

Douglas and Jennifer Smith Family Fund

Giving back to the community has been ingrained into the Smith family as long as they can remember. Jennifer (Jennie) was born to two loving parents in the town of Rochester, IN. She graduated from Rochester High School, worked in town, and fell in love with the atmosphere she grew up in. After a year at DePauw, Jennie met the love of her life, Douglas (Doug). 6 years her senior, Doug was already working and able to support a family. The two decided to begin their lifelong journey together and marry. They decided upon Jennie's hometown of Rochester to raise their family.

Soon after, they were blessed with 3 boys- Isaac, a heavily involved, smart, and athletic 19-year-old; Noah, a laid-back, intelligent, book-loving 17-year-old; and Jesse, a 13-year-old free spirit in love with the arts and taekwondo. Their daughter, Naomi came later in their story. At just 2 years old, she keeps them young and is the perfect addition to their beautiful family.

Doug works at Rochester Metal Products Corporation and Jennie is a self-proclaimed professional volunteer. They are heavily involved in the community, on several organization's boards, and enjoy blessing others with the blessings they have been given.

The Smiths take their duty to tithe very seriously. Each paycheck is tithed to their church, but bonuses and extra income are devoted to other nonprofit organizations. The family likes to allocate some of their philanthropic gifts to local charities and others to worldwide efforts. The Fulton County Community Foundation seemed like the perfect partner to help make their philanthropic wishes come true.

Doug and Jennie Smith chose to create a community fund at the Foundation during the Lilly matching opportunity. Their initial gift was able to triple in size! The family trusted those handling their gift and wanted their donation to make the biggest impact it could in the community they call home. Now, the Douglas and Jennifer Smith Family Fund is able to help with the most pressing and everchanging needs each year.

The Smith family loves Fulton County for its caring people, abundance of role models, and ample opportunities for their children. They believe that giving back should start as early as possible. The amount you can give doesn't matter, only the kindness behind it.