

Sandusky/Erie County Community Foundation Newsletter

APRIL - JUNE 2013

Community Grants Awarded

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The Sandusky/Erie County Community Foundation is pleased to announce the completion of its Round 1, 2013 community grants cycle. Funding for these grants was made possible as the result of another major grant to the Community Foundation from the Randolph J. and Estelle M. Dorn Foundation as well as through the generous support of many donors in the community.

The Round 1 grants will result in \$80,681 being awarded to 30 local, non-profit organizations. Grants were awarded to organizations in Berlin Heights, Milan, Huron, Margaretta, Perkins, Sandusky, and Vermilion. Many of the grants were awarded to organizations that serve all of Erie County.

Organizations receiving funding include:

- Erie County CASA Program for computer hardware
- KinShip for capital improvements
- Goodwill Industries for an Employee Wellness Program
- Serving Our Seniors, matching funds for a new mini-bus.
- EHOVE for summer camp supplies and transportation
- St. Mary's Elementary School for school security system upgrade
- Perkins Township Police Department for 6 squad room computers
- Cancer Services of Erie County for transportation program for cancer patients
- Care and Share of Erie County for food
- Sandusky High School Athletic Department towards construction of new baseball field
- Firelands Habitat for Humanity for lumber and windows for a Habitat home
- Sandusky Bay Rowing Association for the construction of a boathouse
- Humane Society of Erie County for their Healthy Animal Fund
- Edison Birthplace Association towards the cost of a roof replacement
- Caryl Crane Youth

Theatre for royalties and study guides

- Firelands Symphony Orchestra for artistic expenses
- Friends of Erie MetroParks for construction of the Castalia Quarry Boardwalk
- Erie County 4-H Camp for replacement of swim line and marker buoys

These grants and many more will benefit the residents of Erie County thanks to the outstanding efforts of our local non-profit organizations. These organizations provide a broad variety of services to address the changing needs of our communities. Grants were funded in the categories of Youth Services, Social Services, Community Development, Education, Environment, and Arts and Humanities.

The Sandusky/Erie County Community Foundation continues a tradition of mindful, effective grant making, addressing a variety of needs throughout Erie County. Each year, the Foundation holds two grant cycles. Since its inception, The Sandusky/Erie County Community Foundation has awarded more than \$4 million to organizations in Erie County.

Make the Gift of a Lifetime

Turning Retirement Accounts into Charitable Good

There is good news for community foundation donors in their 70s—and for the communities and causes they care about.

There is good news for community foundation donors in their 70s—and for the communities and causes they care about. A recently extended law makes it possible to give Individual Retirement Account (IRA) assets to charity through 2013, free from federal tax. Prior to 2006, all lifetime distributions from IRAs were taxed—even those given to charity.

As such, our donors can give far more with less! This may be an attractive giving option for you if you are:

Over 70½ and now receiving minimum IRA distributions—

but do not need the extra income. Interested in making a significant lifetime gift to impact your community.

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 permitted individuals to roll over up to \$100,000 from an IRA directly to a qualifying charity without being taxed. On January 2, 2013 President Obama signed into law the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, extending this unique charitable giving opportunity through 2013. Single and married individuals 70½ and older are eligible to give in this way from their individual retirement accounts.

Using IRA assets to make a gift during your lifetime, as opposed to giving via

bequest in your will, enables you to experience the joy of making a major gift.

“We are ready to help our donors take advantage of this legislation and make gifts during their lifetimes. Our personalized service and local expertise helps donors address the issues and causes most important to them,” said Anna Oertel, Executive Director of the Sandusky/Erie County Community Foundation.

For more information on the charitable giving legislation and the Charitable IRA opportunity, please contact Anna Oertel at (419)621-9690



Scholarship Season in Full Swing

It is the time of year when high school seniors start planning for graduation and continuing their education beyond high school.

The Sandusky/Erie County Community Foundation believes there are few, if any, gifts as valuable to a student than the gift of an education. We are proud to administer 27 local scholarship funds to assist Erie County's best and brightest continue their education beyond high school.

The Community Foundation's Scholarship Committee has more than 250 applications to review for the 27 available scholarships this year.

In 2012, the Community Foundation awarded \$65,340.00 to Erie County students.

If you would like to help local students continue their education please contact Anna Oertel at 419-621-9690 or executivedirector@sanduskyfoundation.org



Community Links Internship Initiative

The Sandusky/Erie County Community Foundation is embarking on a new internship initiative in 2013 called "Community Links".

Community Links provides a limited number of college students or recent graduates an opportunity to work in Erie County nonprofit organizations or governmental agencies during the summer months. In addition, the interns are educated about the Erie County communities and local nonprofit and public sectors.

The program's objectives include:

- Offering first-hand knowledge of Erie County's nonprofit community, its leadership, and organizations.
- Providing meaningful career-related work experience.
- Increasing local organizations' capacity to conduct important short-term projects.
- Stimulating interest in a career in the nonprofit or public sectors.
- Exposing students to a broad range of public sector endeavors.

- Preventing a 'brain-drain' and promoting a 'brain-gain' in Erie County.

During its inaugural year, Community Links has selected projects at three local organizations. Organizations selected for the 2013 Community Links Internship Initiative are: the Erie County Humane Society, Erie County Health Department, and Goodwill Industries.

The applications for the interns have been received and final selections will be made in May.

Preventing a 'brain-drain' and promoting a 'brain-gain' in Erie County

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public good.***

New Board Member

The Sandusky/Erie County Community Foundation is proud to announce the appointment of Dick Brady to its Board of Directors.

A native of Sandusky, Dick continues to reside in Sandusky with his wife, Debra. Mr. Brady is the President of both Brady Electric and Brady Sign Co. and has a distinguished history of service to the community. Mr. Brady served on the Sandusky Central Catholic School Board, the Advisory Council

of Sts. Peter and Paul School, the Advisory Board of National City Bank – PNC Bank, and the Levy Campaign Committee for Serving Our Seniors. Mr. Brady was a member of the City of Sandusky Licensing Review Board, the City of Sandusky Zoning Code Board of Appeals and the City of Sandusky Charter Review Committee. Additionally, Mr. Brady served as a Sandusky City Commissioner in 2011 and currently serves as Chairman of the Erie County Law Library Resources Board, and the Erie County Bar Association Extraordinary Fee Committee.



Mr. Dick Brady