Letter From the President

Even as 2021 presented our communities with a number of challenges, the Ripley County Community Foundation (RCCF) continued to thrive. We ended the year with $17 million in assets, no small feat in a year where the pandemic took center stage. That financial health is due in large part to the support of our donors who love Ripley County and trust RCCF’s stewardship. We are grateful for you.

Every corner of the county was positively impacted by the grant process, small and large, of the RCCF. We supported work in each of the four pillars of our mission: Arts and Culture; Environment and Natural Resources; Business and Entrepreneurship; and Health, Education, and Well-Being.

Program expansion was one of the key goals of the RCCF. A Greener Tomorrow was the brainchild of our high school interns who were concerned about the state of our environment and what the world will look like when they are older. They were also concerned by the lack of local community and civic programs actively and consistently addressing this issue. Their vision led to so many new green spaces around the county – at our schools and on our streets. Recognizing the future of our communities is our youth, the RCCF supported them by expanding summer STEM programming. Our Future Ready Robotics Camp and our Kids Building Bikes were offered to middle school students, just precursors to what we will be offering this summer. 2021 saw the launch of the Women’s Giving Circle with our mission to empower women through collective giving. Last year we raised $17,000 and supported four local organizations. The campaign continues this year with great support. Perhaps one of the most enjoyable events during the year is the art contest featuring many young artists from our area schools and sponsored by our Ripley Youth Outreach, another positive aspect of the community foundation. The theme for Chalktoberfest 2021 was album covers, and we were so impressed by their creations.

As the Ripley County Community Foundation looks to celebrate 25 years in 2022, we look back with pride and we look forward with optimism. The staff, the board of directors, and all the volunteers remain committed to Connecting People Who Care with Causes That Matter.

Sincerely,
Nancy Durham, President, Ripley County Community Foundation
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Statement of Financial Position

**Assets**

Cash $278,420  
Certificates of deposit $179,308  
Receivables $46,857  
Investments $17,050,332  
Equipment, net $9,181  

**Liabilities and Net Assets**

Contributions held for others $1,216,624  
Accounts payable $150  

Net assets without donor restrictions  
Operating Accounts $667,032  
Board Designated - Operating Endowment $430,593  
Board Designated - Endowment $105,170  

Net assets with donor restrictions  
Restricted for specific purposes $1,359,260  
Restricted in perpetuity (historical cost of endowments) $9,635,895  
Restricted subject to Foundation’s spending policy (accumulated earnings) $4,149,374  
Underwater Endowments $0  

$15,144,529  
$17,564,098

Financial reporting in this document is reliable, but unofficial. The Ripley County Community Foundation, Inc. is audited annually by an independent accounting firm, usually completed in the summer. The complete audited financial statements including the independent auditor’s unqualified opinion is available upon request by contacting the Ripley County Community Foundation, Inc.
Happy Retirement Cheryll!

Cheryll Obendorf was a passionate, supportive, and optimistic leader who served as the Director for the Community Foundation’s initiative, Genesis: Pathways to Success, for 13 years. During her tenure, Genesis was recognized for its leadership across a wide range of key education, workforce, and community development initiatives and has leveraged over $4.2 million into education and workforce development since 2008.

Cheryll loved seeing students become engaged in STEM projects and programs and knowing that they learned skills that will help them be successful in life. She believes that everyone has the power to make a difference in our world, and as a result, she has helped #GreatKidsThriveHere.

Thank you, Mama Genesis, for all of your hard work and dedication to the Ripley County Community Foundation and Genesis: Pathways to Success. We wish you all the best in your retirement!
Top 5 Impactful Grants

**Turnover Hunger**
The football teams of Batesville High School, Milan High School, and Oldenburg Academy raised $26,000 to benefit the Weekend Backsack Programs in Ripley County Elementary Schools. The program was established to bring happiness to local, hungry elementary students who experience food insecurity during the weekends.

**Englishton Park**
This organization received a Small and Large Project Grant in 2021, totalling $2,300, to help offset attendance fees for students that attend Englishton Park’s Children Summer Camp. Students who attend this camp improve academic skills, change their attitude and modify behavior interfering with learning, and experience success in school-type activities.

**Jobs for America’s Graduates**
JAG, Jobs for America’s Graduates, is a valuable program that helps youth reach economic and academic success in school. Genesis: Pathways to Success granted $5,000 to the JAG programs at Milan, Jac-Cen-Del, and South Ripley Community School Corporations to support career pathway development.

**Batesville Area Arts Council**
The Ripley County Community Foundation proactively granted the Batesville Area Arts Council $5,000 to support the Umbrella Sky Project. On display from June to October, the Umbrella Sky Project brought a beautiful and colorful art installation to Batesville for residents throughout the region to enjoy.

**Holton, Napoleon, & Versailles Volunteer Fire Departments**
These local fire departments received a cumulative amount of $6,500 to help purchase various pieces of equipment. As a result of this, Holton was able to purchase new gloves, Napoleon purchased portable battery-powered LED scene lights, and Versailles could purchase new Self Contained Breathing Apparatuses.
Change Ripley County Grant

Mission Statement:
To create a powerful youth voice in our community in order to improve the lives of those in Ripley County through a philanthropic approach.

Vision Statement:
Spread knowledge of philanthropy across Ripley County through service and education, to empower the youth to become leaders of their generation.

Ripley Youth Outreach established the Change Ripley County Grant to give local youth a platform in which to be heard, the confidence to take action to change their communities, and the resources to enact that change. The grant encourages youth to partner with a local nonprofit organization to establish a change and improve Ripley County.

The $10,000 Change Ripley County Grant was awarded to St. Paul Lutheran Church of Olean to improve and renovate the Brown Township playground. Abby McCarty, a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church and a youth actively involved in her community, recognized the need to make improvements to the playground in order to allow for a safe and pleasant place for kids to play in a very rural area of the county.

Existing equipment has been cleaned and repainted. New equipment, such as a teeter-totter, merry-go-round, and new slides, were purchased and added to the existing playground. The playground improvement project was completed in the Summer of 2022.
“Art isn’t just a hobby of mine, it’s an outlet to express myself.”
~ Katie Mitchell
Album Cover Winners

Middle School

Bella Weberding - 1st Place
Aaron Bauer - 2nd Place
Leigh Walmsley - 3rd Place

High School

Megan Bauer - 1st Place
Katie Mitchell - 2nd Place
Rory Heffelmire - 3rd Place
The community foundation is a champion for the local environment. Through “A Greener Tomorrow” RCCF hopes to raise awareness for the natural beauty that surrounds us, to preserve the current environmental assets, and to plant species that will sustain the local habitat for future generations.

**Impact in 2021**

- **300 trees planted throughout Ripley County**
- **19 different species of trees indigenous to the Hoosier State**
- **3 pollinator gardens**
- **14 different species of pollinator plants**
- **8 planting partners**
- **1 endowment fund was created**
The Great STEM Bike Ride

Kids Riding Bikes:

Nine13sports visited each middle school in Ripley County during the month of February to engage middle school students through their Kids Riding Bikes program. Students were provided with a day-long bike riding experience via an interactive indoor bicycling simulator that utilizes technology to gamify the experience of riding a bicycle. Students were able to see real-time statistics showing data related to their speed, power output, distance, and time, while learning how a bicycle is designed and manufactured.

Over the course of six days, 903 students from Ripley County middle schools were able to participate in Kids Riding Bikes. Collectively, those riders biked approximately 650 miles, which is enough to travel from Indianapolis to Chicago over 3.5 times!
Kids Building Bikes:

Kids Building Bikes Camp served as the second stepping stone to The Great STEM Bike Ride, which took place at the Tyson Activity Center over the course of four consecutive Fridays in July. Eight students worked in Nine13sports' mobile bike lab where they assembled their very own bicycle and were taught about bicycle maintenance, rider safety skills, and rules of the road. Students became engineers as they pieced together and assembled a brand new bicycle and were introduced to STEM principles through a hands-on learning experience that built upon their problem-solving, creativity, and critical thinking skills.

Camp concluded with a celebratory bike ride around Versailles where students biked to Busching Covered Bridge near the Versailles State Park and later to Emily’s Brew for a delicious and refreshing ice cream treat. As a result of successfully completing the camp, all the students received a new bicycle, helmet, and lock.

Sponsors for The Great STEM Bike Ride included Friendship State Bank, Global Atlantic Financial Group, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, McDonald’s of Southeastern Indiana, Purdue IN-MaC, Ripley County Court Services JDAI, Tyson Activity Center, and the United Way of Franklin County. Thank you for giving students the opportunity to learn about the power of a bicycle!
Women's Giving Circle

Our Women’s Giving Circle, established in 2021, is a collaboration of charitable women who combine their treasure and passion to create opportunities for the women and children of Ripley County. The collective power of the Women’s Giving Circle generated over $17,000 in its first year and provided critical support to So Loved Closet, One Community One Family, Kids Discovery Factory, and New Horizon’s Rehabilitation. Women of all ages and means are invited to join the Women’s Giving Circle annually to forever support local nonprofit organizations and programming which work to improve the quality of life for local women and children in need.
New Funds Established

Joshua Edward and Jeremy David Ebinger Scholarship Fund
The Joshua Edward & Jeremy David Ebinger Memorial Scholarship was established in 2002 in memory of Jeremy after his life was lost in a tragic ATV accident. In 2021, this scholarship was expanded to include Jeremy’s brother, Joshua, when he tragically lost his life. Their parents, David and Lisa, established this scholarship in the memory of their sons to honor the light and love that Joshua and Jeremy brought into their lives.

Hillrom Scholarship Fund
The Hillrom Scholarship was established as a token of Hillrom’s appreciation for their Batesville employees’ dedicated, innovative, and entrepreneurial spirit that grew the company from humble beginnings to a giant in healthcare furnishings and equipment.

Joe Lake Memorial Scholarship Fund
The Joe Lake Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in memory of Joe. Joe Lake was a devoted scholar and athlete who passed away on June 23, 2021. Joe gave 100% to everything he attempted whether that was academics, athletics, his job or his family. Joe’s greatest passion was running, followed by basketball. This scholarship will benefit an athlete graduating from Batesville High School.

Peetz Family Charitable Giving Fund
The Peetz Family Charitable Giving Fund is a Donor Advised Fund which gives the Peetz’s the ability to identify opportunities present in their community and the flexibility to adjust the beneficiaries of their fund with the passage of time.

Raver Family Scholarship Fund
The Raver Family Scholarship was established by Joe and Anne Raver’s family and will award a scholarship to one senior on the Batesville High School men’s varsity basketball team to help offset the cost of tuition at an accredited higher-education institution. Upon Joe’s retirement, Hillenbrand’s Board of Directors approved a contribution to the Raver Family Scholarship for each of Raver’s 28 years of service to the company.
2021 Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Winner: Riley Schebler

1. Tell us a little bit about yourself.

My name is Riley Schebler, and I am a Freshman studying Finance at the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University. I am from Batesville, Indiana, and graduated from Oldenburg Academy. Ryan and Jennifer Schebler are my parents and I am the oldest of the three children. I have really enjoyed my college experience so far as I have met some great new people and I love learning about their lives and their backgrounds. I love to golf, and hope to get out on the course a bunch this summer.

2. How did it feel to win the prestigious scholarship?

Winning the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship was one of the best experiences of my life. I felt honored and grateful to be named the recipient considering the quality of candidates who applied for the honor. The way I was informed of the award was also really cool. Some of my friends and I thought we were on our way to give a school presentation and when we walked in the room I was totally surprised to see the Ripley County Community Foundation staff, the school administration, and my family. A special component of the whole process was how proud my hometown was of me. It made me feel truly proud and accomplished.

3. How has the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship impacted you?

While the Lilly Scholarship has definitely removed a large portion of the financial burden of college, it has also been rewarding in many other ways. Earning this prestigious, merit-based scholarship has made me a more attractive candidate for clubs, internships and other extracurricular activities. The prestige of receiving the Lilly Scholarship is incredible and will be very useful the rest of my life.
4. What have you learned about yourself as a student at Indiana University?

I have had a great experience here at Bloomington, and one thing I have learned about myself is how much I enjoy meeting new, diverse people. While I really appreciate my hometown and could not imagine a better place to grow up, everyone was similar to me and had a similar story. Here at IU that is not the case, and I have really loved meeting people who have different experiences and perspectives.

5. What are your future plans after graduating college?

At this time I am not entirely sure what I want to do after I graduate, however Indiana University provides a lot of career tools to help me determine what careers best fit my strengths. Currently, I am very interested in Wealth Management, Economics, and Consulting. After successful completion of my undergraduate degree, I would consider a Master’s or Professional degree.

6. What advice would you offer to another student who wants to apply for the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship?

I would encourage any student who is considering applying for the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship to give it a shot. I feel very strongly that the foundation is looking for well rounded individuals who have demonstrated success in academics, extracurricular activities, and community service. Also, I would encourage applicants to be as genuine and authentic as possible throughout the evaluation process. The evaluation committee wants to personally connect and relate to you. This will help them to feel confident that you are worthy of the award and you will be a good steward of this great achievement. I know this really helped me! A funny example of this is that my belt broke right before I walked into my interview. While it was embarrassing, it ended up serving as a great conversation starter and allowed the interviewers to really get to know me.
2021 Scholars

Abigail Blomer
Alyssa Brinkman
Christopher Campbell
Joshua Clark

Alexandra Dudley
Zoe Eckstein
Kayla Effinger
Laura Effinger

Emma Gausman
Kaylynn Guenther
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Mission Statement:
To assist donors in building an enduring source of charitable assets to benefit the citizens and qualified organizations of Ripley County.

Vision Statement:
To partner with and serve our communities as the trusted resource for charitable giving today and forever.
How to Give

Make an Impact
Donating to the Ripley County Community Foundation keeps local dollars, local!

Why Give to the Community Foundation
A gift to the community foundation allows people of all means to make a lasting difference in their community now and beyond their lifetime. Donations to an endowment are never spent. Instead they are permanently invested to produce income. The income is used to help meet the charitable needs of the charitable organization or cause identified at the time the gift is made.

What to Support
Support the cause you care about the most. The community foundation supports charitable organizations and projects which benefit the people and places of Ripley County. We will work with you to ensure that your charitable goals are matched with your charitable interests. You can donate to: an existing fund, visit www.rccfonline.org for a complete list of our funds; a special project; or a fund you establish.

How Much to Give
Gifts of all sizes are welcome and have a significant positive impact on the charity or cause you champion; the key is to find what is the best option for you.

How to Give
The Community Foundation’s staff or directors can discuss with you the most appropriate vehicle for your situation and interests. We welcome the opportunity to answer your specific questions at any time.

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Cash • Checks • Grain • Marketable securities • Stock • Retirement funds (name the community foundation as a beneficiary) • Bequests (name the foundation as a beneficiary in your will) • Trusts (charitable remainder trusts and charitable lead trusts) • Life insurance (designate the community foundation as a beneficiary and/or as the owner of a policy you no longer need) • An annuity transfer from existing foundation fund • Required Minimum Distribution from retirement account.
2022 marks our **25th Anniversary** and we are celebrating with our new logo:

![New Logo](image-url)

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Batesville, IN 47006

**WEBSITE:**
[www.rccfonline.org](http://www.rccfonline.org)

**PHONE:**
- Toll Free: 877.234.5220
- Local: 812.933.1098