About 40 former and current Community Foundation board members gathered April 18 at the Elmhurst Community Building for the first of what may be an annual event.

Those attending were briefed on recent activities, including a milestone of $15 million in community grants awarded since the Foundation was formed in 1970. Greg Kapp, president and chief executive officer, told the group, “You are the foundation of The Foundation.”

**SHARING IDEAS**
They then split into three discussion groups to note positives in the organization’s activities and generate suggestions for continuing to fulfill its mission.

In the “doing right” column, the Council of Governors, as the group is being identified, listed donor relation activities, such as scholarship receptions, tours of nonprofits, and communication pieces that highlight donors and grant recipients.

“They are the real stories,” Rita Smith said. “And I’d recommend they go to a wider audience.”

**LOOKING AHEAD**
Among points discussed were:

“People need to realize you can start a fund with a small gift,” Carolyn Holder Price suggested.

“Keep focusing on youngsters and families,” said Mariellen Neudeck.

“Develop relationships with professional advisors, whose clients would benefit from the Foundation’s help when considering charitable giving,” said Bill Gettings.

Other suggestions included asking current donors to increase their giving and funding projects that might be unpopular but necessary.

**MEETING ANNUALLY**
Former board members offered to be available for specific tasks, too, such as advocating for philanthropy, mentoring nonprofits, and meeting with potential donors to share their giving story.

The group agreed to meet annually, expressing interest in touring local nonprofits to see grants at work and learn more about community needs.

“When I was on the grants committee and we made site visits, that was a whole new world to me,” Betty Nelson said.

“It would be a good way to stay connected,” said Mary Ilu Altman. And Linda Bowman noted, “It would be an extra touchstone for knowing what the community needs are.”
Thanks to the foresight and generosity of many in our community, Greater Lafayette will benefit for generations to come from gifts donors make through their wills.

“Legacy gifts may be designated in given amounts, a percentage of an estate, the remainder of an estate after other bequests, or in full,” says Greg Kapp, Community Foundation president and chief executive officer. “Donors must simply note their wishes in their wills.”

It’s a convenient and wise giving option, he says. “Donors know their bequests will be carefully managed and allocated by The Foundation to better our community.”

To designate The Community Foundation in a will, use this wording:

I give, devise, and bequeath ______________________ (the sum of/percentage of/specific assets/residue of my estate) to The Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette, to be used for ___________________ (its general charitable purposes or______________ named endowment).

Donors or their attorneys with questions about this giving avenue should contact The Community Foundation. The Foundation would like to recognize and thank those who stipulate a will gift as a Legacy Society member.

Legacy Bequests Make Thoughtful Remembrances

Join Us August 10 for All-new Gems & Jeans

It’s back! Gems & Jeans—with a new twist—returns this summer as The Community Foundation again highlights the work of local nonprofits with behind-the-scenes tours.

GO INSIDE NONPROFITS

The format from The Foundation’s 40th anniversary celebration in 2010 met with such enthusiasm, it’s being reinvented in 2013, this time focusing on the 16 nonprofits in the “Campaign for Community,” which is awarding matching funds for agency endowment deposits through the end of this year.

Visiting nonprofit sites can be “an eye-opening experience,” says Gems & Jeans co-chair Becky Robledo. “We’ll go in small groups and engage with the speakers. In 2010, so many people said while touring different places, ‘Wow, I didn’t know they did this.’”

New sites in 2013 will mean new opportunities to learn.

Fellow co-chair Leta Kelley says, “People often don’t know all the good things a group does for a community. They maybe know one aspect, but not all. These tours give a bigger picture.”

Since the first Gems & Jeans was so successful, plans are to duplicate the format with a pre-tour social hour, tours, then dinner. “It’s a fun fundraiser,” Robledo says.

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, August 10
4:30 p.m. Social hour at the Lafayette Country Club
5:30 p.m. Motor coach tour and inside look at several local nonprofit organizations
7:30 p.m. Dinner, Lafayette Country Club

Invitations will be mailed soon. Seating is limited to the first 150 guests.

CAMPAIGN FOR COMMUNITY PARTICIPANTS

- AgrInstitute
- Art Museum of Greater Lafayette
- Habitat for Humanity
- Lafayette Rotary Club Foundation
- Lafayette Transitional Housing
- Leadership Lafayette
- Legal Aid
- Mental Health America
- New Community School
- Right Steps Child Development Centers
- Tippecanoe Chamber Music Society
- Tree Lafayette
- Lyn Treece Boys & Girls Club
- Wabash Center
- Wolf Park
- Unannounced organization
Recent Gifts
Gifts received from January 1, 2013, through March 31, 2013:

IN MEMORY
Jim Carney
Donald P. Gustafson
Bruce Cunningham
Penny L. Burgess and Roger
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Cunningham
Robert and Joyce Cunningham
Helen L. Foster
Dennis G. Hatke Family
Edwin Layer
Janene Lencke
Roger and Barbara Long
Lenard H. Miller and Dianne S. Talbot
Marshall and Cheryl Moss Family
Bill Fuller
Lafayette Rotary Club
Betty M. Nelson
John U. Graham
Ron and Mary Diem
Riggs Community Health Center
John and Lynn VanEtten
George Huebner
Jim and Mary Beth Buescher
Sue Leslie
Jim Leslie
Mary Huggins McBride
Jack and Kris Walkey
Thomas Price
Carolyn S. Holder Price
Dorothy Sense
Rick Olson
Katie Traynor
Kristine Bingham
Mary Malloy
Gregory M. Ney
Gary and Cindy Traynor
Joan Whipple
Bill and Bev Gettings

IN HONOR
Wendell A. Riggs, MD
Eleanor Riggs
Betty Rowe
John Rowe

NEW ENDOWMENTS
Jacob E. and Mary Ann Wiebers Scholarship
Richard D. Wood Scholarship

Martins Like to Give Quietly, Behind the Scenes

Sharing their time, resources, and nurturing style—preferably without fanfare or personal attention—fuels John and Marjorie Martin’s life choices.

Rather than an article focusing on them, the Martins want to spotlight community needs and how others might help provide housing, food, and healthcare to those without.

GIVING A WAY OF LIFE
“We’ve had an easy life compared to many people,” says Marjorie, a retired teacher who believes her blessings come with the responsibility to give to others.

“I don’t feel right unless I’m helping someone,” she says. “During my years of teaching, I witnessed many families going through hardships, when it was hard for them to meet basic needs. So that’s where I want to help.”

Through the years, the Martins have traveled various giving paths. A volunteer for Food Finders Food Bank the past eight years, Marjorie earlier spent years at Lafayette Adult Resource Academy.

John’s financial expertise has prompted him to serve board posts—currently, The Community Foundation, and earlier, the Red Cross, Junior Achievement, and others.

They’ve also established funds at The Community Foundation to provide ongoing assistance. One of those is a good alternative to an annuity, John says. “You can give money, receive a tax benefit, get revenue over the years, and in the end, you know it’s going to help the community.”

“I’m glad to let The Community Foundation board have the responsibility of choosing where the money should go,” he says. “I respect that process.”

LIVING HERE ALMOST 50 YEARS
The Martins, who met as high school seniors, hail from South Bend/Mishawaka. They moved here in 1966 after graduating from Hanover College, so John could attend graduate school at Purdue.

Both earned master’s degrees and became teachers, Marjorie staying in the profession until retiring several years ago after 25 years as a second grade teacher at Hershey Elementary.

“That was the perfect age to teach,” she says. And she brought her love of nature to their learning. Lessons might have centered on an earthworm farm, ant farm, or the bluebird trail she started at school.

John, who had considered the ministry, then economics, taught high school math for five years before becoming a banker. He retired a few years ago after 35 years at Regions Bank.

ON-THE-GO RETIREMENT
Besides volunteering, Marjorie enjoys family travels and gardening—raising vegetables in a community gardens plot. John likes to golf, read financial materials, and travel to distant lands.

Both enjoy time with their three sons, their spouses, and seven grandchildren.
Grants Awarded

The Community Foundation recently funded these Tier 1 grants:

**Thomas Duncan Hall**
$20,000, heating system renovation

**First United Methodist Church Furniture Bank**
$20,000, box truck

**Lafayette Urban Ministry**
$26,643, replace 46 mattresses and hot water heater at homeless shelter

**Long Center for the Performing Arts**
$20,000, theater re-rigging

**YWCA of Greater Lafayette**
$15,850, new phone system

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**Foundation Funds Truck for Furniture Bank**

Matching families who need furniture with those who have extra is the mission of the First United Methodist Church Furniture Bank, a volunteer group that works with local nonprofits to fill empty homes.

“We heard from social service agencies that the greatest need is furniture,” says Jeanne Norberg. Those included Lafayette Transitional Housing and American Red Cross.

She approached her church to launch the effort about a year ago. Anyone with furniture to spare may donate it. Agencies with clients in need scan the online inventory and make a request on their behalf.

Hauling the furniture has been a challenge, until now. A $20,000 grant is funding the purchase of a box truck.

“The truck will give us the ability to pick up more and help us deliver,” Norberg says. And because it is a box truck, furniture can be hauled in any weather.

Furniture Bank donors and volunteers come from all over the area, including Purdue students. “This community is amazing,” she says. “So many people are willing to volunteer.”

To donate furniture, e-mail jnorberg@purdue.edu or call 765/491-1460