

Here. There. Everywhere.

**A Celebration of Generosity
in the Quad Cities Region**

QUAD CITIES
**Community
Foundation** 

Generosity lives here.®

Generosity lives here

There it is, right underneath our logo: Generosity lives here.

It's our tagline. It is also so much more than that.

The Quad Cities Community Foundation champions generosity in our region. No matter what you give, or how you give, you can count on the celebration that is sure to follow.

When we receive a stack of one-dollar bills and a hand-written note from a young girl who gave her allowance to the Quad Cities Disaster Recovery Fund, we celebrate the kindness. When a young couple calls to inquire how they can start a scholarship to honor a neighbor who passed, we celebrate the legacy. When a widow stops into the office, not sure how we can help but trusting that we can—we honor her generous resolve.

The Quad Cities Community Foundation exists to help generous people be generous toward the community they love. You'll see the impact all across the region—in the faces of people who are both committed and driven to fostering a community that is built on **love, inclusion, respect, and yes, generosity.**

“

Everything we do is to support our donors and serve our community. This is your community foundation, a place to go to act on the love you have for your hometown, and the causes that mean the most to you. Generosity does live here, and we're here to help you do that in the best possible way.

Jean Moran

Board Member

Community Volunteer and Mother



What we do

We hear the question time and again: “what *exactly* is it that you do?” The short answer is: a lot. The complicated answer is: grow endowment funds, start scholarships, make grants... the list goes on and on. The best answer is: we champion generosity in the Quad Cities (and beyond!).

The Quad Cities Community Foundation was started nearly 60 years ago by community members, for community members. We help people who love their community to act on their philanthropy in simple, yet powerful, ways. And yes, there are all sorts of giving tools that help us do that, like donor advised funds and estate planning provisions (more on both of those—and more—at right). There are also tax incentives to help you make the most of every gift so you can have an even bigger impact.

The Community Foundation works with people like you to give charitably during your lifetime, and after, by helping you explore what generosity means to you and by helping you practice becoming an

effective, impactful giver. We partner with you to give back—through gifts and grants of all sizes—to nonprofits meeting basic human needs, working toward equitable solutions to systemic problems, and enhancing quality of life. We offer scholarships to students with big dreams for the future, and youth programs that foster a new generation of philanthropists even before they have a driver’s license.

And, because of donors who give to Community Impact Funds, we address community issues and support promising opportunities that strengthen the Quad Cities region for all who live here.

The Putnam Museum offers educational programs for young students thanks, in part, to support from Community Foundation donors.



Ways to give through the Community Foundation

Read more about how to give through the Community Foundation on pages 8 and 9.

1

Community Impact Fund

The impact fund is a way to support needs and opportunities in the Quad Cities region as they arise. You can give \$5 or \$5 million—this is where we all join together to make a bigger difference than any one of us can on our own.

2

Designated Endowment Funds

Designated endowment funds are a way to support your favorite charities forever.

3

Endowed Field of Interest Funds

Field of interest funds are a way to support your favorite causes, like the arts or the environment.

4

Donor Advised Funds

Donor advised funds are a way to make tax-deductible gifts now, and grants to nonprofits, on your timetable.

5

Nonprofit Endowment Funds

Nonprofit endowment funds are a way to build permanent, reliable financial support for specific nonprofits.

6

Endowed Scholarship Funds

Endowed scholarship funds are a way to make education accessible to students.

7

Geographic Affiliate Funds

We work with regional communities to establish community funds that keep philanthropic dollars local.

8

Disaster Funds

In times of disaster and trial, our community rallies together through the Quad Cities Disaster Recovery Fund to help our neighbors in need.

Savor the beauty

If there was a story to be told, John Willard was there.

For decades, as local residents sipped their early morning coffee and flipped through the daily news in the *Quad-City Times*, there he was—with his welcoming smile and warm eyes. He always had something to say.

A few years ago, John spent the morning with us in our office lobby on Middle Road in Bettendorf. He told us that he had just come from his regular walk through VanderVeer Park. “We always savor the beauty,” he told us.

Savoring the beauty was something John and his wife Carol did throughout their life. They also spread goodness throughout the Quad Cities—in the stories John told while he and Carol were alive, and now, through a generous estate gift of about \$3 million placed in the trusting hands of the Quad Cities Community Foundation.

“John and Carol had a heart for their community,” Sherry Ristau, president and CEO, recalls. “They weren’t sure where or how to leave their legacy, but knew they wanted to be generous.”



We work with attorneys and financial advisors so you can create a will or estate plan that remembers the ones you love, the causes you care about, and your community. We even offer a free guide to get you started.

And generous they were, leaving the majority of their estate to the Community Foundation. Their estate gift allows John and Carol to keep giving to community assets like VanderVeer Park and the Davenport Public Library, nonprofits like the Humane Society of Scott County and Genesis Health Services Foundation, their alma maters Aurora University and the University of Illinois, their church Grace Lutheran Church, and community funds like the Quad Cities Community Impact Fund, among others. “We are fortunate to have you as a resource so we can always support charitable causes important to us,” John said to us. “It is comforting to know that we have the expertise available that ensures our estate will be carefully managed. We have no children. We have few heirs. We can’t think of a better legacy than one that is possible through the Community Foundation.”

How Carol and John left their legacy

- 1 They decided they wanted to be generous and asked a friend how they share their philanthropy.
- 2 John called the Community Foundation and spoke with our team about how they could plan their estate to support specific nonprofits they loved and their community.
- 3 We walked the couple through the process alongside their attorney, Melissa Hancock, and committed to carrying out their legacy the way they wanted to.
- 4 Carol and John’s estate established an endowment fund after they both passed away.
- 5 Now, Carol and John’s legacy continues each year through grants to the nonprofits they designated.

There are many ways to give

Below are just a few examples of how philanthropic people like you have given back through the Community Foundation. You can read their full stories and more online at www.QCCommunityFoundation.org.

	Meet generous givers	Generous givers want to support their community	Generous givers meet the Community Foundation	The Community Foundation helps them support causes they care about	The result
Estate Planning	Deb and Corey are community-minded, volunteering with the fire department. Deb also volunteers at Humility Homes and Services, and Corey is a retired police officer and worked at Alternatives for the Older Adult.	Following the loss of a few friends, Deb and Corey realized it was time to update their will—and do more with their estate.	Their attorney introduced them to the Community Foundation, and we were able to help them fulfill their charitable estate giving and establish an endowment to support their giving while they are alive.	We're helping them to give to causes they care about: local beautification projects, animals, and yes, the fire department.	"I always thought the Community Foundation was for rich people," Corey says. "Come to find out, it doesn't take a lot to give."
Youth Philanthropy	As a high school student, Kimberly joined our Teens for Tomorrow Program. (Yes, even teenagers are philanthropists!)	Her parents Lynn and Dennis learned about the Community Foundation because of their daughter's experience. They were impressed, so they started a "small fund."	Over the past couple of years, the entire family has worked with our staff to identify the ways they want to give... as a family.	Now, alongside their three daughters, they make philanthropic decisions based on their family values.	"We ended up making that gift because we knew that they would grant those dollars out where they were most needed. We were confident of that."
Scholarships	Ray and Mike are married, have three children, and for years shared Sunday dinners with their neighbor Fran.	Fran was a life-long Quad Citizen who loved literature, believed in equal rights, and made the best applesauce in the world.	When Fran passed away, Ray and Mike established a scholarship to memorialize her.	Today, students at Davenport Central High School can apply for the scholarship to continue their education.	"My mom would be so honored and humbled. She loved learning and the trappings of education," said Fran's son Brendan.
Supporting Causes	Dr. Raj came to the Midwest from India, and with his wife Mari, has been active in the community for decades.	They wanted to support three causes important to them: education, ending homelessness, and hospice care.	Dr. Raj and Mari started an endowed fund in their family's name, and asked us to help make decisions on the best use of their dollars every year.	Their family's fund has supported local nonprofits like Family Resources and DeLaCerde House.	"I'm just so happy to be involved with this—to be able to do this."

Generosity grows here

We'll often say, "generosity lives here." It also grows here—literally.

The Quad Cities Community Foundation can stay on the pulse of the most pressing needs and promising opportunities of our bi-state region because of the collaborative partnerships we have with area nonprofits—and the Quad Citizens who lead them. Ami Porter is one of those people. She arrived at the Quad Cities Botanical Center in Rock Island more than two decades ago. Now, as executive director, Ami is growing the organization's endowment so that the flora and fauna—and the educational programs the Center offers—are around forever.

"The gifts and grants we have been given—thanks to donors of the Community Foundation—make our mission possible, pure and simple," Ami says. "We are fortunate enough to have community members leave us legacy gifts through their estate, and whenever possible, we like to take a percentage of those gifts and place them in our endowment. We will be here for the long haul, no matter the challenges that come our way. The fund we started at the Community Foundation will be part of helping to ensure that."

In addition to the endowed fund the Botanical Center has started, it has also benefited from operational support from the Amy Helpenstell Foundation Fund at the Community Foundation. Before she passed away, Amy Helpenstell was a member of the board of directors at the Botanical Center. "Amy was close to my heart—she still is," Ami says. "The support we've received through her legacy has allowed us to grow our children's garden, invest in technology, and expand opportunities for young people in particular."



How the Botanical Center grows giving

Leadership

Ami is the executive director and the Botanical Center's sole fundraiser. She gathers input from staff to invest donor dollars in the best possible way.

Endowment

Donors can give one-time gifts, or leave a legacy gift in their will, to support the Botanical Center through the Nonprofit Endowment Fund at the Community Foundation.

Expertise

When a donor was interested in making a gift, Ami talked to the donor about the benefits of a donor advised fund at the Community Foundation, which unlocked added benefits of tax incentives, expertise from the staff, and the chance to give in perpetuity.

Collaboration

Ami collaborates with other nonprofit leaders through CEO Link, hosted quarterly by the Community Foundation, and benefits from endowment building tools and support provided by our staff.

Want to know how a nonprofit you love can be supported by an endowed fund? It's easy to get started. Just call us to learn more.

Tackling challenges

“The Quad Cities Community Foundation doesn’t just provide funding support,” Program Executive Jeff Cornelius at Two Rivers YMCA, says. “They provide leadership—at the table and around the community.”

One in five kids in the Quad Cities is food insecure—which has a ripple effect on a child’s ability to study, develop, and grow. “This was an issue we had to tackle, and we couldn’t do it without community partners,” Jeff says.

Two Rivers YMCA came together with the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center and the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Mississippi Valley with a goal of dramatically reducing hunger and increasing health and well-being in the Quad Cities. Yes, it would take funding to make it happen—and collaborative community leadership to transform the lives of the kids and families they serve.

“The Community Foundation was one of the first to step up and say, ‘we can be part of the solution.’ Their leadership and expertise guided us in developing processes that have ensured this program has been successful.”

Today, the Nourish Program provides between 1,500-2,100 meals per day (yes, per day!) to children in Rock Island County. “It’s a matter of a rising tide lifting all boats,” Jeff adds. “We can only succeed when we all come together.”



We’re more than a grantmaker



Knowledge Sharing

We offer opportunities for donors, community and nonprofits to share knowledge and expertise that strengthens the nonprofit sector, as well as the public and private sector.



Disaster Recovery

Whether a historic flood or a global pandemic, our team participates in response and recovery efforts, from activating the Quad Cities Disaster Recovery Fund to guiding long-term recovery plans in coordination with Disaster Ready Quad Cities.



Regional Vision

We believe a cool, creative, connected, and prosperous Quad Cities can transform our bi-state region. Our team is proud to lead initiatives within the regional vision that move this community’s vision forward.



Youth Philanthropy

We know that anyone can be a philanthropist. We proudly partner with area teenagers to inspire generosity, develop a grant program, and learn about community issues through our Teens for Tomorrow Program.



The Quad Cities Community Foundation is here because generous community members stepped up to give of themselves, and their treasure, in the early 1960s.

And we commit to always be here because of people like you who have followed in their footsteps—people who have a heart and desire to strengthen the Quad Cities region, and who act on that desire with generosity.

No matter who you are or what you have to give, you are welcome here.

Discover what you can make possible

www.QCCommunityFoundation.org

(563) 326-2840

“

We provide solutions for donors and our community. That’s one of the reasons why I serve on the board of directors at the Community Foundation. We don’t know what tomorrow will bring, but we do know that because of donors’ generosity, we will be here to provide flexible, reliable support.

Randy Moore

Board Member

President / Iowa American Water Company



“

When the historic flood happened in 2019, the Quad Cities Community Foundation reached out to us and asked, ‘What do you need to respond?’ Because of the relationship they have with donors, they were able to help us mobilize, listen to our plan, and help us act with funding—and knowledge. Truly, we would not be able to do our work without the people who give to the Community Foundation.”

Kristi Crafton

Executive Director / Habitat for Humanity



Generosity lives here.®

We are proud to support regional communities through Geographic Affiliate Funds started by
Community Foundation of Cedar County • Community Foundation of Van Buren County • Fulton Association for Community Enrichment
Geneseo is for Tomorrow • Morrison Area Community Foundation • Mount Carroll Community Foundation

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