

LEGACY



DEC 2025

The Community Foundation
OF MUNCIE & DELAWARE COUNTY

VOL. 35 NO. 3



Carnegie Light Show



Let's Chat

As we reflect on the stories in this issue of Legacy, one thing is clear: bold giving makes a lasting difference.

You'll read about Patricia Schaefer, whose early belief in unrestricted giving helped shape the Foundation's ability to respond to community needs for decades. You'll also see how that same kind of giving made it possible to train more EMTs, strengthening emergency response across Delaware County.

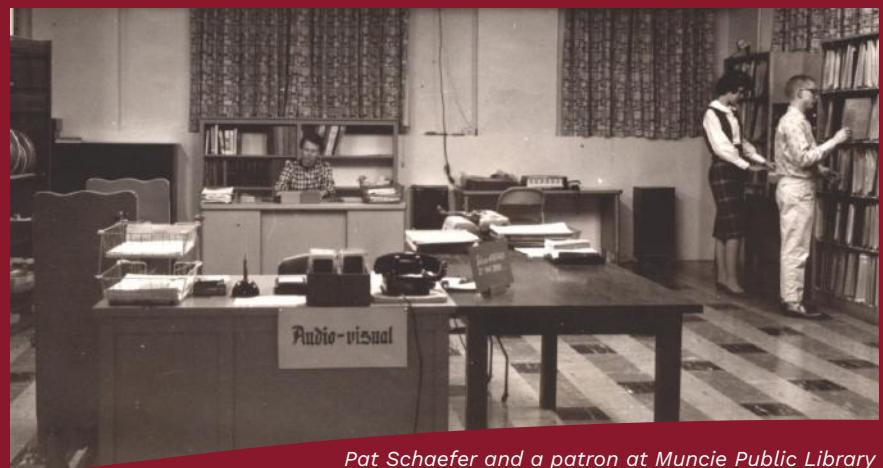
These stories are different in scale and style, but they share a common thread: unrestricted giving fuels resilience. It allows us to meet the moment, support innovation, and invest in long-term solutions.

Thank you for being a part of The Community Foundation. Whether you've given for years or are just beginning your philanthropic journey, your generosity helps build our community today, tomorrow, and always.

Let's keep building together.

Marcy Minton
President & CEO

From Quiet Giving to Bold Impact Honoring Patricia Schaefer's Legacy



Pat Schaefer and a patron at Muncie Public Library

Bold Vision Then

In 1987, just a few years after The Community Foundation of Muncie and Delaware County was established, Patricia Schaefer made her first unrestricted gift. It was a quiet act—typical of Pat's style—but one that would grow into a legacy of extraordinary impact.

Over the next four decades, Pat became one of the Foundation's most generous and thoughtful supporters. Her giving exceeded \$1 million during her lifetime which continues to support Community Grants and special projects today.

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Pat's belief in the power of unrestricted giving was bold. She understood that the needs of a community change over time—and that the best way to meet those needs is through flexible, responsive funding. In 2014, when the Foundation launched the Difference Maker Challenge to grow its unrestricted funds, Pat stepped forward as a lead donor. True to form, she gave anonymously, letting the impact speak for itself.

Her legacy also includes service on the Foundation's Advisory Board and Grant Policy Committee, where she helped shape grantmaking strategies and deepen the Foundation's understanding of local needs. She supported the creation of designated endowment funds for nonprofit sustainability and championed causes close to her heart—arts, education, animal welfare, and community enrichment.

Pat's story is a reminder that bold visions don't always come with fanfare. Sometimes, they come with quiet consistency, deep care, and a belief in building something that lasts.



Bold Vision Now

Today, we invite you to carry that vision forward.

As we approach the end of the year, your unrestricted gift to The Community Foundation can help ensure that we remain relevant, responsive, and ready to meet the needs of Muncie and Delaware County—whatever the future holds.

Unrestricted giving fuels our ability to act quickly, support innovation, and invest in long-term solutions. It's the kind of giving that Pat believed in—and the kind of giving that builds a stronger community for all of us.

Your unrestricted gift today will build a better tomorrow for Muncie and Delaware County.

Patricia Schaefer's legacy lives on in every grant awarded, every nonprofit strengthened, and every life touched by the work of The Community Foundation. Now, it's your turn to be part of that story.

Be bold. Be generous. Build tomorrow today.

\$300K Awarded to Community Organizations

Community Grants provide nonprofit organizations serving Muncie and Delaware County with the opportunity to apply for funding to support their work. Grants are awarded to address the broad needs of Muncie and Delaware County. The Board of Directors of The Community Foundation approved 28 Community Grants totaling \$300,436 during the third and fourth quarters of 2025.

American Red Cross	Guardian Advocates	Muncie Delaware County
The Arc of Indiana	Indiana University Health Foundation	Area Senior Citizens Center
Boys & Girls Clubs of Muncie	Indiana Youth Institute	Muncie Mission
BY5 Early Childhood Initiative	Little Red Door Cancer Agency	Muncie OUTReach
Christian Ministries of Delaware County	Masterworks Chorale	Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana
Classroom Connections of East Central Indiana	Minnetrista	Selma Lions Club
College Mentors for Kids	Muncie Action Plan	Christmas in Selma Event
Delaware-Muncie Metropolitan Planning Commission	Muncie Area Youth for Christ	Yorktown Sports Park
Forge ECI	Muncie Community Schools	Youth Symphony Orchestras of East Central Indiana
	Muncie Public Library	Whitely Community Council

Ready for Anything: How Unrestricted Giving Builds a Resilient Delaware County

When an emergency hits, an ambulance siren signals that help is on the way. Across Delaware County, emergency response departments are experiencing a shortage of certified EMTs. In a 2025 grant application, the Daleville-Salem Township Fire Territory explained that on any given day, Daleville EMTs might cover an area from Middletown to Gaston because those departments didn't have anyone available.

Daleville-Salem Township Fire Chief Glen Tomlinson approached The Community Foundation with an idea. His request was for a \$3,500 grant to support training for four local EMTs to certify them as Emergency Medical Services Primary Instructors. With this training, these EMTs could offer EMT classes to all Delaware County departments, which builds a stronger, more connected emergency response system.

Thanks to a grant from the **Unrestricted Fund of The Community Foundation**, Daleville EMTs completed their certifications, and the department launched a community-wide training program. The first round of EMT-basic and EMT-advanced classes wrapped up the first week of November. With more qualified EMTs, we have a safer, more resilient community. We are ready for whatever comes next.



Daleville Fall Frenzy Festival

Join us in building a resilient Delaware County.

When a need arises—like training more EMTs to keep our community safe—unrestricted giving makes it possible to act quickly. Your gift to the Unrestricted Fund ensures we're ready for whatever comes next.

Unrestricted Funds Fuel Flexibility

Because of donors who give without restrictions, The Community Foundation can respond to urgent needs—quickly and strategically. Whether it's training first responders, supporting youth programs, or revitalizing public spaces, unrestricted giving helps us meet the moment.



Community Grants have been awarded from the Unrestricted Fund of The Community Foundation and the following funds:

Bassett Family Fund, Michael N. Baur Fund, Forrest L. and Mary E. Bowers Family Legacy Fund, Gordon and Pam Cox Fund, Day Star Center Fund, **Trent and Karen Dowling Fund**, Ric and Lisa Dwenger Family Fund, Mark and Molly Ervin Fund, Linda and Connie Gregory Fund, Greg and Molly Harty Fund, Heeter Family Fund, Jane E. Hughes Fund, KAKATU Foundation/David and Joanna Meeks Fund, John C. Kelly and Marcia Ressler Kelly Fund, Laura Stanley Keppler Fund, Harry and Janet Kitselman Fund, Jeff and Beth Lang Fund, LEAP Managed IT Fund, Liberty Perry Selma Town Endowment Fund, Michael O. and Nicole T. Lunsford Fund, Maxon Foundation Fund, Todd and Janie Murray Family Fund, Mutual Legacy Fund, Jim and Mary Rosema Fund, Nancy J. Smith Fund, Charles and Claudia Sursa Unrestricted Endowment Fund, David and Mary Jane Sursa Fund, Natalie LaShay Teague Fund, Gary and Amy Thomas Fund, Wayne E. and Carolyn K. Thomas Fund, Faye Wingate Fund, Town of Yorktown Endowment Fund

Trent & Karen Dowling



“Our community has helped develop us and invested in us - in our careers, as a couple, in our faith, as neighbors, in learning to serve, in our parenting, in cultural belonging, and so much more - so we believe an unrestricted fund is a great way to give back. It's **flexible, enduring, and rooted in the community** that has helped shape us and continues to inspire us every day.”



The Community Foundation
OF MUNCIE & DELAWARE COUNTY

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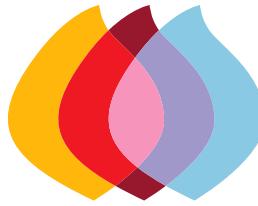
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FOUNDATION**

*Confirmed in Compliance with
Community Foundations
National Standards*

Bold Visions. *Lasting Impact.*

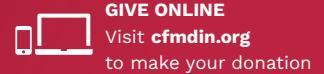
You can join us to carry bold vision forward. Your support of the **Unrestricted Fund** fuels quick action, innovation, and lasting change for a bright future.



TODAY. TOMORROW. ALWAYS.



Give Today
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GIVE BY MAIL
Send your donation to
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Legacy is a publication of The Community Foundation of Muncie & Delaware County, Inc.

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Contact Us Today!

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Memorials and Honorariums

The following individuals were remembered or honored through gifts to The Community Foundation from July 1st to October 31st, 2025.

Memorials

Maraby Allardt
Kevin Bergan
Teresa Brengman
Alyx Brinkman
Patricia and Franklyn Brinkman
Becky Cashdollar
Paul and Clarice Davis
Scott DeVoe
Jacquelynn (Jackie) Dillon
Steve Dingledine
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Bob and Diane Paske

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Margaret Ann Slauter
Jim and Patsy Smith
Larry and Jeanine Souders
Dylan Stafford
Ronald W. Terry
Drew Thurston
Deborah Todd
Jean Trent
Robert Wyne
Nancy Zirkle

Honorariums

Stefan and Joan Anderson
Floyd Clinton Bird
Wil Davis
Mary Dollison
Connie Gregory
Pat Guize
Jeff Heavilon
Tracy Lewis
Marcy Minton
Lee Nicholson
Robert and Arlene Rhoades
Pete Samuels
David Stocker
Richard and Judy Valos
Members of Exchange Club

Pets

Max and Roxie
Ollie