** Griffin Trevino, Owen Canan, Elizabeth Skinner, Avery Helman, Emma Lavey, Kaylin Richard, and Trey Manuel. Photo by Don Selanders.



**Franklin-Monroe H.S.:** Front: Kori Garber, Adison Tucker. Middle: Ty Riffle, Eric Brenner, Parker Patrick. Back: Presley Cox, Ashley Saylor, Allison Muhlenkamp. Photo by Lange Photo.



**Mississinawa Valley H.S.:** Front: Taylee Woodbury, Braden Wisner, Aubrie Cooley. Back: Syenna Purdin, Ethan Grow, Daniel Hartzell, Harley Hanes. Photo by Lifetouch.



**Tri-Village H.S.:** Kaylee Stark, John Milliff, Leana Metzcar, Grant Howell, Reagan Brewer, Trey Homan, and Lydia Ayette. Photo by Lange Photographics.



**Greenville H.S.:** Front: Ashton Noggle, Gabriella Stebbins, Shyanne Gibboney, Rebekah Bunch, Elise Fugett, Kyrie Unger. Middle: Lauren Schmitmeyer, Megan Lind, Olivia Flatter, Brookelyn Schmidt, Addisyn Gathard, Emily Gilmore. Back: Elijah Silknitter, Mason Pierri, Kamdon Riethman, Owen McGreevey, Braeden Wills, Joshua Baker. Photo by Dick Brown.



**Arcanum H.S.:** Front: Shiloh Brown, Katelynne Michael, Payten Parks, Emma Rogers, Brooke Anderson, Anna Stump. Back: Claire Rogers, Landon Wagner, Seth Fearon, Ethan Hartman, Carter Rice, Landon Miller, Quinn Jorgensen, Mackenzie Cantrell. Photo by Craig Schmidt.



**Versailles H.S.:** Front: Morgan Schutz, Paige Holzapfel, Danielle Francis, Erica Rauh, Ella Porter, Lauren Grogean, Julia Bergman, Maddalyn Walters. Middle: Ava Shardo, Tyler Barga, Cameron Magoto, Cade Bergman, Lance Keller, Ross Francis, Michael Menke, Karlie Litten. Back: Taylor Wagner, Chase Monnin, Benjamin Brewer, Leland Bolin, Andrew Wuebker, Andrew Lyons, Colin Batten, Luke Kaiser, and Margret McGlinch. Photo by Lange Photographics.

## Scholarship Funds Grow for Upperclass College Students

The term “college scholarship” often refers to a one-year financial award that a high school senior receives for further education. The scholarship helps pay for the student’s first year in college. In many cases, scholarships disappear after the first year, resulting in greater financial need for years 2, 3, 4 or more.

The Darke County Foundation realized the shortage of scholarships for upperclass students and has been encouraging new donors to direct scholarship aid to those students. Last year over \$85,000 in scholarships was paid to students currently in college. Some scholarships are renewable awards spread over 4-5 years, and some scholarships are 1-year awards reserved for upperclass students.

“Our scholarship committee recognizes that there are many highly qualified college students and yet very few scholarships for upperclassmen,” said Carrie Schmidt, DCF trustee and member of the scholarship committee. “The goal is to reach these older students and reward them for their motivation and hard work in their fields of study. We are hopeful that these scholarships can lessen the financial burden many students experience in their later years of college.”

One scholarship fund that assists students for consecutive years is the Harold and Betty Brewer Scholarship. Recipients receive \$2,500 each year for 4 years. Alaina Baughn of Greenville has received the scholarship for 2 years so far.

“I’m beyond grateful to receive a renewable scholarship from the Darke County Foundation each year,” said Alaina. “Having the opportunity to renew the award relieves so much stress that comes with paying tuition and allows me to focus on my academics and athletics. This scholarship gives me peace of mind knowing I’ll be able to graduate with substantially less debt.”

If you have been thinking about starting a scholarship fund for deserving students, consider setting up your fund to benefit students who are already in college. They are well on their way to success!

## Funds Providing 2025 Scholarships

Velma and Merlin Applegate Fund  
 Pauline Winbigler Bales Fund  
 Tim Best/Ronnie Kreitzer Fund  
 Robert and Iris Bolen Fund  
 Harold and Betty Brewer Fund  
 Bill and Rosie Brinley Family Fund  
 Joyce Bruns Nursing Fund  
 Darke Co. Engineering/Science Fund  
 Darke County Foundation Endowment  
 Brian and Regina Delk Fund  
 Wayne K. Detling Fund  
 Millie Kiger Dunaway Fund  
 Nils and Collette Eikenberry Fund  
 Howard and Eva Fisher Fund  
 Kenneth and Virginia Marie Flory Fund  
 Kathleen Floyd Fund  
 John S. and Mary L. Fourman Fund  
 Alice and Wilbur Frantom Fund  
 Megan L. Galloway-Cole Fund  
 Kenneth J. Gibboney Fund  
 Richard Graeff Family Fund  
 Greenville National Bank Fund  
 Jeanie and Jeff Hawley Fund  
 Eleanor J. Hughes Fund  
 John and Miriam Knick Fund  
 Bob & Jan Lantz Miami U. Teacher Fund  
 Ami McClurkin Fund  
 Allyson Mescher Fund  
 Joseph R. Mills Fund  
 Fred Miltenberger Fund - Susan North Fund  
 Norton Family 4-H Fund  
 Oliver Fund for Versailles/Wittenberg  
 Gregory Olwine Arcanum Alumni Fund  
 James B. Phelan Fund  
 Pohl Transportation Fund  
 Road Less Traveled Fund  
 JC & Alice Schafer Fund  
 Schipfer Family Fund - Lois E. Snyder Fund  
 Neil E. Stemley Fund  
 John E. and Ella M. Stevenson Fund  
 Edwin, Mac & Marguerite Stoltz Fund  
 Steven Stucke Fund  
 Jan and Jim Thomas Fund  
 J. Howard Trump Art Fund  
 Versailles Masonic Lodge Fund  
 Paul C. and Helen D. Warner Fund  
 Sarah Whittaker Fund  
 Lori Michelle Williams Fund  
 Matthew Wuebker Fund - Ryan Wulber Fund

## High School Scholarships Open Feb. 16

High school seniors who attend school in Darke County may apply for scholarships from the Darke County Foundation.

Deadline is March 31, 2026.

Complete just one application to qualify for \$300,000 in awards.

Students may be going to 4-year colleges, 2-year colleges, or shorter vocational programs.

Approximately 70% of applicants receive awards!

Learn more about our scholarships and apply online at  
[www.darkecountyfoundation.org](http://www.darkecountyfoundation.org).