



An affiliate foundation of
FOUNDATION FOR
APPALACHIAN OHIO

Lutheran Social Services of Central Ohio | 2025 grant recipient

Ohio Arts & Crafts Foundation | 2025 grant recipient

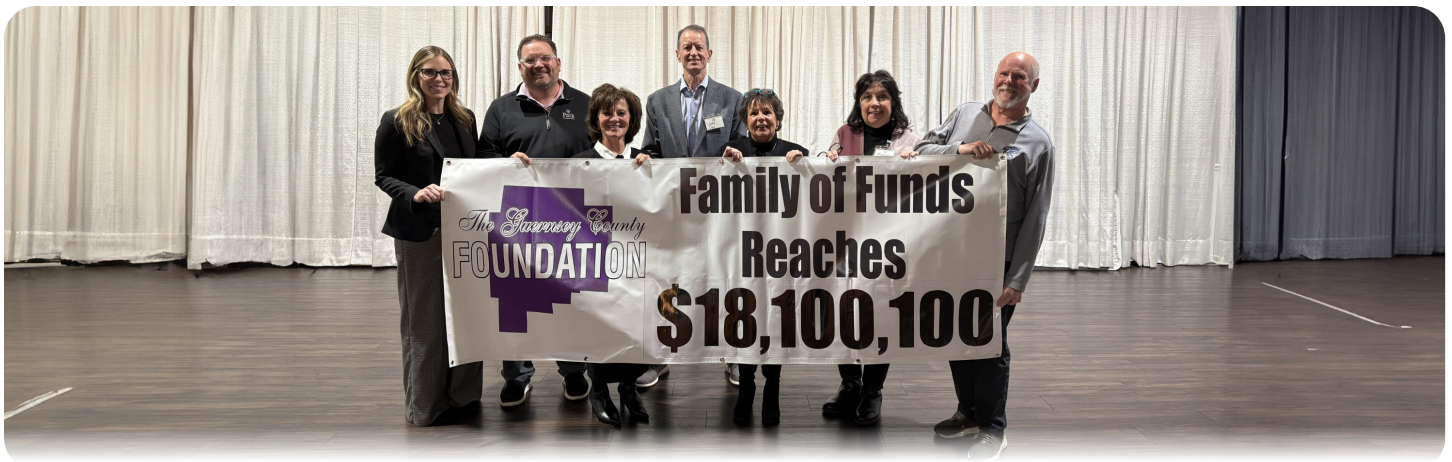
Feed My People of Guernsey County | 2025 grant recipient



Guernsey County Foundation

2025 Annual Report

ADVANCING A FLOURISHING GUERNSEY COUNTY



Pictured (from left) are Guernsey County Foundation committee members Rory Stelzer, Jeremy Morrow, Cindy Bond and Maribeth Wright; Guernsey County native and Foundation supporter Jeff Cox; Foundation for Appalachian Ohio Director of Outreach Sherri Simons; and Dennis Doult, who spoke about the impact of the Guernsey County Foundation's grantmaking at its 2025 Report to the Community event.

ABOUT US

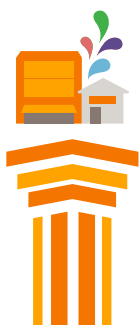
The Guernsey County Foundation, a geographic affiliate of the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio, provides a way for anyone with a heart for Guernsey County to support our people and communities, today and for years to come.

Donor generosity fuels the work of doers who give their time and talent to meet our communities' greatest needs and opportunities – all while building a strong foundation for Guernsey County's future.

With the support of our donors, we award grants annually to nonprofit and public organizations for projects and programs that advance opportunities across five funding areas, known as our Pillars of Prosperity.



Arts & Culture



Community
& Economic
Development



Education



Environmental
Stewardship



Health
& Human
Services

Our investments improve health, create educational opportunities, advance economic development and environmental stewardship, and provide access to arts and cultural experiences.

Our committee

- Cindy Bond
- Dave Caldwell
- Bryan Conaway
- Matt Dolan
- Jeff East
- Joel Losego
- Mandy McGlumphy
- Jeremy Morrow
- Dan Padden
- Rory Stelzer
- Dave Wilson
- Maribeth Wright
- William Black, *Ex Officio*
- David Ellwood, *Ex Officio*

Want to learn more?

For more information about planned giving, to make a gift to the Guernsey County Foundation or to create a fund to support a cause closest to your heart, please contact us!

740.753.1111

Guernsey@ffao.org

Guernsey County Foundation

www.AppalachianOhio.org/Guernsey



2025 GRANTS

The Guernsey County Foundation, with support from our donors and in partnership with the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio, awarded 25 grants, totaling nearly \$100,000, in 2025.

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF APPALACHIAN OHIO

About 45 students at Cambridge and Brook intermediate schools participate in Big Brothers Big Sisters of Appalachian Ohio's Lunch Buddies school-based mentoring program, with teachers and parents reporting improved student confidence, attendance and academic effort. This grant is expanding the program to include interactive, educational enrichment activities – from live reptile encounters to STEM kits.



BUCKEYE TRAIL BAND BOOSTERS

The Buckeye Trail Marching Band continues to grow, welcoming 16 new members in 2025. This grant is funding the purchase of instruments for new band members who are not able to afford them and extending the Guernsey County Foundation's support for the music program to a second consecutive year.

CAMBRIDGE BAND BOOSTERS

Cambridge High School Marching Band members traveled to Disney World in May 2026 for an experience that blended performance, education and inspiration. Along with sightseeing, students took part in an instrumental workshop inside a professional Disney recording studio. A 2025 Guernsey County Foundation grant – an investment in the arts and our youth – helped to make this opportunity possible.



With support from the Guernsey County Foundation and the community, the Cambridge High School Marching Band took an unforgettable trip to Disney World in May 2026. At the Disney Imagination Campus, the students sight-read, rehearsed and professionally recorded music synchronized to a scene from the movie "Tangled."

"Each of these grants represents the power of generosity and community dedication. We are deeply grateful to the donors who make these investments possible and to the educators, first responders, nonprofit leaders and volunteers who turn those dollars into real and lasting impact across our county."

MANDY MCGLUMPHY, GUERNSEY COUNTY FOUNDATION COMMITTEE MEMBER

2025 GRANTS

CAMBRIDGE CITY SCHOOLS

Cambridge City Schools received three grants from the Guernsey County Foundation:

- To purchase books for a new French classroom library at Cambridge High School
- To help stock the Pawsitive Place store at Cambridge Middle School and reinforce positive behavior
- To help stock the PAX store at Cambridge Intermediate School and reinforce positive behavior

CAMBRIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Ohio's Safe Haven law allows for the anonymous surrender of an infant up to 30 days old to a hospital, police station or firehouse. This grant is supporting the purchase of a Safe Haven Baby Box for Cambridge, offering a confidential, judgment-free option that removes the difficulty of a face-to-face surrender and ensures a newborn's safety.

CAMBRIDGE-GUERNSEY COUNTY COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORP.

A strategic planning process facilitated by the Ohio University Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Service identified retaining and attracting young people as one of the top challenges facing Guernsey County communities. This grant is supporting a new program that will provide financial incentives to encourage young adults to make Guernsey County their home.

DICKENS VICTORIAN VILLAGE

2025 marked 20 years of Dickens Victorian Village bringing holiday spirit to downtown Cambridge – and the start of a new tradition: Little Dickens Day. Designed for children, the day featured everything from a petting zoo to gingerbread house decorating. These activities were supported by a Guernsey County Foundation grant – the fourth consecutive grant awarded to this beloved community event.



Cambridge Middle School students can earn "bobcat bucks" when they are seen being responsible, respectful and safe and then redeem those rewards monthly at the school's Pawsitive Place store for prizes or tickets for fun experiences, such as lunch with their teachers. A 2025 Guernsey County Foundation grant helped stock the store.



In celebration of its 20th anniversary and with support from a Guernsey County Foundation grant, Dickens Victorian Village introduced the new Little Dickens Day at its 2025 event, creating festive experiences for our youngest community members. Children enjoyed photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, making the celebration even more magical for families.



Guernsey County Foundation grants have supported the Guernsey County Senior Citizens Center for the past five years. For the past two years, grant funding has helped expand the center's transportation services to include out-of-county trips for seniors' medical appointments.

EAST CENTRAL OHIO EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

For the past five years, the Guernsey County Reading Festival has fostered literacy and a love of reading by uniting local schools, libraries and organizations for a day of hands-on reading fun and a free book of each child's choosing. Guernsey County Foundation grants have supported this community event for the past four years.

EAST GUERNSEY LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Buckeye Trail High School students in the engineering, industrial arts and information technology departments will be launching a collaborative school-based enterprise, producing student-designed items that can be engraved, personalized and sold. This grant is funding equipment for this new opportunity that will allow students in the career-tech pathways to gain hands-on, entrepreneurial experience.

FEED MY PEOPLE OF GUERNSEY COUNTY

A 2024 Guernsey County Foundation grant enabled Feed My People of Guernsey County to provide more than 8,000 free meals to our neighbors who need a helping hand. A 2025 grant is continuing that assistance, helping deliver nutritious meals to residents while supporting a nonprofit that has served free meals in our community for more than 40 years.

GENESIS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION

Sudden cardiac arrest is the leading cause of death in the United States. Prompt and proper use of CPR and an automated external defibrillator (AED) are critical to survival, especially in rural areas where EMS response times are longer. This grant is funding the purchase of two AEDs for community-based locations in Guernsey County.

GUERNSEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

In 2027, the Guernsey County Historical Society will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the historic home that houses the Guernsey County History Museum. This grant is supporting exterior painting of the landmark, helping preserve a building that safeguards local history and welcomes visitors to explore Guernsey County's past.

GUERNSEY COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER

"Relieved and over the moon." That was one Guernsey County senior's reaction to being able to access out-of-county transportation for a medical appointment, thanks to a 2024 grant the Guernsey County Foundation awarded to the senior center. A 2025 grant is continuing providing this vital service, supporting seniors' health, independence and access to essential medical care.

2025 GRANTS

HOSPICE OF GUERNSEY

For many widows and widowers, Valentine's Day can be a painful reminder of loss. In 2024, Hospice of Guernsey hosted its first Un-Valentine's Day dinner, an opportunity for those who can't celebrate the holiday with their significant other to be with others who have experienced the same loss. This grant supported the 2026 event, which 75 Guernsey County residents attended.

THE LIVING WORD OUTDOOR DRAMA

Over the past several years, The Living Word Outdoor Drama has undergone several projects to enhance accessibility for visitors with disabilities and special needs – from improvements to its parking lot to the addition of a seating section and an entire special needs/sensory facility. This grant is helping to fund accessibility improvements to its Welcome Center Circle.

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES OF CENTRAL OHIO

During its 2025 fiscal year, Lutheran Social Services of Central Ohio provided 68,182 meals to 1,273 Guernsey County residents through its monthly food pantry distributions. A 2024 Guernsey County Foundation grant supported those efforts, and a 2025 grant is continuing and expanding that support, helping our friends and neighbors who struggle to make ends meet.

MUSKINGUM VALLEY COUNCIL OF SCOUTING AMERICA

Guernsey County has three Scouting units serving our youth. This grant is supporting the Muskingum Valley Council of Scouting America's special assistance fund for Guernsey County families who cannot afford to participate in the Scouting program, ensuring more youth can access programming designed to build character, strengthen leadership skills and prepare them for future success.



Thanks to a 2025 Guernsey County Foundation grant and generous donor support, the Living Word Outdoor Drama is improving accessibility with an ADA-accessible crosswalk connecting the Welcome Center Circle to the Welcome Center and replacing the grass circle with durable stamped concrete.



More than 17 percent of Guernsey County residents face food insecurity, according to data from Feeding America. For the past two years, Guernsey County Foundation grants have supported the monthly food pantry distributions Lutheran Social Services of Central Ohio provides to help fill that need in our communities.

OHIO ARTS & CRAFTS FOUNDATION

A 2024 Guernsey County Foundation grant helped bring a new arts experience to the Salt Fork Arts & Crafts Festival in Cambridge: glassblowing. Visitors traveled from up to 60 miles away to try their hand at glassblowing, with spots for the sessions filling quickly. A 2025 grant is funding upgrades to the displays in the festival's student art tent.

PARTNERS FOR THE PARK

The basketball courts at Cambridge City Park are used daily throughout the spring, summer and fall, logging many hours of wear and tear. This grant is helping to replace all the basketball rims and backboards at the park, upgrading equipment to improve play, increase usage and strengthen community pride and engagement.

ROLLING HILLS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Meadowbrook High School's DECA chapter aims to prepare emerging leaders and entrepreneurs for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality and management. This grant is funding start-up costs for a student-run store that will begin by producing and selling custom-designed T-shirts, giving students hands-on business experience while building practical entrepreneurial and leadership skills.

THE SALVATION ARMY-GUERNSEY

A 2024 Guernsey County Foundation grant supported The Salvation Army-Guernsey's Coats for Kids program, which provided new winter coats and gear to 578 Guernsey County students, ensuring they stayed warm, confident and healthy during the coldest months of the year. A 2025 grant is supporting the Utility Assistance Program, which helps Guernsey County households facing urgent electric bill crises.



2025 was an exciting year for Meadowbrook High School's DECA chapter. All 10 of its members who competed at the 2025 district competition qualified for state competition, and the Guernsey County Foundation awarded the chapter a grant to launch a student-managed store at the school, supporting our emerging leaders and entrepreneurs.

UNITED WAY OF GUERNSEY, MONROE AND NOBLE COUNTIES

Nearly 65 percent of eligible Guernsey County children are enrolled in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Ohio, receiving a free book each month until age 5. This grant is supporting United Way of Guernsey, Monroe and Noble Counties – which manages the program locally and covers half its cost – as it seeks to grow enrollment and put more children on pathways to success.

WASHINGTON STATE COLLEGE OF OHIO

At Washington State College of Ohio, 57 percent of students report food insecurity, 61 percent housing insecurity and 76 percent say they could not access \$500 in an emergency. This grant is funding food and hygiene items for the student pantry, helping to address one barrier to persistence and completion for students, including many who attend from Guernsey County.



ANSWERING THE CALL TO LEAD AND SERVE IN GUERNSEY COUNTY



Nicole Earley

In 2023, FAO and its affiliate foundation partners welcomed the inaugural class of Growing Home Fellows, including six individuals living and/or working in Guernsey County. The fellowship is investing in emerging leaders across the region, both financially and through a targeted program that teaches them how to identify community needs, develop solutions and assemble a network of partners to address local challenges.

Nicole Earley, assistant principal at Cambridge Intermediate School, serves United Way of Guernsey, Monroe and Noble Counties and has secured grant funding to support its Dolly Parton's Imagination Library programs in each county. She recently completed the Leadership Guernsey program, collaborating with community leaders and executing a capstone project that raised \$15,000 for the Guernsey County Cancer Society.



Luke Fabian

Luke Fabian, education director at Deerassic Park Education Center, serves as the Guernsey and Tuscarawas County coordinator for Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry, which last season donated 11,000+ meals to local food pantries. He also serves on the Cambridge Alumni and Friends Educational Fund Committee, which secures funding for students and teachers in Guernsey County.

PRESERVING THE PAST, INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

In 2025, the Old Guernsey County Conservation Association (previously known as the Old Cambridge Conservation Association) Fund, one of more than 80 funds in the Guernsey County Foundation's family of funds, awarded a total of \$10,000 to two organizations:

- The Country Store Museum in Quaker City to support restoration work at the museum, home of the Ohio Hills Folk Festival
- Guernsey County Historical Society to help fund exterior repairs and painting of the Guernsey County History Museum



The Country Store Museum in Quaker City, home of the Ohio Hills Folk Festival

OUR IMPACT

OUR ASSETS



\$16.6M+

in restricted assets to support Guernsey County causes designated by fund creators

\$3.5M+

in unrestricted assets through the Guernsey County Foundation's endowment and unrestricted named funds to support our annual grantmaking*

** Our endowment fund is designed to provide continuous investment in Guernsey County. Our endowment is invested. The earnings generated from those investments fund the grants we award each year, providing resources to meet the community's needs today while preserving the fund to serve Guernsey County for generations to come.*

OUR IMPACT IN 2025

\$99,501

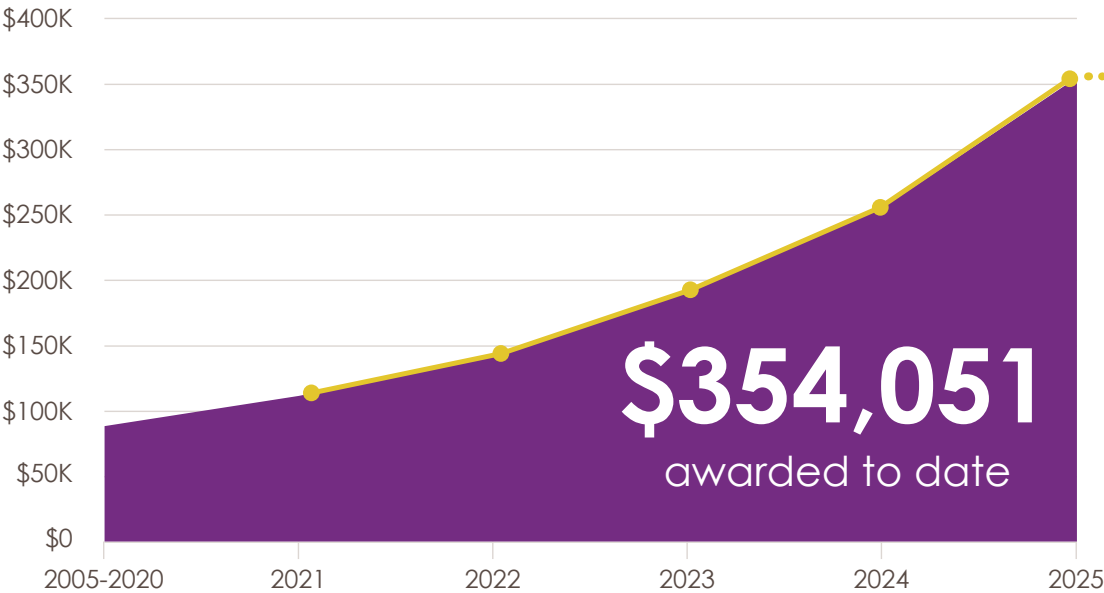
awarded through the Guernsey County Foundation's unrestricted funds

\$844,058

awarded through restricted funds created by donors

OUR IMPACT TO DATE

TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED THROUGH OUR ENDOWMENT



In the **past five years alone**, the amount awarded in grants has grown by **more than 330%**!



\$5.35M+

awarded across our family of funds to date

OUR FAMILY OF FUNDS

• **Guernsey County Foundation** ↗

(This is the endowment fund that fuels our annual grantmaking.)

- Antrim Community Cemetery Association Endowment Fund
- Agency on Aging Region 9 Scholarship Fund
- Blaine and Martha Neilley Family Fund
- Byesville Rotary Christmas Food Basket Fund
- Byesville Rotary Fund
- Cambridge Alumni & Friends Educational Fund
- Cambridge City Schools Scholarship Foundation Funds
 - Achilles Nicholakis Scholarship Trust Fund
 - Art Clemenson Scholarship
 - Bruce Orahoske Scholarship Fund
 - Cecil J. McFarland Science Scholarship
 - Charles E. Jefferson Award
 - Charles R. Nelson Scholarship Fund
 - Charles W. and Olive L. Hanna Scholarship Fund
 - Elizabeth Burgess Briggs Trust Fund
 - Erven Trust Fund
 - Gregory Cardamone Scholarship
 - Harvey and Edna Ferrier Scholarship Fund
 - Isaac and Carey Esper Scholarship Fund
 - Joe Mowad Memorial Scholarship Fund
 - John and Rose Dunlavy Scholarship Fund
 - Kathryn L. Duffey - Baker and Hostetler Scholarship
 - Mary Moore Scholarship Fund
 - Ralph G. Ferguson Scholarship Fund
 - Russel B. Diehl Scholarship
 - Scott Harper Bennett Memorial Scholarship
 - Tim McBride Memorial Scholarship Fund
 - Whitney Proctor Scholarship Fund
- Cambridge Singers Scholarship Fund
- Charles E. Chippi Scholarship Fund
- CHS Class of '57 Scholarship Fund
- Citizens for Rolling Hills Schools Fund
- Don Coss Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Doug Steele Memorial Scholarship
- East Guernsey Fine and Performing Arts Fund
- Expand Energy STEM Education Fund
- Frank & Esther Ricketts Memorial Fund
- Friends of East Guernsey Education Fund
- G.D. Agnew Foundation Scholarship Fund
- George and Mary Ellen Ontko Scholarship Fund
- Guernsey County Board of Developmental Disabilities Scholarship Fund
- Guernsey County Education Assistance Grant Fund
- Guernsey County Senior Citizens Center Endowment Fund
- Gulfport Energy Fund
- James R. Milligan Legacy Fund
- Jeanne Warne Frontz Memorial Scholarship
- Jeff & Jane Schumacher Cox Fund
- Jeff and Jane Schumacher Cox Scholarship Fund
- Jenny Cornelius-Woltz Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Kevin Ritz Family Foundation Fund
- Larry and Carol Caldwell Fund for Guernsey County*
- Leadership Guernsey
- Lester D. and Thelma I. Ellwood Educational Scholarship

- The Living Word Outdoor Drama Endowment Fund
- Loran & Shirley Stutz Fund
- Loran & Shirley Stutz Scholarship Fund
- Madison High School Alumni Scholarship Fund
- Mandy McGlumphy Social Work Scholarship
- Maribeth Wright Community & Economic Development Fund for Appalachian Ohio
- Maribeth Wright Fund for Guernsey County*
- Markley (Brent Markley/Sarah Morrison) Family Fund
- Mary E. Knauer Scholarship Fund
- Mary Kackley-Brill Scholarship Fund
- McGlumphy Family Fund
- Michael C. Long Legacy Scholarship Fund
- Miriam Hawes Legacy Endowment Fund
- Myron Fishel Scholarship Fund
- Nicolozakes Trucking & Construction, Inc. Environmental Stewardship Fund for Appalachian Ohio
- Ohio Arts and Crafts Foundation Fund
- Old Guernsey County Conservation Association Fund
- Paul Sayanek Scholarship
- Ralph L. and Linda S. Warne Engineering Scholarship Fund
- Rolling Hills Foundation Scholarship Endowment Fund
- The Rose Elizabeth Bell MacConkey Scholarship Fund for Women Going into a Career in Business
- Sara Lee Stevens-Youngs Family Memorial
- Scottish Rite Valley of Cambridge Endowment Fund
- Stansbury Family Fund
- The Stemmer Family Foundation Fund
- Teresa Clark Memorial Scholarship
- Tostenson Family Foundation Fund
- United Way of Guernsey, Monroe and Noble Endowment Fund
- W. Grant Hafley & Patricia J. Hafley Fund
- William A. and Elena Nicolozakes Family Fund
- Winnie Mae Sharpe Education Scholarship Fund
- Zelma Gray Medical School Scholarship

** These unrestricted named funds contribute to the Guernsey County Foundation's annual grantmaking. Gifts to these funds as well as to the Guernsey County Foundation's endowment fund are invested and generate earnings in perpetuity. Those earnings fund the Guernsey County Foundation's grants year after year, decade after decade, generation after generation.*



The Guernsey County Foundation partners with donors to create funds that benefit Guernsey County. To learn more or give to our funds, scan the QR code or visit: **www.AppalachianOhio.org/Guernsey/family-of-funds**



An affiliate foundation of
**FOUNDATION FOR
APPALACHIAN OHIO**

Help support the people, places, programs and future of Guernsey County

GROW OUR ANNUAL GRANTMAKING

Gifts to the Guernsey County Foundation's endowment fund are invested. The earnings generated from those investments fund the grants the Guernsey County Foundation awards each year to nonprofit and public organizations working to increase quality of life in our communities.

Give to our endowment fund by:



Scanning the QR code or visiting
www.AppalachianOhio.org/Guernsey/give



or mailing your gift to
Guernsey County Foundation
c/o Foundation for Appalachian Ohio
35 Public Square
Nelsonville, OH 45764

You can also establish an unrestricted fund – named in honor of your family or a loved one – that will contribute to the Guernsey County Foundation's grantmaking each year.

FUND WHAT MATTERS MOST TO YOU

Provide sustained support for what's closest to your heart by establishing a restricted fund through the Guernsey County Foundation. We can help you create endowments to support specific charitable organizations or schools; scholarships to provide educational opportunities; donor-advised funds for family or corporate giving; funds that benefit an area of interest; and more.

LEAVE A LEGACY WITH A PLANNED GIFT

Include charitable giving in your estate planning, giving you the peace of mind of knowing the communities and causes closest to your heart will continue to receive your support beyond your lifetime. The Foundation for Appalachian Ohio can assist you and/or your advisors with charitable research, provide options and create necessary documents or language for your plan.

Gifts to the Guernsey County Foundation are tax-deductible and can be made in a variety of ways, including:



CASH



STOCK



REAL ESTATE



ROYALTIES



**QUALIFIED CHARITABLE
DISTRIBUTIONS FROM IRAs**

Gifts of all sizes and kinds make a difference!

For more information about establishing a fund or planned gift, **contact us today!**

Guernsey@ffao.org | www.AppalachianOhio.org/Guernsey | 740.753.1111