

## Foundation Celebrates Surpassing \$100 Million in Total Charitable Capital

We are thrilled to announce that in May the Foundation surpassed **\$70 million in total assets under management** and **\$30 million in cumulative grant distributions**, equating to **\$100 million in total charitable capital** since our founding! This incredible milestone could not have been attained without the generosity of our many donors and other community partners, together with the tireless efforts of our Board, staff, committee members and other volunteers.

Over the past 10 years, the Foundation's assets have nearly tripled, increasing from \$25 million in 2007 to more than \$70 million today.

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## Foundation Fuels Health and Human Services and Early Childhood Efforts with More Than \$800,000 in Grants

Through our **Community Needs Grant Program**, the DuPage Foundation supports programs and projects that improve and enrich the quality of life for DuPage County residents. The Foundation's Board of Trustees, Grant Committee and staff are pleased to announce the awarding of more than **\$800,000** in grants to **37** DuPage County not-for-profit organizations working in the area of **Health and Human Services** and to six local collaboratives focused on improving **kindergarten-readiness** in DuPage County. The grants were distributed at the Foundation's Spring Grant Awards Breakfast held on **Wednesday, June 14**, hosted by Trustee Emerita **Betty Bradshaw**, at Glen Oak Country Club in Glen Ellyn.

"There are numerous not-for-profit organizations in DuPage County that are providing vital services," said **Joe Weidenbach**, Foundation Grant Committee chair. "During these challenging times with many organizations feeling the effects of cut backs, the Foundation is pleased to provide support and much needed resources to those addressing health and human services and early childhood needs."

*(continued on page 3)*



*Lauren Peterson, Jenna Mishler and Hale Ekinci attend a visual arts convening at the DuPage Foundation in March.*

## Arts DuPage Hosts Two Convenings for Local Artists

Last February, when the lights dimmed following the **ArtsDuPage.org** launch party, the Foundation knew it made a splash within DuPage County's arts and culture sector. However, **Barb Szczepaniak**, the Foundation's vice president for programs, was not content simply riding the waves of a successful website launch. "We knew there was high demand for our Arts DuPage

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# Foundation Achieves Giving Milestone with 2017 Spirit of Volunteerism Awards

The Foundation is cognizant of the challenges that DuPage County not-for-profits have experienced in recent years. In response to unstable financial times, these organizations have become more creative managing and utilizing their limited budgetary and human resources. Oftentimes, volunteers play a critical role to ease the burden of maintaining quality services for constituents. In 2011, thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor-advisor, the DuPage Foundation launched the **Spirit of Volunteerism** awards with the intent of biennially honoring organizations that exemplify successful volunteer engagement.

In May, the Foundation was pleased to reward the **Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center**, **Access DuPage** and **DuPage Habitat for Humanity** with our 2017 Spirit of Volunteerism Awards. With the distribution of these grants, the Foundation surpassed **\$30 million** in cumulative grantmaking.

The Foundation received 49 grant applications which were sorted into three categories based upon the size of the organization's annual operating budget. A committee of local volunteers spent numerous hours reviewing each application to evaluate and select organizations that demonstrated that volunteers are an integral part of their organization and that their volunteers rise beyond the traditional call of duty.

"We are ecstatic to be recognizing these organizations for their vibrant volunteer programs," said **Barb Szczepaniak**, Foundation vice president of programs. "This program wouldn't be possible without the generosity of a wonderful Foundation donor-advisor who values the importance and impact of volunteer services."

**Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center (GECRC)**, recipient of a **\$10,000 grant**, empowers children to realize their full academic and personal potential through an intensive five-day-a-week, after-school tutoring and mentoring program. The committee was impressed by how GECRC's more than 300 volunteers—professionals with specialized knowledge—provide one-on-one tutoring and small group learning experiences for at-risk children. In addition, GECRC volunteers led the campaign to raise \$200,000 to open the Churchill Elementary School site. GECRC's grant will be used to increase its volunteer outreach coordinator's hours to market, cultivate and train more volunteers as well as support background checks.

**Access DuPage**, recipient of a **\$20,000 grant**, is a collaborative effort by thousands of individuals and hundreds of organizations in DuPage County to provide access to medical services to the County's low-income, medically uninsured residents. The committee noted



*Top - Glen Ellyn  
Children's Resource  
Center*



*Left - Access DuPage*



*Below - DuPage Habitat  
for Humanity*

the significant number of professionals who are volunteering their time to Access DuPage through primary care, specialty care and clinics. Specific examples cited in its application were mass eye exams to screen diabetic patients, and how services were offered for a patient experiencing language barrier issues.

**DuPage Habitat for Humanity**, recipient of a **\$30,000 grant**, builds and sells homes to working families using the funds and volunteers provided by corporate, faith-based and individual sponsors. The committee noted that more than 5,000 volunteers donated time in different capacities during the last fiscal year. In addition, the organization is developing an incentive program to engage volunteers during the winter months.

Congratulations to all three organizations!

# Community Needs and Bright & Early DuPage Grants

(continued from page 1)

The following organizations received funding exclusively through our Community Needs Grant Program:

- B.R. Ryall YMCA of Northwestern DuPage County
- CareNet Pregnancy Services of DuPage
- Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet
- Chicago Dental Society Foundation
- DayOne PACT
- Donka, Inc.
- DuPage Federation on Human Services Reform
- DuPage Senior Citizens Council
- Elmhurst Walk-in Assistance Network
- ESSE Adult Day Services
- Family Focus
- Family Shelter Service
- Giant Steps
- Glen Ellyn Youth and Family Counseling Service
- Loaves & Fishes Community Services
- NAMI DuPage
- Northeast DuPage Family and Youth Services
- Northern Illinois Food Bank
- People's Resource Center
- Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland & Northwest Indiana
- Serenity House Counseling Services, Inc.
- Sharing Connections
- The GardenWorks Project
- UCP Seguin of Greater Chicago
- Wayne/Winfield Area Youth/Family Services (WAYS)
- Western DuPage Special Recreation Association
- Youth Outlook

Additional organizations which received grants funded fully or partially by Foundation donor-advised funds include as follows:

- 360 Youth Services
- Bridge Communities, Inc.
- DuPage Health Coalition
- DuPagePads
- Friends for Therapeutic Equine Activities
- H.O.M.E. DuPage
- Mayslake Village
- Outreach Community Ministries Inc.
- Project HELP
- Teen Parent Connection

**Total Community Needs Grant Funding Awarded: \$483,288**

Community Needs grants are primarily awarded based on earnings from the Foundation's unrestricted and field-of-interest funds. Additionally, during the selection process, the Foundation offers representatives of its donor-advised funds the opportunity to review the grant applications that it receives through its Community Needs Grant Program. It does this to inform local donors about the needs in the community, introduce them to the many organizations

that apply to the Foundation, and to engage them in helping the Foundation increase the level of grant support that it provides through the grant process.

In addition to our Community Needs grants, the Foundation awarded grants from our **Bright & Early DuPage initiative** to further the efforts of local collaboratives focused on improving kindergarten-readiness in DuPage County. Recipients include as follows:

- Addison Early Childhood Collaboration
- Bensenville Early Learning Supporters
- DuPage Early Childhood Collaboration
- Glenbard Early Childhood Collaborative
- Wheaton/Warrenville Early Childhood Collaborative
- Willowbrook Corner Coalition

**Total Bright & Early DuPage Funding Awarded: \$317,612**

## Thank You, Donor-Advisors!

The Foundation expresses its sincere thanks to representatives of the following donor-advised funds who recommended **\$142,300** in grants supporting our Spring Community Needs Grant Cycle.

- Betty M. Bock Fund
- Linda & Clark G. Carpenter Fund
- Edward & Minnie Ceragioli Fund
- DuPage Medical Group Charitable Fund
- Snodgrass Family Fund
- Sue Wallace Fund

**The Fall Community Needs Grant Cycle (Arts and Culture, Education and Environment) application deadline is Friday, September 1, 2017.**

**Visit [www.dupagefoundation.org](http://www.dupagefoundation.org) for details.**



# NGI Supports Two Area Not-for-Profits with Grants and Volunteer Service

The **Foundation's Next Generation Initiative (NGI)** was thrilled to host more than 60 guests on March 22 for its Spring Soirée at Emmett's Brewing Company in Downers Grove. Generously sponsored in part by **Wheaton Bank & Trust Company**, the event provided a wonderful evening of delicious food, fun and comradery.

In addition, the NGI was delighted to showcase and support the work of two outstanding area not-for-profits: **The Conservation Foundation** and **DuPagePads**. **Scott LaMorte**, The Conservation Foundation's senior advancement officer, and **Janelle Barcelona**, DuPagePads' vice president of development, each gave brief presentations that highlighted their organizations' missions and upcoming volunteer opportunities. During the mixer, both agencies were awarded \$1,000 grants from donations from attendees and a match from the Foundation's NGI Fund.

"We're thrilled by the traction the NGI is getting," said **Derek Johnson**, who chairs the NGI's 15-member Steering Committee. "We've had nearly 40 individuals and families become members since launching our formal campaign at the end of 2016. People are really responding to the opportunity to connect and give back together while learning about all of the great charities making a difference for our community."

On April 19, NGI volunteers donated their time to serve DuPagePads clients at Peace Lutheran Church in Lombard. Every night, DuPagePads hosts homeless men, women and children at Peace Lutheran Church and other sites like it throughout DuPage County. Our volunteers assisted Pads staff by setting tables, checking in clients, serving food and cleaning up after dinner.

Then, on June 3, NGI volunteers assisted The Conservation Foundation as part of its 26<sup>th</sup> Annual DuPage River Sweep. NGI volunteers removed garbage, honeysuckle and garlic mustard from Hitchcock Woods in Lisle.

"Engaging DuPage's next generation of leaders, donors and volunteers is critical to the long-term sustainability of our county," said **Peri Todd**, director of the **DuPage Medical Group Charitable Fund**. "DuPage Medical Group applauds the Foundation for its efforts on this front and is proud to serve as a lead corporate partner for the NGI. We hope that other companies will join us in making similar investments as this is truly a worthwhile cause."

Membership to the NGI is open to people and organizations of all ages and interests who are passionate about our community and seeking opportunities to connect, learn and give back.

The NGI's next event will be its **Fall Fling**, scheduled for **Wednesday, September 27**, from **5:30 – 7:30 p.m.**, and will highlight **Family Shelter Service** and **Ronald McDonald House Charities**. Stay tuned for additional details and registration information!



*NGI members (left to right) Don Babcock, Robert Mullins, Chad Pedigo, Katie Michel, Derek Johnson and Rachel Welling volunteer for DuPagePads at Lombard's Peace Lutheran Church.*

## Interested in becoming an NGI member or sponsor partner?

Visit [www.dupagefoundation.org](http://www.dupagefoundation.org) or contact **Bill Pearch**, marketing manager, at 630.598.5290 or [bill@dupagefoundation.org](mailto:bill@dupagefoundation.org) for details.

**NGI's 2017 Lead Corporate Partner**

**NGI's Volunteer Opportunities Partner**

DuPage Medical Group  
CHARITABLE FUND

**Giving DuPage**

## New Funds Established

- **Ronald R. Bork Fund**
- **The Conservation Foundation Agency Fund**
- **Rotary Club of Wheaton A.M. Designated Fund II**

Contact us at 630.665.5556 for information on how to establish your fund at the DuPage Foundation. For a complete listing of funds, please visit us at [www.dupagefoundation.org](http://www.dupagefoundation.org).

# Local Artist Leaves a Legacy for Animal Welfare Causes



Ron Bork's painting, *Churchill Park November*, was recently displayed in Villa Park-based Park Art Center's exhibit highlighting the artists of Studios630.

During his lifetime, **Ron Bork**, an award-winning visual artist, had a passion for storytelling by applying paint to canvas. His subject matter varied from rustic DuPage County landscapes, to exotic portraits, to the plight of wildlife. For nearly 40 years, until his passing on August 4, 2016, Bork called Glen Ellyn home, and he was adamant about leaving a transformative legacy for his community. When Bork was introduced to **Dave McGowan**, the Foundation's president & CEO, during the spring of 2011, they began to establish the groundwork to benefit the causes that resonated with him.

"I was inspired by Ron's vibrant canvases," said McGowan. "He told me tales of his frequent travels west and southwest—to Wyoming, Montana and New Mexico—to sell his paintings. His art was his life."

Through trusted advisors, Bork was referred to the DuPage Foundation and encouraged to explore opportunities to create a lasting legacy. After a preliminary phone call, Bork was convinced that the Foundation would honor his intentions and provide sound stewardship for his planned gift.

Through a simple bequest in his will facilitated by his attorneys, Bork made provision for a significant gift from his estate to establish the **Ronald R. Bork Fund** upon his passing. "Ron's second passion was animals," said McGowan. "He specified that his fund will support the **Willowbrook Wildlife Center** and other not-for-profit agencies in DuPage County that provide or facilitate animal welfare services."

Owned and operated by the **Forest Preserve District of DuPage County**, the Willowbrook Wildlife Center is a native wildlife

## Please Remember Us in Your Estate Plan

*When making or updating your will, please consider a gift to the DuPage Foundation. Consult your estate planning attorney who can assist you in adding one of the following paragraphs to your will:*

"I hereby give and bequeath \$\_\_\_\_\_ to The DuPage Community Foundation d/b/a the DuPage Foundation to be used (for its general purposes) (for {specific purpose})."

**OR**

"I hereby give, devise and bequeath (the residue) (\_\_\_\_% of the residue) of my estate to The DuPage Community Foundation d/b/a the DuPage Foundation to be used (for its general purposes) (for {specific purpose})."

*If you are leaving the proceeds of an insurance policy or IRA assets to the DuPage Foundation, be sure to indicate this on the insurance or IRA beneficiary forms and not in your will because the insurance proceeds or IRA assets will be disposed of by the terms of the insurance policy or IRA document and not your will.*

## Leave a Transformative Legacy in DuPage County

**For questions or information about leaving a legacy that meets your unique passions, please contact Michael Sitrick, JD, Foundation vice president for advancement, at [mike@dupagefoundation.org](mailto:mike@dupagefoundation.org) or 630.598.5285.**

rehabilitation facility that provides care and medical treatment to injured and orphaned wild animals. It also serves as a resource to teach DuPage County's residents about living in harmony with local wildlife.

Our sincerest thanks to Ron for his generosity and trust in our stewardship.



# Foundation Debuts New Website

The Foundation is pleased to announce the debut of its new website. Officially launched on June 2, the refreshed and fully-adaptive site provides both longtime Foundation constituents and first-time visitors with a plethora of new content at their fingertips in a format that is streamlined and highly accessible.

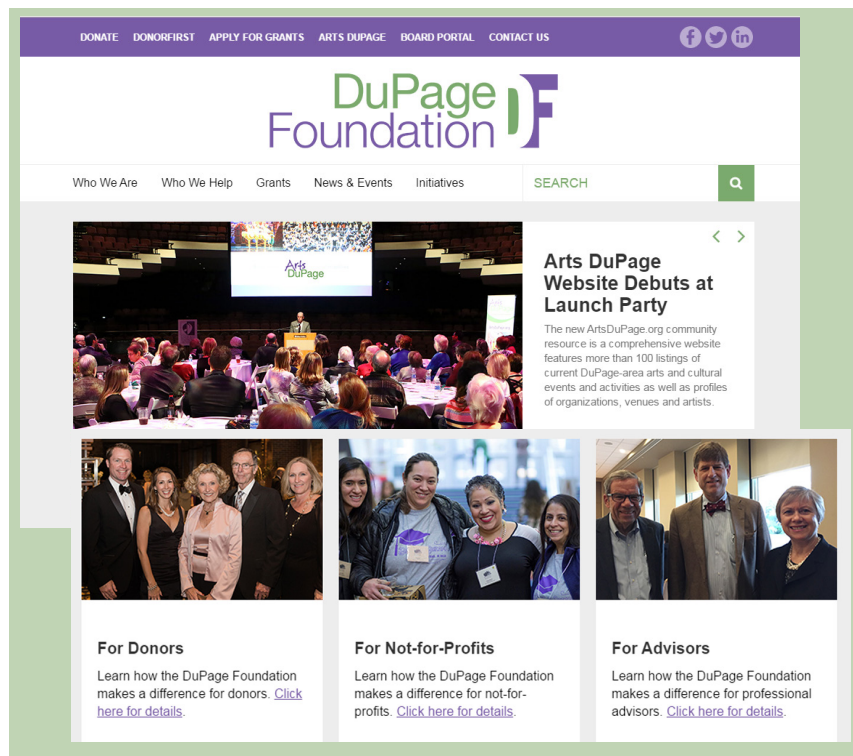
"The new website is the final phase of our rebranding efforts," said **Michael Sitrick**, Foundation vice president for advancement. "What began with the charge of a new name, logo and office space has now culminated with the launch of our new digital presence." During the past year, the Foundation's Advancement team collaborated with the **Marketing Committee** and staff to tackle the task of revamping and optimizing the Foundation's online presence to better serve its constituents.

"We are excited to provide our visitors with a considerably enhanced experience," said **Bill Pearch**, Foundation marketing manager. "In designing the new site, we carefully considered the needs and interests of our various audiences to guide our efforts. We want new and returning visitors to be able to readily identify how they connect with the Foundation—as donors, not-for-profits, or professional advisors—and to be able to quickly locate the content they are seeking."

The website is easily searchable and organized accordingly:

- **Who We Are**
- **Who We Help**
- **Grants**
- **News & Events**
- **Initiatives**

With the new website, the Foundation can spotlight upcoming events and important news with engaging visuals on its home page. Under "Who We Are," visitors can read powerful, personal testimonials from Foundation donors, agency partners and professional advisors communicating their unique stories. Under "Who We Help," donors, not-for-profits and professional advisors can each learn about the many ways the Foundation can help them accomplish their goals and assist their clients. The new "Grants" section



highlights the impact of the Foundation's grant programs, promotes funding opportunities and provides easy access to our online grant portal. "News & Events" includes a compendium of recent news announcements, publications, press coverage and upcoming events. Finally, the new "Initiatives" section highlights the Foundation's efforts through its **Arts DuPage**, **Bright & Early DuPage** and **Next Generation Initiative (NGI)**.

For more information about the Foundation's new website, please contact Bill Pearch, Foundation marketing manager, via e-mail at [bill@dupagefoundation.org](mailto:bill@dupagefoundation.org) or by calling 630.598.5290.

## Charitable Capital Milestone

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Meanwhile, this growth has afforded us increased capacity to broaden the scope of our services, foster new community initiatives and provide greater support to our not-for-profit partners. During the last decade, Foundation annual grant distributions have more than tripled increasing from \$1.1 million in 2007 to more than \$3.6 million today. Notably, in our 30-plus year history, we have now awarded more than **5,400 grants** to not-for-profit organizations serving the residents of DuPage County and beyond.

"I couldn't be prouder of reaching this monumental milestone," said Dave McGowan, Foundation president & CEO. "This demonstrates how the Foundation's vision and mission resonates in our communities."

Again, our sincere thanks to all of you for your role in helping us achieve this phenomenal milestone. It would not have been possible without your confidence, trust and generosity.



Debbie Venezia

## Foundation Welcomes Venezia as Director of Arts DuPage

The Foundation's new director of **Arts DuPage**, **Debbie Venezia**, hit the ground running. On her second day, she stepped into the spotlight and welcomed more than 35 performing artists and presenters to the Foundation's office for the second Arts DuPage convening. "It was perfect," said Venezia. "I couldn't imagine a better scenario for getting acquainted with some of Arts DuPage's most ardent supporters."

In her new role, Venezia will be responsible for leading the Foundation's **Arts DuPage Advisory Council** to promote creativity and nurture engagement in the arts throughout DuPage County.

"Debbie has earned a reputation for supporting and promoting the cultural environment in DuPage County for nearly 30 years," said Foundation Vice President for Programs **Barb Szczepaniak**. "With her dynamic personality, she fostered connections between artists and the public to stimulate the understanding and appreciation of art in the region."

Since 2002, Venezia has served as the Naperville Art League's executive director. During her 15-year tenure, she increased the organization's revenues by 82% during her first three years; secured more than \$500,000 in grants and sponsorships; facilitated workshops, classes, and exhibits; coordinated all aspects of the Naperville Riverwalk Fine Art Fair; and managed all administrative and financial policies, procedures, and controls. She also founded and currently directs the 1,200-plus member After Hours Film Society, which meets at Downers Grove's Tivoli Theatre. Venezia holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Rosary College (now Dominican University) in River Forest and is a resident of Naperville.

"I am extremely honored to serve as director of Arts DuPage and I look forward to undertaking the important work of promoting engagement and investment in the arts and creativity throughout DuPage," said Venezia.

## Arts Convenings

*(continued from page 1)*

initiative," said Szczepaniak. "It was time to hear from local artists. We were eager to gather feedback about their experiences and how Arts DuPage, moving forward, can be a resource for them in their respective arenas."

The Foundation dipped its toes into the water and organized a series of convenings targeted toward artists, organizations, producers and presenters. Visual artists were invited to the initial convening held in early March. Performing artists were then invited for a second convening held in early May. Foundation staff highlighted the initiative's long-term goals and priorities. Attendees had the opportunity to network with their peers and discuss the efforts that have been most effective in advancing their work, as well as the challenges they encounter.

"More than 50 people attended the two convenings and shared success stories and concerns," said **Debbie Venezia**, director of Arts DuPage. "We're confident that, armed with data gleaned from these sessions, Arts DuPage will help our local arts and culture scene flourish."

"I want to make sure I am aware of where arts events are happening and what resources are available," said **Lesley Gena**, director of arts programs at People's Resource Center. "It's great to have a website with opportunities for local artists and venues to connect and network."

"I'm looking forward to Arts DuPage being a great hub for our area," said **Tania Blanco**, vice president of the Midwest Collage Society and Addison Center for the Arts docent.

Common concerns surfaced with marketing difficulties and a lack of funding topping the list. Positive comments could be heard as those in attendance departed and many said they look forward to upcoming sessions and workshops. Input from the convenings will be evaluated and presented to the Arts DuPage Advisory Council.

This fall, the Foundation will schedule a second round of convenings. For details, visit **ArtsDuPage.org**, or visit Arts DuPage on Facebook.



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rachel@dupagefoundation.org, so that we may add you to our list.*

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