

## Wayfinders Ohio Agency Fund

Harmony House Homeless Services, now known as Wayfinders Ohio, set up an agency endowed fund to support the organization in the future.

The rebranding effort coincides with a new direction.

Wayfinders Ohio Director Kelly Blankenship said they engaged Source Brand Solutions to help with a rebranding effort. "The new name encapsulates the essence of what we do which is help people find their way," said Blankenship.

Harmony House Homeless Services has been in operation since 1990. Vicki Kane was the first director. Kane retired and Blankenship has been leading the organization since 2018.

**"We established the agency endowed fund because we do not have dedicated funding. Other agencies rely on levies, we do not have that luxury," said Blankenship.**

"This agency fund will help us diversify our funding."

Wayfinders Ohio has a six-member board, Gene Parkison is the chairman.

"The board responded favorably and quickly to the idea of an agency fund," said Blankenship.

"Gene provides the leadership and skills we need as an organization. He also has the knowledge and history of the organization."



RCF President Brady Groves and Wayfinders Ohio Executive Director Kelly Blankenship.

### Services Provided by Wayfinders Ohio

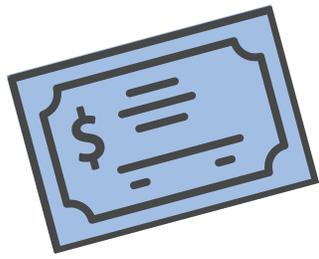
- 58-bed facility for emergency shelter in a safe, clean atmosphere
- Capacity for 36 women and families and 22 men
- Full-service kitchen, meals, food, laundry services, personal care items, toiletries, and bedding
- Comprehensive case management, which includes referrals to community resources and setting and following goal plans
- Assistance in resolving education, employment, medical, mental health, legal, and housing issues in a supportive and caring environment
- Weekly Job Readiness and Life Skills training
- Transportation for job searches
- Aid in securing permanent, stable housing
- Financial assistance with rent and security deposit



## Richland Public Health

Sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) is one of the leading causes of death in the U.S. for not only adults, but also youth. SCA is the leading cause of death in young athletes and according to the American Heart Association, over 7,000 youth experience cardiac arrest outside of a hospital each year.

That is why Richland Public Health received a grant to distribute life-saving AEDs for the next three years. The AEDs work on children and adults and will be given to schools and nonprofit organizations. Call Richland Public Health Coordinator Shannon Nelson for information. In the photo: Sheri Hughes and Pam Madore from the Richland Academy of the Arts, Marie Williams from Maddox Memorial Church & Trainer Shane Myers.



## Make a Gift of a Lifetime

### IRA Transfers to the Richland County Foundation

Individuals aged 70 ½ and older can transfer up to \$100,000 annually from an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to the Richland County Foundation without being federally taxed.

#### BENEFITS:

- The gift to the Foundation is not included in the IRA owner's income and—most important—is not taxed, preserving the full amount for charitable purposes.
- The gift from your IRA will count toward your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year.
- A donation from your IRA of any amount can go into an existing fund at the Foundation.

#### OR

You can create a permanent endowed fund in your name or in memory of a loved one. The types of funds that qualify for the tax-free IRA transfers include:

- Unrestricted Fund
- Field of Interest Fund
- Designated Fund
- Scholarship Fund

\*You cannot use an IRA transfer to set up a donor-advised fund.

The minimum amount to set up most funds is \$10,000, except for a scholarship fund which has a minimum of \$20,000.

This really is a powerful opportunity for anyone interested in establishing a permanent legacy in this community, this is a chance of a lifetime to make the gift of a lifetime.

*If you are interested in making a gift from your IRA, contact Director of Finance Rachel Weber [rweber@rcfoundation.org](mailto:rweber@rcfoundation.org).*

## Under Construction with Grant Assistance



### Akron Children's Hospital Mansfield - Behavioral Health Center

The new center is under construction just north of its current one on S. Trimble Road, Mansfield. It will house a Behavioral Health Center and will employ 20 staff by 2025. Richland County ranks highest in the Greater Akron Region for the number of children who have experienced two or more adverse childhood experiences in their lifetime.



### Area Agency on Aging Senior Housing Apartment Complex

The Board awarded a grant to partially fund a senior housing complex planned by the Area Agency on Aging District 5. The funds used for this grant were the Community Fund and the Gorman Fund. The Ritter's Run project on Ohio Street in Mansfield is a ranch-style apartment complex designed to serve low-income adults ages 55 and older.



### Malabar Intermediate School Playground

Children of all abilities will have fun on a new playground at Malabar Intermediate School. The playground was made possible by the following donor-advised funds at the Foundation: Robert & Esther Black Family Foundation, Gorman Fund, and the Fran & Warren Rupp Foundation.



## Foundation Funds Community Center and Sports Complex

### The Board approved grants totaling \$3,468,689 during its February meeting.

Competitive, field of interest and donor-advised fund grants approved by the board:

**The North End Community Improvement Collaborative Community Impact Center** received a grant for its new multi-purpose facility to serve youth, adults, and seniors. The Impact Center will host NECIC's housing and community development program, minority business assistance, supportive social services, youth and adult employment and workforce development, and a commercial kitchen. Space will be leased to provide direct services such as healthcare, legal and financial services.

**YMCA of North Central Ohio** received a grant for its indoor/outdoor sports complex in Bellville. The complex will feature soccer and an all-purpose area for other sports such as basketball, volleyball, and pickleball. The building will feature a fitness area, sports medicine, coffee shop, food service, and a sports gear retail shop.

**Ronald McDonald House of Central Ohio** received a grant for its Helping Hands Program. Families with a seriously ill child hospitalized at National Children's Hospital can stay at the Ronald McDonald House while their child receives treatment. This grant will help cover costs for Richland County families.

**Buckeye Imagination Museum, Ohio Bird Sanctuary, Kingwood Center Gardens, and Richland Community Development Group** received grants for marketing packages to facilitate Google Ad grants. RCF staff worked with Destination Mansfield to identify organizations that attract visitors to Richland County.

The Board of Trustees also approved 54 grants from donor-advised funds and 77 grants from donor-designated and agency funds to a number of area organizations.



Love Literature program at Ontario Stingel Elementary School.

## Upcoming Grant Opportunity

Teacher Assistance Program grants are selected by a community committee for creative and innovative supplemental programs not covered by school funding. The grants are given to K-12 teachers in public or private Richland County schools to encourage them to develop new programs for their classrooms.

- Grant dollars are used for direct programming
- Grant amounts range from \$250 to \$1,500.
- Application Deadline: June 25, [richlandcountyfoundation.org](http://richlandcountyfoundation.org)



### Gift of Grain Fund to Benefit Agricultural Nonprofits

A Gift of Grain Fund was established by the Richland County Foundation Board to accept donations from area farmers and others, and it provided an initial \$15,000 to seed the fund. The Foundation will work in partnership with local farmers to award grants to agricultural related nonprofit organizations such as 4H and FFA.

Farmers looking to minimize their tax liability while making a gift to their community can donate grain to the Foundation at a local elevator. Accounts are set up at Centerra Co-op in Mansfield, Sunrise Cooperative in Crestline, Poet Bioprocessing in Marion, and Central Ohio Co-op in Mt. Vernon.

Farmers should consult with their tax advisor to determine whether a donation of commodities is appropriate to their tax situation.

*The fund also accepts gifts of cash, and other assets such as appreciated stock and IRA charitable rollovers. For more information go to [richlandcountyfoundation.org](http://richlandcountyfoundation.org).*

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Please consider a gift to the Women's Fund for Mother's Day. To donate to the Women's Fund, scan the QR Code and Select the Women's Fund from the dropdown box.



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The Richland County Foundation is recognized for having organizational and financial practices that are in compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations.



[RichlandCountyFoundation.org](http://RichlandCountyFoundation.org)

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## Women's Fund

For the fourth year in a row, the WF granted \$25,000 to Richland County Youth and Family Council for the childcare initiative. RCYFC has matched the \$25,000 each year of this project. In its strategic plan, the Women's Fund is committed to making quality childcare affordable and accessible to all women.

This coming year, the Childcare Committee led by RCYFC, will host a childcare conference to offer continuing education credits. It also will focus on mentoring in-home providers and give grants for additional resources at daycare centers.

Buckeye Imagination Museum for a girl's art camp, Mansfield City Schools for a girl's mentoring program, North End Community Improvement Collaborative for a girl's mentoring program, North Central State College Foundation for student childcare scholarships, and YMCA of North Central Ohio for a female self-defense class also received grants.

