



# Marion Community Foundation

504 South State Street Marion, Ohio 43302

740.387.9704 | [www.MarionCommunityFoundation.org](http://www.MarionCommunityFoundation.org)

Sometimes, when you see a worthy, local organization that needs support, or a cause that you are passionate about, or a student who needs a bit of help to realize a dream, you say to yourself, “Someone needs to do something about that.” Sometimes, you are that someone.

The purpose of a community foundation is to allow you to be that *someone*. And, a charitable fund in your name – or that of a loved one – is that *something*. At Marion Community Foundation, you can choose to create a scholarship for local students, a field of interest fund for a special cause, a designated fund for a specific organization, or an unrestricted fund for ever changing needs. You can choose to be involved in how the fund’s awards are made by becoming a donor advisor, or you can rely on the Foundation’s professional staff and Board of Directors.

By creating a charitable fund at Marion Community Foundation, you can be that *someone* doing *something*, forever. Grant awards from your fund are made using growth generated by prudent investing – which means that your fund will *always* be there and you will *always* be remembered for your good work and generosity.



We believe in Marion. We can help you explore your giving options and achieve your personal, philanthropic goals to support this wonderful community. Creating a fund at Marion Community Foundation is one of the easiest things you can do to leave your legacy. In just a little time, with just a little money, **you** can do so much good and be remembered in **Marion, forever.**

## For You.

Marion Community Foundation helps charitable-minded people, like you, achieve long-term philanthropic objectives by creating tax-deductible, named endowment funds.

## For Marion.

These funds support numerous Marion area non-profit programs, organizations, and individuals through grants and scholarships.

## Forever.

Because of our prudent investment policy and the endowed nature of these funds, grants & scholarships in your name will continue forever.





# What's Your Passion?

Is it the arts? Animals? Education? Health? You can give through us to support the programs and organizations you care about most throughout Marion County. Getting started is as simple as calling [740-387-9704](tel:740-387-9704) or visiting [www.MarionCommunityFoundation.org](http://www.MarionCommunityFoundation.org).

## Mission & Vision

The mission of **Marion Community Foundation** is to continually improve the Marion area community through philanthropy, leadership, and civic engagement. Our Vision is a generous, educated, healthy, collaborative, and vibrant community.

## History & Growth

Marion Community Foundation has been—even before its inception—focused on caring for the community of Marion, Ohio. What started in 1957 as the Mary Elizabeth Smith Foundation to support Community MedCenter Hospital, became, in 1998,



Marion Community Foundation, following the sale of the hospital's assets to OhioHealth.

With offices and a 15-member Board of Directors, Marion

Community Foundation's mission as Marion's philanthropic leader was off and running. Within two years, the Foundation established its first donor fund, announced its first cycle of community grants, and had scholarship and community grants programs quickly taking shape. By 2003, Marion Community Foundation crossed the \$1 million mark in grants and scholarships awarded.

On its 10th birthday, in 2008, Marion Community Foundation earned the Council on Foundation's prestigious National Standards accreditation, confirming our reputation as a valued and trusted community asset.

Thanks to generous donors, both loyal and new, Marion Community Foundation currently has 500+ funds and assets of \$60 million supporting the Marion area with more than \$2.5 million each year.

## Scholarships

Marion Community Foundation is proud of its robust scholarship program—financially supporting area high school seniors and graduates in their pursuit of technical, undergraduate, or graduate degrees in their fields of choice and at the their schools of choice. Beginning with one \$1,200 award in 2000, Marion Community Foundation's scholarship program has grown to include more than 150 scholarship funds. Individuals, families, and community groups have established funds—each representing the donors' wishes to support students from specific high schools, who participated in activities our donors remember fondly from their school days, to pursue intended majors, and/or to attend a designated college or university. In 2023, the Foundation awarded \$485,000 in scholarships to 147 students.



## Community Grants

Annually, Marion Community Foundation awards grants with the sole purpose of positively impacting our community. The funds created by our caring donors provide the resources to improve the quality of life in the Marion area. Numerous local non-profit organizations use these awards to, in turn, support people and programs in Marion. In 2023, grant awards totaling \$2 million addressed needs such as food and shelter, families and children, health care, arts and culture, economic development, and education, among others.



**Board of Directors:** Dr. Deepika Bathini, Dr. Kathy Clark, Jody Demo-Hodgins, Hon. Matthew Frericks, Grant Gates, Scott Knowles, Spencer Mathews, Dr. Ryan McCall, Pastor Jackie Peterson, Sarah Russell, Tom Schifer, Erin Slater, Kevin Smith, Dr. Chuck Speelman, Francis Voll

**Staff:** Dean L. Jacob, *President & CEO*; Julie Prettyman, *Vice President & Director of Programs*; Kathy Conley, *Data Manager*; Diane Mault, *Bookkeeper/Internal Auditor*; Diana Rinesmith, *Operations Manager*; Lori Stevenson, *Community Relations Manager*; Cheryl Wickersham, *Program Assistant*

