

FOUNDATION CONNECTION



IMPORTANT UPDATES & DEADLINES



- **Cycle 2 Preliminary Grant Application Due:** May 13
- **Women's Giving Circle:** May 15 at Ale House
- **Summer Hours Begin:** May 24
- **Memorial Day - Foundation Office Closed:** May 27

35 YEARS OF COMMUNITY IMPACT



Fairfield County Foundation Hosts Dinner Event to Celebrate 35 Years of Community Impact

On Wednesday, April 17th, the Foundation hosted a special dinner celebration at Ale House 1890 to pay tribute to this significant milestone and recognize the generous contributions of donors and supporters throughout Fairfield County who have made the work of the Foundation possible.



Eleanor Hood Receives 2024 Don C. Wendel Legacy Award

The Fairfield County Foundation was pleased to present the 2024 Don C. Wendel Legacy Award to Eleanor Hood as part of the anniversary celebration.

“Eleanor was very instrumental in the growth of the Foundation, from her role on the Board to her support in helping us trademark our logo. She is a trusted role model for female leaders across the community and her example of tenacity, creativity and generosity will have ripple effects for generations to come,” said Amy Eyman, CEO of the Fairfield County Foundation. “We are honored to be able to recognize her commitment to our community by presenting her with this award.”



Eleanor served on the Board of Trustees of the Foundation from 1996 - 2001. She is an active member of the Ambassadors’ Club and the Women’s Giving Circle. She and her late husband, Dr. Henry Hood, established a scholarship at the Foundation in December 2016. The Henry and Eleanor Hood Fund is for graduates of Lancaster High School who completed the LHS STEM program and who have been admitted to an accredited four-year college or university majoring in

engineering or biomedical sciences. In addition, Eleanor was a long-time board member for Park National Bank and was part of a small group of local citizens who started the Lancaster Festival in 1985. She served as a volunteer co-director with Barbara Hunzicker until 2000 and is currently an honorary director of the Lancaster Festival.

The Don C. Wendel Legacy Award is named for the first Chairman of the Fairfield County Foundation Board of Trustees. It is given to community members who have been instrumental in the success of philanthropy and who have made a significant contribution to our community. Previous recipients of the award include Judge Farrell Jackson, Robert Johnston, William Sitterley and Dave and June Harcum.

April Project - Tree Planting

The first project in celebration of the Foundation's 35th anniversary was a donation of 36 trees, split evenly among the Lancaster Parks and Recreation Department and the Fairfield County Park District. These trees were planted by staff and volunteers throughout several parks in Fairfield County.

Lancaster Parks and Recreation Superintendent Steve Gayfield shared the following statement of gratitude: "I want to take the opportunity to say thank you to the Fairfield County Foundation for the tree donation made to the Lancaster City Parks. The trees, planted with volunteer assistance, will beautify and shade our parks for years to come!"

Special thank you to Fairfield County Foundation Board Members Eileen Competti (Board Chair), Connor Smith (Treasurer), and Deb Smith (Vice Chair) for joining us for these photos.

This is just the first of many [monthly projects](#) the Foundation will be supporting this year to celebrate 35 years of community impact. Stay tuned for next month when we partner with The Senior Hub: Meals on Wheels of Fairfield County to provide gift cards to local seniors.

If you are interested in supporting these efforts, please visit our [website](#) to donate to the Fairfield County Foundation Community Impact Fund.



April Project

Lancaster Parks & Recreation
and
Fairfield County Park District



SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE



2024-2025 Scholarship Applications Under Review

The 2024-2025 scholarship application is closed. Review of scholarship applications has begun and will continue through early June. Because of the delay to FAFSA, students only had their ESTIMATED SAI at the time of submission. Once students receive their FINAL SAI from the FAFSA, we are asking that they please email a copy to Andrea Spires at aspire@fairfieldcountyfoundation.org, so we can update the application with the correct information.

If there are any changes to your plans for the 2024-2025 school year, including a change in school, major or other financial aid received, that would require a change to the information submitted in your original application, please email the changes to aspire@fairfieldcountyfoundation.org.

Once review is complete, students who receive a scholarship offer from an online scholarship will be notified via the email address used to log on to their account. Not all scholarships are awarded at the same time. Students will need to complete follow-up information in the online portal, if awarded. Students can visit the online portal anytime to check the status of each scholarship they were eligible to receive.

GRANTS

Youth Advisory Committee Awards



\$15,000 in Grants to 12 Nonprofit Organizations

The Fairfield County Foundation's Board of Trustees and the Youth Advisory Committee of 2023-2024 recently awarded grants totaling \$15,000 from the George and Dollie L. Zimpfer Memorial Fund to 12 nonprofit organizations. The Youth Advisory Committee was created to empower Fairfield County high school students through leadership and community service.

Grant recipients include:

- **AHA! A Hands-on Adventure, A Children's Museum** to create a calming sensory room exhibit.
- **Bottoms Up Diaper Bank** to implement a student-led diaper drive.
- **Destination Downtown Lancaster** to support the Kid's Art Zone at ArtWalk.
- **Fairfield County 2-1-1** to hold "Cooking Matters" youth classes.
- **Fairfield County Heritage Association** in funding the Goslin Room in Fairfield County.
- **Family YMCA of Lancaster and Fairfield County** for the children's community garden.
- **Geneva Hills Group, Inc.** to fund camp water sports.
- **Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Council, Inc.** to support Girl Scouts day camps.
- **Lancaster Vineyard Church** to fund youth programs to engage in social justice.
- **Rise Up Arts Alliance** for lighting enhancements.
- **Simon Kenton Council, Boy Scouts** for funding for summer STEM day camps.
- **Way to Battle** to provide Battle Pup products for giveaways.

"These grant recipients are dedicated to improving the lives of the youth in Fairfield County, and we are confident that these projects will have a meaningful impact on the community," said Amy Eyman, CEO of the Fairfield County Foundation. "We are very pleased with how the program is growing and the impact these students are having in the community."



Committee participants have the opportunity to get involved in projects that support initiatives for youth in their communities and

gain real-world experience in overseeing the financial and human resource components of a new grant cycle for youth projects. Responsibilities include reviewing submissions, completing site visits, and presenting recommendations to the Board of Trustees. Since its inception in 2018, the Fairfield County Foundation's Youth Advisory Committee has awarded 58 grants totaling more than \$78,000. The 24-person committee, which changes each year, is comprised of juniors and seniors from across the county. Ten of the 11 Fairfield County high schools were represented on the committee this year.

To learn more about the Youth Advisory Committee, contact Program Officer, Andrea Spires, at 740-654-8451 or aspire@fairfieldcountyfoundation.org or visit our [website](#).



Summer Hours

5/24/24 thru 9/13/24

Monday	9am - 4pm
Tuesday	9am - 4pm
Wednesday	9am - 4pm
Thursday	9am - 4pm
Friday	Staff works remotely

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FUNDS



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GRANTS



SCHOLARSHIPS



FAIRFIELD COUNTY FOUNDATION

Building a Legacy in Our Community

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