Erie County Community Foundation

ERIE COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

November 2018

In this edition

Photos from our New Building

Community Grants Round 2

Melvyn J. Stauffer, Missing a Friend and Mentor

A New, Permanent Home

On June 1, 2018, over three years of hard work by the Foundation's Building Committee came to fruition as Erie County Community Foundation staff moved into a completely renovated space at 135 East Washington Row, Sandusky.

Led by Charles Rainger, Building Committee members Roger Gundlach, Mary Jane Hill and Carl McGookey looked at practically every available space in downtown Sandusky. "The group decided early on that the priority was for the Foundation to remain downtown," said Beth Maiden, Foundation Executive Director. "We found the perfect spot, and after negotiating with our building owner, we were able to take over the first floor of our existing location."

Janotta and Herner was engaged to design and build out offices for the Foundation and other non-profit organizations along with community meeting space. The result is not only permanent space for the Foundation, but also for tenants Boys & Girls Club of Erie County, Sandusky Education Foundation, and United Way of Erie County. An up-to-date conference room is available to the public.

The renovation would not have been possible without a generous grant from the Randolph J. and Estelle M. Dorn Foundation that supported the bulk of the $700,000 project. Additional support for the building and outfitting of the new conference room and an updated façade came from:

- The Foundation's Board of Directors and Staff
- Laurence and Karen Bettcher
- Sidney Frohman Foundation
- Mylander Foundation
- City of Sandusky
- Melvyn J. and Mary P. Stauffer Donor Advised Fund
- Sam S. and Rose Stein Foundation
- Michelle Wightman/Karrie Wieber Charitable Foundation
- And many friends of the Foundation.

Turn the page for photos of the new space, or stop and visit us at 135 East Washington Row. More images are on Facebook.

ECCF New Offices

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Foundation Awards Community Grants

The Foundation's Board of Directors approved $96,936 in Community Grants at its October 26th meeting. Organizations receiving grants include:

Youth Services

Boy Scouts of America, Lake Erie Council—$2,500

Environment

Friends of the Sandusky Greenhouse—$2,232

Arts and Humanities

Edison Birthplace Association—$2,500

Firelands Symphony Orchestra—$5,000

Milan Historical Museum—$7,000

Sandusky State Theatre—$7,150

Social Services

American Red Cross—$5,000

Boys & Girls Club of Erie County—$7,000

Care and Share, Inc.—$4,500

Catholic Charities Diocese of Toledo—$2,300

Erie Shores Network—$2,000

Firelands Habitat for Humanity—$5,000

Grace's Kitchen—$3,600

Safe Harbor Domestic Violence Shelter—$4,154

Salvation Army—$5,000

Second Harvest Food Bank—$8,000

Serving Our Seniors—$5,000

Sober Living Support—$1,000

Stein Hospice Services—$5,000

United Church of Christ, Congregational- Vermilion —$5,000

United Way of Erie County—$6,000

Zion Lutheran Church—Sandusky—$2,000

Next deadline is February 1. Find applications at eriefoundation.org

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Erie County Community Foundation

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Melvyn J. Stauffer, Esq.

1926-2018

Mel Stauffer served as counselor, convener, and advisor to the nonprofit and philanthropic communities here in Erie County. The later years of his legal practice were dedicated to private foundations, nonprofits, and hospital governance.

We honor and remember Mel as founder and first Chairperson of the Erie County Community Foundation. Any success that the Foundation has today can be attributed to the thoughts, plans, and ideals established by Mel some twenty-three years ago.

In December 2016, Mel championed the decision to create the Foundation's new office space and helped make possible the generous grant from the Dorn Foundation that laid the groundwork for this center for philanthropic and nonprofit work.

The Foundation and the entire community lost a true champion upon his death on March 17, 2018. We are forever grateful for his dedication to the Erie County Community Foundation.