

## UNWRAP THE POSSIBILITIES OF THE NEW LILLY ENDOWMENT INC.'S GIFT IX \$2 FOR \$1 *Match Opportunity!*



*Thank You!*

The Lilly Endowment Inc.'s GIFT VIII  
**\$1,875,000 MATCHING  
CHALLENGE IS COMPLETE!**

### NONPROFIT ACADEMY

2025 CONFERENCE COMBINES  
LEARNING AND COLLABORATION

### CHALLENGER LEARNING CENTER OF NWI

> STORYBOOK STEM ADVENTURES  
BRING LITERACY & STEAM TOGETHER  
FOR OUT OF THIS WORLD FUN.

### 5 QUESTIONS WITH CPCF BOARD MEMBER

> JEFF BAN

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

I HAVE FOUND THAT AMONG ITS  
OTHER BENEFITS, GIVING LIBERATES  
THE SOUL OF THE GIVER.

MAYA ANGELOU  
AMERICAN POET AND WRITER

MARY B. NIELSEN  
PRESIDENT

### Make a Greater Impact with Your Generosity this Holiday Season!

At the Crown Point Community Foundation, our mission has always centered on the power of community giving and this holiday season, your generosity can make an even greater difference. Thanks to the incredible support of Lilly Endowment Inc., every dollar donated to our Unrestricted Community Grantmaking Fund, or any named unrestricted fund held at CPCF, will be tripled through a **\$2 for \$1 match** as part of their new **Gift IX \$1,875,000 Matching Challenge**.

We've already seen the extraordinary things that happen when our community comes together – most recently demonstrated through the successful completion of **Lilly Endowment Inc.'s GIFT VIII \$1,875,000 Matching Challenge**. Because of donors like you, we've awarded meaningful grants to organizations making a real impact every day. Grants to the Challenger Learning Center of NWI have allowed students to experience storybook STEM adventures that bring literacy and STEAM to life. Support for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Northwest Indiana provided updated spaces – complete with new games, carpeting, and furniture that enhance activities, sustain engagement, and deepen long-term impact for local youth. Funding to the City of Crown Point brought public art installations to traffic control boxes, enriching the Courthouse Square Historic District and strengthening our community's sense of place.

Our Nonprofit Academy is also thriving. This fall's one-day conference, "The Power of We: Stress Less. Connect More. Achieve Big." brought nonprofit leaders together for learning, collaboration, and renewed inspiration. Focused on leadership, resilience, and organizational performance, the conference amplified the tools and connections our nonprofits need to grow and the energy generated there continues to ripple throughout our region.

All of this momentum is powered by you. And there is still so much more we can do together. As we look ahead, we invite you to take part in the new **\$2 for \$1 Match Challenge**. Your gift to the Unrestricted Community Grantmaking Fund, or any named unrestricted fund held at CPCF will be tripled, helping us respond to evolving needs and support the organizations that make Lake County vibrant and strong.

On behalf of our Board of Directors and staff, thank you for your loyal support and partnership. Together, we are proving that generosity is more than giving – it's transforming.

*Mary B. Nielsen*

MARY B. NIELSEN



DECEMBER 2025  
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PUBLISHER  
MARY B. NIELSEN

CREATIVE DIRECTOR  
JEANETTE HUSS

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Every effort is made to accurately list our contributors. If a name has been inadvertently omitted from the newsletter, we apologize.



THE VARIETY OF TOPICS AVAILABLE AT THE CPCF NONPROFIT ACADEMY CONFERENCE, THE POWER OF WE, WAS AMAZING AND WOULD BENEFIT ANYONE IN THE CHARITY SPACE IN THE REGION.

**DR. BRIAN THOMPSON**

BOARD PRESIDENT  
DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION NWI

< ATTENDEES AT THE CPCF NONPROFIT ACADEMY CONFERENCE, "THE POWER OF WE: STRESS LESS. CONNECT MORE. ACHIEVE BIG." ON OCTOBER 28, 2025.



ON THE COVER  
MAXIMIZE YOUR  
YEAR-END GIVING...  
WITH OUR \$2 FOR \$1  
MATCH OPPORTUNITY!



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The Way Back Home by Oliver Jeffers

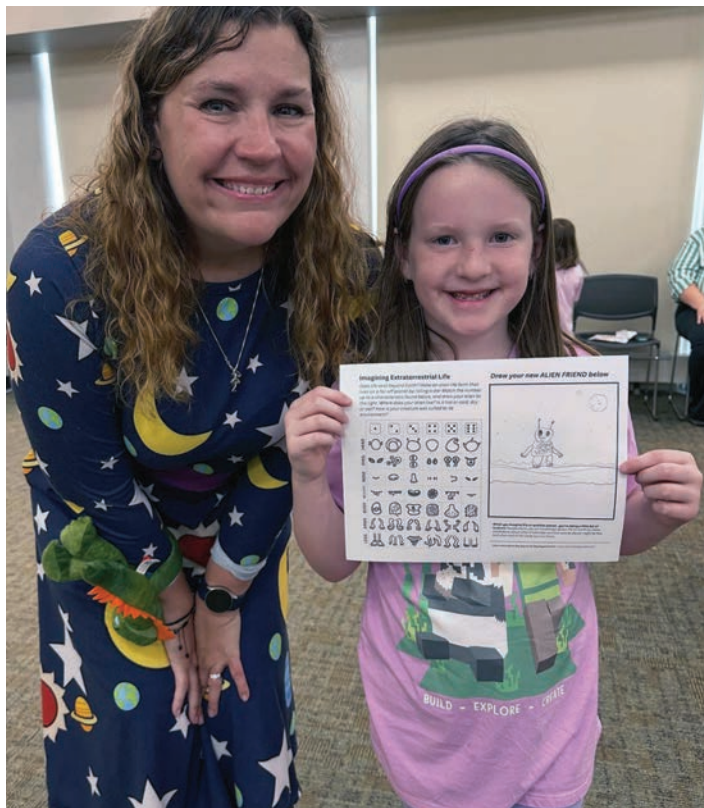
STORYBOOK STEM ADVENTURES ENHANCE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, INSPIRE CREATIVITY, AND EMPOWER CHILDREN WITH CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS THAT WILL BENEFIT THEM BEYOND THE CLASSROOM.

**LARA BATES**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
CHALLENGER LEARNING CERNTER OF NWI



Scan QR Code to  
Give Online Today:  
[cpcf.fcsuite.com/erp/donate](https://cpcf.fcsuite.com/erp/donate)



STUDENTS BRING STORIES TO LIFE THROUGH IMAGINATION AND PROBLEM-SOLVING DURING STORYBOOK STEM ADVENTURES.

### Young readers across South Lake County are reaching new heights in literacy and STEM exploration.

A CPCF grant of \$1,500 was awarded to the Challenger Learning Center of Northwest Indiana to support Storybook STEM Adventures – a new mobile STEAM education initiative designed to spark curiosity, creativity, and a love of learning in young students.

Challenger Learning Center of NWI is a mission-driven educational organization dedicated to inspiring and engaging students in science, technology, engineering, art, and math. Their programming connects imagination with innovation through interactive learning, hands-on STEM experiences, and space-based educational missions.

Storybook STEM Adventures brings literacy & STEAM together for early learners in grades K-3. Each program begins with a lively reading of *The Way Back Home* by Oliver Jeffers, followed by hands-on activities that help students COLOR, CONNECT, and CREATE while exploring themes of space, problem-solving, and imagination. Students build rocket ships, create alien characters, and design their own planets – all guided by trained Challenger STEM educators.

Thanks to support from the Crown Point Community Foundation, Challenger is expanding access by bringing this program directly into neighborhoods, libraries, and community spaces. Their Mobile STEAM on the Go initiative ensures students have the opportunity to learn outside of the traditional classroom, particularly during the summer months when learning loss is most common.

Storybook STEM Adventures will visit public libraries, YMCA organizations, Boys & Girls Clubs, and youth-serving nonprofits throughout South Lake County—helping students stay engaged, build confidence, and make exciting discoveries through literacy and science.

For more information, please visit: [clcnwi.com](http://clcnwi.com).

THIS WAS AN EXCELLENT PROGRAM WITH A GREAT VARIETY, AND LOTS OF ENGAGEMENT! THE CHALLENGER TEAM DID A GREAT JOB, AND OBVIOUSLY LOVE WHAT THEY DO. THEIR ENTHUSIASM WAS CONTAGIOUS, AND THEY PRESENTED THE INFORMATION APPROPRIATELY FOR EACH AGE GROUP. THANK YOU FOR MAKING OUR LIBRARY A FUN SPOT TO LEARN ABOUT SPACE!

CINDY BAUMEISTER  
CROWN POINT PUBLIC LIBRARY

# COMMUNITY GRANTS

THE CPCF AWARDED \$134,886.69 IN UNRESTRICTED COMMUNITY GRANTS IN THE **SEPTEMBER CYCLE**.

## Arts, Culture - \$3,707.19

### Crown Point Music Boosters - \$1,707.19

(\$1,000 CPCF Community Grantmaking Fund + \$707.19 Peg Shaffer Instrumental Arts Fund)\*

Support for the Steel Band to perform at the Opening Session of the Indiana Music Educator's Association State Convention.

### Harmony Handbells - \$2,000

Funding for repair work for a set of loaned handbells, which have been used for approximately 12 years.

## Community Improvement - \$5,000.00

### Lake County Master Gardeners Association - \$5,000

Funding for a community demonstration garden in Crown Point featuring pollinator, vegetable/fruit, sensory, and cottage gardens that provide hands-on education, food donations, and inclusive green space for all.

## Economic Development - \$4,300.00

### Indiana Plan for Equal Employment - \$4,300

Funding to create opportunities for the under-represented, minorities and women in the construction trades by providing basic construction awareness training to prepare them for the apprenticeship application process.

## Education - \$9,000.00

### Hanover Community School Corporation

(Elementary School) - \$1 for \$2 match up to \$4,000

Funding to support Lincoln Elementary enhance its nature trail with a StoryWalk® initiative, integrating literacy and STEM education through permanent learning stations to foster engagement with nature and promote cross-disciplinary learning.

### Junior Achievement of Chicago - \$5,000

Support for where in-class learning meets an interactive, day-long town simulation where students will learn how to be citizens and interact with the economy, their communities, and connect the dots between what they have learned to the real-world.

## Food, Nutrition, Agriculture - \$10,000.00

### NWI No Child Hungry - \$10,000

Funding for Buddy Bags, child-friendly, shelf-stable sacks of food for local children who are food insecure.

## Human Services - \$97,600.00

### Ben's Blue Bags - \$2,000

Funding to support mobile sensory hubs, which provide a calming, safe space for individuals experiencing sensory overload, PTSD, and stress during major public events.

### Best Buddies - \$2,500

Friendship programs build one-to-one friendships for people with and without intellectual and developmental disorders (IDD), helping people to form meaningful connections, gain self-confidence and self-esteem, and improve inclusion for all.

### CoAction - \$3,000

Support for Dementia Outreach programs (Memory Café & Dementia Days) that equip our region with vital education, support, and engagement services.

### Down Syndrome Association of NWI - \$25,000

Funding to construct additional space to support the expansion of services, activities, and programs such as shopping for and preparing healthy meals and encouraging healthy physical activity.

### Family House - \$2,500

Financial support for strategic planning as the organization navigates growing services and client needs.

### Hearts In Motion - \$3,600

Support for the New Directions Program, helping families recover from domestic violence, homelessness, or house fires by providing essential household items and support services as they transition into safe, stable housing.

### Holy Spirit / St. Vincent DePaul - \$20,000

Funding to continue providing food and offer assistance with rent, mortgage and utilities to our neighbors in need.

### Hope Alliance of NWI - \$1 for \$1 match up to \$5,000

Support for Bridge to Hope Harm Reduction in Action, a community-based initiative that embraces harm reduction principles by recognizing that people who use drugs deserve safety and dignity rather than judgment.

### Make-A-Wish Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana - \$10,000

Funding to create life-changing wishes for children battling a critical illness in the Crown Point Community Foundation service area.

### Open Hearts Therapeutic Riding Center - \$6,000 contingent

Funding to place a rubberized seal coating and sound barrier to help with our barns metal roof, helping to give longevity to the roof and also assist in keeping the sound down in our indoor arena.

### Planting Possibilities - \$5,000

Funding to provide general job skills training to adults with autism and other developmental disabilities.

### Hanover Community School Corporation

(Red Cedars Social Work Dept.) - \$3,000

Providing necessities for students in need through the Red Cedars Social Work Department Caring Closet.

### Tradewinds Services - \$10,000

Support for Summer & Functional Skills Camps for children and young adults with varying abilities.

## Recreation - \$2,279.50

### Red Cedars Family Teacher Organization - \$2,279.50

Purchase an industrial sized popcorn machine and the necessary supplies to help raise funds for educational resources, to support school activities/events, and for use as classroom motivational rewards.

## Youth Development - \$3,000.00

### Girls on the Run of Northwest Indiana - \$3,000

Funding for scholarship assistance to girls in South Lake County so they can be a part of their Girls on the Run team.



# TRIPLE YOUR YEAR-END GIVING WITH A \$2 FOR \$1 *Match Opportunity!*

**With the holiday season upon us, the Crown Point Community Foundation is pleased to offer meaningful opportunities to share your generosity with the community and help address its ever-evolving needs.**

"We all have so much to be thankful for and the holiday's are a great time to consider giving back," said Crown Point Community Foundation Chairman Michael Dexter. "Gifts come in all sizes from cash to shares of stock. If you have a passion about a nonprofit that you would like to help, please consider the CPCF to help you with that special gift and life time legacy!"

This year, your generosity can make an even greater impact. Following the successful completion of **Lilly Endowment Inc.'s**

**GIFT VIII \$1,875,000 Matching Challenge**, a new opportunity is now underway. Lilly Endowment Inc. has launched the ninth phase of its Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow (GIFT) initiative, committing up to **\$1,875,000** to community foundations across Indiana. This ongoing initiative reflects Lilly Endowment's strong belief in the vital role community foundations play in supporting the long-term prosperity and wellbeing of the towns, cities, and counties they serve.

Thanks to this support, every dollar donated to our Unrestricted Community Grantmaking Fund, or any named unrestricted fund held at CPCF, will be tripled through a **\$2 for \$1 match** as part of the new **GIFT IX \$1,875,000 Matching Challenge**.

# Celebrating FULLY MATCHED FUNDS

## LILLY ENDOWMENT INC.'S GIFT VIII \$1,875,000 MATCHING CHALLENGE



Because of generous donors, the CPCF Unrestricted Community Grantmaking Fund, the Operating Fund - General CPCF Fund, the CPCF Nonprofit Capacity Building Programs Fund, and Symphony on the Lawn Fund are **FULLY MATCHED!** Thank you for your support, and unlocking the full potential of the Lilly Endowment Inc. matching gift.

### **UNRESTRICTED COMMUNITY GRANTMAKING FUND - MATCH IS COMPLETE, THANK YOU!**

The majority of the Matching Challenge was designated for any Crown Point Community Foundation Unrestricted Community Grantmaking Fund, which had \$1,500,000 available in matching funds.

A core component of our work involves expanding our support to address ever-changing and relevant community needs through our grants to local nonprofits. By growing our unrestricted endowed assets, we can provide more support to current critical needs, address emerging challenges, and capitalize on new opportunities that enrich the quality of life for all residents.

### **OPERATING FUND - GENERAL CPCF FUND - MATCH IS COMPLETE, THANK YOU!**

By investing in the growth of our own internal capacity,

most significantly towards the development of a new headquarters, we are investing in our ability to better serve our local nonprofits and the overall community. These funds help support our mission by allowing us to expand programming, increase staff capacity/efficiency, and enhance our visibility in the community.

### **NONPROFIT CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMS FUND - MATCH IS COMPLETE, THANK YOU!**

Recognizing the pivotal role of local nonprofit organizations in community development, we are investing in their future through the Nonprofit Academy, a comprehensive workforce development initiative designed to bolster the effectiveness and talent retention in the Lake County nonprofit sector. This initiative provides an innovative solution to address immediate internal capacity needs and lays the foundation for sustainable growth and opportunities within the local nonprofit sector.

### **SYMPHONY ON THE LAWN FUND - MATCH IS COMPLETE, THANK YOU!**

Our annual Symphony on the Lawn program, in its 25th year, is far more than just a cultural event. This free community concert, hosted in partnership with the Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra, represents an opportunity to foster unity, and broaden the exposure and appreciation for the arts.

This means the impact of your giving grows exponentially. A \$100 donation becomes \$300. A \$5,000 gift becomes \$15,000. Every dollar is tripled. CPCF currently oversees 77 Unrestricted Funds that fuel our grantmaking efforts throughout South Lake County. These funds enable our Grant Committee to respond to emerging needs and support the nonprofit organizations working every day to make our community a better place to live, work, and thrive.

Match Timeline is October 1, 2025 - December 31, 2027 or until the funding has been expended.

"We are incredibly excited to participate in the next phase of the GIFT initiative," said Mary Nielsen, CPCF President. "These

generous grants strengthen community foundations like CPCF and enhance our ability to make a meaningful, lasting difference. And now, with Lilly Endowment's Matching Fund Grant, your donation can go even further."

Giving to the Crown Point Community Foundation directly benefits the families, friends, and neighbors of South Lake County. Below are just a few of the organizations that have recently received grants from our unrestricted funds, each one contributing to a stronger and more vibrant community:

### **BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF GREATER NORTHWEST INDIANA \$7,500 GRANT**

With your support, local children in Cedar Lake are gaining access

CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT



YOUTH AT THE CEDAR LAKE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF GREATER NORTHWEST INDIANA ENJOY REFRESHED SPACES - COMPLETE WITH NEW GAMES, CARPETING, AND FURNITURE.

to a stronger, more engaging out-of-school environment. A \$7,500 CPCF grant was awarded to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Northwest Indiana to help enhance the Cedar Lake Club with new games, carpeting, and furniture – improvements that strengthen programming, sustain engagement, and increase long-term impact for area youth.

The Cedar Lake Club plays a vital role in shaping young people during the critical hours after school. Through a unique blend of social-emotional development, academic enrichment, healthy lifestyles programming, and recreation, the Club offers both structured activities and informal mentorship. This combination boosts confidence, strengthens life skills, and helps youth apply what they learn to real-world situations. Daily rotations throughout the Club ensure members interact with different peers and staff, while experiencing technology, equipment, and opportunities they may not otherwise have access to.

Because Cedar Lake is one of the few Clubs that has not undergone a full renovation, these upgrades are especially important. Many of the Club's most-used spaces – including the Games Room, art area, teen room, and early childhood toy room are overdue for replacement or modernization. Broken equipment and outdated furnishings make it difficult to accommodate the Club's growing attendance, which now reaches over 70 youth daily.

"Our kids are the future of the Region, and the Boys & Girls Club is where they find safety, mentorship, and opportunity every day after school," said Alyssa White, Cedar Lake Club Director. "Ongoing funding is not just about keeping our doors open – it's about ensuring Cedar Lake youth have a place to build character, confidence, and the skills they'll need to lead our community forward. When we invest in them today, we strengthen Northwest

Indiana for generations to come."

### **DUNES DOG TRAINING CLUB (PETS N VETS)** **\$3,000 GRANT**

With your help, U.S. Military Veterans across Northwest Indiana are receiving life-changing support through a program designed to strengthen confidence, connection, and emotional well-being. A CPCF grant for \$3,000 was awarded to the Dunes Dog Training Club to support their Pets N Vets Program, which provides free dog-training services for Veterans living with PTSD and Traumatic Brain Injuries.

The Dunes Dog Training Club is a long-standing nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening the human-animal bond through proper dog obedience training. Through the Pets N Vets Program, the organization focuses specifically on the needs of Veterans, helping them train their dogs to become stronger companions, emotional support animals, therapy dogs, or even service dogs. All training in the Pets N Vets Program is offered at no cost to qualifying Veterans, ensuring accessibility for those who need it most.

At the heart of the program is the belief that the bond between a Veteran and their dog can be transformative. Dogs provide routine, security, and unconditional trust – elements that help Veterans navigate the challenges of PTSD. Many participants report feeling more at ease in public, more confident in daily routines, and better equipped to reconnect with family, friends, and community. Their dogs become their "battle buddies," offering comfort through touch, deep-pressure therapy, and consistent companionship.

The Pets N Vets Program trains Veterans and their dogs using



VETERANS AND THEIR DOGS TRAIN TOGETHER IN THE PETS N VETS PROGRAM TO BUILD SKILLS FOR COMPANIONSHIP, EMOTIONAL SUPPORT, THERAPY, AND SERVICE WORK.

American Kennel Club (AKC) standards, guiding them through levels such as AKC STAR Puppy, Canine Good Citizen, Community Canine, and Urban Canine Good Citizen. For Veterans with disabilities who may benefit from service dog tasks, the program also provides instruction on Public Access Test requirements and the skills needed to train a qualified service dog.



The Dunes Dog Training Club also offers a 50% discount on public classes for Veterans who do not qualify for the formal Pets N Vets program, ensuring that all who seek help can still benefit.

The organization's volunteers gain satisfaction in being able to offer their time, skills, and expertise in order to "give back" to our Veterans who have served our country.

"Crown Point Community Foundation has helped support our Dunes Dog Training Club's Pets N Vets Program for many years," said Jan Koutelas, Director of Pets N Vets. "Their support has helped our nonprofit serve the Veterans in N.W. Indiana at no cost to the Veteran."

## THE CITY OF CROWN POINT up to \$3,000 (\$1 for \$1 MATCH) GRANT

With your help, downtown Crown Point is becoming an even more vibrant and inviting destination. A CPCF grant of up to \$3,000, was awarded to the City of Crown Point to support Wrapped in History,



HELP US LEAD, ENGAGE  
AND ENRICH OUR COMMUNITY



**FORSYTHE**  
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**WHY WE GIVE:** Forsythe Wealth Management was founded with a distinct stewardship mindset. We believe the ability to grow financial wealth comes with a duty to share some of that wealth with others. We give a significant portion of our income to charitable causes and encourage our clients to consider doing the same.

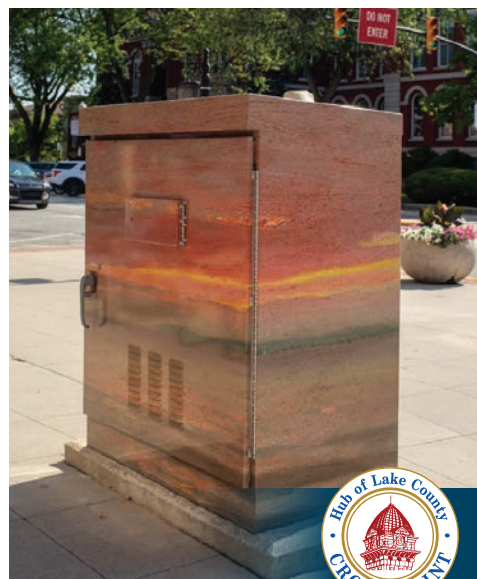
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### SYMPHONY ON THE LAWN:

Forsythe Wealth Management generously sponsored a Sundae Funday ice cream social, bringing the community together to celebrate 25 years of Symphony on the Lawn and 35 years of the Crown Point Community Foundation.

[www.forsythewealth.com](http://www.forsythewealth.com)



ARTWORK DISPLAYED ON TRAFFIC CONTROL BOXES IN AND AROUND THE COURTHOUSE SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT HELPS ENRICH AND BEAUTIFY CROWN POINT'S DOWNTOWN.

a public art initiative bringing historic Hoosier Group artwork to life on traffic control boxes throughout the Courthouse Square Historic District.

The Hoosier Group, officially formed in 1895, consisted of five artists who shaped Indiana's early art identity. Most were born in the state or spent their formative years here, and all ultimately called Indiana home. Their paintings, once exhibited in Chicago and internationally, now offer the community a window into Indiana's rich cultural legacy. By displaying these historic artworks on otherwise overlooked traffic control boxes, the project transforms functional streetscape elements into colorful, educational features that celebrate the state's artistic heritage.

Thanks to the support of the Crown Point Community Foundation, Wrapped in History is enriching downtown Crown Point while providing residents and visitors with a meaningful way to engage with Hoosier art and history. The City also plans to partner with the Crown Point Community Library to share additional information about the artists and their work, further expanding educational opportunities and encouraging more people to explore the downtown district.

"Our beautiful downtown square has so much synergy, brings so many people – residents and those visiting from the Region," said Crown Point Mayor Pete Land. "One of the things we pay a lot of attention to is its beautification. We have great businesses, great restaurants, and of course the Old Courthouse, but sometimes it's the attention to detail. Just like every community, we have large, stainless steel junction boxes, and we wanted to see what we could do to beautify those. They all are now individually wrapped with different iconic scenes of history. It's a small detail, but it really adds to the greatness of the square."

The project is expected to broaden public awareness of Hoosier arts and culture while increasing foot traffic to the Courthouse Square Historic District. By bringing art and history into everyday community spaces, Wrapped in History celebrates Crown Point's pride in place and enriches the experience of all who visit downtown.

Together, these grants demonstrate the power of collective generosity and the meaningful change it creates across South Lake County. When donors support CPCF's Unrestricted Community Grantmaking Fund, or any named unrestricted fund held at CPCF, they help local organizations meet needs, strengthen programs, and build a brighter future for everyone who calls our community home.

AS WE REACH THE END OF 2025, IT'S A NATURAL  
TIME TO LOOK BACK WITH GRATITUDE  
AND APPRECIATE THE MANY WAYS OUR  
COMMUNITY HAS GROWN. THE HOLIDAY SEASON  
REMINDS US THAT WE EACH HAVE THE POWER  
TO MAKE A MEANINGFUL IMPACT – THROUGH  
GIVING, THROUGH SERVICE, AND THROUGH  
SHOWING UP FOR ONE ANOTHER.  
EVERY CONTRIBUTION TO THE FOUNDATION  
HELPS STRENGTHEN SOUTH LAKE COUNTY  
AND SUPPORTS A BRIGHTER,  
MORE CONNECTED FUTURE FOR ALL.

MARY NIELSEN  
CPCF PRESIDENT



SCAN QR CODE TO GIVE TODAY.

*Donate Today!*

**CPCF COMMUNITY GRANTMAKING FUND  
OR ANY NAMED UNRESTRICTED FUND**  
\$2 FOR \$1 MATCH

# \$2 FOR \$1 *Match Opportunity!*

## TRIPLE YOUR IMPACT BY GIVING TO THE CPCF COMMUNITY GRANTMAKING FUND OR ANY NAMED UNRESTRICTED FUND LISTED BELOW.

**\$1,875,000 IN AVAILABLE FUNDS**

Alex and Ila Magiera Endowment Fund  
Anthony & Carol Volattorni Memorial Giving Fund  
Art Hill Ford/Lincoln Mercury/Carroll Chevrolet Endowment Fund  
Bates Family Unrestricted Endowment Fund  
Benjamin T. & Angela J. Ballou Unrestricted Endowment Fund  
Bill & Betty Kennedy Family Endowment Fund  
BJ & Kay Hubbard Endowment Fund  
Bob and Bernice Anderson Endowment Fund  
Cedar Lake Community Endowment Fund  
Charlie and Marilyn Kaper Unrestricted Endowment Fund  
Clayton Dyer Root, Jr. Endowment Fund  
Corbin Family Unrestricted Endowment Fund  
Corey & Charlotte Liss Community Endowment Fund  
CPCF Unrestricted Community Grantmaking Endowment Fund  
Daniel Reinhardt Root & Carol McNerney Root  
Unrestricted Endowment Fund  
Darryl & Patricia Miller Endowment Fund  
David & Helen Batusic Unrestricted Fund  
Dean and Barbara White Unrestricted Endowment Fund  
Dexter Family Endowment Fund  
Dolores E. White Unrestricted Endowment Fund  
Donald and Joyce Huber Family Endowment Fund  
Donald and Theresa Cowan Family Fund  
Don & Alice Burrell Family Endowment Fund  
Don and Joyce Carnahan Endowment Fund  
Dr. William and Ramona Jean Smead Family Fund  
Edward G. and Katherine R. Gerlach Huber Memorial Fund  
Edwin and Catherine Huber Family Endowment Fund  
First Financial Bank Endowment Fund  
Fran and Billie Hoffman Fund  
Frank Mitch "Cueller Memorial Fund"  
Geisen Family Endowment Fund  
Gordon and Nina Bates Endowment Fund  
Greg and Nancy Forsythe Christian Giving Fund  
G.W. Gintert Family Fund  
Heritage Quilters Fund  
Hilary and Margaret Raab Fund  
Howard Wise Endowment Fund  
Jack & Diane Kemp Endowment Fund

Jeff and Linda Bryner Unrestricted Endowment Fund  
Jim and Betty McDonald Endowment Fund  
Jim and Kim Larsen Unrestricted Endowment Fund  
Jimmy & Marian Hooseline Family Trust  
Joe and Marian Jollief Unrestricted Endowment  
John and Maureen Rogers Unrestricted Endowment Fund  
John & Ann Barney Unrestricted Endowment Fund  
John & Diane Burrell Family Endowment Fund  
John Dockus Unrestricted Endowment Fund  
Jon and Cindy Harts Family Endowment Fund  
Joseph D. Nerney, Jr. Memorial Community Fund  
Joseph K. Beckman Unrestricted Endowment Fund  
Joseph L. and Maribel C. Costin Family Endowment Fund  
Karen & Cornel Raab Unrestricted Endowment Fund  
Karl F. Seger Endowment Fund  
Letz Family Endowment Fund  
Marge and Hugo Breuckman Fund  
Marie Van Slyke Bean Endowment Fund  
Mary and David Root Endowment Fund  
Michael and Sherron Pampalone Endowment Fund  
Otto Richard Fifield Memorial Endowment Fund  
Peter & Betty Kolodziej Memorial Endowment Fund  
Purdue Federal Credit Union Endowment Fund  
Richard and Laura Sauerman Unrestricted Endowment Fund  
Richard J. and Gwendolyn L. Buehler Endowment Fund  
Robert and Joyce Nutt Unrestricted Endowment Fund  
Robert W. and Karen J. Lynn Family Endowment Fund  
Rouge Family Endowment Fund  
Russell C. Westphal Family Memorial Fund  
Schroeder Family Fund  
Theodore L. and Tennessee E. Sendak Family Endowment Fund  
Thomas H. Durant Endowment Fund  
Tom and Kathy Liss Unrestricted Endowment Fund  
Vern and Jeanne Segert Endowment Fund  
Violet and Irvin Guritz Endowment Fund  
Wellman Family Endowment Fund  
White Family Fund  
William and Maxie Scott Endowment Fund  
William G. and Phyllis M. Fatch Fund

INTERESTED  
IN ESTABLISHING  
YOUR OWN  
NAMED  
UNRESTRICTED  
FUND?  
CONTACT US TODAY!  
219-662-7252

# DONATIONS

SEPTEMBER 1, 2025 - NOVEMBER 9, 2025

## A

360 Fit, LLC  
Mary Ann Abraham  
Jessica Pettit Albaugh  
Thomas & Kathryn Anderson  
Ruth Argenta  
Arley Blair Insurance and Financial

## B

Irene Bairaktaris  
Ballou Law, LLC  
Lori Bathurst  
David & Helen Batusic  
Brian H. Bauer  
Bikos & Associates, CPA, PC.  
Bethany Borgo  
Gregory & Kellie Bowers  
Robert & Barbara Bowers  
Boys and Girls Clubs of  
Greater Northwest Indiana  
Sandra Braccolino  
Linda S. Brizendine  
Gretchen Burdan  
Gino Burelli

## C

Juliana Caffarini  
Lynnie Cartwright  
Ryan & Linda Collier  
Marian Cunningham

## D

Dan DiTola Insurance, Inc.  
Michael Daugherty  
& Donna Sapone Daugherty  
Suzanne Demmond  
Mike & Karen Dexter  
Eric & Robin Dillon  
Michelle Duffy

## F

Danielle Flores  
Shirley Forney-Bates

## G

Jim Geimer  
Geisen Funeral,  
Cremation and Reception Centre  
Irene Gentleman  
George C. Patrick & Assoc., P.C.  
Donald Guske  
Stephen & Letitia Gustas

## H

Michael & Tracy Hadt  
Hammond Hohman, LLC  
Law Offices of Karl E. Hand, P.C.  
Crystal Harrigan-Barry  
Chuck & Darlene Hopp  
Emma Hutchings

## I

James L. and Barbara J. Ingelhart

## J

Jayme Fieser Real Estate  
& Properties LLC  
Ashlee Jones

## K

Judith Kaleta  
Brett Keeler  
Jack & Diane Kemp  
Dawn Kepshire  
Tamra Kepshire  
Heather Killion  
Leslie Klauk  
Pattie Kobe  
Lisa Koester  
Tina Kottka

## L

Lakeshore Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth  
Langel's, Inc.  
Jim & Kim Larsen  
Judith Lazar  
Steve & Kathy Lessner  
Thomas Leyden

Tom & Kathy Liss  
Litehouse WFG Hobart, Inc.

## M

Mark Magurany  
Manned Space Flight  
Education Foundation  
Suzie Matalin  
Tim and Jennifer McBride  
Jacklyn Mead  
For the Neighbors served by  
Meals on Wheels NWI  
Alyssa & Alan Monix  
Ryan Mount  
Barbara Muckel

## N

Kay Newton  
W.E. Nichols

## O

Bette J. Oesterle  
OneHope

## P

Pete & Sons Auto Repair, Inc.  
Jack Pettit  
Puntillo and Crane Orthodontics, PC

## R

R. Bar & Grill

## S

Atty. Kathryn Schmidt  
Bridget Schroeder  
Robert & Karen Schrum  
Tammie & Philip Sopczak  
Allen & Linda Sredzinski

## T

Suzanne Teesdale  
Brett Thompson  
To-A-Tea Corp/Little Italy Dyer  
Donna Torrance

Mary Tracy-MacAulay  
Tri-Creek Education Foundation, Inc.  
Jennifer Trowbridge  
Michael Troxell  
Ernie Turpin

## V

Rebecca Vanderhye  
Lynn VanHouten

## W

Jeremy Michael Walker  
Melissa Walley  
Walter Cook Insurance Agency, Inc.  
Ronda Waters  
Jean Wease  
Suzann Wright

## Z

Zombie Club

## WAYS TO GIVE... FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW



The CPCF offers a variety of options to help you establish your charitable fund. You can contribute to one of our community endowments or start a specific permanent fund dedicated to a particular cause or organization. Options include Unrestricted Community Endowments, Field of Interest Funds, Designated Funds, Scholarship Funds, and Donor-Advised Funds. Each of these vehicles offers different benefits and can be tailored to meet your unique philanthropic goals. Our commitment at the CPCF is to help you achieve your charitable intent now and forever.

### Ways To Give:

- 1. Cash** - Cash donations can be made by mail, dropping off at our office, or online.  
Mailing address: Crown Point Community Foundation, PO Box 522, Crown Point, IN 46308.
- 2. Stocks or Securities** - The Foundation has the ability to accept gifts of publicly traded stocks.
- 3. IRA Distributions** - Qualified Charitable Distributions can be made directly to the Foundation from your IRA custodian, reducing taxable income (*Distributions cannot be directed to a Donor Advised Fund*).
- 4. Wills and Bequests** - Talk with your attorney and name the Crown Point Community Foundation as a beneficiary of all or a portion of your estate. Please use the following wording - "I give or bequeath to the Crown Point Community Foundation, 115 S. Court St., Crown Point, Indiana % or the sum of \$ of my residuary estate."
- 5. Life Insurance** - You can designate all or a portion of your life insurance policies, potentially saving Indiana inheritance tax and federal estate taxes.



HELP US LEAD, ENGAGE  
AND ENRICH OUR COMMUNITY



**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.



#### Habitat for Humanity Women's Build:

Geisen staff members volunteered for a Habitat for Humanity Women's Build.



#### Veteran's Dinner:

Geisen Funeral Home hosts an annual Veteran's Dinner, a time-honored tradition at the Geisen Reception Centre in Crown Point.

[www.geisenfuneralhome.com](http://www.geisenfuneralhome.com)

# MEMORIALS

SEPTEMBER 1, 2025 - NOVEMBER 9, 2025

## **Alfred and Norma Vittorini**

Diane and Jeff Reimer

## **Barbara White's Birthday**

Craig White

## **Betty Jane Elizabeth Buth**

Eugene & Linda Matzat

## **Paula Shrum**

Matt and Sandy Bapple

## **Wanda Burdan**

Matt and Sandy Bapple

## **Dr. Ray Doherty**

Diane and Jeff Reimer

## **James Niermeyer**

Mark & Lindsay Bates

Larry and Denise Bender

Centier Bank Corporate Centre

John & Louise Diederich

George Domoras

Edmond and Cynthia D. Haslem

Steve and Carol Highsmith

Thomas Hoffman

Terry Hovanec

Brian and Linda Innes

Jack & Diane Kemp

James & Deborah Kirk

Yvonne and John Kopton

Jeffrey Marchini

Darryl & Pat Miller

Miller Family

Roberta A. Petrovich

Sheila and Robert M. Petter

Gilbert & Gail Stiener

Sweney Electric

## **Jennifer Neal**

Karen Spoor

Debi, John and Suzanne DuPont

Bob and Camille Johnson

Donora Gard

William & Bette Babjak

Ross, Marina, Maëva

and Mathéo Petersen

Djordjevic Family

Sandra Karottki

Michele Jurgens

Jo Eckerman

Loretta Neal

Ursula Saqui

Letitia Gustas

Sarah McIntyre

Ida Cooper

Savant Wealth Management

Mr & Mrs Russell Petersen

Rose Ann Kendall

Ron and Stacey Petrovich

Rick and Jeri Schweitzer

John & JoAnn Birdzell

## **Mary and Roger Geimer,**

## **Steven Nigro Sr. and Olive Pryce**

Gigi & George Geimer-Messler

## **Mike Dalkilic**

Greg and Linda Armstrong

## **Ronald A. Lorenzo**

Gerald & April Schaefer

## **Scott Seger**

Karl F. Seger



**volunteer  
FAIR** CONNECTING  
NONPROFITS  
WITH VOLUNTEERS

# Join Us!

**The Crown Point Community Foundation is proud to host the 17th Annual Volunteer Fair & Blood Drive on Saturday, March 7, 2026 at Crown Point High School from 10:00am - 2:00pm.**

This community-wide event brings together more than 50 nonprofit organizations from across Lake County, offering residents a unique opportunity to connect with causes they care about – all in one convenient, welcoming space. Whether you're a first-time volunteer, looking to expand your involvement, or exploring opportunities for your family, workplace, or service group, you'll discover a wide range of missions, programs, and ways to make a meaningful difference.

Attendees are invited to browse interactive booths, speak directly with nonprofit leaders, learn about current needs, and find volunteer roles that match their interests, skills, and availability. From mentoring youth and supporting local arts to helping animals, protecting the environment, addressing food insecurity, and more – there's truly something for everyone.

# HONORARIUMS

SEPTEMBER 1, 2025 - NOVEMBER 9, 2025

## **Art Hill**

W.E. Fairchild

## **Gordon Bates Birthday**

Shirley Forney-Bates



In addition to the Volunteer Fair, Versiti Blood Centers will once again host an onsite Blood Drive, making it easy to support the community in another essential way. Donating blood saves lives, and your contribution can make an immediate impact on patients and families throughout our region. Sign up today to reserve your appointment and help ensure a stable blood supply for those who need it most.

Join us for a day of connection, service, and community spirit. We can't wait to see you there!

THE VOLUNTEER FAIR IS A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN ABOUT SO MANY ORGANIZATIONS IN NEED OF SUPPORT. WHETHER THAT'S YOUR TIME, A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION, OR A SKILL YOU'RE ABLE TO SHARE.

**COREY LISS**  
CPCF BOARD MEMBER



SCAN TO SCHEDULE

Schedule your appointment today at:  
[bit.ly/VersitiBloodCenter](https://bit.ly/VersitiBloodCenter) or call 1-800-7TO-GIVE



COMMUNITY  
partners

HELP US LEAD, ENGAGE  
AND ENRICH OUR COMMUNITY

**Peoples Bank**   
A FINWARD COMPANY

**WHY WE GIVE:** As a community bank, we're committed to public service, and we've made it our business to be on top of and involved in what is happening locally. It's a tradition that employees of Peoples Bank have embraced for more than 100 years. Every day, we help keep our customers' finances moving forward by using local knowledge to deliver high-quality services and products to suit their unique needs. With that same dedication, we help move our communities forward by finding creative ways to provide support to the many organizations that approach us for assistance.

**MISSION:** Since 1910, Peoples Bank has maintained a commitment to helping our customers and communities thrive. We strive to be a value-driven Bank for all of our stakeholders and focus on bringing capital back to the communities we serve. At Peoples, it's our commitment to offer the best service that our customers can find through engagement and technologies that will enhance the customer experience.



<  
**Hospice of the Calumet Area Donation:**  
The Community First Committee presents a donation of \$2,000 to our friends at Hospice of the Calumet Area.

>  
**National Night Out Against Crime:**  
Peoples Bank volunteers enjoy the annual Night Out in Dyer and Munster, connecting with neighbors and strengthening police-community ties.



>  
**Shred Day:**  
Peoples Bank volunteers partner with Opportunity Enterprises to host our annual Shred Day, providing free secure shredding to help prevent identity theft and fraud.



[www.ibankpeoples.com](http://www.ibankpeoples.com)



PHOTOS CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: MACKENZIE COVAULT, DEVELOPMENT OFFICER AT MAAC FOUNDATION AND RAQUEL HILL, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT AT FOR THE LOVE OF THE ARTS / ERIN HEDGES, PRESIDENT AT HEDGES, ENGAGES PARTICIPANTS DURING HER BREAKOUT SESSION / ALEXIUS BARBER, PUBLIC AFFAIRS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER AT NIPSCO PRESENTS TO THE ATTENDEES / CARL KUREK, ACCEPTED THE \$2,500 GRANT ON BEHALF OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF HOBART. PICTURED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: KATIE SLY, PROGRAM DIRECTOR, CPCF; CARL KUREK, BOARD MEMBER, THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF HOBART; AND MARY NIELSEN, PRESIDENT, CPCF. / ATTENDEES ENJOY DYNAMIC KEYNOTE SESSIONS AT THE POWER OF WE CONFERENCE / KEYNOTE SPEAKERS SHARE A LAUGH WITH ATTENDEE. PICTURED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: DR. REBECCA HEISS; DAVEED HOLMES, PEER COACH AT FOR THE LOVE OF THE ARTS; AND DR. DEB MASHEK, PHD. / KEYNOTE SPEAKER DR. DEB MASHEK, PHD, HIGHLIGHTED THE POWER OF COLLABORATION IN DRIVING MISSIONS FORWARD AND FOSTERING MEANINGFUL CROSS-SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS. SHE WAS JOINED BY SUSAN UTTERBACK, SENIOR BUSINESS CONSULTANT AT THE CENTER OF WORKFORCE INNOVATIONS, FOR THE BREAKOUT SESSION UNLIKELY COLLABORATORS: ENHANCE YOUR COLLABORATION ECOSYSTEM.

## A POWERFUL DAY OF LEARNING

### The Nonprofit Academy Brings Regional Leaders Together for Learning & Collaboration



**The Crown Point Community Foundation's Nonprofit Academy continues to elevate professional development opportunities across the region, drawing more than 100 nonprofit professionals to its Annual Conference: "The Power of We: Stress Less. Connect More. Achieve Big." The full-day event delivered meaningful learning, collaboration, and inspiration centered on strengthening leadership, resilience, and organizational impact.**

This year's conference featured two nationally recognized keynote speakers who challenged attendees to think boldly and lead with intention. Dr. Deb Mashek, PhD, author of *Collabor(h)ate: How to Build Incredible Collaborative Relationships at Work*, shared strategies for transforming the way organizations partner internally and across the community. Dr. Rebecca Heiss, author of *Springboard: Transform Stress to Work for You*, provided powerful insights on reframing stress as a leadership advantage and building cultures rooted in resilience.

Professionals also participated in nine breakout sessions led by regional and national nonprofit experts including Thrive Nonprofit Solutions, Socially Acceptable Content & Solutions, Hedges, CCS

Fundraising and more. Topics ranged from corporate partnerships and social media strategy to financial health, technology, volunteer engagement, and navigating change in philanthropy. Throughout the day, participants had opportunities to connect with local vendors, share best practices, and enjoy fun raffle activities designed to spark networking and relationship building.

Congratulations to The Humane Society of Hobart and Community Help Network, each selected to receive a \$2,500 grant during a random drawing at the event. These grants reflect the Foundation's ongoing commitment to uplifting nonprofits and supporting their work in the community.

"We are so thankful to once again be a recipient of a 'surprise' \$2,500 CPCF grant," noted Bonnie J. Meyer, Executive Director at Community Help Network. "We are deep into formulating our 2026 budget and this \$2,500 will serve to make that task a little easier as we work towards serving more food insecure students and their families."

Attendees shared their appreciation for the quality, depth, and value of the experience.



PHOTOS CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: LAUGHTER, LEARNING, AND LIVELY CONVERSATIONS FILLED THE ROOM AS NONPROFIT LEADERS CONNECTED DURING THE POWER OF WE CONFERENCE - A DAY DEDICATED TO STRESS LESS, CONNECT MORE, AND ACHIEVE BIG TOGETHER / KEYNOTE SPEAKER DR. REBECCA HEISS, ENERGIZED ATTENDEES WITH POWERFUL INSIGHTS ON TRANSFORMING STRESS INTO STRENGTH - SHARING PRACTICAL STRATEGIES TO REFRAME PRESSURE AS A TOOL FOR SUCCESS AND BUILD LASTING PERSONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL RESILIENCE / REPRESENTATIVES FROM COMMUNITY HELP NETWORK, ONE OF TWO RANDOMLY SELECTED \$2,500 GRANT RECIPIENTS, JOINED FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP FOR A PHOTO OPPORTUNITY. PICTURED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: BUFFY ADAMS, VICE PRESIDENT OF PHILANTHROPY, CPCF; KATIE SLY, PROGRAM DIRECTOR, CPCF; BETTE OESTERLE, BOARD MEMBER/FUNDRAISING CHAIR AT COMMUNITY HELP NETWORK; BONNIE J. MEYER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT COMMUNITY HELP NETWORK; AND MARY NIELSEN, PRESIDENT, CPCF.

"I really enjoyed the Nonprofit Academy Conference - the keynotes were inspiring and gave me so much to think about," shared Petra Julian, Board Member/Grant Writer at Lake County Master Gardeners. "The sessions on technology, financial health, and partnerships were all packed with useful takeaways I can apply to our work with the Lake County Master Gardeners. It was wonderful to connect with other nonprofit leaders and leave feeling energized and equipped with fresh ideas."

"This was a fantastic conference, not only for professional development but also for networking," stated Mackenzie Covault, Development Officer at MAAC Foundation. "The breakout session Unlikely Collaborators - Enhance Your Collaboration Ecosystem with Dr. Deb Mashek, PhD was exactly how sessions should be - engaging, thought-provoking and collaborative! It was wonderful to brainstorm, connect and build relationships with others in the community. The experience really highlighted the power of working together to create positive change."

With the investment of our Presenting Sponsor, the Dean and Barbara White Family Foundation, our Platinum Sponsor, the NiSource Charitable Foundation and NIPSCO, with additional support from the John & Ann Barney Family Foundation, the Nonprofit Academy is setting the new standard for nonprofit professional development to support those seeking to enhance their skills and broaden their impact. Through annual educational

and networking opportunities, this initiative equips nonprofit professionals with the essential skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to drive their organizations forward and amplify their mission impact.

Thanks are also extended to Avalon Manor Banquet Center for hosting and to local partners who contributed to the conference experience, including The Fund Raising School at the IU Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, VIA Marketing, AFP Northwest Indiana, and On the Go Therapy Mobile Massage LLC. Additional appreciation goes to Hedges, Thrive Nonprofit Solutions, JMCA, Inc., Indiana Philanthropy Alliance, Socially Acceptable Content & Solutions, Purdue Extension-Lake County, and CCS Fundraising for sharing valuable knowledge with attendees.

The event also benefited from the support of HQ Productions, Shane Lawrence Photography, Party People Entertainment, and Party Lane NWI - helping to create an engaging and memorable experience.

The Crown Point Community Foundation extends heartfelt thanks to its Board of Directors, sponsors, speakers, and community partners for making this year's conference an extraordinary success. Together, we're shaping a future defined by growth, innovation, and shared impact—because when nonprofits thrive, our entire community rises.

PRESENTING SPONSOR:

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**CROWN POINT**  
community  
foundation  
CREATING A BETTER FUTURE  
IN SOUTH LAKE COUNTY



HELP US LEAD, ENGAGE  
AND ENRICH OUR COMMUNITY



**WHY WE GIVE:** Dawn Foods fuels the creativity and success of bakers and food entrepreneurs. Baking is more than ingredients — it's about delight, growth, and possibility. We provide innovation, expertise, and partnership to elevate every experience, while also investing in our communities through Hunger Prevention and Health, Education, Community Vibrancy, and Volunteerism.

**MISSION:** At Dawn Foods, our mission is to delight customers worldwide with innovation, quality, and trusted expertise. For over a century, we've partnered with bakers to grow businesses and inspire joy. Beyond baking, we strengthen communities by supporting Team Members and organizations that foster vibrancy, belonging, and positive impact—carrying forward a legacy of partnership, passion, purpose, and service.



<  
**Symphony on  
the Lawn:**

Dawn Foods  
presents a donation of \$5,000 to our  
friends at CPCF for  
the Symphony on  
the Lawn.



[www.dawnfoods.com](http://www.dawnfoods.com)

## UNIVERSAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION OPENS JANUARY 2026

**2026 Universal Scholarship  
Application Opens January 1, 2026  
for Graduating High School Students,  
College Students and Adult Learners.**

Apply online beginning January 1, 2026 by following  
the link on our website, [www.theccpcf.org](http://www.theccpcf.org). Deadline for  
applications will be Sunday, March 1, 2026.



# 5

## Five Questions for Jeff Ban

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
ASSET DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Jeff Ban grew up in the Miller section of Gary and in Merrillville. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering at Purdue University, West Lafayette and his Masters of Business Administration at Indiana University Northwest. In 1999, Jeff founded DVG Team, Inc., a Crown Point-based civil engineering and land surveying firm. Jeff and the DVG Team have been instrumental in designing many development projects throughout Northwest Indiana and the Chicago Suburbs. He has served as a past Board Member and Officer for the local chapters of the American Public Works Association and the American Water Works Association. Jeff currently is a Board Member at Tradewinds Services, Inc. and has served as their past Treasurer, Vice President and President and a Board Member for One Region, a Northwest Indiana economic development advocacy organization. He enjoys spending time with his wife Roxanne and their children and grandchildren. He also enjoys traveling, music, golfing, wine making and warm weather outdoor recreation.

### 1. What attracted you to the Crown Point Community Foundation?

Giving of yourself to others is an essential part of life. The Foundation has made tremendous impacts in improving the lives of others in the Crown Point area community for many decades. Being a part of a local giving organization to better the lives of others is gratifying. Giving is the expression of gratitude for our own good fortune and blessings.

### 2. What do you like to do for fun?

Attending concerts, golfing with friends and family, cooking, traveling to visit out of town children and participating in physical activity.

### 3. If you could be any animal in the world, what animal would you be and why?

Squirrel – A squirrel is quick on the ground and in the trees. Squirrels are always busy and hard working. They stay busy building nests and collecting and storing food items. Squirrels are fulfilled by enjoying their hard work!

### 4. What is your personal mission statement?

Always be happy with where you are; but never be content with where you've been. Challenge yourself to the next big thing.

### 5. What do you work toward in your free time?

Making time to play with and chase around our grandsons.





CROWN POINT  
**community  
foundation™**

PO Box 522  
Crown Point, IN 46308

CREATING A BETTER FUTURE  
IN SOUTH LAKE COUNTY

## 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](http://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:

**Scholarship Applications for Graduating High School Students, College Students and Adult Learners Open** | Thurs., January 1, 2026

**Volunteer Fair** | Saturday, March 7, 2026



COMMUNITY  
**partners**

### 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.



BILLIE AND  
FRAN HOFFMAN  
FAMILY FOUNDATION



DEAN AND  
BARBARA WHITE  
FAMILY FOUNDATION

Edward Jones  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

EUGENE AND  
JEAN WEASE



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