# Building Community and Spirit for 30 Years

This was a special year for the Henry County Community Foundation as we celebrated our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Beginning in 1985, a small group of individuals with a desire to "give back" founded the New Castle Henry County Community Foundation. In 1993 with guidance and support from the Lilly Foundation, it transformed to become the Henry County Community Foundation (HCCF).

In the years that followed, the Lilly Foundation stimulated HCCF's growth through six sequential challenge grants and because of the tremendous generosity of Henry County residents (current and former), every challenge grant was successfully matched. Henry County citizens donated their time, talent and treasures to give back to their beloved county in order to enhance life for those who follow. These gifts supported social, civic, educational, health and cultural affairs.



Dr. Richard Armstrong 2015 Board Chair

While most gifts are specifically directed or donor advised, the Unrestricted Fund for community grants has grown to allow for significant "impact" grants. In providing where "the need is the greatest," impact grants from the Unrestricted Fund have benefitted business development with job growth; educational opportunities at IU East and Ivy Tech; health benefits at the YMCA, community trails and many other groups throughout the county.

"I hear and I forget"

"I see and I remember"

"I do and I understand"

~ Confucius

During our annual meeting in June, the Foundation made a \$50,000 gift to HOPE Initiative in order to improve early childhood development with additional educational resources and help lessen the effects of poverty on the very young.

To everyone who has supported the growth and mission of our Foundation, I say thank you; for you understand the joy that comes

with "giving back and enhancing the lives of those who follow."

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,

Richard Armstrong SSS

#### P.S. A special Thank You to our 212 new donors in 2015!



The Henry County Courthouse at Christmas, New Castle, Indiana.

# Foundation Invests in Community's Early Childhood Initiative

One way out of economic poverty, is through education. Thanks to you, the Henry County Community Foundation was able to award \$291,000 in scholarships in 2015 to support higher education.

When national research revealed that early childhood education was not only an investment in the future but for every dollar spent, \$8 goes back to the commu-

nity, the Foundation listened.

Following the recommendations from public community forums, attended by more than 260 people, it was determined that our county needed to enhance efforts to educate our youngest citizens.

In celebration of our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year, the Foundation's Board of Directors made an impact grant of \$50,000 to HOPE Initiative's Early Childhood Pilot Program to help address the growing need of making sure every child in Henry County is ready for kindergarten.

Organized and led by New Castle native and educator, Dr. Cathy Hamilton, HOPE Initiative is a local non-profit that grew out of a task force to address the city's poverty issues. The Foundation is partnering with HOPE and the City of New Castle, who has contributed \$30,000 to this initiative.



According to school records, 75 percent of New Castle's kindergartners are receiving free and reduced priced lunches. In turn, these kids are economically poor and are not receiving the life skills



they need before they enter school. In order to fill that need, HOPE Initiative is bringing a pilot program to three of New Castle's preschools.

HOPE's Early Child Development program has adopted Paths to QUALITY<sup>TM</sup> - Indiana's Child Care Quality Rating and Improvement System.

Preschools and daycares in the New Castle area are very limited and some have not been accredited. Most of the preschools are full and cannot accept more children. With the Early Childhood program in place HOPE Initiative will bring national accreditation to these preschools and the hopes of bringing new preschools.

At 30 years, we now have the opportunity in invest in young people who will become our future. Together we can change lives and build a better place by "paying it forward." Thanks to you we are making a positive impact.



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### Consider HCCF for your Holiday Shopping A Gift You Can Give And Receive

Doing any Christmas shopping online this year? Type in this link https://smile.amazon.com/ch/31-1170412 and select Henry County Community Foundation as your charity. Each time you make a purchase through Amazon Smile, you will be supporting your Henry County Community Foundation.

# Gifts From the Heart

Still stumped on a gift for someone who has everything? This year, give a gift that really means something! Give a donation and the Foundation will create a personalized card for you to give as a gift. Give a gift that lasts forever!



#### STAY UP TO DATE

Sign up for the monthly Henry County Community Foundation e-newsletter at www.henrycountycf.org



#### 2016 FOUNDATION EVENTS

February 3

Unrestricted Fund Grant Workshop

March 11

Scholarship Deadline

April 8

Teacher Excellence Nominations Due

June 16

Annual Meeting Luncheon

July 29

Circle of Friends Grant Deadline

August 3

Unrestricted Fund Grant Workshop

September 13

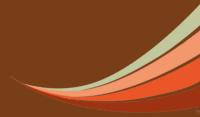
Women's Grantmaking Gala

October 28

Caine Grant Applications Due



# Henry County Community Foundation



700 S. Memorial Drive PO Box 6006 New Castle, Indiana

www.henrycountycf.org

# It Only Takes a Little

You can imagine, and may know firsthand, how awful it is to be cold and hungry. To be without a job or the proper education to obtain a job. You may have heard a doctor say your health is

suffering and you must change your lifestyle. Thanks to you, the Henry County Community Foundation has touched thousands of lives—whether they faced an urgent need or sought to improve their quality of life.

You helped bring IU East and Ivy Tech campuses into our community. You created an infrastructure for TS Tech and Boar's Head Meats to bring jobs to Henry County. You have provided thousands of citizens with food, clothing and housing. And you also assisted in the building of the YMCA, the recreational trail systems and the creation of bike paths in New Castle.



All of these accomplishments and many more are because of your donation being added to other donations to make a pool of grantmaking dollars capable of producing enormous grants of impact in Henry County.

# You Make a Difference

The Henry County Community Foundation counts on your support because it provides the resources to change our community.

Little by little,

- Tanzanian Proverb

Did you know to date 75% of donations received in 2015 have been \$100 or less? Every donation matters to the incredible work a little becomes a lot. accomplished through the Foundation and you are making a difference with every donation you give, no matter how big or small. Your gift of \$10, \$100, \$500, or \$5,000 can make all the

difference to every one who works and lives in Henry County,

Indiana because together we build a better tomorrow.