

WARREN COUNTY FOUNDATION

FALL UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2022

*We wish you and yours a Joyous Holiday Season
and Safe and Happy New Year!*

WELCOME TO OHIO, DOLLY PARTON!



Annie Droege, Warren County Community Services, and Tom Seddon, Warren County Foundation with Dolly Parton.



Dolly Parton talked with First Lady Fran DeWine.



Dolly Parton entertained the audience.

Ohio First Lady Fran DeWine welcomed Dolly Parton to Ohio in August to celebrate our statewide success of her program, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in Ohio. Currently 360,000 kids are enrolled in Ohio's Imagination Library across all 88 counties, each receiving free books monthly in the mail. That's nearly 50 percent of eligible kids between birth and age 5 in Ohio.

Dolly Parton sat down for a fireside chat with First Lady DeWine, and explained how her dad, who was illiterate, inspired her to create the Imagination Library. Since 1995, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has expanded nationally and internationally. Currently, one in ten eligible children are receiving books across the country.

Dolly Parton treated the audience to a short musical performance, including her song, "Coat of Many Colors." Dolly Parton turned this song of hers into a book, which is now included in the Imagination Library collection.

First Lady Fran DeWine has been instrumental in bringing Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to Ohio. In 2019, she began connecting with partners across the state to serve as the county affiliate for the program. That same year, funding from the Ohio General Assembly was added into the state budget, helping to formally establish the statewide program. In November 2020, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Ohio became available for all families—regardless of zip code—for free.

The Warren County Imagination Library will be celebrating its third anniversary soon. The five Warren County Library Districts continue to support the program and purchase of books for eligible children in Warren County. They include: Franklin-Springboro Public Library; Lebanon Public Library; Mary L. Cook Public Library; Mason Public Library; and Salem Township Public Library. This is the biggest civic engagement in Warren County history with more than 125 volunteers working on various aspects of enrolling children.

WARREN COUNTY IMAGINATION LIBRARY - "EVERY CHILD READS EVERY DAY"

WCIL SCORECARD (As of November 25, 2022)
12,137 children served in Warren County
7,949 (63%) active readers age 0-5
4,188 turned five and graduated from the program
More than 200,000 books ordered and delivered



WARREN COUNTY FOUNDATION HOLDS 2022 ANNUAL MEETING

The Warren County Foundation held its Annual Meeting on October 19, 2022. The Annual Meeting and the following regular Board of Trustees Meeting were presided by Board Chair Shannon Jones. The Board of Trustees reviewed a number of topics at the Annual Meeting and Regular Board Meeting.

New officers were elected for the next two years, including: Shannon Jones, Chair (Warren County Commissioner); Dale Brunner, Vice Chair (President & CEO, YMCA of Greater Dayton); Maggie Hess, Secretary (Executive Director, Ohio Association of Career-Technical Superintendents); and Derek Tinnin, Treasurer (Managing Member, Altiora Financial Group).

Two new members were elected to the Board of Trustees, including: Scott Brunka, City Manager, City of Lebanon; and Craig Salmon-Gilmore, Executive Territory Business Manager, Mead Johnson Nutrition, from Springboro.

Re-elected to another term on the Board of Trustees were Spence Cropper, Bobbie Grice, Eric Meilstrup, and Bill Thornton. New committee assignments included: Eric Meilstrup moves from Grants to Finance & Investment Committee; Craig Salmon-Gilmore moves from Grants to Development Committee; Robyn Lightcap joins the Grants Committee; and Autumn Miller joins the Development Committee.

SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE GRANTS FROM THE DUKE ENERGY FOUNDATION

The Warren County Foundation in cooperation with the Duke Energy Foundation made eleven Small Business Assistance Grants in the Franklin-Carlisle, Ohio area. The Duke Energy Foundation Small Business Assistance/Hometown Revitalization Grants program is made possible from a \$25,000 grant to the Warren County Foundation.

The news conference and check presentation were held on Tuesday, July 12, 2022, at the Anderson Life Celebration Center in Franklin. Applications were submitted for consideration by the selection committee including representatives from the City of Franklin, City of Carlisle, Franklin Township, Chamber 45005, and the Warren County Foundation. Eleven Small Business Grants were made with six at \$3,000 and five at \$1,400.

“Duke Energy has a long history of giving back to the communities we serve. We’re proud to partner with the Warren County Foundation to support area small businesses and help keep our communities vibrant.” Amy Spiller, President, Duke Energy Ohio and Kentucky.

The recipients of the grants include: Amara Salon & Day Spa; Area Athletics; B-Safe Driving Education; Busy J’s Inc. Dairy Queen; DoublePlay Records & Retro; Farm on Central; Fur Ree Friends Grooming Salon; Pisanello’s Pizza; Revolution Group Fitness, LLC; Simply Brown Tanning & More; and Stone Valley Meadows.

“We appreciate the support from the Duke Energy Foundation, the collaboration from the Franklin-Carlisle area,” stated Tom Seddon, President & CEO, Warren County Foundation, “and are glad we can help area small businesses.”

The Warren County Foundation recently received a second grant for \$15,000 from the Duke Energy Foundation for additional Small Business Assistance/Hometown Revitalization Grants in the Morrow and surrounding townships in southeast Warren County. The grants will be awarded in early 2023.

THERAPY DOG “WINNIE” SERVING AT-RISK CHILDREN

The Warren County Foundation along with three additional donors combined to make a grant to the Warren County Children Services to purchase, train and support a new therapy dog, Winnie. The discretionary grant coupled with gifts from Leasure Family Fund, Kent Savage, and Mike & Amy Schneider made the purchase possible earlier in the year.

Winnie will be used in Warren County Children Services, Child Advocacy Center of Warren County, and Warren County Juvenile Court. She continues her extensive training to work with at-risk children in all three areas.

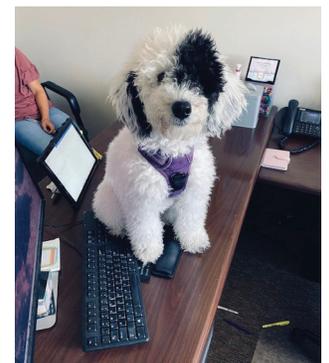
Winnie continues training in Lebanon and will continue weekly classes until she is old enough to pass her next test to be officially certified. She has visited with several kids at the agency, and she is always the highlight of their visit.

Kelly Carpenter, Ongoing Supervisor, Warren County Children Services, said, “Winnie loves car rides (with her head out the window), playing fetch, being outside, and giving lots of high fives for treats! She has way too many toys, and plays with all of them all day long! She loves running through the halls of the agency, visiting all of her “work friends”, and can often be found at the ice machine, waiting for someone to drop a piece of ice for her!” Carpenter added, “She has such a big personality, and keeps us all laughing on a regular basis!”

LEBANON PUBLIC LIBRARY PROMOTES SAFETY TOWN

The Lebanon Public Library through a grant from the Joseph & Hilda Nienaber Fund at the Warren County Foundation developed the Safety Town layout and program to educate children across their service area. Safety town is a program that uses a 45’ x 60’ “roadmap” tarp with traffic signs, familiar Lebanon buildings, and cool ride-on cars to teach young children how to stay safe inside and outside the home.

For the first hour, children will rotate through 4 different stations to learn about fire, pedestrian, and bus safety, as well as join Miss Connie on the school bus for a special safety story time. This structured portion of the event is for children ages 4 to 6. The second hour of the event is open-house, where children of all ages are welcome to explore the Safety Town mat and take turns practicing pedestrian safety with the ride-on cars. Contact Lebanon Public Library for more information and to schedule Safety Town.



WARREN COUNTY FOUNDATION 2022 IMPACT GRANTS

Subject to the availability of funds, the Warren County Foundation shall make one or more Impact Grants usually in December of each year, of not less than \$10,000 each. The Foundation has awarded four \$10,000 Impact Grants in 2022. During the first six years of the program, 27 Impact Grants have been awarded. The four Impact Grants went to:

1. **Beech Acres Parenting Center – “Beyond the Classroom”** - With a \$10,000 grant from the Foundation, Beech Acres Parenting Center will grow and refine the Beyond the Classroom program in Warren County during the 2022-2023 academic year. Embedded within the schools, the program will provide trauma-informed care for children’s behavioral, emotional, and mental health and parental peer support issues. The grant will support programs in 10 Warren County Schools.
2. **Countryside YMCA – “Veterans Connect”** - The Veterans Connect program at the YMCA provides a way for the Y to serve those who have sacrificed, served, and defended our nation by providing them with a free comprehensive program aimed at improving their overall well-being and quality of life. Weekly class for veterans are held on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays with physical activity workouts, activities that foster comradery, and mental and spiritual health resources. More than 75 veterans participated this past year.
3. **Hospice of Cincinnati – “Free Mission Based Services”** - Grant funds will support free, mission-based services for 500 Warren County residents. Services supported by the grant include holistic therapies, comprehensive bereavement services, and charity care subsidies to support the end-of-life needs for Warren County residents that are uninsured or under insured. Hospice of Cincinnati is a not-for-profit serving the Greater Cincinnati Tri-State area since 1977. It is the 4th oldest hospice in the country.
4. **WCCS Inc. – “Adult New Readers”** - The Warren County Imagination Library continues to do an outstanding job of getting free age-appropriate books in the homes of young children. Families reading together is one of their primary goals. Unfortunately, not every parent can read to their child. The objective of this proposal is for Adult New Readers to teach parents to read the WCIL books and enhance and expand the reading suggestions in the parent’s packet included with each book. To date, we have served 31 children and parents through last year’s grant.

WOMEN’S FUND OF WARREN COUNTY 2022 GRANTS MADE

Four organizations were well represented with informative power point presentations at the Women’s Fund of Warren County Membership Meeting on October 13. All four received one to four rankings from the membership vote and have received their grant from the Women’s Fund.

Atrium Medical Center Foundation – \$3,500 Grant

The request supports the Atrium Medical Center Comprehensive Women’s Center program. This will allow the female patient to receive healthcare while the child is safely being cared for in a childcare program at the Atrium YMCA. The \$3,500 request will cover one year of service for approximately 50 women.

Child Advocacy Center of Warren County – \$5,000 Grant

The Child Advocacy Center of Warren County has a mission to serve abuse and neglected children through a multi-agency team response of intervention, advocacy, and education. The CACWC requests the \$5,000 grant to support one existing Family Services Coordinator position. This position is essential for the coordination of services from a number of community partners.

Crayons to Classrooms – \$2,000 Grant

Crayons to Classrooms is a nonprofit organization providing high-quality school supplies to our area’s most vulnerable children to support their academic success. Eligible teachers are invited to shop at our free retail-style store twice per academic year to acquire desperately needed school supplies, student incentives, art supplies, and other educational materials.

Kindness Backpack Program – \$4,000 Grant

The Kindness Backpack Program is a volunteer organization in its fourth year of operation in the Franklin City Schools. The goal is to serve 300 children with weekly food bags and another 100+ children with other resources and supplies in the 2022-23 school year. The Kindness Backpack Program will continue to meet the needs of low-income students.





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A TAX-FREE GIFT FROM YOUR IRA

Are your required minimum IRA withdrawals greater than you need, or care to receive? Would you like to reduce your taxable income from your IRA?

A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) is a terrific way to make a tax-free gift to the Warren County Foundation. Your gift from your IRA of up to \$100,000 can satisfy your required minimum distribution without increasing your income taxes. You are not taxed on the distribution from your IRA and the distribution to the Foundation can satisfy your required minimum distribution. You enjoy the benefits of an itemized income tax charitable deduction even if you don't itemize.

If you are 70 ½ or older you can tell your IRA administrator to transfer your gift directly from your traditional IRA or Roth IRA account to the Warren County Foundation.

Consider these important requirements to make a QCD gift:

- Must be age 70 ½ or older
- Can only come from a traditional IRA or Roth IRA
- 401(k), 403(b), SEP IRA accounts, and other retirement accounts do not qualify
- Must come directly from your IRA administrator to the Warren County Foundation
- Total QCD gifts in any one year cannot exceed \$100,000
- Counts toward the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) if not already taken
- QCDs are not entitled to an income tax charitable deduction
- The QCD is excluded from income

Contact your IRA administrator and request the form required to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution to take advantage of this tax-smart way of giving.

Only your tax advisor can determine if a charitable IRA QCD is beneficial in your situation. Consult your trusted advisor or family member to determine if a QCD from your IRA is right for you.

Contact Us

If you have questions, please contact Tom Seddon at 513-934-1001, tseddon1971@gmail.com.