

GIVING LOCAL

Lake County, Indiana

Legacy Foundation's Newsletter



Lake County's Community Foundation

FEATURES

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Higher Education

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Information Session
November 15 | 4 PM - 5 PM

Holiday Open House
December 15 | 4 PM - 6 PM



Mary Gerritsen

I was brought up to believe that public schools are a cornerstone of our democracy and we have a duty to support them.

A Designated Fund Helps Support Elementary and Higher Education

"Merry" Mary decided early in her career that her students deserved a happy, high-energy teacher. After 44 years teaching first grade and kindergarten in the Gary Community School Corporation it is still who she is – upbeat, positive, and smiling.

Recently, Mary received two American Federation of Teachers (AFT) Awards from AFT National and AFT Gary for her enduring commitment to public education. Not only does she give of her time, Mary also donates through her fund at Legacy Foundation to support elementary and higher education causes.

Mary knows first-hand the financial cost of being a teacher in an underfunded school. After retiring she felt compelled to support teachers and children in underserved and underrepresented communities. "My commitment to the area, specifically BIPOC [Black, Indigenous, People of Color] students, is because I have witnessed prejudice, socioeconomic disparities, and disproportionate needs of students, teachers and schools," Mary said.

Continued inside

A DESIGNATED FUND HELPS SUPPORT ELEMENTARY AND HIGHER EDUCATION

Mary grew up in the Miller neighborhood of Gary. Her parents were doers...giving, civic-minded individuals. They helped to form her own philosophy on giving: "give an opportunity, get the job done, make change happen. Don't look around to see who is going to give or work or change the situation. If you can do it, then do it!"

Be Like Mary...Make Change Happen!

Establishing a Designated Fund at Legacy Foundation is a great way to give back to one or more organizations that has touched your life. Our staff is ready to make your charitable giving meaningful, convenient, and strategic. Contact Erica Fizer Katsepas, Legacy Foundation's Donor Engagement Director, for more information at efizer@legacyfdn.org or 219-736-1880 or visit our website at legacyfdn.org/donors/open-a-fund.



Left to right: Mary Gerritsen, GlenEva Dunham

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

Operation Combat Bikesaver: Providing Hands-On Therapy to Local Veterans



Founded in 2015 by Jason and Lindsey Zaideman, Operation Combat Bikesaver (OCB) works to prevent suicide amongst Veterans with post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury, and depression. Through unique motorcycle restoration workshops and support groups, OCB provides local Veterans a creative and safe environment that bolsters camaraderie.

During the workshop, each Veteran selects a dilapidated motorcycle as their project to restore into a unique work of functional art. Throughout the build, participants work alongside fellow Veterans, individuals trained in various areas of hands-on therapy, and motorcycle fabrication experts. Veterans learn a variety of vocational skills, while gaining knowledge in coping mechanisms for PTSD. At the end of the workshop, the completed motorcycle is signed over to the Veteran at no cost.

To learn more about Operation Combat Bikesaver, visit combatbikesaver.org or email info@combatbikesaver.org.

Operation Combat Bikesaver received a 2022 Spring Transform Lake County Grant for its "On Your Feet Program." Funding supports the costs of basic needs, such as clean water, heating and air conditioning, and additional necessary services the Veteran could not otherwise afford.

Help more organizations receive a Transform Lake County Grant by making a charitable contribution to the Lake County Community Fund. Visit legacyfdn.org or call 219-736-1880 to make your contribution today.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2022 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!

\$1.3 MILLION
AWARDED THIS YEAR

Legacy Foundation Awards Over \$1.3 Million in Scholarships

For the 2021-2022 school year, 174 students received scholarships worth a total of \$1.3 million from Legacy Foundation. Most scholarships were awarded to high school seniors and current college students from Lake County, Indiana, but Legacy Foundation has scholarships available to students in Lake, Porter, Jasper, and Newton counties. Dollar amounts for awards vary from \$500 to full-tuition scholarships, and may be for one year or renewable over four years.

Legacy Foundation administers 54 scholarship funds established by local families, association groups, and businesses. Eligibility and scoring criteria vary based on the donor's intentions. Scholarships can be awarded on academic performance, community service, financial need, or other factors.

Establishing a Scholarship Fund at Legacy Foundation will help deserving young people get an education they might not otherwise receive. Contact Erica Fizer Katsepas, Legacy Foundation's Donor Engagement Director, for more information at efizer@legacyfdn.org or 219-736-1880.



2023 UNIVERSAL SCHOLARSHIP

1 Application | 35+ Different Scholarships Available

Online application open:
November 1 - February 1

Scan the QR code or visit Legacyfdn.org/Scholarships for a complete list of scholarships, award amounts, and eligibility.



INTERESTED IN BECOMING A SCHOLARSHIP REVIEWER?

Being a scholarship reviewer is about a 10 hour commitment between March-April 2023; applications are reviewed online.

Contact Scholarship Administrator,
Jodi Kateiva, to learn more!
219-736-1880 | jkateiva@legacyfdn.org

Scholar Spotlight

KATIE GOODRICH

2013 Lake County Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Recipient

Graduate of Gavit High School, Katie recently accepted a position with Independent Colleges of Indiana (ICI) as the Director of Scholarships & Grants. In this role, she will work with community foundations across the State of Indiana to administer the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Program.

While studying journalism at Butler University, Katie began her career with ICI as an intern. Upon returning from AmeriCorps, she became active in the Lilly Scholars Network and worked at Indiana University's Office of Scholarships serving scholars during the admissions process.

KATIE GOODRICH



"This full circle moment is an incredible honor, and I look forward to serving this program that has done so much for me and students across Indiana."



YOUR GUIDE TO THE 2022 LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA GENERAL ELECTION

Over 200 candidates are running for an elected position in Lake County, and regardless of who you vote for, Legacy Foundation's Rise NWI program can help you feel more confident at the polls this November!

MAKE YOUR VOTING PLAN



Verify Voter Registration Status

Visit [IndianaVoters.com](https://www.IndianaVoters.com) to review your voter registration status. The deadline to make any changes is October 11.



Determine How You Will Vote

- **At home, via Absentee-by-Mail:** If you want to vote by mail, you must submit an application to the county election office and meet certain criteria. Visit [IndianaVoters.com](https://www.IndianaVoters.com) or call the Lake County Election office (219-755-3795) to request an application. The deadline to apply is October 27.
- **At home, via Travel Board:** The travel board hand-delivers ballots to voters confined in their home because of illness, injury, or disability. Contact the election office (219-755-3795) to learn more about this opportunity, as it has very specific requirements.
- **In-Person During Early Voting:** Early voting is a convenient way to vote prior to Election Day. As a registered voter in Lake County, you can visit any of the 11 early voting locations across the county between October 12 - November 7.
- **In-Person on Election Day:** If you plan to vote on Election Day, you must visit your designated polling place between 6 AM - 6 PM on November 8, 2022. View your polling place at [IndianaVoters.com](https://www.IndianaVoters.com).



Research Your Candidates

Legacy Foundation has partnered with the League of Women Voters of the Calumet Area to bring VOTE411 to Lake County! Visit [VOTE411.org](https://www.VOTE411.org) to preview your ballot and learn about your candidates.

Lake County Early Voting Location & Schedule

LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTION & REGISTRATION OFFICE (COUNTY GOVERNMENT BUILDING)

2293 N. Main St. A-205 | Crown Point

- ⌚ Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday (Oct. 12 - Nov. 4): 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
- ⌚ Thursday (Oct. 13, 20, 27 & Nov. 3): 8:30 AM - 7 PM
- ⌚ Saturday (Oct. 29 & Nov. 5): 9 AM - 4 PM
- ⌚ Final day (Nov. 7): 8:30 AM - Noon

EAST CHICAGO COUNTY COURTHOUSE
3711 Main St. | East Chicago

GARY PUBLIC LIBRARY, MAIN BRANCH
220 W. 5th Ave. | Gary

HAMMOND COUNTY COURTHOUSE
232 Russell St. | Hammond

HOBART POLICE COMMUNITY CENTER
705 E. 4th St. | Hobart

LOWELL TOWN HALL
501 E. Main St. | Lowell

MUNSTER TOWN HALL
1005 Ridge Rd. | Munster

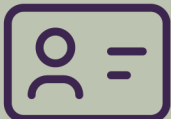
SCHERERVILLE TOWN HALL
10 E. Joliet St. | Schererville

ST. JOHN TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR'S OFFICE
9157 Wicker Ave. | St. John

WICKER PARK SOCIAL CENTER
8554 Indianapolis Blvd. Highland

WINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY
10771 Randolph St. Winfield

- ⌚ Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday (Oct. 12 - Nov. 4): 9 AM - 3 PM
- ⌚ Thursday (Oct. 13, 20, 27 & Nov. 3): 9 AM - 7 PM
- ⌚ Saturday (Oct. 29 & Nov. 5): 9 AM - 3 PM
- ⌚ Final day (Nov. 7): 9 AM - Noon



If you are voting in-person, don't forget your government issued ID!

Your photo ID must display your name, an expiration date (can be current or expired sometime after 11/3/2020), and be issued by the State of Indiana or US government. This can include your

driver's license, government issued photo ID, passport, or military ID. A student ID from an Indiana state school (not private) may be used if it meets the above requirements. If you forget your ID, you can cast a provisional ballot. However, you are required to follow up with the county election office within 10 days after the election to provide necessary documentation.

Small Business Course Scholarships Help Strengthen Gary, Indiana Businesses



Legacy Foundation's South Shore Neighborhood Development Corporation (SSNDC) has partnered with Indiana University Northwest (IUN) to offer City of Gary small business owners tuition-free scholarships for IUN education courses. Course topics focus on small business online presence and digital engagement, including social media, website development, digital marketing, and analytics.

Scholarships are awarded on a first come first served. Eligible business owners must have a small business located in Gary, Indiana and have access to a computer with internet. Small businesses can be of any industry and be home-based, brick and mortar, or e-commerce.

Interested business owners should contact Donna Catalano at dcatalano@legacyfdn.org or 219-736-1880 before December 28, 2022.



Recent scholarship recipients

Back row: Angel Knight (Trail My Mix)

Front row, Left to Right: Karen Dade (IKARE Essentials), Tonia Rush (Tonia's Things Now), Nadine Stephens (Nana's Tidbits), Jennifer Lovette-Cephus (Nana's Sweets)



Legacy Foundation Receives READI Grant to Expand NWI BizHub Programming

Legacy Foundation was awarded \$101,332 in READI funding to expand no cost programming to small business owners in Lake, Porter, LaPorte, Starke, Pulaski, Newton, and Jasper Counties. This expansion will increase the number of successful small businesses, the overall per capita for region residents, and increase the region's identity as a destination for entrepreneurs in Indiana.

NWI BizHub is one of thirty-four projects selected by a team representing talent, business development and marketing, infrastructure, quality of place and entrepreneurship and innovation. The Northwest Indiana Forum spearheaded the efforts to secure \$50 million in READI grant funding. These selected projects have an additional \$550 million of matched spending that will spur development and growth in Northwest Indiana.



Are you a small business owner?

Scan the QR code to learn more about NWI BizHub or visit nwibizhub.com.

Legacy Foundation Welcomes Two New Staff Members

FOUNDATION STAFF



AJ BYTNAR COMMUNITY IMPACT DIRECTOR

Aj has worked in both the public and private sector over the course of the last 15 years. He is experienced in building collaborations that have resulted in a range of projects from neighborhood scale placemaking to billion-dollar investments. He intends to bring that enthusiasm of working with people, organizations, and companies to Legacy Foundation to enhance the vision set forth by the community.

Aj is a proud to be from the region and returned home four years ago to grow his family and share his love for the area. He is married with two children under two. When not at work, he enjoys spending time with his family, cooking, rugby, kayaking, biking, and of course long walks on the beach.

MICHELLE ULANOWSKI GIFT ENTRY AND PAYABLES CLERK

Michelle joins Legacy Foundation with over 13 years of experience working in the corporate accounting field. Her area of expertise is accounts payable and supervision.

Michelle is excited to be part of the nonprofit sector with Legacy Foundation to positively impact the community.

Michelle is a lifelong resident of Lake County and currently lives in Cedar Lake. She is married with three children. In her free time, Michelle loves to spend time with her grandbaby, enjoy a new book, explore new campsites, and have fun at the lake.



Staff Promotions

THE KELLYS HAVE NEW ROLES!



KELLY ANOE
President & CEO



KELLY BAER
Grants & Administration
Coordinator

Legacy Foundation Staff

Kelly Anoe
President & CEO
kanoe@legacyfdn.org

Eran Armstrong
Marketing Intern
legacyintern@legacyfdn.org

Kelly Baer
Grants & Administration
Coordinator
kbaer@legacyfdn.org

Aj Bytnar
Community Impact Director
abytnar@legacyfdn.org

Donna Catalano
Community Development
Director
dcatalano@legacyfdn.org

Rose Cyphert
Office Manager
rcyphert@legacyfdn.org

Maranda Fishback Engquist
Marketing & Communications
Manager
mfishback@legacyfdn.org

Erica Fizer Katsepas
Donor Engagement
Director
efizer@legacyfdn.org

Jodi Kateiva
Scholarship Administrator
jkateiva@legacyfdn.org

Michelle Ulanowski
Gift Entry & Payables
Clerk
mulanowski@legacyfdn.org

Meet Legacy Foundation's Newest Board Members

BOARD LEADERSHIP



Matt Doyle

The son of a nurse, Matt was drawn early in life to the calling of service to others. He describes his leadership style as one of servant leadership and takes great pride in serving the communities of Northwest Indiana.

Matt was named President and CEO of Methodist Hospitals in July 2020, bringing with him 25 years of experience in healthcare finance and administration. Matt joined Methodist Hospitals in 2007 and was named Vice President and Chief Financial Officer in 2011.

Matt graduated from Franklin University with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting and Finance and is a member of the Healthcare Finance Management Association. Matt previously served on Legacy's Board of Directors where he chaired the finance committee and was a member of the investment committee.

Gloria Morris

Gloria has 17 years of enterprise technology experience and is employed full time by Google. Her area of expertise is cloud modernization as well as data and analytic frameworks.

Gloria grew up in her family business, John Cicco's Menswear - a 70 year staple in the region. In 2015, she founded a modern wellness brand, Float Sixty. Most recently, Gloria and her husband opened an 8.5 acre sports complex in Crown Point, the Great Lakes Sports Hub.

Gloria is a graduate of Calumet College of Saint Joseph and received her masters from DePaul University. She is a member of the Service League of Northwest Indiana, and hosts radio show and podcast, "Speaking of Charity."



2022-2023 Board of Directors

CHAIR

Carey A. Yukich

VICE CHAIR

John J. Freyek

TREASURER

James Dunne

SECRETARY

Dana Rifai

BOARD

Karima Hasan Bey

Debra R. Bolaños

Michael Dobosz

Matt Doyle

Sean Egan

Gregory A. Gordon

Stephen P. Kavois

Thomas L. Keon

Gloria Morris

Shannon L. Noder

Chris Salatas

Sophia Stratton

Verlie Suggs

Ellen Szarleta

Phil Taillon

Kenneth Wilk

Richard A. Young



Lake County's Community Foundation

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Suite 100
Merrillville, IN 46410

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legacyfdn.org | legacy@legacyfdn.org | 219-736-1880



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smile.amazon.com/ch/35-1872803
to support Legacy Foundation
with every Amazon purchase you
make, at no extra cost to you!



Upcoming Events

Scholarship Information Session

November 15, 2022 | 4 PM - 5 PM

Join Scholarship Administrator, Jodi Kateiva, for
an overview of Legacy Foundation's 2023
Universal Scholarship Application.

Find out more at:

legacyfdn.org/community-programs/upcoming-events

Holiday Open House

December 15, 2022 | 4 PM - 6 PM

Before you break for the holidays, join us at
Legacy Foundation for an afternoon of holiday
cheer and light refreshments.

Find out more at:

legacyfdn.org/community-programs/upcoming-events