

Home Away From Home

What does a daughter do with a mother with Alzheimer's? That was the question Cathy Benner Google-searched when it became apparent that she, her husband, Gerard, and her father could no longer provide engaging round-the-clock care for Cathy's mom, Jean McCollum. Cathy and Gerard had already moved her parents from their Wolcott home to West Lafayette years earlier, but Jean needed more than they could give. Although she was still in good physical health, it was taking a toll on the caregivers, especially Jean's husband. Something had to be done. That's when the Benners took a deep dive into researching resources for Alzheimer's. Or, in their case, the lack of them.

Adult day service seemed to be the answer, allowing individuals to stay at home yet have a place to go for care and programs during the day so caregivers could work or take a break. No such service was in Greater Lafayette, so the Benners embarked on creating one. But with important differences. It was to be a home away from home, not a facility; a place for friends, not patients, to gather; where employees and volunteers serve, not work; and a

mission, not a business. As the vision developed into becoming a nonprofit organization, the Benners purchased a property on Lindberg Road in West Lafayette to build a home. They collaborated with the community to raise \$1M to build Joyful Journey's house debt-free.

The vital role that The Community Foundation played was in establishing a pass-through fund to hold the donated money until Joyful Journey received its 501(c)3 status, thereby allowing tax-deductible donations. Joyful Journey now benefits from an endowment established through The Community Foundation to support their mission. A good quality of life requires a sense of purpose. Joyful Journey is more than a place to be—it's a reason to be. "Friends" receive loving care in an engaging and purpose-filled environment that honors their dignity and accepts them for who they are. The Benners acted on their vision to fulfill a need in our community, which has bloomed into a joyful journey for those with dementia and their caregivers. Volunteers and donations are always welcome to keep the dream alive.



Gerard and Cathy Benner

To Learn is to Grow

Junior Achievement of Greater Lafayette aims to prepare the younger generation for success within a global economy. Their approach involves delivering free educational programming to local schools, ensuring that a wide range of students can benefit from their initiatives. They take the old adage, “to learn is to grow,” to the next level by immersing students in the learning process.

This spring, Junior Achievement received an instrumental \$10,000 grant they used to acquire iPads to integrate into their core financial planning and career exploration programs.

One program, JA Biztown, immerses children in a hands-on experience where they navigate a simulated “real-world” environment. Sponsored booths by local companies allow Greater Lafayette youth to gain practical insights into the responsibilities of adulthood. They hold jobs, participate in civic duties like voting, and buy and sell products.

The second program, JA Finance Park focuses on helping children discover their potential across various careers. Junior Achievement utilizes the iPads to facilitate interactive activities that enable students to explore different vocations, fostering a clearer understanding of the professional landscape.

The Foundation was honored to host their board meeting at Junior Achievement in May. Attendees

were engaged in a financial simulation, assuming personas and progressing through life stages, including education, work, wages, parenthood, homeownership, and more. This firsthand experience underscored the importance of the programs offered by Junior Achievement and highlighted the impact the iPads will have on enhancing these vital learning experiences.

“Because of The Foundation’s grant, we can now serve up to 150 students in our facility. We are truly making a difference in our community as we link arms and prepare students to succeed in our global economy through programming that focuses on financial literacy, work readiness and the importance of entrepreneurship,” said Junior Achievement Executive Director Jen Edwards.



Students experience the Junior Achievement’s BizTown simulation using iPads funded by The Foundation.

Recent Gifts APRIL • MAY • JUNE - 2023

IN MEMORY

Jane Early Boswell
Greater Lafayette Clay Guild
Barry Priest and
Rebecca Morrison

Ken Harling
Jayne Feathers

Joan Hughes
Larry and Marianne Rose
Westminster Village

Bruce Junius
Larry and Marianne Rose

Leta Kelley
Jack Kelley

Irma Dolores Loft
Miriam K. Eppler-Heath

Jerome and Shirley McTague
Bill and Mary Kay McDaniel

Betty Suddarth
Kelly Julow
Larry and Marianne Rose
Kathy Senft
Helen Hunt Smith
Linda Sorensen
Westminster Village

Katie Traynor
Nancy Casey
Carol Du Clos and
Megan Brown
Dru Hay
Mike and Margaret Schreiber
Kelly Stein

Lafayette Hearing Center
Gifts in memory of these individuals

Sue Barrett
Vonda Cheesman
Tensie Crouse
Jim Davis
Pearl Davis
Virginia Emerson
Marilyn High
Sue Humphrey-Oakley
Paul Levans
Margaret Mihalko
JoAnn Mullen
Elizabeth Mylet
Marilyn Ringer
Bob Santini
Virgil Shultz
Maycel Vaughn

Philo Wasburn
Florence Weingram

IN HONOR

Stan Mithoefer
Kathy Cowans

Dick and Betty Nelson
Sandy Monroe

Linda Rohrman
Jennie Jones

Tom and Mary Jo Sparrow
Frederick Sparrow

Eileen Steele
Richard and Betty Nelson



Richard C. and Betty M. Nelson gather with Lafayette Urban Ministry Executive Director, Wes Tillett, The Foundation President and CEO David Lasater, and donors who contributed to the 5th Quarter Summer Learning matching campaign.

Planting the Seed

The Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette is proud to announce the conclusion of the heartwarming initiative by Richard C. and Betty M. Nelson to support Lafayette Urban Ministry's 5th Quarter Summer Learning Program. In the spring of 2022, the Nelsons began talking with The Foundation about how to transform the lives of local children. Combining their passions for underserved youth and literacy, the matching opportunity focused on tackling the notorious "summer slide," where academic progress can dip during school vacations.

The duo's pledge was clear: they would generously match every dollar donated, up to \$100,000 for gifts and endowments dedicated to this crucial summer program. The response was inspiring. As word spread and the cause resonated with the community, the Nelson's matching campaign gained traction.

By July of this year, the campaign had garnered the support of 15 donors. In addition, 5 new endowments were established:

- Richard C. and Betty M. Nelson Endowment for the 5th Quarter Summer Learning Program at Lafayette Urban Ministry
- Dennis and Jeanne Gernhardt Endowment for the 5th Quarter Summer Learning Program at Lafayette Urban Ministry
- Diana Sue Leslie Endowment for the 5th Quarter Summer Learning Program at Lafayette Urban Ministry
- Dennis and Sharon Schlott Endowment for the 5th Quarter Summer Learning Program at Lafayette Urban Ministry
- Anne and Kumares Sinha Endowment for the 5th Quarter Summer Learning Program at Lafayette Urban Ministry.

The Nelsons said of the accomplishment, "Blessed are they who plant trees under whose shade they will never sit" – an Indian proverb that dates to the 1860s. This states succinctly the reason for our gift for LUM's Fifth Quarter via The Community Foundation. In different ways we, as children, were the beneficiaries of "tree planters" in our communities in Massachusetts and West Virginia – it was time for us to find Lafayette "arborists" who would join this effort to create "shade" for the next generation. And we did, and we are grateful to all!"

With their vision, the Nelsons have not only put a dent in preventing the summer slide but also laid a foundation for brighter academic futures for countless children. The impact of their generosity will continue to reverberate throughout the community, fostering a culture of education, opportunity, and compassion. A reception was held on August 30 to honor the donors who contributed to this initiative.

NEW ENDOWMENTS

- Jeffrey M. Anderson Endowment
- Bravely Women's Health Endowment
- Steve and Cherie Bruhn Endowment for Imagination Library
- Christiane E. Keck Endowment
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- Leta Kelley Endowment for CASAs for Kids Fund
- Diana Sue Leslie Endowment for the 5th Quarter Summer Learning Program at Lafayette Urban Ministry
- Jim Mailloux and Jim Smith Endowment
- Dennis and Sharon Schlott Endowment 5th Quarter Summer Learning Program at Lafayette Urban Ministry
- Lynn T. and John W. Van Etten III Endowment for Imagination Library

Grants

NOW

BRAVELY WOMEN'S HEALTH

\$7,313 | Prenatal expansion capital needs

FOOD FINDERS FOOD BANK

\$2,860 | Firewall hardware

HANNA COMMUNITY CENTER

\$8,386 | Commercial dishwasher and outdoor play equipment

HOMESTEAD CS

\$7,534 | Office equipment and computers

LIFE HAS NO BOUNDARIES CO.

\$7,823 | Office equipment and computers

LONG CENTER

\$10,000 | Crowd control barriers and office computers

LTHC HOMELESS SERVICES

\$10,000 | Electrical panel replacement

NAMI WEST CENTRAL INDIANA

\$9,285 | Living room and landing expansion

NICHES LAND TRUST

\$2,808 | Laptop replacement

\$3,224 | Garden safe trail project

TIPPECANOE COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

\$8,912 | HVAC replacement

UNITED WAY OF GREATER LAFAYETTE

\$10,000 | Drywall repair and painting

WEST LAFAYETTE PUBLIC LIBRARY

\$1,963 | Menstrual product dispensers & waste receptacles

YWCA OF GREATER LAFAYETTE

\$5,598 | HVAC repair



FALL

FOOD FINDERS FOOD BANK

\$26,520 | Asphalt repair

HANNA COMMUNITY CENTER

\$32,530 | Classroom furniture

HUMANE SOCIETY OF GREATER LAFAYETTE

\$38,000 | Technology support

LAFAYETTE FAMILY YMCA

\$14,677 | Smart boards for STEM learning

LAFAYETTE URBAN MINISTRY

\$14,082 | Replace roof and pave parking lot

LONG CENTER

\$28,000 | Intelligent lighting upgrade

NICHES LAND TRUST

\$25,000 | Stewardship truck

SONGWRITER'S ASSOCIATION OF MID-NORTH INDIANA

\$19,980 | Professional livestream audio and recording equipment

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LAFAYETTE IN

Inspiring Greater POSSIBILITIES

EBERLE SERIES

Increasing Engagement in Digital Media Communications | October 4 | 10 – 11:30 am | Virtual
Building Corporate Partnerships | November 1 | 11 am – 2 pm | Lafayette County Club

GIVING CIRCLES

100+ Men Who Give

December 5

5 – 6:30 pm | Lafayette County Club

HOLIDAY GRANTS RECEPTION

December 14 | 5 pm – 6:30 pm | Lafayette County Club

100+ Women Who Care

December 12

5 – 6:30 pm | Lafayette County Club

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Director of Finance and Operations
LIZ WETLI
Finance and Development Associate



Upcoming Dates