



REPORT *to the*
COMMUNITY



Vanderburgh
Community
Foundation

For Good. Forever.

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2006-2007: A Year of Unprecedented Accomplishments

by Allison Comstock, President

Community involvement in the Vanderburgh Community Foundation reached an all-time high level during this past exciting year, as have the funds invested back into the community:

\$376,122 in grants and an estimated* \$92,658 in scholarships.

Those grants and scholarships have been made possible by a number of donors, including 153 new donors this year. Additionally, seven new funds were created in the past year. VCF is grateful to each of our generous donors.

The year saw an historic first for VCF: A total of 184 donors contributed \$110,000 to the Women's Fund of Vanderburgh County, a new fund dedicated to bettering the lives of women and children in our community.

**Estimated total; final total not available at press time. Contact VCF for more information.*

As we continued to broaden support, our activities expanded to include two informational luncheons for professional advisers, to showcase the philanthropic giving opportunities VCF offers their clients. We also reconnected with past VCF trustees in order to involve them with building the future of the foundation.

Another important way VCF worked to strengthen Vanderburgh County during the past year was through the first-ever Nonprofit Fundraising Conference, which provided expert fundraising guidance to local agencies that touch so many lives and make a difference in our community.

Whatever your role during this year, I want to thank you for working with us to meet the needs of our community, for good, forever.



Allison Comstock



Women's Fund of Vanderburgh County

New Funds Established July 1, 2006, through June 30, 2007

Anonymous Fund

A field-of-interest fund established by an anonymous donor to benefit Historic Preservation Week activities in Evansville

Cassin-David Educational Endowment Fund

A scholarship fund created by Steve and Mary David to provide scholarships to students with average grades, who demonstrate moral character and integrity, a willingness to work, and a desire to give back to the community

Gogarty Family Charity Fund

A designated fund established by Donal and Ginger Gogarty to benefit the Vanderburgh County Humane Society, Little Sisters of the Poor, Catholic Charities, and Southwestern Indiana Regional Council on Aging

James E. and Aleen K. Rankin Endowment Fund

A designated fund created through the estate plan of Aleen K. Rankin to support equally the University of Southern Indiana Foundation and the St. Paul United Church of Christ of Evansville

Keep Evansville Beautiful Endowment Fund

An agency fund created by Keep Evansville Beautiful, Inc.

Richard I. (Dick) Unverzagt Scholarship Fund

An annual scholarship created by Dick Unverzagt for a graduating senior of Reitz Memorial High School

Women's Fund of Vanderburgh County

A field-of-interest fund established by the board of trustees of the Vanderburgh Community Foundation and funded by the greater community to benefit women and children in Vanderburgh County

VCF Makes Strides in Sustainable Resource Development; Lilly Endowment to Match Donations

Vanderburgh Community Foundation is actively engaged in carrying out a three-year Sustainable Resource Development plan to broaden community involvement. As a direct result of activities that increase awareness of the



A committee is planning the VCF 15th anniversary celebration.

Vanderburgh Community Foundation, more funds will become available to address community needs over the long term through the foundation.

Lilly Endowment has provided a matching grant of \$243,000 for the Sustainable Resource Development plan of the Vanderburgh Community Foundation. The matching funds are part of a statewide initiative sponsored by Lilly Endowment to help Indiana community

foundations raise public awareness of their services and to build endowment to fund those services.

Over the next year and a half, Vanderburgh Community Foundation will rely on the generosity of the community to make contributions that will be eligible to be matched by Lilly Endowment. Thanks to our generous supporters, almost \$100,000 has already been raised.

Through the Vanderburgh Community Foundation Sustainable Resource Development plan, an investment of nearly half a million dollars will ensure that VCF continues to have broad-reaching impact on our community over the long term.

The Sustainable Resource Development plan includes three primary areas:

- Developing the Vanderburgh Community Foundation board to carry out the VCF mission within our community
- Involving new *individual and business* donors
- Growing *agency* endowments

Significant progress was made during the 2006-2007 year toward each of these goals.

Trustee Mobilization

The board of trustees participated in a retreat to equip them for effective development work. Additionally, past trustees have been involved in committees and the formation of an advisory council.

Individual Donor Involvement

The foundation hosted numerous events to attract new individual donors for the Women's Fund of Vanderburgh County; held two

luncheon events to raise awareness among professional advisers of how Vanderburgh Community Foundation can be part of carrying out their clients' philanthropic goals; and made plans for a 15th anniversary celebration that will highlight *15 Years of Giving*.

Agency Endowment Growth

For the first time, Vanderburgh Community Foundation offered an opportunity for agencies to compete for a grant to underwrite the costs of an endowment campaign. Additionally, a VCF-sponsored Nonprofit Fundraising Conference helped local agencies sharpen their fundraising skills and raised awareness of VCF.

The board of the Vanderburgh Community Foundation appreciates the generous support of so many in our community whose contributions have made it possible to carry out these vital sustainable development activities during the past year.

Take Action Today

As Vanderburgh Community Foundation continues to carry out the Sustainable Resource Development plan, we need your support. Please make a contribution to the Vanderburgh Community Foundation Sustainable Resource Development Fund. Your gift will be matched by Lilly Endowment.

Mail your check to:

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

Mark the memo section: *SRD Fund*

Questions? Contact Barbara Dicken at the Vanderburgh Community Foundation, (812) 422-1245 or barb@vcfoundation.org.



House parties raised interest and participation among individual donors for the Women's Fund of Vanderburgh County.



The VCF-sponsored Nonprofit Fundraising Conference provided needed training.

Vanderburgh Community Foundation Helps Focus Resources on Education

One important way the Vanderburgh Community Foundation carries out its mission of partnering with caring people to meet community needs is through

givers and other community leaders are identifying education as an important need in the community, and VCF supports the effort to address that need.

*"There is a lot of opportunity out there for contributing to the success of young people in our community."
Mayor Jonathan Weinzapfel*

grant making in the field of education and by helping donors create scholarships.

As mentioned elsewhere in this report, a Vanderburgh Community Foundation grant helped boost literacy among young people; new college scholarships have been created by individuals in our community through VCF; and previously-existing scholarships administered by VCF are continuing to help our youth attain their higher-education goals.

Education is one of many worthy areas on which the Vanderburgh Community Foundation helps focus resources. Philanthropic

students so that they can further their education," says Mayor Jonathan Weinzapfel. "It's money well spent."

"I think the Vanderburgh Community Foundation has a very strong reputation as being an effective

and efficient fiscal agent to help individuals who want to make a financial contribution to the community," says Mayor Weinzapfel. "They serve a wonderful role with a lot of competence in handling those monies and making sure someone's philanthropic objectives are met."

To create a scholarship fund, contact the Vanderburgh Community Foundation at 422-1245 or vcfoundation@sbcglobal.net.

Make a Difference

You can help meet education needs in Vanderburgh County by establishing a scholarship fund. Create a new scholarship that will make an impact on the community, and is tailored to meet your philanthropic giving goals.

Take action today. Contact Barbara Dicken at the Vanderburgh Community Foundation, (812) 422-1245 or barb@vcfoundation.org.



Seventeen students received college scholarships through the Vanderburgh Community Foundation this year. Evansville Mayor Jonathan Weinzapfel gave the keynote address at the VCF Second Annual Scholarship Banquet, May 16 at Evansville Country Club. County Commissioner Cheryl Musgrave also participated in the event.

Building Our Future: \$92,658* in Scholarships Awarded

The following individuals received VCF-administered scholarships during the fiscal year:

Andrew Brandsasse
Andrew Brinkman
Craig Coursey
Laura Ferguson
Rodney Frederick
Steven Geiss
Kelley Hollander
Sunny Huang
John McLaughlin
Nicholas Murphy
Joshua Nunn
Susan Parmar
Molly Quanty
Nicolas Rich
Kelsey Stephenson
Brandon Wilson
Rachel Witt

**Estimated total; final total not available at press time. Contact VCF for more information.*

Over the past year, the Vanderburgh Community Foundation has awarded \$370,872 in grants to local agencies for community projects. Using one such grant, the University of Evansville (UE) expanded its *UE Reads!* program to serve the growing Hispanic community.

UE Reads! was started nine years ago with the aim of helping children in the first through third grades improve their reading proficiency.

"Between the third and fourth grades, there is a shift from learning to read to reading to learn," says Alicia Harris, Grants Coordinator, UE. "If a student hasn't achieved equivalent reading by that time, his academic performance could start to decline." The area's Hispanic children are at particular risk of falling behind in reading proficiency because many have parents who do not speak English well or at all.

With VCF Grant, *UE Reads!* Expands to Serve Growing Hispanic Community

Through *UE Reads!*, children identified by their teachers as reading-deficient are matched with undergraduate students from UE for one-on-one tutoring sessions. Sessions are held two to three times a week throughout the school year and last for thirty to forty-five minutes.

Tutors are trained to tailor the sessions to each child's unique learning style and educational needs. "For students who learn better through touch, we might bring in clay and have them use it to spell out words from the books we're reading," says Christina May, head tutor, *UE Reads!*

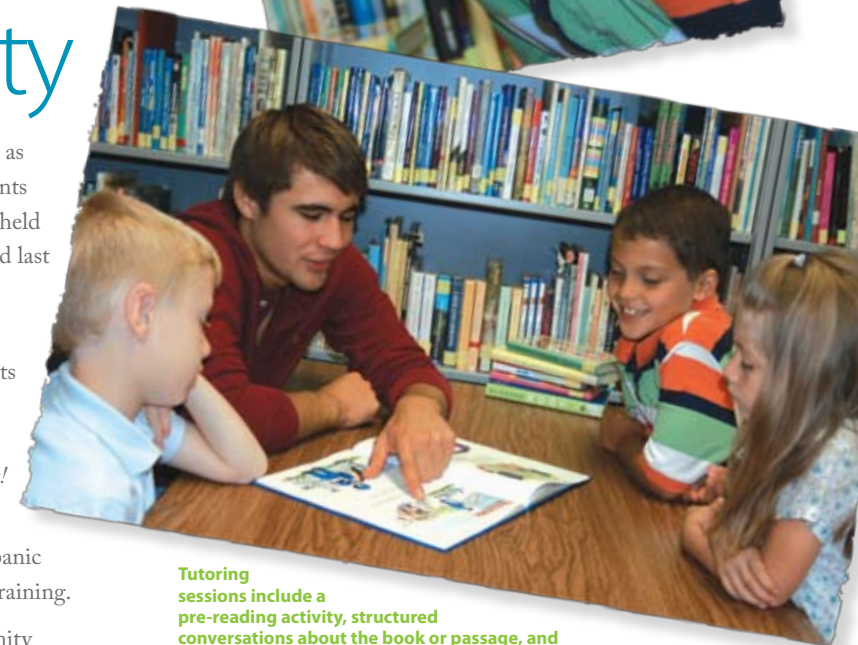
In addition to ongoing instruction in assessment and teaching techniques, bilingual tutors working with Hispanic children receive English as a Second Language (ESL) training.

"The grant we received from the Vanderburgh Community Foundation funded the ESL training for our tutors. That money also enabled us to purchase ESL materials for the Hispanic students and to add a bilingual tutoring site at Nativity Catholic Church," says Harris. "*UE Reads!* wouldn't have been able to reach the Hispanic community without this grant."

UE Reads! has made a significant impact; ninety-eight percent of students completing the program improve their reading by at least one grade level.

"The kids love it when the tutors come; they get very excited and happy," says May. "The tutors love working with the kids because they know they're making a difference."

Tutors help students develop reading strategies and habits, phonic and phonemic awareness, listening and reading comprehension, and writing skills. "It's amazing to see the children's faces light up when they finally understand something that they've been struggling with," says Sarah Kuehl, student tutor, *UE Reads!*



Tutoring sessions include a pre-reading activity, structured conversations about the book or passage, and writing or comprehension exercises based on what was read. "There is nothing more rewarding than seeing how much the children improve throughout the year and knowing that you were a part of that," says Karen Markle, student tutor, *UE Reads!*

"I discovered that I was doing much more than helping kids improve their reading skills. I was a new friend."

Jenna Panther, student tutor, UE Reads!

Thanks to Our 2006–2007 Donors

Timothy and Rebecca Alcorn
Donald and Georgia Anderson
C. Leroy and Harriet A. Anderson
Mary Anderson
Anne Asbury
Ronald and Beverly Attinger
Cindy Basinski
Tom and Susan Bear
Jean Beckman
Brent and Cindi Beeler
Jerome and Cindy Benkert
Cynthia Bernardin
BKD Foundation
Brian and Marjorie Blalock
Leslie Blenner
Blue River Services, Inc.
Tom and Donna Blythe
Betty Boetticher
Tonya Borders
Boys and Girls Club of Evansville
Vickie L. Brasel
Jeannie Brubeck
Thomas H. and Karen H. Bryan
Kent and Ann Burnworth
Bussing-Koch Foundation, Inc.

John and Sue Buthod
Sherry Butsch
Ronald and Helen Christian
Nick and Kristi Cirignano
David and Beth Clark
Roger S. and Susan B. Colman
Brian and Allison K. Comstock
Lee and Ann Cooper Family Fund
Mary Dannettell
Steve David and Mary Cassin David
David and Janice Davies
Mark and Barbara Dicken
Karen Donahue
Donaldson Capital Management, Inc.
Arthur and Marjorie Donovan
Jeff and Elizabeth Doty
Michael and Nancy Drake
Dunn Hospitality Group
Jan Eastham
Eastland Mall
Sally Eissler
Niel C. and Karen Ellerbrook
Kenneth and Carrie Ellsperman
Edgar and Catherine Engel
Michael and Anna Ennis

Estate of Melba Jean Racener
eTapestry.com
Gershon and Barbara Ettinger
Evansville Area Fundraising Council
Evansville Parks Foundation, Inc.
Richard and Rita Eykamp
Joan Fedor-Bassemier
Bob and Phyllis Fenneman
Marc and Cindy Fine
Oscar K. and Isabella Fine
Marilee Fowler
Edward and Mary Anne Fox
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Carolyn Helm
Jeffrey and Tricia Henning
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Susan Huck
Rita Hughes
Scott and Diana Hurt
James B. and Diane F. Igleheart
Phyllis Igleheart
Lowry Igleheart-Keach
Lisa Imbler
Independent Colleges of Indiana
Indiana Youth Institute
Integra Bank
Patrick and Patricia Jackson
Stephen and Sally Jennings
Alan and Marilyn Johnson
Bob and Lisa Jones
Paul and Charlotte Kohlman
Donald B. and Jean Korb

Bob and Joann Kraemer
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John and Jenny Medcraft
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Robert and Gayle Meyer
Ruth Milgate
Brenda Miller
Gale Miller
Mark H. and Brenda Miller
Randy Miller
Lynn Miller-Pease
Laurel Mills

Robert and Marcia Minton
Dave Mitchell
Bob and Cindy Montgomery
Mark D. and Candice C. Moore
Scott and Stephanie Morris
John and Robyn Musgrave
N Power Indiana
Walter E. Newman
Horace Jr. and Susie Nicholson
Steve and Dotty Nurrenbern
James L. and Jeanne Nussmeier
Mike and Karen O'Brien
Mary Ruth Oakley
Old Evansville Historical Association
Ruth Longbons Orr
Jackie Overstreet
Bradley E. and Mary-Beth Owen
Jane B. Owen
Larry F. and Carol F. Owen
Rob and Joan Parrent
Don and Ann Partridge
Holly Dunn Pendelton
Mark V. and Gayle Gerling Pettinga
Edward E. and Nell C. Peyronnin
George and Karen Porch
Jake and Lu Porter
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Marilyn Ratliff
Christine Riley
Jerry and Bonnie Rinks

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Jack and Barbara Shelton
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Rahmi and Marjorie Z. Soyugenc
David and Helen Sponseller
Christine L. St. John
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Kurt and Cheryl Steinbacher
Carolyn Stilwell
James B. and Barbara S. Studwell
Gerald E. Summers and
Sue Hartig Summers
Summit Enterprises, Inc.

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Ray and Bonnie Swetman
T.R.U. Event Rental
Terry and Debra Talley
Helen Templeton
Andrew and Patricia Tharp
Kathryn Thompson
Thomas W. and Nancy S. Traylor
Tucker Publishing Group
Todd A. and Kristen K. Tucker
Bernie M. and Lisa Tuggle
Nelle Tuggle
Emily Van Winkle
H. Lee and Connie Vernon
Matt and Julie Volkman
Edgar and Melissa Wagner
Ruth Wahoski
Gene and Charlotte Warren, Jr.
Mark W. and Debbie Weil
Tony Wells and Crunchy
Thompson Wells
West Side Chiropractic Center
Linda E. White
Dana L. Whitehead
Jamie Wicks
Mary Lu Windberg
Douglas B. and Karleen Wink
James Zeller and Tracy Van Zant Zeller

Grant Recipients

The following agencies received a total of \$376,122 in grants from Vanderburgh Community Foundation funds during fiscal year 2006-2007.

AIDS Resource Group of Evansville
Albion Fellows Bacon Center
Boys and Girls Club of Evansville
Buffalo Trace Council—Boy Scouts of America
Center on Wrongful Convictions—
Bluhm Legal Clinic
Central Library
College Mentors for Kids
Community Foundation Alliance, Inc.
Congregations Acting for Justice
and Empowerment
Deaconess Hospital Foundation
ECHO Community Health Care, Inc.
Evansville Affiliate of the Susan G.
Komen Breast Cancer
Foundation
Evansville ARC, Inc.
Evansville Christian
Life Center

Evansville Goodwill Industries, Inc.
Evansville Museum of Arts,
History, & Science
Evansville Parks Foundation, Inc.
Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra
Evansville Rescue Mission
Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation
First Baptist Church of Evansville
Girl Scouts of Raintree Council, Inc.
Habitat of Evansville, Inc.
Hadi Shrine Temple
Harvest Time Inner City Ministries
John L. Sanders Memorial—
Evansville Bar Foundation, Inc.
Joshua Academy
Keep Evansville Beautiful
Leadership Evansville, Inc.
Little Lambs
Masonic Temple Learning Center

Meals on Wheels of Evansville
New Harmony Project
Outreach Ministries
Public Education Foundation
of Evansville, Inc.
Rehabilitation Center, Inc.
Reitz Home Preservation
Society, Inc.

Rotary Foundation
of Evansville, Inc.
St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church
St. Mary's Medical Center Foundation
Student Aid and Counseling Service, Inc.
Tales & Scales, Inc.
The Potter's Wheel, Inc.
Tri-State Food Bank
Trinity United Methodist Church of Evansville
TTT Ministries
University of Evansville Department of Theatre
University of Evansville Office of
Institutional Advancement
University of Evansville Office of the President
United Way of Southwestern Indiana, Inc.
University of Southern Indiana Foundation
Vanderburgh Humane Society, Inc.
WNIN (Tri-State Public Teleplex, Inc.)
Youth First Foundation, Inc.
Youth Resources of Southwestern Indiana
Young Women's Christian Association of Evansville



Looking Ahead: VCF Strategic Plans for 2007-2008

As we promote philanthropy and build endowment for the good of the Vanderburgh County community in the new fiscal year, we plan to...

- Award the first impact grant of \$55,000 from the Women's Fund of Vanderburgh County
- Celebrate 15 years of giving, at the Vanderburgh Community Foundation anniversary celebration
- Work with local professional advisers to help their clients meet their philanthropic goals
- Organize the second annual Evansville Nonprofit Fundraising Conference
- Announce significant new scholarships and endowments that help our community
- Work with community leaders to establish a scholarship to benefit minority students in our community
- Involve additional key community members in the work of VCF





Vanderburgh
Community
Foundation

For Good. Forever.

Barbara Dicken, *Director*

18 N.W. Fourth St., Suite 306, Evansville, IN 47708

(812) 422-1245

barb@vcfoundation.org

www.alliance9.org



A member of the Community
Foundation Alliance.

