



Springfield Foundation
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COMMUNITY Catalyst

Spring 2020

SERVING THE CLARK COUNTY COMMUNITY SINCE 1948

Message from the Executive Director



Ted Vander Roest
Executive Director

The staff has been humbled by all of the responses we have seen with people helping out during the

difficult unprecedented times we are all in! The Foundation created a fund to help with the food shortage on the south end of Springfield right before the Covid-19 virus arrived and we were able to provide almost \$30,000 to Second Harvest Food Bank to help. The staff at the foundation has been

working remotely for the most part, with office coverage in the morning and other staff members going in as they need to. We are getting the Foundation's important work done, but I for one miss the interaction with other staff members, donors and grantees. Staff has been working hard to complete our scholarship cycle and we will be distributing nearly \$600,000 to well deserving students. The Foundation is trying to have a focus on recovery, and the money we set aside for the discretionary grant cycle is in place and we will have our normal cycle in the fall for local not-for-profits. The Foundation's investments have suffered as anyone knows from looking at their retirement accounts. Our investments are well diversified with about 30% invested

outside of the stock market, so we should be well positioned.

I am involved with SpringForward and while those of us involved with it are very proud of what has been accomplished downtown, we are also a little sad at the loss of momentum. The board of SpringForward is also looking to recovery and continues to work on projects and we have also worked with the businesses we have already supported to help them continue operating.

We will make it through this, but it is very heart warming to see the amount of care that our community has shown!



Meaningful Support

By Tom Stafford

A fixed income is usually seen as a limitation. But not at a time when the incomes of so many are broken. That's why I posted a note on Facebook establishing the 1200 Club to support the Second Harvest Food Bank of Clark, Champaign and Logan Counties.

The club name comes from the \$1,200 stimulus checks many of us are getting from the federal government. No, you don't have to give the full \$1,200 to be a member; any amount will do. You don't have to qualify for a stimulus check to be a member, either; all are welcome to join. And of course, you don't have to be retired or semi-retired, as I am. But in my position – with our family income

largely fixed – I am uneasy about taking the stimulus money. Although our retirement accounts have taken a hit, I feel much more accountable to my conscience. And it tells me to help my neighbors and support the organization straining to provide them with their daily bread.

All know Second Harvest's mission and work. Fewer realize that it was reorganized Jan. 1 in a declaration by the leaders of Clark, Champaign and Logan counties that we, the people of Clark, Champaign and Logan Counties, would take responsibility for making sure that other people in Clark, Champaign and Logan counties would not go hungry.

continued...

“I am very happy to see the Springfield Foundation step up as it has. It is good to see all parts of the community come together to work on solutions. **Makes me proud to be a small part of the Foundation’s donor base!**”

– Nancy Mahoney

Meaningful Support ... continued from page 1

In the fourth month of its first year of making good on that pledge, Second Harvest faces two huge challenges: Responding to the opening of a food desert on Springfield’s south side and the closing of the economy by the coronavirus. Can you spell EMERGENCY?

For me, in a time of concern about institutionalized inequities — and in the midst of an emergency — the rededicated Second Harvest represents a meaningful institutional

response to one of the most chronic consequences of those inequities: food insecurity. My dream when I posted on Facebook was that 99 others in the three-county area might see it this way; that all might be able to spare the \$1,200; and that, among us, we could raise \$120,000 for Second Harvest. But, as I said, anyone can join the club — at any level — and be equally welcomed.

Just go to theshfb.org; click on Donate Now;

enter an amount; and, in the place that asks is you have a special purpose for your donation, write “I’m in the club.” Or mail a check, write “I’m in the Club” on it somewhere, and mail it to Second Harvest Food Bank, 31 N. Sycamore St., Springfield, OH 45503.

Tom Stafford is a long time columnist with the Springfield News-Sun

Meadowview Growers offers free plants for local students

As part of their lemons into lemonade campaign this year MVG has decided to gift some plants back to the local area students.



Parents are able to drive up and collect plants for their children. YouTube videos will be posted, so the kids will know exactly how to take care of the particular variety as well as simple botany lessons and basics of gardening.

Who is Eligible?

ANY school age (preschool to high school) youth is eligible to have their parent’s pick up 3 free “starter” plant. High school aged students who are able to drive are welcome to come and pick up their own plants.

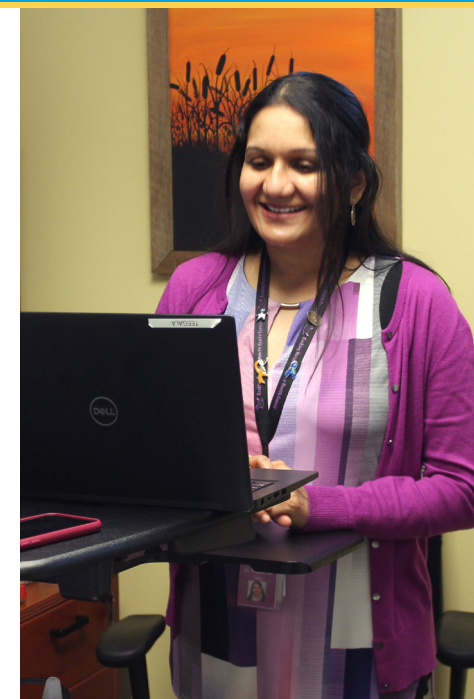
Is it really FREE?

Yes all the plants, videos, and handouts are completely free to all students. Additional optional items to help the plants grow can be found either at home or through MVG (such as additional potting soil if there is none at home). We do ask that if parents or students post pictures online that they use the hashtag #MVGKids so we can see all the hard-work the students have done. If any Scouts, FFA, or 4H members would like additional plants they can send their request to bryna@meadowview.com. Please include the student’s age, the organization they belong to, and what they would like to use the plants for.

Rocking Horse Community Health Center

Rocking Horse continues to remain open and serve a portion of the most vulnerable individuals and families in our communities, despite many challenges the COVID-19 pandemic has presented. As a direct result, we have experienced a significant decrease in patient volume, (approximately 50% of budget), a higher no show rate for appointments due to school and daycare closings and increased cost in expenditures for janitorial and cleaning supplies. Our Leadership Team meet frequently, to plan, coordinate and address concerns that arise due to COVID-19. The team continues to work diligently to keep staff and patients healthy and safe, plan for the future and identify other ways to meet the needs of our patients.

In March, our providers were trained in Telemedicine, a new service modality for those patients believed suitable. Telemedicine allows our providers to see some patients for medical and behavioral health visits via video and telephone communication. Visits are conducted through a secure connection



and our process is compliant with HIPPA regulations. Dr. Teegala, our Chief Medical Officer, indicated during one of her first visits, Telemedicine worked optimally. We continue to use Telemedicine for medical and mental health visits with success. Patients have been positive with their Telemedicine appointments and indicated a willingness to use this service in the future, if appropriate. We believe Telemedicine will be a viable and beneficial option for our patients; during the unforeseen COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

Scholarship Information

The Springfield Foundation Scholarship Program has grown tremendously. With 121 different scholarship funds to administer, it keeps the Scholarship Committee and staff busy. We are currently in the middle of this year’s scholarship cycle and its business as usual. This year the Foundation will award approximately \$600,000.00 in new and renewable scholarships and will soon be notifying students about awards.

Scholarship applications were due on February 21 and 441 applications were submitted to the Foundation. The staff verifies each application that is received and then assigns applications to our volunteer readers for evaluation. Each application is read and scored 3 times and the 3 reader’s scores are averaged to determine each applicant’s average score. Let’s do the math. If there are 441 applications and each one is read 3 times, that’s 1,323 reads. That’s a lot of reading to be done in 2 weeks.

The Foundation Board and staff are very grateful to the time our 35 volunteer readers dedicate to reading and evaluating the scholarship applications we receive. A very special thank you to Mary Miller, who reads EVERY scholarship application that is submitted and has been doing so for many, many years. Without the help of our volunteer readers we truly would never be able to make scholarship awards in a timely fashion.

Unfortunately, with the recent Corona Virus pandemic and Ohio’s dedication to reducing the curve, school buildings have closed, and students are learning online. This means events and award ceremonies will not take place this year. We are sad for our graduating seniors both high school and college. It’s a difficult end to 4 years of dedication and hard work. We will miss handing out scholarship award certificates at the high schools this year. We plan to recognize our award recipients on our website and on social media. We wish the class of 2020 much success as they transition to the next chapter of their life.

Welcome New Funds

Stocke Scholarship Fund

Scholarship to provide financial assistance to students from Clark County who are studying nursing at an accredited college, university or technical school.

John and Sheri Rechsteiner Endowment

Established for the unrestricted support of the Springfield Foundation.

Kennedy Endowment

Donor Advised fund established to support organizations and causes at the donor’s discretion.

Nina Collier Holsapple 4H Scholarship

Established by two of her grandsons in memory of Nina Collier Holsapple who served as a Clark County 4H advisor for more than 50 years.

Community Food Crisis Action Fund

Established for the broad purpose of addressing food insecurity in Clark County, including but not limited to, transportation, funding for food, infrastructure, food programs, training and any necessary expenses needed to address access to food for Clark County residents.



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Community Health Update



Adam Groshans

President, Mercy Health — Springfield

In Mercy Health — Springfield Regional Medical Center, we are fortunate to have a modern facility that gives us the flexibility to expand our ability to isolate and care for patients safely, protecting them and our associates. We are committed to supporting our caregivers, associates, patients and communities with compassionate high-quality care, especially during this dynamic time.

Throughout the pandemic, we have collaborated with the Governor's office, other agencies and Mercy Health in Cincinnati to prepare and develop a surge plan that enhances our capacity across both counties that we serve. We are working collaboratively with other health care and government agencies, including GDAHA, through this unprecedented event to help us prepare for caring for our community.

On Mercy.com, we have noted details of our preparedness efforts, visitor restrictions, guidance on how members of the community can reduce your risk of contracting COVID-19, links to trusted sources of information and resources we have in place for our community when they have questions or concerns.

These include:

- A COVID-19 hotline available 24/7 dedicated to public questions about COVID-19.
- COVID-19 video visits available 24/7 and free of charge.
- Flu clinics for people experiencing flu-like symptoms, which may include fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat or body aches. Our local flu clinic is located at Northparke Internal Medicine, 211 Northparke Drive, Springfield, OH 45503, 937-390-1700, hours: 8 a.m.–5 p.m., 7 days a week

Mercy Health continues to monitor COVID-19 updates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Ohio Health Department, among other local, state and national agencies. We have a COVID-19 Task Force that is working around-the-clock to enable an agile response to this pandemic. Our clinical leaders have implemented protocols that are consistent with CDC guidelines to ensure the quality and safety of the care we provide to our patients.

Non-profit Needs

Rocking Horse Health Center:

Funding to provide scales and blood pressure cuffs to Chronic Disease patients to use with telemedicine.

American Red Cross:

Funding to assist with services for people in need.

Second Harvest Food Bank:

Funding to provide food for the increase in people affected by COVID-19.

Planned Parenthood Southwest Ohio:

Funding to help cover the cost of implementing a telehealth initiative at the Springfield Clinic.

Heartbeat Learning Gardens:

Funding to provide fresh produce to Second Harvest Food Bank.



Snap it!

Don't forget to include the Springfield Foundation in your estate planning. To learn more, visit our website or call our office.



Confirmed in Compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations