Home with Hope Opens Doors to Recovery

When Executive Director Amy Schaller-Page describes Home with Hope, she sums it up simply: “We make a difference one life at a time.”

That encompasses structured living and transitional services for those in recovery from alcohol and/or drug addiction. It serves adult men and women who are following the 12-Step Program.

Founded in 1971, the agency operates Hope Apartments, which house up to 44 men and women, and a 32-bed house for men. Earlier this year, the organization received a $42,000 Community Foundation grant for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning for Hope Apartments.

Impact High for Indiana Foundation Giving

The Indiana Philanthropy Alliance’s “Give Indiana” report highlights the importance of Indiana foundations.

“The information is interesting to note and good food for thought,” says Candy Silver, Community Foundation development director.

Two key findings: Indiana ranked 12th for total giving out of all 50 states and Washington D.C., and 13th for assets in 2011, the latest year figures are available.

“This tells us that Hoosier commitment to philanthropic foundations is strong,” Silver says.

Other tidbits about Indiana’s 1,184 foundations (which do not include United Way organizations):

- Combined assets topped $14 billion in 2011
- Grants totaled $733 million
- 76 percent of grants went to Indiana recipients
- Grants primarily benefited children/youth and people who are economically disadvantaged,” Silver notes.

One caution raised was a decline in Indiana foundation funding and assets for the decade ending in 2011, a contrast to the nation’s increases.

Of $733 million awarded by all Indiana foundations in 2011, $133 million was granted by community foundations, about 10 percent higher than nationally. The Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette’s 2011 grants totaled $869,564 (followed by $768,600 in 2012 and $994,539 in 2013).

“Reviewing the numbers gives us the big picture and a goal,” Silver says. “The close-up look we take in this newsletter’s stories about Home with Hope, HomesteadCS, and Greenbush Cemetery add heart to the financials and underscore the impact of giving.”
Recent Gifts
Gifts received from April 1 through June 30, 2014:

**IN MEMORY**
- Denise Albrecht  
  Gary and Michele Lehman
- Louis Cote  
  Lafayette Hearing Center
- Nathan L. Cottrell  
  Ball Eggleston PC

**TOH**
- James Emmert  
  Lafayette Hearing Center
- Paul Ewan  
  Ball Eggleston PC
- Virginia Gates  
  Lafayette Hearing Center
- Dorothy Hughes  
  Daniel and Joyce Culver

**Other**
- Jeffrey and Julie Farmer  
  Pearl Hall
- Therese A. Newell  
  Ball Eggleston PC
- Jean Oliver  
  Lafayette Hearing Center

The 2013 Community Foundation Annual Report is available online at www.cfglaf.org. It highlights the year’s activities, including:
- 10 new endowment funds established, bringing our total to 170
- $994,539 in grants awarded to nonprofits and scholars.

Endowment to Support Greenbush Cemetery

Stepping into Greenbush Cemetery, 1408 N. 12th St., is like a visit to yesteryear.

William Digby, who founded Lafayette in 1825 and died in 1864, is buried there, as well as artists George Winter and Edna Ruby, druggist Albert Wells, merchant Moses Fowler and poet Evaleen Stein. So are Confederate soldiers who died in a temporary Lafayette prison hospital in 1862 and Union soldiers killed in an 1864 train accident.

The cemetery was first established on 3.7 acres in 1830 when the old city cemetery was moved there; that portion remains city-owned. More acreage was added by private owners from 1848 to 1865, bringing the site to today’s 10.8 acres. Nearly 10,000 graves are in the cemetery, says local historian L.A. Clugh.

It was the county’s first garden cemetery, a park-like setting. Early plots sold for $10 each, and gravediggers earned $2 per grave. A brick building onsite was used in the winter to hold up to 16 caskets until the ground thawed and graves could be dug. The last burial plots were sold in 1968.

The cemetery was overseen by the Greenbush Cemetery Association until it ran out of funds and experienced decline. In 2013, Fairfield Township joined the city in ownership and took over care.

Volunteers, too, pitched in to trim trees and carry away debris, an ongoing effort, and two of them—Arlan Stavnheim and Larry Rose—established an endowment with The Community Foundation to support continued care.

“This is Lafayette’s founding father’s cemetery, so it’s important to restore it,” says Julie Roush, Fairfield Township Trustee. “This endowment will help correct the neglect and provide funds for long-term care.”

“Our little contribution got it started,” Rose says. “Now, we need many people to participate.”

“People like giving to endowments and foundations, so we thought we’d start it and let it fly,” Stavnheim says.

A Blue and Gray Ball on November 8, named for the Civil War soldiers buried there, also is planned to raise funds for the cemetery’s maintenance; information is available at www.greenbush.fairfielddtownship.us.

ONLINE GIVING
Gifts to The Community Foundation may be made online at www.cfglaf.org.
While “compassion,” “generous,” and “vision” well describe the attributes of Wendell Riggs, M.D., an Arnett Clinic pediatrician from 1963 to 1998, who passed away last December, “persistent” might be the top choice. He is perhaps best known for doggedly pursuing funds and volunteer physicians to establish a community health clinic that was renamed in 2009 to honor him and is now the Riggs Community Health Center. His wife, Eleanor, however, tells an earlier, equally illustrative, story.

While in high school together in Terre Haute, Wendell had a crush on El, as she was known among her popular crowd, but she declined his request for a date.

“He was studious. I was involved in activities,” she explains. She entered Indiana University; he, Indiana State University. Back home on break one day, El answered the door to Wendell’s knock. “His dog had died, and he wanted me to go with him to bury the dog.”

That began their life together.

DECADES OF GIVING
Eleanor continued to be independent and involved—in sports, teaching, political activities, the League of Women Voters, YMCA Foundation and other areas. He was a pediatrician, county health officer and advocate for those with fewer resources than others, serving groups such as Wabash Center, The Community Foundation, the WIC program and many more.

Awards, too, followed—Wendell’s George Award, two Sagamore of the Wabash awards, a Grand Marquis de Lafayette award, recognition from the American Academy of Pediatrics, and more, and Eleanor’s YWCA Salute to Women Award. “I teased him that I had something to hang up next to his,” she remembers.

They raised three sons: Steven, David, and Andrew.

Wendell’s involvements were so extensive, “he used to say he married me to keep him organized,” Eleanor says. “He retired three times (from the county, Arnett, and Riggs). I haven’t retired. I’ve always got a project going.”

Throughout their lives, they both embraced compassion, generosity, vision, and persistence in their various endeavors. Among their giving: Eleanor’s named professorship at Indiana University and support for the arts, history, community groups, and their church.

Writing about his work, Wendell cited these elements for success in launching the community clinic: “Collaboration, consensus, the time was right, the physicians who assisted me, and passion—they knew in their hearts that I believed in this project.”

WILL ESTABLISHED LASTING LEGACY
The Riggs’ generosity carried through to Wendell’s will, where he designated a bequest to The Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette to benefit the nonprofit health center. A board resolution subsequently established the Dr. Wendell A. and Eleanor C. Riggs Endowment.

“He wanted to be sure the clinic had the money to keep going. He was always interested in taking care of others,” Eleanor says. “I’m all for The Community Foundation,” she says. “The Community Foundation has good people, and I trust them.”

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**Lifetime of Caring Reflected in Riggs’ Bequest**

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Grants Fund Community Needs

The Community Foundation continues its grant funding with four Tier 3 grants totaling $27,339 recently awarded. Receiving vital assistance are:

**HomesteadCS**
$5,200, server and network equipment for new office

**Lafayette Urban Ministry**
$7,499, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning units

**Mental Health America of Tippecanoe County**
$7,190, video security system upgrade

**Sunnyside Intermediate School**
$7,450, sound booth update

At HomesteadCS, a nonprofit HUD-certified housing counseling agency, the goal is to help people achieve quality housing solutions. Among its programs are pre-purchase counseling, education, down payment assistance, repair grants, foreclosure prevention, and delinquency counseling. HomesteadCS recently moved to new offices at 671 N. 36th St. The Community Foundation assisted with grant funding for its server and network equipment.

**Upcoming Deadline**
The final deadline for 2014 grant applications is noon, December 1, 2014, for Tier 3 grants of less than $7,500.

**Lafayette Savings Bank Establishes Second Endowment**
To mark its 145th year, Lafayette Savings Bank established the LSB Wabash Riverfront Enhancement Endowment with The Community Foundation, depositing $25,000.

“Our gift goes toward enhancing the Wabash riverfront corridor,” says Randolph Williams, president and CEO. “ Beautifying the green spaces adjacent to the river is an initiative dear to our hearts.”

Because the bank is merging and its name will change to Old National Bank next January, “This keeps the Lafayette Savings Bank name out there forever,” he said.

The endowment will fund grants to nonprofit groups working to enhance and improve the riverfront.

Five years ago, at its 140th anniversary, the bank established the John Purdue Benevolent Endowment with The Community Foundation.