WHITLEY COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION 2007-08 Biennial Report



Constant a Splash Makin' a Splash

Biennial Report 2007-08

L's doubtful that the young lady with a face full of water on the front can tell you much about the Whitley County Community Foundation. What she *can* explain are the hours of fun and belly laughs the local Splashpad has provided for her and hundreds of other local youngsters.

And that's fine by us. Mahri Romano doesn't need to know about the Community Foundation right now – it'll still be here making good things happen in Whitley County when she has grown up and has little squirts of her own.

But we do think it's important that you are aware of the many ways the Whitley County Community Foundation is making a splash in our little corner of Northeast Indiana. Jump right in as we cover fiscal years 2007-08!





Director's Report



Casting Our Bread Upon the Waters

t is always a privilege to report on the work of our Community Foundation, and it is especially gratifying to be able to share stories that illustrate our unique ability to shift focus when emerging needs arise.

This report reflects a period when investments were caught in a stalled economy. Few stewards of invested capital escaped the severe market downturn of 2007-08. Just as your nest egg likely suffered a loss, our foundation was faced with a reduction in grant making capital. This was especially challenging as our local non-profits needed us more than ever. Despite reduced assets, I'm proud to report that our grant making never stopped. If anything, the economy forced us to be creative as we worked to stretch available dollars and concentrate on greatest needs.

While it is the members of our Board of Directors who assume responsibility for keeping a pulse on the needs of our community and then charting a course for action, it is the generosity of our donors who make possible our ability to respond. Just as Mahri may not be aware of the Foundation's role in creating her Splashpad, many recipients of our charitable efforts never know the names of the people who helped them; the donors who paid for a free mammogram for an uninsured single mom, the scholarship

that covered expensive college textbooks, the prescription that was filled through the Good Samaritan Fund.

I'm pleased to report that sixteen new endowment funds were created during 2007 and 2008. Purposes for these funds vary from offsetting Splashpad costs to underwriting the high school's summer art program in South Whitley. Younger donors unveiled some philanthropic initiatives of their own during the same period. Be sure to read about Jackson Longenbaugh's Piggy Bank Pals and the Columbia City Lady Eagles Pink Soccer game, further on in this report.

Author and poet Maya Angelou once reflected "When we cast our bread upon the waters, we can presume that someone downstream whose face we will never see, will benefit from our action, even as we enjoy the gifts sent to us from a donor upstream.

To the hundreds of donors who found themselves "upstream" and able to give through the Community Foundation, we offer our sincere gratitude.

Destember W Connell

September McConnell, Executive Director Whitley County Community Foundation



How Did Columbia City Build a Splashpad? With an Out-pouring of Support!

t started with a classroom assignment. Mark Green, Director of Columbia City's Park Department was a participant in Leadership Whitley County when he was challenged by a visioning exercise, and dreamed up the idea for a Splashpad in Morsches Park. For a while it looked like it would stay just that -- a dream. Mark approached the Community Foundation about funding the entire project and was initially turned down. While it was a great idea, it was also a costly undertaking. The Grants Committee needed to see collaboration. With a big question as to where to turn next, Mark's dream was put on hold for over a year.

Enter the Kellogg Foundation and their Access for Recreation initiative -a program to support community foundations, parks and recreation providers, and advocacy groups as they work to provide greater handicapped access to a wide variety of recreation opportunities. Through a competitive grant process, the Parks Department teamed with the Community Foundation and was awarded one of six Access to Recreation Grants in the state. But there was still a significant financial hurdle ahead.

Mindful of the importance of broad-based community support, The Dekko Foundation came on board as the major funding partner. They offered a challenge grant to Splashpad

organizers; if the community could raise \$125,000, the Dekko Foundation would provide the \$100,000 needed to complete the project. Contributions began coming in from individuals and businesses throughout the community.

"Steel Dynamics really stepped up to the plate for us. The company pledged their financial support, and John Nolan assumed a leadership role by hosting a breakfast and pitching the importance of the project to other local businesses," explained Mark Green. "SDI's willingness to partner lent credibility to the project and made all the difference in being able to meet the Dekko challenge," Green added.

Columbia City's Splashpad opened to the public on July 4, 2008. Estimates of usage were literally shot out of the water as youth of all ages flocked to the water playground throughout the summer. Thankfully, an endowment was put in place as part of the Access to Recreation grant. It will help to offset the cost of water. The endowment distribution, coupled with earnings from the Park Department's golf outing fundraiser, will ensure the Splashpad will continue to provide gallons of cool, wet fun for many summers to come.

Endowment Funds







A Reservoir of Support

Just as water can be saved in a reservoir until it is needed, endowments hold and grow funds for specific charitable causes or non-profit organizations, and when money is needed, we let it flow!

When an endowment fund is established through a charitable gift to the Community Foundation, we don't spend the donation. Ever. Instead, the gift is saved and wisely invested to produce earnings. A Fund Agreement is executed when the endowment is created. This legal instrument ensures that the Community Foundation is obligated to distribute the earnings pursuant to the donor's original intent. Distributions from endowments are called grants or scholarships. Typically, only a portion of the earnings are distributed,

allowing the endowment fund to grow over time. As the years go by, grants or scholarships from the endowment will far exceed the amount of the donor's original gift.

Donor Advised Funds

These funds allow for on-going input from the donors and permit a broad distribution of charitable grants. The donor, their designees, or an advisory group may make recommendations as to where grants should be made. Final grant making authority rests with the Foundation's Board of Directors.

Colonel James & Janice Hammer Fund Copp Family Fund John & Laura Lefever Fund James & September McConnell Family Fund John & Aileen Meier Fund



Endowments Give Forever

Year	0	1	5	10	20	50
Total Grants Distributed	0	\$2,150	\$11,376	\$24,310	\$55,735	\$216,734
Endowment Value	\$50,000 Original Gift	\$51,300	\$55,847	\$64,631	\$83,544	\$180,442

Assumes 8% return, 4% distribution

Field of Interest Funds

As the name suggests, these funds help to support an area of interest such as the arts or recreation, rather than a single organization.

Arts Alive Endowment Fund Count Me In! Youth Asset Building Endowment Fund Education for a New Generation Endowment Fund Shirley Ann Gates Endowment Fund Edwin E. and Flossie L. Heupel Good Samaritan **Endowment Fund** Embarg Endowment Fund Oak Grove Church of God Children's Ministries **Endowment Fund** Margaret Priscilla Waterfall Memorial Endowment Fund Mildred & Theodore A. Schultz Unrestricted **Endowment Fund** Walter & Dorothy Weick Memorial Endowment Fund Whitley County Giving Circle for Women's Health Endowment Fund Victoria A. & James R. Wise Endowment Fund

Endowment Funds

Endowment Funds

Endowment Funds



Designated Endowments

These funds were created to support specific non-profit organizations and community projects.

- * Indicates new funds started in 2007 ^ Indicates new funds started in 2008

ACRES Land Trust Endowment Fund Benton W. and Thelma L. Bloom Endowment Fund ^ Camp Whitley Endowment Fund The Center for Whitley County Youth Endowment Fund ^ Churubusco High School Fine Arts Endowment Fund Columbia City High School FFA Endowment Fund Columbia City High School Speech and Debate Fund Columbia City United Methodist Church Fund Faith Christian Academy Endowment Fund George Scott & Mildred Smith Gates **Endowment Fund** Habitat for Humanity of Whitley County Endowment Fund *

HANDS Endowment Fund Imagination Library Endowment Fund Interfaith Mission Endowment Fund In the Swim Endowment Fund Junior Achievement Endowment Fund **Kiwanis Endowment Fund** Loon Lake Endowment Fund Walter Malicki Whitko Art Endowment Fund * Mihsihkinaahkwa Pow Wow Endowment Fund Old Settlers Foundation Operating Endowment Fund Old Settlers Association Endowment Fund * Parkview Whitley Memorial Hospital **Endowment Fund** Passages to the Future Endowment Fund Peabody Library Endowment Fund George Franklin Schultz Endowment Fund Splash Pad (Columbia City) Endowment Fund ^

- South Whitley Cleveland Township Public Library
- W. Byron & Marian E. Bollinger Endowment Fund South Whitley United Methodist Church W. Byron & Marian E. Bollinger Fund Stepping Stones Childcare Endowment Fund **Turtletown Players Endowment Fund**



United Way of Whitley County Endowment Fund Whitley County Council on Aging & Aged **Endowment Fund** Kessler Endowment Fund



YMCA (Dekko) Endowment Fund YMCA Life Lessons Endowment Fund Youth Improvement Center Endowment Fund * YWCA Whitley County Endowment Fund ^

Endowment Funds





Scholarship Funds

Whether they underwrite the cost of textbooks, offset tuition at technical school or help get that four year degree, Scholarship Funds open doors for deserving students working toward their continued education. 4H Beef Scholarship Fund *
Kenny Beck Changes in Latitude Memorial Scholarship Fund
Daniel E. Bolinger Memorial Scholarship Fund *

Lawrence & Freida Bunnell Scholarship Fund

Bernice Carver Scholarship of Hope Fund Columbia City High School FFA Scholarship Fund



Columbia City High School Founders Scholarshi Fund* Columbia City High School Memorial Scholarsh Fund Columbia City High School Spanish Club Scholarship Fund Class of 63 Scholarship Fund Joey Devito Scholarship Fund Devol Award Fund **Roark Fizer Scholarship Fund** Irma & Donald Ferber Scholarship Fund **CCHS** French Club Scholarship Fund Max Gandy Scholarship Fund Heimbach Award Fund Helping Hands 4-H Scholarship Fund Robert Hood Scholarship Fund **JAKES Scholarship Fund** Robert & Grace Karst R.N. Scholarship Fund Ben Konger Memorial Scholarship Fund Korean War Scholarship Fund Margo Langohr Scholarship Fund The Daniel Mullett "For the Love of a Child" Scholarship Fund Tom Ness Scholarship Fund Ohki Scholarship Fund Andrea Norman Henry and John Anthony Norman Theater Scholarship Fund Tiffany N. Parker Memorial Scholarship Fund Tina Parker Award Fund Eric Reed Scholarship Fund



Endowment Funds

ip	Daniel D. Rock Scholarship Fund ^
	Rotary Club of Columbia City Scholarship Fund
nip	Scientific and Regulatory Consultants Scholarship
	Fund
	Joseph H. Shull Tri Kappa Scholarship Fund
	Johnathon Lewis Simmons Memorial Scholarship
	Fund *
	Kenny Simon Scholarship Fund
	Nicholas and Laurel Steill Scholarship Fund *
	Ross Unverzagt Memorial Scholarship Fund
	Howard and Mimi Wherry Scholarship Fund
	Waugh Scholarship Fund
	Charles White Scholarship Fund
	Whitley County Consolidated Schools Scholarship
	Fund
	Whitley County Retired Teachers' Association
	Scholarship Fund
	Whitko Dollars for Scholars Fund *
	B.V. and Flossie Widney Memorial Scholarship
	Fund
	Rely C. and Izora Zumbrun Education Fund

Unrestricted Funds





Unrestricted Funds

These funds are used to respond to the everchanging needs of our community. Grants from unrestricted endowments are available by application and are awarded at the recommendation of the Grants Committee, and acceptance of the Board of Directors.

Dekko Enhancement Fund Ferber Family Fund Whitley County Community Foundation Greater Good Fund

Charitable Gift Annuities

Thora Lefever Fund Ruth Metzger Fund Dorothy Miller Fund Esther Gates Fund Cynthia Hertsel Fund Rosemary Steiner Fund Clark Waterfall DVM Fund

* Indicates new funds started in 2007^ Indicates new funds started in 2008

Non-Permanent Funds

Established with the purpose of assisting charitable projects or causes in the community with professional book keeping, the Community Foundation holds several non-permanent funds under our umbrella. Unlike gifts to endowments that can never be spent, gifts to non-permanent funds can be spent in their entirety. Gifts to these funds are tax-deductible as long as no goods or services were received in exchange for the contribution.

Kenny Beck Memorial Fund **CCHS** Alumni Association Fund Camp Whitley Fund Children First Fund Churubusco Business Education Community Fund Churubusco Middle School Tutor Program * Coesse PTO Columbia City Chamber Landmark Signage Fund Columbia City High School Boys Basketball Boosters Fund * Columbia City High School Boys Tennis Fund * Columbia City High School Class of 1958 ^ Columbia City High School Lady Eagles Basketball Boosters Fund ^ Columbia City High School Football Boosters ^ Columbia City High School FFA Fund Columbia City Splash Pad Fund ^{*} **Community Asset Building Fund Community Scholarship Promotional Fund** Andrew Comparet Memorial Scholarship Fund

Dillon Family Fund Ryan Doster Lilly Community Scholars Fund Gordon and Beverly Dukerschein Scholarship* **Epplemann Family Fund Everybody Reads Fund** Faith Christian Academy PTO * Friends of the Firemen & Police * G.A.P. Canaan Education Fund ^ **GIFT** Phase **III GIFT** Phase IV **GIFT IV** Operating Fund Habitat for Humanity of Whitley County **HANDS** Foundation Kelly Herron Lilly Community Scholars Fund HUD Home Todd Jagger Memorial Scholarship Fund Leadership Whitley County Junior Miss Pageant Fund Donovan Kessler Little Swimmers Fund* **Kiwanis Fund** Korean War Monument Fund Leatherneck Coffee Club Fund James Lemon/Etna Troy Memorial Fund Nicholas Carson Linville Speech & Debate Award ^ Little Turtle PTSO Fund Loon Lake Fund D'Maris Metzger Scholarship Fund

Mircopulse Employee Giving Fund Mihsihkinaahkwa Pow Wow Fund Paul Mueller/Churubusco Pool Fund Audrey Neeley Memorial Scholarship

Unrestricted Funds



New Century Downtown Fund Norda Inc. Nontraditional Student Fund ^ Northern Heights PIE Fund Florence Nunchuck Memorial Nursing Scholarship **Old Settlers Fund Operating Fund People Preserving History Fund PPH** Construction Fund Piggy Bank Pals ^ Project Prom CCHS **Raupfer Gallery Fund** Rotary Club of Columbia City Fund RCCF Anonymous Fund * RCCF Operating Fund ^{*} **RCCF** Unresticted Fund * Rusk County School Scholarship ^ Schrader Family Fund Dollis Dillon Studebaker Fund Jacob Tarleton Memorial Fund Whitley County Art Guild Whitley County Cares Disaster Relief Fund Whitley County Community Network Whitley County Domestic Violence Prevention Fund Whitley County Giving Circle for Women's Health Mammogram Program Fund Whitley County GOP Scholarship Fund ^ Whitley County Senior Center Young Adults in Action ^ Youth Improvement Center Fund Youth Leadership Whitley County ^

Grants

2007 Unrestricted Grants



Beds and Britches, Etc.	\$ 2,000
Cancer Services of Northeast Indiana	\$ 2,000 \$ 5,000
The Center for Whitley County Youth	\$ 10,000 \$ 2,000
The Center for Whitley County Youth	. ,
Children's Hope Hospitality House	\$ 4,140 \$ 5,000
Churubusco Middle School PTO	\$ 5,000
Community Harvest Food Bank of Northeast Indiana	\$ 3,000
Cool Music for Warm Nights Summer Concert Series	\$ 4,000
Eel River Trail Phase I Trailhead	\$ 3,000
Fort Wayne Women's Bureau	\$ 3,000
Heart of Gold Awards	\$ 3,000
Interfaith Mission, Inc.	\$ 15,000
Interfaith Mission, Inc.	\$ 5,000
Lilly Scholars Finalist Scholarships	
The Potter's Hand	\$ 2,000
Right Relations, Inc.	\$ 8,000
SCAN, Inc.	\$ 1,000
Somebody Cares, Inc.	\$ 1,500
Victory Christian Fellowship Food Pantry	\$ 1,000
Victory Christian Fellowship	\$ 500
Whitley County Community Foundation, Make A Good Gift Better Campaign	
Whitley Council on Aging & Aged, Senior Citizen Center	\$ 64,000 \$ 50,000
Whitley County EMS	\$ 10,000
Whitley County Giving Circle for Women's Health – Girls Rock!	
Whitley County Humane Society	\$ 1,000 \$ 4,500
Whitley County Literacy Council	\$ 11,800
YWCA of Fort Wayne, Inc.	\$ 2,500
	ψ 2,000

American Red Cross of Northeast Indiana Camp Whitley Scholarships (Weick Fund) Cancer Services of Northeast Indiana The Center for Whitley County Youth The Center for Whitley County Youth Children's Hope Hospitality House Churubusco Park Department Columbia City Park Department Community Harvest of Northeast Indiana Veggie Wagon Cool Music for Warm Nights Summer Concert Series Heart of Gold Awards Indiana Lakeland Girl Scout Council Jefferson Chapel Food Pantry Leadership Whitley County Lilly Scholars Finalist Scholarships Victory Christian Fellowship Food Pantry Victory Christian Fellowship Outreach Whitko Middle School Peacekeeper's Program Whitley County Economic Development Corporation Whitley County Energy Assistance Whitley County Historical Society Whitley County Literacy Council Whitley County Korean War Veterans Honor Guard YWCA of Fort Wayne, Inc. YMCA Park Terrace Summer Programs

Grants





2008 Unrestricted Grants

\$ 5,000
\$ 1,500
\$ 2,000
\$ 20,000
\$ 2,500
\$ 1,000
\$ 12,000
\$ 2,500
\$ 6,000
\$ 4,000
\$ 3,000
\$ 1,000
\$ 500
\$ 2,500
\$ 6,000
\$ 1,200
\$ 750
\$ 3,140
\$ 12,000
\$ 5,000
\$ 1,000
\$ 5,000
\$ 675
\$ 2,000
\$ 1,500
-



Piggy Bank Pals Inspire Youth Philanthropy

Who'd have guessed? A philanthropist who wears sneakers! Jackson Longenbaugh, son of Kent and Shelby Longenbaugh, was seven years old when he paid his first visit to the Whitley County Community Foundation to talk about charitable giving and his desire to share his enthusiasm for a project he affectionately referred to as "Piggy Bank Pals."

A student at Northern Heights Elementary school, Jackson became inspired to help another youngster struggling with a health crisis after seeing a program on television. With a giving spirit, Jackson generously filled his piggy bank and turned the proceeds over to help a little girl in our community who needed cochlear implants; but he didn't stop there!

Jackson went on to focus his efforts on Cayden Poling, a small child at church who was facing heart surgery after being diagnosed with a medical disorder. This time, Jackson enlisted a small group of school friends to help his fundraising efforts, and the group presented their gift to Cayden's parents.

It feels good to give and Jackson wanted his classmates to know that joy, so in the fall of 2008, with the help of the Foundation, he made piggy banks available to every 2nd grade student in his school, as well as other Whitley County kids who wanted to join his efforts.

MAKING RIPPLES

nyone who has ever tossed a stone into a pond has probably watched the ripples as they spread and create change on the surface of the water. People in Whitley County create their own ripple effect – by tossing an idea to better the community and running with it for the greater good.

CCHS Lady Eagles Soccer Team Kicks it to Cancer

As they anticipated the team's 15th anniversary, the Columbia City Lady Eagles soccer players looked for a way to "give back" to the community. The team came to the Community Foundation with the idea of playing a game in pink jerseys, which would later be auctioned off to benefit the free mammogram program administered by the Whitley County Giving Circle for Women's Health.

A simple idea soon took hold and became a community project. The high school players spoke at a local Rotary meeting and suddenly individuals were offering to donate pink hats for the refs, pink socks for the opposing team – even a pink soccer ball! The enthusiasm spread when the local newspaper covered the story. Suddenly, a number of other groups at the high school decided to take part and Homecoming Week took on a pink hue. The student body had a "wear pink" day. One club sold pink balloons, another held a bake sale. Student Council raffled off a chance to sit on a pink couch in the end zone of the Homecoming game. While the monetary contributions were certainly the end prize, along the way we kept hearing from instructors who surprisingly found themselves in "teaching moments" when kids would ask "what's a manmogram?" Teens often inspire youngsters and that's what happened next. Little Turtle Elementary School wanted to help and decided to hold a "tickled pink" fundraiser. For a donation of a quarter, the kids could stand up and tell a joke in class. Almost \$300 in jokes were told as the kids found a way to battle cancer with laughter.

When the actual pink soccer game rolled around, momentum had peaked. The stands were packed and by the end of the evening, the team had raised a whopping \$6,500 for our free mammogram program. What a wonderful endeavor this turned out to be! The girls raised awareness, raised money, and perhaps most importantly, raised a sense of hope.





Donovan Kessler Little Swimmers Fund

Sometimes Funds at the Community Foundation are created in the face of heartbreaking tragedy. Donovan Kessler was a vibrant three year old boy who loved the water. He was drawn to water in all seasons of weather and greatly enjoyed his time at his Grandma's house on Big Lake. While on vacation in North Carolina, Donovan found his way through a locked gate on a fence surrounding a covered swimming pool and didn't think twice before climbing onto the pool tarp. Despite heroic rescue efforts, Donovan drowned.

The greatest sadness in losing a small child this way comes with the knowledge that drowning can be prevented. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention reports that most children who drown in swimming pools were last seen indoors, had been out of sight for less than five minutes and were in the care of one or both parents. While drowning rates tend to be higher in warmer climates, our own Whitley County is not exempt from the potential for this heartbreaking loss.

Determined to prevent this to happening to other youngsters in our community, Donovan's grandmother Tammy Azar, worked tirelessly to create the Donovan Kessler Little Swimmers Scholarship Fund in 2007. Through a community picnic, Tammy raised money for an endowment that will provide scholarships for children under five who would like to attend swimming lessons at the Whitley County YMCA or Burnsworth Pool.



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Whitley County Community Foundation, Inc. Statement of Activities Year Ended December 31,

	2008	2007
Revenue and support		
Contributions	\$ 1,019,544	\$ 1,243,826
Investment income	885,548	876,318
Administrative fee income	190,967	215,896
Realized gains on investments	163,483	204,817
Unrealized gains on investments	(4,040,377)	19,837
Other Income -		21,000
Change in value of split-interest agreements	12,115	6,982
	(1,768,720)	2,588,676
Expenses		
Grants	1,035,744	983,840
Program related expenses	8,220	14,085
Bank trustee fees	29,683	30,139
Operating expenses	239,416	242,783
Administrative fee	184,409	209,446
Fundraising Expenses	47,475	30,483
	1,544,947	1,510,776
Increase (decrease) in net assets	(3,313,667)	1,077,900
Net assets at beginning of year, as restated	16,203,340	15,125,440
Transfer of net assets		
Net assets at end of year	\$ 12,889,673	16,203,340



Whitley County Community Staff

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Committees



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Helen Beatty Sharlene Berkshire Jan Hammer Joan Lillmars Ruth Metzger **Rosemary Steiner**

Note: The Community Foundation lost a good friend with the passing of Helen Beatty. Helen was a spunky volunteer for the Community Awareness Committee for over twelve years, assisting with projects like the Heart of Gold Awards, the Summer Concert Series and Annual Meetings. She will be long remembered and greatly missed by her friends at the Foundation.



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