



MCCF Impact Monthly

Dear Community Friends and Partners,

The summer months are flying by, and as we enter the second half of 2025, we're taking time to celebrate recent milestones and eagerly looking ahead. In the coming months, you'll hear more about the incredible success of our 2:1 matching campaign through Lilly Endowment and the lasting impact it will have on Madison County.

This month, our board approved the Foundation's 2026–2028 strategic plan, which will guide our work in the years ahead. We also look forward to introducing our new financial advisors, selected through a rigorous RFP process to help steward our resources wisely.

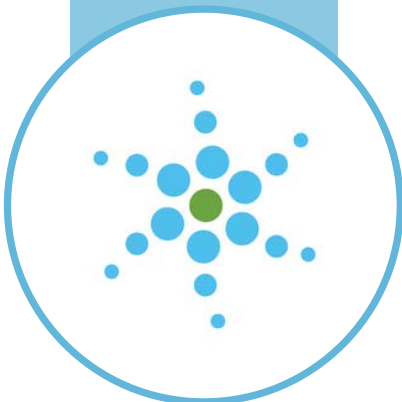
Our staff recently gathered for a retreat, where we began mapping out the tactical goals that will bring our strategic vision to life. I'm deeply grateful for the dedicated staff, engaged board members, and passionate community partners who continue to invest in Madison County and dream boldly for its future.

Thank you for your commitment to building a stronger community. Together, we are stronger. And together, we make a difference—for good, forever.

-Ben Davis, President



INVESTING IN
LASTING
POSITIVE
CHANGE TO
ELEVATE AND
STRENGTHEN
MADISON
COUNTY



↓ In this newsletter you will find:

Board Member Spotlight, Impact Story of the Month, New Fund and Donation Overview, Fund Spotlight, and more!

BOARD MEMBER

Spotlight

MICHELE HOCKWALT

Michele Hockwalt has been quietly shaping the future of Madison County through her steady dedication and behind-the-scenes leadership for many years. While she officially joined the Madison County Community Foundation board in 2024, her commitment began in 2017 with her service on various committees, most notably the grants committee. This role sparked her dedication to the mission of MCCF.

Michele is an alum of Ball State, where she met her husband, Jason. Together, they've raised two sons, Sam and Ben, and share their home with three fur babies: Sirius, Pippi, and Mittens. Professionally, she serves as the communications manager at Community Hospital Anderson, where she supports both caregivers and the broader community. Her community involvement includes leadership roles with the Anderson Symphony Orchestra, YWCA of Central Indiana, Exchange Club of Anderson, A Town Center, and numerous committees supporting local events and initiatives.

Her motivation to serve Madison County stems from a desire to help young people thrive—physically, mentally, and emotionally. It was MCCF's scholarship program that first caught her attention, but it was her time on the grants committee that deepened her understanding of the Foundation's long-term impact. Michele says, "The needs are tremendous and I wanted to take an even greater role in driving the impact."



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The thing that has stuck out most to me in my short time as a board member is learning how much support the Foundation staff provides to nonprofits in the community. The foundation provides so much more than dollars.

- Michele Hockwalt-

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The Foundation is here forever to meet the most pressing needs in the community. I love that the staff and board are committed to grow and change just as the community grows and changes. What we need today might not be what we need five or ten or 100 years from now, and the Foundation will still be here to meet those needs, whatever they are.

- Michele Hockwalt -

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Investment in yourself and in your community is what is going to bring a better future. Everybody can play a part.

It's not so much how much you give. If you are participating, you are able to see your ideas and your dreams (for the community) have a chance."

-L.J. Mechem-

-Mechem Family Community Fund-

FUND SPOTLIGHT

For Larry (L.J.) and Melanie Mechem, giving back to Madison County represents their belief in the power of community. Born and raised here, L.J. has spent his life growing businesses, supporting local nonprofits, and building community. Now, as a member of the Madison County Community Foundation board, he and Melanie have taken the next step by establishing the Mechem Family Community Fund.

With deep roots in the area and nearly three decades of service on the YMCA board, L.J. has seen firsthand the difference community support can make. Melanie spent her career as a longtime science teacher at Anderson Community Schools and knows the importance of investing in young people. Together, the Mechems have shaped Anderson in more ways than one. Their family-owned business, LM Products, has grown from a local music shop into one of the world's leading manufacturers of leather instrument straps—all from their workshop in a historic Montgomery Ward building on Meridian Street. With deep ties to music, education, and nonprofit work, their fund is a natural extension of their values.

The Mechems chose to partner with the Madison County Community Foundation because they trust in its leadership, fiscal responsibility, and vision for positive change. L.J. said he's long been aware of the Foundation's work and has grown increasingly confident in its impact and direction.

Their hope is to help nonprofits grow, to support causes that make a wide-reaching impact, and to inspire others to participate in shaping a stronger, more hopeful community.

To contribute to the Mechem Family Community Fund or learn more, visit madisonccf.org.

**Start your own
Named
Unrestricted Fund
and invest in
lasting positive
change in
Madison County.
Contact us to
learn more!**



**Mechem Family
Community Fund**



NEW FUNDS THIS MONTH



COFFMAN FAMILY FUND

-Named Unrestricted Fund-

Thank You
for your
generosity

By establishing a new Named Unrestricted Fund or contributing any amount to the Impact Madison Fund, you help us implement long-term solutions, respond to emergencies, and adapt to the community's evolving social, cultural, and educational needs.

**Notable Donations
in July**

2025 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Total: \$37,475

\$22,630

given to Ed Bollman Scholarship Fund

\$1350

given to Frederick's Friends Fund

\$1750

given to various named unrestricted funds

\$11,235

given to Anderson Symphony Orchestra Fund

\$500

given to Anderson XI Chapter of Kappa, Kappa, Kappa Endowed Scholarship Fund

Congratulations

More than

\$235,000

awarded to students in
Madison County

2025 Recipients
full list



JUL 2025

IMPACT STORY

TEENWORKS

Your generosity makes Madison County a place teenagers want to return home to and empowers the next generation of leaders.

TeenWorks is committed to empowering underserved teens with knowledge, skills, and experiences to attain long term and sustainable futures. The TeenWorks' Anderson Summer Program is transforming the lives of local teens by providing them with paid employment, essential career skills, and a sense of belonging within the community.

Through a \$10,000 grant from the Madison County Community Foundation, 72 teens are gaining valuable work experience this summer, helping local nonprofits while earning wages, receiving mentorship, and developing crucial soft skills like communication and teamwork.

TeenWorks has developed strong relationships with local nonprofit organizations and businesses that provide employment and learning opportunities for summer participants, including the Impact Center, Anderson Housing Authority, St. Vincent Ascension, and Sherman Street Church of God, among others. Teens engage in work such as maintenance, summer programs for children, gardening, food pantry organization, groundskeeping, health care, and professional internships.



JaMicah (Anderson High School, class of 2025) first joined TeenWorks in the summer before her senior year. With an interest in healthcare, she was assigned to work at Ascension St. Vincent. Throughout the summer, she participated in mock rotations through different departments of the hospital. She says that experience gave her a new vision of working in health care and got her thinking about her future career. Specifically, she said, "One thing that I learned through TeenWorks is that I am capable of exploring a variety of career fields and I am not limited to just one path of life."

[Read More](#)





MADISON COUNTY
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

[More
Information](#)



LILLY ENDOWMENT COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM 2026

Application Opens: August 15

Application Closes: September 15



CONTACT US

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Coming Soon...

- Campaign Success Celebration
- Strategic Plan Overview
- Annual Report



www.madisonccf.org

