



Vanderburgh Community Foundation

VCFocus

2007 Volume 2, Issue 1 | quarterly newsletter

New Fund Powerful Opportunity to Help Women, Children



Jingle Igleheart Hagey and her mother, Diane Foster Igleheart, encourage other women to involve family members in supporting the Women's Fund of Vanderburgh County.

"I was educated in women's schools—both high school and college—and we were taught that women could do anything we set out to do," says Jingle Igleheart Hagey. "I was raised that way."

So last year, when Hagey read about a women's fund effort in Owensboro, Kentucky, she recalls saying, "We in Vanderburgh County should be able to do that, as well." Soon after, she got a phone call. Several women were working with the Vanderburgh Community Foundation to form the Women's Fund of Vanderburgh County to have an impact on the lives of women and children. And they wanted to know if she was interested.

"My answer was, 'Absolutely,'" says Hagey. "I was intrigued by the idea that here in Vanderburgh County we could put money in one place at a time and therefore have a very strong impact on the community."

Take Action Today

- Use the envelope inside this newsletter to make your donation.
- Or contact **Barbara Dicken** at the Vanderburgh Community Foundation, (812) 422-1245 or vcfoundation@sbcglobal.net.
- Or contact **any member** of the advisory board (listed on page 3).

"That's not how all women's funds work; different places do it differently," she explains. But I really like the idea that here in Vanderburgh County we're going focus on one project at a time. I think that can be very powerful." Soon Hagey had involved a very important woman in her life, her mother. *Continued on Page 2*

"The empowerment of women through the Women's Fund will impact the lives of women and their children." *Karen Ellerbrook*

**Vanderburgh
Community
Foundation**

For Good. Forever.

The focus of the Vanderburgh Community Foundation is to promote philanthropy and build endowment for the good of the Vanderburgh County community... forever.

Barbara Dicken, *Foundation Coordinator* 18 N.W. Fourth St., Ste. 306, Evansville, IN 47708
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A member of the Community Foundation Alliance.



Earlier this year, several local women began working with the Vanderburgh Community Foundation to form the Women's Fund of Vanderburgh County. Left to right: Jan Davies, Lisa Imbler, Cindy Fine, Dr. Maria Hoover

"I want to be part of a group that can show the strength of women in our community and how much we can accomplish when we work together. It's amazing!" *Valerie McKinney*

I immediately got in touch with her." Soon after, Igleheart found that other classmates had ties to women's funds in other cities. Igleheart says she helped Evansville reach out and learn from other cities.

"I was brought up to do this sort of thing," says Igleheart. "They say that anyone raised during the Depression never looked at money in the same way again. If you were fortunate to have enough to feed and clothe yourself, then you helped others to do the same."

"I think that it's important for women who have any sort of means to help other women, and that's what the Women's Fund of Vanderburgh County is going to do," says

"My nest is empty now. Maybe I can make someone else's a little better." *Teresa Stanley*

"I sucked her right in," Hagey laughs. "It wasn't hard to do. She went to Smith College and she is quite a 'networker.' She has friends who have been involved in similar projects in other communities."

"Jingle first told me about the fund when she was asked to be on the advisory committee for it," says Diane Foster Igleheart. "I realized that a college classmate of mine had been a founder of the Women's Fund of New Hampshire, so

Igleheart. "Helping women and children helps the entire community."

Hagey says a motto that runs through her family drives their participation in activities such as Women's Fund, and the Igleheart-Foster Fund, a donor-advised fund established by her parents with the Vanderburgh Community Foundation on their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

"The saying is, 'Of those to whom much is given, much is required.'"

"I can't just sit back," Hagey explains. "There is a great deal of responsibility. My parents have taught all of us children that, and I think we have done a good job of it. We believe that and we are trying to pass it on to our own children."

"We've done a number of projects intergenerationally," says Hagey of her own family. "We've always believed in leading by example and in giving back. I'm doing it because my parents did it before me and their parents did it before them. I guess I'm just carrying on the family tradition."

"The financial impact this group will have on our community is enormous and I am honored to be part of it." *Laurel Mills*

"It's very gratifying to have children who are interested in putting effort into the same things," says Igleheart. "By having them involved, I feel that my life goes on through them."

Hagey says women should consider being involved in the Women's Fund for three important reasons. "First, they can make a difference. Second, because we're giving the money in one place at a time, it's going to have a large impact. And third, if you become a member, which means you give \$1,000, you get to vote—you get a say in where this money is going to go. The idea that we get to vote on where the money goes is pretty exciting."

"We hope that women will join as a group in order to have a noticeable impact," says Hagey. "Evansville is the size of town where one person can make a difference, and you don't have to be wealthy to do it."

The goal is for 200 women to give \$1,000 each by June 30; each will receive one vote.

Women can also pool their resources to make a \$1,000 donation, and their group will receive one vote.

"This initiative is unique because it will prove how each individual donor is important to a cause." *Julie Gerhardt*

"It is a privilege and a pleasure to be able to participate in a cause that affects women in such a way as to help them gain strength and the ability to move forward with their lives, particularly when there are children involved." *Nancy Drake*

"Half of the money received will be put into a permanent endowment fund, and the other half will go back into the community this year," says Hagey. "We want to build a strong future for the community, as well as have an impact right now."

"After we raise the money, we will put out the call for grant proposals. Then the proposals will be narrowed to four, and those finalist agencies will give a presentation. Then the members will vote."

Hagey says the projects will benefit women and children in Vanderburgh County.

Like Hagey, other women are inviting their mothers, daughters, and others to join with them in participating in the fund.

"The more like-minded people we have, the stronger this will be," says Hagey. "Join us. Here is great new, powerful opportunity. We can make a difference right now."

Get Involved

Your donation of any amount is appreciated and important.

Your donation of \$1,000 by June 30 makes you a voting member of Women's Fund of Vanderburgh County for the 2007 fiscal year.

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VCF-Administered Scholarships Provide Foundation for the Future

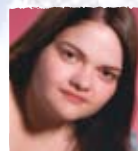
The strength of a community is tied to education. Scholarships help individuals achieve their highest potential and equip them to give back to the community. In that way, scholarships are building our future.

Community Scholarships: Helping Our Own

Each year, the Vanderburgh Community Foundation is privileged to award community scholarships. These scholarships result from funds established by individuals who want to help the youth of our community achieve their educational goals.

The Vanderburgh Community Foundation makes it easy to establish a scholarship fund in honor or memory of a loved one, or named for a family or special interest. Our professional staff handles all the administrative details.

The board of the Vanderburgh Community Foundation is pleased to announce these community scholarship recipients.



Harrison High School Class of 1965 Scholarship

Annual scholarship created by the Harrison High School Class of 1965 for a student meeting academic, personal, and school and community activity criteria

Kelley Hollander, Harrison High School



Rease Henry McDaniel Memorial Scholarship

Annual scholarship created in memory of 1985 Harrison High School graduate Rease Henry McDaniel, who died of cancer in 1986, for students who have had a serious medical problem

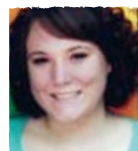
Brandon Wilson, Harrison High School



Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard Scholarship

Annual scholarship by Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard for graduating Harrison High School seniors demonstrating potential for leadership in public affairs and contributions to the community

Andrew Brinkman, Harrison High School



Central High School Class of 1943 Evelyn Church Hatfield Scholarship

Annual scholarship by Central High School Class of 1943 in honor of a former business teacher and class sponsor, for outstanding business education seniors at Central High School

Kelsey Stephenson, Central High School



David A. Koehler Sr. Memorial Scholarship Fund

Annual scholarship created by Peggy J. Koehler and her family in memory of her husband, for graduating seniors of Central High School who meet academic and exceptional school loyalty criteria

Molly Quanty, Central High School



Jeremy Weil Memorial Art Scholarship

Annual scholarship created by Mark and Deborah Weil in memory of their son, for graduating seniors of any Vanderburgh County high school, based on art accomplishments and art grades

Craig Coursey, Reitz High School

Lilly Endowment Community Scholarships: Strengthening Our State

Since 1998, the Vanderburgh Community Foundation has administered the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship program for Vanderburgh County. From 48 outstanding applicants, the scholarship committee of the Vanderburgh Community Foundation selected 10 finalists based on academic performance, obstacles overcome, financial need, school activities, work history, character, community activities, and written essays and interviews.

Four of the finalists received the full award, which funds four years of full-time study leading to a baccalaureate degree at any accredited four-year public or private college or university in Indiana. Congratulations to these Lilly Endowment Community Scholars.



Andrew Brinkman,
Harrison High School

"I have a strong desire to represent my community by holding a leadership role, in some governmental capacity, in the future."



Laura Ferguson,
Central High School

"My intended major is nonprofit management. I want to build programs for youth that encourage creativity and leadership."



John McLaughlin,
Harrison High School

"After graduating from college, I hope to become a member of a Kiwanis Club."



Rachel Witty,
Central High School

"I hope I can contribute as much to the Public Education Foundation summer musical in the next few decades as the current volunteers do."



Andrew Brandsasse,
Signature School

"I believe that I can use theater to produce a positive outcome in the community."



Steven Geiss,
Memorial High School

"A career in medicine offers limitless opportunities to impact those in need."



Sunny Huang,
Reitz High School

"After I have attained a medical degree, I want to serve my community and its people."



Nicholas Murphy,
Reitz High School

"I plan to continue my annual tradition of helping build homes for families in destitute areas of Mexico."



Joshua Nunn,
Central High School

"My pursuit of a career in journalism will allow me to provide for my fellow community members the knowledge of events around them."



Susan Parmar,
North High School

"No matter what stage of my life, I will give back to the community. I believe I can make a change."

The remaining finalists were awarded a smaller scholarship from the board of the Vanderburgh Community Foundation in recognition of their achievements. Congratulations to these finalists:

15 for Vanderburgh County to Award \$15,000 Locally

In celebration of its fifteenth anniversary, the Vanderburgh Community Foundation announces 15 for Vanderburgh County, a contest in which one local not-for-profit agency will be awarded a \$15,000 grant.

For every \$100 donated to Vanderburgh Community Foundation between June 1 and October 1, donors will receive a ticket they can designate to any not-for-profit agency that serves the residents of Vanderburgh County.

One winner will be drawn during the Vanderburgh Community Foundation 15th anniversary celebration in October. The agency designated on the winning ticket will receive a \$15,000 unrestricted grant from the Vanderburgh Community Foundation, in honor of the purchaser. The full amount will be awarded, regardless of the number of tickets sold. The money may be used for operating expenses, a capital project, or any other need.

Use the enclosed envelope or mail your check to:

Vanderburgh Community Foundation
18 N.W. Fourth St., Suite 206
Evansville, IN 47708

Mark the memo section:
15 for Vanderburgh County

“This is an example of how individuals can work together to leverage their resources to benefit the community,” says Nick Cirignano, attorney with Ziemer, Stayman, Weitzel & Shoulders, and president-elect of the Vanderburgh Community Foundation. “This contest demonstrates how easy it can be to make a difference through the Vanderburgh Community Foundation.”

Keep Evansville Beautiful Receives \$10,000 Grant for Endowment Campaign

Vanderburgh Community Foundation has awarded \$10,000 to Keep Evansville Beautiful, to be used to develop an endowment campaign. The campaign will promote a new Keep Evansville Beautiful endowment fund with the Vanderburgh Community Foundation.



“Agencies throughout Vanderburgh County were invited to participate in this competitive grant program,” says Allison Comstock, President of the Foundation Board of Trustees and a partner with the law firm of Kahn, Dees, Donovan & Kahn.

“It was designed to encourage nonprofit agencies to develop campaigns to promote endowment funds with the VCF.”

The foundation offered a workshop in January to help agencies develop campaign plans and budgets.

With the \$10,000 award, Keep Evansville Beautiful has embarked on a twelve-month campaign to fund its new endowment. The Keep Evansville Beautiful Endowment Fund is intended to provide for promotion, maintenance, and overall benefit of public beautification efforts in Evansville and Vanderburgh County.

“The board of Keep Evansville Beautiful is committed to providing for the future of the organization,” says Ann Ennis, Executive Director, Keep Evansville Beautiful. “We appreciate the support of the Vanderburgh Community Foundation in helping us promote this new endowment fund, which is permanent and will provide perpetual financial support.”

Ennis says the goal is to achieve \$100,000 in cash contributions to the fund and \$100,000 in planned giving by August 2008.

“The TAC program demonstrates that the youth of Evansville are ready to make a difference and be partners in building Evansville as a strong community.”

Laura Ferguson, TAC President, Central High School Class of 2007

Youth Resources Supports Teen Volunteerism with VCF Grant



Teen Advisory Council (TAC) has adopted the Kids' Kingdom Park on Evansville's south side. Volunteer members landscaped and mulched the park.

Youth Resources of Southwestern Indiana is using a \$2,326 grant from Vanderburgh Community Foundation to make a powerful impact in the community through its Teen Advisory Council (TAC).

“Teens want to help those in need; they just have to be asked,” says Ann Burnworth, Executive Director, Youth Resources. The TAC program provides the framework to help 75 young people commit 2,200 hours of volunteer time annually. TAC is one of five core Youth Resources programs that engage youth in leadership and community service.

“Everything is youth-led,” says Burnworth. “These students research and design solutions to community problems.”

Members give 15 hours of community service each semester. They also meet regularly with Vanderburgh County Commissioners and the Mayor of Evansville to discuss issues of importance that they can help address, and they shadow the City Council, County Commissioners, and members of the Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation School Board.

Since the program began in 1987, TAC participants have addressed all kinds of community needs.

“They clean and paint city parks, volunteer at nursing homes and group homes for children with disabilities, and mentor blind children and take them on outings,” says Jo Beth Bootz, Coordinator, Teen Advisory Council and Teen Court. “They also help local families in crisis.”

The benefits of the TAC program reach deeply into the community.

“Kids who volunteer are more likely to do well in school, graduate, vote, and volunteer as adults,” says Burnworth. “They are also less likely to engage in destructive behaviors, because they have a vested interest in our community. Volunteering helps them become better citizens.”

“The kids are the heart of this council,” says Bootz. “They are so motivated. They give me a sense of pride and hope for the future of our community.”

“We couldn't fund a coordinator for TAC by ourselves,” says Burnworth. “Without the help of the Vanderburgh Community Foundation, we wouldn't be able to reach so many youth.”



With grass-seeding work complete, TAC members plan to focus next on painting and installing an irrigation system at Evansville's Kids' Kingdom Park.



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The Vanderburgh Community Foundation Invites You to...

Join Local Women Forming Powerful New Fund

Women's Fund of Vanderburgh County

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