

# NEXUS

THE COLUMBUS  
FOUNDATION

SPRING  
2016



**NEX·US** (něk'sēs) 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

“**Heart.**” That was what Archie Griffin answered when I asked him, “There were many running backs before, during, and since your years of playing that had your same weight and height—what made your five feet and nine inches of height, and 189 pounds of weight so effective that you could become the only two-time Heisman Trophy winner?”

**ARCHIE’S DEFINITION OF HEART** in a football sense was the willingness to commit to a hole in the line, and to the waiting linebackers. There was no ambivalence—just a full throttle engagement with the opposing forces awaiting him, with trust in his skills and in those of his teammates.

In the world of the other “football”—soccer—the English Premier League just crowned a new champion, Leicester City Football Club. You may have heard the odds against them to become champions at the beginning of the season were 5,000 to 1. As was written in *USA Today* recently, “This is not a dream come true because no one was crazy enough to dream it to begin with.”

My wife Monica and I mentor a young boy who lives in West Franklinton. Five years ago, Monica got to know him as a gifted performer in her program for fourth-grade Columbus City Schools’ students. The boy has never seen his father, who was imprisoned before his birth, his mother has not been home for years, and his grandparents are deceased. He is being raised along with other half-siblings by his now 25-year-old cousin, who works two jobs a day.

Wes Moore, who grew up in similar circumstances in Philadelphia, beat the odds and built a successful career as a decorated

U.S. Army officer, author of *The Other Wes Moore*, social entrepreneur, and political analyst. A few years ago, after hearing Wes speak at Chautauqua, we went backstage and Monica had the temerity to ask him if he would record a message to our mentee. Wes agreed, and said: “Hey, (the boy’s name), aim for the stars, not the street lights!”

We have a growing concern

that our mentee’s aim recently isn’t even making it as high as the street lights. We can see the dark forces in the neighborhood begin to reel this boy in. He seems to be fading from our reach, and it is heartbreaking to watch. The odds may not be 5,000 to 1 against a bright future for this child, but, they are daunting.

**According to a recent study by researchers at Harvard University, for children born in poverty, climbing the income ladder occurs less often in the Southeast and industrial Midwest, the data shows, with the odds notably low in Atlanta, Charlotte, Memphis, Raleigh, Indianapolis, Cincinnati, and Columbus. My guess is that is not the picture you have in mind about our prosperous, growing Columbus community.**

We need all the collective “heart” we can muster in order to face the biggest challenges in our community, and make the seemingly impossible real. That is why we are launching a multi-year project to help build capacity in our community to serve our “Opportunity Youth,” details of which we will announce at our *Celebration of Philanthropy* on August 31.

We hope you will join us as we venture forward in this important way.

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Lynsey Harris

### 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/spring2016nexus](http://columbusfoundation.org/spring2016nexus)

For more information, visit [columbusfoundation.org](http://columbusfoundation.org) or call 614/251-4000.



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



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### CONTACT US!

If you have questions, comments, or ideas about NEXUS, we would love to hear from you. Email us at [avick@columbusfoundation.org](mailto:avick@columbusfoundation.org) or call 614/251-4000.

# Inspiring Change

## FAMILY PHILANTHROPY FOCUSES ON MAKING A DIFFERENCE—TOGETHER

**PHILANTHROPY HAS ALWAYS BEEN** a family affair for David and Cathy Presper. Both grew up in families that believed strongly in the importance of helping others. It’s a value they are now passing down to their four daughters.

“Both our parents were very charitable in terms of giving—not just money, but time,” said David. “Giving back was a product of our faith and a religious upbringing founded in service—give of time, give of talent, give of treasure. It’s really something that has been handed down to us and we would like to hand down to our children as well.”

Cathy noted that her mom was a great example of someone who gave of her time through volunteer work. Her parents encouraged her and her siblings to appreciate things and not take for granted opportunities they were given.

The Prespers, residents of Bexley, established the *Presper Family Fund*, a Donor Advised Fund, in 2009 to support their charitable efforts. The overall goal of their grantmaking is to give people an opportunity to improve their situation and their lives. Over the past seven years, the fund has provided support for organizations mainly focused in the areas of education, housing, and food/nutrition.

“I personally believe that if you don’t have those basics, it is hard for an individual to pull themselves out of poverty and be successful in their lives,” David said. “With just a little bit of help to get them over the hump, many kids would not have to go to school hungry, or worry about a place to sleep at night. Once they get an education, they can take off and become very productive members of society and do really well for themselves, their families, and their communities.”

In addition to providing financial support, the Prespers enjoy participating in projects as a family. David volunteers with Habitat for Humanity and The Salvation Army, and Cathy volunteers and teaches cooking classes for

Local Matters. Together, the family has gone on service trips to Guatemala and provided support for Cooperative for Education, an organization that helps Guatemalan schoolchildren break the cycle of poverty through education.

As their daughters grow, (twins Andrea and Maria are seniors at Columbus School for Girls, and twins Kim and Stephanie are sophomores), David and Cathy will begin to involve them more in the fund. Currently, the girls regularly give of



Pictured (l–r): Maria, Andrea, David, Cathy, Stephanie, and Kim Presper outside their home in Bexley

their time and money in their own ways.

“They know we have established a Donor Advised Fund and that we want them to be philanthropic in their lives. We’ve talked about being smart about how they use money and being appreciative of what they have and giving to others,” David said. “They have that mindset. They naturally are giving and caring individuals.”

Cathy, a twin herself, hopes in the future her four daughters can work together, as she and her three siblings have done through a Supporting Foundation established at The Columbus Foundation in 2004, the *Moritz Family Foundation*.

“With my siblings, it’s nice that we get that time to work together and try to help make a difference. I think that’s something we would like to see our girls doing with our fund once they are out of college. It’s something fun they can do together that helps other people,” Cathy said.

### CRITICAL NEED ALERT

Thanks to you, we exceeded our goal!

### LAUNCHING TECH CAREERS FOR OPPORTUNITY YOUTH

Thanks to their overwhelming generosity, Columbus Foundation donors are making the dream of a technology career a reality for more than 125 young adults in central Ohio.

In February, The Columbus Foundation launched a **Critical Need Alert, The Pathways Project**, as a unique way to propel at-risk youth from idleness to the powerful pathways of technology careers. It was the Foundation’s goal to not only provide training or jobs—but initiate careers with opportunities for upward mobility and long-term self-sufficiency. Beyond these careers, this effort invests in our three partner nonprofits to amplify their capacity and propel new innovations in the future.

In less than six weeks, a total of **\$634,850** was leveraged by 63 investors who partnered with the Foundation to help launch in-demand careers for young adults—helping to strengthen and improve the lives of these men and women, and our community as a whole. The total raised included \$200,000 in kickoff funds approved by The Columbus Foundation’s Governing Committee, and \$434,850 contributed by Foundation donors.

The Columbus Foundation’s Community Research and Grants Management team identified three innovative nonprofit organizations in the technology workforce development sector to partner with on this effort—Digital Works, i.c. stars, and Per Scholas.

“Without the support of Columbus Foundation donors, we would not be able to propel these young people into amazing careers while building a stronger community for everyone. The opportunities made possible will multiply throughout Columbus. Families will be stronger. It brings such joy to my heart,” said Plinio Ayala, President and CEO of Per Scholas.



**TAKE ACTION:** Learn about the research conducted in 2015 that led to this CNA, *Opportunity Awaits: Reconnecting Franklin County Young Adults to School and Work*, at [columbusfoundation.org/takeaction](http://columbusfoundation.org/takeaction).

## Celebrate Special Spring Occasions with Charitable Gift Cards



**THE COLUMBUS FOUNDATION’S** Charitable Gift Card is a personal, meaningful gift. It’s the perfect way to show appreciation on Father’s Day, congratulate a newlywed couple, honor a recent graduate, or celebrate a birthday. Charitable Gift Card recipients can support any of the 600 central Ohio nonprofits featured in PowerPhilanthropy,® the Foundation’s online marketplace. Your choice of a physical or electronic gift card also offers flexible options for sharing by email or Facebook.

Available in denominations of \$20, \$50, and \$100, it is a thoughtful gift for those who want to make a difference. The cards never expire, and 100 percent goes to the nonprofit selected by the recipient. Columbus Foundation donors with a Donor Advised Fund can use their fund for purchases of \$100 or more. Contact your Donor Services Officer for more details.

Give a little sunshine this spring by inspiring generosity and strengthening our community! To purchase, visit [columbusfoundation.org](http://columbusfoundation.org).





# 5 NONPROFITS TO WATCH

Five central Ohio nonprofit organizations targeting critical community issues were named “5 Nonprofits to Watch” in 2016 during a *Your Philanthropy* event held at the Foundation on March 18.

The five organizations chosen by the Foundation’s Community Research and Grants Management team illustrate the vast and diverse needs of the community and the increasing sophistication of organizations trying to meet those needs. The “Nonprofits to Watch” include: Equitas Health (formerly known as AIDS Resource Center Ohio Inc.), Columbus Metropolitan Library, Community Properties of Ohio, HandsOn Central Ohio, and Maryhaven. Each was awarded a \$5,000 grant.

The Foundation started recognizing “Nonprofits to Watch” in 2014, looking for local organizations that meet key criteria, including those that are innovative, collaborative, have strong leadership, and are responding to a critical community need.

## MORE ABOUT THE 5 NONPROFITS TO WATCH IN 2016:

**Equitas Health:** Formed in the mid-1980s to lead the fight against HIV/AIDS through awareness, advocacy, and care, the organization has grown into a large and sophisticated one focusing on healthcare for the LGBTQ population. Building on its remarkable success, the group will expand its services in 2016 to serve anyone in need of care.



**Columbus Metropolitan Library:** The prestigious library is in the midst of a \$131 million renovation and building program, with a dozen libraries either being renovated or built across the community. The new buildings will be energy efficient, environmentally friendly, and designed to attract residents of all demographic groups. The jewel of the library system, the Main Library, will reopen in June after a \$30 million overhaul.

**Community Properties of Ohio (CPO):** Formed in 2003 to acquire and manage a large, scattered-site Section 8 housing portfolio in Columbus, CPO has spent more than a decade transforming these residences. Following a massive, \$133 million renovation, the units now provide quality housing with support services to a population consisting largely of young single women with children. Working in partnership with a number of local nonprofits and community organizations, CPO this year will expand its innovative Scholar House, providing affordable housing and creating a critical support system, including on-site childcare, for parents seeking higher education.

**HandsOn Central Ohio:** Serving as the front-door information and referral line for the region, HandsOn provides 24-hour telephone support, responding to more than 600,000 callers

Pictured (l–r): Patrick Losinski, CEO of Columbus Metropolitan Library; Ernest Perry, CEO of HandsOn Central Ohio; Isabel Toth, President and CEO of Community Properties of Ohio; Paul Coleman, President and CEO of Maryhaven; Bill Hardy, President and CEO of Equitas Health

annually. HandsOn recently became the single point of access for families and individuals needing emergency shelter. In 2016, the organization will play a greater role in helping align community resources with needs through data it collects and then analyzes—allowing it to provide insights to social service organizations on trends emerging in the community.

**Maryhaven, Inc.:** Maryhaven is one of our community’s oldest, largest, and most comprehensive behavioral health providers specializing in addictive illnesses. Central Ohio has an opiate epidemic, and Maryhaven is working to curb its growth. An expansion will bring additional residential beds for detox and treatment. Today, an estimated 75 to 80 percent of all Maryhaven clients are addicted to heroin or another opiate.

**TAKE ACTION:** Learn more and support these exceptional nonprofit organizations at [columbusfoundation.org/takeaction](http://columbusfoundation.org/takeaction).



# CELEBRATING OUR NATIONAL NUMBER ONES

The Columbus Foundation celebrates the outstanding work of those who were named the best in the U.S. in the past year. The skills and dedication of these National Number Ones bring great distinction to our community.



**Gene Smith, The Ohio State University Athletics**  
National Champions in Multiple Sports, including Football, Wrestling, Pistol, Rowing, Synchronized Swimming, and Ohio Stadium – #1 in U.S. in Average Football Game Attendance

**Ann Hamilton**  
National Medal of Arts  
United States Government

**Tom Stalf, Columbus Zoo and Aquarium**  
Top Honor, Best Zoological Exhibit in U.S.  
Association of Zoos and Aquariums

**Jane Grote Abell, Donatos**  
#1 Fast Casual Restaurant, Pizza Division  
Technomic

**Nannette Maciejunes, Columbus Museum of Art, Michael Bongiorno, DesignGroup**  
Margaret M. Walter Wing of Columbus Museum of Art: Best of Architecture  
Wall Street Journal

**Elaine Roberts, Columbus Regional Airport Authority**  
Transportation Champions of Change Award  
The White House

**Brutus Buckeye**  
Division 1A Mascot of the Year  
Universal Cheerleaders Association

**Nancy Ferguson, former Mayor, New Albany**  
America’s Number One Suburb  
Business Insider

**Centennial High School STEM Club**  
National Champions – Rube Goldberg Machine Contest

**Greg Ubert, Crimson Cup**  
#1 Large Coffee Roaster in North America  
Roast Magazine

**Mayor Andy Ginther**  
Excellence in Sustainability Award  
National Environmental Health Association, and #1 Big City to Get a Fresh Start in America  
Credit Sesame

**New Albany Classic**  
In support of The Center for Family Safety and Healing, Karen Days, President #1 – Specialty Equestrian Event  
North American Riders Group

**Tom Walker, Rev1 Ventures, Columbus**  
City with Greatest Increase in Start-ups in the U.S.  
Kauffman Index of Entrepreneurship

**Twenty One Pilots**  
#1 Album Debut  
Billboard 200 Chart, and Ranked #1 – Essential Records of 2015  
Alternative Press

Pictured with C. Robert Kidder (far right), Chairman of The Columbus Foundation’s Governing Committee, (l–r) Seated: Gene Smith, Ann Hamilton First row: Karen Days, Nannette Maciejunes, Elaine Roberts, Brandon Gibson (Centennial High School) Second row: Mayor Andy Ginther, Michael Bongiorno, Jane Grote Abell, Nancy Ferguson Third row: Brutus Buckeye, Greg Ubert, Tom Stalf, Tom Walker

Photo by: Eclipse Studios



2 MINUTES WITH...

# Alex Shumate

Photo courtesy of Alex Shumate

As the managing partner at Squire Patton Boggs, Columbus Foundation donor, former Governing Committee member, and renowned local attorney Alex Shumate is well known for his leadership contributions to the legal, business, and civic communities in central Ohio. We asked him about what he likes to do in his down time—and what he thinks makes Columbus shine.

What do you think makes Columbus a great place to live, work, and play?

Columbus is one of the country’s great untold success stories. Our secret is that the leaders of our local communities, businesses, and nonprofit organizations are committed to working together for everyone’s benefit. As a result, we’ve experienced a period of continued growth and expansion while preserving an excellent quality of life.

What is your philosophy on philanthropy—and why do you feel it is important to give back?

When I was in law school, one of my professors told us that the study of the law both broadens and narrows you at the same time. It broadens you by expanding your legal knowledge and teaching you about legal principles and concepts. But that focus on the law—and viewing the world only through the lens of your legal training—can narrow you. Being involved in the community, giving of both my time and my financial resources, continually broadens my scope, my interests, and my perspectives. By giving back, I become a better lawyer and a better person.

Who inspired you as a leader when you were just starting out and why?

That would have to be Bill Brown, for whom I worked as an Assistant Attorney General. I began my career as a civil rights trial lawyer advocating for equal rights in employment, housing, and public accommodations. Over a couple of years, I was involved in 10 successful cases. Then I had a conversation with Bill about how to make a more significant and substantial impact on diversity and equal opportunity. He got me involved in a task force that eventually recommended the enactment of legislation to create a statewide

minority business initiative. That was my first experience in public policy and the legislative process, and it became a passion. It was eye opening—realizing that instead of helping a few people over the course of two years, I could be involved in initiatives that help thousands and bring about constructive change on a much larger scale.

“BY GIVING BACK, I BECOME A BETTER LAWYER AND A BETTER PERSON.”

—ALEX SHUMATE

What are some things you enjoy doing in your free time?

I play tennis every chance I get. My wife Renée and I are very involved in the Wexner Center for the Arts, and we enjoy attending Ohio State sporting events. And, of course, spending time with my family, and pursuing one of my lifelong loves: music.

What does the Spirit of Columbus mean to you?

It is the commitment that everyone in Columbus has made to making this a great place to live, work, and raise a family. One example is the accessibility of our corporate and governmental leaders. That’s not the case in every major city. In Columbus, however, our leaders are easy to engage and eager to get involved.



## STAFF NEWS

### FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES NEW LEADERSHIP & INTRODUCES NEW TEAM MEMBERS

The Columbus Foundation is excited to announce the promotion of Angela Gugle Parsons and the hiring of three individuals—Kelley Griesmer, Mark Lomax, and Scott Heitkamp.

**ANGELA GUGLE PARSONS, J.D., CAP,**® was named Vice President for Donor Services and Development at the Foundation. As the chief development officer, Angela leads the Donor Services team while continuing to work with financial advisors and individuals, families, and businesses in creating philanthropic funds and planned gifts. She joined the Foundation in 2007, following her role as an estate, business, and tax attorney at Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter.

**KELLEY GRIESMER, J.D.,** was named Director of Special Projects, and is responsible for capacity-building support for key partnerships, including the Foundation’s *Gifts of Kindness Fund* and other online philanthropic initiatives. Prior to joining the Foundation, Kelley was a key member of the Pelotonia team from 2008–2016, serving first as Director of Operations and then as Chief Operating Officer.

**MARK LOMAX, II, D.M.A.,** was named Community Research and Grants Management Officer, and is responsible for developing and managing grantmaking strategies to reduce disparities and create access to opportunities for at-risk youth. He also collaborates with Foundation staff in the development and implementation of strategic grantmaking in a wide variety of areas. Mark joins the Foundation after spending the better part of the past decade at Boys & Girls Clubs of Columbus.

**SCOTT HEITKAMP, CPA,** was named Vice President and Chief Financial Officer effective July 1, 2016—upon the retirement of Raymond J. Biddiscombe, CPA, the Foundation’s VP and CFO for the past 26 years. Scott will begin at the Foundation on May 23, as to allow for an overlap with Ray’s final weeks in this position.



Pictured (l–r): Kelley Griesmer, Angela Gugle Parsons, Mark Lomax, II





# Books that Inspired Me



Columbus Foundation donor **Cathe Kobacker** grew up appreciating the wonder of books—and their ability, through captivating words, to transport her to faraway places. From classics to detective novels to books focusing on terminal illness, the latter a passionate cause for her and her family, Cathe has enjoyed reading about a wide array of subjects. Along the way, she’s also been a member of the same book club for more than 30 years!

**Has reading always been an important part of your life?**  
Absolutely. Both of my parents were teachers. We were read to out loud before we could read. It’s been a huge thing. Anecdotally, I think one of the first books that really literally almost saved my life was the first Mary Poppins book. I was four years old, in the hospital, and had nearly died. As I started to feel better, I would try to climb out and explore. In order to keep me quiet, my mother read that to me. I still love to be read to, and I love to read out loud.

**What authors do you admire, and why?**  
Herman Melville, that’s a family requirement. Also, Leo Tolstoy. I enjoy mystery writers Ruth Rendell, Dorothy Sayers, and Rex Stout, who wrote the Nero Wolfe murder mysteries. For those who like food, the character of Nero Wolfe is also a foodie, so you get the whole description of lunches and dinners. It’s a cult thing. I also love playwright Marsha Norman, as well as authors Toni Morrison, Margaret Atwood, and Harper Lee. I read *To Kill a Mockingbird* in probably eighth grade and it just changed us. We lived in Buffalo, New York. So the concept of race relations in that sense was not a real part of

our lives. I enjoy description, which is present with all of these authors. When I can visualize everything about the scene—that is a sign of a good writer.

**What book(s) are you currently reading? What’s next?**  
I am currently reading the Elena Ferrante books on Naples. I’m over halfway through the second book, *The Story of a New Name*. They are really interesting. What’s nice is they’re well enough done that you can read them for a while and put them down and you haven’t lost anything. I’m also reading *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes, *The Elegance of the Hedgehog* by Muriel Barbery, and *When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalanithi, about a surgeon who is diagnosed with a terminal illness.

**Is there a certain book you feel has made a large impact on your life?**  
It’s hard to say. I really struggled learning to read. So my father just gave me a copy of Melville’s *Typee* and it taught me to read. The other book is *The Death of Ivan Ilych*. It was the first time I read a book that captured the essence of what it is to be a patient. I don’t know how he did that. It is incredibly compelling from that point of view.



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



# Sharing Kindness—Community Celebrates Older Adults on Valentine’s Day

**IN FEBRUARY**, the Foundation partnered with Columbus Underground and BESA to celebrate the season of Valentine’s Day by promoting the **Gifts of Kindness Fund’s** mission to help share kindness. Columbus Underground’s “Best Bites: Sweet Treats” event, featuring 28 of Columbus’ best desserts, welcomed nearly 1,000 guests to taste the sweets, with a portion of ticket proceeds supporting the fund.

At the event, BESA volunteers encouraged guests to write Valentine’s Day notes for older adults in our community. The notes—full of well wishes, love, encouragement, and “roses are red” poems—were then attached to flowers and hand delivered to older adults throughout our community.

In total, 1,000 Valentine’s Day notes and flowers were given to older adults at National Church Residencies and to LifeCare Alliance’s Meals-On-Wheels recipients. Additionally, Gifts of Kindness received \$2,700 from the event’s ticket proceeds, and is continuing to help individuals and families in our community with emergency needs. Now that is sweet!

Gifts of Kindness provides one-time grants to help lift up individuals and families who experience an unexpected setback and need an immediate financial boost to help them continue on a path to independence and sustainability. The grants, ranging from \$500-\$3,000, help with costs that occur due to a wide range of emergency situations.

The goal of the fund is to not only provide financial support, but to help illustrate how acts of kindness throughout our community make a difference—and inspire others to do the same.

Since its launch in September 2014 Gifts of Kindness has partnered with 15 nonprofits to award grants totaling \$501,881 to help those in need in our community.



Volunteers were on hand at Columbus Underground’s “Best Bites: Sweet Treats” to encourage others to spread kindness with homemade cards for seniors in our community.



**TAKE ACTION:** For updates on Gifts of Kindness, or to make a contribution to help others in our community, visit [columbusfoundation.org/takeaction](http://columbusfoundation.org/takeaction).



# Task Force Offers Recommendations to Address Emergency Psychiatric Services Crisis

It’s staggering to know that nearly one in four adults in Franklin County experience mental illness. From May 2009 through August 2015, the county saw a 177 percent increase in emergency department referrals for patients with psychiatric needs.

**WHILE THESE ALARMING STATISTICS** are not unique to our community, it is important to recognize how directly the mental health of our residents correlates to the overall strength and vitality of our city. Current emergency psychiatric services are overextended, and residents seeking services often experience long waits for treatment.

Strengthening this system has become a community-wide priority, and something The Columbus Foundation is proud to support through funding and its membership in a task force created to tackle the issue.

“The Foundation recognizes that an ongoing investment to improve the mental health of Columbus residents is critical,” said Lisa S. Courtice, Ph.D., Executive Vice President for The Columbus Foundation.

To look at ways to improve the psychiatric crisis and emergency services system in Franklin County, the Foundation joined with the Central Ohio Hospital Council, Central Ohio Trauma System, and Franklin County ADAMH Board to develop the **Psychiatric Crisis and Emergency System (PCES)** task force in 2014. Funding for the effort is provided from the Foundation and through ADAMH.

The Foundation’s participation in PCES is an effort to improve access to care for the thousands of community members needing treatment annually.

“WE ARE GRATEFUL TO HAVE EXCEPTIONAL LEADERS AT THE TABLE PREPARED TO CREATE THIS NEW SYSTEM.”

—LISA S. COURTICE, PH.D.

“Clearly, the demand for services far exceeds the providers’ ability to treat people in a timely manner and has resulted in a system of care that is highly stressed,” Courtice said. “The highly trained and talented professionals managing this care system deserve our support.”

The Task Force worked collaboratively to develop a set of recommendations to improve the system

of care for people in need and for the professionals in the field. The three goals announced in February include:

## 1

**Increase access to patient-centered mental health and addiction-related crisis services and expand intermediate and ambulatory care options**

## 2

**Decrease utilization of emergency departments and inpatient services and reduce the length of stay of psychiatric patients in emergency rooms**

## 3

**Ensure equitable patient care regardless of payer source**

Courtice acknowledges the overarching recommendation to create a comprehensive and collaborative system of care will take time and diligence. “We are grateful to have exceptional leaders at the table prepared to create this new system,” she said. “The Foundation will remain engaged on many levels and is actively working to help meet the goals of the recommendation to identify and develop additional options for care. We will be working closely with the emergency and community mental health systems to help find solutions to improve outcomes.”

# FOUNDATION SNAPSHOTS

## OSU CELEBRATES 20 YEARS OF HOME RUNS THANKS TO DAVIS FOUNDATION



Spring ball! The Ohio State baseball team opened its 20th season at Bill Davis Stadium with Bill Wells throwing out the first pitch. In honor of the **William H. Davis, Dorothy M. Davis and William C. Davis Foundation’s** continued support and the 20th anniversary, Wells, Chairman of the Davis Foundation board, was asked to kick off the season.

Photo courtesy of Ohio State University Athletics

## SCIOTO GREENWAYS PROJECT TRANSFORMS DOWNTOWN



Members of **The Columbus Foundation’s Green Funds** were among Foundation guests given a sneak preview of the Scioto Greenways project by Columbus Downtown Development Corporation President and CEO Guy Worley.

## NATIONAL THOUGHT LEADER ROBERT PUTNAM INSPIRES A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Cristo Rey student Waki Bryant introduced **Harvard Professor Robert Putnam**, author of *Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis*, for a Foundation discussion and presentation of Columbus’ National Number Ones. “Increasing opportunity for all our kids must happen at all levels, and community foundations like The Columbus Foundation are going to be instrumental in narrowing the existing gaps,” said Putnam.



## FOUNDATION HONORED WITH AWARD FOR THE BIG GIVE INSTAGRAM CONTEST



On May 12, The Columbus Foundation was recognized with an “Award of Excellence” in the category of “Creative Tactics” for The Big Give Instagram Contest at the **Central Ohio Public Relations Society of America’s Prism Awards**. The annual event recognizes public relations excellence. Pictured with the award are Communications and Marketing team members Nick George and Lynsey Harris.





## **SPRIT OF COLUMBUS AWARD RECOGNIZES VISIONARY CHAMPIONS OF THE SOUTH SIDE**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2016 SPIRIT OF COLUMBUS AWARD WINNERS,  
Jane Grote Abell and Tanny Crane!**



**"The Spirit of Columbus Award is designed to celebrate several things—extraordinary accomplishment, uncommon courage, bold initiatives, special character, community spirit, inspiration for others, and leadership."**

**—BOB KIDDER, Governing Committee Chairman**

*The Spirit of Columbus Award*, affectionately known as "The Jerries" in honor of aviatrix Jerrie Mock, was established in 2013 and recognizes individuals who have exhibited exemplary community spirit through their accomplishments.

On April 18, Jane Grote Abell, Chairwoman of the Board for Donatos Pizza, and Tanny Crane, President and CEO of Crane Group, were recognized with The Spirit of Columbus Award for their leading roles in the creation of

**Reeb Avenue Center**, a neighborhood resource that will benefit generations of families on the South Side. Both were presented with a "Jerrie," a bronze maquette of the Jerrie Mock sculpture on permanent display at Port Columbus International Airport. In addition, each recipient received a \$5,000 grant from the Foundation to support the nonprofit of her choice. Both selected Reeb Avenue Center.

Jerrie was named the first recipient of The Spirit of Columbus Award in 2013, along with Jeni Britton Bauer of Jeni's Splendid Ice Creams and David Brown of the Harmony Project. Denny Griffith received the award in 2014 and former mayor Michael B. Coleman was honored in 2015.

Jerrie Mock was the first woman to fly solo around the world in her 11-year-old Cessna airplane with "Spirit of Columbus" emblazoned on its side. The 38-year-old Bexley mother of three took off from Port Columbus on March 19, 1964. She landed safely back in Columbus on April 17 after 29 days, 21 stops, and more than 23,000 miles. 2016 is the 52nd anniversary of her flight.