

# BRIDGES



Building bridges to support the future of Montgomery County

Spring 2021

***We are celebrating 30 years of working for the good of Montgomery County!***

What began as a gleam in the eyes of some community minded visionaries, is now a stable, permanent charitable organization committed to building a stronger community. For 30 years, we have connected people that care with the causes that matter most to them. But this anniversary is not really about us - it's about every one of our donors and philanthropic partners and their faithful commitment to our mission.

It all began when Lilly Endowment issued a press release offering start up money to create community foundations in Indiana. A community had to raise \$3.7 million, and then

CELEBRATING  
**30**  
YEARS  
1991 - 2021

Lilly would match that with \$1.3 million for a total beginning endowment of \$5 million. This was a huge challenge, but five community leaders were eager to take that challenge, and they began the process of sharing the vision and long-term benefits of a community foundation with others. Their ingenuity and foresight made the MCCF a reality - and the rest, as they say, is history.

It truly is amazing to see just how those long-term benefits, explained by visionaries 30 years ago, have come to fruition. As this year unfolds, we will connect with our past and highlight stories, events, and people that helped build this organization. Follow along with us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram as we take some trips down memory lane this year!

## *Thank you*

to all of our donors, nonprofit partners, board members past and present, and volunteers for

**30** years of loyal commitment

**30** years of generosity

**30** years of trustworthy stewardship

**30** years of impactful grantmaking

and above all

**30** years of valuable partnerships

making it all possible

*Thank you for enriching our county through your dedication!*

## THEN

**FUNDS:** The first fund was created in 1992 by Dr. Mark and Barbara Caress. This fund continues to benefit the Montgomery County Educational Foundation.

**GRANTS:** The first three grants were awarded in 1992 and totaled \$2,091.

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** The first scholarships were awarded in 1994, for a total of \$9,775.

**ASSETS:** In April 1992, our assets totaled \$64,934.

## NOW

**FUNDS:** We now have 230 endowed funds benefitting nearly every area of our community.

**GRANTS:** 334 grants were awarded in 2020 and totaled \$1.4 million.

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** 264 scholarships were awarded in 2020, for a total of \$503,075.

**ASSETS:** In December 2020, our assets totaled \$59.5 million



The Canine Plaza in 2002 - A \$100,000 MCCF grant was awarded to begin construction.



The Canine Plaza today - a venue for Lunch on the Plaza, First Fridays, and other community gatherings.



Camp Rotary in 1998 - (l-r) Dr. Dick Walker, MCCF Executive Director, Ann Malott, and Dr. John Walker inspect plans for the construction of a mess hall. MCCF awarded a \$30,000 grant to help build the new facility. (*Journal Review photo May, 1998*)



Camp Rotary today - besides the mess hall (*photo*), MCCF grants totaling \$136,265 helped build a bunkhouse, new septic system, sidewalks, and more. The camp sits on 80 acres and is used for Scouts and other activities.



# Bridge Builder

## NONPROFIT LOAN PROGRAM

A partnership of Hoosier Heartland State Bank and the Montgomery County Community Foundation

The Montgomery County Community Foundation (MCCF) and Hoosier Heartland State Bank (HHSB) are pleased to offer the Bridge Builder Nonprofit Loan Program to Montgomery County nonprofit organizations.

Our nonprofit community is facing many challenges and limited fundraising opportunities. MCCF and HHSB regularly support local nonprofits with grants and donations but know that grant funding may not address all of the needs of organizations. This program offers low-interest loans to recognized 501(c)(3) organizations serving Montgomery County residents and is intended to act as an additional option to help meet unfulfilled operating and program needs.

### Types of Qualifying Loans

Loans for operating needs, projects, and programs will be considered for the Bridge Builder Nonprofit Loan Program.

### Requesting Amounts:

The minimum loan amount that can be requested is \$10,000. Maximum amounts vary and will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

### Terms:

Loan terms will vary with a maximum of five years.

### Interest Rate:

Low to 0% interest

*Note: HHSB will determine if collateral is required on a case-by-case basis.*

If you are a nonprofit organization interested in applying for the Bridge Builder Nonprofit Loan Program, please contact the Montgomery County Community Foundation at (765) 362-1267. Details and information about this program are on our website at [mccf-in.org/nonprofit-resources](http://mccf-in.org/nonprofit-resources).



Below: Headline and partial article from the Journal Review, 1991

## January 25, 1991 Group wants to form community foundation

By PAT CLINE  
Civic Affairs Editor

Last fall Lilly Endowment invited groups to establish community foundations. It committed \$47 million through the year 2005 to help Indiana communities in creating community foundations or strengthening existing ones.

The invitation caught the attention of Nancy Doemel, direc-

tor of corporate and foundation relations at Wabash College, and Mayor Philip Michal.

"They (Lilly) dangled the carrot which stretches to the year 2005, and we thought maybe this would work for our community," Doemel said. She and Michal attended some "how-to" sessions to learn more about the Lilly project.

They were impressed and even more excited about the prospect

of having a local community foundation. "Lilly's goal is to help Indiana communities establish a legacy of self-reliance in addressing local problems," Doemel said. "We can't think of a community with a stronger sense of self-reliance than this one."

The two decided to go a step further. Thursday night they met with a small group of community leaders and resource people for

an exchange of ideas.

"We wanted to know if there is an interest here in establishing a community foundation," Doemel said. "If there is, should we move forward and how?"

Lilly Endowment defines a community foundation as "a publicly-supported philanthropic institution serving a defined geographic area and interest. It administers funds from an endowment built from contribu-

tions by individuals, corporations, other foundations and government. A community foundation distributes grants to nonprofit agencies in such areas as human services, education, health, community development, arts and other civic endeavors."

Doemel said Lilly Endowment is willing to help local com-

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Chief Executive Officer  
Kelly S. Taylor

Our community is forever indebted to Lilly Endowment for their generosity and their philanthropic vision for Indiana. We are forever indebted to these five community leaders - Nancy Doemel, Will Hays, Dick Ristine, Rita Hamm, and then Mayor Phil Michal - for embracing Lilly's vision and sharing that vision with the community. All but one are no longer with us, yet their vision continues to live on through every MCCF grant and scholarship. We are meeting the challenges and needs of today because they envisioned a way to do that 30 years ago.

And 30 years from now, there will be even more challenges, and different needs than we have today. What will those challenges and needs be? No one can know for sure. But here's what we do know - the foundation has been laid to meet those needs 30 years, or even 130 years, from now.

We cannot know what tomorrow holds, but we know that tomorrow will look back on us to see what we did today. So today, we will continue to respond to needs, to convene and provide leadership in our community, to sow seeds of innovation, and to pursue proactive grantmaking.

Thank you for allowing us to work with you to improve the lives of our neighbors and friends throughout our great community. Thank you for trusting us over the years and sharing in the vision that was cast for a community foundation right here in Montgomery County. Thank you for serving as volunteers, not only with the MCCF, but also with the many valued and essential nonprofits here in our community. So much good has been accomplished - and so much more can, and will be, accomplished - because of you.

We recently updated our e-news list and discovered that we had several unusable email addresses. If you have an updated email address, would you please share it with us? In addition, if you have recently moved or switched phone numbers, we would appreciate having that updated information as well. You can let us know by emailing [deanna@mccf-in.org](mailto:deanna@mccf-in.org), or by filling out the form on our website at <https://www.mccf-in.org/contact>. Thank you!



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