

## Fostering Good for 75 Years

World War II had just ended when a group of seven community leaders decided to start the Richland County Foundation. They were inspired by local philanthropist Anna Scattergood, who created a fund to benefit poverty-stricken elderly and terminally ill residents in Mansfield. It was with the guidance of D. Osborne Meese that the Foundation was established on October 7, 1945. The other founders were Paul Tappan, Norman Wolfe, Scott Coffin, George Stephens, John Finefrock and Robert Black.

The Richland County Foundation was modeled after the Cleveland Foundation and was created as an independent nonprofit organization that could accept and administer charitable gifts and bequests, regardless of size, for the benefit of the local community.

The founders would be proud of the generosity of the donors to the community foundation where the assets total \$177M.

In 2019 the Foundation and its donors awarded \$6,356,311 in grants to nonprofits to support programs and projects in economic development, education, children and families, arts and culture, environment, human and health services and churches.



### Richland Gives Helps Local Charities During Tough Times

Richland Gives is designed to encourage people to contribute to local nonprofits they care about through a single giving website. The Richland County Foundation hosts the day to build capacity, grow philanthropy and make the community stronger.

The COVID-19 pandemic has decimated revenue streams for many local charities.

Each organization will have an individualized web page to promote their cause. The success of the event will depend on our collective enthusiasm and implementation.

Leading up to the event the Foundation provides an online toolkit, webinars, mass media and social media coverage to make it

easier for nonprofit organizations to participate.

Thanks to the generosity of donors at the Richland County Foundation, \$34,000 in incentives will be awarded as grants to participating organizations, beyond what they raise from online donations.

A \$1,000 grant to the first 15 nonprofit organizations that raise at least \$1,000 beginning November 16 at 7 a.m. Additional prize grants will be awarded to the nonprofits during Richland Gives.

Richland Gives will take place from November 16 at 7 a.m. through December 1 at 7 p.m. To make a gift go to [richlandgives.org](http://richlandgives.org).

**Since 1945, the Foundation has granted \$95,866,054 in this community.**

To celebrate the 75th Anniversary, the Foundation partnered with villages and cities in Richland County for beautification projects and bike rack installations.



“Improving and enhancing the lives of people living in Richland County through strategic philanthropy and leadership is our mission. These community grants are one way of aligning with our mission to celebrate our 75th anniversary,” said Foundation President Brady Groves.



October 16, 2020

Dear Donor,

The Richland County Foundation email system recently was infected with a virus/malware. I want to warn you about this virus and apologize for any inconvenience it may have caused.

No personal or financial information has been compromised. Any person or company which has communicated with the Richland County Foundation and/or its staff by email may have received an email purporting to be from the Foundation or someone connected with the Foundation, but which may actually have been generated by the virus or malware which attacked our system. If the email address from the sender is NOT “rcfoundation.org” then it is not a valid email from the Foundation. Do not open any attachments to such an email or any links contained within the body of the email and delete the email immediately.

E.S. Consulting of Mansfield provides email security services for the Foundation and has been working to eradicate the virus. E.S. upgraded the Foundation’s virus protection software for internal and external communication and worked with outside providers to the Foundation to coordinate solutions.

Email security tips:

- ~ Watch out for phishing emails. The top five subject lines are Urgent, Request, Important, Payment, and Attention.
- ~ Check the senders email address, is it correct?
- ~ Review the text in the message, is its odd language?
- ~ Never open unexpected attachments and/or links.
- ~ Engage in security education around email security.
- ~ Use strong passwords.
- ~ Use email encryption.

Sincerely



Bradford Groves  
Richland County Foundation President

## The First Generation to College Scholarship Fund Raises Money

A committee of volunteers conducted a fundraiser on Zoom to benefit the Emily Brown and Dr. Charles Gailey Brown First Generation to College Scholarship Fund.

The committee was led by Emily and Charles Brown's sons, Robert, Charles, and Sherrod along with many other family members and friends.

Since its inception, the fund has awarded 51 scholarships to students based on their financial need.

Scholarship recipient Mackenzie Wade said "I am so grateful for the opportunity to study Early Childhood Education and go to college. Ever since I visited Cedarville University for the first time in 4th grade for a basketball camp, I have dreamed of going. I come from a single parent, low-income home, so this scholarship is much appreciated. My mother has been a huge support for me in helping see my college dreams come true through her belief in me and in telling me the importance of a college education."

Scholarship recipient James Davis Sr. is majoring in Social Work at the Ohio State University at Mansfield. He said the scholarship has helped him financially and it also has inspired him to give back to the community.

*Anyone can donate to the fund online at [richlandcountyfoundation.org](http://richlandcountyfoundation.org), select the Brown First Generation to College Fund. Or you can write a check to the Richland County Foundation and note the fund on the memo line.*

## COVID-19 Rapid Response Grants

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Richland County Foundation Board of Trustees redirected its Unrestricted/Community Fund to meet emerging needs. The Community Fund will provide grants to support nonprofit organizations in Richland County on a rolling basis.

Whether seeking ways to expand current services or to minimize the consequences of curtailing services to reduce health risks to our community, the Foundation wants to alleviate the financial burden in this current environment.

A Community Engagement Team made up of people working in the health and human services sectors meets every two weeks to make grant recommendations. The Foundation is accepting online grant applications on a rolling basis.

To date, a total of \$714,032 has been awarded for COVID-19 Relief in the community. That total includes the funding from the Foundation's Community Fund, Donor-Advised Funds, \$100,000 from Richland County Job and Family Services, and \$37,742 raised online via a special COVID-19 Relief edition of Richland Gives in early May.

COVID-19 Rapid Response grants have been awarded to the following organizations:

- American Red Cross
- Area Agency on Aging
- Ashland Community Foundation
- Avita Health Foundation
- Bellville Neighborhood Outreach Center
- Catholic Charities
- Catalyst Life Services
- Community Foundation of Otsego County
- Community Health Access Project (CHAP)
- Domestic Violence Shelter
- Grace Episcopal Church
- Humane Society of Richland County
- Little Buckeye Children's Museum
- Mansfield Area Y
- Mansfield Art Center
- Nuhop Center
- Ohio Bird Sanctuary
- OhioHealth Foundation
- Raemelton Equestrian Therapeutic Center
- Richland Astronomical Society
- Richland Public Health Pop Up COVID-19 Testing
- Richland County Youth and Family Council
- Salvation Army general support
- Shelby YMCA general support

The Foundation believes that generosity has the power to unite and heal communities in good times and bad. A global threat like COVID-19 affects more than just the infected.

*To support this effort, we encourage donors to contribute to the Community Fund. Any Community Fund gifts received throughout 2020 will be used to assist nonprofits directly impacted by COVID-19.*

## Local Teachers Get Grants for Classroom Projects



*The Richland County Foundation awarded \$61,659 in educational program grants for this school year to local teachers for their creative or supplemental programs not covered by school funding.*

*The Teacher Assistance Program grants are given to K-12 teachers in public or private Richland County schools to encourage them to develop new programs, projects, or events for their classrooms. For a list of educational grants go to [richlandcountyfoundation.org](http://richlandcountyfoundation.org)*

*Shelby elementary school students learned about gardening and STEM with a TAP grant last year.*

## About the Mansfield Rising Project

In 2018, the Richland County Foundation leadership took an unusual track to develop an investment strategy for downtown Mansfield. Instead of hiring a professional consulting firm, it had a citizen-led group create the plan.

The Foundation turned regular citizens into consultants which gives depth and authenticity to the plan. It provides a road map for projects and opportunities for partnerships to continue the renaissance of Mansfield.

The vision is for Mansfield to become an optimal place to conduct business, gather and live. This vision can be achieved through five key areas: effective land use, wayfinding, technical assistance for business, branding and marketing, and safety.

The Guiding Principles of the plan are downtown is everyone's neighborhood, big city amenities with a small-town feel, sustainable change happens incrementally and placemaking is economic development.

This is a plan for any organization, business, citizen, or group looking to get involved. To be successful, this must be a comprehensive effort.

Costs range from sweat equity to millions of dollars. The Foundation will continue to lead, convene, guide, and fund efforts that support this plan. It will be implemented at various speeds and through various organizations with a result of a better downtown.

To read the plan go to [richlandcountyfoundation.org](http://richlandcountyfoundation.org), click "Community Impact" then the "Mansfield Rising" tab.



## Mansfield Rising Public Art Project

The Richland Community Development Group Art Sector is leading a public art initiative in downtown Mansfield.

The project will be funded by various businesses and organizations with a 50% matching grant from the Richland County Foundation as part of its Mansfield Rising Project.

During this public art initiative in downtown Mansfield, up to \$50,000 in matching funds will be made available to businesses, nonprofits, and sponsors to help in funding the creation of art in a variety of methods, including traditional painted murals, installed artistic wallscapes, window art, as well as temporary and permanent public art on visible walls and surfaces.

Organizations and artists in the area are encouraged to apply to take part in this transformative and revitalizing effort to beautify and create impact in downtown through art. The artists and organizations who apply for matching funding for public art projects will be vetted by a panel of local individuals.

All local artists that have examples of visual art, photography, and graphic arts are

encouraged to apply. Organizations may participate outside the designated area of the Mansfield Rising Plan, and may still be matched with an artist for any project, although projects that can receive matching funding are designated within 1st to 5th Street and Adams to Bowman Street area in Mansfield.

Organizers stated that public art has many significant contributions to a community, in its many art forms, and public visual art is both a feasible outcome and already gaining a renewed momentum in downtown Mansfield.

It is hoped that this Public Art Initiative through the Mansfield Rising Plan will help to stimulate the economic advantages of art, and hopes to drive forward the inspiration of the community.

**ARTISTS APPLY:** <https://forms.gle/rdXB2mEsSy25oeWZ9>

**BUSINESSES, NONPROFITS, ORGANIZATIONS APPLY:** <https://forms.gle/GLxYE9xrWWwhnfoz8>

**CONTACT:** Suzanna Hammond, President of the Mansfield Art Sector of RCDG at [MansfieldArtSector@gmail.com](mailto:MansfieldArtSector@gmail.com)

## Mansfield Civitan Club Continues to Give

The Mansfield Civitan Club disbanded this year after 60 years of service. Its main mission was to help people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

In 2009, the club established a donor advised fund at the Foundation. Once the club ceased its operations, the officers decided to transition it to a designated fund to benefit Catholic Charities, Friendly House and Salvation Army.

"Even though the Civitan Club no longer exists in Mansfield, it will continue to give and serve this community with its designated fund," said Foundation President Brady Groves.

Anyone can donate to the fund online at [richlandcountyfoundation.org](http://richlandcountyfoundation.org).

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The Richland County Foundation is recognized for having organizational and financial practices that are in compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations.



[RichlandCountyFoundation.org](http://RichlandCountyFoundation.org)

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## Women's Fund Supports Childcare Initiative

The Women's Fund recently held its grant awards program virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Part of the presentation was to award the JoAnn Dutton Volunteer Community Service Award. It celebrates and honors women who devote a significant amount of time and energy in a meaningful way to local charitable organizations. The award was presented to Brigitte Coles for her work on projects including We ACT, Mend Mansfield, coordinated donations for many organizations, and collaboration to provide COVID-19 pop-up testing.

For the second year in a row, the WF awarded \$25,000 to Richland County Youth and Family Council for the childcare initiative. This year's grant will help fund a mentor and resources to provide support to in-home childcare providers in Richland County. RCFYC matched the \$25,000 both years for this project.

Other grants were awarded to Avita Health Foundation to buy clothes and personal hygiene items for women who are victims of violent crimes; Catalyst Life Services for materials to educate women about addiction; and North Central State College Foundation to provide women with up to \$200 a year for childcare.

The Women's Fund has granted over \$446,000 to programs and nonprofit agencies to empower women and girls. Women's Fund Chairwoman Kristine Lindeman said without the generosity of donors, the WF would not be able to make these grants.

*The WF is conducting a fundraising campaign called "Lifting Women Up." They want to grow the endowment to \$2 million to make a larger impact in their grant making. You can donate online at [richlandcountyfoundation.org](http://richlandcountyfoundation.org)*