

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

OF THE FOX RIVER VALLEY



Fall 2018 E-Newsletter



***"Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much."***

- Helen Keller

Dear Friends of the
Community Foundation,

In 1943, Charles Hoefler, then publisher of the Aurora Beacon-News, knew that "together we can do so much". He began by convening a group of community leaders to study post-war plans for a better Aurora. Weekly luncheon meetings were held "at the round table" in the Elks Club in downtown Aurora. In 1948, those weekly luncheons became the The Aurora Foundation. Seventy years later, collaboration remains paramount as the Community Foundation continues to grow, combining local philanthropists who want to make a difference with noble causes in our communities.

Whether it's community and Board members sitting together to review the Foundation's annual scholarship applications, local grantees collaborating on best practices, or professional advisors discussing the Foundation's value-add services with their clients, when the community comes together to support philanthropy we are truly "Better Together".

This year, the Community Foundation celebrated its 70th Anniversary. In June, grantees, community members, Board members and donors came together to recognize the dedication of more than seven decades of generosity. We acknowledged individuals who contributed to the formation and growth of the Foundation, and we awarded grants to organizations that are providing valuable services to our communities today. It was truly a celebration of past, present, and future philanthropic collaboration.

As we look forward with to the next seventy years with great anticipation, may we never forget that, "alone we can do so little; together we can do so much", for we are truly better together.

All the best,

Jeffery J. Hartman
President & CEO

New Funds

100 Men Fox Valley Fund

Advanced Placement Funding Campaign Fund

AEEF STEM-STEAM Initiative Fund

Alley Art Festival Fund

AVAC Memorial Brick Fund

AVAC Service Dog Fund

AVAC Veteran Assistance Fund

Behavioral Health Crisis Stabilization Unit at Presence Mercy Medical Center Fund

Downtown Taste Fund

Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra Endowment Fund

Geneva History Museum Endowment Fund

Hall of Honor Relocation Project Fund

Isla Mae "Tish" Evers Memorial Endowment Fund

Jeff & Jamie Cali Scholarship Endowment Fund

Mendoza Foundation Scholarship Fund

Reddick Firefighters Association Fund

Wally Smith Playground Fund

Wednesdays at the Plaza Fund

Yorkville Historic Preservation Society Fund

Dates & Deadlines

Grantmaking

Letters of Intent were due September 30, 2018 for the fall grant cycle. Organizations who received approval to submit a full

FINANCIAL UPDATE

AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

MORE THAN
\$94.3
million
IN ASSETS

MORE THAN
\$1.1
million
IN SCHOLARSHIPS
ISSUED

MORE THAN
\$3.2
million
IN GRANTS MADE

A TOTAL OF
536
FUNDS

PANEL DISCUSSION

JEFF HARTMAN TALKS DAFs

On Oct. 17, Jeff will participate in a panel discussion hosted by the Suburban Chicago Planned Giving Council. The discussion, titled "**Demystifying Donor-Advised Funds: How They Can Benefit Clients, Charities & Communities**", will cover DAF strategies, best practices under the new tax law, and more. To learn more about the event, click [here](#).



DONATING TO A SCHOLARSHIP FUND

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

School is in full swing, and for many students, applying to colleges and applying for scholarships go hand in hand. Receiving a scholarship can ease financial burdens and open the door to educational opportunities that might not have otherwise been feasible.



Thanks to generous donors who share our passion for education, we awarded **381 scholarships this year, totaling nearly \$836,000!** We're grateful for the outpouring of charitable donations that make tangible differences in young lives.

application need to have an application submitted by November 1, 2018.

If you are interested in submitting a Letter of Intent for the spring grant cycle, they will be available February 1, 2019 - March 30, 2019.

For more information, view our [Grant Guidelines](#).

Scholarships

Scholarship applications will be available on our website on Nov. 20. Until then, you can view our [2018 Scholarship Program Guide](#), where you'll find eligibility requirements, scholarship availability, and more.

Our Donors

We are deeply grateful to the individuals, businesses and organizations that commit to the charitable needs of the community. Follow the links below to view this year's donors.

[2018 1st Quarter Gifts](#)
[2018 2nd Quarter Gifts](#)

Interested in donating to one of our scholarship funds? View the full list [here](#). Or, click [here](#) to learn more about creating your own fund.

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHTS

MAKING TECHNOLOGY ACCESSIBLE

This spring, two of our grants fulfilled requests for computer equipment for agencies in our service area. Both agencies have a passion for serving the underserved.



At Risk Mentoring (ARM) in Aurora provides "access and availability of technology and progressive problem solving to children who have been labeled as 'at-risk' by their school or social service agency". President David E. Smith, Jr., says ARM reaches out to economically and geographically disadvantaged youth that other organizations may not service. The Community Foundation grant supported the inception of ARM's Mobile Computer Lab, which brings important technology to areas that wouldn't otherwise have access to it.



The **Joshua Tree Community** in Geneva provides programs for adults who are mildly intellectually disabled and are no longer enrolled in public education. The programs emphasize health, recreation, special events, and more to create an enriching, inclusive experience. Funding provided by the Community Foundation for a new computer supports Joshua Tree Community in its capacity to grow as an organization and effectively operate its programs.

STAY CONNECTED



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