Collaborative Effort REACHes New Heights

A staple in Greene County since 1857, the Xenia YMCA soon will become a one-stop shop for addressing the community’s educational, healthcare and workforce needs.

The YMCA of Greater Dayton, in collaboration with Central State University, the City of Xenia, Clark State Community College, Kettering Health Network and the Xenia Adult Recreation and Services Center (XARSC), plans to break ground in southwest Xenia later this year on the REACH (recreation, education, activity, community and health) Center of Greene County.

“Healthy minds and healthy people make for healthier communities,” said Dale Brunner, president and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Dayton. “Our hope is to facilitate a healthier, more vibrant citizenry who can enhance and expand the region’s vitality, both recreationally and economically.”

A shared-use facility, the REACH Center will encompass 80,000 square feet, with separate sections for each partner’s unique functions. Traditional YMCA amenities, such as a 25-yard swimming pool and exercise rooms, are planned, as is a warm-water therapy pool for individuals suffering from arthritis and other disabilities. Clark State and Central State will partner to provide satellite educational classes, as well as access for youth participating in the College Plus early college program. With anticipated 23 percent growth in the community’s senior adult population by 2020, XARSC will move its existing operations into the Center and provide expanded and more varied offerings.

Kettering Health Network plans to build a new facility on the property, with primary care, diagnostic and rehabilitation services. “Not only will we provide more services to our Greene County residents, but we will work with our educational partners to offer students onsite clinical experiences and help place new graduates into health-related positions,” said Terry Burns, executive vice president of Kettering Health Network. “By working together we’re going to have a bigger impact in the community than any one of the partners could do on their own.”

To help achieve this vision, Kettering Health Network stepped forward with a generous donation of land for the building, plus the City of Xenia made a $1 million commitment. Additional partner contributions, leases and grants have been obtained toward the project’s $17 million goal, as well. Since a high percentage of Xenia’s population falls below the federal poverty level (26 percent compared to 14 percent for the state), the project also secured an Ohio New Market Tax Credit totaling $8.5 million through CityWide Development Corporation’s Dayton Region New Market Fund. This represents the first time a tax credit was awarded in Greene County. Through the New Market Fund, federal tax credits are received for investments made in businesses or economic

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Where Rivers Run, People Follow

Creating a new future for Dayton’s center city was a vision shared by many, including The Dayton Foundation, when the Downtown Dayton Partnership launched the Greater Downtown Dayton Plan in 2010. Seven years later it seems that a day doesn’t pass without local headlines announcing a new downtown construction project or revitalization effort.

The Foundation long has supported efforts to redefine downtown, particularly the riverfront, as an opportunity to create a regional destination. Since the late 1990s, Dayton Foundation discretionary grants totaling $585,000 have helped to launch RiverScape, the Greater Downtown Dayton Plan, RiverScape River Run and the new Dayton Riverfront Master Plan. Foundation fund holders have contributed additional funding over the years.

We recently chatted with Sandy Gudorf, president of the Downtown Dayton Partnership, Becky Benna, executive director of Five Rivers MetroParks; and Dr. Mike Ervin, co-chair of the Partnership and the River Run fundraising committee. Together, they discussed the regional impact of River Run and the Greater Downtown Dayton Plan.

How important is riverfront development to downtown’s future?

Sandy: It’s an extremely important community asset. When we launched the Plan, River Run was an important component, not only for attracting visitors and paddle-sport enthusiasts, but because its place-making qualities draw other businesses downtown. Riverfront
REACH
continued

“Our aging population is an active, vital part of the community, and this collaboration allows us to increase our service capacity and provide more varied activities.”

– Judy Baker, executive director, Xenia Adult Recreation and Services Center

developments located in low-income areas. To raise the remaining $2.5 million needed, the partners have launched a capital campaign, which recently received a $225,000 grant from the Harry A. Toulmin, Jr., and Virginia B. Toulmin Fund of The Dayton Foundation. Additionally, the Foundation provided initial funding in 2015 through its Nonprofit Alliance Support Program to hire Strategic Leadership Associates as an independent consultant to help the collaboration’s strategic discussions take shape.

“Since the late 1990s, we’ve collaborated with other nonprofits at five YMCA locations, but the REACH Center is by far our largest project in terms of the number of partners,” Dale Brunner said. “We couldn’t have navigated the initial negotiations or met the facility needs for each organization without the Foundation’s support through the Nonprofit Alliance Support Program. This was a vital piece of the process.”

The concept for the REACH Center started in 2014 as a result of Play Xenia, a community-based needs assessment that identified a new regional wellness and recreation facility as a top priority for the city’s future.

“The volume of our services has grown dramatically in recent years— with more than 30,000 home-delivered meals provided last year alone. We also transported seniors over 250,000 miles for medical appointments and provided over 1,000 hours of homemaking services,” said Judy Baker, executive director of the Xenia Adult Recreation and Services Center. “Our aging population is becoming a key part of the community, and this collaboration allows us to increase our service capacity and provide more varied activities.”

“The opportunity to build a new YMCA and combine resources with such outstanding partners in Greene County will have positive results for the community,” Dale said. “We’re on the right track, and we can’t wait to open our doors.”

The REACH Center will put us on the map for meeting core needs today and launching us into meeting the needs of tomorrow,” said Brent Merriman, manager of the City of Xenia. “The partnership furthers our ability to provide a healthier workforce, attract new employers and support a better quality of life.”

Many of our Xenia members were born in this community and have used the YMCA since they were kids—and their parents and even their grandparents before them,” Dale Brunner added. “More than a gym, our current Xenia structure has served as a gathering spot and, at times, an emergency response shelter for more than 60 years. Our new facility will provide the next generation of YMCA members with even more services and opportunities.”

Together, Clark State Community College and Central State University will expand workforce development programs in health-related fields in Xenia, which has one of the lowest high school graduation rates in Greene County.

“The benefits of this collaboration are critical to the students and the community we serve,” said Dr. Jo Blondin, president of Clark State Community College. “This center will serve all of Greene County, resulting in a healthier community and a more educated workforce, which are the keys to regional prosperity.”

Said Dr. Alton Johnson, dean of the College of Science and Engineering and director of Land Grant Programs for Central State University, “With our land grant status, which qualifies the university for national agriculture education dollars, we’ll use the REACH Center to further our extension programs in youth and economic development, family consumer sciences, agriculture and natural resources. It’s incumbent upon us to have a facility like this where all the partners work together to engage our citizens and improve their well-being.”

For both the Xenia YMCA and XARSC, moving into the REACH Center also resolves their current issues regarding aging buildings and inadequate space to fulfill their missions.

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– Dale Brunner, president and CEO, YMCA of Greater Dayton

According to Dale Brunner, the REACH Center is expected to add up to 150 full- and part-time jobs, with additional indirect jobs added in the years to come. Expanded degree offerings by Clark State and Central State will help fill in-demand jobs in healthcare, furthering the economic impact of this partnership.

“The opportunity to build a new YMCA and combine resources with such outstanding partners in Greene County will have positive results for the community,” Dale said. “We’re on the right track, and we can’t wait to open our doors.”

A state-of-the-art fitness center and rehabilitation services will expand the YMCA’s offerings for senior adults, as well as families.

More about the REACH Center is featured in a video at daytonfoundation.org/videos.
New Space Gives Families a Place to Call Their Own

At the House of Bread, a community kitchen that serves hot, nutritious lunches to more than 122,000 individuals in need each year, everyone is welcome. While this mission to provide a safe haven to so many is a noble one, it is not without its challenges. “We have been serving all of our guests, from newborn to more than 80 years old, in the same dining area since we opened in 2002,” said Melodie Bennett, executive director of House of Bread. “This has become increasingly challenging over the years. We have more families coming in, and at the same time, more adults who are struggling with mental health and addiction issues.”

To better accommodate its guests, House of Bread recently made plans to expand its facility to provide a comfortable and safe environment for all. The nearly $1.4 million expansion includes a separate dining room and restroom for families. The Dayton Foundation is supporting the project with a $50,000 discretionary grant awarded in 2016. “The Dayton Foundation is a well-respected organization,” Melodie said. “Having the Foundation support our project is like having a seal of approval!”

In addition to creating separate dining areas, renovation plans include a second entrance for families, along with vestibules for each door to increase safety and provide a warm place to wait in during cold weather. Other improvements include expanded areas to receive and store food donations and a larger cooler for fresh fruits, vegetables and dairy. Two new consulting rooms also will give individuals privacy when meeting with House of Bread staff or social workers. “Our parents face the emotional trauma of raising children while living in poverty. Right now, we only have a small space where we can discuss with families crisis issues they may be dealing with,” Melodie said. “These consulting rooms will give parents space to breathe and have a private conversation, while knowing their children are safe. We then can better assist them with the underlying issues that are causing them to need our services.”

Virginia Fitzpatrick, a Jefferson Township resident, thinks the new addition will provide a much safer environment for children. During the summer, she brings children ranging from 8 months to 16 years old, who don’t have transportation because their parents are working. “Nearly every day the neighbor kids call me to take them to the House of Bread. And I pray every day that my car will start so that I can bring them to get a hot meal, which often is the only one they will get each day,” Virginia said. “While I understand this is a place for everyone, children shouldn’t be exposed to some of the issues that other guests are dealing with.”

Ron Rollins, board chair of the House of Bread, stresses the importance of creating a separate space for families. “A large, bustling open dining-room environment, such as ours that serves people who sometimes have mental health and other issues, may not feel comfortable for parents and their small children,” he said. “And yet, they still need what we offer. A special family dining room designed to accommodate these needs, with family-style seating, a separate serving line and an educational and recreational area for kids, will provide a cheerful, welcoming place for the youngest and most vulnerable individuals who need us.”

“The Dayton Foundation is a well-respected organization, Melodie said. “Having the Foundation support our project is like having a seal of approval!”

To date, $550,000 has been raised for the project, with construction set to begin in 2018, but more support is needed to help House of Bread meet its ultimate goal — getting individuals and families back on their feet and on the path to self-sufficiency. “No one should go hungry, and everyone should have a place where they feel welcome,” Melodie Bennett said. “This project will serve more guests at the House of Bread and have an important, positive impact on hunger in Dayton.”

Del Mar Encore Fellows Initiative

Fellows Selected to Help Lead Community Efforts

Four highly skilled older adults have been selected as Fellows for The Dayton Foundation’s Del Mar Encore Fellows Initiative, a three-year pilot to connect retired or career-transitioning older adults with mission-focused efforts. Each of them will bring new sources of talent and experience to nonprofit organizations working to solve critical community issues.

Serving as a Fellow for Miami Valley Works, Linda Fischbach is delving into the reasons why some clients do not commit fully to this workforce development program. Linda, a licensed professional clinical counselor, retired in 2016 as the director of clinical services for Family Services Association and previously was the executive director for Womanline Counseling Center. She also has served as an adjunct faculty member for the University of Dayton.

Sherre Collier is working with Brummer Literacy Center as a Fellow to help elevate literacy as a community priority and strengthen existing programs. She has more than 30 years of human resource management experience at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, where she recently retired as the chief of force development.

Vel Hux

Kristina Lewis

Linda Fischbach

Sherre Collier

The Del Mar Encore Fellows Initiative is a three-year pilot to connect retired or career-transitioning older adults with mission-focused efforts.

As an active business consultant and adjunct professor for Sinclair Community College, Velvettee (Vel) Hux has extensive knowledge of nonprofit development and marketing. She is using her skills as a Fellow to establish standards and metrics so that Learn to Earn Dayton partners can measure the impact of summer reading and after-school programs.

Kristina Lewis is developing and facilitating St. Vincent de Paul’s Getting Ahead in a Just Getting by World, a program focused on moving homeless veterans and their families onto a path of self-sufficiency. After working 25 years in the architectural design and construction industry, Kristina obtained a master’s degree in Christian Ministries, with a focus on housing, from the United Theological Seminary.

To learn more about the Del Mar Encore Fellows Initiative, visit daytonfoundation.org/delmarrencore.html or call Jeanne Holihan, senior fellow, at (937) 225-9949.
Establishing a strong foundation for our community’s future is a vision shared by donors who have endowed funds at The Dayton Foundation. The following funds are some of the new endowments established by donors in recent months to support their special charitable causes, now and in the future.

**Beverly E. Cowden Opera Endowment Fund** distributes income to the Dayton Performing Arts Alliance for the benefit of the Dayton Opera. Beverly Cowden, a member of the Opera Guild of Dayton, is a long-time supporter of musical arts and education.

**Henny Penny Employee Foundation Fund** invests in nonprofit organizations that create stronger families through addressing needs in education, social development and childhood hunger. Henny Penny, a leading supplier of food service and restaurant equipment, is an employee-owned company that believes in putting people first.

**The JoyRide Fund** supports this car club exclusively for kids with special needs. During JoyRide events, kids trade the everyday worry of doctors’ visits and medication for a chance to cruise in high-end or one-of-a-kind cars, helping them to make new friends, network and build a sense of belonging.

**Ron Nickel Memorial Scholarship Fund** celebrates the life of this beloved teacher and coach by awarding scholarships to graduating athletes of Vandalia-Butler High School. Ron Nickel’s positive attitude and exuberant spirit made him an inspiration to many.

**Harold R. and Mary E. Rieck Charitable Fund** carries out the charitable wishes of these longtime community leaders and owners of Rieck Services in Dayton.

**Making Memories Fund** promotes activities and events that generate funds to support research to end Alzheimer’s disease, such as the Walk to End Alzheimer’s and the annual Making Memories Golf Outing.

**The JoyRide Fund** supports this car club exclusively for kids with special needs. During JoyRide events, kids trade the everyday worry of doctors’ visits and medication for a chance to cruise in high-end or one-of-a-kind cars, helping them to make new friends, network and build a sense of belonging.

**Calvin J. Leis and Pearl L. Leis Memorial Endowment Fund for Slifers Presbyterian Church** provides annual income to this Farmersville, Ohio, church for building maintenance, improvements to existing land and buildings, or constructing new buildings.

**Tom Rubins Memorial Scholarship Fund** helps further the education of Vandalia-Butler High School graduates who excel in math and science. Tom Rubins, a pillar in the Vandalia community and longtime engineer at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, is credited with the advancement of infrared technology that was crucial to the United States’ victory in the Gulf War.

**Kenneth R. and Jean K. Stegemiller Memorial Scholarship Fund** helps the donors give back to the community by awarding grants to nonprofit organizations. Kenneth Stegemiller, a retired executive for Duriron Inc., and his wife, Jean, have been married since 1953.

**E. Champ Warrick**

**Professor E. Champ and Alma Warrick Scholarship Fund** aids select area high school seniors planning to major in the liberal arts at Wilberforce or Central State universities. Warrick Barrett established the fund in honor of his grandparents, both of whom were educators and members of the Wilberforce Class of 1908.

**Washington-Monroe Family Charitable Fund** advances charitable organizations, as selected by donors Dr. Nodie Washington, a retired research chemist and manager for Proctor & Gamble, and her husband, Dr. Willie Washington, a retired professor.

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*African-American Community Fund
**Vandalia-Butler Foundation Fund
**From the President**

**The Value of Volunteerism**

We often praise the good work of our volunteers, so I’d like to take a moment to thank the dedication and commitment of Judy A. LaMusga. Judy recently completed nearly 20 years of service as a member of the Board of Trustees for The Disability Foundation, a supporting organization of The Dayton Foundation created in 1999. Judy, along with fellow attorneys Mark Conway and Lynn Pietz, who served as The Disability Foundation’s first executive director, and several local nonprofits that work with people with disabilities, came together with The Dayton Foundation to solve a heart-wrenching dilemma: How could families provide for their loved ones with disabilities’ supplemental needs and preserve governmental benefits without having to disinherit them? At the time, The Disability Foundation, which operates The Ohio Community Pooled Trust, represented nationally groundbreaking work in estate planning for individuals with disabilities. Since then two additional trust options have been added to the foundation, which now services 776 current and deferred trusts totaling $19 million. Last year alone more than $1.2 million was distributed to enhance the quality of life for some of our most vulnerable citizens.

Judy has been advocating for individuals with disabilities most of her life. Like many caring volunteers, she believes in a cause greater than herself and has dedicated her time and energy to help the world around her. Thank you, Judy, for your more than four decades of leadership and service to assist individuals in our community with special needs and their families. We are deeply appreciative.

It goes without saying that volunteers are one of our nation’s most important assets. It’s part of our culture. The Corporation for National and Community Service reports that last year about 63 million Americans volunteered nearly 8 billion hours, worth roughly $184 billion.

In our own community, extraordinary needs are fulfilled every day. Shut-in seniors are being greeted with hot, home-delivered meals instead of going hungry. Students at risk of academic failure are being mentored. Dogs and cats are being cuddled rather than euthanized. These and countless other examples illustrate the difference volunteers make in the work of nonprofit organizations, no matter how great or small the effort. The Dayton Foundation itself would not have started or survived without volunteers. From our infancy, the Foundation was run by volunteers until trustees voted to hire the organization’s first full-time director, Fred Bartenstein III, in 1982. In addition to members of the Foundation’s Governing Board and its standing committees, hundreds of individuals have volunteered over the years in our office, on advisory boards for various funds and on committees that assist programmatic and philanthropic activities in our community.

I’m continually amazed at the level of volunteerism that exists in Greater Dayton, but now more than ever additional people are needed at the table. Many of our region’s nonprofit organizations rely heavily on volunteers to carry out vital programs and services that help ensure our health, happiness and safety. I encourage you to consider your commitment to service. There are countless ways to give your time—be creative and have fun. As Judy exemplified, there is so much good that can be done when we all give a little more.

Sandy and Mike, you both have said our region’s success depends upon the success of downtown.

**Sandy:** Communities across the nation are vying for talent, and those with vibrant center cities will win this competition. That’s the emphasis of the Greater Downtown Dayton Plan. This year has been filled with big announcements of new projects and projects completed or nearing completion. The housing boom continues with 600 units in the pipeline. Downtown Dayton is on the rise.

**Mike:** Whether you live in Tipp City or Centerville, a vibrant downtown core helps employers recruit employees. For our region to prosper, we must have a strong downtown that contributes to employment and a better quality of life.

**What challenges, if any, do you see ahead?**

**Mike:** When the plan was conceptualized, the community collectively questioned if we could really succeed. But now there’s a different feeling walking downtown. People see an exciting, thriving city core. When they witness cranes and buildings going up, they know the plan is real. There is no silver bullet, but we’re on the right track. I believe we’ve passed a tipping point where everyone is a believer in downtown again.

**Sandy:** More investors are choosing downtown than ever before. While the progress is significant, the work to revitalize downtown is by no means complete. Challenges remain, but the region is rallied behind its success. With the community in its corner, the future of downtown and the region is bright.
Recent discretionary grants help build a better community

Five Rivers MetroParks ($50,000) to assist with the 20-year Dayton Riverfront Master Plan that will identify opportunities for recreational and economic development along downtown’s four waterways. Additional partners in the Plan include the City of Dayton, Downtown Dayton Partnership, Greater Dayton Regional Transit Authority, Miami Conservancy District, Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission and Montgomery County.

Good Samaritan Hospital Foundation ($16,500) to help develop a Mobile Crisis Intervention Team to intervene during a mental health or substance abuse crisis situation.

Greenlight Grant Awards

Black Brothers and Black Sisters Involvement ($3,500) to purchase training materials and supplies for new STEM activities as part of a summer mentoring program for Dayton Public School students.

Brannon Literacy Center ($3,700) to promote the Center’s tutoring and educational support programs through audio messages broadcasted on RTA buses.

Epiphany Lutheran Church ($3,000) to expand the Storybook program to additional prisons. Through the program, inmates are recorded as they read children’s books, with the recordings and books sent to their children.

Family Violence Prevention Center of Greene County ($2,000) to repair and replace the Center’s fire sprinkler heads.

American Red Cross, Dayton Area Chapter ($37,500) to aid in purchasing an emergency-response vehicle to provide food, shelter and supplies during local and national disasters.

Dayton Performing Arts Alliance ($42,500) to use ballet, opera and symphonic music to help develop a cross-curricular program that addresses academic standards for K-12 students.

Dayton Playhouse, Inc. ($40,000) to help replace this community theater’s seating and flooring.

Dayton Performing Arts Alliance

Black Brothers and Black Sisters Involvement

Brannon Literacy Center

Epiphany Lutheran Church

Family Violence Prevention Center of Greene County

American Red Cross, Dayton Area Chapter

Dayton Performing Arts Alliance

Black Brothers and Black Sisters Involvement

Brannon Literacy Center

Epiphany Lutheran Church

Family Violence Prevention Center of Greene County

The Dayton Foundation News

Janice Culver Joins Dayton Foundation Governing Board

The Dayton Foundation recently appointed Janice L. Culver, CPA, to its Governing Board, which provides stewardship for the Foundation and its charitable activities.

After 25 years of service for KeyBank NA, Jan retired in 2013 as its chief fiduciary officer in Cleveland and returned to the Dayton area, where she is an active community volunteer. She currently serves as the chair of the Board of Trustees for the Dayton Performing Arts Alliance and vice chair and board member for the Hospice of Dayton Foundation.

Previously Jan chaired the boards for Culture Works, Montgomery County Historical Society (now part of Dayton History), Ohio Society of CPAs and YWCA of Dayton, and was a board member for the Alliance for Education, Friends of the Dayton Ballet, Junior League of Dayton and Ohio CPA Foundation.

Charitable giving has been a focus in her career as a Certified Public Accountant. Said Jan, “For many of my clients, The Dayton Foundation offered the best charitable results and tax savings. I appreciate the donors and volunteers who support one of the first and, in my opinion, one of best community foundations in the nation. I look forward to serving as one of its Governing Board members.”

The Disability Foundation, College Promise Welcome New Executive Directors

The Dayton Foundation is pleased to introduce Gregory D. Darling as the new executive director of The Disability Foundation, a supporting organization of The Dayton Foundation, and Patrick W. Gall, Ph.D., as the new executive director of the Dayton-Montgomery County Scholarship Program (DMCSP) and the Montgomery County Ohio College Promise (MCOPP).

Greg Darling has more than 40 years of experience in the field of developmental disabilities. Following his retirement as the superintendent of the Ohio Department of...
Blessed with two loving parents and a doting older sister, Jeanne Funkhouser Reeder never took for granted the idyllic childhood she enjoyed growing up in the 1920s. It’s no surprise that when she passed away in 2005, she left behind detailed, heartfelt memoirs of her family.

“My father was extremely kind and generous. He tithed on the gross of his income and gave away much money beyond that. He helped many people,” Jeanne wrote in 1993. “My mother was always good to people. With her warmth and generosity of spirit, she created happiness around her.”

Before her passing, Jeanne felt compelled to honor her parents’ legacy and her sister, Katharine, by establishing a scholarship fund through The Dayton Foundation. Since 2007, $112,000 has been awarded to help 54 Dayton Public Schools students attend college.

“As I remember the household in which I grew up, I have realized that my father, mother and sister made our Christian home into a kind of heaven,” Jeanne wrote. “I established the Charles A., Dhel L., and Katharine Funkhouser Memorial Scholarship in grateful appreciation of them and for the Dayton community.”

The Funkhousers enjoyed a rich and interesting legacy that stretched far beyond providing a loving home. Jeanne’s father, Charles, was chosen from hundreds of possible lawyers to be Orville Wright’s personal attorney. Over the years, Orville became a regular guest in the Funkhouser home and gifted the family with a portion of the original wing fabric from the Wright Flyer that flew at Kitty Hawk. Charles Funkhouser practiced law in Dayton until he was 88 years old, enjoying a 63-year career—one of the longest on record in the area.

Her mother, Dhel, had an impressive lineage that included a relation to Thomas Dudley, a governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony and one of the founders of Harvard University. Her daughter was the prominent early English poet Anne Dudley Bradstreet, the first writer to be published in North America. Jeanne Funkhouser also was a published writer and held a master’s degree in English Language and Literature.

Dhel was a talented singer and musician, traits she passed onto Jeanne’s sister, Katharine. Dhel and Katharine founded and led several choir groups, including the Dayton Mother Singers and the Dayton Community College’s Taylor Scholars Program. In this position he administered the Taylor Scholarship and Mathile College Completion Scholarship Program, both privately funded scholarships for recent high school graduates. Patrick also serves as treasurer and board member for Life Skills Center of Dayton.

The Dayton Foundation is excited to welcome Greg and Patrick and sincerely thanks their predecessors, Kevin Hayde and Gary Smiga. Kevin, who accepted a leadership position in a Wisconsin-based trust administration organization, led The Disability Foundation through tremendous growth over the past 11 years. Gary, who helped launch College Promise in 2010, recently retired after dedicating more than 40 years to ensuring the success of our region’s students.

The Funkhousers’ successful careers was their investment in education. According to Jeanne, her father’s desire to go to college helped develop his hard work ethic. A pastor’s son, Charles knew funds for college would be limited, so as a young child he delivered bundles of newspapers and picked tomatoes in the summer for a local farmer. While Charles never complained, Jeanne believed these experiences motivated her father to give his children and others better opportunities than he had while growing up.

At his encouragement, both of his daughters pursued and received bachelor’s and master’s degrees.

Omar Gutierrez, a 2008 Thurgood Marshall graduate, received a scholarship from the Funkhouser’s fund. He graduated from Case Western Reserve University in 2012, and is on track to graduate from Harvard University Medical School in 2018. After applying for residency training programs in September, he plans to go into internal medicine with a fellowship in cardiology.

“As a first-generation immigrant, going to college was an abstract idea for me,” Omar Gutierrez said. “The support of this scholarship made my dream of college more real. I didn’t have to worry about finances and could focus my energy on my education.”

Like the Funkhousers, he has made efforts to pay it forward, including working with low-income Latino students in Cleveland and encouraging them to pursue higher education.

“Receiving this and other scholarships inspired me to help improve access for individuals of all income levels,” Omar said. “I hope that I am making the Funkhousers proud.”

The Charles A., Dhel L., and Katharine Funkhouser Memorial Scholarship

Childhood Memories Inspire Lasting Family Legacy

“The support of this scholarship made my dream of college more real.”

– Omar Gutierrez, scholarship recipient

Omar Gutierrez, scholarship recipient and Harvard University Medical School Student

Charles A., Dhel L., and Katharine Funkhouser

Register Now for a Nonprofit Leadership Seminar

Join The Dayton Foundation on September 13, from 8 a.m. until noon, for “Stepping Up Your Governance Game,” a nonprofit board leadership seminar presented by Dr. Cathy Trower, author of Governing More, Managing Less. This interactive session, co-sponsored by the Foundation and Aileron, will provide practical steps to encourage more effective governance. The cost is $50 for one nonprofit representative and free for an accompanying board member, and includes a continental breakfast. To register, visit daytonfoundation.org/nonprofitseminar.html.
In 2016, when The Foodbank, Inc., set out to build a drive-thru and walk-up market to make produce more available for low-income individuals and families, they turned to The Dayton Foundation. The market, which will be located in an area where access to grocery stores and healthy food options are limited, will serve approximately 12,000 people within the first year. And while the $48,185 discretionary grant from the Foundation helped get the project off the ground, it was only a portion of the nearly $200,000 needed to bring the project to fruition.

To garner more support, The Dayton Foundation presented the project, along with other efforts receiving discretionary funding, to its Partners in Giving. Through this outreach program, fund holders have an opportunity to join with the Foundation to support vital programming and initiatives. Thanks to these donors, an additional $12,500 was awarded to The Foodbank.

“The support from the Foundation’s Partners in Giving was a very welcome surprise,” said Michelle Riley, CEO of The Foodbank. “It added in securing funding from other grantors to complete the project, which helps ensure that every hungry child, senior and family has healthy food options on the table each night.”

Of the $43 million in grants awarded to nonprofits from Dayton Foundation funds in fiscal year 2016, only $619,000 were awarded through the discretionary and Greenlight Grant programs. These grants allow the Foundation to respond to community needs and support a wide range of community efforts, such as the Dayton Metro Library’s new Imagine! Portal and Sinclair Community College’s new Health Science Center.

Because the Foundation’s grant process is highly competitive, many proposals often go unfunded or are funded at a smaller amount than requested. To help fill the gap, the Foundation launched Partners in Giving in 2012. To date, $771,000 in additional voluntary funding has been contributed by the Partners to assist community efforts.

“Thanks to the generosity of these donors, we are making a bigger impact together and helping nonprofits get closer to their fundraising goals,” said Michael M. Parks, president of The Dayton Foundation. “Imagine the collective impact we could have if more donors joined Partners in Giving.”

Don Schade was one of the Partners to award funds to The Foodbank, granting $2,000 from his fund. He likes that the Foundation vets each nonprofit and proposed project.

“I am notified twice a year and it gives me time to think about those projects I would like to support,” Don Schade said. “I think Partners in Giving has helped charities move ahead with projects for which they may not have had funding. It reinforces my feeling that we are fortunate to have one of the strongest community foundations in the country.”

Good Samaritan Hospital Foundation recently received from the Partners $4,000 in additional grants for its new Mobile Crisis Intervention Team.

“This team will ensure that individuals and their families receive prompt intervention on the scene, helping to reduce overdose and self-inflicted deaths and decrease likelihood of reoccurrence,” said Christina Hull, director of Development for Good Samaritan Hospital Foundation.

“We are so thankful for the Partners in Giving... their funds will help save lives and make an impact on a very serious health crisis in our community."

For more information on how you can join Partners in Giving, contact Diane Timmons, vice president of Grants and Programs, at (937) 225-9966 or dtimmons@daytonfoundation.org.