

## Main Street Barberton

Main Street Barberton, a new organization which grew out of Heritage Ohio's D.A.R.T. assessment in April this year, selected their first board members and assignments in October. The members are Denny Liddle, president; Tim Eberhardt, vice president; Ann Hutchison, secretary/treasurer; Jim Bauschlinger, economic vitality committee chair; Josh Gordon, organization committee chair; Ted Herncane, design committee chair; Jason Ondrus, Deb Shreiner, promotion committee chair and Dorothy Somerville.

Denny Liddle is concluding his term on the Foundation's board in time to lead as Main Street's first board president. Denny shared that he was eager to see what this new organization could do for Barberton. "I'm thrilled to be on this board and working with the Heritage Ohio model."

Denny recognized that several groups have worked to bring revitalization efforts to downtown over the years. "There have been attempts that have left people feeling burnt-out on our downtown," he said. "But Main Street is a proven method through Heritage Ohio to revamp downtowns. We wouldn't be meeting today if it weren't thanks to the progress and partnerships of groups like the Downtown Barberton Merchant's Association and the South Summit Chamber of Commerce."

The D.A.R.T. assessment was funded by Barberton Community Foundation, ArtsNow, the City of Barberton, Downtown Barberton Merchant's Association, Ignite Brewery, NDS and Summit County Executive, Ilene Shapiro.

Heritage Ohio's director, Frances Jo Hamilton, visited Barberton for two days, toured downtown and held a public community visioning session before providing her strategic recommendations report. The visit includes a downtown affiliate level membership with Heritage Ohio, which provides resources to the board as they plan for success.

Denny said, "It's exciting to feel the energy this new board has. I think we have the right people, the program and the partners to really change downtown Barberton in a sustainable way."

The board had their first official meeting on October 10. Their next steps include creating a nonprofit corporation, adopting a conflict-of-interest policy, and applying for tax-exempt status with the IRS.

Below: Members of the stakeholder group met with Frances Jo Hamilton from Heritage Ohio in April.



## Reflections from the Board Chair

It is hard to believe that 2022 is nearly over. It's been a wonderful return to life as normal this year after the challenges we have all endured in the previous years.

Reflecting on Barberton Community Foundation's progress this year, I am very proud of the thoughtful planning that has been done to help ensure our promise of perpetuity. The end of this year will also bring about changes in the form of three board members completing their terms of service with the Foundation. I want to express a sincere thank you to Josh Gordon, Brett Haverlick and Dennis Liddle for all the time and talent provided to the board during their tenure. It is the commitment of our board members that helps ensure that the Foundation can continue to strengthen our community for future generations.

There has been a great deal of good work accomplished throughout this year by both the staff and the Board of Directors and I am humbled to have been a part of that work. We have strengthened our processes and planning to better navigate turbulent times in the market, like those experienced this year. We made significant impacts through scholarships and grantmaking, and we were able to affect economic development efforts in the community in new and meaningful ways.

I am very excited for what lies ahead in 2023 where the economic development opportunities should continue to expand.

Sincerely,

*Jason Slater*

Jason Slater  
Chair of the Board of Directors



**BARBERTON**  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

460 W. Paige Ave. | Barberton, OH 44203

## New Fund Announcement: Magics Ready to Learn

Magics Ready to Learn Pass-Thru Fund – Established by Paula Kallio and Kathy Maybin on September 30, 2022. The Magics Ready to Learn Fund grew out of an initiative by six women: Kathy Harnden, Kim Liddle, Bethany McKenney, Mary Lou Woodford and Tayler Thompson, to help provide supplies to Barberton students. In the summer of 2022, their campaign "We are All Magics" successfully raised \$30,000 to supply 1500 students in K-5th grade with their complete back to school supply list. Paula and Kathy established the fund after the success of the campaign to grow their efforts in 2023 and beyond.



Left: Students select notebooks and other school supplies provided by the Ready to Learn campaign.

Right: (L-R) Paula Kallio, Suzanne Allen and Kathy Maybin



The mission of Barberton Community Foundation is to strengthen the Barberton community for current and future generations by providing leadership, fostering collaboration, and creating a legacy of giving to do good.

We envision an improved quality of life for Barberton residents, now and forever.

For more information and event updates, visit [www.barbertoncf.org](http://www.barbertoncf.org)  
330.745.5995 | 460 W. Paige Ave. | Barberton, OH 44203

Find us on Facebook @BarbertonCommunity Foundation



**BARBERTON**  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
**NEWSLETTER**

Winter 2022

**Board of Directors**  
Jason Slater, Chair  
Denny Liddle, Vice Chair  
Jennifer Bidlingmyer, Treasurer  
Deb Shreiner, Secretary  
Jim Bauschlinger  
Moriah Cheatham-Williams  
Josh Gordon  
Justin Greer  
Brett Haverlick  
Lynne Holcomb  
Trevor Hunt  
Mayor William Judge  
Elizabeth Mayreis  
Jeff Ramnytz

**Staff**  
Suzanne Allen, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
Kate DeAngelis  
Director of Marketing  
Carrie Herman  
Director of Community Impact  
Ted Herncane  
Director of Economic Development  
Tiffany Peters  
Director of Finance  
Karie Sattler  
Office Manager



## A Celebration of Giving

### Barberton Community Foundation's 2022 Annual Dinner and Game Changer Awards

Barberton Community Foundation held our 2022 Annual Dinner on Thursday, November 10, at the Galaxy Restaurant. "It's been three years since we've been able to meet in-person, and that is a celebration all its own," said Dr. Suzanne Allen, executive director of the Foundation. The event had been cancelled in 2020 and held virtually in 2021. "Some guests said they wish it had been longer so they could visit more."

Doors opened at 5:00, with food served at 6:30 followed by a program featuring the Foundation's 2022 Game Changers, Mike Moore and the Barberton Firefighters Association Local 329. Lieutenant Mike Beckman, president of Local 329, accepted the award for the firefighters.

Suzanne began the program with a chance for guests to take a selfie. "What you've just captured is the very reason we are celebrating," she said. "Your philanthropy – you and your good work – are what make Barberton a special place."

The word philanthropy translates to 'love of mankind' and while this word is traditionally associated with funders, we believe the many educators, grant partners, city officials, business owners and our Game Changers' friends and family, can consider themselves philanthropists.

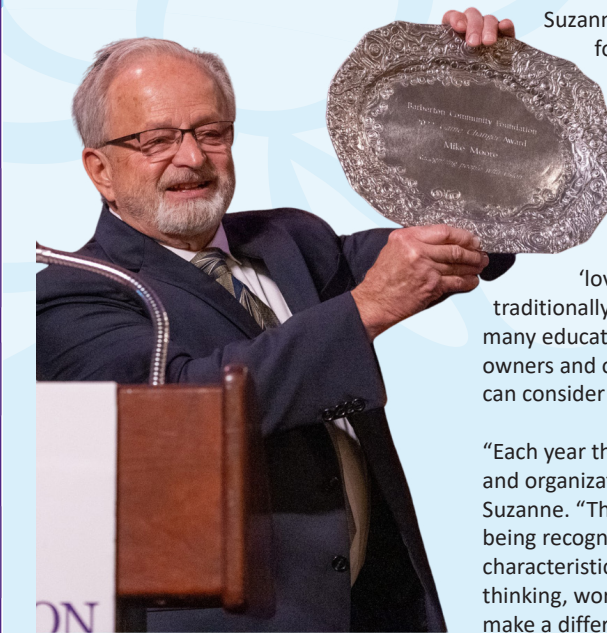
"Each year the Foundation honors very special people and organizations who are our game changers," said Suzanne. "The individual and organization that are being recognized tonight share many of the same characteristics: leadership and vision, big picture thinking, working collaboratively and a willingness to make a difference with their time, talent and energy."

Mike Moore was recognized because of his years of commitment to the community through the Coalition of Concerned Christians and the Kiwanis Club of Barberton. The Coalition organizes a weekly soup kitchen at First Presbyterian Church, provides food and clothing to Common Threads Closet, and provides free laundry services once a month. Mike thanked his wife, Linda, his church, St. Augustine and the Coalition for his success. "I'd like to thank the churches that are members of the Coalition of Concerned Christians and all the volunteers who help make these projects possible," he said. "I am honored and humbled by this incredible award. Thank you very much."

The Barberton Firefighters Association Local 329 was recognized because of their integral role in the success of the Esther Ryan Shoe Fund Spaghetti Dinner, which is organized by Magic City Kiwanis each year. During his acceptance speech, Mike said that he was accepting the award on behalf of the entire Local and those who came before. "I'm humbly accepting this award on behalf of all those who started the community events and fundraising, and those who participated in the Esther Ryan Shoe Fund. The traditions that we began so long ago in the community, are the traditions that we still follow today."

He continued, "Thank you if you have ever supported one of our events, if you've ever bought a raffle ticket from one of us or bought a t-shirt. Thank you for supporting us, so that we can support others who are in need in this community."

The Foundation would like to thank everyone who attended or sponsored our 2022 Annual Dinner. Photos from the event and Game Changer videos can be viewed on our website at [barbertoncf.org](http://barbertoncf.org).







# Thank you!



## Our Generous Donors made our Annual Dinner a Special Evening

Thank you to our board, our staff and our many friends who spent an evening with us, sharing our heartfelt congratulations to Mike Moore and the Barberton Firefighters Association Local 329, our 2022 Game Changer Award recipients.

In addition to hosting an in-person event, we also introduced a "text-to-give" platform during the dinner and we received gifts (that will be directed to the funds identified by Mike and the firemen) of over \$3,000.

A colleague asked if I was surprised by the amount of the gifts that night, and I responded that I wasn't. I've learned that Barberton is a special town, with a very kind and giving heart. People in Barberton look out for their neighbors, and make sure folks who need help find help. Just by looking at our funds, and we are nearing 100 funds housed at the Foundation, you can see how important it is to our donors that people and organizations are given the assistance they need.

If you are interested in how you can help, give us a call. We can provide information about local nonprofits that are working in areas you care about. We can also help you create a fund that will help causes that you care about forever.

By focusing on forever, we have carefully and thoughtfully invested an original gift of \$86 million, as well as additional gifts from our donors, and used mostly the interest earned to fund over \$109 million of grants to nonprofits that benefit the residents of Barberton, and scholarships to Barberton residents.

We couldn't do it without you! Thank you, and happy holidays.

*Suzanne J. Allen*

Suzanne Allen, Ph.D.  
Executive Director



Top: (L-R) Paula Kallio, Phyllis Vines, Mary Jo Goss and Father Dave Majikas

Second from top: Friends celebrated Mike Moore with fan favorite signs.

Middle Left: (L-R) Moriah Cheatham-Williams, Ken Cheatham and Tiffany Peters

Middle Right: Kris Robinson takes a selfie.

Left: (L-R) John Angerer, Cindy Fay and Letty Angerer



Above: Magic City Comics ribbon cutting on September 24, 2022.

## Economic Development Funds Support New Businesses

In collaboration with BCDC, Barberton Community Foundation launched the Economic Development Assistance Program and the Downtown Barberton Rehabilitation Program to promote business expansion and grow employment opportunities and to encourage investment in downtown commercial buildings. The program was launched in May and two of the original 15 recipients have been able to utilize their funding to open new businesses in Barberton.

## Barberton Resident Jolene Rogers first to use Foundation Scholarship at Bounce



Jolene Rogers is the first Barberton resident to take advantage of Barberton Community Foundation's scholarship to MORTAR at Bounce Innovation Hub. MORTAR is a 15-week small business accelerator that helps established entrepreneurs take a deeper dive into the nuances of business ownership to grow their company.

A Barberton High School graduate, Jolene studied at Kent State University, where she graduated with degrees in both hospitality and entrepreneurship. She's since worked as a dual general manager for Extended Stay America as well as various other hotel brands, including Choice Hotels and Hilton. This work experience gave her the inspiration for her entrepreneurial dream: to own and operate her own bed and breakfast built with values of sustainable practices. Jolene has named her business Antionette's Inn, and while she is still looking for the perfect location, her business plan is set.

"My bed and breakfast will operate on an eco-friendly model," Jolene said. This includes utilizing biodegradable materials and managing a homesteading farm on the property. "I'm incredibly passionate about recycling and using eco-conscious practices in my life." Her target market



Above: Anna Bean ribbon cutting on September 13, 2022.

Anna Bean owner Jeremy Clemetson received an economic development assistance grant from BCDC for installation of the asphalt drive thru at the coffee shop.

Jason Miller received a downtown rehabilitation grant from BCDC for HVAC, flooring, roof repairs, plumbing fixtures, and purchase or upgrade of equipment to open Magic City Comics on Tuscarawas Ave.



is the millennial traveler, a group she says is the largest market with a shared value on the eco-friendly practices she plans to deliver.

Jolene has participated in DECA at Barberton High School and Kent State's Launch program. More recently she has worked with Akron SCORE and utilized the Women's Business Center of Ohio. She says MORTAR has helped her with real business ownership skills and provided valuable resources.

As a Barberton resident, Jolene said she couldn't turn down the chance to go through a program that would be free for her to use. Her advice to other Barberton entrepreneurs considering the program? Go for it. "It's a short trip to Akron!" She said. "Uncomfortable is when great things will happen! Go the extra mile. Pun intended!"

Jolene graduates with the rest of Bounce MORTAR program's Cohort 8 members on December 13, 2022.

Barberton Community Foundation covers the cost of attendance for Barberton residents or Barberton business owners to two Bounce programs: Aspiring Entrepreneurs and MORTAR.

MORTAR classes have a rolling application. The next open cohort will start in May 2023; applications are due by March 3. For more information visit [bouncehub.org/mortar](https://bouncehub.org/mortar).



Above: White Rabbit Galleries organized the Art as a Business seminar, where students interested in an artistic career could meet local professional artists. Panelists pictured (L-R) Leandra Drumm, Dan Gorman, Holly Barkdoll, Jack Baker, and Shawn Coss.



Above: Magical Theatre Company produced a series called Tales on the Trails, run in partnership with the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, as a creative outdoor theatre option during COVID restrictions.

## Newest Grant Awards: Arts and Community

Barberton Community Foundation is pleased to announce our third grant cycle of 2022, awarding \$97,244.14 to six area nonprofits serving Barberton. This cycle focused on arts and community programming.



### Barberton Parks and Recreation

Barberton Parks & Recreation received \$15,000 to support many of Barberton's favorite special events, accessible programming and use of neighborhood parks through 2023.



### Magical Theatre Company

The Foundation awarded \$25,000 to Magical Theatre Company for their program, Performing Arts Can Teach. This program supports resident performances at Magical Theatre for Barberton City School students and traveling performances to the schools.



### CareStar Community Services

CareStar Community Services received \$23,744.14 to provide wraparound services to Barberton school students and their families.

The program will consist of community health worker services, including home visits to help families connect with appropriate healthcare, mental health and social services in the community.



### United Way of Summit and Medina

United Way of Summit and Medina received \$3,500 to continue their 2-1-1 Information and Referral Services for Barberton Residents. 2-1-1 is a free, 24/7 helpline and website that assists residents to navigate health and social services available in Summit County. In 2021, more than 3,500 Barberton residents used 2-1-1 for referrals to services or resources.



### Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity of Summit County received \$15,000 for their 2023 Neighborhood Reborn Initiative. This program supports Habitat for Humanity's first

Neighborhood Reborn project in Barberton. This program blends private home repairs with a neighbor-led public space cleanup to transform and revitalize several street blocks over two days.



### White Rabbit Galleries

The Foundation awarded \$15,000 to White Rabbit Galleries for a monthly series of events that invite the public to create art projects with their family or friends, along with artist meetups to encourage growth of an artist community in Barberton.

## 2022 Grants Summary

In 2022, Barberton Community Foundation awarded 32 grants totaling \$350,000 to 26 different grant partners (multiple awards are made to Barberton City Schools and the City of Barberton). Education and Workforce & Economic Development grant cycle awarded 13 grants totaling \$119,244.14. The Health and Wellness grant cycle awarded 13 grants totaling \$133,535.00. The Arts and Community grant cycle awarded six grants totaling \$97,244.14.

Right: (L-R) Captain Duane Milford, Retired Captain Rick Schwenning Sr., Bethany McKenney, Captain Dave Polacek, Foundation Chair Jason Slater, Captain Mike Beckman, Lieutenant Larry Heiple, Firefighter Rich Schwenning Jr., Chief Steve Ionno, Firefighter Joe Babcock, Firefighter Curtis Russell and Lieutenant Joel Muren