



## SCOTT COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

# Community Connection

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## Disaster Relief Fund Created For Tornado Efforts

In response to the tragedies surrounding the recent tornadoes that affected Scott County and surrounding areas, the Scott County Community Foundation has established a Disaster Relief Fund. One hundred percent of donations to this fund will support disaster recovery efforts, and will focus on long-term needs as the community recovers.

In addition, funding will be provided from the Scott County Immediate Response Fund, an endowment fund that was established several years ago to meet the immediate needs of local agencies. Donations to this fund will provide support for future needs that may arise from not only natural disasters, but as an aid to local nonprofits to become more effective and efficient in accomplishing their own programs. Past grant recipients include American Red Cross to purchase disaster relief supplies; Children's Health Clinic to give preventive and medical services to children; United Way of Scott County for the 2-1-1 referral help line, housing for homeless people and ramps for the disabled and elderly; the Preservation Alliance, Inc. for roof repair at the Scott County Heritage Center and Museum, and other programs.

"In communicating with several local agencies which are coordinating donations and services, they have been overwhelmed with the generosity of people from not only in our community, but across the state and nation," said Jaime Toppe, Community Foundation Executive Director. "We have determined that the immediate needs of victims are currently being met, and the Foundation will begin to focus our funding on long-term needs for rebuilding."

"Our Board of Directors will work with community leaders and nonprofit agencies to determine those with unmet needs, and pool our resources to ensure assistance is provided for those affected persons," Toppe continued. "I encourage people also to donate to our Immediate Response Fund in case of future disasters that could strike our community again. We ask the community to continue keeping everyone in their thoughts and prayers as we go down this long road of recovery."

Tax deductible contributions for the Disaster Relief Fund can be sent to the Foundation.

## Thoughts From Our Chairman

Dear Friends of the Foundation,

Spring came to southern Indiana with a vengeance on March 2, 2012. The EF-4 tornado that traveled 59 miles across Washington, Clark, Scott, Ripley and Jefferson counties left a trail of destruction. However within minutes of the storm's passing, people began working together to help those who were injured. Once those immediate needs were met, volunteers turned their attention to clearing roads and covering roofs with tarps. Day by day the needs of the victims were met by people working together.

Some people gave what money they could afford to those in need. One fellow drove around handing out envelopes with \$200 enclosed.

Others gave their time. There were those who were able to volunteer a great deal of time. They even took days off from work. I met a young mother who drove her children 45 minutes to a babysitter so that she could spend the day picking up debris. Others were only able to give a few hours, but they did what they could. Together these volunteers made a difference to the people they served. The impact of everyone giving what they could was substantial.

The Community Foundation works in much the same way. When we all work together big things happen and lives are changed. Some folks are able to give more, while others give what they can. The Foundation works

to provide financial resources to a variety of needs in our community. The past couple of months the scholarship committee has been busy reviewing some very competitive student applications. Next month, the grants committee will be busy reviewing grant requests. Scholarships and grants would not be available without the generous support of community donations.

Working together, we make a difference. That's how we did it after the tornado. People helping people, with each giving what they can. That's what makes Scott County a great place to live.

**LYNDA PHILLIPS  
CHAIRMAN**





Scott County Community Foundation Board Member Barbara Broady presents a check for \$1,126 to Ishmael White, president of the Austin High School Alumni Association. The grant was distributed from the AHS Alumni Education Fund at the Community Foundation, and will be used for scholarships for graduating seniors at Austin High School.



The Community Foundation and United Way co-hosted a Chamber NetEvent as a way for the community to learn more about what we do. Shown are United Way Executive Director Nancy Riley, Alex Grace with Graceful Images and SCCF board member L.L. Lowry.



Executive Director Jaime Toppe accepts a check for \$2,500 from Monsanto Fund. Denny Wilson, at right, was the America's Farmers Grow Communities recipient for Scott County. This program is a way to recognize farmers and the vital role they play in caring for our land and growing our economy. As the recipient, Denny chose to direct this donation to the Scott County Community Foundation. It was given to the John and Janice Martin Unrestricted Fund, and will be used to award to nonprofit organizations during this year's Community Grants Program.



Several members of the Scott County Youth Grantmaking Council helped with tornado cleanup efforts in Henryville. Other recent activities include raising money for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Scott County's Bowl for Kids' Sake, and taking a spring break trip to Mammoth Cave and Kart Kountry in Kentucky. The YGC is currently seeking youth who want to be involved in the community service committee, which meets monthly to complete service projects. They are especially interested in having fifth and sixth grade students join to learn about serving in our community. For an application, call Jaime at 752-2057.



Fourth and fifth grade students at Johnson Elementary School presented a concert recently to showcase songs through Lyrics Alive, a creative writing, music and enrichment program. Lyrics Alive, a nonprofit organization, received a \$1,218 grant from the Scott County Community Foundation, along with support from the Community Arts Program at Hanover College; the Indiana Arts Commission, a state agency; and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

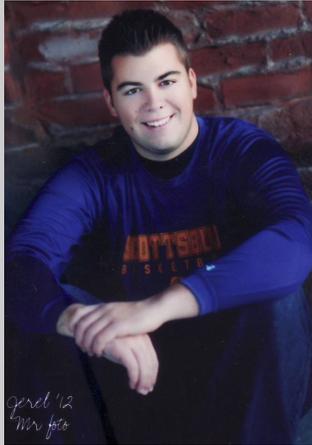
## Jerel Taylor Named 2012 Lilly Scholar Recipient

One Scott County student has been named recipient of a full-tuition, four-year scholarship as the Scott County Community Foundation 2012 Lilly Endowment Community Scholar.

Jerel Taylor of Scottsburg High School will receive full tuition to the Indiana college of his choice and a \$900 yearly stipend for required books and equipment.

Jerel is the son of Cindy Taylor of Scottsburg. He is active on the Scott County Youth Grantmaking Council; Student Council, of which he is the Vice-President; is the President of his class; plays for his school's golf team; is active on the boys and girls basketball teams as statistician, manager, announcer and camp volunteer; and plays alto saxophone for the Scottsburg Band of Warriors.

Jerel plans to attend Wabash College to major in physics and teacher education. He plans to continue his education at graduate school and eventually work



for a nonprofit organization.

"This is a huge honor and blessing," said Jerel. "It's going to make college a lot easier financially. I'm humbled to be chosen by the scholarship committee. I will use this to accomplish great things for not only myself, but the community."

Twenty-two students applied for the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship. Students were

judged based on financial consideration, community involvement, extra-curricular activities, work activities, academics and two essays. Five students advanced to the interview portion. After the scholarship committee narrowed the field to one nominee and two alternates, the finalists' names were submitted to Independent Colleges of Indiana Inc. (ICI) for the selection of the recipients.

ICI is a nonprofit corporation that represents 31 regionally accredited degree granting, nonprofit, private colleges and universities in the state.

The scholarships are the result of a statewide Lilly Endowment initiative to help Hoosier students reach higher levels of education. Indiana ranks among the lowest states in the percentage of residents over the age of 25 with a bachelor's degree. There were 142 scholarships awarded statewide.

**"Jerel Taylor is an excellent choice for this year's Lilly Scholarship recipient. Through his written application, essays, and interview he consistently demonstrated his leadership strengths both in school and in the community. I have no doubt that he will go on to accomplish great things and give back to our community in many ways in the future."**

**Marsha Howser  
Chairperson,  
Scholarship Committee**

## Timothy Michael Wolf Memorial Scholarship Celebrates Legacy

Fifteen years ago, Joe and Becky Wolf set out to fulfill their son's wishes and established the Timothy Michael Wolf Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Timmy Wolf died after a courageous battle with leukemia on Nov. 9, 1992, at the young age of 16. Before he passed away, he talked with his dad about establishing a scholarship at Scottsburg High School to help others further their education. The Tim Wolf Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 1993, and has since awarded 26 scholarships to deserving students.

The first scholarship was awarded to Andy Voyles, Timmy's best friend. "The scholarship money doesn't mean as much to me as the significance of the scholarship as a whole," said Andy. "Being the first recipient of Tim's scholarship is something I am very proud of. Tim was a 'perfect' individual in my opinion. Although only one man walked this earth that was truly perfect, Tim was a close second."



"That said, it was important to me, and still is, to carry myself in the most compassionate, dignified, Christian-like, and professional manner possible," said Andy.

Ryan Meyer was the 1995 recipient of the scholarship. "As a personal friend of Tim Wolf, the scholarship I received in his name meant more to me than any of the other awards, academic and athletic, that I received while a student at Scottsburg High School," said Ryan. "It set the tone for my

college education, and helped me make the transition from high school to university with an open mind and an open heart."

"Tim led by example, pushing me to do more, to explore more, and to take more out of life than I would have on my own. Seeing the example that Tim set during his time of sickness is an inspiration to me, and coupled with the fond memories of our friendship, he has left an indelible mark on me and his memory has helped me put seemingly difficult situations in my life into perspective," said Ryan.

Tim Wolf's legacy continues to live on through the lives of students he has touched through the scholarship set up in his memory. The 2012 recipient of the Timothy Michael Wolf Memorial Scholarship will be awarded in May at Scottsburg High School.



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### *Looking Forward, Giving Back.*

## YGC Debuts New Youth Website: [www.scottyouth.org](http://www.scottyouth.org)

During a Scott County Youth Grantmaking Council meeting a few months ago, the students started a discussion about issues facing youth in our community. One comment was: "There's nothing to do here." In fact, there are a lot of activities for youth to participate in, but perhaps communication wasn't reaching the youth.

From these discussions, the YGC, with technical assistance from Community Foundation board member and Scottsburg High School teacher Adam Gibson, have created a new website for all things youth in Scott County: [www.scottyouth.org](http://www.scottyouth.org).

The youth envisioned the website to have three components: 1) where youth can search for activities being held on any given day; 2) where youth can find opportunities to volunteer; and 3) where youth can go for help for abuse, addictions, teen parenting and more. In creating the website, resources for parents/guardians with youth are also available on everything from where to find child-care and preschool to leadership opportunities to services for children with disabilities, and everything in-between!



The YGC plans to debut the website at the Scott County Family YMCA's Healthy Kids Day on April 28, and will give away free silicone bracelets bearing the website's name. If you were not able to attend the event, you can still check out the website and let us know your thoughts! Keep in mind it is a work in progress, and we also need you to let us know about your events and resources!!