

# *Giving Matters*

Community Foundation DeKalb County  
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## **Introducing Tanya Young, New Executive Director**



Having worked with many community organizations, Tanya is well positioned to be an effective leader of the Foundation. Young was previously the Director of Community Engagement for Ivy Tech Community College Fort Wayne. Prior to her career at Ivy Tech, she worked at the Greater Fort Wayne Chamber of Commerce through the Workforce Development division of the Graduate Retention Program. In both capacities, Young was responsible for developing, expanding and maintaining positive relationships and partnerships across Northeast Indiana.

"We couldn't be more excited to welcome Tanya and her family to the Community Foundation," said Matt Bechdol, President of the Board of Directors. Besides her past work with our Community Foundation, Young has been involved in many board and leadership roles within the community and region, including Junior Achievement, DeKalb Chamber

Partnership, YMCA, Business Education & Community Partnership, Youth for Christ and more. She has served on her local school board for eight years and has been actively involved in donor relations and fundraising on a personal and professional level throughout the past twenty years. "I am delighted to be part of an organization that has had such a positive impact on the community. I look forward to continuing the work that the Foundation has done to support nonprofit organizations and increase charitable dollars," said Young.

Young grew up in Evansville and is a graduate of Purdue University. She married her high school sweetheart, Chris, and then moved to the Northeast Indiana region to raise their family. She and her husband have raised two daughters in Whitley County, and have now welcomed a son-in-law to their family. "I feel privileged to serve as the next Executive Director of the Community Foundation of DeKalb County. I have always felt this county has some of the most giving and heartfelt individuals. I look forward to working with the board, staff, donors and community leaders to move the organization forward by connecting donors who care with causes that matter and enrich the quality of life for everyone!"

# DeKalb County Promise

## Enrollment is OPEN!

Do you have a child, age 4 to Grade 3? An opportunity to enroll your child in a DeKalb County Promise 529 Career Savings Account has arrived! IF you're ready now, you may enroll online at [www.dekalbcountypromise.org](http://www.dekalbcountypromise.org). If not, please watch for an enrollment event happening at your child's school this Spring.

Just for signing up, DeKalb County Promise will automatically deposit \$25 into your child's account for learning beyond high school. This money may be used for a variety of post-high school education or training programs.



Though it's encouraged, families are not required to make a deposit when enrolling. By matching the initial \$25 incentive with another \$25 from champions in your child's life, families will automatically receive an additional \$75 gift from the community. This ensures your child has a career savings account worth at least \$125 for post-high school education or training programs. Starting to save early gives the fund time to grow. Please contact Melanie Beer or Judy Sorg with questions at 260-925-0311 or [promise@cfdekalb.org](mailto:promise@cfdekalb.org).

## Lilly Endowment Inc. offers Seventh Phase of its Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow (GIFT) Initiative

Are you willing to touch the lives of people you'll never even meet, now and forever across DeKalb County? Thanks to Lilly Endowment Inc.'s recent grant opportunity, we can triple your gift and triple the impact of your donations to our unrestricted/grantmaking fund.

The Community Foundation of DeKalb County received a \$500,000 matching grant in December to build its financial assets and support charitable activities. According to Board President Matt Bechdol, "the majority of these matching funds are directed to our unrestricted funds used for community grantmaking. Because these are the most difficult dollars for us to raise, this will have a major impact on our ability to address the changing needs over the years and generations." Donations to the unrestricted community grantmaking fund are eligible for the \$2:\$1 match through December 2020, or until this goal has been met.

GIFT VII also offers us a tremendous opportunity for the county to identify the most promising opportunities and pressing challenges that we have the capacity to address. Expect to see us engaging the community, developing new relationships, and building our internal capacity to focus on community leadership throughout 2019.

## Board of Directors Spotlight: Kathie Swaim

Kathie Swaim joined the Community Foundation of DeKalb County's Board of Directors in January of 2014. She was extremely honored when asked to become a Board member. She had been familiar with the work of the Community Foundation since working with the program Step Ahead, a collaborative program to bring together groups and individuals concerned with issues facing the children and families in our community.

Kathie also worked as the executive director of a nonprofit in Indianapolis and earlier was the Assistant Director of management and finance for JobWorks. She and her business partner also operated a private consulting firm helping small nonprofits with board development and fund raising.

Kathie said, "I felt I had the academic credentials, skills and experiences to help with the work of the Foundation Board. I was interested in helping the community primarily on the grant making side of things. I have now learned a lot about the idea of leaving a legacy." Within the Foundation, Kathie has served on the Scholarship Committee, Legacy Committee, and the Community Engagement Committee.

Kathie and her husband, Mark, live in Kathie's grandparents' house in rural DeKalb County. In her free time, she loves to cook, garden, listen to Cleveland Indians baseball and keep up with her many friends.

### Seven Questions with Kathie Swaim

1. What book has had the greatest impact on you? [The Dick and Jane series – There were so many life lessons](#)
2. What one person has had the greatest influence on your life? [Juliette Gordon Lowe](#)
3. What is your favorite movie? [Gone with the Wind](#)
4. What is your favorite activity to unwind? [Read a book or work crossword puzzles.](#)
5. If you could travel anywhere, where would you go? [Costa Rica](#)
6. Who is your favorite television/movie character? [Leroy Jethro Gibbs](#)
7. Leave us with your favorite quote/saying: [Love many, Trust Few, But always remember, Paddle your own canoe - M. Powers](#)



Mark & Kathie Swaim

**Save The Date**

*Committed to Community!*

**Community Foundation Annual Meeting**  
**Friday, May 10, 2019 from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

**Middaugh Hall**  
**708 South Union**  
**Auburn, IN**

# 2018 End of Year Campaign Results



**The Community Foundation would like to thank everyone who participated in our "Spread Holiday Cheer" campaign!**

## Campaign Creates New Endowment Fund

During our 2018 Spread Holiday Cheer Campaign, charitable organizations without an endowment fund with the Community Foundation were encouraged to create a fund, which allowed them to participate in the campaign and receive match money. One of the funds created during the Campaign was the RISE, Inc. Endowment Fund.

RISE is a human services agency in Northeast Indiana with a mission to compassionately partner with families and individuals with economic, physical, and developmental challenges. A majority of RISE's clients reside in DeKalb and Steuben counties. Personalized services and advocacy for independence, quality of life and hope are provided. Executive Director, Chris Stackhouse explains, "Our job is to help them achieve milestones on their journey to expanding their independence and quality of life."

When asked why RISE wanted to create an endowment fund with the Community Foundation, Stackhouse states that a fund with the Community Foundation would help to build for a sustainable future to meet community needs.

To find out more about RISE, please visit [www.risenei.org](http://www.risenei.org).



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