RECONNECTING THE COMMUNITY

13TH ANNUAL VOLUNTEER FAIR & BLOOD DRIVE UNITES NONPROFITS WITH VOLUNTEERS

GIVE TODAY... Greater IMPACT TOMORROW
HURRY, THE $2.5 MILLION DOLLAR MATCH IS ALMOST COMPLETE!

LUPUS FOUNDATION OF AMERICA, IN CHAPTER
> HELPING RESIDENTS WITH CARE WHO ARE SUFFERING FROM LUPUS

5 QUESTIONS WITH CPCF BOARD MEMBER
> KEVIN HUSEMAN
There was a buzz in the air that couldn’t be denied. The annual Volunteer Fair & Blood Drive hosted by the Crown Point Community Foundation this past March was high energy. The Fair provided an opportunity for nonprofits to showcase their mission and connect with potential volunteers of all ages looking for ways to make a difference in their community.

The Fair was also the perfect environment to facilitate conversations and interactions as well as foster a sharing spirit and collaborative attitude amongst the nonprofits, who know that we typically accomplish more and attain greater results when working together.

But collaboration is about so much more than a tool for achieving business goals or personal dreams. Collaboration is about compassion, love, support, kindness, and the power that we gain when we share with each other and lean on each other. And just like the wind, bees, and flowers, it takes all of us, donors, nonprofits, and the Foundation, working in unison to care for each other and create impactful change.

We are grateful and thankful for each of you and all that you do to support us as we continue to carry out our mission of enhancing the quality of life in South Lake County by facilitating charitable giving, initiating responses to targeted needs, and building permanent named endowments funds to support nonprofit organizations in our communities and beyond through our grantmaking and special projects.

On pages 6-7, we highlight the activities from this year’s Volunteer Fair & Blood Drive and hope that it will inspire you to share with others how they too can get more involved in the life of our community.

As a public charitable organization, the Crown Point Community Foundation supports a broad range of community needs. If there is a cause you are passionate about, we have a fund to support your interest. Small donations are just as important as large donations. And with our $2.5 million-dollar $1 for $1 Matching Challenge made available by the generosity of the Dean and Barbara White Family Foundation, it’s the perfect time to make a gift and double your impact! See page 10 to learn more about qualifying gifts and available matching monies.

On behalf of our Board of Directors and staff, we thank you for your continued support and partnership! In the spirit of collaboration, together we can continue to make a positive difference in South Lake County and beyond… now and for generations to come!
THE WARM DAY SET THE STAGE PERFECTLY FOR WARM HEARTS GETTING TO CONNECT! IT WAS TOUCHING TO SEE THE WONDERFUL TURNOUT OF VOLUNTEERS VISITING WITH ORGANIZATIONS IN NEED OF THEIR TIME AND TALENTS. TRULY THERE WAS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE THERE. IT WAS SUCH A PLEASURE TO BE A PART OF THIS SPECIAL DAY!

CHRISANNE CHRIST
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
CROWN POINT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

ON THE COVER
CPCF 13TH ANNUAL
VOLUNTEER FAIR & BLOOD DRIVE

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With your help, patients who suffer from Lupus have more access to the care they need.

A $2,000 grant was awarded to the Lupus Foundation of America, Indiana Chapter from the Crown Point Community Foundation.

Lupus is a spectrum autoimmune, chronic disease and can manifest in several forms. The most common is systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) that can cause pain throughout the body, inflammation, organ failure and even death. Around 3,000 individuals in Lake County have been diagnosed with the disease.

The Lupus Foundation of America, Indiana Chapter has been serving the state since 1987, helping to support research, conduct education programs, raise awareness of the disease, and support those who have been diagnosed with Lupus.

Living with lupus can be a financial strain. A 2016 study found that the average annual direct health care costs of a patient with lupus was $33,223. To help to ease this burden, the Lupus Foundation of America, Indiana Chapter created the Patient Access to Healthcare (PATH) program in 2019. The program assists patients with expenses including prescriptions, co-pays, medical transportation and housing.

“The PATH program assisted me in acquiring clean living quarters and utility assistance when I was unable to work with lupus complications," said a resident receiving care. "I am so grateful for this amazing program."

For more information about the Lupus Foundation of America, Indiana Chapter, please visit www.lupus.org/indiana.

The staff of the Lupus Foundation of America, Indiana Chapter would like to sincerely thank CPCF for the generous grant that allowed us to advance our PATH program and assist people living with Lupus.

La Toija Snodgrass, MA, MPH
Chief Executive Officer
Lupus Foundation of America, Indiana Chapter
COMMUNITY GRANTS

THE CPCF AWARDED $123,416.00 IN UNRESTRICTED COMMUNITY GRANTS IN THE FEBRUARY CYCLE.

Arts, Culture - $12,600.00

Cedar Lake Historical Association - $10,000
Structurally reinforce the museum porch and elevate the visitors first impression, both by day and night.

Indiana Ballet Theatre NW, Inc. - $2,600
Refurbishing the floor in studio 1 to provide a safe space for the dancers to take classes and rehearse.

Economic Development - $2,750.00

Indiana Plan - $2,750
Funding to bring more awareness to a free construction awareness program to residents of the Southlake region and increasing participation from those in the program.

Education - $10,930.00

CPCSC/Crown Point High School - $3,000
Provide financial assistance to pay for AP Exams for students with financial need.

Lake Street PTO - $750
Purchase a sensory path to help provide a calming, self-regulatory, and sensory movement break for students.

Rotary Club of Crown Point - $7,180
Help fund the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program.

Environmental - $1,830.00

Lake County Fairgrounds - $1,830
Purchase pet waste bags for Fairgrounds.

Food, Nutrition, Agriculture - $15,000.00

Community Help Network - $15,000
Fund the Buddy Bag Program which provides weekend meals for food insecure students in South Lake County.

Housing, Shelter - $8,726.00

St. Jude House, Inc. - $8,726
New dining room tables and chairs.

Human Services - $48,750.00

Crossroads YMCA - $3,000
Support for the YMCA Income Based Tuition Program.

Exceptional Equestrians Unlimited Inc. - $5,000
Barn Rebuild - for Parent/Student viewing area.

Franciscan Health Foundation - $10,000
Serve vulnerable Crown Point residents of all ages with ongoing and new programs geared toward children, older adults, and families without enough nutritious food to eat.

Hair for All Foundation Corp. - $2,500
Reimbursement wig program for cancer and Alopecia patients in South Lake County.

Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly - $5,000
To expand the visiting and social programs to alleviate isolation and loneliness for South Lake County seniors who are otherwise alone in life.

NWI Cancer Kids Foundation, Inc. - $2,500
Purchase client management software.

Operation Combat Bikesaver - $9,000
Provide financial, transportation and mental health services to veterans in need.

Pink Ribbon Society, Inc. - $10,000
Enable Pink Ribbon Society to expand its Patient Financial Assistance Program.

Wittenberg Village - $1,750
Create a new veterans honor wall commemorating and honoring those in the Wittenberg community who served our nation.

Public Safety - $7,330.00

Lakes of the Four Seasons Volunteer Fire Force, Inc. - match up to $7,330
Obtain new and better intubation equipment.

Religion - $2,500.00

South Point Community Church - match up to $2,500
New indoor playground for children in the church and community.

Youth Development - $13,000.00

Crown Point Babe Ruth League - $10,000
Purchase a much needed new mower.

Hanover Central Athletic Boosters - match up to $3,000
Fund a TouchWall that will display and safely store the Athletic Records.
The 13th annual Volunteer Fair & Blood Drive, sponsored by the Crown Point Community Foundation, gave the community a much-needed chance to reconnect after struggling through the pandemic. Nonprofits that had faced closures, restrictions and increased need were matched with hundreds of potential volunteers who were happy to be out on a beautiful day and have the chance to make a difference.

“It’s great to be back,” said Mary Nielsen, Crown Point Community Foundation President. “Volunteers are the lifeblood of nonprofit organizations. The fair is one of the ways we as the Crown Point Community Foundation help to support them and the importance of their work in our community.”

More than 40 nonprofits from throughout Lake County attended the event. The CPCF also awarded five grants for $1,000 each to randomly-selected participating organizations. Congratulations to this year’s grant winners: Cedar Lake Historical Association, Fair Haven Rape Crisis Center, Healing Streams Oasis Church, Self-Injury Support Groups of Northwest Indiana, and Winfield Community Foundation.

“Fair Haven Rape Crisis Center can only provide free advocacy support to victims of sexual trauma with the continued support of the community in which we serve,” said Shana Robertson, Community Relations Director at Fair Haven Rape Crisis Center. “We are so ecstatic and blessed to receive this grant! Thank you to Crown Point Community Foundation and to all the organizations that continue to provide excellent services in NWI.”

“As a smaller nonprofit, the volunteer fair not only connects us with potential new members, it also helps us reach out to other nonprofits in the area,” said Renee Clayton, President of Winfield Community Foundation. “Communication and bridging these links definitely makes us a stronger organization. We are grateful to be the beneficiary of one of the grants this year and will be investing it directly back into our community. Thank you so much!”
We were thrilled to be selected as a 2022 grant recipient," said Julie Zasada, Executive Director of the Cedar Lake Historical Association. "We have earmarked the funds to support the return of our resort history steamboat rides on Cedar Lake."

Although the Volunteer Fair is always a favorite event in which to participate, this year’s fair was one of the best," said Joy Heminger, President of Prevent Child Abuse Lake County. "Seeing and catching up with old and new friends from many organizations was a special time that made everyone feel more “normal” again. And getting together at an in-person event produced an energy that could be felt by everyone who attended.

"It was amazing to see so many people with the common goal of making people’s lives better in NWI," said CPCF Board Member Indira Brigham. "Each organization had their own unique way of helping others, so there was a wide variety of groups that participants were able to learn more about and sign up to volunteer. It was a heartwarming afternoon to see so many fantastic nonprofit groups in the same place at once!"

"The volunteer fair helps secure volunteers of all ages, elementary through adult, to advance our mission of inclusion, remove isolation, and an opportunity to meet new friends," said Mark Lantz, Deputy Director Program and Operations at Best Buddies Indiana.

"Volunteers are the heart of Meals on Wheels NWI," said Charlie Misovye, Volunteer Manager at Meals on Wheels. "We cannot do what we do without them. The return of the Crown Point Community Foundation Volunteer Fair allowed me to visit with some of our active volunteers as well as recruit new volunteers. It was nice to reconnect with other nonprofit groups, share thoughts and ideas, discover how they are working with volunteers and the changes they are making as we all navigate in this new world of challenges we all now face. The attendees were eager and enthusiastic about volunteering and making a difference in someone’s life. After following up with the sign-ups we had at the event, we may have upwards of 12 new volunteers! Thanks to CPCF for organizing such a great event. See you next year!"

In addition to the Volunteer Fair, there was an onsite Blood Drive conducted by Versiti Blood Centers. The blood drive met their goal of 16 units which will potentially help up to 48 patients in need!

The Crown Point Community Foundation would like to thank all of the nonprofits who attended as well as the potential volunteers and blood donors. We would also like to thank Versiti Blood Centers, the Crown Point Community School Corporation, LAMAR, The Times Newspaper, the Crown Point RoboDogs Team 2171, and the CPCF Board of Directors for helping to make this event possible. For more information, please contact www.thecpcf.org.
MEMORIALS

NOVEMBER 1, 2021 - FEBRUARY 28, 2022

Gordon Bates
Shirley Forney-Bates

Dolores Bencie
Gerald & April Schaefer

Ralph Bennett
Ralph Bennett IV

Myrtle Bessette
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Francis & Lucile Bieker
Robert & Susan Bieker

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John & JoAnn Birdzell

Elaine Bozovich
Matthew & Sandy Bapple

Alfonse "Al" Braccolino
Marty Wheeler

Ray Bryan
City of Crown Point, Mayor David Uran
Jim & Kim Larsen, Mechanical Test & Balance
Marty Wheeler

Betty Jane Buth
Eugene & Linda Matzat

Pene Castor
Dale & Terri Williams

Jennifer (Stutler) Chadd
James & Alice Jean Pappenheim

Daniel Cicero
Jerry Caravana

Nettie Cilek
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Rich & Linda Svihra

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Robert & Susan Bieker

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Laurence & Susan Costin

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James Crisman

Desmond Charles
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Jerry & Karen Ross  
Nancy Townsend

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Michael Gordon & Amanda Keck

James Greiner on his Birthday  
Mary Rieder

Joe Heuer & Donna Keller Heuer  
Pravit & Pornpimon Sinchai

Katherine Rose (Gerlach) Huber &  
Edward George Huber’s Birthdays  
Joe & Mary Kay Rowe

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Janet McDonald  
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Helen McEntire

Isabelle Melchor  
Sarah Banks  
Stephanie Harnew

Garry Neitzel  
Janet Neitzel

Elrine Pawlus  
Joe & Barbara Kacmar

Jack Pettit  
Jessica Albaugh  
Chip & Karin Pettit

Thomas Platt  
Faye Platt

Karen Pruizin  
Nancy Mauman  
Thomas G. Pruizin

Meredith Gail Replin  
Mary Rieder

Lawrence "Larry" Saylor  
Rick & Cathy Amodeo Family  
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The Glick Family Foundation  
Delver & Jean Kuteimeier  
Maxie Scott

Lisa Schaefer Stover  
Kenneth & Rita Backe  
Ralph & Sheri Hudson  
Gerald & April Schaefer

Charlie Scott  
Joan Fletcher

Mark Smith  
Jerry Caravana

Michael Stillson  
Marge Kerr

Margaret Mary Sweeney  
Dan & Vicky Klein  
Marty Wheeler

Peter G. Tarpo  
Dan & Vicky Klein  
George & Gloria Pyle

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Patti Tubbs

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David & Helen Batusic

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Jeanne VanSlyke-Huddleston

Ronald J. VanSlyke  
Jeanne VanSlyke-Huddleston

Cole Viers  
Jeffrey & Laura Kuzma  
Coleen Viers  
Linda Viers

Lorraine Viers Steuer  
Coleen Viers

George & Laura Wild  
Joe & Barbara Kacmar
Announced just one year ago, the $2.5 million dollar MATCHING CHALLENGE, made possible by the Dean and Barbara White Family Foundation, is almost complete! This $1 for $1* matching challenge provides donors the opportunity to grow endowed funds of their choice and to increase operating endowment funds to cover the operating costs of the Crown Point Community Foundation. Every dollar you donate will be doubled, but only until the remaining $233,890.21 of the challenge is met!

*Gifts to any Operating Endowment Fund receive 100% of the match. Gifts to other Endowment Fund types receive 50% of the match, with the other 50% benefiting the CPCF Operating Endowment Fund. “We have been amazed by the outpouring of generosity from the community because of this matching program,” said Mary Nielsen, CPCF President. “Mr. and Mrs. White loved this community, and through their Foundation continue to give back. Join them in keeping our community strong by making a donation today.”

Choose to Give to an Existing Fund or Establish a New Fund.

Eligible gifts include:
Cash, Checks or Credit Cards - Donations can be made by mail, dropping off at our office, or online.

Stocks or Securities - The Foundation has the ability to accept gifts of publicly traded appreciated stocks or securities.

IRA Distributions - Qualified Charitable Distributions can be made directly to the Foundation from your IRA custodian, reducing taxable income regardless of whether you qualify to itemize (Distributions cannot be directed to a Donor Advised Fund).

For questions, contact the CPCF at info@thecpcf.org or call 219-662-7252.
The Board of Directors play an integral role in the Crown Point Community Foundation. They select the recipients of CPCF grants, help to solicit donations, and promote the Foundation throughout the community. We are proud to welcome our newest board member, Jennifer Ritter.

JENNIFER RITTER

Jennifer Ritter’s parents, Jerry and Margie Grecco, instilled in her the values of participating in community life and helping those in need. She was raised in Crown Point, attending Saint Mary Catholic Community School and Andrean High School. She earned a Bachelor of Arts with High Distinction in History and a minor in French at Indiana University Northwest. She accepted a position with the Federal Government, where she met her husband, Patrick, to whom she has been married for 29 years.

They raised their daughter, Megan, in Crown Point, where Jennifer volunteered for Tri Kappa, serving as its president. She served as president of the Saint Mary Catholic Community School Advisory Council and as a member of the Crown Point High School Music Boosters. She has been an employee of the federal government for over 22 years and is currently a technical expert in her field.

“I have always felt fulfilled when working and volunteering in my community,” Jennifer said. “I love Crown Point and am so happy with all the growth our city is experiencing. I am excited to join the Crown Point Community Foundation so I can participate in all the good work the Foundation does for the people of South Lake County.”

WHY WE GIVE: Centier Bank strives to ensure that the quality of life for all who live and work in our communities is a top priority. Through corporate dollars, volunteerism, and financial education, we consistently aim to make a greater impact in our communities. Centier has preserved hometown banking since 1895, and promises to continue that legacy for generations to come.

MISSION: Indiana’s largest private, family-owned bank is a testament to the idea that no matter how large a business grows, it is still possible to provide remarkable service. This comes naturally to Centier associates because of our servant heart culture. We have come to be known for warm, personalized service and relationship-style banking. Centier Bank’s commitment to community means neighbors are serving neighbors, working together to create a better way of life today and for future generations.
DONATIONS

NOVEMBER 1, 2021 - FEBRUARY 28, 2022

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 AmazonSmile Foundation
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 Brett Keeler
 Dawn Kepshire
 James & Deborah Kirk
 Arkadiusz Kosow
 Andrew Kyres

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 Lake Street School PTO
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 Mechanical Test & Balance
 Stanley B. Lee
 Steve & Kathy Lessner Family
 Randy & Mary Jane Lewis
 Corey & Charlotte Liss,
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Ronda Waters
Jean Wease
Susan Wilcox

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Winfield Community Foundation, Inc.
Winfield/Jerry Ross Parent Teacher Organization
Wipeco Inc.
Suzann Wright

Scan QR Code to Give Online Today: thepcf.org/donate.html
To set up a recurring monthly gift, please scan the above QR code.
Select the gift amount and fund you’d like to support and select the recurring monthly gift option.
HONORARIUMS
NOVEMBER 1, 2021 - FEBRUARY 28, 2022

John & Ann Barney at Christmas
Craig & Janet Duchossois

The Braccolino Family
Andy & Susan Husar
Lew & Sandra Noe

Jerry Caravana
John & JoAnn Birdzell

Larry & Kim Geisen at Christmas
Jonathon Christiansen
Terry Coady & Alexis Thanos-Coady
Jamie & Jennifer Constant
Teresa Dille
Barb Dobis
Anthony Geisen
Michelle Hanrahan
Taylor Jones
Gus & Michelle Katsaros
Jeffery & Deb Kelley
Bill Kolloway
Jeff & Jean Lahn
Cinta Lowe
Bob & Susan Lueder
Ron Mesarch & Janet Andrus
Daphne Pistello
TJ & Meghan Pruzin
Mike Raymer
Wendy Schreiber
Julia Thorn

Myrene & Richard "Dick" Gordon
Lee Duggan
Gerald & Mickie Hardin
Richard Katz & Judy Hoffman Katz
Keilman Austgen & Sinal PC
Bryan Lazorik, Class of 1995
Michelle Michaelsen
Patricia Reid
Russ & Amy Rubino
Bridget Schroeder
Kelly Tournis
Peg Wissner

Stephanie Harnew
Susan Jaskowiak
Joe & Jenny Prescia
Walt & Grayce Tyszko

Stephanie & Matt Harnew,
Educators That Don’t Quit!
Alison Quackenbush

Faye Platt on her Birthday
Thomas Platt & Uta Rehm

Marty Wheeler
John & JoAnn Birdzell

WHY WE GIVE: Geisen Funeral Home has been a part of the Crown Point community since 1867, when Peter Geisen added undertaking services to his furniture business downtown. We know the importance of providing the best service to our funeral families and to various local charitable organizations and programs. We want to make a difference to help our community flourish, as we have for over 150 years.

MISSION: We are dedicated to providing guidance, options and compassion with the highest level of standards and integrity. We will offer exceptional funeral and cremation services by our professional and caring staff. We will always strive to exceed the expectations of each family we serve.

www.geisenfuneralhome.com

4th of July Parade:
Families who have lost a Veteran participate in the Geisen Veterans Memorial Float for the 4th of July Parade.

Habitat for Humanity Women’s Build:
Geisen staff members volunteered for a Habitat for Humanity Women’s Build.
Kevin Huseman was raised in Lowell. He and his wife Renee have been married for 38 years. They have 13 children (11 through adoption), and one grandchild. In 1990, Kevin and Renee founded Point Imaging, a graphics manufacturing business. They sold the company in 2012. In 2013 they founded a housing ministry named Kingdom Housing, LLC and began buying distressed residential properties, rehabbing them and providing clean, affordable housing for families of modest means.

Kevin & Renee’s history with the Crown Point Community Foundation began in 2012. Following the death of their oldest son Brandon on Thanksgiving Day 2011, they approached the Foundation and established the Brandon Aaron Huseman Memorial Endowment Fund. In the spirit of Brandon’s compassion for the vulnerable of society, his namesake fund was established to support fostering, adoption and at-risk youth.

In the spirit of Matthew 25:40, Kevin trusts that God will continue to direct his steps, and his role with the Crown Point Community Foundation.

1. **What’s the best advice you’ve ever received?**

   Life often delivers demands to compromise your character. You will do well applying the following quote by Denis Waitley: “Change the changeable, accept the unchangeable, and remove yourself from the unacceptable.”

2. **What question do you look forward to receiving when someone hears about your family?**

   Can you tell me about your family?

3. **What inspires you?**

   The increasing evidence, graciously made manifest by God, how He is faithful of His promises; “I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear me forever, for their own good and the good of their children after them. I will make with them an everlasting covenant, that I will not turn away from doing good to them. And I will put the fear of me in their hearts, that they may not turn from me. I will rejoice in doing them good, and I will plant them in this land in faithfulness, with all my heart and all my soul.” (Jeremiah 32:39-41 ESV)

4. **Which parable in Scripture has most redirected your life?**

   The parable of the rich fool. (Luke 12:16-21)

5. **What is your advice to have fulfillment in retirement?**

   Don’t retire. Work is good, and when your work is discharged properly over time, it meets with much blessing. I respectfully suggest that most who “retire” will likely rust out before they wear out.

**Kingdom Housing, LLC**
TOGETHER WE BUILD A BETTER TOMORROW

The Crown Point Community Foundation is a public charity. Small donations are just as important as large donations to make sure that we serve the public’s best interests.

OUR SUPPORT FOR THE COMMUNITY DOES NOT COME FROM JUST ONE PERSON, ONE FAMILY, OR ONE COMPANY BUT A STEADY STREAM OF CONTRIBUTIONS FROM A BROAD CROSS-SECTION OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

If you have a cause you care about in the community, we have a fund to support your interest. It’s easy to make a donation. Mail your check today in the enclosed envelope provided or simply donate online at: thecpcf.org/donate.html. We invite you to be a part of your public Foundation so that together we can do more good things in our community!

Upcoming Crown Point Community Foundation Events:

CPHS Scholarship Award Night | Thursday, May 5, 2022 - 6:30pm

HELP US LEAD, ENGAGE AND ENRICH OUR COMMUNITY

Community Partners are local companies or individuals who join forces with the Crown Point Community Foundation to promote and expand philanthropy, address community issues, and develop nonprofit excellence.