



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Appalachian Ohio | 2025 grant recipient



Noble County Health Department | 2025 grant recipient



Muskingum Valley Council of Scouting America | 2025 grant recipient



Noble County Community Foundation **2025 Annual Report**

ADVANCING A FLOURISHING NOBLE COUNTY



FOR A FLOURISHING *Noble County*

ABOUT US

The **Noble County Community Foundation (NCCF)**, a geographic affiliate of the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio (FAO), provides a way for anyone with a heart for Noble 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 Noble 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

- **Aerica Bates**
- **Trevor Black**
- **Michael Buckey**
- **Katrina Harper-Baker**
- **Randy Lowe**
- **Kirby Moore**
- **Shawn Ray**
- **Andrea Seder**
- **Nancy Snook**
- **Sherri Starr**
- **Gwynn Stewart**
- **Don Ullmann**
- **Jim Warren**

Want to learn more?

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

 740.753.1111

 Noble@ffao.org

 Noble County
Community Foundation

www.AppalachianOhio.org/Noble





The Legendary Adventure Zone – Noble County's first inclusive playground – opened at Belle Valley Park in July 2025. A 2025 NCCF grant is funding additional improvements to the park, enhancing quality of life for Noble County residents while supporting the nonprofit organization committed to maintaining this community destination.

2025 GRANTS

The Noble County Community Foundation, with support from our donors and in partnership with the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio, awarded a total of \$32,775, in grant funding in 2025.

BELLE VALLEY ACTION COMMITTEE

The Belle Valley Action Committee maintains and continuously seeks to improve Belle Valley Park, often collaborating with businesses, organizations and nonprofits – most recently to add an inclusive playground designed for children of all abilities. This grant is funding trash receptacles and message boards for the park, supporting a welcoming space for outdoor recreation, play and community connections.

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF APPALACHIAN OHIO

About 35 students ages 8-10 at Caldwell and Shenandoah elementary 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 feature interactive, educational enrichment activities, including live reptile encounters.

CALDWELL EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

A 2024 NCCF grant enabled the Caldwell Exempted Village School District to purchase a 3D printer for the junior high career technical education classes, giving students real-world experience with advanced technology. A 2025 grant is helping to fund an outdoor classroom focused on environmental stewardship and native pollinator education, offering hands-on learning in sustainability, conservation and habitat preservation.

With a 2024 NCCF grant-funded 3D printer, Caldwell junior high career technical education students were able to bring fishing lures they designed using CAD software to life. Hands-on learning experiences like this are encouraging creativity, problem-solving and collaboration among the students while also piquing their interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.





NCCF grants have supported Lutheran Social Services of Central Ohio's food pantry and produce distributions in Noble County for the past three years, helping to address a persistent need in the county amid rising food prices and funding cuts to assistance programs.

2025 GRANTS

CANCER SUPPORT COMMUNITY CENTRAL OHIO

Ripples to Waves, a cancer support group for Noble County residents, provides a vital lifeline of hope and connection for individuals impacted by cancer – a space where no one faces cancer alone. This grant is supporting this safe, welcoming community where survivors, caregivers and loved ones share experiences, receive encouragement and access critical resources at no cost.

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 an AED for a community-based location in Noble County.

GMN TRI-COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE

Through its home-delivered meal service, the Joyce M. Davis Senior Center in Caldwell provides seniors with lunches, wellness checks and social connection five days a week. This grant is supporting the expansion of the center's nutrition program to include a light breakfast and evening snack for 25 seniors identified as food insecure, helping them stay nourished throughout the day.

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES

More than 16 percent of Noble County residents face food insecurity, according to data from Feeding America. Lutheran Social Services helps meet this need, hosting two pantry distributions and a produce distribution each month at the Noble County Fairgrounds. NCCF grants have supported these efforts for the past three years, helping our neighbors put food on their tables.

MEMORIAL HEALTH FOUNDATION

A 2024 NCCF grant funded an emergency battery backup power system for the Caldwell Health Clinic's medication refrigerators, protecting critical supplies and providing peace of mind to patients and staff. A 2025 grant is funding a bariatric chair for the clinic, reducing the risk of injuries and ensuring a safer, more comfortable patient experience.

"Every grant awarded this year tells a story of collaboration, progress and love for our communities. We're grateful for the donors who invest in Noble County's potential and for the community members who are turning that generosity into action. Their shared commitment is what keeps Noble County moving forward and ensures opportunity continues to grow here."

————— KIRBY MOORE, NCCF COMMITTEE MEMBER

MUSKINGUM VALLEY COUNCIL OF SCOUTING AMERICA

Noble County has two Scouting units serving our youth. This grant is supporting the Muskingum Valley Council of Scouting America's special assistance fund for Noble 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.

NOBLE COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE OHIO RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Since 2014, the Noble County Chapter of the Ohio Retired Teachers Association has awarded book grants to graduating seniors from Caldwell or Shenandoah high schools who are pursuing degrees in education. This grant is helping to sustain those awards, investing in local graduates and our future educators.

NOBLE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

This grant is supporting the Hygiene Education and Support Program for fourth- through sixth-grade students at Noble Local and Caldwell elementary schools. The program provides students with age-appropriate hygiene lessons and "Confidence Kits" that include essential personal care items – from a toothbrush and toothpaste to deodorant and travel-sized body wash – that can be replenished throughout the school year.

NOBLE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Previous NCCF grants have helped replace the metal roof at Heritage Park's Bethel Primitive Church and install new flooring in the Ball-Caldwell Hospitality House bride's room. A 2025 grant is funding new hardware for doors on the barn at the Ball-Caldwell Homestead, preserving an important piece of Noble County's history – and the artifacts within it – for future generations.

Amy Hursey

2025 Jenco Award Recipient



Each year, the Jenco Foundation Fund and FAO recognize Appalachian Ohioans who go and above beyond in service to others.

Noble County native Amy Hursey, who now lives in Muskingum County, was among the 2025 Jenco Award recipients, recognized as a steadfast volunteer whose impact spans two Appalachian Ohio counties and beyond. In Noble County, she serves in several capacities at Faith Baptist Church in Belle Valley, leads the Celebrate Recovery ministry and expanded it to a second location in partnership with the Noble County CARES Coalition.

NOBLE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

During the 2024-2025 school year, Noble Local Schools launched the Noble Zeps Leadership group to equip high school students with the skills, mindset and inspiration to lead and positively impact their school and community. This grant is helping expand the program to include a book study and a tour of The Ohio State University football facility with engagement from its coaching staff.

UNITED WAY OF GUERNSEY, MONROE AND NOBLE COUNTIES

More than 350 Noble 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.



The 2025 Noble County Community Foundation Scholarships were presented to (from left) 2025 Caldwell High School graduates Carter Wheeldin and Preston Chandler; 2021 Shenandoah High School graduate Ashleigh Wheeler and 2025 Shenandoah High School graduates Lillian Baker and Mikayla Schockling; and 2024 Caldwell High School graduate Haleigh Danford. NCCF committee members Michael Buckey and Don Ullmann presented the awards to the Caldwell and Shenandoah graduates, respectively.

ANSWERING THE CALL TO LEAD AND SERVE IN NOBLE COUNTY



Katrina Harper-Baker

In 2023, FAO and its affiliate foundation partners welcomed the inaugural class of Growing Home Fellows, including eight individuals living and/or working in Noble County. The fellowship is investing in emerging leaders across the region who commit to live, work and volunteer in our communities for at least five years and take part in a strengths-based leadership program that includes one-on-one coaching, service, skill development and more.

Katrina Harper-Baker is an agriscience and career and technical education teacher at Caldwell Exempted Village School District. Through the fellowship, Katrina serves on the Noble County Community Foundation committee. She is working to launch the Fill the Freezer campaign in summer 2026 to address food insecurity in Noble County.



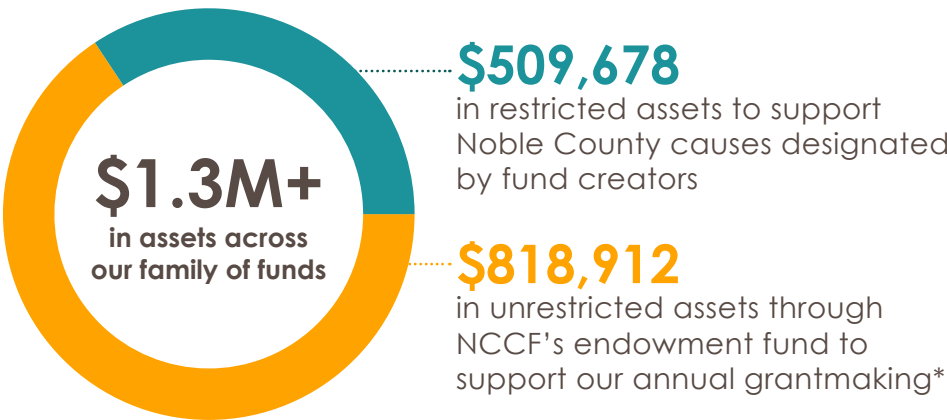
Emily Regan

Emily Regan is a social studies teacher at Caldwell High School. Through the fellowship, Emily serves with United Way of Guernsey, Monroe and Noble Counties as a data clerk for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Ohio, which delivers free monthly books to more than 2,000 children across the three counties.



OUR IMPACT

OUR ASSETS

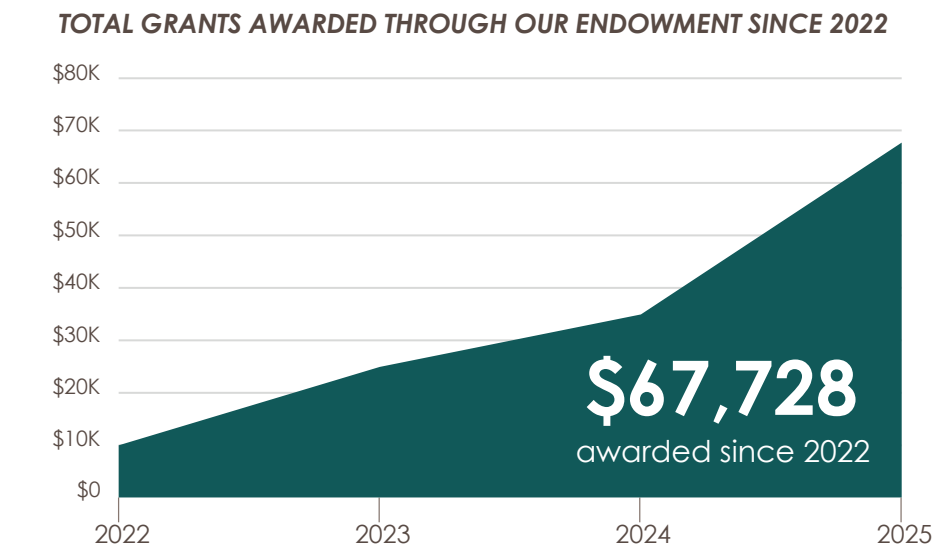


* Our endowment fund is designed to provide continuous investment in Noble County. Our endowment is invested. The earnings generated from those investments fund the grants we award each year, providing resources to meet the community's needs today while preserving the fund to serve Noble County for generations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

OUR IMPACT IN 2025



OUR IMPACT TO DATE



OUR FAMILY OF FUNDS

- **Noble County Community Foundation**
(This is the endowment fund that fuels our annual grantmaking.)
- HARP Mission Endowment Fund
- Jennifer Garrison Public Service Scholarship Fund
- Dr. Joanelle Wargo Long Legacy Scholarship
- Noble County Community Foundation Scholarship
- Noble County Improvement Corporation Fund for Noble County*
- Supporting Student Success Fund
- United Way of Guernsey, Monroe and Noble Endowment Fund

* This unrestricted named fund contributes to NCCF's annual grantmaking. Gifts to unrestricted named funds as well as NCCF's endowment fund are invested and generate earnings in perpetuity. Those earnings fund NCCF's grants year after year, decade after decade, generation after generation.



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

GROW NCCF'S ANNUAL GRANTMAKING

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

Give to NCCF's endowment fund by:



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



or mailing your gift to
Noble County Community 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 NCCF'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 NCCF. 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 Noble County Community 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!**

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