



MEIGS COUNTY FOUNDATION

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



LETTER FROM THE BOARD



Greetings from the Meigs County Foundation!

As we celebrate another year of serving the people and communities of Meigs County, we are filled with gratitude. Because of you and your gifts of time, talent, and treasure, Meigs County grows stronger every day.

Our endowment fund has grown to more than \$1.4 million – dollars that will be invested into this community we love forever. And we are thrilled to report that as of Feb. 1, 2023, we were able to receive \$350,000 in dollar-for-dollar matching funds through the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio (FAO). Every ounce of generosity we receive is returned to our residents and communities – now and for generations to come – to meet immediate needs and to seize the most promising opportunities for our future.

This report spotlights only a few of the many ways our work together is making a difference for the people in our communities, but the need remains. While we were able to award \$45,000 in grants this fall, we received requests totaling \$164,000. With that in mind, we have set our next bold goal: \$3 million in our endowment, which would allow us to give \$120,000 in grants every year.

None of what we've achieved and what we've yet to achieve would be possible without you, our donors, partners, community leaders, and champions for Meigs County. We thank you and look forward to continuing our work with you in the days to come.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BRANDON BARTEE

FRANK BLAKE

RYAN BUCKLEY

SUSAN CLARK

CANDICE HESS

JOHN HOBACK

BARBARA MUSSER

PAUL REED

CHARLENE RUTHERFORD

JENNIFER SHEETS, PRESIDENT

LAURA SHEETS

LINDA WARNER

i Want to learn more?

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

www.AppalachianOhio.org/Meigs

 meigs@ffao.org  740.753.1111

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

With the support of our donors, we award grants to nonprofit and public organizations for projects and programs that benefit Meigs County, focusing on five areas essential to creating transformative and sustainable change: arts and culture, community and economic development, education, environmental stewardship, and health and human services.

FEEDING A GROWING NEED

The Meigs County Schools Food Pantry was launched in March 2021 to meet the needs of families and their children struggling amid the COVID-19 pandemic. That need has grown with the lingering effects of the pandemic now coupled with the rising costs of food, housing, fuel, and so much more.

“In November, for our Thanksgiving distribution, folks were lined up both ways for as far as you could see – and we ran out of food,” says Jennifer Sheets, president of the Meigs County Foundation (MCF) Board of Directors.

Stocking the shelves and refrigerators of the pantry hasn’t gotten any easier. The price of eggs alone has quadrupled since the food pantry first opened.

Still, each and every month, the county-wide, school-based pantry provides Meigs County children and their families distributions of healthy, nutritious food – thanks to the Meigs



County Schools Food Pantry Fund, an MCF initiative created through a partnership between MCF and the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio’s *I’m a Child of Appalachia*® Fund.

The food pantry, which serves approximately 150 families each month, receives support from donors, partners, and local businesses – and in 2022 was awarded the very first grant from the Joe Burrow Hunger Relief Fund at FAO.



SUPPORTING A COUNTY DESTINATION

Every Saturday morning May through October, Pomeroy’s riverfront and Main Street burst with an energy that grows each year.

The Meigs County Farmers’ Market debuted in 2019, bringing culture, commerce, and community together in a premier destination for area residents and visitors. Behind it all is a whole lot of community love, effort, and support, including from the Meigs County Foundation, which has awarded the farmers’ market grants for the past three years. **CONTINUED ON BACK ►**



OUR IMPACT IN 2022

FALL 2022 GRANT RECIPIENTS

The Meigs County Foundation, in partnership with the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio, created over \$45,000 in opportunities across our communities through grants to the following organizations:

- Bethel Worship Center
- Blessings in a Backpack
- God’s Hands At Work
- Eastern Local School District (two grants)
- Meigs County Farmers’ Market
- Meigs County Historical Society
- Mulberry Community Center
- Racine Firefighters Association
- Rio Grande Community College Meigs Center
- River of Life Care Closet

SUPPORTING A COUNTY DESTINATION (CONTINUED)

For the MCF, the farmers’ market combines five elements – the “Pillars of Prosperity” – that are essential to improving quality of life: arts and culture, community and economic development, education, environmental stewardship, and health and human services.

MCF grants have helped the farmers’ market fund everything from its Kids Korner and Kids Cooking and Snack Station, where children engage in fun educational activities and learn how to make healthy snacks, to its Gourmet at the Market and Community Education Booth, educating attendees on how to prepare fresh produce and various programs offered through local agencies. Its latest grant will help fund the third season of Music Along the Riverfront, which supports the local musicians who perform at the market.



\$3.4 MILLION

IN ASSETS UNDER THE MCF UMBRELLA



\$67,363

AWARDED TO COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS IN 2022



\$30,000

AWARDED IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO MEIGS COUNTY STUDENTS



13

CHARITABLE FUNDS PARTNERING WITH MCF IN SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY

(Please see separate list)



MEIGS COUNTY FOUNDATION CHARITABLE FUNDS

1. Bachtel Scholarship Fund
2. BraylynStrong Childhood Cancer Awareness Scholarship Fund
3. Camp Kiashuta Endowment
4. Charles A. and Joan Corder Memorial Scholarship Fund
5. Chester-Shade Historical Association Fund
6. Eastern Local Alumni & Friends Endowment
7. Karr-Aanestad K9 Foundation Fund
8. Leifheit-Michael Family Scholarship Fund
9. Meigs County Schools Food Pantry Fund
10. Meigs Performing Arts Center Fund
11. New Haven School Fund
12. Reed Family Fund
13. The William M. and Janet P. Betcher Memorial Endowment for Library Services