Wow, did we start 2018 off with a bang! We have accomplished so much with your help.

Settling into a New Office

In late March we moved into the new location, which is still in Merrillville and offers easy access from Route 30, I-65 and Broadway. We chose a space with you in mind – a place that is accessible and welcoming to all we serve. In partnership with the Crossroads Regional Chamber of Commerce, we held an Open House to offer the public a chance to meet with Legacy staff and view the space. Our doors are open to you throughout year, and we invite you to visit us.

Celebrating 25 Years of Service

On a sunny Friday in May, we brought together donors, agency partners, volunteers, and community members to celebrate our shared mission of positively transforming Lake County. With community support, Legacy Foundation has granted over $40 million in its history and grown to assets nearing $60 million. As we embark on the next 25 years, I hope you will continue to be a part of our efforts to build a lasting legacy for good.

Awarding over $1 Million in Scholarships

This year between the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship and Legacy Common Scholarship application, we received over 700 student applications. In 2018, we awarded 110 scholarships valued at more than $1 million. Recently we recognized the deserving students and their families at the Scholarship Awards Dinner. I am truly amazed at the generosity of the donors and scholarship committee members who give of their talent and treasure to make this possible. Photos from each of these events can be found on the Legacy Foundation Facebook page: www.facebook.com/legacyfdn
ON THE TABLE: YOUR VOICE MATTERS

It takes all of us

on the TABLE

your voice matters.

Staff from Mental Health America of Lake County, which sits just across the street, joined the Hammond Public Library conversation. Greenleaf was encouraged to hear participants talking openly about issues of mental health. “People understood that there was a deep concern in the community,” Greenleaf said. “They utilized and looked at some of the resources we had as a measure of being able to help.”

Other discussion topics included transportation and economic growth and development for Hammond.

According to the survey results from the 2017 On the Table discussions, Hammond residents see economic growth and development as the #2 priority issue that they would like to see the community address, behind only education and youth development.

Greenleaf is interested in hosting an On the Table conversation again in 2018 so that she can better strategize on the issues discussed. She would also like to encourage youth, a group that she feels are underrepresented, to have a place at the table this year. “I think that we underplay our youth much more than we should. I think they need to have a face and a voice at the table, talking and strategizing about ways that we can improve our community.”

Greenleaf also wants elected officials and faith leaders in the community to participate and to be engaged in conversation with Lake County residents. Looking back, she considers On the Table to be “a good way of educating individuals about what is going on and showing them ways of how together we can affect change.”

Greenleaf encourages any Lake County resident to consider hosting an On the Table. “If we don’t engage, if we sit on the sidelines, we can’t affect change. We have to be willing to get in and put skin in the game in order to educate our communities and ignite our communities to take a step.”

LEARN MORE about hosting or joining an On the Table conversation in 2018 by visiting www.legacyfdn.org/onthetable or contact Maranda Fishback at mfishback@legacyfdn.org.

René Greenleaf is Executive Director of the Hammond Public Library — a hub of activity that serves the most populous city in Lake County. She hosted an On The Table conversation in 2017 after hearing about the initiative at a meeting with other Lake County librarians.

“I was excited to see the collaboration of individuals,” Greenleaf said of her On The Table event. “I didn’t think that I was going to be engaging with so many people from a diverse setting.”
Remembering Kyle Grady

Kyle was an amazing young man with a bright future. The only child of June and Keith Grady, he faced many challenges in his young life. Kyle was diagnosed with bilateral retinoblastoma at seven months old. He had one eye removed and underwent several rounds of chemo and radiation.

Despite being left legally blind, Kyle had an amazing attitude and approached life with great enthusiasm. He never wanted pity or to be treated differently. He excelled at Lake Central High School, participated in the Lake Central Youth Basketball program, worked hard for many years to obtain a black belt in karate (earning three, first-place trophies), was captain of his high school chess team, and could solve a Rubik’s Cube behind his back! He had a love for music; starting out on piano, his greatest passion became guitar, and he had hopes of one day pursuing a career in the music industry. More importantly, Kyle loved his friends and family passionately, had a very sweet nature, and had a hilarious sense of humor.

Tragically, in April, 2011, as Kyle was undergoing final exams during his first year away at Hope College, he was diagnosed with a sinus sarcoma. He fought bravely for over a year and passed away in August 2012.

Having limited vision, Kyle found the iPad to be a very useful device. He also found great enjoyment playing guitar. The Kyle Grady Fund, established in his memory, will provide iPads and guitars to financially challenged young people with a cancer diagnosis or visual impairment.

The Kyle Grady Fund

The Kyle Grady Fund will administer iPads and/or guitars to young people, who have uncorrectable visual impairments, reside in the Midwest, can document financial need, and are between 12 and 21 years of age. Much of the funding for this fund was provided by Kyle’s Bubba, his grandmother, who adored her only grandchild.

Know someone eligible? Contact us at legacy@legacyfdn.org or (219) 736-1880. Applications are due July 31, 2018 and can be accessed online at www.legacyfdn.org/IndividualAssistanceOpportunities.php.
MARK YOUR CALENDARS

SAVE THE DATE!
August 2, 2018 | 5:00PM
4th Annual Civic Innovators Convening
5:00 p.m.

September 26, 2018
Join us for a second serving of On the Table! Throughout Lake County, thousands will gather
to discuss the positive work happening in their communities, the challenges their communities
face, and their intentions of fueling meaningful change. Register to host a conversation
in your neighborhood at www.legacyfdn.org/onthetable.

DOWNLOAD OUR ANNUAL REPORT
The 25th anniversary report is available online at www.legacyfdn.org/publications.
php. View highlights from the past 25 years, recent grant and program updates, and fund holder stories.

Register for events
legacyfdn.org/events.php
Or look for this icon on our website for more info: