



Unity Foundation
of La Porte County

Power for Good

SHAPING THE FUTURE



Focused, Flexible, Impactful

2019 | uflc.net

The Unity Foundation is made up of hundreds of funds - from Scholarships to Donor Advised Funds to funds dedicated to a specific nonprofit. But it's a Community Fund that offers the broadest impact on your community over time. While other funds support a specific cause or charity, Community Funds are "unrestricted." This means the earnings from those funds can support ANY charitable and good program happening in ANY part of La Porte County. Community Funds allow us to be flexible in

responding to our community's changing needs. While other funds have strict rules for what money can be used toward, our unrestricted funds allow us to be ready with funding as quickly as a new issue arises. In our ever-changing world, it's important for us to be ready for anything that comes our way, and Community Funds are one way we do that.

Scott Rice is from a multi-generational family of farmers, so he understands the importance of thinking long term and making dollars do the most work. When he and his wife, **Marianne**, were ready to start a fund with Unity they knew they wanted their dollars to have the broadest impact possible. A Community Fund was just the thing!

Community Funds help Unity Foundation provide grants to our ever-growing family of service-minded groups and individuals in the county. Each year, earnings from our Community Funds are pooled together and used to award Power for Good grants at our Annual Update Luncheon. These awards help support everything from environmental causes to arts education.

One of these grants was made to The Community Reserve, a source of free furniture to families and individuals of La Porte County affected by tragedies. Their clients come referred by caseworkers and social service agencies and range from survivors of domestic abuse to families whose homes have been lost in a fire, or to support military veterans returning home.

"Having adequate housing supplies can help make life less stressful and keep families together in a more pleasant atmosphere," said Marvin Larue, Manager of The Community Reserve. "In order to have a proper life, housing needs must be met."

Items, like furniture and kitchen utensils, are donated to The Community Reserve and stored in their CRIB (Community Reserve Inventory Barn). Since 2010, The Community Reserve has served over 700 families. And thanks to grants awarded from Unity's Community Funds programs like this will continue to reach out to those who need help in a time of crisis.

There's hardly a place in La Porte County that hasn't been touched by a grant made through a Community Fund, and it is people like the Rice family who help make that possible.



Scott & Marianne Rice

"We believe in the power and effectiveness of local endowed giving," Rice said, "and Unity Foundation is the perfect vehicle for that goal."
-Scott Rice



The Community Reserve



If you think you or your family would be interested in starting a Community Fund with Unity Foundation, now is the time with the current Lilly Endowment 2:1 matching program! See the article on page 2 and contact our Development Officer, Jamie Miller, today at 219-879-0327!

Community matters

SHAPING THE FUTURE



"GIFT VII will help us shape the future of La Porte County – for the better. We look forward to working with our partners to improve the quality of life here, now and for generations to come."

— Michele Magnuson,
Co-Chairwoman of
Unity Foundation



Grant recipients celebrate at Unity's Annual Update Luncheon where we awarded over \$140,000 in grant funding throughout La Porte County.

Triple Your Trea\$ure

Late last year, Lilly Endowment announced a new phase of the **GIFT initiative**. Standing for **Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow**, GIFT phases have offered matching funds and support to Indiana's 94 Community Foundations. Unity is excited to take part in this new venture and has applied for the opportunity to receive **\$1 million in matching funds if we raise \$500,000** to our unrestricted endowment funds. Fans of Unity and La Porte County have always come through, now is the time to do it again! The unrestricted funds which qualify towards the match include all our Community Funds and the Power for Good fund. A donation to any of these is an opportunity for Unity to get one step closer to our \$500,000 goal and grow our pool of funds to address the most pressing needs in our community.

"GIFT VII will help us shape the future of La Porte County- for the better," said Michele Magnuson, Co-Chairwoman of Unity Foundation, "We look forward to working with our partners to improve the quality of life here, now and for generations to come." Those future generations will surely benefit from GIFT VII, especially through the future grants awarded from our community funds since these allow us to be nimble and responsive.

The deadline to reach our \$500,000 goal is December 31, 2020. But we know the smart thinkers of La Porte County won't wait that long to capitalize on this amazing opportunity to see their dollars go a lot farther and work harder in their communities.

Unity President, Maggi Spartz, and Major Becky Simmons celebrate the kick-off of The Salvation Army Bell Ringing season.



Thanks to our Generous 2019 SPONSORS

Power of Community



Power of a County
Mason Investment Services

Power of a City

1st Source Bank

Edward Jones

**Harbour Trust & Investment
Management Corporation**

Kabelin ACE

Meridian Title Corporation

Rice Farms, LLC

Swanson and Swanson Insurance

Power of a Family
**Applegate & Company CPA's
Walsh & Kelly, Inc.**

Power of a Person

CLH, CPA

General Insurance Services

Horizon Awning

Ed & Debra Kammrath

**Mayor Ron Meer and the
City of Michigan City**

The Zebra

Income Today, A Gift Tomorrow

Many people worry about their investments fluctuating with the markets- it can seem like there is no safe bet for you and your loved ones. But a charitable gift annuity's fixed payments means you can have that sense of security, while supporting causes you care about. Start by making a gift of cash or stock to Unity, and in return we'll make payments to you or a loved one for life. Once all payments are made, the remaining value will go towards one of the many causes Unity supports.

A charitable gift annuity is a great way to find peace of mind. Your payment rate is based on age and fixed at the date of your gift. Meaning what we give you will never change, even as the market does! Plus, when you open a gift annuity with Unity, you may receive a charitable tax deduction that same year.

Many people in our communities have taken advantage of all the benefits that come from a charitable gift annuity. One local couple, Bob and Dee Nusbaum, sold their beloved airplane when they found themselves flying less and less. They used the money from that sale to start their gift annuity and a new chapter in their lives.

Planned giving with Unity can be a great way to contribute to your community, while also receiving benefits for yourself or your family. To start your planned giving journey simply go to our website (uflc.net) and "Click on the beach!"

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY



Bob and Dee
Nusbaum

Scholarship
Reception
JUNE 26

Indiana Philanthropy
Alliance Legislative
Luncheon
JUNE 27

Power for Good
Grant Deadline
JULY 26

Professional Advisor
Workshop
SEPT 26

Annual Update Luncheon
OCT 30

Home Team Meetings
EVERY 4TH THURSDAY

Trail Creek Watershed
Partnership Meetings
EVERY 2ND WEDNESDAY

The LPCPL featured a robotics "petting zoo" at our 2018 Annual Luncheon to share information about coding with our community! They are a great community partner in coding! Materials are available for teachers and families to check out and provide fun, educational activities for students to engage with STEM curriculum!



Finley Yagelski of South Central Elementary uses a BeeBot in class during Week of Code. Nearly 12,000 students across La Porte County participated in this year's event which was co-sponsored by Unity and the La Porte County Skill UP Network.

Unity Foundation Continues to Support Coding and STEM Education

Unity Foundation is a proud supporter of our robotics teams at local school corporations, including Michigan City, New Prairie, and South Central! Featured here are the Michigan City RoboBlitz team receiving a sponsorship from a caring Unity donor. The team is part of Safe Harbor's After-School Program, and students work together to build and program their robot to complete a series of complicated tasks.



uflc.giftlegacy.com



Unity Foundation
of La Porte County

Power for Good



422 Franklin St., Suite C
Michigan City, IN 46360

uflc.net



Indiana's First National Park

Exciting times have come to La Porte County - we have a National Park now! But what was happening there before the big name change? Unity has multiple environmental funds that have supported the Dunes and Lakeshore for years and will continue to do so...forever.

- **Environmental Improvement Fund for La Porte County:** supports projects and programs that improve the quality of land, air and waters of La Porte County
- **Save the Dunes Conservation Fund:** supports the Save the Dunes environmental programs and operations
- **La Porte Conservation Trust:** helps purchase vital natural areas and protect bio-diversity in La Porte County
- **Shirley Heinze Land Trust Endowment for La Porte County:** supports the restoration and maintenance of biological integrity of the natural landscape in La Porte County
- **Dunes Environmental Learning Center Tuition Assistance Fund:** helps La Porte County students attend the many outstanding learning programs

And the fun doesn't have to stop at Lake Michigan! Trail Creek Watershed Partnership has their annual Creekness Stakes event on September 28th. Teams will race in voyager canoes to raise money for Trail Creek Week which gives 4th graders hands-on environmental stewardship experience.

Visit our website to explore our environmental and recreation related funds at uflc.net - and be sure to follow our Love our Lakes Facebook page to stay in touch!

Register for the race at uflc.net/trailcreekwatershed