

# FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER MARCH 2024 - PART 2



Hello Foundation Friends,

Spring has sprung, although I don't think the weather got the memo on that. Many families have traveled outside of Warren County for Spring Break. I was fortunate enough to travel to Spain last week. Right before the trip, we had a Placemaking workshop, and I attended a Placemaking conference as well. As I looked at the art, culture, history, and quality of place amenities while traveling, I found myself regularly thinking about how any of those elements could be brought to Warren County. While some of the ideas weren't practical or feasible, other ideas might be able to be woven into our Lilly GIFT VIII concept paper. Over the next month, our region will be working hard to put together a proposal that might lead to us getting invited to participate in completing the full grant application.

I am pleased to announce that for the first time in Foundation history, our assets surpassed the 12 million dollar mark. Every person who has ever made a donation to WCCF, please know that you are part of the collective impact of the growth of the Foundation over the past 25 years. It takes every \$10, \$20, \$50, and \$100 donation mixed with the \$1,000, \$10,000 and \$100,000 donations. Now is an excellent time to make a donation to our Community Grants fund or create a Family Legacy Fund because Lilly Endowment is offering a 2:1 match on unrestricted gifts. If you donate \$25, Lilly will give us an additional \$50. If you donate \$100, Lilly will give us an additional \$200. Please contact us if you have any questions about this.

Thanks for all of your support,

Michele Stucky



The Foundation hasn't made any grants since the last e-newsletter, but the Board of Directors will be reviewing 5 grant proposals this coming Monday evening. In addition, we will be awarding most of our designated fund grants next week. The April e-newsletters are shaping up to be full of recent grant pictures and articles. If you are part of a group or organization and think you have a good idea for a grant proposal, give us a call at 765-764-1501 or email us at

<u>michele@warrencountyfoundation.com</u>. We have two options on our website for applying for grants including one for requests less than \$1,500 and one for requests more than \$1,500.



The Warren County Youth Council coffee shop group voted to have A Better Way Food Co-Op receive the tips made at the coffee shop in the month of February. The volunteers that evening presented a check for \$702.69 to A Better Way Food Co-Op. The students voted that in the month of March, all tips would go to Bundles of Blessings Diaper Pantry. \$140 sponsors one child for getting a pack of 25 diapers a week for a year. We are excited to see how many children the March tips can sponsor.

## **WOMEN'S LEGACY BUILDERS EVENT A BIG SUCCESS!**

Over the years, this fund has held a different fundraising event annually to raise money to build the endowed Women's Legacy Builder Fund. The annual grants are then given to grantees who come to the event and present to the attendees what their organization is currently working on. For the past nine years, the fundraising event for this fund has been Purse Bingo. Every year the popularity has grown and this year, the event sold out almost two weeks before the fun-filled evening. The committee worked really hard this year to create other opportunities for adding to the fund. There were door prizes donated by local businesses and individuals, purses donated by businesses and individuals or monetary donations to put towards purchasing the designer purses. In addition, the committee members went to local businesses to ask about them creating raffle baskets. Attendees could purchase raffle tickets for one dollar each to place in the drawing. There are snacks for the attendees while they play the ten rounds of bingo. After five rounds there is a break to hear from the 3 local organizations.







## WOMEN'S LEGACY BUILDERS EVENT A BIG SUCCESS! (CONT.)

This year Hope Springs was awards \$1,000, Bundles of Blessings received \$500, and the Seeger Film Club received \$500 to put towards the Free summer movies at the Devon Theater. The hard work of the committee and the volunteers the night of the event along with the generous spending by the attendees resulted in being able to add \$6,242 to the Women's Legacy Builders Fund. A huge thank you goes to Tasha and Kaelee Swank, Jessica and Kallie Peterson, Kayla and Kolbie Myers, Trish Edwards and Mindy Hunter for making the event a big success. We also thank Ervin Collins, the Ura Seeger Auditorium manager, for setting up all the tables and chairs. preparing the sound system, and being at the event to help out.



#### IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR!

It's that time of year again! The brackets are set for the local match-ups in the annual Brackets to Benefit Others competition to benefit A Better Way Food Co-Op. Everyone can contribute to this competition. If you don't have a student in one of the schools, and you aren't part of one of the churches, then you probably know someone who is. You can get your food items to someone who is part of that team. Week one of the competition will be March 25-30th. Watch our social media page for updates at the end of the week on who advances to the next round.





#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

This is a new section added to the E-newsletter this year. We will try to inform people about things they might not know about how the Foundation works.

In the letter at the top of the page, we announced that we had surpassed the 12 million dollars in assets mark. That might make people think that we could just write a giant check for something in the community that we want to see happen. That is not how Foundations work. First, the annual payout as decided by the finance committee and Board of Directors is 4%. That means this year, our grantmaking awards will only represent 4% of the value of any fund. Foundations are forever, and having spending policies that say grantmaking will be between 2-5% annually, allows for funds to grow over time through responsible investing and donations being added to the fund over time.

Secondly, we can only give grants as our funds allow. When a donor sets up a fund, they let us know what the annual grants must go towards. For example, scholarship funds can only go for scholarships, a fund designated to the library can only go to the library, and fund designated for the senior center can only go to the senior center, and so on. Our only funds that we can pivot annually to use for various purposes are our unrestricted funds. These are funds that people set up and essentially say...we know the grants committee and Board of Directors will make good decisions with this money so we are not restricting it for only one use, you can use it as you see best for the community. This year we have \$58,000 to spend in this category. If you have any questions about how Foundation grant payouts work, don't hesitate to reach out to

us! We are happy to meet with you to answer any questions you might have.

# **LOCAL COMMUNITY EVENTS**









## YWCA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION PROGRAM Walk-in Hours

#### **Second Monday of every month**

Warren County Learning Center 28 E. 2nd Street, Williamsport 10 am - 11 am

If you or someone you know find yourselves in an abusive relationship and need help, come see us. We can assist with shelter, Protective Orders, Legal advocacy, safety planning, referrals, etc. Or if you just want to come and talk to us, we are ready to listen!

#### For more information

Please email Nohemí Lugo nlugo@ywcalafayette.org Or call 1-888-345-1118 eliminating racism empowering women **YWCA** Greater Lafayette



WWW.WARRENCOUNTYFOUNDATION.COM





#### 2024 FOUNTAIN/WARREN SOCIAL SERVICE MEETING DATES:

January 9th - Budreau's Steak & Taphouse, Attica

March 12th - Beef House, Covington

May 14th - Learning center, Williamsport - Bring your own lunch.

July 9th - Budreau's Steak & Taphouse, Attica

September 10th - Beef House, Covington

November 12th - Learning Center, Williamsport - Bring your own lunch.

Meetings are from 11am – 12:30pm

Lunch is on your own.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Nohemí Lugo <u>nlugo@ywcalafayette.org</u> 765 423 7015



SAVE THE DATE



# 2024 WARREN COUNTY 4-H FAIR JUNE 17-22

If your organization has an upcoming public event, we want to know about it! We would love to help advertise for you. We send out the newsletter twice per month and can put your upcoming event in the Save the Date section.

