

**Message from the Chair**

Dear Community Member,

The role of civil society in providing for the needs of our citizens has never been more important in my lifetime. Expecting government to identify and serve the needs of our community is unrealistic and dangerous to the livelihood and safety of our neighbors and friends. Fortunately, in Pickaway County, the strength of our civil society is evident in the actions and heart of the Pickaway County Community Foundation. You are the heart of our Foundation and due directly to your donations, our Board and staff have been able to pivot our previously-identified priorities to address the immediate needs of our community during this world-wide crisis.



Your unrestricted and operational donations have permitted us to have perhaps the finest paid staff of non-profit leaders in our County. The benefit of this resource is that we do not rely on the graciousness of volunteers to tackle problems when volunteers can make time. Overnight, we were able to mobilize and begin connecting our historic and new donors to networks in need of financial resources so that you may help to provide for the basic needs of the most vulnerable in our community — our children. After addressing that immediate need, we were able to pivot once again and take advantage of a blessing of a partnership between our organization and United Way to expand provision of basic resources beyond children to other vulnerable populations. A volunteer board of individuals would not have been able to serve the needs of this community so quickly and responsively.

In this newsletter, you will read about how we continue to identify new needs and new organizations which may benefit from your

gracious donations towards specific projects and ideas. With each donation you give, you are changing the landscape and the future of where we live.

I will have the honor of serving as the Chair of your Foundation until the end of 2021, having spent nine years on the Board at that time. Our current Board boasts deep and disparate wells of talent and experience. Before COVID-19 modified the way we all function and our focus, the Board had begun to set priorities which we will not ignore moving forward. Instead, we have and will continue to spend time developing a strategic plan, identifying and formulating a concrete framework for a new, exciting community-wide project which will certainly excite our citizens and positively impact our youth, increasing our capacity to interact individually with you as a donor to discuss those issues that ignite your passion, focusing on succession planning, and shoring up the operational stability of our organization.

As we all venture into financially uncertain times, I for one, do not want to imagine a future for Pickaway County where your Foundation cannot continue to serve as an important leader of Pickaway County’s civil society. Judge Learned Hand, often considered one of the greatest American justices to *never* sit on the Supreme Court, delivered a speech during WWII to 1.5 million people, who gathered for an event entitled “I Am an American Day.” In the speech, entitled “The Spirit of Liberty,” he told the listeners that the essence of liberty was not to be found in constitutions, laws, or courthouses, but “in the hearts of men and women.” I encourage you to dust off the speech and read it for yourself. My father ground into my brain the concept that the strength of any democracy lies in the vibrancy of

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its civil society. Democracy is a multi-dimensional concept and if we look to our civil society as one of its defining pillars, let us not be found lacking in Pickaway County. When times are hard, let us remember those less fortunate and ideas bigger than we are as individuals. Let us contribute in a positive and proactive manner.

The Pickaway County Community Foundation serves as the philanthropic engine for our community. Please help us ensure that we will continue to be able to provide concrete, strategic, and fundamental services in our County by considering an unrestricted donation or agreeing to be a part of our Advocate Program. This will allow us to maximize your donations towards compelling and necessary programming and services where we all live.

I look forward to serving you for two more years.

*Rose McFarland*

Pickaway County Community Foundation, Board Chair

## PCCF's Pandemic Response

Your Pickaway County Community Foundation has been extremely busy during this pandemic. Maintaining a healthy community is important to PCCF. Through programs, one that already existed and the other that was created, then expanded as a response to the pandemic, we strive to support and promote the health and well being of our neighbors across Pickaway County.

### FEED OUR KIDS

On March 13, PCCF quickly initiated the Feed Our Kids program. Through donations from businesses, funds, community members and other non profits, donations began pouring in to assist already existing programs that make sure that students were going to have access to food during the school shut downs. The USDA came through with a grant for schools to provide "grab and go" bags for breakfast and lunch; however, the program did not provide hot meals, evening meals, nor weekend packs, which many students received through special programs throughout the school communities. PCCF's quick response to this need provided the opportunity to issue grants totaling \$15,000 to assist organizations providing for our children.

### FOOD RELIEF PROGRAM

On April 8th, PCCF partnered with the United Way Pickaway County to expand the program to serve any program that assists with food insecurities. This partnership with UWPC provided an opportunity to reach more people and provide awareness of the on-going situation as the needs in our county are increasing due to not only school closures but non essential business closures, furloughs, and the "stay at home" order by the Governor.

At this time over \$52,000 has been raised to assist Pickaway County programs that provide food to those who are in situations where there is a food insecurity.

## PCN Agriculture Donates \$20,000

The Pickaway Competitive Network (PCN) Agriculture Fund, a fund of the Pickaway County Community Foundation, has a mission to promote agriculture in Pickaway County. Agriculture is the number one industry in Pickaway County and the committee has celebrated this each year at their Farm to Plate dinner. This event has been used as their annual fundraiser to support agriculture programs in the county. In the past few years they have been able to support the local FFA Chapters in various ways as well as support the participants at the Pickaway County Fair through donations for the Pickaway County Farm Bureau Buyer's Club, t-shirts for all the fair participants and over \$10,000 to the Pickaway County Agriculture and Event Center.

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic that is occurring throughout our nation the PCN Agriculture Fund voted to grant \$20,000 to the PCCF Food Insecurities Program to help feed those in need. This donation, along with other donations, is being used to subsidize food programs in the county that are in need due to the COVID-19 virus. The committee recognizes that with business closings and changes in family dynamics, the need for immediate reaction to assist with helping provide food is a true reflection of what agriculture families do for their community.

The PCN Agriculture Fund Committee will not be hosting their annual Farm to Plate dinner this August. Stacey Sark, Chair of the PCN Agriculture Fund Committee stated "As a group we agreed that with social distancing and stay-at-home orders that have been issued and extended once already, we may not be able to host an event of this size even in August. Typically we have around 400 tickets sold for this annual event. It's unfortunate but we all have to do our part to stay safe and support our community."

Instead of hosting the Farm To Plate dinner the committee is challenging those who would have purchased a table or bought a ticket to donate to either their PCN Agriculture Fund or to the PCCF Food Insecurities Program.

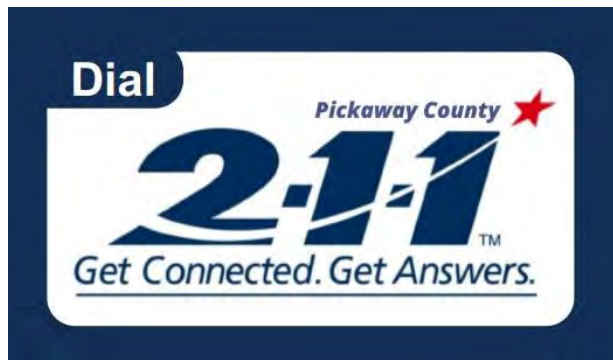
In addition to their donation to the Food Relief Program, prior to the coronavirus pandemic they also donated to the Logan Elm FFA for their annual banquet.



## 2-1-1 System Assists Pandemic Needs

In 2019 the Pickaway County Health Department along with local businesses, nonprofits, and churches contracted to begin a 2-1-1 System in Pickaway County. At the time of the pandemic, the PCHD did not have time to market this program; therefore, PCCF along with partners from Ohio-Health Berger, Educational Service Center, Pickaway County Board of Developmental Disability, Pickaway County United Way and Pickaway County Community Action and Job and Family Services formed a work group to assist. Through this collaboration a focus on marketing the 2-1-1 program has produced over 5,000 business cards, posters and flyers being distributed throughout the county. The information details the types of assistance the can be provided through that phone call for assistance.

A Facebook page was developed to share information about the 2-1-1 System. Follow the page at: Pickaway County 2-1-1.



Your community connection for information, referrals and crisis intervention.

Available 24/7 FREE + Confidential

Call or text 2-1-1 for:

Emergency Shelter	Relationships	Parenting
Rent Assistance	Food	Crisis Intervention
Utility Assistance	Depression	Suicide Prevention
Substance Abuse	Employment	Disaster Recovery
Elder Services	Health Care	Abuse

...And More

A service of Pathways of Central Ohio, 2-1-1 is available on most phones. You can also dial (800) 544 1601 or text your zip code to 898211.



## Imagination Library Receives \$40,000 Challenge Grant from Well Being Foundation

The Imagination Library received a \$10,000 grant and a challenge grant up to \$40,000 from the Well Being Foundation. The challenge grant will be used to match dollar for dollar up to \$40,000 in additional donations to the Imagination Library. This generous offer could generate \$80,000 for the Imagination Library – Pickaway County.

The Pickaway County Imagination Library started in July 2019 with local donors sponsoring up to 200 children. The program quickly reached capacity and a waiting list was started. In September 2019, the Ohio Governor's Imagination Library started matching local donations so local enrollment increased to 400 children. Again, it quickly reached capacity. With additional community donations, Imagination Library - Pickaway County recently raised its cap to 600 and again reached capacity.

The Well Being Foundation's initial \$10,000 donation will allow an additional 160 children to enroll and distribute approximately 9,600 books. With the help of the community to raise \$40,000 to be matched by the Well Being Foundation, and with the additional match available through the Governor's Imagination Library, Pickaway County will move closer to the goal of enrolling 2,400 kids under the age of 5. Through these generous partnerships, local donations will now contribute the equivalent of four times the donation amount for Pickaway County children!

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a book gifting program that sends one book each month to registered children under the age of five. There is no cost to participating families, but local sponsors are needed.

## Step Out in Style—2020

Thank you to everyone who attended the 2020 Step Out in Style. The event would not have been possible without our corporate sponsor, Kingston National Bank. In addition, we would like to thank our models, purse donors, table sponsors, and all of the people who attended this year's event.



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## **PCCF Board Issues Grants**

The Pickaway County Community Foundation Board has issued grants for the first quarter to the following programs:

[Pickaway Addiction Action Coalition](#) - \$1,000 - Assists recovering addicts with the ability to obtain personal documents needed to obtain a job, housing or services.

[Ronald McDonald House](#) - \$500/Chris Gary Memorial also granted \$500 - The Team Cuisine Program at Ronald McDonald House assists in the support of a chef to prepare well balanced, nutritious meals in a safe and sanitary environment for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House.

[Pickaway County Family YMCA](#) - \$4,000 - The school age swim program offered by the YMCA offers each first or second grader in the county swim lessons.

[Pickaway County Special Olympics](#) - \$1,000 - ICan Bike Camp provides specialized instruction and support to help 40 people with disabilities learn how to ride a bike.

[Feed Our Kids Program](#) - \$5,000 - Provides food to programs assisting people who are suffering from food insecurities.