A Message From the Director

Dear Friends of the Foundation,

We are ready to welcome spring here at the Foundation, not just for the sunshine and warmer temperatures, but for all of the exciting happenings ahead in the coming weeks.

Later this month, our Grant Committee will be providing our Board of Trustees with their funding recommendations for the first grant cycle of 2020. In addition, our scholarship application deadline is quickly approaching on March 13th. Be sure to review the article below for helpful tips for submitting the application.

In this edition of the newsletter, we are pleased to announce the creation of the Jessie J. Smith Christian Advancement Fund. You will also see a recap of the second meeting for The Women's Giving Circle, where they voted to award funds to a deserving community organization. In addition, you will learn more about the Vice Chair of our Board of Trustees, Molly Bates.

As always, we are incredibly grateful to our donors and supporters throughout Fairfield County who help make these projects and programs possible. We wish you a bright and prosperous spring!

Amy Eyman
Executive Director

Important Tips for Scholarship Applications

The countdown is on! We are fast approaching the March 13th scholarship deadline. Be sure to double check and submit your application before 11:59 p.m. on the 13th. Before you submit your completed application, make sure you avoid the following common mistake.

OFFICIAL, OFFICIAL, OFFICIAL! Failing to include an official transcript is one of the top mistakes we see on the application. Unofficial transcripts cannot be accepted.

If you are a high school student, you must make sure that your counselor has uploaded a transcript on your behalf. Double check that their email address is valid, without typos. If your counselor has not submitted your official transcript, check in with them in advance of the deadline to make sure your request was received. Once the counselor has uploaded your official transcript, it will show as submitted on your application.
If you are a college student, you should make sure you have requested an official transcript from your school. Formats that will not be accepted include screenshots of grades from online, advising reports, or a DARS. To receive an official transcript, you will need to request it, most often paying a small fee through your school. If a transcript says "unofficial", does not have the name of the school, or seal of the school and signature from the registrar, it most likely is NOT OFFICIAL and therefore is not acceptable for your general application.

Also be sure to check out the scholarship opportunities that may require additional questions in order to apply. These scholarships are referred to as "Recommended Opportunities" and you can find step-by-step directions in the FAQs section of our website. While on our website, be sure to browse the few remaining paper applications to see if you fit the criteria to apply.

We look forward to receiving your applications by March 13th!
Molly was born in Lancaster and graduated from Lancaster High School. She went on to Ohio University-Lancaster and later Ohio University's main Campus in Athens. Molly returned to Fairfield County in 1992, when she began working at Fairfield National Bank as an Assistant Branch Manager.

Molly and her husband Dan have four children: Nathan (Heather), Sarah (Wyatt), Clark and Matthew and six grandchildren: Kaitlyn, Lilian, Jordyn, Emersyn, Karah and Addyson. Outside of Molly's professional role, she enjoys attending her children and grandchildren's various events, spending time with family and traveling.

Molly grew up watching her parents volunteer with various service organizations, making it instinctual for her to give back to her community. She feels her position at Fairfield National Bank has allowed her to learn more about the needs in Fairfield County.

Molly says she was honored when she was asked to join the board and assist with the Foundation's mission. Whether it is by awarding scholarships to students to help them succeed, or awarding grants to local organizations, Molly believes the Fairfield County Foundation is working hard to improve the lives of everyone in Fairfield County.

While on the board, she hopes to help continue to uncover the evolving needs of our community and to increase awareness of the Fairfield County Foundation's initiatives.

**Women's Giving Circle Donates to Local Initiative at Second Meeting**

The Fairfield County Foundation Women's Giving Circle met on Wednesday, February 19th, marking the second meeting since the group’s creation. Three members who were drawn at the first meeting in September had the opportunity to present about nonprofit organizations close to their hearts.

Aunie Cordle spoke about the inspiHER Girls Leadership Foundation, Debby Rockwood presented about the Fairfield Community Health Center's Pediatric Dental Health Initiative, and Angela Krile spoke about The Art of Neighboring.

Members were given the opportunity to vote for the organization of their choosing to receive 75% of the funds that were raised during the meeting. In a very close tally, the Fairfield Community Health Center was voted as the winning recipient.

The Women's Giving Circle is a wonderful opportunity that unites women in our community for a great cause. If you are interested in joining our Women's Giving Circle, please reach out to Sarah Stoughton, Donor Services Officer at sstoughton@fairfieldcountyfoundation.org.
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Follow and like Fairfield County Foundation on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. We welcome your comments and questions!

Visit us on the web at www.fairfieldcountyfoundation.org, where you'll find important information about upcoming grant and scholarship awards, creating a fund, making an online donation, and much more.

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.