

Defining

2023 Annual Report

com·mu·ni·ty

[kuh-myoo-ni-tee] *noun*

A feeling of fellowship with others, as a result of sharing common attitudes, interests, and goals.



BARRY
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

Dear Friends,

How would you define your community? Each of us would probably have a multitude of words that speak to us. As was the case when we looked back on 2023 and began to quantify all the people impacted by the generosity of our donors, partners, and leaders. As a community foundation, we settled on 12 words (one for each month) to help define the work we do and the essence of who we are. Each word tells a story, creates a backdrop, and adds the human connections that we have the privilege to encounter every day.

As stewards of the vision to be a vibrant and welcoming community where everyone prospers, we focus on our mission to bridge resources and foster collaboration. We are happy to see several big initiatives come to life, as we invest in and champion **affordable and attainable housing** for all who live and work in Barry County. By the time you read this, we will have broken ground on two major projects that will generate nearly 100 beautiful,



contemporary, workforce apartments: one in Hastings and one in Nashville.

The word “relevant” should also define us as we mindfully connect to the philanthropic vision of the next generation of givers. We do this through using the process and discipline of the **Community Heart & Soul program**. By seeking and engaging all voices in a community, our team has learned the path to creating passion and energy for the future. We look forward to the impacts and legacy all these efforts bring forth. Thank you to our community partners, who share the mission and passion and help to define our community as collaborative, understanding, welcoming, dedicated, encouraging, compassionate, and above all, **generous!**

Sincerely,

Bonnie Gettys, President and CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bonnie Gettys".

Kimberly J. Norris, MD, Board Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kimberly J. Norris".

table of contents

[tey-buhl of kon-tents] noun

The things that are held or included in something.

1. JANUARY

To the Rescue

ded•i•ca•tion

1. The willingness to give a lot of time and energy to something because it is important.

2. FEBRUARY

Leadership. Service. Love

pas•sion

1. A strong feeling of enthusiasm that inspires action.

3. MARCH

Champions for Growth

part•ner•ship

1. A relationship to care, support, and provide value to the other.

4. APRIL

A Driving Need

un•der•stand•ing

1. The power of comprehending, solving, and implementing.

5. MAY

Supporting Students

en•cour•age•ment

1. Providing support, confidence, and hope to help in a community.

6. JUNE

Connecting Community

de•vel•op•ment

1. Growth in skills and connections through learning experiences to reach potential.

7. JULY

A Servant Heart

ap•pre•ci•a•tion

1. An expression of admiration or gratitude.

8. AUGUST

A Sense of Belonging

wel•com•ing

1. Providing kindness, friendliness, and ensuring everyone feels accepted.

9. SEPTEMBER

Young People, Big Impact

phi•lan•thro•py

1. Generosity in all its forms (service, financial, skills) to help make life better for other people.

10. OCTOBER

Compassion and Suffering

com•pas•sion

1. Recognition of the suffering of others and taking action to help.

11. NOVEMBER

Tools for Building

col•lab•o•ra•tion

1. Working together to complete a task or achieve a goal.

12. DECEMBER

Community Investment

in•vest•ment

1. Providing capital to strengthen the local economy equitably improving the quality of living for all.

To the Rescue

The Barry Community Foundation (BCF) collaborated with Bad Day Industries, a paramedic training program, to address the need for first responders in our community. There are only four ambulances in our county and the wait times for residents in need have become dangerously long. To help solve this, BCF funded a grant to educate firefighters in life-saving training to get people medical assistance without having to wait for an ambulance.



"Because the fire department is in proximity to Barry County residents, they're able to provide life-saving treatments until the EMS/ambulance can arrive," says Lani Forbes, volunteer firefighter and first responder. "I personally know a man whose life was saved due to the training investment. More training has magnified the knowledge and abilities of all the emergency personnel, who are first to respond to any emergency."



2024

jan·u·ary

FEBRUARY

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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	New Year's Day 1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	Martin Luther King Jr. Day	16	17	Leadership Barry County Opening Retreat		Chamber Annual Dinner & Awards Celebration
	15			18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Leadership

Service

Love

Don and Sandi Drummond lived lives of leadership, service, and love of community.

Don and his first wife, Sue, moved to Freeport in the late 70's. From the beginning of their time in Barry County, their focus was not only on building their homestead, but on making their community a place that supports its residents. Artist Sue transformed her belief in the power and importance of art into the Thornapple Arts Council, which is still a thriving organization. Don was involved in many positive efforts. He was a founding member of the Barry County Futuring Committee, and a member of the charter board for the Barry Community Foundation. For over 35 years, Don was a driving force in the business and spiritual life of Barry County, a visionary who was instrumental in bringing new ideas and lasting vitality to his community. He sought to preserve the small-town virtues of Hastings while pushing for long-term, thoughtful sustainability.

Sandi, Don's second wife, was a builder in her own right. She built her community and people around her with a passion and perseverance rarely encountered. Sandi supported many of the organizations: Green Gables Haven, Hastings Public Library, Barry County Women's Festival, Leadership Barry County, and the First Presbyterian Church, to list a few. In the role of leader, teacher, mentor and friend, Sandi positively affected

an uncountable number of people, and Barry County continues to benefit from her efforts today.

Don and Sandi formally joined forces by marrying, after the unfortunate death of Sue, in 1995. Always future focused, together they continued to support any person, group or organization looking to bring the best of themselves to the community.

Even after their passing – Don in 2020 and Sandi in 2022 – they leave a legacy of hands-on philanthropy and selfless mentorship that will be remembered for generations to come.



2024

feb•ru•ary

MARCH

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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
	VITA Kickoff					Green Gables Haven Auction
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			Valentine's Day			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Presidents Day	Scholarship Applications Close				
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

Champions for Growth

Supporting local nonprofit agencies with capital campaigns and donations is an important role of the Barry Community Foundation; so, when Barry County leaders recognized the current Commission on Aging (COA) building needed improvements and upgrades, BCF was able to help.

The new COA building will be ideally located near the new Harvest Pointe facility of Thornapple Manor. It will offer congregate dining, Meals on Wheels programming, adult day care services, and affordable home care assistance

for Barry County seniors. Serving as an intermediary in this process, BCF created a fund the COA uses to fund raise for the project.

“Nearly a third of all Barry County residents will be over the age of 60 in just 6 years,” says COA Director Courtney Ziny. “This new campus will provide resources to seniors in our community to promote their happiness, independence, and well-being.”



2024

march

APRIL

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

					1	2
	Daylight Saving Time Begins					
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	YAC Grant Applications Due Wilson H. Craig Jr. Grant Applications Due15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Easter Sunday						
31						

A Driving Need



While having a conversation with a teenager at church, an anonymous donor realized that since schools no longer fund drivers education programs, some families can not afford the nearly \$800 expense for their teen to learn to drive.

For teens, being unable to drive has the potential to create barriers to education and the likelihood of increased absenteeism. Not acquiring a drivers license also puts those students at a disadvantage by limiting their ability to enter the workforce.

Our local schools help BCF qualify students that may need assistance and create a process that will pay for drivers' training expenses.

BCF can help a donor execute their vision for giving, by investigating the need and analyzing the best process for qualifying and distributing funds. Donors are assured the service they receive from the BCF team will create the impact desired, filling the community needs as identified.

FUND CREATION



DONOR VISION



ASSESS NEED AND
ALIGN VISION



FUND CREATION



PARTNER WITH LOCAL
ORGANIZATIONS TO
HELP ADMINISTER

REACH THOSE IN NEED

2024

april

MAY						
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Income Tax Deadline					Barry Roubaix
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
				Hastings Jazz Festival		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

en•cour•age•ment

[en-kur-ij-muhnt, -kuhr-] noun

Providing support, confidence, and hope to help in a community.



TKHS Mental Wellness Club aims to break the stigma.

Supporting Students

Recognizing the importance of adolescent mental health, we partnered with Corewell Health to provide access to behavioral healthcare and support the one in ten students who experience mental health conditions, or one in five who has a mental health concern. The Corewell Health School Behavioral Health Telemedicine Program leverages its strong relationships with local public schools to provide access to high-quality therapy. Students receive virtual mental health support in the school setting, removing transportation barriers and decreasing the amount of time students miss class.

The program connects high school students aged 14-

18 with behavioral health services embedded within the school setting. School partners host private telemedicine clinics in each school. Students receive support from licensed master social workers via secure telehealth video conferencing for treatment of behavioral health issues such as depression, anxiety, suicidal ideation, and personality disorders.

Thornapple Kellogg and Delton Kellogg High Schools launched school telemedicine clinics over the past school year. Hastings and Maple Valley High Schools are in the process of partnering to provide this program in the coming year.

2024

may

JUNE

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1

GNO - Hastings

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Mother's Day

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Leadership Barry
County Graduation

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Memorial Day

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Connecting Community

4-H is part of our community DNA. Several generous families have created ways to help 4-H students, while honoring the memories of their loved ones. At BCF, we know the importance of supporting this important program, which connects so many in our community.



The **Travis Wenger 4-H Scholarship** is awarded annually to an active participant of the Barry County 4-H Fair of exhibitors of animal entries. Since 2008, the scholarship has been awarded to 22 individuals. The award is presented annually at the fair, recognizing and honoring the life of an incredible young man who loved the fair and showing his livestock. Cailin Redman of Hastings received the 2023 scholarship. She participated in 4-H for 9 years, and is pursuing an agribusiness and animal sciences degree from Huntington University.

In 2002, the children of Lydia Gettys created the **Lydia Gettys Memorial Fund for 4-H** in memory of her love for the 4-H organization. Through this fund, many activities have been supported, but the most notable is the sponsoring the 4-H Barry County Fair cooking competitions award.



The **Jane Morris Memorial Fund** honors her passion and support of the Barry County 4-H program and also provides a county-wide scholarship to 4-H students. The 2023 recipient, Thea Zellmer of Thornapple Kellogg, participated in 4-H for 9 years and served as the Vice President for her club. Thea was also the recipient of the **Gordan and Carolyn Worth 4-H Scholarship**.

In 2010, the former MainStreet Savings Bank partnered with BCF to create a fund to manage a micro-loan program for 4-H members, who can apply and interview for a \$300 loan. The loans are repaid after the sale of the livestock. To date, all loans have been paid in full, providing students with a entrepreneurial lesson.

2024

june

JULY

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Father's Day			Juneteenth			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

A Servant Heart

In July, BCF gathers its donors, board members, and community partners to celebrate and show appreciation and recognition to the generous people in our community. A warm and welcoming tropical theme was the perfect backdrop to recognize Michelle Duits, the 2023 Servant Heart award recipient. When presenting the 2023 award, the previous recipients, Ed and Marcia Szumowski, provided a very long list of organizations to which Michelle gives her time, talent, and treasure. Before announcing her name, the always humble Michelle thought as she heard this lengthy list, "I'm sure I know this person because I'm volunteering at all of these places."

She was completely surprised when Ed and Marcia announced her name.

A hands-on leader, Michelle spends hours every single week giving her time to the Thornapple Arts Council, Leadership Barry County, Barry County United Way, and the Pierce Cedar Creek Institute. From music festivals and lake preservation, to championing school bond initiatives, and delivering art supplies, food, gift baskets, and cookies, Michelle is the epitome of having a servant heart. She's now made it a family affair by including her granddaughter, Bella, and her husband, Mike.



2024

ju·ly

AUGUST

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	BCF Turns 29 1	2	3	Independence Day 4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
				BCF Soul Celebration		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

A Sense of Belonging



The vision of a vibrant, welcoming, and engaged community with opportunity and prosperity for all sets the course for all of BCF's actions. To ensure philanthropy is relevant to the next generation of community leaders and givers, the Next Generation Fund was founded in 2005. Furthering the effort to attract and engage younger donors, this fund creates a granting framework that connects with their vision for their community, provides volunteer opportunities and grant review experience. In 2023, the Foundation board approved a change in purpose for the fund, which is now called Belonging in Barry.

We know that to achieve inclusive, healthy, resilient, thriving communities, all people in our county must have equitable access to the resources needed to reach their full potential. This fund is dedicated to belonging efforts in Barry County. Diversity encompasses, but is not limited to race, ethnicity, economic circumstances, zip code, age, health and ability status, sexual orientation, religion, gender identity and expression, resident or immigration status, or national origin. The fund supports diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in Barry County.

We hope that this fresh approach will engage new donors and volunteers with local philanthropy in a way that provides for their vision of their community.

2024

au • gust

SEPTEMBER

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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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Delton Founder's
Festival

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Brewfest

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Hastings
Summerfest

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Fairground
Music Festival

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Young People, Big Impact

The mission of the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is to empower local youth through leadership, service, and philanthropy. In the 2022-23 school year, YAC members selected Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center as the beneficiary of their annual Roof Sit, which raised \$4,547.73 toward Safe Harbor's capital campaign for a new building.

Students also awarded a matching grant to CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) – an organization supporting youth in need of a voice in court. In total, "YACers" awarded \$24,264.35 in grants to organizations supporting youth in Barry County in 2022-23. These grants funded various projects, such as a book vending machine at Page

Elementary School in Middleville and youth basketball supplies for Delton Kellogg Elementary students.

YAC students also participated in service projects throughout the year. Students assisted Barry County United Way staff in preparing for their annual holiday toy drive, wrote valentine letters to senior citizens at Carveth Village in Middleville and Thornapple Manor in Hastings, taught elementary students about philanthropy, and helped sort clothing at The Shack in Delton. YAC is a great way for students to uplift their fellow youth while expanding their horizons from their local schools and towns to impact young people all over Barry County.



2024

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OCTOBER

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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Labor Day

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Middleville
Heritage Day

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United Way Day
of Caring and
Kick-Off

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Compassion in the Midst of Suffering

Gregory Bergeron was a compassionate, caring young man who fought hard to overcome drug addiction. He embraced a program of recovery and was able to achieve eighteen months of sobriety. However, in 2012, Greg passed away from a drug overdose.

The Bergerons, like many families, understand how difficult it can be to not have access to proper treatment, but to also not be able to afford it without insurance.

With a deep compassion for those facing similar struggles, Greg's family created a fund to offer financial assistance to young addicts who need help, in hope of offering encouragement to take steps toward the path of recovery and mental wellness.

Greg found purpose in helping others achieve recovery. He was a mentor and was looked up to by many. "He would have wanted to help someone struggling with addiction as he truly wanted to live drug free." Janie Bergeron said.



2024

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NOVEMBER

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

TAEF Grant
Applications Due 1

2

GNO - Hastings 3

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BCF and YAC Grant
Applications Due
Wilson H. Craig Jr.
Grant Applications
Due

13

14

15

16

17

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19

Arts and Eats Tour

Arts and Eats Tour

YAC Roof Sit

20

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Halloween

31

Tools for Building

To increase affordable housing in our county, the Barry Community Foundation partnered with the Barry County Chamber and Economic Development Alliance to hire the Antero Group, a holistic engineering and community planning firm. The team created an affordable housing toolkit to guide long-term development and identity implementation strategies for the entire county.

Many housing development projects in Barry County have encountered challenges acquiring final approvals. County-wide efforts are on the rise to increase housing options, and to make the development process flow smoothly. This toolkit will help educate and clarify best practices, procedures, and design guidelines.

The Antero Group facilitated community meetings to piece together Barry County's existing housing snapshot

that includes current housing developments and future opportunities. By providing best practices for the creation of affordable housing tailored to individual communities, each will receive specific information regarding federal, state, and local grants available to provide housing resources for their area. Local governments from Hastings to Hickory Corners now have the information needed to attract affordable housing developments, and a list of potential non-profit entities and private developers to help fund those projects.

The key to the project's success is a marketing packet that the Barry County Housing Alliance will present to local communities. It includes an explanation of the benefits of affordable housing policies, educational pieces providing details on the resources to help finance projects, and policy recommendations to prepare for future housing needs.



2024

no • vem • ber

DECEMBER

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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	TAC Auction for the Arts 2
Daylight Saving Time Ends	Barry County Manufacturing Week					
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Veterans Day					
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
				Thanksgiving Day		Small Business Saturday
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Constructive Community Investment



Every five years BCF selects an area of focus for our work guiding our time, resources, investments, and collaboration efforts. Currently, this area of focus is the creation of affordable, attainable, and desirable housing.

Inspired at our contractor recruitment event at Barry County Lumber local contractor, Jason Teitz, described an innovative approach to building an affordable spec home that he refers to as the “Shuffle House.” The single-level home’s design utilizes “off-the-shelf” and standard in-stock building materials from Hometown Lumber in Nashville. This avoids expensive, special-order products

and allows over 95% of the materials to be purchased locally.

On a double lot in the Village of Nashville, a pilot program is almost complete to construct a “shuffle house”. Using a construction loan funded by private contributions to the Barry County Housing Fund, and distributed by BCF, this project aims to encourage similar builds in other Barry County communities and is a great example of a constructive community investment. Other projects breaking ground include the new Nashville Flats, located in Nashville, and Tyden Lofts located in Hastings.

2024

de•cem•ber

JANUARY 2025

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2025 Scholarship Applications Open 1	2	3	4	5	6	Hastings Jingle and Mingle 7
						Nashville Christmas Parade
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		Christmas Eve	Christmas Day			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		New Year's Eve	New Year's Day			
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

2023 Financials

Program Highlights

KICKSTART TO CAREER

Each year Barry County kindergartners receive a deposit-only, long-term savings account at Highpoint Community Bank seeded with \$50.

4,629

number of accounts as of 6.30.23

\$397,509

total deposits as of 6.30.23

LEADERSHIP BARRY COUNTY

Leadership Barry County offers established and emerging leaders a unique opportunity to be part of a group that comes together to develop their professional and personal leadership skills.

550

alumni since inception in 1989

19

graduates in 2023

Supporting Organization

BARRY COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT CENTER

Established in 2011, this building is owned and operated by the Barry Community Foundation. It currently brings together 11 partner organizations for centralized access to assistance and support services.

30

community organizations impacted in 2023

3,872

number of individuals who utilized building services in 2023

Scholarships

Each year area students can apply for local scholarships offered through the Barry Community Foundation and our geographic affiliates, the Thornapple Area Enrichment Foundation and the Delton Kellogg Education Foundation.

BARRY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

35

scholarships administered

\$74,000

amount awarded in 2023

THORNAPPLE AREA ENRICHMENT FOUNDATION

44

scholarships administered

\$53,000

amount awarded in 2023

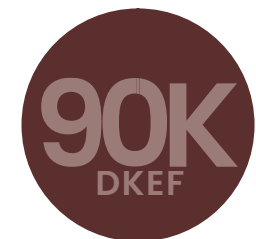
DELTON KELLOGG EDUCATION FOUNDATION

60

scholarships administered

\$90,070

amount awarded in 2023



Granting

Each year the Barry Community Foundation and its affiliate foundations generously grant money into our community. These dollars continue to support the ongoing needs of the people and organizations that call Barry County home.

74

number of funds that granted dollars into the community ending 6.30.23

\$1.44 MILLION

total dollars granted into the community ending 6.30.23

Asset Breakdown

net assets as of 6.30.23

\$2,373,459

Thornapple Area Enrichment Foundation

\$4,561,293

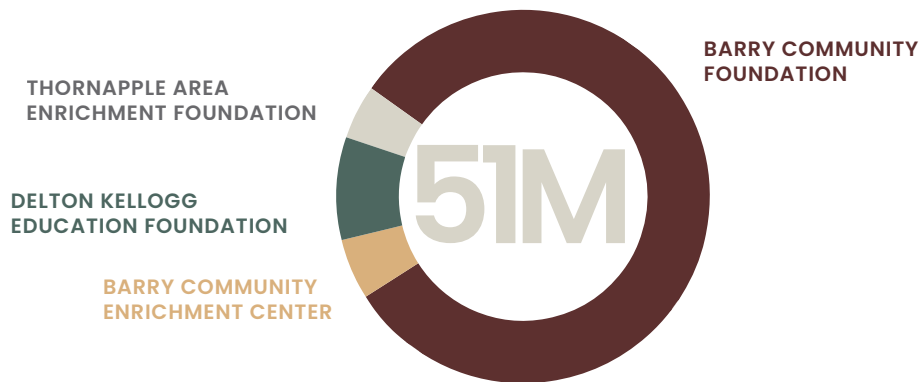
Delton Kellogg Education Foundation

\$2,564,609

Barry Community Enrichment Center

\$41,536,558

Barry Community Foundation



Gifts

\$1.96 MILLION

dollar amount of total gifts

2,058

number of total gifts

INDIVIDUAL GIVING

Percentage of individual donors by years of giving.

28%

First time givers

5%

Giving for 11-20 years

55%

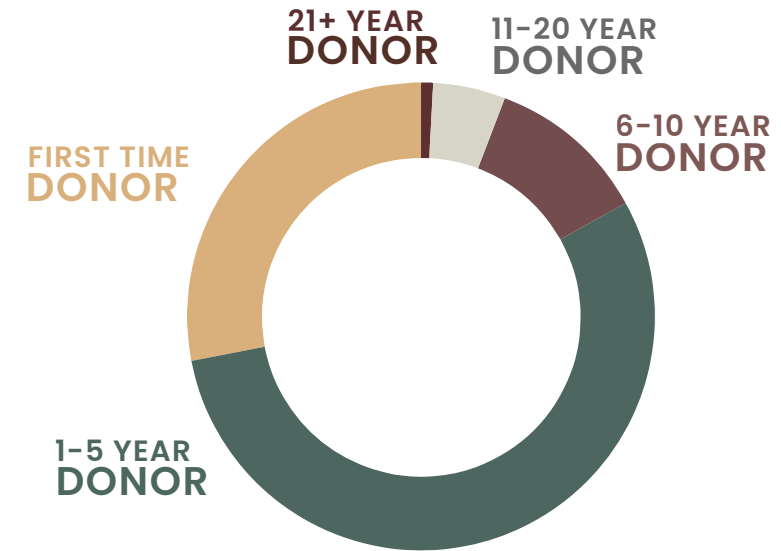
Giving for 1-5 years

1%

Giving for 21+ years

11%

Giving for 6-10 years



The Barry Community Foundation's and Barry Community Enrichment Center's financial statements are audited by Plante & Moran, PLLC. A full set of the audited financial statements will be available by contacting info@barrycf.org.

Board of Directors



BACK ROW (from left):

Korin Ayers, Johnny DeMaagd,
Shana Bush, Chris Stafford

SECOND ROW (from left):

Dr. Kimberly Norris, Dr. Katherine
Bertolini, Jennifer Haywood, Annie
Halle, Marley TenCate, Bonnie
Gettys

FRONT ROW (from left):

Fred Jacobs, Deborah Jackson,
Diane Gaertner, Michael McKeown

Our Staff



FROM LEFT:

Mindy Cutlip, John Gallagher, Tammy Hayes, Tim Girrbach, Annie Halle, Bonnie Gettys, Jillian Foster, Tammy James, Luke Froncheck, Sam Waller

A Community Defined by Generosity

Giving through the Barry Community Foundation isn't just a mark of generosity, it's a commitment to the greater good. Your gifts, whether they are of time, talent, or treasure play a significant role in building the foundation for meaningful work in Barry County.

By uniting together, we can achieve outcomes beyond measure that will provide a positive impact for years to come.



**BARRY
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

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