

# Community Connection

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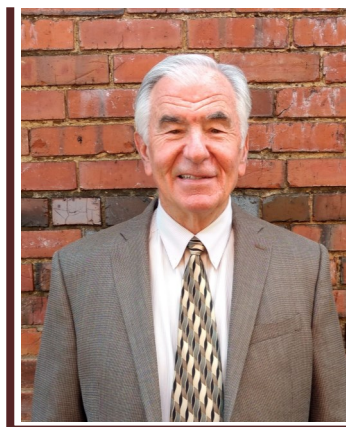
### Board of Directors

Josh Stigdon, *Chairman*  
Christa West, *Vice Chair*  
Heather White, *Secretary*  
Chris Fugate, *Treasurer*  
Nancy Barr  
Sheila Carter  
Michael Everett  
Steve Gwaltney  
Jami Parks  
Melinda Sparkman  
Dennis Wilson  
Melissa Woods

### Staff

Jaime Toppe,  
*Executive Director*  
Charlotte Boswell,  
*Financial Officer*

## New Board Members Welcomed



We are excited to welcome three new board members, Jami Parks, Pastor Steve Gwaltney and Melissa Woods. They replace outgoing board members Lisa Conder and L.L. Lowry, who have finished their board terms but will remain on the Finance & Investment Committee.

Jami is the business manager at Scott County School District 1. He is the golf coach for Austin Middle School, a member of Scottsburg First Christian Church, and a University of Kentucky basketball fan. He and his wife, Adrienne, have a son and daughter.

"I love Scott County and I want to see future generations be proud to call Scott County home," said Jami. "I feel it is my responsibility to give back to the community that has given so much to me."

Pastor Steve Gwaltney serves at Grace Covenant Church in Austin. He is active in the community and enjoys fishing and hunting. He and his wife, Pamela, have three children and nine grandchildren.

"I perceive the opportunity to serve on the board of Scott County Community Foundation as an excellent way to give back and to help others,"

shared Steve. "The Foundation offers an enduring and significant way to make a difference in our community. The Foundation makes an impact with their visionary leadership throughout our community as they seek to build common good and quality of life."

Melissa is the Director of Fund Development for Community Action of Southern Indiana. She is a member of American Martyrs Catholic Church, and has served on our grants committee for two years. She and her husband, Chris, have one daughter.

"I believe in philanthropy and making a difference in our community," said Melissa. "I also want to set a good example for our daughter, so that she realizes the importance of the Scott County Community Foundation and the good that comes from this wonderful organization. Scott County Community Foundation is making a difference every single day in our community! I am so excited to be a part of making that difference!"

We thank L.L. and Lisa for their service. Their expertise and dedication has helped us continue to grow and meet the needs of our donors and the community.



## Lilly Scholar and Former YGC Member Jerel Taylor Shares Impact of SCCF

*As we celebrate our 20th anniversary this year, we have been sharing stories from people who have been affected by the efforts of our donors and volunteers. Please visit our website to read all the stories about "Philanthropy's Impact" on our community. This story is provided by Jerel Taylor, a former member of the YGC and a 2012 Lilly Scholar. Jerel graduated from Wabash College in 2016 with a degree in mathematics and statistics. He is employed as the Financial Officer at Denton Bible Church in Texas. He is also a student at the University of Kansas, where he is working on his MBA with a concentration in finance.*

"My involvement with the Scott County Community Foundation began as a member of the Youth Grant-making Council. In my time as a member, I learned personal, business, and life skills that have stayed with me long after I graduated high school. During the granting process, I learned how to make an argument, support it, and to garner support from others for the cause I believed in. In addition, I learned how to compromise with others and to find common ground when there were sharp disagreements. It was also the first place I had to run a budget for a group. These are all valuable skills that have stayed with me as I entered into the business world.

In addition, my time with the Scott County Youth Grantmaking Council opened my eyes to a moral initiative that I believe all humans have. I learned how to wisely invest my time, talent, and treasure.

1. Time - During one of the grant cycles, I remember hearing a testimony from one of the children at a local mentorship agency. He talked about how someone giving up their time just to spend time with him impacted his life and helped set his life on a better projectile. This individual gave him hope, and it was nice for him to have someone who believed in him. Ever since this encounter, I challenged myself to always give my time

to someone who needs encouragement. You never know how much this can mean to someone.

2. Talent - I vividly remember meeting someone who has gone around the state of Indiana to build wheelchair ramps for those who struggled to afford it. This man was a talented builder, and he took one day off a week to help those who were less fortunate. Ever since this encounter, I always look for ways to serve a local non-profit with the God-given talents I was given.

3. Treasure - Money is needed for grants to be given to our community. I highly encourage you to look at what all has been funded by the Scott County Community Foundation in our community. It is a long list, and much good has come from these initiatives. I know money can be tight, but I also think within the mindset that every dollar helps. If you can, just give what you can.

In Luke 12:48 it says, "To whom much is given, much is required." My time with the Scott County Community Foundation showed me just how much I was given. With this in mind, I know much is required from me to better serve those around me. I am grateful for my time with the Scott County Community Foundation. The lessons I learned during my time with the organization will stay with me the rest of my life."

## New Healthcare Scholarship Established for Adults

A new scholarship for adults who are continuing on their nursing pathway has been established by the Pilot Club of Scott County.

Mary Allen approached the Community Foundation about establishing the fund, using proceeds from the Lifeline program that she and Jan Thompson had offered for many years through the Pilot Club.

On August 20, Mary unexpectedly passed away. We will feature a story about Mary's life and work with Jan in our next newsletter.

The Pilot Club Lifeline/Mary Allen and Jan Thompson Healthcare Scholarship will be a great benefit to adult students, who are often juggling career, life and school, and do not have as many scholarship opportunities as traditional high school seniors.

Donations in memory of Mary can be made to help grow this fund for future scholarships.

## Growth of Fund Celebrated

This spring, we shared the news of the establishment of a new fund, the Gladys A. Berna Education Fund. This fund was established as an Acorn Fund, which allows donors to build the fund with contributions over a period of five years, in order to reach the \$5,000 minimum to become a full-fledged endowment fund.

We are excited to announce that this fund has reached endowment-status after just eight months!

Because of the generosity of many donors, this fund will be able to provide grants starting in January 2019. Grants will be awarded to

help teachers in both school districts with classroom projects, field trips and other ways to help enhance a student's education.

Miss Gladys taught in Scott County for 38 years, and through this fund, her legacy lives on.



## Topics Announced for Nonprofit Lunch 'n' Learn Series

In an effort to assist nonprofits with capacity building, we will be hosting quarterly lunch and learn sessions. Board members, volunteers and staff of nonprofit organizations are highly encouraged to attend.

The first session, "Fundraising: Donor Communications That Engage/Retain Donors" will be held Nov. 1 from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Lifelong Learning Center. Steve Shattuck, Chief Engagement Officer with Bloomerang, will present the session. If you're a fundraiser or nonprofit development professional, you've likely heard the term "donor retention." It's one of the hottest topics of discussion in the nonprofit sector. But what is donor retention? And why is it important? This workshop will focus on how to effectively communicate with your donors in order to increase your retention rates. We will also focus on what can be done about retaining donors and building donor loyalty based on the principles of Dr. Adrian Sargeant and Tom Ahern, two of the foremost authorities on donor communications! We will show examples of their principles in action via various kinds of written and

digital communications. The results of improved donor communications can be astounding when put into daily use. After all: it's not about you. It's about the donor.

Future topics include "Fundraising: A Closer Look" on March 15; "Recruiting an Effective Board of Directors" on June 5; and "Nonprofit Planning...Yes You Can!" on Sept. 6. These workshops will be led by June Miller with the Indiana Nonprofit Resource Network. June brings more than 20 years of experience in corporate and nonprofit training.

"We are excited to continue the nonprofit sessions that we hosted this past year," said Community Foundation Executive Director Jaime Toppe. "The series was well-attended, and our nonprofits reported many ideas that they planned to implement to strengthen their organizations."

The cost for attending is \$10 per person and includes lunch. Registration is due one day prior to the session, and can be made by calling the Scott County Community Foundation at 812-752-2057 or emailing [info@scottcountyfoundation.org](mailto:info@scottcountyfoundation.org).





## Scott County Community Foundation

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## *Looking Forward, Giving Back.*

### YGC Welcomes New Members; Hosts 3rd Annual Alumni Game

The Scott County Youth Grantmaking Council continues to stay very active in the community! This summer, we attended a youth summit with others from Southern Indiana. This was a great way to meet others involved in youth philanthropy and learn team-building skills at the low ropes course. Shown at right are a few of the members who attended: Rachael Mount, Lexi Edwards, Grace Routt, Mia Collins, Addie Borden, and Claire Routt.

The YGC recently held interviews for applicants to the Community Service Committee. We welcome Abby and Macy Colson, Chace Coomer, Karson Higdon, Lauren Jeffries, Sydney Mayer, Katie Montgomery, Chloe Mullins, Sam Prather, Ella Siekman, Haley and Hannah Thomas, and Zoe Zellers.

YGC members also interviewed current members of the Community Service Committee to determine who would become a voting member. Voting members are responsible for fundraising and grantmaking, and attend monthly business meetings. Congratulations to our new voting members: Addie and Gavin Borden, Sydney Craig, Eric Marcum, Rachael Mount, Ethan Mullins, Olivia Reul, Sarah Thomas and Logan Weilbaker. The interviews were a great experience for both the interviewers



and the interviewees, and those skills will come in useful for future interviews!

As the holidays come closer, we have several community service projects planned. We help at local school fall festivals, work at the Kids First and We Care auctions, ring bells for the Clearinghouse, buy Christmas presents for children in foster care and more.

We invite everyone to attend our 3rd annual Thanksgiving Throwback Throwdown Austin vs. Scottsburg alumni basketball game. This year it will be held Sunday, Nov. 19 at 5 p.m. at Meyer Gym. This is our largest fundraiser, and because of the success we were able to fully fund every grant request this year!