

# Erie County Community Foundation Newsletter

2015

## In Memory of Ruth Frost Parker

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This year our community lost an amazing woman. Ruth Frost Parker was a philanthropist in the truest sense of the word. Merriam-Webster defines philanthropist as, "one who makes an active effort to promote human welfare."

Anyone who knew Ruth can attest to how active she was and how she spent many, many hours promoting human welfare. Whether she was attending a fund-raiser, serving on a board or committee, or using her resources to see her ideas come to fruition, Ruth was always promoting human welfare and making Erie County a better place to live, work and play.

Ruth was a founding member of the Erie County Community Foundation. She was a board member;

she served on committees and she was a regular donor.

The list of local organizations Ruth supported is almost endless. The following list is by no means comprehensive, but will give just a glimpse of the scope of Ruth's local giving:

The Erie County Community Foundation, The First

Congregational Church of Christ, City of Sandusky, Sandusky State Theatre, Michael's House, Boys and Girls Club, Care and Share, Friends of Old Woman Creek, Firelands Symphony Orchestra, BGSU Firelands, the Merry Go Round Museum, Sandusky Main Street, the Humane Society, Cancer Services, Stein Hospice, Safe Harbour, Goodwill, Sandusky YMCA, Serving our Seniors, Erie

Metroparks, the Volunteer Center and Volunteers of America.

Ruth Frost Parker was an amazing woman and we all continue to benefit from her generosity. Her passing is a great loss to our community. Fortunately, the endowment funds she established with the Community Foundation will help her philanthropy continue in Erie County forever.



# Round 1 Community Grants

## Awarded

**The Round 1 grants resulted in \$100,494 being awarded to 24 local, non-profit organizations.**

The Erie County Community Foundation is pleased to announce the completion of its Round 1, 2015 community grants cycle. Funding for these grants was made possible as the result of another major grant to the Community Foundation from the Randolph J. and Estelle M. Dorn Foundation as well as through the generous support of many donors in the community.

The Round 1 grants resulted in \$100,494 being awarded to 24 local, non-profit organizations. Grants were awarded to organizations in Berlin Heights, Milan, Huron, Margaretta, Perkins, Sandusky, and Vermilion. Many of the grants were awarded to organizations that serve all of Erie County.

Organizations receiving funding include:

- The Village of Berlin Heights, community sign upgrade
- Perkins Township, upgraded technology
- Huron City Schools, new piano
- Margaretta High School Music Department, stage lighting
- Margaretta Local Schools, swimmer support project
- North Point Educational Service Center, I-pads
- Sandusky City High School Girls Softball team, Florida trip
- Sandusky Central Catholic Schools, Panther Performance Center
- BGSU Foundation for Caryl Crane Theatre, production support for "Mary Poppins"
- Firelands Symphony Orchestra, artistic expenses for 2015-2016 season
- Ritter Public Library, computer technology upgrade
- Sandusky Area Maritime Association, traveling program equipment
- American Red Cross, CPR and babysitting training
- Cancer Services of Erie County, transportation for cancer treatments
- Care and Share, Inc. of Erie County, food pantry
- Catholic Charities Diocese of Toledo, crisis navigation program
- Erie County Emergency Management Agency, identification badge maker
- Erie County Senior Center, multiple programs
- Firelands Habitat for Humanity, bath fixtures and ReStore Ceiling fans
- Kidney Foundation of Ohio, transportation assistance program
- Sandusky Artisans Recovery Community Center, tables and chairs
- Heartbeat of Sandusky, Empowering Girls for a Brighter Future
- Huron Lions Club, eye care for those in need
- BGSU Foundation/McBride Arboretum, sidewalk connection from Arboretum to parking lot

These grants will benefit the residents of Erie County thanks in large part to the outstanding efforts of our local non-profit organizations. These organizations provide a broad variety of services to address the changing needs of our communities.

The Erie County Community Foundation continues a tradition of mindful, effective grant making, addressing a variety of needs throughout Erie County. The Community Foundation holds two grant cycles with deadlines of February 1st and August 1st of each year. For more information, visit [www.eriefoundation.org](http://www.eriefoundation.org)

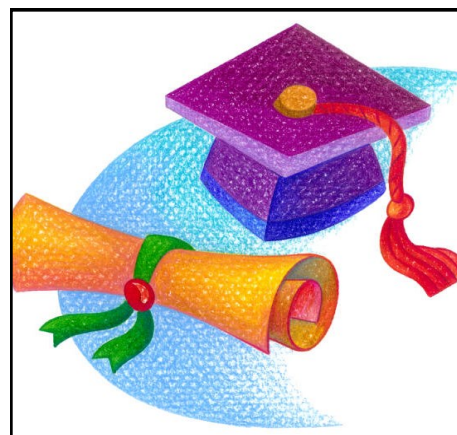
## Scholarship Season in Full Swing

It is the time of year when high school seniors are planning for graduation and continuing their education beyond high school. The Erie County Community Foundation believes there are few, if any, gifts as valuable to a student than the gift of an education. We are proud to administer 31 local scholarship funds to assist Erie County's best and brightest continue their education beyond high school.

The Community Foundation's Scholarship Committees will review hundreds of applications for the \$98,927 in available scholarship dollars this year.

In 2014, the Community Foundation awarded \$81,618.50 to Erie County students.

If you would like to help local students continue their education please contact Anna Phipps at 419-621-9690 or [annap@eriefoundation.org](mailto:annap@eriefoundation.org)



## Community Links Internship Initiative

The Erie County Community Foundation's Community Links Internship Initiative is in its third, successful year.

Community Links provides a limited number of college students or recent graduates an opportunity to work in Erie County nonprofit organizations or governmental agencies during the summer months. In addition, the interns are educated about the Erie County communities and local nonprofit and public sectors.

The program's objectives include:

- Offering first-hand knowledge of Erie County's nonprofit community, its leadership, and organizations.
- Providing meaningful career-related work experience.
- Increasing local organizations' capacity to conduct important short-term projects.
- Stimulating interest in a career in the nonprofit or public sectors.

- Exposing students to a broad range of public sector endeavors.
- Preventing a 'brain-drain' and promoting a 'brain-gain' in Erie County.

This year, the Community Links Committee selected projects at four local organizations: The Erie County Health Department, United Way of Erie County, Sandusky Artisans Recovery Community Center and Sandusky City Schools.

Students begin their internships in June and we wish them every success.

**Preventing a 'brain-drain' and promoting a 'brain-gain' in Erie County**

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public good.**

## 20th Anniversary Year!

The Erie County Community Foundation is celebrating its 20th year of existence in 2015!

The Community Foundation began as a Leadership Erie County project with total assets of \$1.8 million its first year, resulting from a \$1 million challenge grant from the Randolph J. and Estelle M. Dorn Foundation and \$800,000 in several challenge matching grants.

In the last 20 years, the Erie County Community Foundation has worked with our donors and the community, and grown to total assets reaching **\$20 million!**



Throughout 2015, keep your eyes open for exciting opportunities to commemorate the positive impact the Community Foundation and our generous donors have made, together, during our first 20 years.