Preserving the Vision & Mission
for the 2nd Century of Giving.
In 2022 the Ashtabula Foundation looks forward to proudly celebrating 100 years of support and dedication to the betterment of Ashtabula County. Our focus is on continuing the rich tradition of philanthropy bestowed upon the Ashtabula Foundation by its founder and donors throughout the years. The Board Members and the Associate Director would like to thank each donor for their gift and being the most significant part of our tremendous growth.
Dear Friends and Citizens of Ashtabula County,

As I write this letter in early 2022, we have reached our 100th Anniversary! I wonder what Mr. R. H. Pfaff, our founder, would think of Ashtabula Foundation today? In 1922, his initial contribution of $5,000 was the seed for the organization. Today this seed money has grown financially to enable the Foundation to distribute nearly $1 million per year, a goal we expect to reach in 2022!

In 2020, we shifted our traditional grant cycles and focused our efforts on providing Covid financial relief to our nonprofits in Ashtabula County. In 2021, we were able to return to our normal grant process, to the latter part of the year, in which we disbursed $945,173 among 64 organizations.

In 2021, our award-winning Youth Philanthropy program among our ten Ashtabula County schools thrived with the participation of 145 students. This group of young philanthropists awarded over $43,000 among 31 Ashtabula County non-profit organizations. We believe the experience and values derived from youth philanthropy will be life changing for many of the students.

Special thanks to our Ashtabula County nonprofit organizations that have served as “Superheroes” to our citizens during the challenging last few years by providing much-needed human services, such as meals/food, utility assistance, childcare, and transportation, to name a few.

Thank you to our eleven dedicated directors who give of their time and talents selflessly. We have nearly 160 years of combined philanthropy service to our organization and possess expertise in education, healthcare, non-profit, finance, and business segments. Our directors spend a significant amount of time being stewards to our mission and continue to share their wisdom, compassion, and dedication year after year.

Too, special thanks to Kelley Katon, our Associate Director who continues to be a wonderful asset to our organization. She is our anchor to our organization and all of her efforts are greatly appreciated.

Further, special thanks to Glen Warner and Cheryle Chiaramonte, who led our 2nd Century Campaign which began in 2018. The Foundation’s goal was to raise enough money to enable us to distribute 1 million per year to Ashtabula County nonprofit organizations.

Lastly, special thanks to all of our generous donors that will make our goal possible. Thanks to your generosity, we are able to continue our efforts in our beloved County to improve those seeking greater quality of life in terms of health, educational, religious, and cultural pursuits.

We continue to be responsive to the needs of our county citizens to further our mission for the betterment of Ashtabula County. If you are not currently a donor, please give thoughtful consideration by making a donation to keep the philanthropic torch lit and focused on our 2nd Century Campaign for The Ashtabula Foundation.

Yours in Philanthropy,

Joseph A. Misinec Jr., President
The Vision & Mission of the Ashtabula Foundation

THE VISION

of the Ashtabula Foundation is to be both a proactive and responsive force in addressing charitable, religious, educational, quality of life, and other worthy causes in Ashtabula County.

OUR MISSION

is the betterment of Ashtabula County. We achieve this by administering the funds to reflect the intent of donors who wish to address the significant needs of Ashtabula County.

Grants from the Ashtabula Foundation benefit all residents throughout Ashtabula County who seek greater quality in educational, religious, and cultural pursuits.

Leave your Legacy... Ways to Give to the Ashtabula Foundation

There are many ways that you can help support the Ashtabula Foundation.

Cash donation – The simplest way to give, and also the most common. You can write a check to our general fund, which our trustees use to fund the majority of our charitable work. For more on the organizations that we support, visit www.ashtabulafoundation.org/previousrecipients.

Donate appreciated stock – When you have owned stock for a long period of time there are often significant tax consequences to selling it. This method satisfies your goal of donation, and as a 501(c)3 organization, The Ashtabula Foundation is able to sell the appreciated stock without tax consequences.

Life insurance – If you have life insurance that is no longer needed to take care of your dependents, consider making the Ashtabula Foundation your beneficiary. You may also be able to gift your policy to the Foundation during your lifetime or add a charitable rider onto an existing policy. This can be done confidentially and depending on how you set up the gift it can reduce the size of your estate and/or provide you with multiple tax benefits.

Will or Estate Designation – By designating a private foundation as the beneficiary of your will, revocable trust or estate, the full value will stay intact. Your estate would be entitled to a full estate tax charitable deduction, and the foundation would not pay income tax when the funds are received or distributed.

More complex gifting tools – there are many kinds of trusts that can be set up for larger and more complicated gifts. There is usually some expense involved with these strategies which means they are not economical for smaller dollar amounts. Please consult a tax or legal professional if you are considering any of these more complex strategies. If you have questions on any of these topics, please contact our office at (440) 992-6818.
The Youth Philanthropy Program, initiated by the Ashtabula Foundation, first began in the 2010-2011 school year at Grand Valley High School and now has programs in all ten High Schools in Ashtabula County, including, Edgewood, Geneva, Grand Valley, Jefferson, Lakeside, Pymatuning, St. John Catholic School, Ashtabula County Technical & Career Center and Grand River Academy. Conneaut High School has been sponsored directly by the Conneaut Foundation since 2014.

Each year, the Ashtabula Foundation provides $5,000 to each High School Youth Philanthropy Board and students follow the same procedures used by the Ashtabula Foundation Board to grant funds to non-profit organizations in the community. The students solicit and review grant applications and conduct on-site interviews to learn more about the organization’s request. The students then meet to discuss which organizations will receive a grant recommendation.

Throughout this program, students have learned that the needs in our community, far outnumber the $5,000 they have to distribute, and as a result, students go above and beyond by volunteering their time – another much-needed form of philanthropy. Many Youth Philanthropy students volunteer at local nonprofit organizations to help serve food, build furniture for shelters, pick up litter, build wheelchair ramps and even raise money through school clothing drives, food drives and chili cookoffs.

This program provides immeasurable experiences and lifelong values of service learning for our youth. Not only are they contributing to the development of their community, but they are also contributing to their own development of core values such as leadership, civic engagement, and volunteerism. Many participating students have ventured on to join Philanthropy Clubs in college and even begin their own non-profit charitable organization!

In 2021, over 145 students participated in the Ashtabula Foundation’s Youth Philanthropy program and awarded over $43,000 among 31 different organizations. An additional $10,000 was granted to nine organizations by Conneaut High School, sponsored by The Conneaut Foundation.

Overall, within the last decade, the Ashtabula Foundation’s Youth Philanthropy Program has granted over $340,000 to local non-profit organizations!
Categories of Funding, Year-Ending December 31, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designated Fund</th>
<th>Youth Philanthropy</th>
<th>Human Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year Total $188,201</td>
<td>Year Total $43,084</td>
<td>Year Total $238,845</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Arts/Culture/Historical/Community/Education/Religion/Recreation/Conservation**
Year Total $139,100

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Small Grants (Below $5,000)</th>
<th>Christmas Donations</th>
<th>Special Projects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year Total $52,093</td>
<td>Year Total $11,000</td>
<td>Year Total $272,850</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2021 Financial Summary

ASSETS

2021 TOTAL ASSETS
$21,645,012
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED ASSETS
$15,946,921
TOTAL RESTRICTED ASSETS
$5,698,091
TOTAL CHANGE IN ASSETS 2020-2021
$1,895,349
TOTAL 2021 GRANT DISTRIBUTIONS
$945,173

2021 TOTAL ASSETS

TOTAL ASSETS
$618,591 $703,592 $855,617 $811,932 $733,115 $707,671 $740,265 $721,022 $685,923 $567,465 $945,173

GRANTS

GRANTS DISBURSED 2011-2021

GRANTS
$618,591 $703,592 $855,617 $811,932 $733,115 $707,671 $740,265 $721,022 $685,923 $567,465 $945,173

2021 EXPENDITURES BY FUNCTION

- GRANTS
- CUSTODIAL FEES
- ADMINISTRATION
- AUDITING
- FUNDRAISING
- YOUTH PHILANTHROPY

$945,173
RISING ABOVE IN 2022

While presented with the challenges of the pandemic, year three of the RISING SCHOLARS program was successful in connecting up-and-coming scholars with strong mentors and fulfilling the program’s desired outcomes: to be a successful student, engaged learner, socially savvy, workforce ready and committed to the community. While students balanced as remote and in-person learners this school year, eighteen scholars excelled to achieve high grade point averages for 2021-2022!

Heading into 2022-2023, the program will welcome its fourth class of scholars to bring the total to 24 in grades 7-10, as well as a group of two new mentors and two experienced mentors. Among the many things program director Natalie Huya and the mentors do to connect with the scholars during the school year, encouragement cards and packets are sent to scholars twice a month and virtual workshops and sessions are held with scholars built around STEM, literature, NASA, and the arts during the summer. Beginning in August, following an orientation session on campus for all scholars, scholars and mentors will meet for individual weekly one-hour sessions, and there will be a number of special packages for the scholars – back-to-school supplies and holiday gift delivery – all made possible through the generous support of the program. Plans are also being developed for the return of in-person workshops and events.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE SCHOLARS

“Even though things may be hard now, dream of the future you want. Imagine it. Grasp it. Your dedication, determination, and hard work will pay off and lead you to that. When life pushes you down, you have to keep standing back up. Find your purpose, take advantage of your talents, and flourish beyond comparison. No matter how hard it is, I am here, and I feel your pain, I know your struggle; I have endured your fears. As Natalie and the mentors always say: TOGETHER WE RISE!” – Shelbie

“As for feeling alone, you can ALWAYS vent to me. I know opening up to people can be hard, but I am also a scholar and I promise that I am someone that you would be able to trust. I know if can be hard to keep up with homework, but just try to think about your future. Think about all the good. Think about your dreams and just keep trying. This is temporary. WE CAN TRY FOR SOMETHING BIGGER THAN WHAT WE HAVE, but right now this is our circumstance, and we can only do what our circumstances allow. So, keep fighting for your future.” – Kayla

www.kent.edu/supportrisingscholars
ABOUT THE PROGRAM

**RISING SCHOLARS** is a college access program designed to give first-generation students from Ashtabula Area City Schools a pathway to achieving a degree in higher education at no cost to participants.

The Rising Scholars Program includes:
- Year-round academic enrichment workshops focused on STEM subjects, college preparation, and financial literacy.
- Summer courses offering applied learning and service experiences.
- Individualized mentoring and advising.
- Parent workshops.
- Eligibility to apply for a Rising Scholars Mentor Scholarship at the Kent State Ashtabula campus, contingent upon successful completion of the program. (Six, 6th grade students from Ashtabula Area City Schools are chosen each year to apply to the program)

The Kent State Ashtabula Rising Scholars Program will offer first-generation students from Ashtabula County a college access program designed to give them and their families the knowledge, rigorous academic exposure, and social support they will need in order to be successful at a world-class university. Students who successfully complete the high school portion of the program will be eligible to apply for a Rising Scholars Scholarship at Kent State Ashtabula. Our goal is for every student in our program to complete postsecondary education with the credentials necessary to succeed in his or her career.

THE ASHTABULA FOUNDATION RISING SCHOLARS FUND

In 2019, the Ashtabula Foundation created a designated fund in support of the Rising Scholars Program at Kent State University at Ashtabula. The purpose of the Ashtabula Rising Scholars Endowment Fund is to provide scholarship support for Ashtabula Area City School students accepted into the program. The Foundation and Kent State Ashtabula formed an agreement to provide monetary support for this program.

**THROUGH THE MANY GENEROUS GIFTS RECEIVED, THE ASHTABULA FOUNDATION RISING SCHOLARS ENDOWMENT FUND HAS REACHED NEARLY $735,000 IN DONATIONS AT THE CLOSE OF 2021!**
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Roots

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Charles Pfaff  Delia Hotchkiss  Hortense Ward
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