

# GIVING LOCAL

## *Lake County, Indiana*

Legacy Foundation's Newsletter



Lake County's Community Foundation

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The Dernay Family

"We decided it would mean so much to our parents to see the impact of a fund in their names."

## An Easter Surprise Celebrates Griffith Teachers

Lifelong educators, Joseph and Marla Dernay, impacted the lives of two generations of children in Griffith Public Schools. To celebrate their 64 years of combined service to public education, their children gifted them a Legacy Foundation Endowment Fund to support future teachers in Griffith.

"We didn't want to wait until their passing to honor and celebrate them for all that they have done for us and Griffith Public Schools. So, we surprised them at our family Easter with a fund in their names," the Dernay children said.

The Joseph and Marla Dernay Future Teacher Scholarship Fund supports Griffith High School seniors who are pursuing a degree in education. The Dernes believe strongly in the importance of education and hope their scholarship helps the recipients feel pride in their choice of career.

## Give a Gift that Keeps on Giving!

Gifting an Endowment Fund at Legacy Foundation is a great way to honor a loved one. Contact Erica Fizer Katsepas, Legacy Foundation's Donor Engagement Director, for more information at [efizer@legacyfdn.org](mailto:efizer@legacyfdn.org) or 219-736-1880 or visit our website at [legacyfdn.org/open-a-fund](https://legacyfdn.org/open-a-fund).

## GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

# Serving the Needs of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Victims Across Northwest Indiana



The Caring Place is a social service organization providing an emergency shelter for victims of domestic violence and their children. While at the shelter, residents can utilize support resources to heal and move forward independently. In addition to providing a 24-hour shelter, The Caring Place provides a 24-hour hotline to respond to immediate needs and ongoing community outreach, programming and education.

The Caring Place serves 125-150 shelter residents and 300-350 community clients. Additionally, the organization serves thousands of residents yearly with community programming to raise awareness about relationship violence.

To learn more about The Caring Place, visit [thecaringplacenwi.org](http://thecaringplacenwi.org) or call 219-464-0840.

The Caring Place received a 2022 Fall Transform Lake County Grant for its program, "Filling the Gaps in Upstream Prevention!" Funding supports expanding the organization's youth dating violence prevention task force, The Amanda Forum. This task force will mobilize Ivy Tech students ages 18-24 to work with Lake County high school students.

Help more organizations receive a Transform Lake County Grant by making a charitable contribution to the Lake County Community Fund. Visit [legacyfdn.org](http://legacyfdn.org) or call 219-736-1880 to donate.



## STAY UP TO DATE ON YOUR VACCINES

### When was the last time you received a vaccine?

You may not realize you need vaccines throughout your adult life to stay healthy and protect yourself from serious illness.

### The CDC recommends all adults receive:

- Flu shot every year
- 1 dose of Tdap then Tdap booster every 10 years
- COVID-19 primary vaccine (1-2 doses based on type) then booster at least 2 months after final primary dose

### Based on your age and other health factors, the CDC recommends adults receive:

- Measles, mumps, rubella
- Chickenpox
- Shingles
- HPV
- Pneumococcal
- Hepatitis B

Visit [legacyfdn.org/our-shot-219](http://legacyfdn.org/our-shot-219) to learn more about the importance of staying up to date on your vaccinations.





# THE LAKE COUNTY PRIMARY ELECTION IS TUESDAY, MAY 2

**Give your favorite candidate a chance in November  
by voting in the primary!**

Primary elections determine which candidate will represent each political party in November's general election. By participating in the primary election, you help decide which candidates should be nominated by each political party to run in the general election.

**Voting in an Indiana primary election is a little different than voting in the general, BUT STILL EASY!**

- ➔ When you arrive at your polling place, you will have to tell the poll worker if you will be voting in the Democratic or Republican primary.
- ➔ When you receive your ballot you will see only the candidates for the political party you selected.
- ➔ If your ballot has a public question on it, you can choose to only vote for the public question and no candidates.

**Not affiliated with either party? You can still vote!**

Indiana has an open primary system. This means that any registered voter can cast a ballot in the Democratic or Republican primary, regardless of previous voting history. In Indiana, your voter registration is not connected to a specific party, meaning you never have to formally affiliate yourself with one specific party.



## Be an Informed Voter

Visit [Legacyfdn.org/risenwi](https://Legacyfdn.org/risenwi) to learn more about the 2023 primary election, including important deadlines, early voting information, and more!

**Know your candidates before  
you go the polls this election**

**Visit [VOTE411.org](https://VOTE411.org) to view your unique  
ballot with individual candidate profiles,  
written by the candidate!**



Legacy Foundation's Rise NWI program has partnered with the League of Women Voters of the Calumet Area to produce nonpartisan candidate profiles on VOTE411 for Lake County, Indiana voters. Candidate profiles provide voters with information on which positions are up for election in their community, along with the candidates running for each position.



# SECURE 2.0 Act Makes Changes to Retirement Plans

SECURE 2.0 Act was signed into law in late 2022, delivering dozens of new retirement-related provisions. These changes build on the original SECURE Act of 2019, which altered the rules around how you can save and withdraw money from your retirement accounts. SECURE 2.0 Act addresses additional provisions related to retirement and savings that were not part of the original SECURE Act, creating new flexibility and accessibility to help individuals plan for a more secure future.

**JOIN US TO LEARN HOW THE SECURE 2.0 ACT IMPACTS YOUR RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLANS.**

**TUESDAY, MAY 16 | 12 PM - 1 PM**  
**LEGACY FOUNDATION OFFICE**

Reserve your free seat by emailing [legacy@legacyfdn.org](mailto:legacy@legacyfdn.org) or visiting [legacyfdn.org/upcoming-events](https://legacyfdn.org/upcoming-events)

## SECURE 2.0 ACT KEY TAKEAWAYS

- ✓ The age to start taking required minimum distributions (RMDs) increases to age 73 in 2023 and to 75 in 2033.
- ✓ The penalty for failing to take an RMD will decrease to 25% of the RMD amount, from 50%, and 10% if corrected in a timely manner for IRAs.
- ✓ Starting in 2024, RMDs will no longer be required from Roth accounts in employer retirement plans.
- ✓ Catch-up contributions will increase in 2025 for 401(k), 403(b), governmental plans, and IRA account holders.
- ✓ Defined contribution retirement plans will be able to add an emergency savings account associated with a Roth account.

## UPCOMING LEGACY FOUNDATION EVENTS



### Save the date to join us at an upcoming event!

**Nonprofit Executive Director & CEO  
Coffee and Conversation**  
Thursday, May 11 | 9 AM - 10 AM

**Donor Lunch & Learn: SECURE 2.0**  
Tuesday, May 16 | 12 PM - 1 PM

**Annual Scholarship Awards Dinner**  
Thursday, June 8 | 6 PM

**Annual Celebration**  
August 2023

**Transform Lake County Grant  
Orientation Training (In Person)**  
Thursday, August 31 | Time TBD

**Transform Lake County Grant  
Orientation Training (Virtual)**  
Tuesday, September 5 | Time TBD

**Nonprofit Executive Director & CEO  
Coffee and Conversation**  
Thursday, September 14 | 9 AM - 10 AM



Additional details will follow closer to each scheduled event. Stay up-to-date on event information by scanning the QR code or visiting [legacyfdn.org/upcoming-events](https://legacyfdn.org/upcoming-events)







## Show Your Community You Care Through a Legacy Foundation Sponsorship Opportunity

As Lake County's community foundation, Legacy Foundation is supported by a broad base of individuals, families, and businesses connected by the desire to improve Lake County, Indiana.

**We couldn't do the work we do for Lake County without the help of generous people and businesses like yours!**

Legacy Foundation sponsorship opportunities provide you with the opportunity to broaden your competitive advantage by:

- ✓ Enhancing your image.
- ✓ Creating positive publicity along with heightened visibility.
- ✓ Differentiating you from your competitors.
- ✓ Showcasing your business as supporting the community and contributing to its success.

Sponsorship opportunities range from \$1,000 - \$5,000 and each opportunity includes a unique set of sponsorship perks. All contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

### Sponsorship Opportunities Include

#### Annual Scholarship Awards Dinner

#### Annual Celebration Event

#### Legacy Learning Lab Series

#### Women in Philanthropy



Scan the QR code to view Legacy Foundation's 2023 sponsorship opportunities, or visit [legacyfdn.org/donors/sponsorships](https://legacyfdn.org/donors/sponsorships)

For questions, contact Maranda Fishback Engquist at [mfishback@legacyfdn.org](mailto:mfishback@legacyfdn.org) or call 219-736-1880.

# Join Women in Philanthropy Today to be Part of This Year's Grantmaking!

Legacy Foundation Women in Philanthropy (WIP) is a vibrant network of philanthropists committed to transforming Lake County, Indiana. WIP uses the collective power of women learning, giving, and leading together to build long-lasting positive change.

**In 2022, WIP granted \$16,400 to five organizations serving Lake County women and children.**

Visit [legacyfdn.org/donors/women-in-philanthropy](https://legacyfdn.org/donors/women-in-philanthropy) or contact Erica Fizer Katsepas to join Women in Philanthropy.

efizer@legacyfdn.org  
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## MEMORIAL GIFTS JANUARY 1 - MARCH 1, 2023



### Alexandra Gardner Riddle Fund

**In Memory of Alexandra G. Riddle**  
Donors | Roger and Elizabeth Kapla

### Friends of Marquette Park Fund of Miller Citizens Shoreline Committee

**In Memory of Ron Cohen**  
Donor | Robin Rich

**In Memory of Cara Spicer**  
Donor | Stephen Spicer

### IBEW Local Union #697 Memorial Scholarship Fund

**In Memory of**  
**Christopher Szara**  
**Brian Mysliwiec**  
**George Benac**  
Donor | IBEW Local #697

### Legacy Women's Philanthropy Fund

**In Memory of Katherine E. Buis**  
Donor | Kathleen Bernicky

### Richard A. Gordon Memorial Endowment Fund

**In Memory of Richard A. Gordon**  
Donor | Myrene Gordon

### Rob Gardiner Legacy Fund for Boys & Girls Club of Greater NWI

**In Memory of Rob Gardiner**  
Donors | Charles and Colleen Gardiner

### TrueWealth Advising Group Endowment

**In Memory of Joyce Beishline**  
Donors | Carey and John Yukich



# Legacy Foundation Welcomes Edward Vega, Sr. as Foundation's Community Impact Director

Edward hails from Mayaguez, Puerto Rico. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Social Sciences (Magna Cum Laude) from the University of Puerto Rico. Subsequently, the University of Illinois awarded Edward the Abraham Lincoln Fellowship leading to his completion of a Master's Degree in Social Work Administration.

He has over 25 years of experience in management and administration at various Chicagoland charitable organizations. His career includes serving as Associate Executive Director for 9 years, Vice President of Programs for 7 years, and Executive Director for 12 years. Edward's experience in grants administration includes a year with the Continental Bank Foundation and 2 years with the City of Chicago overseeing the awarding and implementation of CDBG and CSBG federal grants.

In his new role, Edward will lead development, implementation, and evaluation of Legacy Foundation's community investments and engagement.



"I am excited and look forward to contributing to the community I have lived in for the past 30 years."

EDWARD VEGA, SR., MSW

## Legacy Foundation Staff



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Return Service Requested

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## *Scholar Spotlight* MYA BELL

2021 Legends Scholar and  
2022 Milton and Ruby McClendon Scholarship Recipient

Mya was recently named Student Advisory Board President of the College of Humanities, Education, and Social Sciences (CHESS) at Purdue University Northwest! In her new role, she will create and bring opportunities for healthy, productive relationships among students and faculty, along with helping students grow as individuals through knowledge, advocacy, service, and leadership.

Mya is a 2021 Lake Central High School graduate studying Human Development and Family Studies. She is the President of Purdue Northwest's Honors Student Advisory Board and has been a member of the Honors College since freshman year. Additionally Mya works in the Office of Student Life, is a TRIO program mentor, and is the president of the Food Pantry Committee.



"Legacy Foundation has given me the ability to pursue and achieve these amazing opportunities."

MYA BELL