
TCF Fact Sheet

2011 Data

Mission

To assist donors and others in strengthening and improving our community for the benefit of all its residents.

Description

The Columbus Foundation is the *trusted philanthropic advisor*® to more than 1,800 individuals, families, and businesses, who have created unique funds to make a difference in the lives of others through the most effective philanthropy possible. Serving the region for 68 years, the Foundation's online resource, PowerPhilanthropy,® makes it possible for everyone to make informed choices about giving by accessing valuable information about community needs and central Ohio nonprofits.

Grants

Grants from Columbus Foundation donors support a variety of needs and nonprofit organizations in central Ohio and beyond. In 2010, grants paid to nonprofit organizations from the Foundation and its donors totaled \$96.1 million. This included over \$1.8 million in scholarship grants. Since its inception in 1943, the Foundation and its donors have granted more than \$1.2 billion to a wide range of nonprofit organizations.

Assets

The assets of The Columbus Foundation are held in more than 1,800 charitable funds and 30 Supporting Foundations. Among more than 700 community foundations in the United States, The Columbus Foundation ranks ninth in market value of assets. In 2010, assets totaled more than \$1 billion.

Giving

People from a wide variety of cultural and financial backgrounds participate in philanthropy through The Columbus Foundation. Donors reside in 55 Ohio counties and 37 states. The majority of gifts to the Foundation are from donors who choose to give during their lifetime. The remaining gifts come from donors who leave a legacy to benefit the community.

In 2010, donors made \$109 million in contributions to new and existing funds and foundations. This was the second

highest year in the Foundation's history for outright gifts. Last year, 5,036 individuals, families, and businesses made gifts to the Foundation ranging from five dollars to twelve million dollars. Ninety-four new funds and foundations were created, each with a unique philanthropic focus; the average gift in 2009 was \$27,277.

Future Giving

Future planned gifts known to the Foundation in 2010 totaled \$825.1 million. Last year the Foundation was informed by donors of 40 new planned gifts with projected value of \$65.8 million.

History

The Columbus Foundation was established in 1943 with a \$700 grant, and led by businessman, Harrison M. Sayre. The Foundation's mission was to receive gifts to improve the quality of life in central Ohio. The first unsolicited gift was given to The Columbus Foundation in 1945 by the first woman to be elected to Columbus City Council, journalist Olga Anna Jones. That gift was for \$25.

Governance

A Governing Committee of volunteers, made up of central Ohio business, civic, and philanthropic leaders, provides stewardship for The Columbus Foundation. The 2011 members of the Governing Committee are Chairman Michael J. Fiorile, Vice Chairman Barbara J. Siemer, David P. Blom, Jerry Jurgensen, C. Robert Kidder, Dwight E. Smith; Bruce A. Soll; Barbara Trueman; and Matthew D. Walter. Serving as President and CEO is Douglas F. Kridler.

National Standards

The Foundation is nationally certified for its organizational and financial practices by the national Council on Foundations and is in compliance with national standards for US community foundations. It has received the "Standards of Excellence Seal" for Ethics and Accountability Standards by the Ohio Association of Nonprofit Organizations, and currently holds a four-star ranking (the highest ranking possible) from Charity Navigator.