



BARRY COUNTY
COMMUNITY SOUL

BARRYCF.ORG | 2022 ANNUAL REPORT | 2023 CALENDAR





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LETTER TO COMMUNITY

Dear Friends,

What defines “soul of a community?” We believe that it is the feeling, passion, and expression of who we are through our connections. It is the welcoming, supportive energy anchoring our soul to our home. And it's the soul of collaboration, contributions, and a vision which becomes a legacy for all.

In order to strategically guide resources, effectively utilize contributions and “move the needle” we came together to create a strategic framework focusing our efforts well into 2025. Research provided the foundation for our plan, but a consensus-building approach made clear where we need to concentrate our time, treasure, and talent.

Our board and committee members can bring leadership and vision to make investments today in projects that in 5 years will greatly improve lives by:

- providing safe, affordable housing for working families,
- fostering engaging programs that bring communities together,
- continuing support of the arts, health, economy, education, environmental opportunities & organizations

We look forward to the impacts and legacy all these efforts bring forth. Thank you to our community partners, who share the mission and passion for the soul of our community.

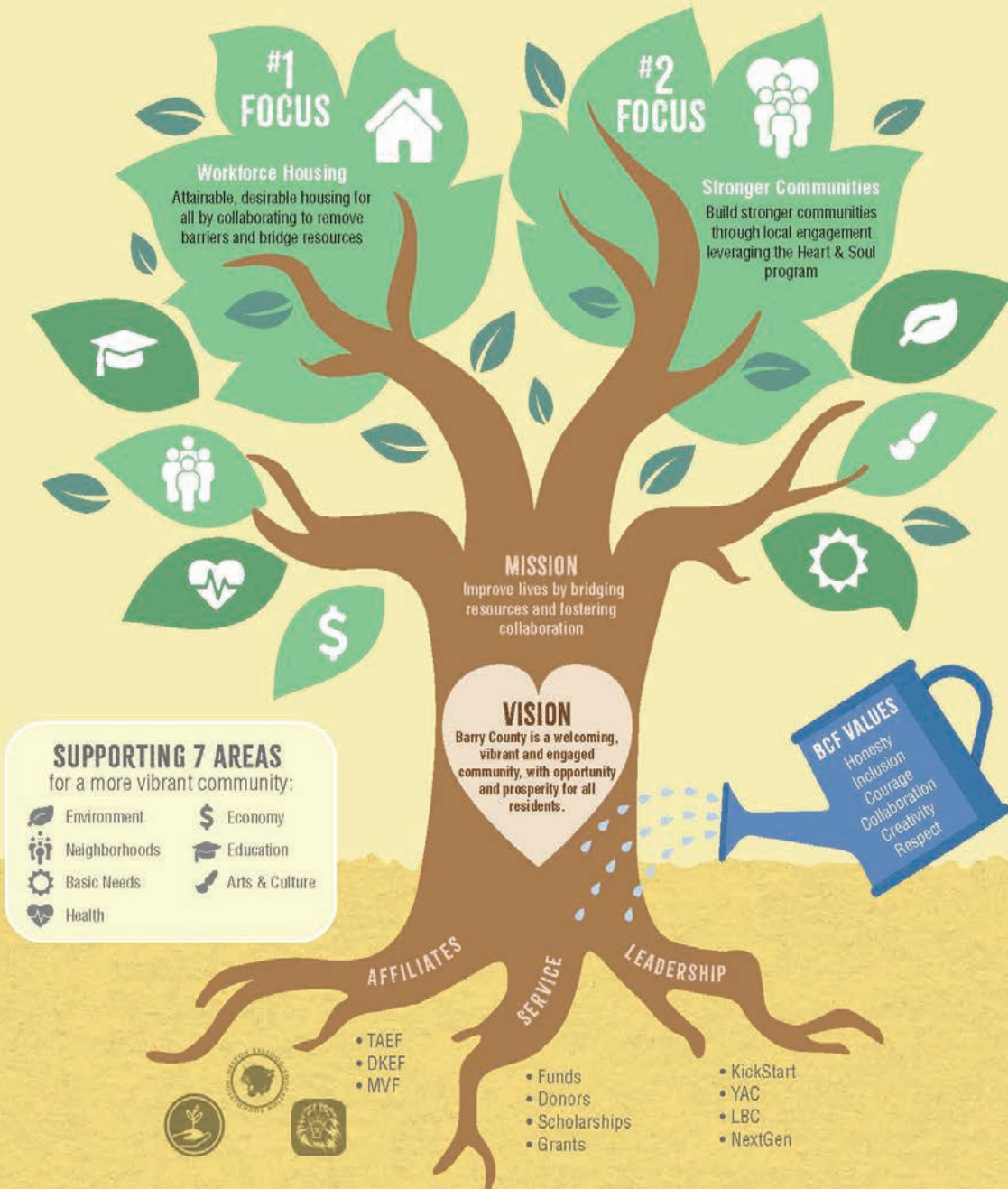
Diane Gaertner,
Board Chair



Bonnie Gettys,
President & CEO



FOCUSED ON THE FUTURE



Creating lasting impact starts with a solid strategy, vision, and mission. The 7 essential elements make our community welcoming, caring, vibrant, peaceful and abundant with what fills the soul. To make a lasting mark on Barry County, a strategic framework to focus our resources will guide our work through 2027.

Over the next 5 years, our focus is on 2 Key Strategies:

Affordable Housing: Create more attainable, desirable, & affordable housing by removing barriers and bridging resources.

Stronger Communities: Fostering local engagement and leveraging the Community Heart & Soul program to bring communities together for a brighter, more prosperous future.

Together with our affiliates, we will be focused on delivering programs to inspire, connect, and leave a legacy for the future.



Watch video to learn more about the 5 – year strategy.

JANUARY

Life is so much brighter when we
focus on what matters.

Sunday

Monday

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New Year's Day

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Martin Luther
King Jr. Day

Leadership Barry
County Opening
Day

Chamber Annual
Dinner & Awards
Celebration

22

23

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2023

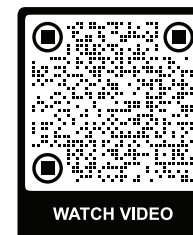


SOUL CELEBRATION

Connecting people who are passionate about their community.

In July, we honored the soul of our community. We gathered our donors, board members and community partners to celebrate and appreciate the very essence of all that is good in our county and recognized the generosity that defines our community. On a beautiful summer evening, the music, laughter, and amazing food & drinks were the perfect backdrop to appreciate the talent of our board, volunteers, and staff.

Save the date July 13, 2023, for our next Soul Celebration.
It is a great way to introduce friends and family to the
Barry Community Foundation.



See our 2022
event.

FEBRUARY

"Philanthropy lies at the heart
of human greatness."
-Patrick J. Ryan

Sunday

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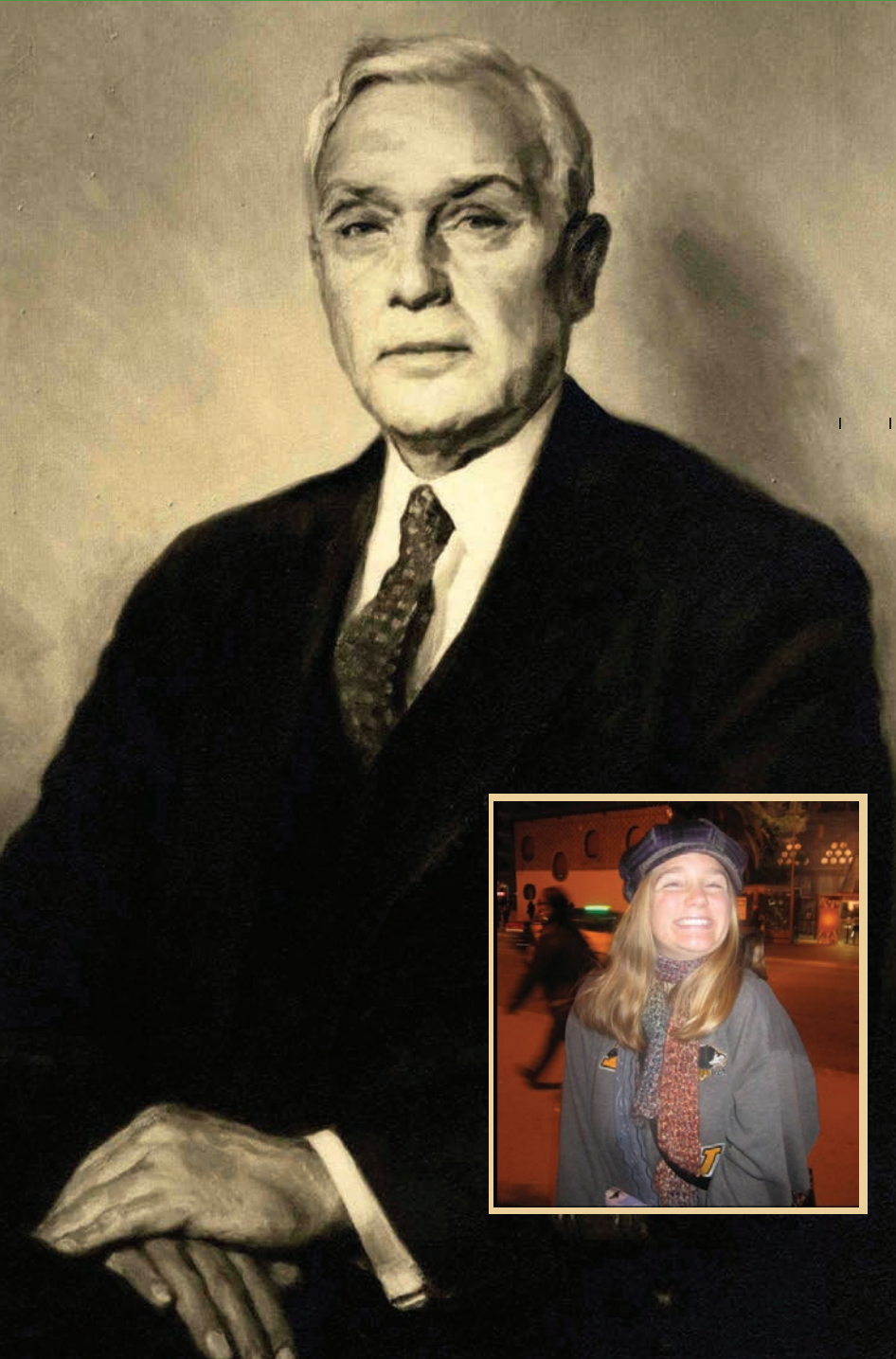
Saturday

			1	2	3	4
5	6 VITA Taxathon	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Green Gables Haven Auction
19	20 Presidents' Day Scholarship Applications Close	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

2023

INNOVATION LEGACY

From Trains to Transmissions, Margaret L. Buehl exemplifies the soul of Emil Tyden.



The Emil Tyden Founder's Scholarship is named for inventor and local business leader, Emil Tyden, who came to America at age 17, and moved to Hastings in 1881. With a strong entrepreneurial spirit and a gifted, creative mind, Emil invented the boxcar seal, fire sprinklers, and founded the Viking Corporation, which still provides jobs, a strong manufacturing base, and leading-edge products.

Maggie Buehl has worked at Ford Motor Company for over 10 years, she recently served as part of the 2022 redesign of the Ford Bronco. Demonstrating innovation, she used analytical data from vibration machines to improve and identify creative solutions for vehicle improvements. A 2007 Hastings High School graduate, Maggie was the first recipient of the Emil Tyden Founder's Scholarship, which provided her with \$6,000 for 4 years.



"Because of the generous Tyden scholarship I was able to cover most of my first year tuition and expenses without needing any student loans," Maggie said.

A graduate of Michigan Technical Institute, she has a BS in Service Systems Engineering, and a minor in International Spanish. She also had the opportunity to studied abroad in Spain, giving her a rich experience. With family ties to home, Maggie often makes her way back to spend time in Barry County.

MARCH

“The great use of life is to spend it for something that will outlast it.”

-William James

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			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Daylight Savings Begins			YAC Grant Applications Due			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Write Away Contest Entries Due					
26	27	28	29	30	31	

2023

SERVANT HEART AWARD

Award recipients win a lifetime of love and friendship by giving to their community.

Marcia and Ed Szumowski met volunteering nearly 50 years ago and epitomize the soul of the newly created SERVANT HEART AWARD.

“When we moved to Hastings in 2004, we needed to find ways to meet people, and what better way than volunteering with projects and programs, working alongside great people, finding ways to give back to the community,” Marcia shared as she and Ed received their award.

Ed and Marcia are perfect for an award created to honor community volunteers, someone with a servant heart, who gives without ego or expectation. Serving their community in many ways, typically behind the scenes offering their time, talent, and treasure. It’s a wonderful testimony to how one person can create a ripple to positively impact the soul of our community.



If you know someone who deserves this award, complete a nomination form on BarryCF.org in May.

APRIL

“When one tugs at a single thing
in nature, he finds it attached to
the rest of the world.”
- John Muir

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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

2023

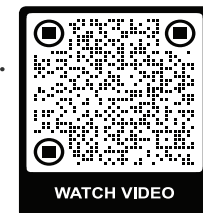
LAKE ODESSA LEGACY

PRESERVING FARMLAND TO BENEFIT HIS COMMUNITY.



Bob Morris was raised in Lake Odessa Michigan, graduating in 1968. He lived his California dream in the San Diego area, after graduating from Michigan State University. Preserving rural environments and the Sierra Club were his passions. Bob was preparing for his retirement, working on his farm house and historic barn whenever he came home. When his sister-in-law, Jane Morris, passed away unexpectedly, Bob took charge of creating the path for his legacy. Should he still be in California when he passed, Bob did not want his Michigan properties to be held up by legal red tape.

Bob met with his attorney in Lake Odessa and created a Lady Bird Deed, which meant that upon his death, the properties would come to the Barry Community Foundation. The proceeds from the sale activated the Bob Morris Memorial Testamentary Fund, forever providing income to his three favorite charities in Lake Odessa: the public library, the historical society, and the trails systems. Bob completed his legacy plan in Aug 2015. He unexpectedly passed away at this home in San Diego in June 2017. While he did not realize his dream of returning to his childhood home in retirement, his legacy will forever live on through his immense generosity.



Watch Video
for financial
and legacy
planning.

MAY

“You have not lived until you have done something for someone who can never repay you.”
-John Bunyan

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

2023



HOUSING MATTERS

Why housing is the heart and soul of our community.

Safe, attainable, and affordable housing is a key pillar to a healthy, vibrant community. A stable housing inventory is critical to its economic well-being. When housing expenses are more than 30% of a family's income, it impacts their ability to afford basic needs. Barry County rent expense as a share of average household income ranks near the top third in Michigan; that means almost 70% of other Michigan counties have more affordable housing compared to our community.

The desire to attract and retain younger families, couples, and give options to an increasing population of retirees, creates additional need for more diverse housing. As senior citizens begin to retire in greater numbers, many want to consider more economical and efficient living spaces, such as an apartment in a walkable location. This migration frees up single-family homes as those needs increase in our community.

A shining example of the future of the focus on housing is the Village Flats in Nashville. By bridging resources and fostering collaboration, an old, empty school is on target to break ground in early 2023, and will soon provide 20 beautiful, affordable apartments.

JUNE

"The ache for home lives in all of us, the safe place
where we can go as we are and not be questioned."
- Maya Angelou

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Saturday

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 Bill Porter Charity Golf Outing	17
18 Father's Day	19 Juneteenth	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

2023

RED, WHITE AND MOO



Meet Glory, by artist Jason Caldwell, who “lives” in front of Good Time Pizza in Nashville. Nine cows moooved into Nashville in June 2022, as part of ongoing events and activities to continually encourage people to support and shop local. Nashville Route 66 Business District, a business and community partner with Barry Community Foundation, designed a way to involve the community, celebrate and support local artists and businesses. #TheCowProject brought additional excitement to Nashville by featuring two cows created by Maple Valley High School. Students from Fuller Street & Maplewood Elementary buildings were able to put their fingerprints on the cow named “Moo-lissa”.

“It’s so fun to watching people outside our office window snapping pictures of our favorite cow, Blossom” adds Wendi Stratton, Edward Jones Financial Advisor, home of Blossom by Aubrey Pintar.

JULY

“It is every man’s obligation to put back into the world at least the equivalent of what he takes out of it.”

— Albert Einstein

Sunday

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						1 Barry Community Foundation Turns 28
2	3	4 Independence day	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 BCF Annual Soul Celebration	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 30	24 31	25	26	27	28	29

2023



BLUE ENVELOPE

A holistic lifesaving program.

The butterfly is a symbol of hope, transformation, and renewal; and beautifully represents the journey of the many who struggle with mental illness. The possibility of transformation is possible with a little help from someone with the tools and training. This why the Barry Community Foundation awarded \$14,000 to Corewell Health Foundation West Michigan – Pennock Hospital to implement the Suicide S.A.F.E. Team Response: School Blue Envelope Program in Barry County schools. With the core belief that “suicide is everyone’s responsibility,” this program teaches staff how to respond at a moment’s notice to a person who has thoughts of suicide.

Over 340 trained staff members from both middle and high schools in the Delton Kellogg, Thornapple Kellogg, Maple Valley, and Hastings Area Schools, can confidently respond to any student who may have suicidal ideation or threatens to harm themselves or others. This program is so important for the health and soul of our community. “With the generous and ongoing support,” says Carl Schoessel, former superintendent Delton Kellogg Schools, “our kids are safer.”

AUGUST

“Education is the most powerful
weapon which you can use to
change the world.”
-Nelson Mandela

Sunday

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Saturday

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 Delton Founder's Festival	12 Delton Founder's Festival
13	14	15	16	17 Middleville Heritage Days	18 Middleville Heritage Days	19 Middleville Heritage Days
20	21	22	23	24	25 Hastings Summerfest	26 Hastings Summerfest
27 Hastings Summerfest	28	29	30	31		

2023



A BRAVE SPACE

Many thanks to Sara Syswerda, Carson Tueller, and Johnny DeMaagd for spending time to help Barry County have more Courageous Conversations.

Barry County Chamber and Economic Development Alliance, BCF's Leadership Barry County, and Thornapple Arts Council collaborated in 2021 to create Courageous Conversations to bring topics that are not always easy or simple to discuss into the light by hosting respectful and civil conversations. The program allows a "brave space," to give participants a pathway to learn which is beyond a supportive in a "safe space."

"We live in an increasingly divided community, and we need to be able to communicate with each other. We don't have to agree, but we should be able to listen and learn from each other." explains Jillian Foster, Director of Community Engagement at BCF. We appreciate Sara Syswerda, Carson Tueller, and Johnny DeMaagd for spending time to help Barry County have more Courageous Conversations by leading discussions. As the program attracts more people from various backgrounds, the benefits to our county will be evident. We will learn to have courageous conversations with each other.

SEPTEMBER

"Courage is what it takes to stand up
and speak; courage is also what it
takes to sit down and listen."

-Winston Churchill

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					1	2
3	4 Labor Day	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 United Way Day of Caring and Kick-Off	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

2023



INVEST BARRY

A new community investment framework, focused on making a difference in Barry County, was created in 2021. Each investment opportunity's social and financial return is evaluated to determine the potential impact on the community. Opportunities that encompass multiple areas of the community-investment framework are viewed more favorably. For example, an investment in projects such as the Village Lofts in Nashville improves access to affordable housing and increases community safety.

The program is designed to be consistent with the Foundation's values:

- Provides individuals and businesses opportunities to make charitable investments through permanent endowments that directly benefit the community.
- Strengthens leading and effective community-based organizations with new kinds of capital.
- Promotes inclusivity and equity for all residents, businesses and organizations through equitable access to capital.
- Encourages community participation, new partnerships, and collaborations that result in successful responses to community challenges and opportunities.



Educational
Success



Strong
Communities



Health and
Wellness



Cultural
Vibrancy



Economic
Opportunity



Environmental
Stewardship



Job Creation

OCTOBER

"No one has ever become
poor by giving."
-Anne Frank

Sunday

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Saturday

1 TAEF Grant Applications Due Barry County Mfg. Month	2	3	4	5 GNO - Hastings	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 BCF and YAC Grant Applications Due	16	17	18	19	20	21 Arts and Eats Tour
22 Arts and Eats Tour	23	24	25	26	27	28 YAC Roof Sit
29	30	31 Wilson H. Craig Jr. Grant Applications Due				

2023

A young woman with glasses and a pink hoodie is sitting at a desk, working on a laptop. She is looking down at her phone. On the desk, there is a water bottle, a pen, and some papers. In the background, another person is visible, also working at a desk.

A FAMILY SAFETY NET

Providing economic support working families.

Zoey Ziny, United Way Volunteer, Thornapple Kellogg High School student and YAC Intern helped families prepare taxes and ensured that all eligible families received their all their tax credits.

In June 2017, Barry County United Way partnered with the Barry Community Foundation to establish the Family Economic Support Office(FESO). The primary focus of the program is to empower our working low-to-moderate income households with the tools and skills necessary to maximize their income, build savings and gain assets. These services provide access to loan funds, financial workshops, coaching, free income tax assistance and an employer resource network. These amazing services have been embedded into workplaces around the county.

The results are impressive. Serving 736 families in 2022, FESO provided tools and services, to help improve household income by 20%.

"We are so glad FESO is here. This is an improvement to the larger Employer Assistance Program because of the knowledge shared about local resources." ~ Sandy Snook, Human Resources Supervisor, Hastings Manufacturing Company. FESO offers employees help with budgeting, taxes, and even access to childcare services.

NOVEMBER

“Be the change that you wish
to see in the world.”
— Mahatma Gandhi

Sunday

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Saturday

			1	2 Daylight Savings Ends	3	4 TAC Auction for the Arts
5	6	7	8	9	10 Veterans Day	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving	24	25 Small Business Saturday
26	27	28	29	30		

2023



A unique building is the **soul** of our non-profit community.

The Barry Community Enrichment Center (BCEC) is an one-of-a-kind building that inspires partnerships among eleven non-profits organizations with one goal in mind: **making our community better each day.**

In 2010, The Hastings First Presbyterian Church built a larger worship space on generously donated land. The Barry Community Foundation, with generous contributions necessary to purchase and retrofit the vacated building, opened the space July 2012. The building has flourished as home to amazing, compassionate nonprofits with over 30 employees and countless volunteers under one roof.

The BCEC provides people with services such as pet fostering opportunities, arts & theatre, preschool, scholarships, counseling, granting, rent-assistance, fresh food and so much more.

"Every day, when I walk in this building, I get a tremendous wave of positive energy and joy," said Linda Maupin, Executive Director of the Family Support Center.

A gathering space for community events, celebrations, convening, and education, the BCEC has become the center of community enrichment for all who enter.



CENTER OF GIVING

DECEMBER

“Life isn't about finding yourself.
Life is about creating yourself.”
-George Bernard Shaw

Sunday

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Saturday

					1 Scholarship Applications Open	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Christmas Eve New Year's Eve 31	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29	30

2023

2022 FINANCIAL AND PROGRAM METRICS

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION

Barry Community Enrichment Center

Established in 2011, this building is owned and operated by the Barry Community Enrichment Center Organization. It currently brings together 11 partner organizations for centralized access to assistance and support services.



\$2,460,135
Net Assets



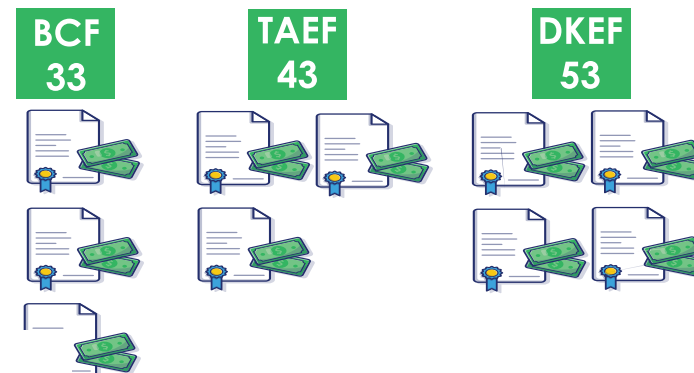
Established in 2015, KickStart to Career was created to inspire students to believe in their future. Each year, every Barry County kindergartner receives a deposit-only, long-term savings account at Highpoint Community Bank seeded with \$50 for their future college and career expenses. KickStart has developed incentive programs to inspire additional deposits.

ACCT SEED MONEY	\$225,600
ACCOUNTS	4512
INCREASE FROM 2021	12.5%

SCHOLARSHIPS

In February, area students submitted online scholarship applications to the BCF website. Each application is reviewed by one of 115 volunteers for final determination. In the spring, 129 scholarships from BCF and our geographic affiliates, Thornapple Area Enrichment Foundation and Delton Kellogg Education Foundation, were awarded to graduating seniors in area schools.

Barry Community Foundation	\$57,000
Thornapple Area Enrichment Foundation	\$53,077
Delton Kellogg Education Foundation	\$60,000
Total:	\$170,077



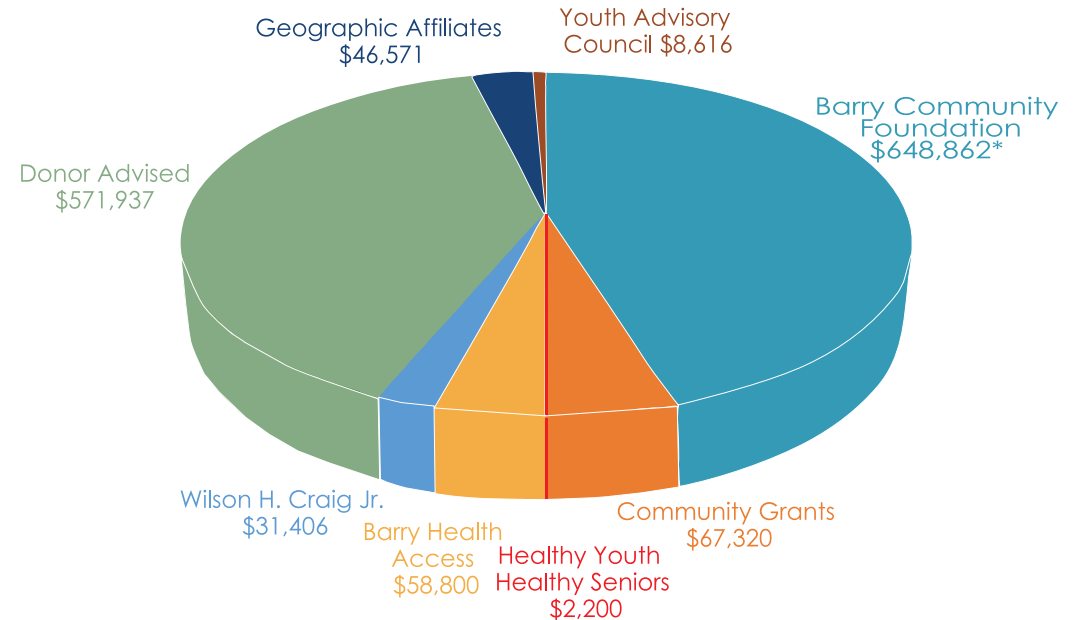
2022 FINANCIALS

The detailed financial statement, prepared by Plante & Moran, is available by contacting us at info@barrycf.org.

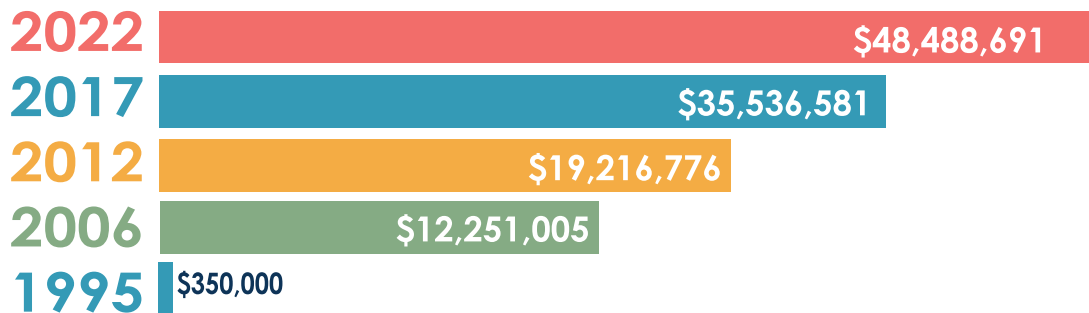
TOTAL GRANTS \$1,435,713

Barry Community Foundation*	\$648,862
Community Grants	\$67,320
Healthy Youth Healthy Seniors	\$2,200
Barry Health Access	\$58,800
Wilson H. Craig Jr.	\$31,406
Geographic Affiliates	\$46,571
Youth Advisory Council	\$8,616
Donor Advised	\$571,937

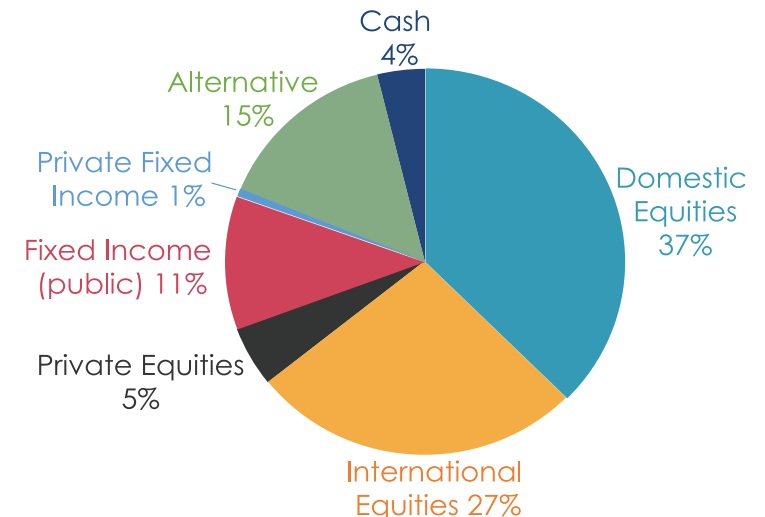
*Includes all other BCF granting funds



FOUNDATION TOTAL ASSETS



INVESTMENT ALLOCATION



BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF



Board and Staff Picture – in order left to right, bottom to top Barb Case, Bonnie Gettys, Diane Gaertner (2022 Board Chair), Fred Jacobs, Dr. Katherine Bertolini, Korin Ayres, Dr. Kim Norris (2023 Board Chair), Marley TenCate, Jennifer Haywood, Tim Girrbach, Annie Halle, Amy Murphy, Shana Bush, John Gallagher, Luke Froncheck, Tammy James, Dave Coleman, Scott McKeown, Jillian Foster, Mindy Cutlip. (Missing from photo Debbie Jackson)



BONNIE GETTYS
President & CEO



ANNIE HALLE
Vice President of Operations



JILLIAN FOSTER
Director of
Community Engagement



LUKE FRONCHECK
Youth Programs Associate



TAMMY JAMES
Office Manager



AMY MURPHY
Grants Administrator
& Executive Assistant



MINDY CUTLIP
Director of Development
& Communications



JOHN GALLAGHER
Facility Maintenance



TIM GIRRBACH
Facility Maintenance

THE HEART & SOUL OF GIVING

Giving through the Barry Community Foundation isn't just a mark of generosity, it's a commitment to the greater good. Your gifts, whether they are of time, talent or treasure play a significant role in building the foundation for meaningful work in Barry County.

By uniting together, we can achieve outcomes beyond measure that will provide a positive impact for years to come.



BARRY
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

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