

TOGETHER... *we care*

When we think of the word anatomy, our minds automatically go to the human body--an intricate system of organs, muscles and bones that make up the structure of who we are. Our bodies are a perfect example of **different systems working together for the greater good**. By now, you must be wondering how human anatomy relates to the Foundation? Just as the body is a multi-faceted structure, charitable gifts often involve several components—donors, nonprofits and professional advisors—that **work together to create a powerful benefit for the community**.

Morgan Township resident Emily Remster, a Porter County Community Foundation founding Board member and current member of the Grant Committee, understands the important role the Morgan Township Volunteer Fire Department plays in her safety and that of her neighbors. One of those neighbors, Josh Kandel, happens to be the Assistant Chief of the Morgan Township Volunteer Fire Department. With a **strong commitment to doing her part to support the critical work of the fire department**, Emily set out to explore the possibility of starting an endowment fund for the department's benefit.

Darby Straw of Edward Jones is one of Emily's trusted professional advisors. Darby works with his clients to create sound financial plans that will see them through their retirement years. He also **recognizes the importance of charitable giving in the lives of those with a heart for their community**. "When Emily comes in my office, **I can see the joy and I can feel the warmth in her heart** as she gets ready to take the next distribution and **apply it to the community that she loves**," said Straw.



Josh Kandel, Emily Remster and Darby Straw

Emily and Darby worked with the Community Foundation to structure a gift that **made sense financially**, would **last forever** and would **benefit all of Morgan Township**. The Emily Remster Fund for the Morgan Township Volunteer Fire Department is the result of that collaboration. "I'd like to encourage other Morgan Township residents to donate," said Emily. "If they want a fire truck to come to their house, it's the volunteer fire department that will come. **It's up to us to take care of them so they can take care of us when lives are on the line.**"

Josh Kandel hopes that Emily's gift will serve as an example to others. Josh added, "After Emily made the gift, I asked other area Fire Chiefs if they had an endowment like this. No one I talked to has had someone step up to support their Fire Department in this manner."

Like the human body, **a charitable gift that's built to last requires care and attention**. Emily's gift, Darby's guidance, the Foundation's expertise in making generosity last and the Morgan Fire Department's dedication to serving the community are **all working together for good, forever**.

The Foundation is **here to help** you, your advisor and your favorite nonprofit organization **create a meaningful, lasting gift**, just like we helped Emily, Darby and Josh.

TOGETHER... *we build*

Physical structures of all kinds play a key role in our lives every single day. They provide us shelter, a place to learn, be entertained, exercise and heal when we are sick or injured and a place for collaboration. This list goes on.

Most nonprofit organizations rely on buildings or other types of facilities to carry out their mission. Providing high-quality programming requires up-to-date, safe, accessible infrastructure designed for specific audiences. Sometimes campuses can be renovated or modified; sometimes it's best to start fresh.

Recognizing that the **built environment is essential to an organization's ability to do its very best work**, the Foundation ardently strives to support requests for capital campaign funding. Most recently, the Foundation's Board of Directors approved funding for two such requests. **The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Northwest Indiana** was awarded support for the construction of a brand new Valpo Club and **Shirley Heinze Land Trust** received funding for improvements at its flagship location, Meadowbrook Nature Preserve.

Boys & Girls Club

The Valparaiso Boys & Girls Club has been located in the historic Gardner School Building for 50 years. While there is deep respect for its magnificence and several generations of families have benefitted from it in various ways, it no longer serves the needs of club members. The new facility will be equipped with a **teen room, STEM lab, two full-size gymnasiums, rock wall, art room** and much more. **"This is an unbelievable opportunity for our club, the city of Valparaiso, youth and their families,"** said Ryan Smiley, President and CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Northwest Indiana. **"It's time for the next generation of children to have the opportunity to reach their full potential."**



Shirley Heinze Land Trust

Shirley Heinze Land Trust's Meadowbrook Nature Preserve will gain **enhanced amenities** that will provide a place for schools and youth-based organizations to meet and learn outside; an **outdoor conservation center** where families and friends can gather in nature; a **restored amphitheater** nestled in the forest for hosting outdoor concerts; and individuals living with mobility challenges may experience local wildlife on **ADA-accessible trails**.

Knowledge of the **vast benefits of spending time outdoors**, especially immersed in nature, is increasing nearly every day. Kris Krouse, Executive Director of Shirley Heinze Land Trust said, **"These enhancements will enable community residents across the region to experience the wonders of nature at Meadowbrook. We are thankful for the Foundation's generous support."**



Past building campaigns include:

- Boys & Girls Club Duneland Facility
- The Caring Place Shelter
- Harold "Hal" Kelley Respite House II**
- Ivy Tech Community College—Valparaiso Campus
- MAAC Foundation
- Neighbors Corporation for Neighbors Place
- Opportunity Enterprises Lakeside Facility
- Portage Township YMCA**
- Porter County Library Children's Plaza
- Porter County Parks Sunset Hill Silo Project**
- Valparaiso Family YMCA
- Visiting Nurse Association Hospice Center**
- Visiting Nurse Association Phoenix Center



Thank You Jacki

for 9 years of service on the Foundation Board of Directors. We are grateful for your support & guidance.

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TOGETHER... *we give*

Meet the Men's Fund Members of 2021:

- | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
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“As a CEO of an organization that is a benefactor of the generosity of so many individuals and businesses, I feel **it's important to support other organizations that in some way support this great community.** Giving to the Men's Fund allows me that ability. I find the process also to be **a way to learn more about the efforts and benefits of other organizations** and how they deliver their services.”



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- Neil Samahon,
 CEO at Opportunity Enterprises

Congratulations

DUNES LEARNING CENTER

Men's Fund grant recipient for 2021!



219.465.0294
 info@pccf.gives
 www.pccf.gives
 1401 Calumet Avenue
 Valparaiso, IN 46383

To strengthen our community through lasting generosity and leadership.



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