
NEXUS

THE COLUMBUS
FOUNDATION

FALL
2018



NEX·US (něk'səs) N., **1.** A MEANS OF CONNECTION; A LINK OR TIE. **2.** A CONNECTED SERIES OR GROUP. **3.** THE CORE OR CENTER.



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PRESIDENT’S PERSPECTIVE



Douglas F. Kridler
President and CEO

HAVE BEEN WAITING 34 YEARS to write this column. That’s how long I have watched a civic meteor travel brilliantly across our community. As with most significant constellations and galaxies, that meteor has a name, and that name is Les Wexner.

Why write this now? Because the events of the past few weeks bring into particularly vivid focus Les’ character and vision on a scale that once again we just cannot afford to overlook or take for granted in our community. Life is too fleeting for us not to bring full appreciation to the best amongst us, and in these past few weeks Les has written two more compelling chapters in the long and beneficial volume of his community legacy.

Character: Using his international platform of visibility, a few weeks ago Les stood up for civility in America, and stood up in a big way—by broadcasting his call for civility in our national discourse and in our daily communication, and publicly announcing his departure from his party. All in hopes that such decisive and clear action might serve as a reminder of the imperative of civility as a pre-condition to progress as a society. This was a profile in courage, so principled and so timely in putting a stake in the ground for that which unites and inspires us instead of what separates and discourages us in this country.

Vision: By the time you have read this, I hope it will be clear what an extraordinary addition the National Veteran’s Memorial and Museum (NVMM) is to our community, for the beauty of its design and quality of its execution, but also for what it

communicates about our community, and what we value and honor. Here is the closing line of the praise-full review of NVMM in the current issue of *Architectural Digest*: “But if we allow ourselves to learn from those who came before us—be it through literature, or art, or museums—then we can see our lives reflected in previous ones, and a sense of harmony is possible. Indeed, when we know that we’re members of a larger narrative, that we too will be remembered by our actions, then our present and future find shape and purpose.” NVMM was Les’ vision, inspired and encouraged by none other than another of our unforgettable heroes (and my former boss), John Glenn.

The list of Les’ accomplishments in business is long and unprecedented, making and re-making his business in ways for which there are few, if any, rivals in the history of retail in America. That alone is worth our respect, and that alone has brought so many jobs, careers, and economic prosperity to central Ohio. But, it is his commitment to build a better Columbus in so many ways that will be his enduring legacy to our community.

To what does Les attribute his commitment to our community? His faith for sure, but, also, he enjoys telling the story of how, in 1975, then President and CEO of Banc One, John G. McCoy, summoned Les to his office. Les was concerned this was going to be a tough business conversation, perhaps even including Mr. McCoy, whose bank Les was depending on for loans to continue to expand his business, telling Les that he was calling in those loans. Instead, upon entering Mr. McCoy’s office, Les

was asked to sit down, and was told with Mr. McCoy’s unique strength and clarity that, in essence, “Les, it is time to begin to tithe your business for the betterment of our community.” We owe Mr. McCoy a debt for so clearly laying out that expectation of what it is to be a true business leader in our community (the type of expectations and hopes that later influenced Les’ and John F. Wolfe’s founding of the Columbus Partnership), as we do Les for taking that direction to heart, never since wavering in his commitment to Columbus.

I invite you to consider how much vision, skill, discernment, determination, and generosity went into making the NVMM possible—for which we chiefly owe Les, and Abigail, our deepest debt of gratitude. The significance of NVMM and of the accomplishment was well summed up in the *Wall Street Journal’s* architectural review of NVMM: “The emotionally charged materials contained by and combined with this serene but animated space move one both physically and psychologically on an uplifting path toward a better understanding of how essential service is to perpetuating the life of communities we cherish and that make up our nation.”

Thanks, Les, for all you have done and are doing to brighten our community from street to skyline as you travel along your history-making arc of business success and community leadership and service. I feel so lucky that we have had the opportunity to learn, benefit, and draw inspiration from your vision, courage, and conviction on the uplifting path towards civic progress.

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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.

Want to share NEXUS with a friend? Find our digital version online at columbusfoundation.org/fall2018nexus

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



Photos by Lynsey Pipino, unless noted.



Confirmed in compliance with national standards for U.S. community foundations.



#GIVING TUESDAY

#GivingTuesday is November 27, and this year we invite you to give AND receive!

VISIT THE GIVING STORE to “Give Two on #GivingTuesday,” and receive a **\$20 Columbus Foundation Charitable Gift Card** when you support two of your favorite nonprofits. It makes the perfect gift or stocking stuffer for your holiday season.

With more than 1,000 nonprofits included, The Giving Store is your convenient, one-stop shop for charitable giving. Plus, The Giving Store’s low transaction fees mean more of your gift directly supports your favorite nonprofits’ missions.

So, mark your calendar and be sure to visit columbusfoundation.org/the-giving-store on Tuesday, November 27!



DONOR FEATURE

A Gift for the Future

LEGACY GIFT WILL IMPACT GENERATIONS TO COME



THE WALLS in Joe Chlapaty’s office in Dublin are adorned with striking paintings of buildings on the University of Dubuque’s campus. A passionate alumnus, Joe has been a longtime supporter of the university, and an avid football fan, which is appropriate since he once took the field as a Spartan himself.

While a piece of his heart will always be in Iowa, Joe has called Columbus home for nearly four decades now. And, thanks to an incredibly generous bequest to The Columbus Foundation, he will continue to support central Ohio for generations to come.

A native of Illinois, Joe was the first in his family to attend college. His dad, a tool and die maker, never made it past the ninth grade, quitting school to go to work and support his family during the Great Depression. Raised in a traditional, blue collar Chicago-area family, Joe set his sights on working hard and playing football in college. It was a connection his Dad had with a work colleague, whose son played at the University of Dubuque, that led him there.

After graduating cum laude in 1968, Joe went to work for Arthur Andersen and then took a job with a publicly owned commercial heat treating company in Chicago. He received his MBA from DePaul University in 1976. In 1980, he was recruited by Frank Eck to join Advanced Drainage Systems (ADS) in Columbus as its Chief Financial Officer. Joe became President in 1994 and CEO in 2004. He retired in 2017, and today serves in an advisory role as Chairman Emeritus.

Joe and his wife, Linda, have been very supportive of the community through their Donor Advised Fund, established at The Columbus Foundation in 2014.

In addition to his financial contributions, Joe has served on several nonprofit boards, and has been a member of the Foundation’s Governing Committee since 2013.

“When I came to Columbus and things were going well at ADS, I became involved in

Pictured: Joe Chlapaty in his Dublin office

a number of philanthropic organizations, which today are very strong in my mind,” he said. Already a supporter of United Way, Joe became very involved with Nationwide Children’s Hospital, the American Heart Association, and KIPP Columbus, and serves on the board of all three. He is a former board member of Lutheran Social Services as well.

“I’ve tried to focus on things where there really was a need,” Joe said. “I’ve enjoyed it, and met a lot of nice people over the course of time.”

Through his bequest, currently the largest unrestricted gift in The Columbus Foundation’s 75-year history, Joe will help address emerging needs in the community for years to come.

“I’ve always felt an obligation, to the extent that you can, to give back.”

—JOE CHLAPATY

His fund will enable the Foundation to respond to unforeseen community challenges, creating a lasting legacy for him and his family.

“The Foundation is in the best position to make those decisions,” Joe said. “Who knows what the needs of a city will be years from now. How can I say that I should put something to one specific thing or another? To me, it makes the most sense to leave the flexibility with the organization that is going to manage the money.”

“This is an extraordinary gift to the community,” said Angela Parsons, Vice President for Donor Services and Development at The Columbus Foundation. “Joe’s generosity will provide The Columbus Foundation, through the *Chlapaty Family Fund*, with the flexibility to address ever-evolving needs, promote innovation, and invest in the future of our city.”

New Leadership Class Focuses On Supporting Development Directors



Photo by Kate Clements

RECOGNIZING THE STRUGGLES nonprofits often face when it comes to investing in professional development, a new program is in place thanks to the generous backing of a host of funding partners, including The Columbus Foundation.

The inaugural **Fundraising Leadership Academy** kicked off in July 2018. The 10-session program, created and facilitated by Time, Talent & Treasure, a company founded by former fundraiser Adrienne Selsor, features sessions that provide hands-on training, strategies, tools, and ideas for development directors and the nonprofit organizations they support.

“This program was created to ensure these professionals are best equipped to represent their organization’s mission, no matter the size, resource constraints, or capacity of donors they interact with,” said Dan Sharpe, Vice President for Community Research and Grants Management at The Columbus Foundation. “In addition to Nonprofit Forums, the Foundation is pleased to further expand on our capacity-building opportunities to benefit leaders in the nonprofit sector, which, in turn, will help strengthen and improve our community.”

In addition to The Columbus Foundation, sponsors include the American Electric Power Foundation, Huntington, Nationwide, Worthington Industries, PNC, Honda, Grange Insurance, Cardinal Health Foundation, L Brands Foundation, PENZONE Salon + Spa, and LIT Life + Yoga.

“The Fundraising Leadership Academy is a direct response of funders, working collaboratively, to build a platform for the development of fundraising professionals.”

—DAN SHARPE

The Fundraising Leadership Academy gives nonprofit professionals an opportunity to hear from speakers, create a network of peers, and share challenges and ideas for improvement.

The current program includes more than 20 representatives from a collection of nonprofits, both large and small, that serve a wide range of needs in the community. The response from participants has been overwhelmingly positive, and the hope is to continue the program going forward.

“I was in need of inspiration in the most major way and, through the Fundraising Leadership Academy, you’ve already given that gift to me and to our organization. Thank you!” said a current participant.

Once
In A
Generation
THE COLUMBUS FOUNDATION

In honor of the 75th anniversary of our founding, The Columbus Foundation has launched an opportunity—**Once In A Generation**—to grow permanent funds for the future of our community, just as the generations before us have done. Our goal is ambitious: to increase our endowment for future community needs from \$200 million to \$400 million by the end of 2019. To learn more, contact Angela Parsons at 614/251-4000 or aparsons@columbusfoundation.org.



THE BIG TABLE 2018

An Incredible Day of Conversation and Connection

Hundreds took part in The Big Table at The Ohio State University's Ohio Union.
Photo by Kathryn D. Studios



The Big Table® is a day of community building through conversations designed to strengthen and connect Columbus. Launched in 2016, it has become an anticipated annual event where residents listen to, and learn from, each other and discuss how they can collectively lead the way in creating an even stronger tomorrow.

ON AUGUST 29, friends, colleagues, and strangers from across central Ohio came together to discuss their perspectives on pressing issues and imagine ways they can unite to address those issues and inspire others to do the same.

“This year’s Big Table demonstrated that our community values each other and the future we create together,” said Kelley Griesmer, Senior Vice President and Manager, Walter Family Philanthropy for The Columbus Foundation. “It is extraordinary to live in a place where thousands of people stop everything they are doing to sit down and make authentic connections with one another.”

Big Table conversations were held in homes, schools, restaurants, libraries, and even walking the streets of Columbus. **Nearly 8,000 people participated at more than 700 tables during the 2018 event, our biggest day yet!**

“One thing that stands out to me about this year’s Big Table is how authentically people approached their participation,” Kelley said. “Participants are increasingly realizing that what they individually bring to The Big Table is what makes it impactful. They chose unique locations, creative formats, and provocative topics. That mix of people exercising ownership while still creating a shared experience is powerful.”



Photo courtesy of Harmony Project

“This morning was one of those life moments that will be held in my heart forever. I had the opportunity to join about 100 women and men representing the Harmony Project and the central Ohio community at the Ohio Reformatory for Women as part of The Columbus Foundation’s Big Table. For more than two hours, and with no walls between us, we listened and talked to each other in small groups on topics related to what constitutes freedom. Those conversations were powerful, educational, and emotional, and I know I gained more from being in the presence of these women than they could possibly gain from time with me.”

—BILL PEARSOL, Harmony Project member

SURVEY RESULTS

Approximately 700 people took The Big Table survey. Here’s some of what they told us.

Participants represented 67 unique zip codes

- Top 5 topics discussed:
- Education → 46.5%
 - Economic Issues → 46%
 - Affordable Housing and Homelessness → 45%
 - Poverty → 45%
 - Children’s Needs → 38.5%

Let’s do it again.
94% said they were likely or very likely to participate again.

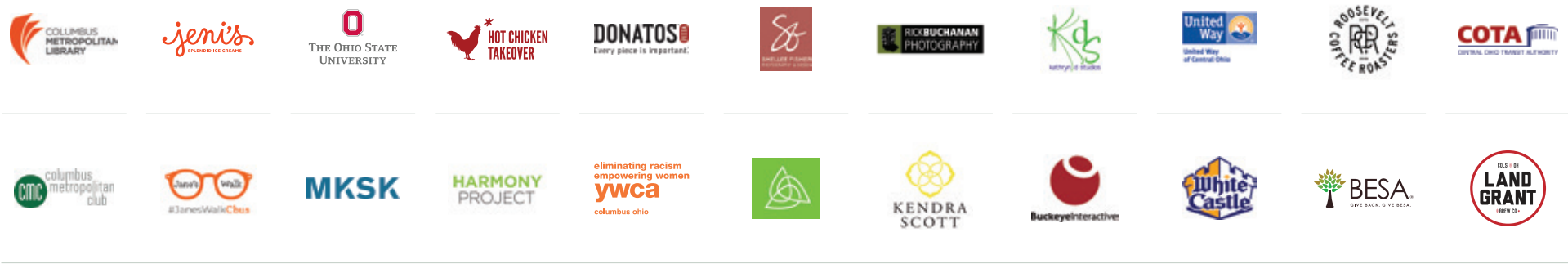
Hello, stranger!
93% said they met new people at their Big Table.

We’re better together.
75% felt their group developed an idea that has the potential to strengthen our community.

Be the difference.
63% said their main reason for participating was to help create positive change in the community.

Quote from survey:
“I was skeptical at first, but you’ve got a convert! This is a great city-wide event. Even though I only attended one conversation... I still felt a part of something larger than myself.”

BIG TABLE PARTNERS



CRITICAL NEED ALERT

“

We at the William H. Davis, Dorothy M. Davis and William C. Davis Foundation put a lot of stock into what The Columbus Foundation does, and we know they don't take these Critical Need Alerts lightly. So, when the Foundation approaches us with an opportunity to make a lasting difference by supporting emerging needs in the community, we are proud to partner with them and others on the effort.”

—BILL WELLS, Chairman and President of the William H. Davis, Dorothy M. Davis and William C. Davis Foundation, a Supporting Foundation of The Columbus Foundation

Phenomenal Generosity Catapults Critical Need Alert Results to More Than \$2.4 Million!

THANKS TO AN EXTRAORDINARY outpouring of generosity, the **Critical Need Alert (CNA): Our Kids**, eclipsed its \$1.5 million goal by more than \$900,000, making it the largest and most successful CNA in the Foundation's history. In total, **\$2,431,525** from 163 gifts was raised by donors and Supporting Foundations.

“The incredible response to this Critical Need Alert illustrates that people do embrace the fact that we, as a community, have a responsibility to take care of ‘our kids,’” said Douglas F. Kridler, President and CEO of The Columbus Foundation. “We celebrate our donors’ extraordinary commitment to the young people of our community through funding this Critical Need Alert, the most successful CNA in our history.”

The CNA, launched on September 5, was developed as an opportunity to join together as a community to address two urgent issues related to some of our youngest and most vulnerable residents: supporting quality early childhood education and bolstering collaborative efforts to effectively end youth homelessness.

SUPPORTING QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Funds from the CNA will enable nonprofits, including **Action for Children, Columbus State Community College**, and **FutureReady Columbus**, to help area childcare centers complete necessary requirements to receive accreditation from Step Up To Quality, a statewide ranking system established in 2005. The state set goals that mandate 100 percent of licensed childcare providers be rated (on a 1- to 5-star accreditation system) by 2020.

Ohio offers publicly funded childcare to children of working parents living at or below 130 percent of the federal poverty level (for example, \$2,252 a month for a family of three). This care, typically from ages 0–5, takes place during a critical time in a child's growth and learning. According to a recent Groundwork Ohio report, in 2017, 75 percent of all children eligible for public funding in Franklin County were in unrated

centers. If these centers are not able to receive the professional development training and accreditation necessary to increase to at least a 1-star rating before the deadline, they will lose their ability to accept public funding.

EFFECTIVELY ENDING YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

Youth homelessness is a public health crisis in our community. Youth experiencing homelessness are 12 times more likely to die due to untreated illness, suicide, or assault. Nationally, 41 percent of youth experiencing homelessness have attempted suicide. In 2017, more than 1,300 youth ages 14–24 were served in Columbus and Franklin County shelters. Further compounding the challenge in sheltering youth experiencing homelessness is that, due to trauma, youth often do not trust adult caregivers and may choose to live on the street rather than seek shelter at an adult facility. This puts them at additional risk for exploitation and violence.

Funds from the CNA will help nonprofits serving youth experiencing homelessness, including **Community Shelter Board, Huckleberry House**, and **Star House**. Support from the effort will assist them as they work to connect youth to stabilizing resources; expand outreach efforts, services, and educational programs in the shelter system; and help with the implementation of a framework for a community-wide response to prevent and end youth homelessness in central Ohio.

CNAs were created for donors and community members who want to participate in a shared investment opportunity and partner with the Foundation to support our community's greatest needs. To date, CNAs have leveraged **more than \$9 million** for a wide range of initiatives including childcare, food for families, basic needs, workforce development, fresh food, and the arts.

INAUGURAL HEART WORK AWARD RECOGNIZES PASSION AND COMMITMENT TO HELPING OTHERS



Heart Work Award honoree Kyra Crockett Hodge (center) shares her custom visual award created by Duarte Brown with attendees at the October 2 event held in The Columbus Foundation's Davis Hall.

ON OCTOBER 2, The Columbus Foundation presented the first-ever **Heart Work Award** to Kyra Crockett Hodge, Huckleberry House's Youth Outreach Program Team Leader. The award was created to recognize and honor an individual who is working to strengthen our community through tireless efforts that may often go unnoticed.

Kyra celebrated 19 years at Huckleberry House in August. She holds a bachelor's degree in social and behavioral sciences from The Ohio State University. Kyra advocates daily for her clients, walking the streets to



make sure youth have what they need, including a safe place to stay. Her commitment to them, and passion for lifting others up, made her the perfect choice for this award.

Barbara Fant, Nonprofit Outreach Administrator at The Columbus Foundation, was instrumental in the creation of the Heart Work Award.

“As part of my journey at the Foundation, I have made it my goal to acknowledge, uplift, and honor individuals who are on the frontlines of organizations and who often go unnoticed,” Barbara said.

“What has sprung from that practice is the idea of an award for a different kind of community ‘leader,’ someone who is in the trenches, often in the background, and may not get the praise. A leader who is not just doing the hard and often thankless work in our community, but the *heart* work.”

Duarte Brown, a 2018 Columbus Foundation *Spirit of Columbus Award* winner, was commissioned to create a custom visual award. In addition, a grant for \$10,000 was made to Huckleberry House in Kyra's honor.

“Receiving this award prized me with feelings unexplainable,” Kyra said. “To know that you are, on a daily basis, being nothing more than yourself and someone recognizes and confirms that my contributions to the greater good are known, necessary, and valued feels really good. I'm so grateful for the experience. It is a much needed fill-up for the work that often drains my tank daily!”



Books that Inspired Me



“A good book
can be a teacher,
a mentor, and
a friend.”

KELLEY
GRIESMER

KELLEY GRIESMER, J.D., CAP®, The Columbus Foundation’s Senior Vice President and Manager, Walter Family Philanthropy, has a passion for kindness, connection, social justice, her family, and all things Dave Matthews Band. While her previous roles saw her as a partner for Jones Day and COO for Pelotonia, Kelley now champions Foundation initiatives like The Big Table®, The Big Give, and Kind Columbus. We sat down to find out what books hold great meaning to her.

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Did someone inspire you to read growing up? Who, and how?

My mother, who was a kindergarten teacher for 30 years, inspired my love of reading in so many ways. Some of my earliest memories are of her reading a set of Raggedy Ann and Andy chapter books to my brother and me. I loved them so much that I still have them. Over summer breaks, she would take us to the library regularly to check out as many books as we could carry. She also talked to us about the books she was enjoying like the series of John Jakes’ historical fiction novels, which inspired me to love history too. Even better, when my son was born, she did the same thing for him.

If you had to name a favorite author, who would it be and why?

I adore books by Elinor Lipman. When I practiced law, I often ended up killing time in airport bookstores. On one such occasion, I settled upon one of her novels and instantly fell in love with the vibrantly authentic characters she created. Since then, I’ve read everything she’s written and always feel like I’m whisked away into a world with people I genuinely care about.

Is there a book you regularly recommend to others? If so, which one and why?

I like to recommend that women read *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd. Although it’s a fictional story, it taught me a lot about self-love, courage, and the power of women supporting women. In her book notes, Sue said she believes a community of women “not only helps to heal their circumstance, but encourages them to grow into their larger destiny.” That message resonates even more deeply with me today than it did when I first read the book 15 years ago.

If there was one author you could sit down and have dinner with, whom would it be and why?

This dream actually came true for me! Earlier this year, I lucked into a seat at dinner with Lilly Ledbetter, author of *Grace and Grit: My Fight for Equal Pay and Fairness at Goodyear and Beyond*. For me, Lilly is a real-life superhero. She risked everything to fight injustice for the common good and endured a lot of pain because of it. Yet, despite all that she has accomplished for women, the thing that most inspired me was her kindness and sense of humor. Her vulnerability is her strength, and I think we can all learn from that.

NEW SOCIAL ENTERPRISE OFFERS HOME REPAIR SERVICES



Pictured at Rebuilding Together Central Ohio’s Tool Library: Julie Smith, Executive Director, and Joshua Quaintance, Home Maintenance Specialist.

NONPROFITS ARE NO DIFFERENT than for-profit businesses when it comes to having to adjust to changing landscapes and evolving times.

Rebuilding Together Central Ohio (RTCO) has been helping disadvantaged populations with home repair since 1991. Its Safe at Home program offers emergency repairs and home modifications at no cost to low-income homeowners, with priority to seniors and individuals with physical disabilities.

But when the recession struck in 2008, things shifted.

“Rebuilding Together Central Ohio was the only owner-occupied housing support until the recession hit,” said Julie Smith, Executive Director. “Afterwards, when there were re-investment dollars through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, a lot of housing programs started doing home repair; typically to flip houses, but some were edging into what we do. For the first time in our history, we had competition. We were competing for federal dollars we’d never had to compete for before.”

Faced with this new normal, Julie knew they needed to look at ways to raise money to continue to support RTCO’s programs and clients.

“Six years ago, we hadn’t heard of social enterprise,” Julie said. “But we knew if we’re going to have competition, we’re going to need new revenue sources,” she said.

Joining together with multiple partners as they explored the idea of social enterprise, RTCO came up with the idea for **Mod Squad**, a fee-based handyman service that could help boost revenue and bridge the funding gap they were experiencing.

Launched in August 2018, Mod Squad’s team of experienced home maintenance pros are bonded and insured. It offers a myriad of services, from installing grab bars, handrails, and ramps to replacing plumbing and electrical fixtures. Clients are billed hourly, with a rate that falls below what most contractors would charge for the same service.

“There have been so many people who have given good energy and support to this project.”

—JULIE SMITH

“We take care of all kinds of things that people want done and either don’t have the time to do, have never had the skills to do, or can’t do any longer,” Julie said. While she initially thought they would see mostly seniors utilizing the service, that hasn’t been the case, and clients of all ages have been requesting appointments.

In May 2018, The Columbus Foundation awarded a \$50,000 grant to RTCO from the *Lois S. and H. Roy Chope Fund* to support the Mod Squad.

In addition to the Mod Squad, RTCO operates a social enterprise through its Tool Library, a collection of more than 200 different types of tools and over 4,000 individual hand and power tools. Launched in 2016, it offers memberships for individuals (\$40/year) and seniors (\$20/year).

Revenue raised through both social enterprises goes back into funding for Safe at Home to ensure RTCO can continue to offer free home repairs and modifications to those who need it most.

Both of these ventures are helping RTCO stay true to its primary goal.

“Our mission is to help people live in safe and healthy housing,” Julie said.



Better Together Success Keeps Local Matters Trucking Along!

LOCAL MATTERS KNOWS that kids who grow veggies eat veggies. Its hands-on education programs encourage kids to get their hands dirty and learn about where their food comes from in an effort to create healthy eating habits that will stick with them for life.

After one of the two trucks the organization used for their education programs was totaled last year, they needed a solution to replace it so they could continue to bring this important programming to kids around the city. In an effort to quickly raise funds, Local Matters submitted a quick pitch to be considered for a Better Together project. Better Together was launched by The Columbus Foundation in 2018 as an online crowdfunding tool, uniting community champions to rally for real-time needs in central Ohio.

In early May, the Better Together project **Hands-on Gardening Education** launched with a goal of \$14,000 to support the purchase of a new truck. In 34 days, it had surpassed its goal, bringing in a total of \$14,237.

During the summer of 2018, Local Matters actively worked with kids in 28 gardens across the city. Its eight-week summer program teaches basic ecology and all about food—how it’s grown, where it comes from, and how healthy food fuels our bodies.

“With kids, our job is to break down some of those barriers to healthy eating and help them feel confident and excited about making healthy choices,” said Adam Fazio, Director of Development for Local Matters. “One of the most powerful ways we do that is by getting them in the garden. Whenever possible, we incorporate some element of growing into our work.”

The truck, vital to Local Matters’ gardening programming, helps transport tools, product,



A successful Better Together project helped Local Matters secure a new truck (pictured top left) that will be used to support its gardening efforts throughout central Ohio. Each year, the organization provides hands-on gardening opportunities to hundreds of local kids, encouraging healthy eating habits.

and people. The organization serves 100 different gardening sites throughout the city, from community centers and schools, to sites at places like St. Vincent Family Center and Maryhaven.

“We use our trucks every day to travel to all of the gardens, haul equipment, plants, and supplies,” said Adam. “And having multiple trucks allows us to do multiple volunteer events at the same time.”

Thanks to the outpouring of generosity from 96 donors who contributed to this successful Better Together project, Local Matters will continue its important work inspiring kids from across the city to embrace healthy eating.

“We are so grateful to The Columbus Foundation and the community for stepping up to give children and families the experience of gardening and hands-on education,” said Michelle Moskowitz Brown, Executive Director of Local Matters. “Together, we are making sure everyone in central Ohio has access to fresh, healthy food!”

Columbus Youth Foundation Awards Grants at Home Run Derby



THE MINOR LEAGUERS weren’t the only ones hitting it out of the park during the Triple-A Home Run Derby held at Huntington Park on July 9. *Columbus Youth Foundation (CYF)*, a Supporting Foundation of The Columbus Foundation, presented six local nonprofits with grants ranging from \$4,100–\$40,000 during an on-field ceremony.

The recipient organizations all provide youth-focused programming to promote health and wellness in central Ohio through recreation and sports.

“Since its initial founding in 1955, investing in opportunities for kids to have fun has been a primary goal of the Columbus Youth Foundation,” said Cathy Lyttle, Chair of CYF. “Our longstanding relationship to Huntington Park and the Clippers made this summer’s Home Run Derby the perfect time and place to recognize these remarkable organizations who share our vision for strengthening kids’ lives through recreation and sports.”

Established as the first Supporting Foundation of The Columbus Foundation in 1976, CYF has awarded more than \$4 million in grants to help young people attend summer camp, participate in recreational activities, and engage in athletic pursuits. It makes a difference in the lives of youth from economically disadvantaged neighborhoods of Columbus by providing healthy, positive opportunities to learn life lessons through recreation and sports.

NONPROFITS HONORED DURING THE HOME RUN DERBY:

Recreation Unlimited Foundation
\$4,100 for Summer Camp Scholarships

Girls on the Run of Central Ohio
\$10,000 for Afterschool Programs

Boys & Girls Club of Columbus, Inc.
\$40,000 for the Summer Brain Gain Program

YMCA of Central Ohio
\$8,000 for Garver YMCA Youth Sports Programs

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Ohio
\$10,500 for Camp Otý’Okwa Scholarships

Gladden Community House
\$10,000 for the Team Sports Program



As of October 24, 2018, 23 Better Together projects have been completed, raising a total of \$173,548 to fund real-time needs in our community. New projects are added regularly! Visit columbusfoundation.org/bettertogether to see how you can make a difference today.



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2018 PHILANTHROPY AWARD WINNERS

During The Columbus Foundation’s annual Celebration of Philanthropy in September, the 2018 Philanthropy Awards were announced. These recipients were honored as extraordinary examples of philanthropic excellence. Congratulations, and thank you for your generosity and leadership!



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.

This year’s award goes to founders of The Women’s Fund of Central Ohio, for their passionate pursuit to establish an organization that creates social change for women and girls in our community.

Founders of The Women’s Fund of Central Ohio (l–r): Kathy Ransier, Carol Andraee, Sally Crane Cox, Judy Garel, Emily Rutherford, Cathe Chapin Kobacker, Mary Lazarus, Melodee Kornacker, Sharon Cameron, Jody G. Scheiman, Ann Pizzuti, Nancy Jeffrey, and Loann Crane. Not pictured: Barbara Fergus and Stephanie Hightower.



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

Community Development for All People (CD4AP) and Rev. John Edgar, Executive Director, were honored for the many ways CD4AP positively impacts the lives of those living on Columbus’ South Side.

Rev. John Edgar (center) accepts The Columbus Foundation Award on behalf of Community Development for All People.

Photos by Rick Buchanan Photography