



WARREN COUNTY FOUNDATION IMPACTS OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

The Arts Network of Warren County and ArtsWave Collaboration *To increase the impact of arts in our community*

The Warren County Foundation is collaborating with ArtsWave in Cincinnati to raise funds and provide grant funding specifically for arts organizations in Warren County. A special Warren County Kickstarter fundraising campaign was conducted in 2024 with ArtsWave. Over \$20,000 in funding from local donors through this campaign is being awarded directly to Warren County arts organizations this winter. ArtsWave is also matching these Warren County donations with NEA funds that will increase the impact of these gifts.



As a result of this initiative, The Arts Network of Warren County has been created to increase the awareness of arts opportunities throughout our community.



Artscape Lebanon is one of the Warren County arts organizations that is receiving generous funding through the ArtsWave and WCF collaboration.

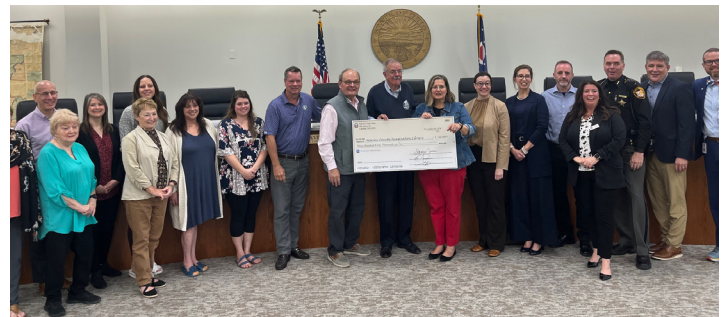
"ArtsWave is excited to deepen our partnership with Warren County's vibrant arts and cultural organizations. From ArtsScape Lebanon to the Harmon Museum to the Warren County Foundation, these groups play a vital role in enhancing the region's quality of life through the arts. By strengthening these connections, we're not only supporting the creative community but also making it easier for residents to direct their contributions towards organizations and events that shape the cultural landscape of Warren County."

~ Ray Gargano, VP of Community Investments, ArtsWave

Warren County Imagination Library Partnership *To inspire a love of reading in young children*

The Warren County Imagination Library and Warren County Foundation have partnered together for 5 years to deliver free books monthly to children ages 0 to 5. Over 18,000 children have been served through this collaboration.

The Warren County Board of Commissioners granted \$340,000 in ARPA funds to support the Imagination Library. Commissioner Shannon Jones remarked that The Imagination Library has been the *"most collaborative exercise that this county...and the state has ever seen."* Through investments from the Dollywood Foundation, the State of Ohio, and local library districts, and many private donors, the program has provided 407,000 free books to Warren County children.



Local Imagination Library leaders and Board of Commissioners at the funding presentation on November 5, 2024

DONORS AND ORGANIZATIONS CREATE FUNDS TO IMPACT OUR COMMUNITY

Denny and Mary Means Fund for Arts, Culture and Communities

Denny and Mary have been residents in Mason for over forty years. During much of that time, Denny served on volunteer boards for a variety of nonprofits; clubs, HOAs, Arts groups and the County Historical Society. Mary also served on nonprofit boards and helped with every project along the way.



Denny and Mary Means, new WCF Fundholders from Mason.

"We are happy to have helped and supported many community organizations - yet, we are grateful for the privilege."

We are pleased to join with Warren County Foundation to manage charitable giving through a Donor Advised Fund. The Foundation has enhanced our ability to support various organizations in addition to supporting Warren County Historical Society. We are enthusiastic about the Foundation's knowledge and long record of supporting our County.

One of Lebanon's famed benefactors, William Harmon, said: "To Serve a People Is a divine privilege." For myself, I modify Harmon's statement to think, "To serve our community is a divine privilege, and you meet the best people!"

~ Denny and Mary Means, WCF Fundholders

Springboro Schools Education Foundation Fund

A \$50,000 Endowment Gift was made by businessman Charles Anderson and his family to start the Springboro Schools Education Foundation Fund. The Anderson Family, Springboro Public Schools, and the Warren County Foundation are partnering together around this new fund. Additional funds will be solicited to increase the size of the endowment which in turn will increase the returns to support school programs helping students with financial needs.

"We partnered with the Warren County Foundation to invest in the Springboro Schools Educational Fund because of their deep-rooted commitment to Warren County and its residents. The foundation's commitment to the local communities aligns perfectly with our mission to empower students and ensure they have the resources they need to thrive. We appreciate their partnership and are excited to continue working together as the educational fund grows."

~ Charles Anderson and Rebekah (Anderson) Giuffre



Front Row: Springboro Schools Board: Sarah Schleeauf, Dan Gudz, Lisa Babb, Dave Stuckey

Back Row: Tom Seddon, WCF; Rebekah (Anderson) Giuffre, Tyler Anderson, Charles Anderson

The Financial Assistance Endowment Fund at Countryside Y

WCF is building on 25 years in supporting the Countryside YMCA through their Endowment Fund. This partnership continues to grow as the YMCA and WCF are collaborating with Justin Conger of Conger Construction and the REAL Impact Fund. Through a multi-year gift commitment to this Endowment, the REAL Impact Fund will help continue to make the YMCA programs and services accessible 'for all' with low or no-cost programs and financial assistance.

"The Countryside YMCA has proudly partnered with the Warren County Foundation for over 25 years. Our shared commitment to serving the community and addressing the needs of our friends and neighbors drives us forward. We are excited to refine the purpose of our fund further, aiming to make an even greater impact on the lives of those we serve."

~ Chris Johnson, CEO, Countryside YMCA

WCF RECENT GRANTS IMPACTING OUR COMMUNITY

Grantee Spotlight: *Lebanon Food Pantry – Impact Grant Recipient*



Family Dentistry colleagues contribute donations for the new 'Free Convenience Store'

The Lebanon Food Pantry recently received a \$7,000 Impact Grant from the Warren County Foundation to support families facing food insecurity. The grant will be directed to partially fund the "Free Convenience Store," which gives neighbors coming to the pantry a choice of personal care and household cleaning items. It will support neighbors visiting Lebanon Food Pantry and will collectively serve more than 18,700 individuals in 2025.

"We are thrilled and grateful for the support from the Warren County Foundation. We believe that every neighbor deserves choice and dignity and for our neighbors to choose items they need to care for their hygiene and home. This investment is a testament to the Foundation's understanding and dedication to providing more resources to serve Warren County's food-insecure families. These funds will allow choices for neighbors and improving overall health and well-being."

~ Kristin Davenport, President Lebanon Food Pantry

WCF Grants made in November 2024

(Funded through Impact Grants, WCF Women's Fund and Klingling Trust)

- Atrium Medical Center Foundation
- Beech Acres
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Cincinnati
- Camp Joy
- Cancer Family Care
- Countryside YMCA
- Elizabeth New Life Center
- Family Promise of Warren County
- Lebanon Food Pantry
- Magnified Giving



The WCF Women's Fund provides annual grants to organizations supporting women and children.

2025 MESSAGE FROM TOM SEDDON, WCF PRESIDENT AND CEO

We wish you and yours a healthy and happy 2025!! The Warren County Foundation had a positive year of growth in 2024. We are making changes to our operations and accounting functions. Mike Mansbridge is no longer associated with the Foundation.

We have retained Brixey & Meyer, Accounting CFO Services to provide short-term accounting services with staff on site as well as virtually. They are providing support with some of the day-to-day activities, reviewing the books and records (including reconciling accounts) of the Foundation as well as producing key process and procedures documentation.

Further, they will help with the implementation of a new software package from Blackbaud recommended by our Board Technology Task Force. This will allow all Foundation donors immediate online access to their fund activities.

Brixey & Meyer, Human Resources is providing HR recruiting services as we search for a new Vice President & Chief Financial Officer. The process has started and the job description is posted on Indeed.

The plan was approved by our Executive Committee and reviewed and approved by our Board of Trustees. We continue to conduct day-to-day business, servicing donors and contributors. We ask for your patience and grace as we move forward as fast as possible.

We truly appreciate your support and we will always pursue our mission to improve the quality of life in Warren County through charitable giving

Thank you for an important part of the Warren County Foundation!

~ Thomas L. Seddon, President & CEO



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DUKE ENERGY FOUNDATION PARTNERSHIP TO HELP SMALL BUSINESSES THRIVE

The Duke Energy Foundation and Warren County Foundation have partnered together for 3 years to provide \$77,500 through 56 grants for small businesses in our community. WCF and Duke Energy will partner again in 2025 to provide small business grants in Warren County.



Duke Energy Foundation grants were awarded to 7 small businesses in Deerfield Township by the WCF in December 2024

Grant recipient Sarah Dowlin with Worklife Studios shared,

"Thank you for the honor of receiving a Duke Energy Foundation Small Business grant. I've found that one of the biggest challenges for small business owners is maintaining self-belief for the work we pour into day after day. I have experienced the unexpected gift of truly being seen. As a grant recipient, I've been given an incredible opportunity to steward these funds to further the impact of WorkLife Studios within my community. Having someone else express belief in me and my dreams was a profoundly meaningful experience."

SAVE THE DATE

THE 18th ANNUAL WARREN COUNTY FOUNDATION
COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS BANQUET AND PROGRAM
Thursday, June 5, 2025 – 6:00 pm – Manor House, Mason