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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



Douglas F. Kridler President and CEO

In a recent article, "How to Be a C.E.O., From a Decade's Worth of Them," Adam Bryant distilled his 525 interviews of chief executives through his years writing the Corner Office column for *The New York Times*. Of the many quotes he lifted up from those conversations, my favorite was from former Brown University and now Prairie View A&M University President Ruth Simmons: "You have to be open and alert at every turn to the possibility that you're about to learn the most important lesson of your life."

WHAT GREAT ADVICE TO US ALL. We can never be done learning, listening, and yearning for insight. Fully realized, it is a quest for which there is no finish line. And the payoff is that searching for the beauty in others unlocks the beauty in ourselves.

And, what is remarkable is that revelatory moments can come from anywhere, anyone, and at any time. There is no hierarchy when it comes to good ideas. Are we open and alert enough to recognize the potential for wisdom and insight of those who don't look or act like us, haven't us is making to be, in the end, as Nikki Giovanni once wrote, "warmed by the life that (we have) tried to live." We are all alike in this basic way.

What a refreshing way to feel alive, to try to stay present as we walk/run through life. It is a "brazen wonder to be alive on earth amid the clockwork of all this motion," Billy Collins wrote in his poem, "Joy." Amen to that!

I feel that way every day leading the extraordinary resource called The

Columbus Foundation. From the longest-serving team members such as Tami Durrence and Pam Potts, to the soon to retire Carol Harmon, who has so ably led the Communications and Marketing efforts of the Foundation for over 26 years, all the way to our newest team members, there is an aspiring alignment of what we value the most—service to you in pursuit of building a strengthened and improved community, for all, while bringing fulfillment to you through doing so.

It all starts with your engagement, belief, and investment in us. We are grateful you have

Winter 2018

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OUR MISSION

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

OUR PROMISE

To help you help others through the most effective philanthropy possible.

prospered, or don't believe in what we believe?

There simply is no real status, age, income, or race distinction in the quality of efforts each of

given us your gift of partnership on this voyage, the "brazen wonder" that serves to us valuable lessons and inspirations every day.

Spread Some Joy!

THIS HOLIDAY SEASON, give a gift that makes a difference with The Columbus Foundation's **Charitable Gift Card**. Available through The Giving Store at columbusfoundation.org, these physical or electronic gift cards offer flexible, efficient options for sharing with a recipient through email, Facebook, or a traditional gift card. Recipients can easily redeem online to support one of more than 950 central Ohio nonprofits in The Giving Store.

Available in denominations of \$20, \$50, and \$100, gift cards help make the season brighter by strengthening nonprofits serving central Ohio. One hundred percent goes directly to the nonprofit selected and the gift cards never expire!

To learn more, visit TCFGiftCardPurchase.org or contact Lee Pepper at lpepper@columbusfoundation.org or call 614/251-4000.

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For more information, visit columbusfoundation.org or call 614/251-4000.

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DONOR FEATURE

A Gift for Good couple makes giving back a priority in new life together

JIM AND AMANDA CRANE haven't had a chance to check out Colorado's renowned rivers and hiking with their beloved dogs yet, but they are excited about the opportunity to get out and explore. The couple, married in September, is an adventuresome duo who also has a passion for giving back.

Though Jim and Amanda initially met at Washington D.C.'s Gallaudet University, it wasn't until they connected years later at a friend's wedding in Maryland that the sparks flew. A year ago they moved to Colorado, where Jim works for a private equity investment company that supports start-up businesses for people with disabilities. Amanda, a licensed mental health professional, is starting a private counseling practice with a goal of providing mental health services to deaf clientele.

In July, the couple, who live in Englewood, Colorado, established the *Jimanda Foundation*, a Donor Advised Fund at The Columbus Foundation, to support causes and organizations they are both passionate about. They encouraged wedding guests, through their wedding website, to donate to the fund in lieu of gifts.

"For a long time, ever since we've met, we both wanted to set up a foundation where we could give to different nonprofit organizations," Jim explained. "My whole family has always used The Columbus Foundation. It is so trustworthy, and it just made sense that we would choose to work with the Foundation."

Jim grew up in Columbus, earned his undergraduate degrees from Gallaudet and his juris doctor from Thomas Jefferson School of Law in San Diego. Amanda grew up in central California, graduated from Gallaudet, and earned her master's degree in marriage and family therapy from California State University, Fresno. Both come from charitable families, and feel giving back comes naturally.

"My parents have always taught me the importance of giving back to your community and how that comes back to you. It's been ingrained in me my whole life," Jim explained.

For Amanda, she also recognizes the

"For a mental health professional like myself, it's so important to give back to the community to make sure that people feel like there is someone there for them. My family has always taught me the value of giving back to others," she said.



Photo courtesy of Jim and Amanda Crane

Jim and Amanda, who are both deaf, plan to use their foundation partly as a springboard to help provide opportunities to individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing.

"We understand firsthand what the barriers are in the Deaf Community, and we know that with the foundation we'll be able to help a little bit with that," Jim said. "I know there's a long way to go, but it's a start."

Amanda added, "We see so much potential for intellectual individuals in the Deaf Community, but often they are overlooked due to their disability. We want to create a variety of opportunities for Deaf people to contribute to society and show the world all they have to offer."

The couple's first grant was awarded to the Rocky Mountain Deaf School in Denver. Jim and Amanda hope to provide the charter school with funding that will expand projects and an afterschool program.

"We have big dreams. We hope this foundation will be forever," Jim said.

To learn more about Jim and Amanda and their

FOUNDATION CELEBRATED ALL-TIME RECORD FOR GRANTS IN 2016

THE COLUMBUS FOUNDATION celebrated its 2016 results with donors and friends, including an historic all-time high in grants awarded—and its second best year in gifts received—during its annual Celebration of Philanthropy at the Foundation on September 6.

"We are proud of the generosity of individuals, families, communities, and businesses that strive to move our region forward through strategic philanthropic investments," said Doug Kridler, President and CEO of the Foundation.

In 2016:

Grants totaled an all-time high of **\$205.8 million** and benefited more than 3,300 nonprofit organizations in a wide range of fields

Gifts made to new and existing funds and Supporting Foundations totaled **\$314.7 million**—marking the seventh consecutive year of gifts exceeding \$100 million

The Foundation's assets, held in 2,440 unique, named funds and 28 Supporting Foundations, totaled **\$2.01 billion** as of December 31, 2016

152 new funds were established

42 Planned Gifts were created, with a projected value of more than \$78.1 million

Since 1944:

\$2.06 billion in grants has been awarded to thousands of nonprofit organizations

\$2.8 billion in gifts has been received



TAKE ACTION: Learn more about the historic 2016 year, and read inspiring stories about donors and nonprofits making a difference in our community in *KIND*, the Foundation's 2016 Annual Report, at columbusfoundation.org.

GIFTS OF KINDNESS GRANTS TOP \$1 MILLION!

Incredible News! In August, the *Gifts* of *Kindness Fund* granted its one millionth dollar to support individuals and families in our community. The fund, initially established in 2014 through the generosity of the *Margaret and Robert Walter Foundation*, helps central Ohioans who are experiencing an unexpected setback and have an immediate financial need.



The Foundation works with 22 partner nonprofit organizations to identify individuals to receive one-time grants, estimated to be between \$500 and \$3,000 each.

"This amazing accomplishment is a testament to our generous community and kind spirit," said Kelley Griesmer, Senior Vice President and Manager, Walter Family Philanthropy for The Columbus Foundation. "These grants lift up those in need and provide financial help when they may have nowhere else to turn."

The kindness continues. As of October 31, 2017, Gifts of Kindness has awarded 635 grants, totaling \$1,090,688, with an average grant amount of \$1,718.

You, too, can spread Gifts of Kindness this holiday season! Join us in helping families with an emergency need. Anyone can make a gift to the Gifts of Kindness Fund using a credit card, Donor Advised Fund, or Supporting Foundation through The Giving Store at columbusfoundation.org.





"The Big Give has gotten bigger for this, its fourth go-round, and that's good news for central Ohio charities and people who want to give."

THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH EDITORIAL, OCTOBER 10, 2017

The Columbus Foundation announced a new record for The Big Give, with \$18,003,826 raised to support 906 central Ohio nonprofits on **October 10–11!**

THE BIG GIVE, a 26-hour online community giving rally to support local nonprofits, saw a 20 percent increase over the last event held in 2015 that leveraged just over \$15 million. A record number of donations, 30,279, were received this year. Donations were received from 49 states, the District of Columbia, and 7 countries.

"We have just shown central Ohio at its best with this historic moment in charitable giving," said Doug Kridler, President and CEO of The Columbus Foundation.

All donations received during The Big Give were eligible for Bonus Pool Funds on a pro rata basis, giving everyone who participated the opportunity to have their donation(s) amplified. In addition, all credit card fees were covered by The Columbus Foundation, so 100 percent of donations went directly to the nonprofits.

An Instagram contest encouraged nonprofits to get involved in promoting their organization before and during The Big Give. Photos with #biggive were shared 1,500 times and a total of \$20,000 in prizes was awarded to winning entries selected, ranging from \$250-\$1,500 (winners could select a nonprofit from The Giving Store to make their grant to).

For the first time, The Big Give was expanded beyond Franklin County to include nine additional central Ohio counties in the Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA): Delaware, Fairfield, Hocking, Licking, Madison, Morrow, Perry, Pickaway, and Union. In total, the nine counties outside of Franklin County received \$1,194,041 to benefit 172 nonprofits.

Thanks to six generous, homegrown businesses that joined the Foundation as promotional partners, everyone who gave during The Big Give received perks for supporting their favorite nonprofits when they showed proof of their donation.



The Big Give Results Summary

\$18,003,826

TOTAL LEVERAGED



A Big Give Thanks to Our **Bonus Pool Contributors**

AEP Foundation • Blom Family Fund • Central Benefits Health Care Foundation • Chlapaty Family Fund • Tanny Crane and John Wolff Fund • William H. Davis, Dorothy M. Davis and William C. Davis Foundation • Delaware County Foundation • Paul G. Duke Foundation • Walter and Marian English Community Needs Fund • Michael and Denise Glimcher Family Fund • Hinson Family Trust • Ingram-White Castle Foundation • Kramer-Celeste Family Fund • Lassettre Family Fund • L Brands Foundation • Licking County Foundation • Marsh Family Foundation • John H. McConnell Foundation Meuse Family Foundation • Nationwide Insurance • Harold C. Schott Foundation Siemer Family Foundation • Seanna C. and Matthew D. Walter Fund • Margaret and Robert Walter Foundation • Robert F. Wolfe and Edgar T. Wolfe Foundation • Worthington Industries



"Thanks to central Ohio's generous support during The Big Give, the Charitable Pharmacy of Central Ohio will provide Franklin County residents with the critical medicine and pharmaceutical services they need regardless of their ability to pay. For some of our patients, the choice comes down to medicine or food. This ensures they can get both."

-JENNIFER SEIFERT, Executive Director, Charitable Pharmacy of Central Ohio

"We are incredibly humbled by the outpouring of support for our work at Columbus Humane. How fortunate we are to live in a city that understands that pets are family and an important contributor to our community's quality of life! Funds raised through The Big Give will support our programs for animals and people as well as help to renovate our outdated facility. Our \$2 million capital campaign will create a space that surpasses best standards of care for our animals."

-RACHEL FINNEY, CAWA,

Executive Director, Columbus Humane (formerly Capital Area Humane Society)

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THE BIG

THE BIG TABLE 2017

On May 17, approximately 5,000 people gathered around more than 450 tables to participate in The Columbus Foundation's second Big Table. Designed to bring people together to strengthen relationships and broaden perspectives, The Big Table is an opportunity for anyone to host or attend conversations that help connect one another and encourage a connected community.

"Every voice has value. The Columbus area is at its best when we discuss the issues that connect us," said Doug Kridler, President and CEO of The Columbus Foundation. "Through thoughtful dialogue and commitment to our community, we can work to strengthen central Ohio together."

Participants of all ages discussed a wide variety of topics, from economic issues and poverty to education and human rights. Big Tables were held at offices, homes, schools, churches, libraries, restaurants, and other public spaces. At the end of each conversation, participants completed commitment cards that captured ways in which they were inspired to personally better the community moving forward.





"Hosting a conversation for The Big Table was a great experience. Seeing the passion of so many people who have built a career and a community here was amazing—everyone has engaged in service to support the city in a different way. After The Big Table, you gain an appreciation for what others are doing to make this community great, and you're able to prioritize and focus your own efforts to do the same."

-MIKE MCCANN

VP, Programs & Partner Engagement, Rev1 Ventures

"People need each other; we need to feel connected. And ironically, the pace

The Big Table Partners



EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROVIDES CRITICAL SUPPORT

THIS YEAR, from Florida to California, disasters have plagued our country. In the wake of these hurricanes, floods, and wildfires, thousands have been left trying to rebuild their lives. One central Ohio company recognizes the stress these sudden challenges create, and has stepped up to help its associates when they need it most.



In April 2017, in partnership with The Columbus Foundation, the *Big Lots Foundation* established the *Big Lots Foundation Emergency Assistance Fund* to provide grants for food,

shelter, and other basic needs for Big Lots associates who are experiencing financial hardship due to an unexpected personal crisis. The Columbus Foundation worked closely with Big Lots to design the program and establish eligibility guidelines, and now administers the program on its behalf.

"Our people are our most important priority, and we want to help when they need it most. We hear from our associates while in the most vulnerable circumstances," said Jeremy Ball, Director of Philanthropy and Events at Big Lots. "The Columbus Foundation provides the vehicle for us to give financial assistance, swiftly and with compassion. That makes all the difference to someone in crisis."

Assistance is provided for **Qualified Disasters**, including natural disasters such as hurricanes, tornados, earthquakes, or floods or a personal disaster such as a house fire, as well as a disaster caused by terrorists or military action. The fund also supports **Emergency Hardships** such as illness, death in the family, or other sudden, severe, overwhelming and unexpected events that are beyond the individual associate's control.

As of October 31, 237 grants had been awarded totaling \$435,211. Of that, 76 grants totaling \$141,385 were awarded to support relief from Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma.

One of those individuals, Johanna Angers, an associate at a Big Lots in Fort Myers, Florida, was assisted through the fund after Hurricane Irma slammed Florida's west coast.

"When Irma was coming, I worried about family and friends, not realizing the storm would take so much from me. Your kindness is going to help me repair my home. I cannot thank you enough for all that you have done for me. Through the kindness of the Big Lots Foundation I am able to see a light at the end of a dark tunnel," Johanna said.

of modern life—including always being 'plugged in'—can actually lead us to feeling more disconnected. We can forget how good it can actually feel to engage in conversation, to learn something new, to be challenged in our perspective, to see and to be seen. The Big Table and the conversations it ignites remind us that we are not as alone or isolated as we may think we are, that there are others out there who are engaged and committed and that, in the end, when we come together as a community, we all benefit."

-JILLIAN OLINGER

Director, Division of Housing & Civic Engagement, The Ohio State University Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity





American Red Cross Ohio Backeye Region

To learn more, check out The Big Table report at columbusfoundation.org



The Columbus Foundation's **Employee Assistance Program**, launched this year, helps companies like Big Lots develop and implement custom programs that reflect company values and support employees experiencing disaster and hardship.



TAKE ACTION: Learn about the Foundation's Employee Assistance Program by visiting columbusfoundation. org or contacting Carter Hatch at chatch@ columbusfoundation.org.

2 MINUTES WITH...

Carol Harmon

arol Harmon has led the Communications and Marketing department at The Columbus Foundation for more than 26 years. As she prepares for her retirement at the end of this year, she took time to reflect on some of the things she's seen and done during her tenure—and what she hopes the next chapter of her life will look like.

What is the biggest change in marketing and communications you've seen during your tenure at the Foundation?

There are so many changes that have happened in the communications field over the past 30 years that it's hard to know where to start! Publications are just one aspect of our work in strategic marketing at the Foundation, thanks to new technologies that are available to us. In 1999, the Foundation created its first website. Digital media has allowed us to introduce our brand to audiences on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter, to name a few! But what links the past and the present is the importance of listening and connecting with those we serve. We are fortunate to have many sources of gathering data and facts to support our storytelling. The biggest change I see in the communications field today is that it's a science as well as an art.

What are some of the things you are most proud of during your time at the Foundation?

I am proud to have served multiple Governing Committees, CEOs Doug Kridler and Jim Luck, the Marketing Committee led by Jim Ginter, Ph.D., and our incredibly talented communications teams. But without a doubt, sharing the stories of our donors—their generosity and passion to make a difference in the lives of others—has been an honor. I hold fond memories of the completion of 26 annual reports and multiple newsletters, publication of a comprehensive history book, and our 50th anniversary, which involved meeting Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson, who was commissioned to create a mural of our early years. Finally, leading marketing for four online Big Gives since 2011, which raised a total of more than \$50 million for central Ohio nonprofit organizations, was an honor!

You were actively involved with industry associations and organizations during your career. Why was this important to you and what did you learn?

2017 Philanthropy Award Winners

During The Columbus Foundation's annual Celebration of Philanthropy in September, the 2017 Philanthropy Award Winners were announced. These recipients were honored as extraordinary examples of philanthropic excellence. Congratulations and thank you for your generosity and leadership!



Pictured from left at the Celebration of Philanthropy: Doug Kridler, David Meuse, Mo Meuse, Dr. Louise (Omie) Warner, Clyde W. Gosnell, Jr., Rev. Larry Crowell, President and CEO, Lutheran Social Services, and Ronald Seiffert, Board Chair, Lutheran Social Services

Photo by Rick Buchanan

The Harrison M. Sayre Award, given in honor of the Foundation's founder and 25-year volunteer director, recognizes leadership in philanthropy in central Ohio.



As a longtime member of the International Association of Business Communicators (Columbus Chapter), I learned that having access to a strong network of peers and developing professional relationships was important to growth. There is creative power in being connected! Participation in Besa, Leadership Columbus, and the Columbus Metropolitan Club have also helped me learn about needs and opportunities in our community.

What does The Spirit of Columbus mean to you?

One word: kindness. We live in a community that continuously reveals a generous spirit and concern for others. Whether we experience it or it is aspirational, I believe the pursuit of kindness has much to teach us and can open hearts and minds.

What are you looking forward to in retirement?

This quote from Ralph Waldo Emerson captures the next move for me: "Live in the sunshine, swim in the sea, drink the wild air." I am planning more visits to my daughters and young grandchildren who live 500 to 2,500 miles away, along with traveling to national parks in the United States. Otherwise, you'll find me bicycling on one of Columbus' trails, along with my husband, Chuck!



The Columbus Foundation Award recognizes organizations that have made a difference in the quality of life in our community.



Lutheran Social Services

The *Leadership in Philanthropy Award* recognizes outstanding philanthropic contributions to communities beyond central Ohio.



Dr. Louise (Omie) Warner and Clyde W. Gosnell, Jr.

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Addiction Center Created To Help Save Lives

This winter, Maryhaven, in partnership with the Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Board of Franklin County (ADAMH), will open a 55-bed Addiction Stabilization Center on Columbus' South Side. The center, focused on people who experience a life-threatening overdose, is one component of the Franklin County Opiate Action Plan, an aggressive community-wide, multi-year plan that is focused on addressing the opiate crisis.



The center will offer admission and triage services, detoxification treatment, and longterm residential services

that include intensive counseling and transitional support. It will free up emergency rooms, and provide a safe haven for people who have recently experienced an overdose instead of releasing them to potentially use again.

"The goal of Maryhaven's Addiction Stabilization Center is to stabilize patients in crisis and offer immediate access to treatment and ultimately long-term recovery," said Shawn Holt, President and CEO of Maryhaven. "It has truly been a collaborative effort between the ADAMH Board of Franklin County, the City of Columbus, Columbus Divisions of Police and Fire, and the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, as well as local hospitals and other area providers. None of this would be possible without the generous donations of The Columbus Foundation, the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation, and other donors. Columbus is a community that genuinely cares about being a part of the solution to end this epidemic, and we are truly grateful for their partnership and generous support!"

According to the Franklin County Coroner's Office, there were 244 opiate overdose deaths between January 1, 2017 and June 30, 2017. In August, the Ohio Department of Health reported overdose deaths in Ohio increased from 3,050 in 2015 to 4,050 in 2016, and fentanyl and related drugs were involved in 58.2 percent of them.

The Columbus Foundation's *Critical Need Alert* (CNA) from December 2016, **Addressing the Opiate Epidemic**, leveraged more than \$500,000 in

total. These funds will be used to support various efforts, including the new center, and to address prevention, awareness, and treatment options. ADAMH is a key partner in this effort, providing valuable information about community needs and options for making a significant impact.

"THIS NEW CENTER BRINGS RESOURCES, EXPERTISE, AND

FOUNDATION SNAPSHOTS



On October 23, **Dan Sharpe**, Vice President for Community Research and Grants Management at the Foundation, was named the recipient of Create Columbus Commission's **Visionary Award**, a quarterly initiative honoring young professionals who are making an impact and helping create a better future for Columbus. Selected by the Create Columbus Commission and honored with a resolution by Columbus City Council, Dan (center) is pictured here with Shannon G. Hardin, Columbus City Councilmember (left), and Anna Sanyal, Create Columbus Commissioner.



In August, The Columbus Foundation held its annual ice cream social, celebrating this year's **scholarship recipients**, and the generous Columbus Foundation donors who make them possible. In 2016, nearly \$2.7 million in scholarships was awarded to help students realize their educational dreams. Pictured (I–r): Alice Flowers, Chloe Davis, and Jack Marchbanks.



The **Columbus Foundation's Board Series**, now in its fourth iteration, engages nonprofit executive directors and board chairs in a three-day, capacity building workshop. This year's participating organizations included: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Ohio, Clintonville-Beechwold Community Resources Center (CRC), Columbus Literacy Council, Communities In Schools, Employment For Seniors, Franklinton Board of Trade, Friends of the Hilltop, The Homeless Families Foundation, Homeport, Human Service Chamber of Franklin County, i.c.stars Columbus, and Jazz Arts Group.

HOPE TO THOSE INDIVIDUALS STRUGGLING WITH ADDICTION IN OUR COMMUNITY."

-DAN SHARPE, Vice President for Community Research and Grants Management, The Columbus Foundation

Also as a result of support from last year's CNA, in October ADAMH began piloting a smartphone app, which was developed to help give those in recovery a direct link to support 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

TAKE ACTION: To learn more about these developments, and other ways the community is responding to the opiate crisis visit maryhaven.com and adamhfranklin.org.



Social Services; and Bill Ingram, President of the IWCF.

On November 1, **Our Lady of Guadalupe Center** received the Ingram-White Castle Foundation's (IWCF) seventh **Giving Renews Our World (GROW) Award** in recognition of the exceptional work the center is doing for Columbus' Hispanic community. With the award comes a grant of \$100,000 in unrestricted operating support to be paid over three years—one way the IWCF is feeding hunger, hopes, and dreams in the community. Pictured (I–r): Alma Santos, Our Lady of Guadalupe Center Coordinator; Ramona Reyes, Director of Our Lady of Guadalupe Center; Rachel Lustig, President and CEO of Catholic

TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD A STRONGER COMMUNITY

<mark>Better</mark> T⊜gether

Better Together allows you to support projects through a new crowdfunding platform in The Giving Store. Learn about current opportunities, quickly and easily make donations, starting at \$20, and track each project goal in real time.

CHECK OUT THESE PROJECTS AT COLUMBUSFOUNDATION.ORG:



YWCA COLUMBUS

Provide essential items, from toothbrushes to coats, to help families in emergency shelter at the YWCA Family Center.

Goal: **\$5,000**



CLINTONVILLE-BEECHWOLD COMMUNITY RESOURCES CENTER

Help complete the transformation of a new activities room specifically designed to bring area seniors together for enrichment and social interaction.

Goal: \$8,000



The Giving Store is open 24/7/365 for all your giving needs!



Search by name or keyword to give to your favorite nonprofits in a 10-county area with our new **Directory Listings**.



Support the *Gifts of Kindness Fund*, providing one-time grants to help central Ohio individuals and families in need.



Give the gift of giving with \$20, \$50, or \$100 **Charitable Gift Cards**.

Visit The Giving Store at columbusfoundation.org to make a difference today.