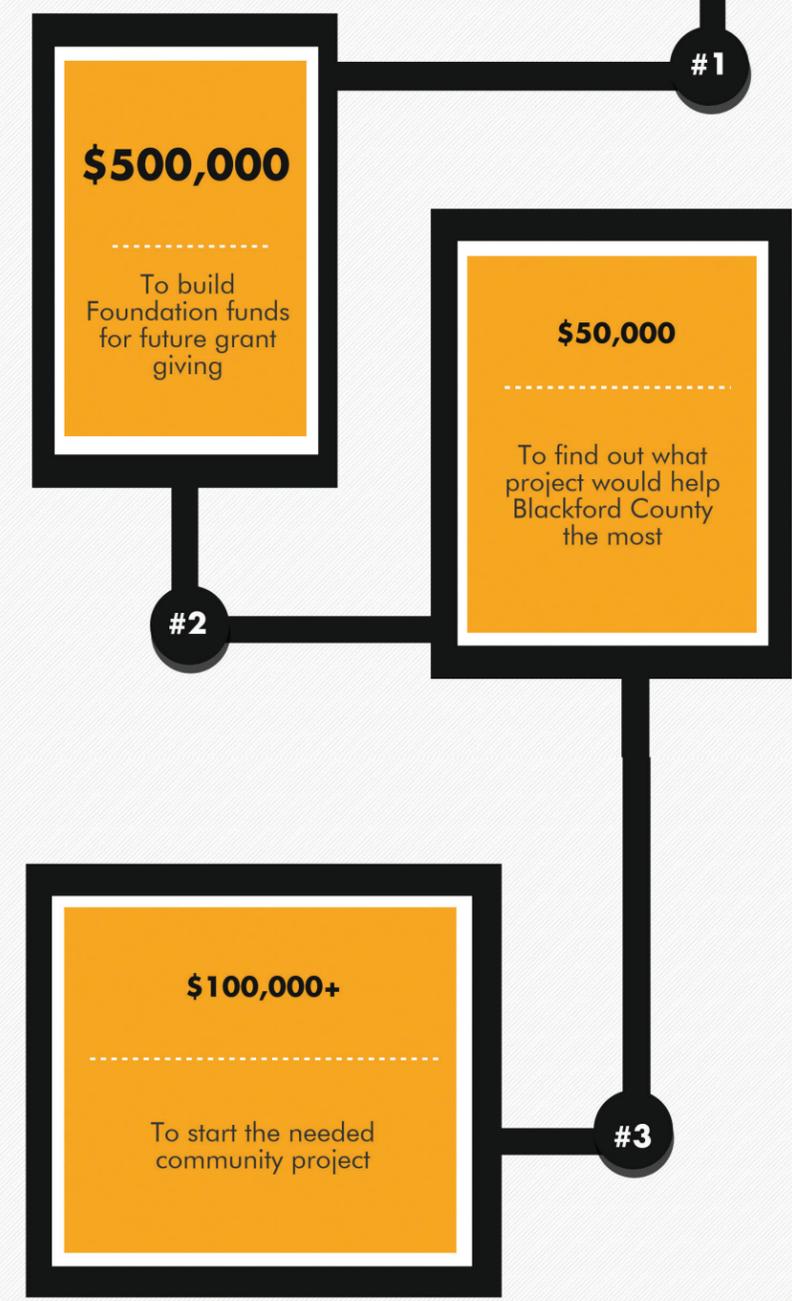


3 phases Lilly Endowment Inc.'s GIFT to the Blackford County Community Foundation



GIFT VII Three Generous Grants

In its seventh large grant gift to all of the community foundations in Indiana, Lilly Endowment Inc. is continuing its vision for strengthening the resources available to Indiana communities for today and for the future.

This GIFT VII grant has three phases. The first is a grant of \$500,000 that awards an additional \$2 for every \$1 donated to the Blackford County Foundation for unrestricted purposes, i.e., for any kind of grant the Foundation might wish to fund. That program is available through December 2020.

The second phase is a \$50,000 grant to help the Foundation listen to the citizens of this county in order to find out its most pressing need. The Foundation will collect the results of surveys and community conversations by December 2019 in order to make a proposal to Lilly Endowment Inc. for a community project.

Funding toward that community project proposal, an approximately \$100,000 grant, will be the third phase grant available in 2020. (That grant, however, could be as much as \$5.5 million if the proposal is one of the most outstanding proposals in Indiana.)

More information about these GIFT VII grants will be available through 2020 at www.blackfordcofoundation.org.



Excellence. Accountability. Impact.™



STRONG FOUNDATIONS

Cultivating, nurturing, and growing legacies

PRESERVING BLACKFORD COUNTY'S HISTORY

The Blackford County Community Foundation is in the business of supporting local nonprofit organizations to make the county an even better place to live and work. The Foundation does this work by turning donations into grants for the specific project that a nonprofit is working on.

Last year the Blackford County Historical Society submitted a grant application for their Garage Restore Project and were awarded \$3,000 for beginning the work. The Historical Society is adapting a garage on its property to meet professional collection storage standards so that the many historically significant donations received over the past forty years can be preserved.

The initial part of the project involved repairing the cracked concrete floor to keep out the insects that were invading the space and then leveling the floor to hold the storage shelving. Additional repairs of leaking windows were also completed with the help of grants from other funders.

The Historical Society's Garage Restore Project has increased the amount of usable space for storage so that materials that had previously been stored off site have been relocated to the garage. All of these materials are more easily spotted and more easily accessed by the Historical Society volunteers who do local research and help others conducting genealogical searches.



The Blackford County Historical Society has upgraded a storage garage that houses the many donations given to the Historical Society over the past forty years.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 29 Local Scholarship Awards Announced
- May 30 Community Grant Applications Due
- June 6 Postsecondary Scholarship Applications Due

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please note that there is a new and earlier deadline for the submission of grant applications. The new deadline is Thursday, May 30. Grant applications are available at the Foundation or at blackfordcofoundation.org/seeking-grants.

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First Round of Community Grants for 2019 16 Organizations Receive Awards

Blackford County Community Foundation again has provided funding for local nonprofit organizations in the first round of grant awards for 2019. The funds will be used to carry out projects that improve the quality of life in the community.

A \$25,000 grant was awarded to Arts Place, Inc. for its MusicWorks program at the Blackford County Arts Center. The grant will help provide group and individual music lessons and is partially funded by the Opal Greenlee Memorial Fund.

Blackford County Schools received grants for five projects. Camp Invention, a one-week summer camp for elementary students, received \$5,000 from the Betty L. and Robert W. Renner Community Fund, the Paul L. Roderick Memorial Fund, and the Joanne and Nolan Willman Unrestricted Fund. A choking prevention training project for secondary students received \$740 from the Dorothy Gadbury Fund. The Northside Elementary music program will begin a guitar lab with a grant of \$1,743 from the Vincent F. and Anna C. Cimino Community Fund and the Paul L. Roderick Memorial Fund. The Southside Elementary kindergarten reading curriculum will purchase literacy intervention kits with a \$5,700 grant from the CAPE Fund. And the Blackford High School Student Council will have a \$3,200 grant for students to attend a state leadership camp in the summer.

Three other organizations also received grants from the CAPE fund, which supports early childhood and early elementary initiatives. The Head Start program in Hartford City will use a \$6,567 grant to purchase curriculum kits using science and math activities to support kindergarten readiness for preschoolers. The Dolly Parton Imagination Library Blackford County Chapter will use a \$5,000 grant to provide high-quality, age-appropriate children's books each month to 450 local children ages 0 to 5. And the Hartford City Public Library was awarded \$12,200 to develop and implement a landscaping plan for its Nature Play Area.

Community and Family Services received \$5,000 to stock the county food pantries. The grant comes from the Betty L. and Robert W. Renner Community Fund, the Vincent F. and Anna C. Cimino Community Fund, the Charles and Betty Walker Unrestricted Fund, and the Joanne and Nolan Willman Unrestricted Fund.

The Dorothy Gadbury Fund at the Foundation provides financial resources for several health initiatives every year. That fund supported three projects: \$2,000 for the Helping Hands Pregnancy Resource Center for its Family Life Group program; \$2,500 for the Little Red Door Cancer Agency to support local cancer patients; and \$1,000 for the Mental Health Association of Blackford County to send a disabled adult to a residential summer camp for a month.

Finally, the Blackford United Way, Inc. received \$5,000 to provide support to its twenty local agencies. The Montpelier Civic Center has \$11,040 to update the lighting for more energy efficiency. And Tori's Butterfly Garden Foundation received \$2,750 for the 2019 SummerFest Arts Festival.

Awarding \$94,440 in grants!

MAY 30

Next Grant
Application Deadline

PROVIDING FOR THE FUTURE

Jeff and Peggy Fisher of rural Eaton recently directed \$2,500 to the Blackford County Community Foundation through a Monsanto Fund program, American Farmers Grow Communities. The donation gave the Fishers the opportunity to establish their own named fund at the Foundation as a result of a donation matching program that tripled the value of the original donation.

The Fishers farm south of Hartford City and are active in the community. Peggy is a past member of the Foundation's board of directors and a current member of the Women of Worth (W.O.W.) Leadership Team.

The Blackford County Community Foundation will make grants from the Fisher fund to local nonprofits for projects that will improve the quality of life for local residents. Since the Fisher fund is an endowment, grants from the fund will continue to be available forever.

The matching opportunity for the original donation is provided by the Lilly Endowment Inc.'s Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow (GIFT) VII initiative. The initiative is available now through December 2020.



Peggy and Jeff Fisher (middle and right) directed a donation from the Monsanto Fund, a philanthropic arm of Bayer) to the Foundation in order to establish a new unrestricted fund.



W.O.W. CORNER

"Believing all women are worthy, W.O.W. strives to combine our gifts and talents to benefit the women and children of Blackford County."

10TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF W.O.W.

Over the past ten years, the yearly contributions of \$25 from each W.O.W. member has been divided into two funding strands. Half has gone to giving grants to organizations that help local women and children. That amounts to \$32,000 given to 44 different projects since 2009.

The other half of the yearly contributions is saved in an endowment account that is invested wisely and conservatively. Today, that amount is \$36,230. Each January, 3% of that balance is also given for grants. Since the amount in this fund keeps growing, the amount spent for grants keeps growing, too. In fact, if W.O.W. disbanded tomorrow, this fund could still give \$1,000 in grants forever. W.O.W. really affects lives.

