A Message From the Director

Dear Friends of the Foundation,

The days are beginning to get longer and the temperatures certainly lead us to believe that spring is right around the corner! Spring is a busy time for the Fairfield County Foundation, with a few big deadlines approaching: preliminary spring grant applications are due on March 27th and the final grant deadline this year is Monday, April 24th. In addition, scholarship applications are due Monday, April 3rd. We hope all eligible organizations and students will apply for these funding opportunities.

In this edition of the newsletter, you will have the opportunity to get to know the newest members of the Fairfield County Foundation Board of Trustees, read about a grant we awarded to Forest Rose School and review the details regarding the upcoming grant and scholarship deadlines.

As always, we are incredibly grateful to our donors and supporters throughout Fairfield County who help make these projects and programs possible.

Amy Eyman
Executive Director

Scholarship Application Process Now Live

The Fairfield County Foundation scholarship application process is now live on our website. Once again we are working with AcademicWorks, a comprehensive Scholarship Management Solution, that allows the Foundation to automatically match students with relevant scholarships. This online scholarship process makes applying for scholarships more efficient for both the students and the reviewers. Please check the Scholarship FAQ section of our website prior to beginning the application. The deadline for all applications to be complete is Monday, April 3, 2017.

Forest Rose School Receives Grant
to Help Students Communicate

During the Spring 2016 grant cycle, the Fairfield County Foundation awarded a grant in the amount of $21,039.20 from the George and Dollie Zimpfer Fund to the Forest Rose School to assist with their Communication and Technology Initiative.

We recently conducted a site visit to meet with Megan Rowles, the Speech Therapist, and get a look at the equipment in use. The items purchased with the funds were “thought through very strategically” and have been in the hands of the students since the day they arrived.

The eye gaze software provides the non-verbal students an opportunity to “have a voice.” The software is calibrated for each student who can then learn to use the software to communicate on a designated device. The mounting kits that were purchased allow the children in wheelchairs to have their devices attached to their wheelchairs and accessible at all times. All but one of the 56 students at Forest Rose are functionally non-verbal. We had the privilege of having a conversation with one of the students using this device; it was an awesome experience!!

Because of the measurable outcomes, training provided to parents and incredible success of these devices, the students are now having success in purchasing their own devices with Medicaid. According to Ms. Rowles, “this grant has provided invaluable tools for our current and future students.”

Foundation Welcomes Three New Board Members

Dean DeRolph, owner of Kumler Collision and Automotive in Lancaster, is dedicated, both personally and through his companies, to supporting our community in any way possible. He is on the Advisory Board for Fairfield National Bank, a Trustee for St. Peter’s Lutheran Church, a past chair the United Way Campaign, a member of the Lancaster Port Authority, and has been recognized with the Lancaster Eagle Gazette/ Lancaster Rotary Business Ethics Award.

In the automotive service industry, Dean is a member of the Automotive Service Association, the Society of Collision Repair Specialists, the National Autobody Council and has served as Chairman of the Ohio Collision Repair Board.

Dean has been happily married to his wife Cathie for 45 years and...
they are proud parents of two grown children.

John McGraw is a life-long Lancaster resident. He attended St. Mary Grade School, William V. Fisher Catholic High School and Ohio University Lancaster. McGraw began his career at his family's business, McGraw Oldsmobile, Inc., where he worked until General Motors phased out the Oldsmobile division in 2001. Following that, he joined Taylor Chevrolet and has worked as a sales consultant there for nearly 15 years.

John is an active, lifetime member of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, serves on the Fisher Catholic High School Foundation, and is a member of the Lancaster Rotary Club, serving as president from 1992-1993. He has served several terms on the Lancaster Fairfield County Chamber of Commerce Board and presents their annual Athena Award, which is sponsored by his family.

C. Woodson “Woody” Winfree graduated from West Virginia University in 1979 with a Bachelor of Arts in business and a major in accounting. As owner of Winfree Insurance & Financial Services, Woody has been serving Pickerington and surrounding communities as a licensed insurance agent and a registered representative since 1997. He is a qualifying member of the Million Dollar Round Table since 2002 and a member of NAIFA.

Woody is an active member of the Pickerington community, having served on a variety of non-profit boards over the years. In addition, he served as President and Treasurer of the Pickerington Chamber of Commerce, Treasurer for prior Pickerington Local School District funding campaigns, Treasurer and Head of the Grounds Committee for the annual Violet Festival held in Pickerington each July.

Woody lives in Baltimore with his wife Cynthia. They are the proud parents of five children.

Spring Grant Application Deadline
April 24

Preliminary grant applications are Due Monday, March 27, 2017. The spring grant deadline is Monday, April 24, 2017.

Grant guidelines and the grant application can be found on our website. For more information regarding the grant process, or to discuss a possible grant idea for the fall grant cycle, call Executive Director Amy Eyman at 740-654-8451.

What is a Community Foundation?

A community foundation is a non-profit, publicly supported, nonsectarian philanthropic institution with a long-term goal of building permanent funds established by many donors to carry out their charitable interests, and for the broad-based charitable interest of and for the residents of a defined geographic area.