



NORTHERN INDIANA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

STARKE FULTON MIAMI

P.O. Box 807, 800 Main
Rochester, IN 46975

Phone: 574.223.2227
Toll Free: 877.432.6423
Fax: 574.224.3709
Website: <http://nicf.org>

NICF Board of Directors

Mat Swanson, President - Starke
Bob Hoffman, Vice President - Fulton
Alan Terrell, Treasurer - Fulton
Susie Perkins, Secretary - Miami

Joanne Bendall	Fulton
Dennis Eller	Fulton
Lance Nelson	Fulton
Debbie Balsbaugh	Miami
Ron Douglas	Miami
Max Hattery	Miami
Tyra Walker	Miami
James Hardesty	Starke
Brad Lawrence	Starke
Barbara McLaughlin	Starke
Fred Vorm	Starke

Administrative Staff

Terri Johnson
Executive Director

Corinne Becknell Lucas
*Program/Scholarship
Coordinator*

Tami Murphy
Administrative Assistant

Teri Carr
Marketing Coordinator
574.835.1388

Cynthia Crump
Fulton Assoc. Director
P.O. Box 807
800 Main Street
Rochester, IN 46975
574.224.3223

Jenni Marsh
Miami Assoc. Director
13 East Main
Peru, IN 46970
765.475.2859

Kathy Norem
Starke Assoc. Director
400 North Heaton
Knox IN 46534
574.772.3665

SOWING THE SEEDS OF GIVING... NICF PROUDLY SERVES STARKE, FULTON AND MIAMI COUNTIES

Fifteen years ago, Lilly Endowment Inc. announced what would become the largest, charitable, grassroots program in the state of Indiana. It was called the GIFT (Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow) initiative. In 1990, there were about a dozen viable community foundations in Indiana with an aggregate of \$30 million in assets.

The objective behind the GIFT initiative was to help develop and encourage Indiana communities to provide a sustainable force for charitable and civic engagement that would enable the communities to shape their own destinies. The citizens of Indiana responded in usual "Hoosier" fashion by surpassing the Endowment's expectations. The generosity and pride of the communities produced a community foundation in every county with aggregate assets today totaling more than \$1 billion. Perhaps as important as the financial development of the foundations over the past decade or so, was the emergence of community foundations as civic conveners and forces for the improvement of the quality of life in Indiana communities. The community foundation model clearly has been shown to be an effective vehicle for enhancing the prospects for brighter futures for Indiana communities.

We are not Lilly Endowment Inc. (the Endowment) as some mistake us for, and we do not have any matching funds from the Endowment to raise endowed assets locally. We are the Northern Indiana Community Foundation, Inc. comprised of Fulton, Miami, and Starke County Community Foundations. We were established in 1993 by local leaders, with the assistance of the Endowment, as a public charity operating under state and federal laws. Each county has a local office and is governed by local volunteers. NICF continues to be Lilly Endowment's connection to Starke, Fulton and Miami counties.

From the beginning, the Endowment has encouraged community foundations to become independent and self-sustaining. In 2005, the Endowment announced the Sustaining Resource Development initiative. One year ago, the volunteers and staff of the Northern Indiana Community Foundation, Inc. and our affiliate counties were imagining and planning what needed to be done to generate on a regular and ongoing basis, the funding required to fulfill our mission in each of our counties.

Through this planning process we studied our communities and the difference the community foundation has made. Collectively, Starke, Fulton and Miami counties have granted over \$8 million to charitable agencies, projects and scholarships since inception. Currently, the NICF has \$14.5 million in assets. The beauty of the community foundation is that we are designed to simplify charitable giving for donors who have a desire to permanently improve their community.

Our new logo, a vibrant three petal flower, symbolizes our part in nurturing and growing our communities through the seeds of giving by our donors. The green petal is for Starke County, known for their mint crop. The red petal represents Fulton County and their round barns, and the blue petal stands for Miami County, with their rich circus and military heritage. The three stamen symbolize the umbrella of the Northern Indiana Community Foundation, Inc. Our new tag line, "Growing a Legacy" states simply our mission of "improving the quality of life in our communities by assisting donors in fulfilling their charitable wishes". Please contact any of our offices to find out how simple it is to grow *your* legacy.

Growing a Legacy

Fulton County 4-H Community Rallies

The Fulton County Community Foundation (FCCF) and Fulton County 4-H Board have established an endowed agency fund to benefit our local 4-H. FCCF offered a \$1 match in unrestricted funds up to \$25,000 for every \$1 raised by Fulton County 4-H. To kick off the match, First Source bank donated \$2,000 at the request of Joe Hunting, current fair board president and Tim Lowe, the immediate past president of the fair board. Both were recognized by the bank for their community service and awarded \$1,000 each. They were to direct the funds to the charity of their choice. Joanne Bendall, president of FCCF and a long-time 4-H member and leader, added an additional \$1,000. Other gifts have since been received, totaling over \$18,000 to date!

The 2006 4-H Fair was an invaluable opportunity to reach much of the 4-H population for this effort. The organization has a large membership, reaches a diverse population, encompasses all areas of the county, includes area youth, agriculture and both town and rural communities. The FCCF booth featured photo albums on display (by township) with information about the various projects FCCF has granted.

To help 4-H identify and prioritize the most important issues to address, a survey asking opinions of visitors was shared. Suggestions included camps, youth education, scholarships, fair budget and grounds improvements. A silent auction was held at the booth with Longaberger baskets created as “theme” gift baskets. Two additional baskets were also offered during the Spotlight Livestock Auction. Proceeds went towards the 4-H fund. Fundraising efforts continue in order to take full advantage of the \$1 for \$1 match. By establishing this fund, gifts can be accepted in any amount or at any time. Memorials and bequests can also be made. Local 4-H will forever benefit from the genuine interest and generosity of donors.

FCCF President Joanne Bendall said, “The residents of Fulton County have been very generous in funding this matching project, which really is an investment in the youth of Fulton County. I hope to raise \$100,000 which is not an impossible goal. The motto of 4-H is to *make the best better*. Isn’t that what we’re all trying to do?”

Contributions can be mailed to the Northern Indiana Community Foundation Inc., P.O. Box 807, Rochester, Indiana 46975 or given to any Fulton County 4-H Board member. Checks should be made payable to Northern Indiana Community Foundation and include Fulton County 4-H Fund on the memo line. Questions may be directed to Cindy Crump, FCCF Associate Director.



Tim Lowe and Joe Hunting present \$1000 each from 1st Source Bank, to FCCF President, Joanne Bendall and Cindy Crump, FCCF Associate Director.

The contributions helped launch the efforts of local 4-H supporters to establish an agency fund to benefit Fulton County 4-H.

To date, over \$18,000 has been raised locally towards the goal of \$25,000.

The Legacy

Winifred Simpkins Remembered

Article contributed by Kathy Norem



Winifred (Winnie) Simpkins, RN

My mother, “Winnie” was a person of great strength and influence, as well as a role model for her daughters and other young women. Mother was also a Registered Nurse. She believed in her profession and always encouraged my sister and I to become nurses. She felt women should have no boundaries or limits in the “corporate” world and that a woman could be anything she wanted be. Mother largely shaped the person I have become as an adult, and influenced my decision to become a Registered Nurse.

Mother was tragically killed in a car accident shortly after she retired from the life-long career she loved so much. I honestly can not recall the number of people that came to the funeral to pay their respects. The number of people whose lives she had touched in some fashion, was incredible. More than one nurse came through to tell me stories of how my mother had inspired them and encouraged them. More than one of her past patients came through to tell me how my mother had held their hand in their time of need. More than one doctor came through to tell me how much they had depended on my mother to assist them. More than one family member and friend told me of times they called her for help with their sick children in the middle of the night. Losing her affected so many.

Some time after the funeral, I knew that although my mother was gone, I did not ever want her to be forgotten. With this in mind, I chose to establish a Nursing Scholarship in her name with the NICF through Starke County Community Foundation. Although she is gone, she will continue to influence, encourage, and perhaps inspire residents of Starke County to follow in her footsteps... to join the profession of Nursing. She left very big shoes to fill.

I loved my mother very much and was overwhelmed with grief at her loss. My only regret is that at the time of her death, I was not thinking clearly about a legacy for her. We had not planned for this to happen and certainly did not expect her time to be so short. In retrospect, I wish at the time, I had the presence of mind to request in lieu of flowers, for gifts to be made to a fund that would forever preserve her memory.

Celebrating the Legacy

- ◇ Miami County Community Foundation is taking a “*Sentimental Journey*” for their fall fundraising dinner on September 30, 2006
- ◇ This WWII themed event will be set amongst the historic aircraft at the Grissom Air Museum
- ◇ The fun begins at 6 p.m. with drinks and bidding on silent auction items
- ◇ An elegant dinner will be served @ 7 p.m. by *The Siding* of Peru
- ◇ The Live auction will start at 8:30 p.m.
- ◇ There will be reminiscing and dancing to the big band sounds of Tuxedo Junction 9-11 p.m.
- ◇ Couples \$150, single ticket - \$75



MCCF's WWII-themed event “*Sentimental Journey*” promises toe-tapping fun & reminiscing!

Celebrating the Legacy

- ◇ Starke County Community Foundation is observing “*Ten Years of Giving - Ten Years of Growing*” with a 10th Anniversary Celebration on September 17, 2006
- ◇ Held at the Knox Community Center, the event begins @ 5 p.m. (CST)
- ◇ An elegant dinner will be prepared by *Christos* of Plymouth
- ◇ Harpist, Beth Pare` will provide music
- ◇ Features keynote speaker, Paul Schuyler
- ◇ Recognition of SCCF accomplishments
- ◇ Table of 8 - \$200, single ticket - \$25

GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE TO NICF OFFICE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH



NORTHERN INDIANA
**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**
STARKE FULTON MIAMI
P.O. Box 807
Rochester, IN 46975



Dates to Remember...

Sept. 17th	SCCF 10th Anniversary Celebration
Sept. 29th	Grant Application Deadline - All counties
Sept. 30th	MCCF "Sentimental Journey" Gala
Oct. 9th	MCCF - Service Committee Meeting
Oct. 13th	SCCF - Service Committee Meeting
Oct. 17th	FCCF - Service Committee Meeting
Oct. 18th	NICF Board Meeting @ RTC
Nov. 10th	SCCF - Service Committee Meeting
Nov. 13th	MCCF - Service Committee Meeting
Nov. 15th	NICF Board Meeting @ RTC
Nov. 21st	FCCF - Service Committee Meeting
Dec. 4th	MCCF - Grant Reception
Dec. 7th	FCCF - Grant Reception
Dec. 8th	SCCF - Service Committee Meeting
Dec. 8th	SCCF - Grant Reception
Dec. 11th	MCCF - Service Committee Meeting
Dec. 19th	FCCF - Service Committee Meeting

Mission: To improve the quality of life in our community by assisting donors in fulfilling their charitable wishes.