

## New members join the Women's Fund Advisory Committee



Elizabeth Daniels



Margaret Lin



Kristine Lindeman



Sarah Horrigan-Ramos



Debra Weaver



Heidi Jones

The Women's Fund of the Richland County Foundation has welcomed four new members.

The new members are Elizabeth Daniels, Vice President of Administration at Mechanics Bank, Sarah Horrigan-Ramos, Chair of the Dance Department at the Richland Academy of the Arts, Margaret Lin, Diabetes Prevention Program Coordinator at OhioHealth Mansfield Hospital, and Debra Weaver, Program Director at the Mansfield Art Center.

Kristine Lindeman, Owner of Alumni Roofing was elected the

Chairwoman and Heidi Jones, Workforce Development Trainer at North Central State College was elected the Vice Chairwoman.

Outgoing Chairwoman Kristie Massa thanked Sally Gesouras, Jill Haring and Edie Humphrey for their dedication after serving the limit of six years on the Women's Fund.



The Women's Fund is driving a new initiative to make quality childcare affordable and accessible to women facing economic insecurities.



## Richland County Foundation supports children's summer activities

The Richland County Foundation supported over 20 summertime programs focused on children. The Summertime Kids Committee Chaired by Foundation Board of Trustee member Jotika Shetty along with members from the community awarded \$44,556 in Summertime Kid grants. The grants of up to \$2,500 were given to support creative, educational and fun-filled activities for hundreds of Richland County children. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, some of these programs were altered.

The entire list is online at: [richlandcountyfoundation.org](http://richlandcountyfoundation.org).

Mansfield Area Y Bike Safety Program



## Richland County Foundation COVID-19 Rapid Response Initiative



Photo credit: Elise Rowe

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 for basic needs such as food and housing along with other essential health and human services on a rolling basis to nonprofit organizations in Richland County.

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 financial burden in this current environment.

A Community Engagement Team made up of people working in the health and human services sectors have been reviewing grant applications and making recommendations to the Foundation.

To date, a total of \$464,335 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 for general support
- Area Agency on Aging to deliver meals to people between the ages of 50 and 59 in Richland, Crawford and Ashland counties.
- Ashland Community Foundation for its Emergency Fund

- Avita Health Foundation for personal protective equipment and general support
- Bellville Neighborhood Outreach Center for meat in its food pantry
- Catalyst Life Services for personal protective equipment, telehealth, and tech support
- Community Foundation of Otsego County for its COVID Fund
- Community Health Access Project (CHAP) for diapers and formula
- Domestic Violence Shelter for general support
- Grace Episcopal Church for its outdoor food pantry and food
- Mansfield Area Y for general support
- OhioHealth Foundation for lodging for frontline healthcare providers
- Richland County Youth and Family Council for assistance to single adults, couples without minor children and those over the age of 60 who have been impacted by COVID-19
- Salvation Army for 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 at [richlandcountyfoundation.org](http://richlandcountyfoundation.org) or by writing a check. Any Community Fund gifts received throughout 2020 will be used to assist nonprofits directly impacted by COVID-19.*

As a continuation of the Foundation's COVID-19 Rapid Response, the Area Agency on Aging received a grant to deliver meals to people ages 50-59.

"They have helped me by not having to go to the grocery store. Especially on really hot days because I have a hard time getting out. ... I walk with a cane ... and I worry about falling down. Plus, I have my oxygen tank. For me to have to carry groceries in, it is a very big struggle. So, this has helped me immensely," said Diana Beal.



Volunteers work fast and furious during the Grace Episcopal Church Food Pantry distribution. The church always needs volunteers and donations. The food pantry received a grant from the Foundation's COVID-19 Rapid Response effort.

## Foundation awards scholarships to local students

The Richland County Foundation recently awarded \$548,000 in scholarships for the 2020-21 school year to Richland County students. Scholarships are awarded based on a student's financial need and grade point average.

RCF Scholarship Committee Chairwoman Jana Mulherin reported during the August Board of Trustees meeting that 246 students received scholarships from 65 various funds. 96% of the students will attend an Ohio college or university. Of the recipients, 47% are freshmen, 20% sophomore, 12% junior, 18% senior and 3% other. The average scholarship amount slightly increased this year to \$2,230 compared to last year's average of \$2,223.

So far this year, the Foundation has awarded \$18,000 in career tech education scholarships to 14 students on a rolling basis. The Board of Trustees earmarked additional money for CTE scholarships to better meet the needs of students and to build a stronger, well-trained local workforce. The CTE scholarship application is available at [richlandcountyfoundation.org](http://richlandcountyfoundation.org).





## Foundation holds annual meeting on video conference

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Foundation hosted its annual meeting this year via Zoom and Facebook Live. About 90 people viewed the meeting live which lasted about 45 minutes. Facebook analytics revealed the video reached 3,000 people. The meeting was broadcast and produced by DRM Productions of Mansfield.

Foundation President Brady Groves and Chairwoman Julie McCready hosted the 75th annual meeting using a PowerPoint presentation and video as visual aids. Groves said it was an effective communication channel to report on the status of the Foundation.

Groves reported the Foundation Board of Trustees committed \$530,000 to its COVID-19 Rapid Response Initiative.

McCready thanked the Foundation's donors and recognized current and past trustees and staff members.



In 2019 the Foundation granted over \$6.3M to nonprofit organizations.

Community Development	1,713,721	Economic Development	317,407
Education	1,300,217	Human Services	290,471
Children, Families & Youth	1,111,437	Health Services	185,618
Arts & Culture	1,003,216	Churches	125,722
Environment	308,502	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,356,311</b>

The Foundation's assets at the end of 2019 were over \$177M.

You can view the 2019 annual report on [richlandcountyfoundation.org](http://richlandcountyfoundation.org).



The Fran and Warren Rupp Fund at the Foundation provides interns to many local nonprofit organizations. These are the summer interns at the Mansfield Art Center: Rochelle, Jennica, James and Alexis.



The Storybook Trail is now open at Kingwood. Located near the Peacock Playhouse, the literacy adventure can be enjoyed by all ages. The project partners were the Mansfield-Richland County Public Library, the Keyser Library Fund and the George and Barbara Keyser Donor Advised Fund through the Foundation, and Park National Bank.



Children are enjoying a new playground in Bellville. Many people and organizations made it possible including a grant from the Foundation. It was named after former Mayor Carolyn Studenmund.


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Celebrate  
THE MEMORY OF  
*Emily Brown*  
Thursday, September 3 from 5 to 6:30 p.m.  
*The celebration will be held online.*  
Go to [richlandcountyfoundation.org](http://richlandcountyfoundation.org) and click the "New and Events" tab for details.



Learn about the scholarship fund she and her husband, Charles, established to support first generation to college students.



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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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## A Mansfield Teacher Remembered with a Fund



The Diana Wilkinson Memorial Fund was established at the Richland County Foundation to honor a teacher who worked with students at Roseland, Carpenter and Springmill Elementary schools. The purpose of the donor designated fund is to provide tutors in the Mansfield City School District.

The fund was set up by her husband, Mark, and their sons, Matt, and Marc.

Diana taught kindergarten and second grade for 30 years. After retirement she continued to enrich young people's lives

by tutoring throughout Richland County. She helped students prepare to take the proficiency test. Every student she tutored passed the test.

A lifelong proponent of continued learning and discovery, Diana constantly espoused the value of education. She was proud that each of her sons obtained post-graduate degrees in the fields of studies they were most passionate about.

"This is a wonderful way to remember a wife, mother and teacher. It will help foster learning and growth among local students," said Foundation President Brady Groves.

Anyone can donate to the fund online at [richlandcountyfoundation.org](http://richlandcountyfoundation.org) or by writing a check to the Foundation with the fund name on the memo line.