

UNITED
COMMUNITY
UNLIMITED
POTENTIAL



NEW ERA of **IMPACT**

2024 Annual Report

FOR GOOD

FOREVER

A MESSAGE TO OUR COMMUNITY

From our President & CEO, Heather Allender, and Board Chair, Roland Riggs



2024 marked a remarkable chapter in the history of Marietta Community Foundation. As we celebrated our 50th anniversary, we reflected on the legacy of giving that brought us here and the growing momentum propelling us into the future. It was a year filled with gratitude, celebration, and unprecedented impact.

Together, we achieved milestones that reflect the strength of our community and the depth of your trust. We surpassed \$60 million in assets and now steward over 400 funds, each one representing a commitment to lasting change.

Throughout the golden anniversary year, we did not just look back – we looked ahead. We launched new initiatives, deepened our partnerships, and celebrated local stories of hope and generosity. From commemorative events and community spotlights to impactful grantmaking, every moment served as a reminder of the power we hold, when we come together with purpose.

Building on the foundation of last year's theme, United Community, Unlimited Potential, we now enter A New Era of Impact. This year's theme signals a forward-facing mindset, one that embraces innovation, champions giving, and prepares us to meet the needs of tomorrow with energy and vision.

The legacy of the past 50 years has shaped who we are. But it is the work we are doing right now – and the partnerships we continue to build – that will shape the next 50. Our journey is far from over, and the path ahead is filled with promise.

Thank you for walking alongside us, believing in the power of local giving, and helping us create a stronger, more vibrant Washington County – for good, forever.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Heather Allender".

Heather Allender
President & CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Roland Riggs".

Roland Riggs
Board Chair



 Brian Stover Drone Photography

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2002 Board of Directors

50 YEARS

In 2024, Marietta Community Foundation celebrated 50 years of transforming generosity into lasting impact across Washington County. Throughout the year, we honored the story that led us here - one that began with a bold idea and a group of community-minded visionaries.

What followed was five decades of trust built, lives uplifted, and needs met. This milestone is not just a celebration of 50 years, but a celebration of purpose, people, and the enduring belief that giving back can shape a stronger future for us all.

Fifty years ago, they planted the seed. Today, we carry that legacy forward.

PAST BOARD

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Kin Brewer
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John A. Burnworth*
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Jennifer Christy
James M. Coutts*
Jonathan Dehmlow
William H. Donnelly
Eric Erb

Robert E. Evans*
Sally Evans
Prudence A. Fields
William A. Fields
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Jean G. Graham*
Carol A. Gutberlet
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Elizabeth L. Hadler*
Charles K. Heckler*
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Louise Holmes
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Paul T. Theisen*
William H. Thompson*
Marcy Wesel
Dee Wetz
Johnny Wharff
David A. Whitehead
James R. Williams*
Bonnie L. Witten

*Deceased

STAFF



Heather Allender
President & CEO



Britani Merritt
*Vice President, Donor
& Program Services*



Laney Hitchens
*Communications &
Marketing Director*



Charlotte Sweet
*Administrative
Assistant*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Roland Riggs
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Mike Buell
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Ryan Robinson
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Jill Witucky
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Christy Chavez



Aleece Dye



Ryan Elliott



Dan Fliehm



Jennifer Schenkel



Michelle Secrest



Teri Ann Zide

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David A. Baker
Carl L. Broughton*
Frances B. Flanders*
Elizabeth L. Hadler*
Robert E. Kirkbride
William E. Mildren, Sr.*
Norman J. Murray*
Emmett K. Smelser*
Teri Ann Zide

*Deceased

COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

Allan Beaver, Grants
Julia Brown, Grants
Brett Burns, Grants
Kim Harlow, Imagination Library
Michael Iadecola, Marketing
Abby Lord, Imagination Library
David Miller, Grants
Mary Lou Moegling, Scholarship
Carol Schneeberger, Personnel
Kaitlin Streater, Imagination Library
John Wharff III, Marketing
Katelin Wolfe, Scholarship, Imagination Library

IMPACTING LIVES

A YEAR OF GRANT

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS IN ACTION

COMMUNITY IMPACT & SIMPLE SOLUTIONS GRANTS: **\$426,792**

Unrestricted grant dollars that empower local nonprofits to address our region's most urgent needs and emerging opportunities.

FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS: **\$119,712**

Designated funds for specific areas of interest, enabling the Foundation to support grantmaking within those fields.

HARDSHIP & DISASTER RELIEF: **\$48,790**

Short-term aid for individuals facing financial hardship due to emergencies or natural disasters, and support for local children's extracurricular activities or essential needs.

NONPROFIT CHALLENGE: **\$50,000**

Established in 2015 to celebrate National Community Foundation Week, fostering innovation and resilience in the nonprofit sector.

DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY: **\$21,097**

Promoting a love of reading and preparing Washington County children for kindergarten by mailing a book to their home each month until their fifth birthday.

AGENCY AND DESIGNATED FUNDS: **\$1,954,111**

Agency funds created by nonprofit, educational or religious organizations, and Designated Funds set up by donors to benefit specific nonprofits.

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS: **\$643,884**

Allowing individuals, families, and businesses to be actively involved in their philanthropy and the grantmaking process.

SCHOLARSHIPS: **\$404,866**

Investing in the education of tomorrow's leaders through individual student scholarships.

TOTAL AWARDED: **\$3.66M**

MAKING



|| HISTORIC HARMAR BRIDGE

\$10,000 to support the revitalization of the Historic Harmar Bridge; the last operational hand-cranked swing bridge in the United States. Beyond preserving our local history and national treasure, restoring the bridge and surrounding festival area serves a long-term vision: increasing foot traffic to Marietta's West Side, strengthening local businesses, and enhancing economic vitality of the entire community.



|| LITTLE MUSKINGUM
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

\$10,000 to the Little Muskingum Volunteer Fire Department to support the purchase of a pre-owned fire truck; an essential step in enhancing emergency response times across Ludlow Township. This investment not only strengthens public safety in a rural and often hard-to-reach area, but also supports the dedicated volunteers who serve on the front lines of local emergencies.



|| FARM TO TABLE

Through the Farm to Table initiative, the Foundation purchased a dairy feeder at the Washington County Fair, had it processed locally, and donated over **300 pounds** of meat to the O'Neill Center. This program represents multi-generational support in action: uplifting local youth in agriculture, investing in food security for older adults, and modeling a new era of impact rooted in community connection, sustainability, and care across every stage of life.

25 Under 25

A New Era of Impact Begins

As Marietta Community Foundation celebrates 50 years of impact, we are reminded that legacies are not just built by looking back—they are shaped by looking forward. With half a century behind us, our vision is clear: the next era of impact belongs to the next generation. And in our vibrant, close-knit community, the future is already taking shape in powerful ways.

To honor this milestone and set the tone for decades to come, we introduced 25 Under 25; a campaign dedicated to recognizing young individuals who are already answering the call to lead, serve, and give back to Washington County. Each honoree, 25 years old or younger, represents the values we hold: selflessness, passion, creativity, and a belief that even small acts of kindness can create lasting change.

They prove what we have always believed to be true: philanthropy has no age limit. In celebrating them, we are not just recognizing what they have done—we are investing in what they will do. Their actions today are planting seeds for a stronger, more compassionate Washington County tomorrow.



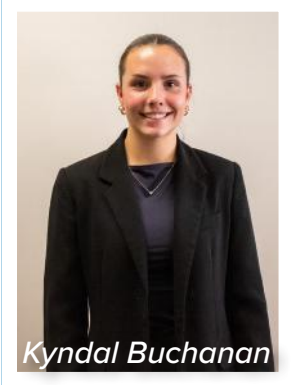
|| JARED FARNSWORTH

“Being selected as a 25 Under 25 honoree is an honor that reminds me how powerful service and dedication can be at any age. I hope to continue making an impact by using my voice and skills to improve undeserved communities and inspire others to lead as well.”



|| TAYLOR YOHO

“I was incredibly honored to be selected as one of the 25 Under 25 by Marietta Community Foundation—it meant so much to know my efforts were making a positive impact. I’m excited to stay involved through volunteer work, community engagement, and by returning to one of my greatest passions: teaching dance here in Marietta.”



Kyndal Buchanan



Sarah Burchett



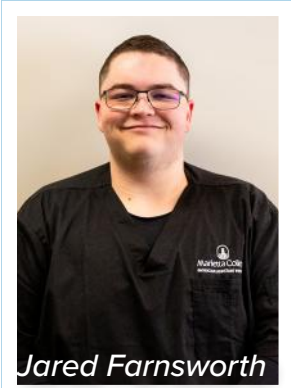
Laney Carpenter



Skye Elliott



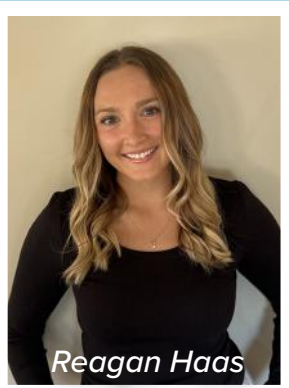
Sophie Evans



Jared Farnsworth



Nathaniel Godfrey



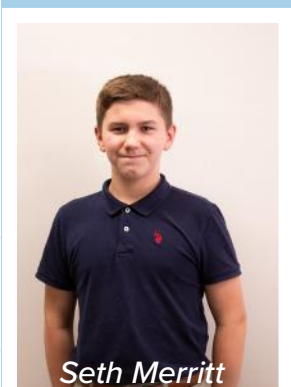
Reagan Haas



Kirsten Kroft



Jasmine Madison



Seth Merritt



Ezra Minard



Stephanie Ogden



Amanda Rauch



Briar Schilling



Kenzie Smith



Lyannd Smith



Cole Stine



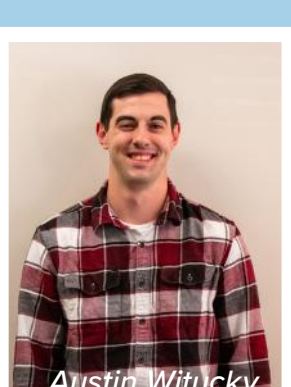
MaryEllen
Tokodi Ruth



Maquelah Walker



Saylor Wharff



Austin Witucky



Jamie Wunder



William Yannitell



Taylor Yoho

AUSTIN WITUCKY

Growing up in Marietta, Ohio, Austin Witucky was surrounded by a large family who lived their values through consistent acts of giving. From an early age, he saw how his parents and grandparents prioritized community; whether through Rotary meetings, local events, or quietly supporting neighbors in need. These early experiences planted the seed for Austin's own commitment to service.

Today, Austin is carrying that legacy forward as both a young professional and a rising community leader. He is part of a new generation of supporters at Marietta Community Foundation, those who are not only inspired by the past but committed to shaping the future.

After graduating from Marietta High School, Austin attended Muskingum University and later earned a graduate degree in accounting from Ohio University. Now working in the accounting department at Pioneer Pipe, his family's business, Austin balances professional life with a deep sense of civic responsibility.

In 2023, he joined the Marietta Noon Rotary Club, where he quickly found common ground with others passionate about service. He is also active in the Knights of Columbus, continuing a tradition of faith-based giving and leadership that has defined much of his family's journey.

But one moment in particular helped crystallize his understanding of community impact: the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. As a child, Austin watched his family and fellow Rotarians rally together to send relief supplies to those affected by the disaster. "That moment really stuck with me," he recalled. "It showed me that even a small community like ours could rise up and make a real difference."

That belief—that real impact comes from people stepping up, not just writing checks—guides Austin's approach to philanthropy today.



“Especially for younger people, giving financially is not always realistic,” he said “But I have learned that showing up, giving your time, and being part of the work...that kind of support can be just as powerful.”

His efforts have not gone unnoticed. In 2024, Austin was honored as one of Marietta Community Foundation’s inaugural “25 Under 25”; a program launched during the Foundation’s 50th anniversary to spotlight the next wave of changemakers in Washington County. For Austin, it is an acknowledgment of his dedication but also a reminder of the big shoes he is trying to fill.

“There is a lot of pressure following the example my family has set,” he said. “But I just try to ask myself, ‘What would they do in this situation?’ And lead with that same intention and dedication.”

As a multi-generational supporter of the Foundation, Austin sees this as a new era of impact; one built on the values of the past, but shaped by the energy and perspective of the present. He is not trying to reinvent the wheel; instead, he’s honoring what came before while carving out his own path forward.

“I just want to be someone the community can count on,” he said. “Whether it is through my work, volunteering, or just being available when someone needs a hand...that is what I think real impact looks like.”



Austin and his mother, Jill Witucky, MCF Board of Directors Secretary, at a #MCFinAction



Foxxie Photography

1788 LEGACY SOCIETY

By entrusting their charitable legacy to Marietta Community Foundation, members of the 1788 Legacy Society ensure that their values and vision continue to make a difference long after their lifetime. The Foundation, with its deep commitment to carrying out donor's intentions today, tomorrow, and forever, serves as a trusted steward of these lasting legacies, ensuring that the charitable impact of each member endures for generations to come.

Ryan & Heather Allender
 Frank & Virginia Amrine*
 Anonymous (2)
 Norman & Gertrude Baker*
 Bret & Cari Bicoy
 Ron & Melissa Bishop
 John & Pamela Bostic
 Susan E. Boyer
 Jerry and Jennylou Brock
 Jennifer E. Brooker
 Janet V. Chase & Theresa
 A. Fitzgerald
 F. Leonard & Helen G. Christy*
 Jack & Barb Conlon
 John & Dee Craig
 Harold* & Janet Cranston
 David & Trina Cummings
 W. Ryan Elliott

Eric & Lynn Erb
 William A. & Prudence
 A. Fields
 Stuart & Kimberly Goldsberry
 John F. Greacen*
 Jack & Mary Jane Haessly
 Charles & Patty Hall*
 Christopher W. Hall
 Larry & Nancy* Hall
 Carole Wylie Hancock
 Lila Hill*
 Ron & Louise Holmes
 Michael B. & Joyce B. Iaderosa
 Jack Louis Iams*
 Glen A. & Helen J. Imhoff
 Adriaan Janssens &
 Carol Christy*
 Richard* & Clare L. Kremer
 Charlotte Kuehn
 Jeremiah & Lyndsey Kuhn
 Karl & Karen Kumpf
 Charles & Marian Kurner*
 Lynn Ellis Lowe
 Susan Marsch*
 Virginia Mayle
 James S. & Brenda A.* Measell
 Joseph & Barbara Meek
 Jack & Barbara Moberg
 Alma Lou Moore*

F. Isabel Morris*
 Norman J. & Betsy
 Smith Murray*
 Robert C. Murray*
 Alf & Dell Nicholas
 Drs. Kenneth & Mary Owen*
 Walter E. Patton*
 David & Gisela Pfaff*
 David* & Patricia B. Phillips
 Karl Reuther* & Dr.
 Gayle Galan
 Roy & Ellen Snediker*
 Mark A. Stephan*
 Janice Stollar*
 William H. & Elsa E. Thompson*
 Glen "Pete" & Jean Thorne*
 Steve* & Inez Vekich
 Voisinet Family
 Edgar* & Suzanne Walters
 Kean A. Weaver*
 Joseph H. & Luada E. Wesel*
 John & Carol Wharff
 Kevin & Jill Witucky
 Terra Riffe Yoak
 Sandra Young*
 Sylvia Young*
 Teri Ann Zide

Deceased*

If you have designated Marietta Community Foundation in your estate plans and are not on the list, please let us know so that we may fully understand and honor your charitable intentions and include you in upcoming Legacy Society activities and communications

Scan here to fill out our Statement of Donor Intent.



FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION

At Marietta Community Foundation, we make philanthropy accessible and rewarding without charging administrative fees - a unique practice enabled by our generous Friends of the Foundation. Contributions to our administrative fund cover operational costs, allowing us to focus more resources on causes that matter most. This support directly impacts our ability to serve others, helping us sustain our mission and creating lasting positive change in Washington County.

Platinum \$250,000

Kay Callihan +
Tom Love +
Dr. James and Marilyn Mills* +
Anonymous

Gold \$150,000

Anonymous

Silver \$75,000

Karl Reuther* and Dr. Gayle Galan
Janice Stollar*

Bronze \$25,000

Dave and Arlene Archer
Eric & Lynn Erb
Allen and Tawni Love
Roland and Paula Riggs
William and Carol Schneeberger
Teri Ann's Inc.

Sterling \$1,000

Anonymous
Mary Antons
Artex Oil Company
Catlin and Natalie Ball
Jane Barnes
Jeff and Judy Bergen
Eddy Biehl and Dorinda Byers
Jim and Carol Bir
Susan Boyer
George and Nancy Broughton
Christopher and Candy Brunton

Michael and Rosanne Buell
Robert and Nancy Burton
Jim and Sylvie Caporale
Janet Chase and Theresa Fitzgerald
Brian and Christy Chavez
Jennifer Christy
Darrell and Ellen Cordar
John and Dee Craig
Travis and Brooke DeVold
William and Bonnie Donnelly
Ryan Elliott
Hap and Margaret Esbenshade III
William and Prudence Fields
Daniel and Elanda Fliehman
Daniel and Caroline Fouss
Frye Dental Group
Les and Theresa Futrell
Henry Goehring
Greg and Alice Greenwood
David and Leslie Haas
Dr. G. Whitmore* and Dr.
Carole Hancock
Judith Heinrich
William and Cheryl Hohman
Richard and Phyllis Holley
Ronald and Louise Holmes
Phil and Brenda Hunter
Matthew and Stacie Johnson
Paul and Barbara King
Dale and Jean Leeper
Beth Lepore
Charles and Lynn Lowe
Loyal Order of Moose #1823

Doug and Becky Mallett
McCarthy Family
Judith McCauley
Thomas and Laurie Munc
Edward and Karen* Osborne
Pete and Laura Pannier
Dr. Shane and Tatum Parmer
Dr. Charles and Jan Pickering
Rea Foundation Inc.
Robert Ritchey
Doug Robinson
Ryan and Katarina Robinson
Grant and Jingjing Schneider
Mark and Beth Schwendeman
William Scileppi
Rodney and Angie Scott
Dennis and Susan Sipe
Syensqo Marietta
Bill Thompson Youth Birding Trust
Darryl and Cynthia Ting
The Alfred E. Tonti Trust
Louis and Donna Urschel Jr.
David and Sarah Vandenberg
Lynn Vermaaten
David and Marcy Wesel
Tag and Dee Wetz
John and Carol Wharff
Frank Williams*
Kevin and Jill Witucky

*Deceased**
Charter Members +



Some values are not written down or spoken out loud; they are lived, day by day, generation to generation. For Eric and Lynn Erb, generosity is one of those values.

Eric, a Marietta native, and Lynn, originally from Williamstown, West Virginia, grew up in close-knit communities where generosity was a way of life. But the roots of their shared commitment to philanthropy run even deeper.

When Eric met Lynn, he was introduced to her grandfather, Frank Fenton – a name recognized for the iconic Fenton Art Glass but remembered by his family for something even more meaningful.

“My grandfather was one of the most generous people I have ever known,” Lynn shared. “He influenced us by sharing his concern for his community and leading by example, often behind the scenes. That type of giving... it made me want to be that kind of person too.”

That quiet example became the foundation for Eric and Lynn’s life together. Every year since they were married, the Erbs have set aside time at the end of the year to reflect on their financial goals. One promise they made early on has guided their journey: give more than we did the year before.

“That has always been our benchmark,” Eric said. “We sit down and talk about what we have been given, and how we can give more.”

Eric has long been a friend, supporter, and champion of Marietta Community Foundation. He served on the Board of Directors for more than 15 years, contributing both time and insight to help the organization grow. Though his board tenure has ended, his commitment has not.

“I was drawn to the Foundation early on because of its reputation and strong board leadership,” Eric said. “And that trust has only deepened. Even when I am not serving on the board, I stay connected to the mission because I believe so strongly in it.”



Taken during one of Eric Erb's board terms

ERIC & LYNN ERB

In 2022, Eric and Lynn joined the Foundation's Legacy Society, ensuring their impact will live on long after they are gone. And in 2024, they became Bronze-level Friends of the Foundation, underscoring their continued belief in the Foundation's ability to respond to the region's greatest needs.

Eric especially champions the power of unrestricted giving: ***"It's one of the most impactful ways to give. It shows you trust the Foundation to do what's best for the community, even when circumstances change."***

Lynn brings the same level of intentionality to her work with the Fenton Foundation, a private foundation that honors her family's legacy by supporting projects primarily in Williamstown and the surrounding region. In addition to this role, she has served for the past three years on the Parkersburg Area Community Foundation board, where she lends her time, insight, and passion for community-driven impact.

For both Lynn and Eric, the river that separates Ohio and West Virginia isn't a dividing line, it is a bridge between two sides of one community.

"This is one community," Lynn said. "It doesn't matter which side of the river you live on. We want to help the community as one."

At the heart of everything they do is their faith. Over the years, their generosity has been deeply shaped by their service to their church and their belief that giving is a calling and a responsibility.

"Our faith drives us," Eric shared. "Jesus teaches generosity—and we truly feel that is our purpose here and what we strive to live out every day."

While Eric and Lynn have always preferred to give quietly, they also recognize the importance of sharing their story.

"We don't need recognition," Eric said. "But we do believe it's important to talk about why we give, because if our story inspires someone else to give back, then it was worth sharing."

HONORARY & MEMORIAL GIFTS

Honorary and memorial gifts are more than a tribute—they are a catalyst for lasting change. Whether celebrating a life or honoring someone who continues to inspire, these gifts carry forward their legacy by fueling meaningful initiatives in our community. At Marietta Community Foundation, each contribution becomes part of a new era of impact; one rooted in remembrance, driven by purpose, and designed to uplift others for generations to come.

HONORARY

Dave & Arlene Archer
Janet Chase
Martha Crock
Robert & Ginny Ferguson
Margaret Fredericks
Tom Love
Britani Merritt
Greg Morus
Carol S. Wharff
Chris Wharff
John Wharff
Tim & Sherry Wittekind

MEMORIAL

Norma Adams*
Melissa M. Arnold*
Dr. Leroy & Mimi Ash*
Timothy Beardsley*
Jon F. Bergen*
Richard & Roma Bergen*
Sonny Bidwell*
Charlotte A. Binegar*
Betty Boersma*
Charles & Opal Bole*
Dr. Charles T. Bole II*
Andrea Bonnette*
Phyllis L. Bowersock*
Mark Bradley*
Stanton Brock*
David Broughton*

Dora Jean Bumgarner*
Dennie Burchett*
Hayden Carman*
Bill Cassidy*
Jonathan Christy*
Robert D. Chutes*
Daniel Cogswell*
Robert Coil*
Stephanie Coil*
Dan Cole*
Fred Combs*
Harry Corter
Thelma Crabtree*
Dr. Curtis & Marilyn Dehmlow*
Mike Depue*
John Erb*
Patricia J. Fenton*
Susan M. Ferguson*
William Fischer*
Jean Ford*
Andrew Fourman*
Matt Fourman*
Donald & Harla Gardner*
Lee Green*
Juanita Grosz*
Dr. Tom Halliday*
Richard Hanf*
Gwyn Hartman*
William “Bill” Hathaway*
Judith M. Dyar Hile*

Lila Hill*
Elizabeth Hopper*
James “Jim” E. Huck Sr.*
David Hunter*
Gregory Hunter*
A.J. Jones*
James King Jr.*
Ruth Krieg*
Dick LaBarre*
Sandra D. Lane*
Jeri Lang*
Debbie Lyons*
Ginger McConnell*
William McCoy*
Dave McCray*
Marilyn Meeks*
Marilyn Mills*
Hazel A. Moore*
Van Olmhausen*
Karen Osborne*
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Bill Pierson*
Peter Polites*
R. Glenn Ray*
H. Juanita Robinson*
Larry Schaad*
Carlton Schramm*
Dr. Edward Scileppi*
Rita Shrider*

Carol Silvus*
Gregg Simmons*
Larry Slater*
Emmett Smelser*
Paul Smith*
Stephanie Smith*
Diana Somerville*
Frank & Marjorie Stacy*
Richard C. Stauch*
Hayward Strecker*
Diana Thatcher*
Bobby Thrasher*
Ralph Tornes Jr.*
Martha J. Townsend*
Thomas Vadakin*
Joyce Wallace*
John Walsh Sr.*
William & Carol Watson*
David M. Wells*
Helene Brack Wilson*
Colt Wynn*
Richard Yoho*

Deceased*

RICHARD ‘DICK’ HANF

If you knew Richard “Dick” Hanf, you knew reliability. You knew kindness. You knew someone who made showing up look effortless.

Dick was a proud U.S. Navy veteran who believed deeply in serving others. That commitment was most visible in the community he loved. As a founding member of the Rotary Club of Marietta-Morning, he served for years as club treasurer, but his truest joy came in hands-on work—especially in the Rotary community garden at the corner of 7th and Pike Street.

“He was the kind of person you could always count on,” remembers his friend and fellow Rotarian, David Haas. “You never had to wonder if Dick would be there. He didn’t just volunteer for things; he put his whole heart into them.... That’s rare, and it’s something I’ll always miss about him.”

That same devotion carried into his role as a father. Dick’s son and daughter remember him not just as a parent, but as their biggest cheerleader. Whether it was a late-night band performance or a crack-of-dawn crew regatta, he was there—clapping, encouraging, and making them feel like their passions were his passions too.

Dick also found joy in life’s simpler pleasures: good conversation, the satisfaction of a well-tended garden, and the reward of sharing what he grew. Friends recall that he was always quick to laugh, never too busy to help, and somehow made everyone feel like they were important to him.

That spirit of care and service continues today through the Richard B. Hanf Memorial Fund at Marietta Community Foundation. Created through the generosity of family and friends, the fund supports permanent improvements to public spaces and programs Dick cared about, including Marietta High School’s crew team and band.

As David puts it, “Some people leave behind a building or a plaque with their name on it. Dick left behind a feeling in this community—a sense of care, kindness, and trust. This fund means that feeling can keep growing.”



TONY & JESSICA HUFFMAN

Before they ever met, Tony and Jessica Huffman were living parallel lives—just a river apart.

On one side of the river, Jessica grew up in the close-knit town of Williamstown, West Virginia, shaped by neighbors and mentors whose quiet strength would guide her for years to come. Across the water, in a rural stretch just outside Marietta, Ohio, Tony was raised with a similar foundation—where hard work was expected, and helping others was just what you did.

Those values shaped who they became. Today, the Huffmans are raising six children, leading in their professions, and giving back in ways that are helping define a new era of impact in Washington County.

Jessica built her career in healthcare with a deep commitment to clinical excellence and compassionate leadership. As Assistant Vice President of System Nursing Services for WVU Medicine, she now oversees patient care strategies across multiple states—shaping how thousands of patients experience care and how hundreds of nurses grow in their roles.

Tony's path was rooted in education and a belief in the potential of every student. Over the years, he moved into leadership roles—first as a principal, and now as Superintendent of the Washington County Career Center. In that role, he's helped expand access to career and technical education, ensuring students graduate with not just diplomas, but direction and opportunity.

But their influence extends well beyond their careers. Tony has long been involved in the Marietta Noon Rotary Club, where he's served as president, grant coordinator, and a member of the scholarship committee. He also volunteers with the Southeastern Ohio Port Authority, collaborating with partners to attract investment, remove barriers, and create new opportunities for growth.

"I'm especially passionate about Rotary and the Port Authority because they bring leaders together to make this county a place where people want to live, work, and raise their families," Tony said.

Jessica's community work took shape in a different, but equally meaningful way. In 2020, during the uncertainty of the pandemic, she learned about 100 Women Who Care, a giving circle gaining momentum in other cities. Inspired, she invited a group of friends to dinner at a local restaurant to share the concept. What started as a simple pitch turned into a shared mission. "Most of the women are mothers, and for them, this is like a girls' night out—but one where they can also give back in a meaningful way," she said. "It creates a space where women connect, support each other, and make a real impact." Since launching, the group has raised and granted nearly \$80,000 to local nonprofits—proof of how powerful collective generosity can be.

Then, in early 2024, the Huffman's lives took an unexpected turn. Jessica was diagnosed with breast cancer.



“It was humbling,” she said. “I’ve always been the one giving care. Suddenly, I had to learn how to receive it.” Tony reflected on that time: “The diagnosis was hard. But watching Jessica face this battle with such courage showed me a whole new kind of strength.”

The community responded in kind. Meals were delivered. Prayers were sent. One moment stood out to Jessica—the day she bought a wig. “It was the same color as my hair before the diagnosis. The moment I put it on, I felt like myself again,” she said. “It reminded me who I was before cancer—who I still am beneath everything. That small act helped me hold on to a part of myself when so much felt like it was slipping away.”

That experience sparked a new chapter of giving. In May 2025, Tony and Jessica created the Jessica Huffman Women’s Cancer Fund at Marietta Community Foundation. The fund focuses on the unseen costs of cancer—wigs, lash serums, cooling caps, nutritious meals, massage therapy. “These aren’t luxuries,” Jessica said. “They’re tools for dignity. When everything feels like it’s being taken from you, these small acts of kindness help you hold on to who you are.”

Just recently, in June 2025, the fund provided a wig for Mikayla Mugrage, who is currently battling stage 4 metastatic breast cancer. Jessica spoke about the experience with deep emotion.

“It was a powerful reminder of why we do this,” she said. “Seeing Mikayla’s reaction—how something so simple could bring back a sense of normalcy and dignity—was truly moving. Moments like that give this fund its meaning.”



NATHAN & ABBY LORD

When Nathan Lord was young, he moved from Texas to West Virginia to Maine and finally to Marietta, Ohio at the age of ten. A move that would begin to shape much of his family and professional life.

Abby Lord's story began a few states over in a small town outside Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She came to Marietta to attend college and row on the Marietta College team, not knowing then that the river city would one day become the place she would build her life. After graduation, she returned to Pittsburgh, but when an opportunity arose to coach rowing at her alma mater, she packed up and headed back.

"When I came back," Abby recalled, "I hoped this would become my home."

She began attending Freedom Gate Church, led for decades by Nathan's grandfather, and for the past 20 years by his father. It was there, that Nathan and Abby met and a few years later were married.

Together, they are planting deep roots in this community, and they are raising their family to do the same. Nathan said, "Everybody is supposed to be somewhere and we feel this is the 'somewhere' we are meant to be."

That sense of purpose guides the way they live. Nathan serves on the board of the Marietta Area Chamber of Commerce, leads within Freedom Gate Church, and plays an active role in various community development initiatives.

"Communities and people are made to thrive and prosper, and healthy things grow," Nathan said. "If we want to see our communities reach their potential, we have to invest in keeping them healthy."

Abby brings the same intentionality to her community work. She serves on the Washington County Dolly Parton Imagination Library Committee, inspired not just by its mission but by its relevance to her own life. "As a mom of young kids, I know how important early literacy is," she explained. "Books lay the foundation for learning, and for life. I love being part of something that gives kids that kind of start."

Their commitment to service is not limited to occasional projects; it is a lifestyle they try to model every day for their children.

"I often explain to them why I am involved and why it matters. I want them to grow up seeing that community is not just something you live in...it is something you help build." Abby said.

For Nathan, that legacy starts with the little things. "When I am leaving for work or dropping my three and a half year old son, Alexander, off at school, I tell him he is a leader," he shared. "Then I ask him, 'What does that mean?' He fumbles around but eventually will say— 'to help others and to build things. That is what we are trying to instill. That serving and leading are the same.'"

Still, they are quick to say they have not figured it all out. "We are a work in progress," Abby laughed. "Perfectly imperfect."



But over time, they have discovered that it's less about doing everything and more about doing what matters. "I have to remind myself we are human "beings" not human "doers";" Nathan said.

Their faith is the foundation of their outlook; it anchors their approach to service and generosity. "We believe that God gives each person unique skills and talents," Abby said. "And what we choose to do with those things matters. It matters to us and the world around us."

When it comes to shaping the future of Washington County, both Nathan and Abby see Marietta Community Foundation as a vital partner in progress.

"I've worked closely with Heather and the team for some time now," Nathan said. ***"There are three things that stand out to me where the Foundation has a huge community impact. It bridges generations by honoring our history while looking forward. It supports visionaries by turning their passion into impact. And it promotes a culture of generosity."***

Abby agreed. "The Foundation has this incredible perspective," she said. "It sees the big picture. It connects people and ideas in ways that allow real impact to take place."

Their advice to other young families? Don't wait for the perfect opportunity, just start.

"Find something you are passionate about and be a part of it," Abby encouraged. "The organizations and the people in this community are waiting for your leadership," Nathan added. "The community needs each one of us to grow because the culture inside of us will create the culture around us".

With hearts rooted in purpose and eyes set on the future, the Lords represent a new generation of changemakers shaping a lasting legacy for Washington County.



FINANCIAL

ASSET COMPARISON

	2024	2023
Investments	\$62,290,334	\$52,977,969
Cash	\$47,008	\$23,284
Equipment	\$5,101	\$2,460
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(\$1,140)	(\$2,325)
TOTAL ASSETS	\$62,341,303	\$53,001,388

LIABILITIES & NET ASSET COMPARISON

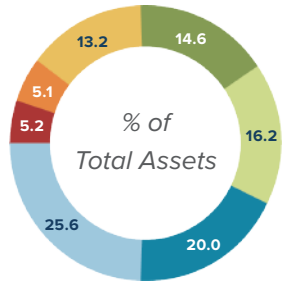
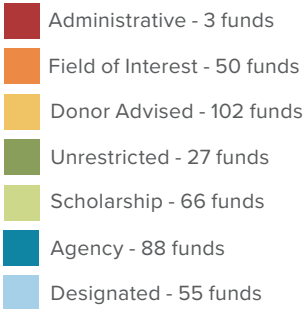
	2024	2023
Agency Funds (Liabilities)	\$12,448,970	\$9,388,670
Without Donor Restrictions	\$12,344,622	\$11,597,575
With Donor Restrictions	\$37,547,711	\$32,015,143
TOTAL LIABILITIES & ASSETS	\$62,341,303	\$53,001,388

“A tremendous 50th anniversary campaign and celebration, coupled with brand new initiatives like 25 Under 25, helped to generate our largest and most diverse year of giving. **Additionally, this giving combined with the highest year-over-year portfolio growth has bolstered our assets beyond \$60M, also a record mark for the Foundation.** These results should truly give all Foundation constituents a high level of confidence and excitement that we are executing our mission and our community impact to Washington County will be unmatched in the years to come.”

Ryan Robinson
Board of Directors, Treasurer



FUND



AT A GLANCE

\$972

AVERAGE
GIFT

624

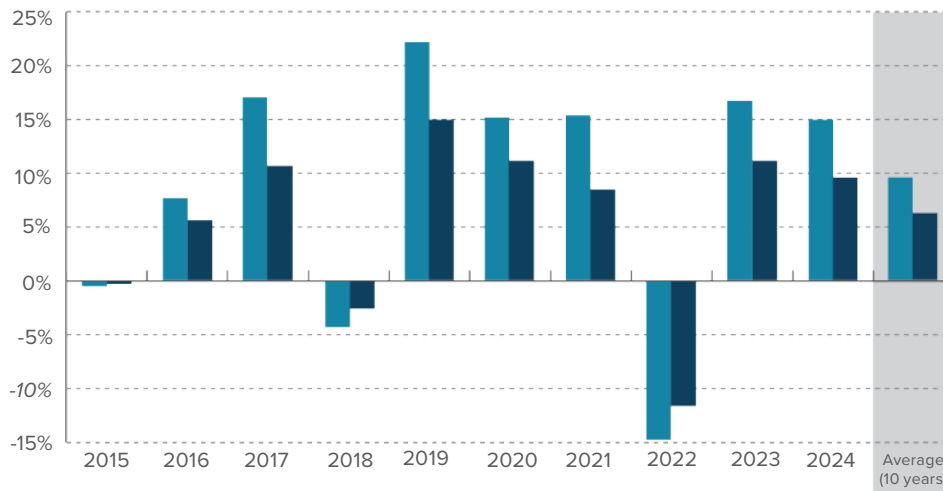
DONORS

391

FUNDS

Disclaimer: The information presented in this section is based on our 2024 Financial Report. While we believe this data to be accurate, the figures are currently pending external audit verification and should be regarded as preliminary. We appreciate your understanding as we strive to uphold transparency and accuracy in our reporting.

OVERVIEW

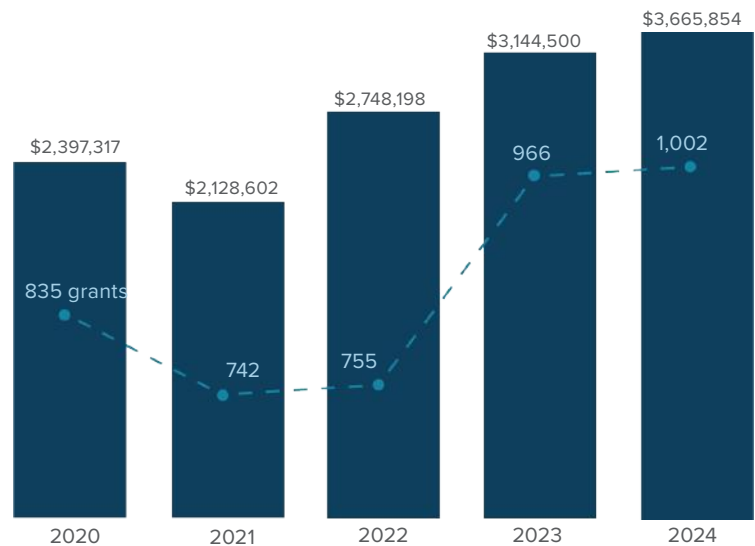


INVESTMENT GROWTH

Investment growth allows the Foundation to maximize donor impact and provide long-term, sustainable support for our community. It ensures gifts made today continue to make a difference for generations to come.

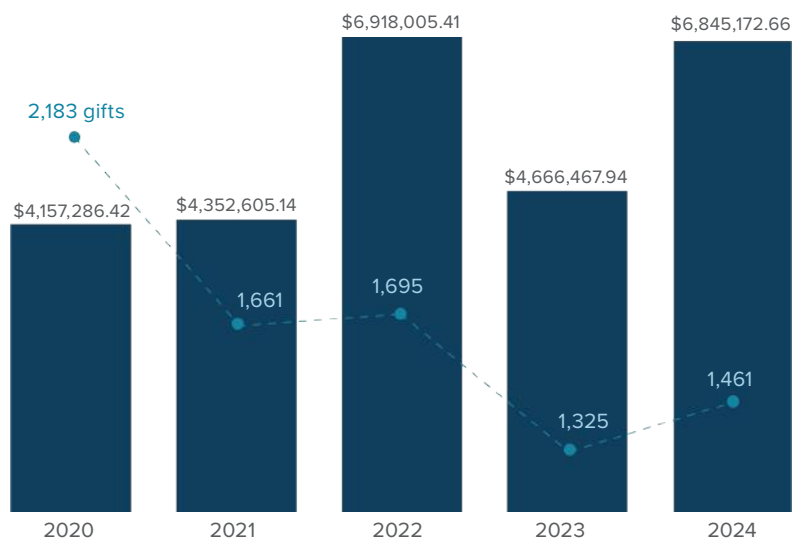
GRANTS DISTRIBUTED TO THE COMMUNITY

In 2024, a new era of impact took root in Washington County as **1,002 grants** totaling **\$3,665,854** were awarded to local nonprofits. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we have awarded out a total of **\$34 Million** to organizations in our community!



GIFTS RECEIVED FOR THE COMMUNITY

In 2024, the Foundation received more than **\$6.8 Million** in new donations. During the last ten years, generous donors have made gifts totaling more than **\$53 Million**!





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Step Into the Story. Shape What's Next.

At Marietta Community Foundation, we are not just reflecting on the past, we are building the future. Every story in this report is a testament to what is possible when generosity meets purpose. But our work is far from done.

You can be part of what's next.

Whether it is a one-time gift or a recurring donation, your support fuels the projects, people, and progress that will define the next 50 years.

Your community is waiting on you. Give now. Scan the QR to take the next step in your philanthropic journey with us.



Be more than a reader of this story. Be the reason it continues.