

Blackford County
Community Foundation

Strong Foundations

Making a Difference Now and Forever Doubling the Impact for Blackford County

The community response to the matching donation program provided by Lilly Endowment Inc. has been tremendous over the past seventeen months. Blackford County Community Foundation is very close to raising the last \$10,000 needed to complete the terms of the unrestricted portion of the match program that provides \$500,000 to the Foundation. The deadline for raising these funds is March 31, 2016.

The additional Lilly Endowment Inc. matching grant dollars translate to an 8% increase in the monies that can be awarded in the form of local grants each year. "We will have almost \$1 million in additional funds to invest in our community," according to Dave Bowman, Executive Director of the Foundation. "These funds will allow the Foundation to grow and expand the number and amount of grants and scholarships given each year."

The matching grant program began seventeen months ago. Since that time, Blackford County residents have contributed 97% of the donations needed to match the Lilly Endowment Inc. funds.

The final \$10,000 in donations will be added to the Foundation's unrestricted fund in order to meet the terms of the Lilly Endowment's matching grant with each dollar contributed matched with a dollar from the program. Donors to the unrestricted fund give the Foundation permission to use their contributions for any worthwhile community cause. Such contributions build the Foundation's community endowments, which are flexible enough for the Foundation to respond to local needs from one year to the next and even one decade to the next.

The Foundation is still looking for the last \$10,000 in unrestricted donations that can be matched with the Lilly Endowment Inc. dollars before March 31. For more detailed information, contact Dave Bowman at the Foundation (765-348-3411 or dbowman@blackfordcounty.org).

Upcoming Events

March 8

Scholarship applications for graduating seniors due at Blackford High School

March 21

Announcement of Cycle I grant awards

July 1

Women of Worth grant applications due

July 7

Post-secondary scholarship applications due.

July 21

Cycle II grant applications due

August 22

Announcement of Cycle II grant awards

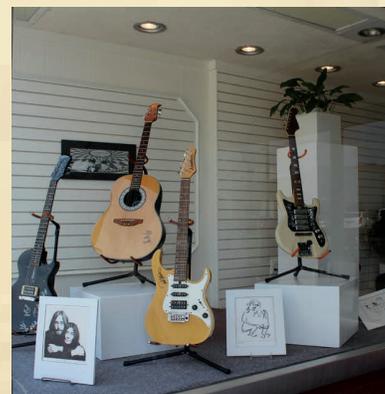
The Lilly Endowment Inc. match program also provides a smaller match for approved community projects.

- *Blackford County Animal Shelter facilities improvements*
- *Walking trail to Blackford High School*
- *Blackford County Concerned Citizens Hoosier Environmental Project to analyze local sites for contaminants*

These projects are still accepting donations that match 50 cents for every \$1.



Many Foundation grants provide services for youth. At the 2015 Camp Invention last June, elementary age campers tried their hands at creating science and technology gadgets.



A 2015 Blackford County Arts Center grant provided funding for group guitar lessons for the first time. The Center provides numerous other arts opportunities.

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Your Donations Provided \$284,290 to Blackford County in 2015

*You are essential to making Blackford County a great place to live,
work, and raise a family.*

- Your donations helped pay the rent or buy food for 452 residents experiencing financial emergencies.
- You made sure that 83 young people could take piano or guitar lessons at a reduced cost.
- You helped purchase over 5,000 books for 442 toddlers and preschoolers so that their early learning years are filled with high quality literature.
- You served over 300 young soccer players in maintaining their fields and expanding their storage facilities.
- You helped provide over 3,000 meals to local senior citizens who often lack basic nutrition.
- You were part of upgrading the baseball fields at Montpelier.
- You saw that 57 senior citizens were able to make 2,348 trips to essential services, including dialysis.
- You furnished a new roof for the 4-H Building that serves this county as a community gathering place.
- You helped sponsor 25 other local projects, and you gave to 111 scholarships.

Thank you for your continuing generosity!



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Cultivating, nurturing, and growing legacies