

Progress Annual Report 2023



BARBERTON
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



Our Mission

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.

Our Vision

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

Did you know?

Barberton Community Foundation is a “hospital conversion” foundation. One of many throughout the country, and one of 21 in the state of Ohio. Barberton Community Foundation was funded from the proceeds from the sale of Barberton Citizens Hospital in 1996.

Welcome

A Year of Progress

Progress came in many forms to Barberton Community Foundation in 2023.

Our Community Needs Assessment and work of the previous year highlighted a need for strong leadership and collaboration, a focus on downtown, and economic development support throughout the City.

In 2023, the Foundation made progress on economic development priorities, including establishing Main Street Barberton which hired Executive Director Melanie Black Amato. The Foundation also sold the Armory to a company that is moving jobs to Barberton, continued work on selling industrial lots at the newly acquired Newell Street property, and expanded our downtown rehabilitation and economic development grant programs through our partnership with Barberton Community Development Corporation.

We also went online with our grants and scholarship applications for the first time. We took a hard look at our databases and converted to a new CRM system, akoyaGO, enabling the combination of our donor and financial management with our granting process.

We are most **grateful for the progress** made by a strong and engaged Board of Directors providing steady guidance through a long leadership transition. During this transition, the Board engaged in conversations with the City about the future spending power of the Foundation, and our perpetuity requirement we must govern toward.

Part of the mission of the Foundation is to benefit current and future residents. We must challenge ourselves with a key question: What defines the Barberton our children will inherit?

Our Community Needs Assessment reported that 70% of Barberton residents surveyed felt that the quality of life in Barberton was “fair” or “good.” This year, and into the future, the Foundation is working to bridge the gap between “fair” or “good” by orienting our goals on an “excellent” quality of life in the Magic City.

We know that the shift to excellent does not happen overnight, or even in 5 years. Building an excellent quality of life for future residents of Barberton will take time, commitment from our community and partners, persistence, and a dedicated vision with a disciplined approach to bringing it to life.

We hope you'll join us in the pursuit of this vision!



*Josh Gordon - Executive Director
Jason Slater - 2023 Board Chair*

Transitioning Leadership

Steady Vision

In March 2023, Barberton Community Foundation wished our executive director, Dr. Suzanne Allen, a wonderful retirement. Dr. Allen spent the last four years growing the Foundation, leaving a legacy of professional philanthropy and steady leadership upon which to build.

Tiffany Peters, Director of Finance, stepped into the role of Interim Executive Director through December. With her focus on finance, Peters highlighted the message that good financial stewardship is how the Foundation honors our commitment to our donors and our residents.

Board leadership changed as well, with Josh Gordon, Brett Haverlick, Denny Liddle, and Elizabeth Mayreis completing terms in January 2023. New to the Board are Ann Hutchison, Hugh McMichael, Theresa Osborne, and Susan Wynn.

Consistent and strong leadership from the Board led the Foundation through much of the search for a permanent executive director. The Board contracted Finding Leaders, the same organization that helped facilitate Dr. Suzanne Allen's hire in 2019. The Board considered more than 40 applications for the role, and ultimately selected Josh Gordon for his experience as a visionary

leader with an exceptional communications background. For his part, Gordon knew he wanted to create a positive impact in the city where he lived. Gordon has spent the last decade establishing and working as the President of Full Spectrum Marketing, a full-service marketing communications firm in downtown Akron.

The Foundation announced Josh Gordon as Executive Director on December 4, 2023. Gordon served for nine years on the Board of Directors and served as a Friend of the Foundation through 2023.

With Gordon leading the Foundation into 2024, the Board can look to the future of our original endowment. Having completed our final payment on the high school, the Foundation now seeks to preserve and grow future spending power to impact the community in the future. We do this through wise investing, ensuring our endowment grows with the cost of goods and services, through disciplined but consistent spending, and with the help of generous donors with their eyes on the future of Barberton.

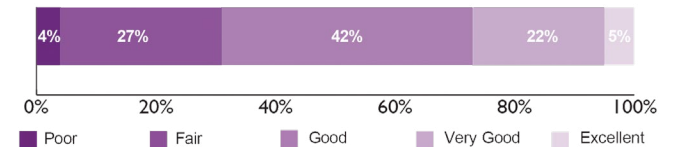
Read the [executive summary](#) of our needs assessment.

The New High School

The first grant made by the Foundation was on February 2, 1997. The Foundation Board voted to fund an entirely new facility for Barberton High School. This grant was contingent on the citizens of Barberton approving a bond issue, which they did. Thanks to this agreement, the Foundation ultimately saved Barberton taxpayers \$58 million in property taxes which would have been required to build the high school.

In 2021, the Foundation celebrated the last debt payment on Barberton High School.

Figure 1. Quality of Life in Barberton



From the 2022 Community Needs Assessment:

Community members value Barberton as a small-town, family-oriented community with history and opportunity. Yet, only 27% of survey respondents report that quality of life is very good, or excellent in Barberton (Figure 1).

This means we have work to do!



2023

By the Numbers

Since our beginning in 1996, the Foundation has awarded:

- Over **\$106,487,000** in grants to nonprofits, the city, and schools to benefit the residents of Barberton
- Over **\$4,959,000** in scholarships
- Over **\$935,000** committed in new economic development initiatives
- Over **\$19,000,000** in Program Related Investment disbursements

The Foundation's greatest impact on Barberton can be seen through the lifetime of the organization. With our focus on perpetuity, this impact must continue to grow.

Questions? Contact us!

- **Call:** 330-745-5995
- **Email:** Josh Gordon, Executive Director jgordon@barbertoncf.org
- **Visit:** 460 W. Paige Ave. Barberton, OH 44203

\$89
MILLION
NET ASSETS

\$5.3
MILLION

TUSCORA PARK
LIQUIDATING TRUST
final disbursement from
the sale of the Barberton
Citizens Hospital

\$1.08
MILLION
NEW PAYROLL
ESTIMATED

by the Foundation's
Economic Development
programming generating
\$24,373 in tax revenue
and **16** new FTE jobs

83 NEW
SCHOLARSHIPS
AWARDED
to 52 students

\$301,728
IN SCHOLARSHIPS
awards on behalf of Barberton
students (new and continuing)
given through **142**

\$85,353
IN SCHOLARSHIPS
given through **17** fund partner
scholarships

\$454,119
IN GRANTS

\$342,884
in grants awarded by
the foundation
+
\$111,235
in fund partner grants

62
GRANTS
AWARDED

not including economic
development awards

\$1.25
MILLION
COMMITTED

Includes grants awarded,
economic development
awards, and total
scholarship commitments

\$902,817
2023 GIFTS
made by GENEROUS
DONORS

115
FUNDS

These funds support a
variety of causes and
scholarships. Together
these funds invested

\$194,588
back into the community,
including **\$83,353** in
scholarships.

5 NEW
FUNDS

14
BARBERTON
BUSINESSES

received economic
development assistance
through our partnership
with BCDC

Transformational Impact In Perpetuity

Throughout the Foundation's history, we have been called upon to engage in many projects in the community, both small and large. A sizeable request from the City in 2023 caused our Board to examine our strategies for past and future spending.

When the Foundation was formed, it was intended to last forever, or in perpetuity. Since then, we have sought to balance the needs of our community today with inflation and the need for strategic fiscal responsibility to meet the needs of tomorrow. Historically, **we have saved taxpayers \$58 million** by building Barberton High School. We have also funded land for the middle school, youth sports fields, and the Active Adult Center for the City, not to mention a multitude of other smaller projects and programs benefiting residents.

Now we must turn our attention to growing the endowment so that our future residents can benefit from all the Foundation can do.

Barberton Community Foundation was established with **\$86 million as our original endowment** from the sale of the hospital. Because of our history of granting, the high community need, and unexpected economic downturns, 27 years later, the Foundation's endowment currently sits at roughly the same size. Ideally, the fund would have grown consistently with inflation.

Just like the price of eggs or gas, the costs of funding education, community services, and materials for downtown development come with a higher price tag. Because of this, the Foundation's dollars do not go as far as they once did. We must grow the Foundation's endowment to continue our impact.

With our eye on making a truly transformational impact in a future Barberton, our Board of Directors took steps this past year to ensure that the Foundation's funds are spent and allocated in a way that allows for future growth and bigger and better impact over time.

Donate Today

You can help us make a transformational impact in the future.

Please consider a donation to the foundation's endowment. Your contribution is invested wisely, and will support our core granting, scholarship, and economic development efforts, making a real difference in Barberton.



Be part of the difference!
barbertoncf.org/donate



In 2023, the Foundation awarded a total of \$419,110 in funding under our economic development priorities, including the economic development programs: the Downtown Rehabilitation Program (DRP) and the Economic Development Assistance Program (EDAP) and funding for Main Street.



Melanie Black Amato and Ted Hercane

Economic Development Progress Through Partnerships

Why Economic Development?

One word: Impact.

Our goal is to have the greatest positive impact on the most people in Barberton. The Foundation's leadership has long considered the role of the Foundation as an economic development partner to the City of Barberton and Barberton Community Development Corporation (BCDC). Based on the research found in our 2022 Community Needs Assessment, our 2022 Heritage Ohio D.A.R.T. (Downtown Assessment Resource Team) visit, as well as the overwhelming interest in our pilot year of economic development programming, we can surely point to a need for expanding economic support in Barberton.

Our strategy has three main focus areas: building up downtown with the creation of Main Street Barberton, grant-based program support for businesses, and the purchase and redevelopment of Newell Street Industrial Complex.

Main Street Barberton

Main Street Barberton was established by a board of community volunteers at the end of 2022 to increase the economic viability of downtown. Funding was provided by a joint agreement between the Foundation and the City of Barberton to provide seed funding to Main Street Barberton for 3 years.

In June, 2023, the new nonprofit hired its first Executive Director, Melanie Black Amato.

Black Amato, a Barberton native, returned home from Florida to take the job. Her mission is to revitalize downtown Barberton by bringing new businesses to the district, keeping and growing existing businesses, and building vibrancy with events and art. Melanie dove into her new role, finding an office location on 4th Street in September and joining in the Labor Day BBQ Festival, Tuscany on Tusc, and Mum Fest events.

Melanie says one of her top priorities is getting the message about Barberton's downtown out beyond the community. Since she started, she has enticed three new businesses to sign lease agreements downtown, with more coming in 2024.



Denny Liddle, president; Tim Eberhardt, vice president; Ann Hutchison, secretary/treasurer; Jim Bauschlinger, economic vitality committee chair; Josh Gordon, organization committee chair; Ted Hercane, design committee chair; Jason Ondrus, Deb Shreiner, promotion committee chair and Dorothy Somerville



Growing Programs in Economic Development

In 2023, Barberton Community Foundation expanded on two economic development programs: the Downtown Rehabilitation Program (DRP) and the Economic Development Assistance Program (EDAP). Both are administered in partnership with BCDC.

Through BCDC, the Downtown Rehabilitation Program made **\$123,960 in grants to 5 downtown building owners**. The Economic Development Assistance Program made **\$245,150 in grants to 9 area businesses**. The EDAP has a job creation requirement component to its application. Through EDAP, 16 new FTE jobs were created, establishing \$1,083,240 in payroll and generating an estimated \$24,373 in annual tax revenue for the City of Barberton.

Newell Street: Site Readiness Begins

The Foundation purchased the 36-acre Newell Street industrial property to create manufacturing jobs in Barberton. We are working collaboratively with the City of Barberton, which was awarded a \$350,000 grant from Summit County through the Ohio Department of Transportation in August. This funding will help support site readiness, infrastructure, and traffic improvements to the site.

A final phase of remediation was completed in the fall when an old office building and small barn were razed. The City of Barberton assisted with asbestos removal and site preparation. Because of projects like Newell, businesses are able to stay or expand, creating good jobs for our workers.

We are very excited about this project's potential and look forward to seeing a flourishing industrial park in the future!

Josh Gordon, Executive Director of Barberton Community Foundation

Get Involved

If you are a resident of Barberton, own a business in Barberton or are interested in moving your business to Barberton, or own property in Barberton's historic district, you may qualify for one of these programs.

Contact Barberton Community Foundation at 330-745-5995 or email jgordon@barbertoncf.org for more information.

Applications and detailed program descriptions are available online at barbertoncf.org/collaborate-programs.

CYCLE 1

EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE
& ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

8 GRANTS

totaling \$73,009.04

CYCLE 2

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

14 GRANTS

totaling \$139,500

CYCLE 3

ARTS AND COMMUNITY

6 GRANTS

totaling \$93,375

2023 Grants

Cycle 1: Education and Workforce & Economic Development

Barberton City School District was awarded **\$22,975.32** for their partnership with AMHA to expand support for families and students. The grant supports more on-site tutoring days, bussing to parent/teacher conferences, and bi-monthly resident meetings to educate parents about school services and opportunities. AMHA expects to serve 800 individuals through these programs.



Barberton City School District was awarded **\$6,533.72** to support the primary school's Magical Reading program, which teaches parents how to read to their children in creative, educational and engaging ways. Funding supports the purchase of books for families to read together, crafts and operations for the event.

National Inventors Hall of Fame received **\$15,000** for 2023 Camp Invention financial support for 120 students who would like to attend. Camp Invention is a summer enrichment program led by Barberton teachers with STEM-based curricula.

Child Guidance & Family Solutions received **\$10,000** for their Toddlers and Preschoolers Succeeding (TAPS) program. TAPS provides on-site training for preschool and childcare staff on how best to respond to challenging classroom behaviors and improve kindergarten readiness. Child Guidance anticipates serving 380 preschoolers with this funding.

United Way of Summit & Medina received **\$5,000** to support Financial Empowerment Center services provided to Barberton residents. The Center estimates they will serve 215 residents through free financial empowerment programming, including financial coaching, tax preparation and banking assistance.

Junior Achievement was awarded **\$5,000** to provide programming within Barberton City Schools to 320 students in middle and high school. Programs include JA Personal Finance, JA Inspire, JA Company Program and JA Economics for Success.

The International Soap Box Derby received **\$5,000** for programs and field trips for Barberton City School students, including their popular Gravity Racing Challenge program. Funding supports the purchase of derby car parts, supplies and program books for 180 students.

SCORE Akron received **\$3,500** for their Barberton Community Workforce Development programs which include mentoring and workshop programs for entrepreneurs interested in starting their own business or expanding their existing business.

Christopher attended Camp Invention, a program of the National Inventors Hall of Fame.



Cycle 2: Health and Wellness

Victim Assistance Program was awarded **\$25,000** to support their 2024 Barberton Advocacy Program. This program supports 300 Barberton residents who have been personally impacted by crime, violence and trauma, as well as 300 additional clients from surrounding communities who utilize the Barberton Municipal Court.

AxessPointe Community Health Centers received **\$25,000** to update equipment at the Barberton location on Robinson Ave and in the mobile unit that services the Barberton community. Equipment includes an EKG, vitals machine, scale and an otoscope. The mobile unit will receive portable equipment including an HbA1c test to measure blood sugar.

Habitat for Humanity of Summit County received **\$15,000** for their 2023 Barberton New Home Build project, which will be used to construct a home on Norman Street.

Embracing Futures received **\$10,000** for their Orthodontic Care Program, which provides braces for children with low-income families.

CareStar Community Services received **\$10,000** for Community-Based Wraparound Services to Barberton students and families. CareStar Community Health Workers provide home visits, services and resources, including health screenings, as part of their wraparound program.

Humane Society of Summit County was awarded **\$10,000** to support the MABEL Mobile Veterinary Clinic visits to Barberton. The MABEL bus provides veterinary services such as spay and neuter for dogs and cats, as well as vaccines. Funding allows low-income Barberton residents to utilize the clinic for free. Funding is expected to cover spay/neuter services for 172 cats and dogs and vaccines for 80 cats and dogs.



Akron Canton Regional Food Bank distribution day at The Salvation Army.

Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank received **\$7,500** for the Barberton Direct Distribution program which provides food and groceries monthly at Barberton's Salvation Army on Wooster Rd. The program's goal is to serve 85-100 families per month, distributing an average of 18,000 lbs. of food.

Greenleaf Family Center was awarded **\$7,000** for its Adolescent Suicide Prevention Program (ASPP) which will provide suicide prevention programming for Barberton students from July 2023 to June 2024. The programming is for approximately 1,800 Barberton Middle and High School students, along with training for school staff.

Ben Curtis Family Foundation was awarded **\$6,500** to support its Birdie Bag Program. Each bag contains six meals, four snacks and toiletries for students on long weekends.

Stewarts Caring Place received **\$5,000** for cancer wellness and support services. Stewart's Caring Place provides wigs, fittings and supplies, family and legal counseling, and assists with advocacy.

Family and Community Services received **\$5,000** to support Mobile Meals which provides hot and frozen meals and supplements to elderly, disabled or low-income residents.

Rape Crisis Center received **\$5,000** to support 150 Barberton residents in 2023 with outreach and education, support groups, crisis intervention, advocacy, therapy and other services.

CASA Board Volunteer Association received **\$5,000** for Barberton volunteer recruitment. CASA, or court appointed special advocates, are trained community volunteers appointed by a juvenile court judge to speak for a child's best interests.

United Way of Summit and Medina received **\$3,500** to support 2-1-1 Information and Referral Services. 2-1-1 is a free, 24/7 helpline and database for health and social services available in Summit County. The helpline serves about 2,500 Barberton residents each year.

Cycle 3: Arts and Community

Barberton City School District received funding for two programs totaling **\$33,375**. Bringing Barberton History to Life received \$19,375. Barberton 3rd-grade students receive local history lessons as part of its social studies class. The school is working to update their curriculum with a new book on Barberton history and aligning it with Ohio's Learning Standards.

Students also receive a bus tour of the city and a tour of O.C. Barber's Piggery as part of their class.

The school's second program, called Refining Music Skills, received \$14,000. The program provides support for funding skilled performance musicians to work with student percussion instrumentalists and advanced ensemble students at Barberton Middle School and Barberton High School. Their goal is to provide additional expert instruction to music students to improve skills and performance at band competitions and to inspire middle school students to continue with the orchestra once they enter high school.

The City of Barberton's Parks and Recreation department received **\$15,000** to provide support toward the city's programming, festivals and events including: "Day at the Park" youth programs, the senior fair and senior van trips, movie nights in the park and summer concert series.

Magical Theatre Company received **\$25,000** for its PACT (Performing Arts Can Teach) program. PACT provides meaningful live theatre experiences for Barberton students in grades 1,3,5,7,9, and 12. Students in these grades take field trips to Magical Theatre Company performances. The program provides Teacher-Student Study Guides that tie into their current curriculum. Additionally, all grades in Barberton Primary and Barberton Intermediate receive professional theatre experiences at their school via touring productions.

Habitat for Humanity received **\$10,000** toward its 2024 Neighborhood Reborn event, which works to clean up, revitalize and transform a neighborhood in Barberton over the course of two days. This program expects to work with 45 residents, who will see direct impact on their neighborhood through tangible home and yard improvements as well as increased civic pride, improved public amenities, and an improved neighborhood perception of safety.

Barberton Diamond Sports received **\$10,000** to overhaul one of its baseball/softball fields and to assist with scholarships for players to alleviate expenses for families. Barberton Diamond Sports offers spring and fall baseball and softball seasons with 7 baseball teams, 4 softball teams and 4 tee ball teams, serving Barberton youth 5-14 years old and their families.



Summa Barberton Physicians Scholarship

Leana Stillings and Maggie O'Donnell with TJ DeAngelis and Moriah Cheatham-Williams



Angerer Scholarship

Joshua Carter with Tiffany Peters and John Angerer



White Rabbit Galleries Scholarship

Preston Maxwell with Laura Smith

Community Impact Scholarships

On Wednesday, April 19, 2023, Barberton City Schools and Barberton Community Foundation celebrated Barberton's newest scholarship recipients with an awards ceremony at the high school. During the ceremony, 48 different scholarship funds made 110 awards to 53 students totaling **\$395,025**.

The Foundation's ACT Achiever, Cum Laude, and First Generation scholarships are all 4-year awards that increase in amount each year to encourage persistence in college. The total value of those awards is **\$282,000**. Congratulations students!

Learn more about our scholarship funds at barbertoncf.org/funds.

“We knew Preston was the perfect student to receive our first scholarship. Preston is an incredibly talented young person and we can't wait to see where their art career takes them!”

Laura Smith, Executive Director of White Rabbit Galleries



New Funds

In 2023

Citizens for Barberton's Schools' Future Pass-Thru Fund

This fund was established to provide support for school levy issues.



Megan Slater, Tiffany Peters, Sheri Blair, Chris Brown and Alicia Bernhardt - **Barberton Band Boosters**

Barberton Band Boosters Endowment Fund

In March, 2023, the Barberton Band Boosters decided to sell their bingo hall and establish a fund at Barberton Community Foundation with **\$450,000**. The Boosters will gain the ability to spend on the investment income this fund generates. The Boosters established this fund to assist in building and maintaining high standards of

musical achievement for Barberton band students which may include, but is not limited to, instruments, supplies, and equipment, as well as enrichment activities for band students.

Barberton Band Uniform Endowment Fund

This fund supports the procurement and maintenance of uniforms for Barberton band students.

Common Threads Closet Endowment Fund

Common Threads Closet is a Barberton nonprofit working for the past 10 years to distribute clothing, shoes, household items and small appliances to those in need. It currently serves more than 2,800 families from multiple counties. By donating to this new endowment fund, you will help ensure Common Threads is able to continue its mission well into the future.



Cindy Bach and Tiffany Peters - **Common Threads**



Rudy and Millie Sharkey Memorial Scholarship

Rudy was a Barberton football coach, science teacher, and athletic director. Until this 2023 season, Sharkey was Barberton's all-time leader in football coaching wins with 71 victories in 11 seasons. Sharkey posted a record of 71-36-2 as Barberton's football coach from 1972-1982. The high school football stadium was named in his honor in 1983. He is recognized in the Barberton Sports Hall of Fame, Summit County Sports Hall of Fame, and the Ohio High School Coaches Hall of Fame.



Thank you to our generous donors who gave to our funds, programs, and events in 2023. Without you, PROGRESS isn't possible!

*We would like to posthumously mention dedicated fund representatives who passed in 2023: Marco Burnette, **Karen Lee Burnette Scholarship**; Letty Angerer, **Thomas L. Angerer Memorial Scholarship**; and Elizabeth Wilson, **Craig Wilson Journalism Scholarship**.*

We honor their trust in the Foundation and the legacy they have left behind. Their commitment to provide scholarships for students will continue to inspire us as we carry on their work. Please consider a memorial donation to their funds.

Thank You To Our 2023 Donors

Akron Area YMCA
Akron Community Foundation
Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
Akron Summit Community Action Inc.
Victor Alibrandi
Dr. Suzanne T. Allen, Ph.D.

Megan Ambers
Catherine Anderson
Michael L. Andric
AngelFAX, LLC
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Jenna Angeloff

Jonathan Angerer
Anna Bean Coffee Company LLC
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Apple Growth Partners, Inc.
Austin Villa Owners Association
Terry L. Avant
Kristi Avant
Joseph Babcock
Johnathon Bach
Theodore Bach
Jean Baliga

Barberton All Sports Boosters
Barberton Band Boosters

Barberton Burgers LLC
Barberton Church Of God
Barberton City School District
Barberton Community Development Corporation

Barberton Firefighters Association Local #329
Barberton FOP Lodge 13
Barberton Moose Lodge #759

Barberton Printcraft, Inc.
Barberton PTA Council
Barberton Salvation Army Corps
Barberton Tree Service, Inc

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Mrs. Shirley Bauschlinger
Bruce E. Beckle
Emily Beck
Roderick Linton Belfance LLP
Ben Curtis Family Foundation

Carrie Bengtson
Chelsea Berish
Linda Bernat
BG's Main Event
Jennifer and Brian Bidlingmyer

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Susan Cianciola
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Claire's Garden Florist & Market
Thomas L. Clark
Tom and Patti Cleary
Jeremy Clemetson
John Cominsky
Common Threads Closet

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Debra Shreiner

Debra Welch
Decaps Lawn Care
Shawna Decola
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DesignPro Ceilings
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Grace A Ferrell
Leah C. Evans
Grace A Ferrell

Firestone VFW Post 3383
First Lutheran Church
Fish Window Cleaning



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Richard Fisher	Carrie Herman	Barbara L. Kirbawy	Charles A. Marino	Robert Nicholas	Larry T. Ricks	
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Randy Forst	Elyssa Hilton	Anonymous	Donald Martin	Dennis O'Connell and Holly Barkdoll	Debora Ritz	
Brittany Fox	Michele R. Hodovan	John L. Kriston	Ronald G. Martin	Lou Oliver	Kristen Robinson	Southeast Security Corporation
Franchising Unlimited	Lynn and Keith Holcomb	Lori A. Kuziak	William R. Martin	Olson Sheet Metal Construction	Ryan Rockhold	Spencer Tax Service
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Friends of William Judge	Hopocan Gardens, Inc.	Randy Launder	Bruce and Linda May	Sydnee Ortman	Ann Marie Rotunda	Christine States
Richard Fry	Marihelyn Horrigan	Sharon Lawrence	Kathryn Maybin	Theresa A. Osborne	James Ryan	The Stefan Family Revocable Living Trust
Full Spectrum Marketing	House of LaRose	Leach's Meats & Sweets	Douglas S. McBain and Mrs. Carla B. Dittman McBain	Sophia Papich	John Sabol	David R. Stephens
G&B Concessions	Lori A. Huffman	Legacy Strategic Asset Management	Krista McCoy	Michael J. Papp	The Sassy Dog	Steve Elliott for Judge
Joanne Garabito	Taylor Hunt	Denice Lentine	Sheila McGhee	Victoria A. Pasternak	Matthew M. Saunders	Diana Stevenson
Justine A. Garrett	Tyler Hunt	Patti Lerner	Holly McInerney	Keith Patterson	Renee Scherick	Stewart's Caring Place
Robert Genet	Ann Hutchison	Dennis Liddle Jr.	Eric McInnes	Cynthia L. Pavlovich	Cindy J. Schifer	Conrad Storad
Gerber Farm Division	Hydra Carpet Cleaning Co.	Liddle Real Estate, LLC	Bethany McKenney	Pedal Stomper Productions	W. Joseph Schoeppner	Kristin E. Strayer
Sama L. Gilliland	Jaime Iceman	Lynne Lieberth	Judge McKenney	Angela Pelfrey	Russ School	Ryan Struckel
Glaus, Pyle, Schomer, Burns & DeHaven, Inc.	Ignite Brewing Company Ltd	Liniform Service	Mary C. McMannes	Tiffany and Chris Peters	Brenda Cundiff-Schultz	Struckel Landscaping, Inc
Josh and Tara Gordon	David Incorvati	Anonymous	Melissa Nelson	Petit Auto Wash, Inc.	Anthony Seda	Glenn Shabram
Dr. Douglas and Jane Gormley	Integrity Federal Credit Union	Laurie Litten	Judge Kathryn Michael	Rebecca L. Petry	Alex Shannon	Alex Shannon
Mary Jo and Wane Goss	Bernadine Irwin	Lone Star Alumni Association	Lisa Miller	Tim Phillips	Matthew Shannon	Rudy A. Sharkey
Joseph N. Gotto	Kathryn M. Israel	Gary Long	Heather Miller	Kathleen Davis Pierce	Rudolf A. Sharkey	Kimberly K. Shifferly
Sandra L. Gotto	Paul Jarrett	Jose Lozada	Lisa O Miller for Law Director	Liv Pilon	Debra and Russel Shreiner	Todd Shreve
Tony Gotto	Donny Jarvis	Patricia L. Lucius	Nathan Miller	Pleasant View Nursing Home Inc.	Todd Shreve	Patricia A. Shultz
Thomas Gough	Lisa Jarvis	Tina Ludwig	Dorothy H Miner	David Polacek	Patricia A. Shultz	Silco Fire & Security
Green Diamond Grille & Pub	Jeffreys Towing Inc.	Kara Macko	Carol Mitchell	Mary E Porcella	Christopher Potts	Christopher J. Silva
Adrienne Greer	James W. Jensen	Bob Macko	Mojos Rib Shack	Christopher Potts	Premier Bank Foundation	Silva-Hostetler Funeral Home, LLC
Jack Greynolds Jr.	Bob Jerngan	Christopher Macko	Louis Molnar	Premier Bank Foundation	Premier Cremations Inc.	Lori A. Skelton
Shorter Griffin	JLP Development	Renea Macko	Jennifer Jo Monroe	Public Safety Educators	Salvatore P. Puglisi	Skoops Ice Cream
Kay Guenther	Debbie Johnson	Magic City Drain Services	Mike and Linda Moore	Salvatore P. Puglisi	Patricia L. Quinn	Jason and Megan Slater
Douglas B. Guilda	Ron Johnson	Magic City Kiwanis	Lindsay Motil	Patricia L. Quinn	Jeff Ramnytz	Audrey Slovich
Robert Guilda	Vanessa Johnson	Magic City Motorcars, Inc	Craig Mottice	Henry Muren	Denise Ratchford	Gene & Penny Smith
Paul G. Gulling	Johnson United Methodist Church	Magic City's Remarkable Diner	Matt Mottice	Joanne Naragon	Dale G. Ray Jr.	Robert J. Snyder
Jennifer Gunn	Jeannine Jones	Mulch Makers of Ohio, Inc.	Mulch Makers of Ohio, Inc.	Susie Naragon	Roger and Sally Read	Dr. Nancy M. Somerick
Dr. Shelly Habegger	Mayor William Judge	Magic City's Remarkable Diner	Henry Muren	David Nese	Samuel J. Reynolds	Dorothy I. Somerville
Alison Halliday	Jim Kaat	Magical Theatre Company	Joanne Naragon	Ms Rachel M Neugebauer	Ms Julie L Richards	South Summit Chamber of Commerce
Eric Hanlin	Paula M. Kallio	Main Street Barberton	Susie Naragon			
Tom and Kathy Harnden	Joe Karaffa	Mark Maki	David Nese			
Roberta M. Harris	David M. Kaser	Malco Products, Inc.	Ms Rachel M Neugebauer			
Ryan Hartzell	Kimberly Kerr	Tina Mamone				
Stephen Heitic	John W. Kester					
Helen Scott Realty, Inc.						

Barberton Community Foundation held our 2023 Annual Dinner on Thursday, November 2, at the Galaxy Restaurant.

The night of celebration featured our 2023 Game Changers, Brian Canale and Common Threads Closet. Brian Canale attended with his wife, Carol, family and friends. Cindy Bach, director of Common Threads, accepted the award on behalf of her many volunteers and supporters.

We would like to thank our sponsors and all our guests for joining us on this wonderful evening. Each of you made the event special, we appreciate you and your gifts of time, talent and treasure to the community of Barberton. This night showed Barberton's magic!



Brian Canale and Cindy Bach

Annual Dinner

Celebrating Our Game Changers

Common Threads Closet

Common Threads Closet is a Barberton nonprofit organization providing clothing of all sizes, shoes, home goods, and small appliances to those in need. Housed in the basement of Lakeview United Methodist Church at 211 3rd St, this organization is run entirely by volunteers. The closet is open twice a week, on Thursdays from 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm and Saturdays from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm.



Cindy Bach with Common Threads Closet Volunteers

Brian Canale

Brian Canale was recognized for his long history of charitable giving to Barberton City Schools, sports teams, and more recently to the **Ben Curtis Family Foundation**. Brian is also chair of the Turf Committee and hosts the Chicken Open golf tournament each year which donates proceeds to area food-based charities.

Brian Canale is synonymous with Barberton chicken, and it was at Devore's Hopocan Gardens that Brian learned the origin of the family's charitable values. When Brian took over the business, his grandfather, William DeVore, said something that has stayed with him. "We feed everybody." Brian has taken that message to heart and applied it to the community.

Watch our Game Changer highlight videos about **Brian Canale** and **Common Threads Closet**.



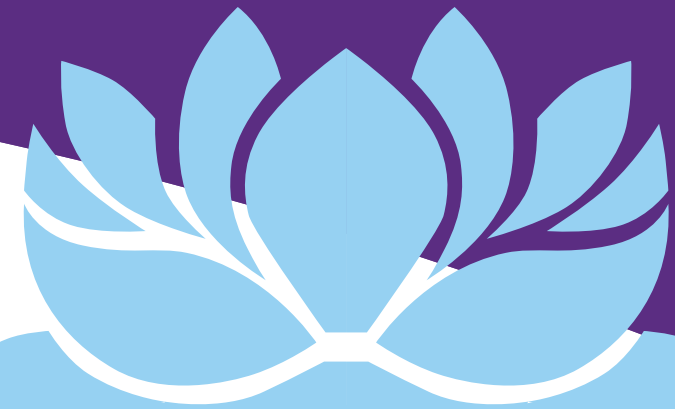
Brian and Carol Canale with Knox, their great-grandson

About Us

Board, Friends, and Staff



- Meet the Foundation **staff**.
- Meet the **Board of Directors**.
- Meet the **Friends of the Foundation**.



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.



BARBERTON

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Photo credit: Robert R. Greer Sr., SEEN: Advancing Equity in Summit County

SEEN is a project of ArtsNow, and funded in part with a 2023 grant from Barberton Community Foundation. The goal of SEEN is to showcase the depth and breadth of arts and culture offerings in the region and support and celebrate the diverse photographers and videographers who brought it to life.

Cover photo credit: Josh Troche, Pedalstomper Productions

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