



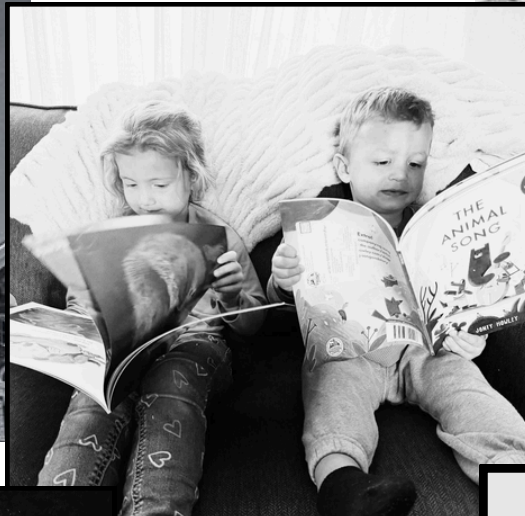
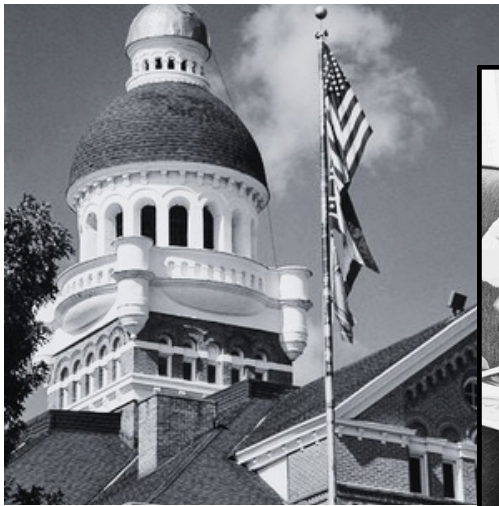
Paulding County Area
FOUNDATION

2024 Annual Report

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Paulding County Area Foundation exists to
enrich the quality of life for our community.

A Year of Accomplishments



A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



“If you had the privilege of growing up in a small town, don’t forget where you came from.”

It is easy to take small town living for granted until you have moved away and choose to come back. The longing to appreciate the small-town community stems from the very fabric of our being. A small town isn’t just a place on a map—it’s a feeling. It’s the comfort of a helping hand when you need it most, the warmth of a friendly wave from a passing car, and the deep-rooted connections that last a lifetime.

In a world that often feels rushed and disconnected, small towns remind us of the importance of slowing down of looking out for one another, and of building a

foundation of trust. Small town community is creating a sense of belonging and an inviting place to raise our families.

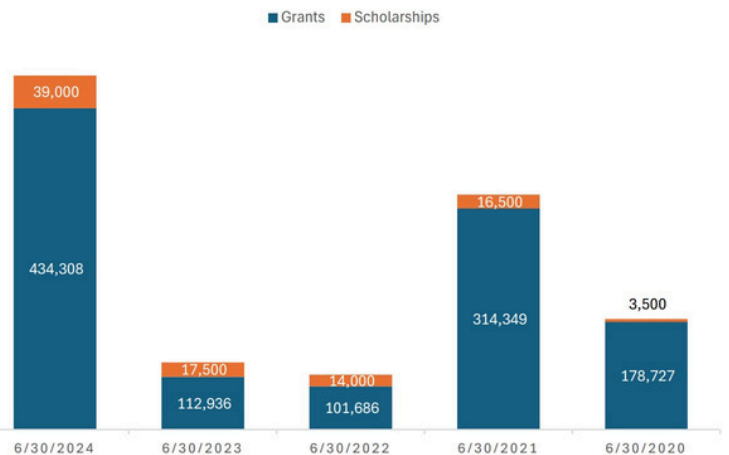
When you grow up in a close-knit community, you carry its values with you wherever you go. You understand the power of kindness, the strength of unity, and the significance of giving back. And for many, there comes a time when they choose to return—not just to a place, but to a way of life that prioritizes relationships, traditions, and the kind of support you can only find in a community that truly cares.

GIVING TUESDAY

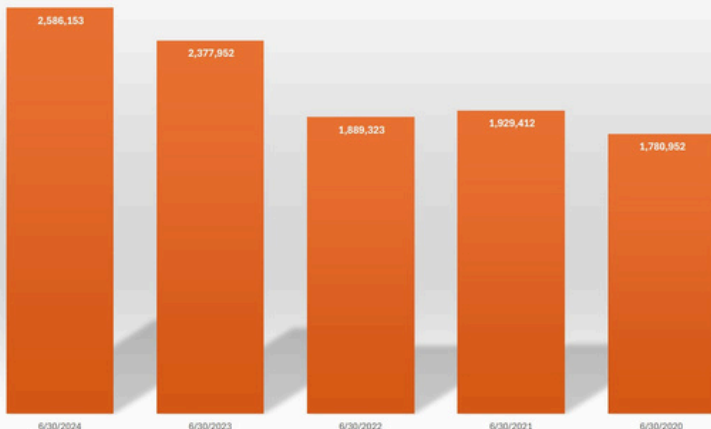
\$14,950 in donations + \$14,950 matching
on Giving Tuesday contributions

Total Contributions
\$29,900

Paulding County Area Foundation Grants and Scholarships awarded



Paulding County Area Foundation Market Balance of Funds



2024 SCHOLARSHIPS

\$39,000 - Area Foundation (see above graph)
+ \$37,500 - JP Crain Scholarships

\$76,500 - Total Awarded
to Paulding County Students

Hope's Harbor supports children receiving medical care by providing critical hospitality services to their families. Hope's Harbor has helped 32 families from Paulding County with 99 overnight stays to allow them to be close to their children during medical emergencies.



Children's Hunter Alliance received a grant to provide weekend meals to food-insecure homes in Ohio. Children in these homes may otherwise go without meals over the weekend while they are not in school, which is often children's only balanced meal throughout the week. In 2024, Children's Hunger Alliance provided 10.2 million meals to Children throughout Ohio.

Paulding County Trails

The Paulding County Trails Project is a transformative initiative to connect areas of Paulding with trails. The first phase of the proposed trails will connect Lela McGuire-Jeffrey park to the Black Swamp Nature Center and Reservoir Park on the Southwest side of Paulding. The trail project has multiple goals that all work to benefit the community of Paulding. Project goals includes Safety, Health & Well-being, Economic Benefits, Education, Recreation, & Environment.



Dolly Parton Imagination Library

Every month children, newborn up to age 5, receive a book per month for free through the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, Ohio program. This program is specifically designed to encourage early reading, enhance comprehension, and literacy. To date over 1,800 children in Paulding County have participated in the program.

Payne Fire Department - Extrication System

The Village of Paulding is looking to replace its 20 year old "Jaws-of-Life" with a new updated system that also has interchangeable batteries to ensure that the extrication system is always ready in an emergency.



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Paulding County Economic
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