

Foundation **FOCUS**

FALL 2022

DON'T MISS:

Making an Impact Through Film



DuPage Community Transformation Partnership Grants Top \$1 Million

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A Letter to Honor the CEO



It was no surprise to anyone when DuPage Foundation President & CEO **Dave McGowan** was named the 2022 “**Humanitarian of the Year**” by the **West Suburban Philanthropic Network**.

Service has been Dave's hallmark throughout his exemplary career as a fundraiser and not-for-profit executive. For nearly 25 years, he has worked tirelessly as an advocate and champion for philanthropy through his role as chief executive of DuPage Foundation. Utilizing his considerable talents and expertise, Dave has zealously helped thousands of individuals, families, and organizations accomplish their charitable goals while collaborating with community partners of all backgrounds, industries, and interests to strengthen our area not-for-profits and raise the quality of life throughout DuPage County for all.

Under Dave's leadership, DuPage Foundation has enjoyed exponential growth, served as the catalyst for the creation of multiple initiatives, and brought together local donors, businesses, other foundations, not-for-profits, and municipalities to address some of our community's most pressing needs.

Dave is revered by constituents and colleagues alike for his vast knowledge of the philanthropic landscape and willingness to go the extra mile. From being a sounding board and providing expert counsel, to rolling up his sleeves on joint projects and making critical partnership connections, he always has the backs of those needing a hand or looking to make a difference.

Sometimes impact is easily measurable. What Dave McGowan has done for the people of DuPage County through the Foundation and his own goodwill is boundless.

Congratulations, Dave!

“I believe Dave McGowan is one of a small group of people who have made DuPage an outstanding place to live.”

-Jim Snodgrass
DuPage Foundation past committee member

“So many people look up to Dave because he's a class act, someone who always does the right thing, even if it is not the easy thing”

-Mike Havalala
President & CEO, Loaves & Fishes Community Services

“Dave is a convener and a connector extraordinaire, and his efforts have had meaningful impact on the health and efficacy of our not-for-profit community.”

-Laurie McMahon
DuPage Foundation Trustee Emerita

“Dave is not only an effective, collaborative and strategic trailblazer, he is a caring and approachable colleague who has been available to many of us for advice and brainstorming on countless occasions, to the betterment of neighbors across DuPage County.”

-Jeni Fabian
CEO, People's Resource Center

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DuPage Foundation's 2022 Benefit**


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Email Samantha Keck,
communications associate, at:
samantha@dupagefoundation.org

New Funds Established

Since June 2022

- Bridge Communities, Inc.
Charitable Gift Annuity
- Glenbard West Centennial
Foundation Fund
- James W. Hebert Fund
- Martin & Patricia Jahn Fund of
Midwest Shelter for Homeless
Veterans
- Tara Layne Odishoo
Scholarship Fund

Visit dupagefoundation.org/MyFunds
to learn more about establishing your
own fund.



DuPage Community Transformation Partnership Fund Grants More Than \$1 Million to Support Social Service Not-for-Profit Organizations

The Elmhurst-Yorkfield Food Pantry (EYFP) received a DCTP Immediate Intervention grant to support a mobile pantry program in an underserved area. Pictured from left to right: EYFP Board Member Carol Frank, DuPage Foundation VP for Programs Barb Szczepaniak, EYFP Board President Chris Rosenberg, EYFP Executive Director Kathie Watts, EYFP Board Member Scott LaMorte, EYFP Board Treasurer Kris Pechanio, EYFP Board Member Bill Pearch, and DuPage Foundation Trustee and Grant Committee Chair Megan Shebik.

In July, the **DuPage Community Transformation Partnership (DCTP) Fund** awarded more than \$1 million in Immediate Intervention grants to 16 social service not-for-profit organizations serving DuPage County residents in the areas of food insecurity, housing instability, mental health and substance use disorder.

The *DCTP Fund* was established earlier this year after DuPage County and DuPage Foundation solidified a strategic grantmaking partnership to support social service not-for-profit organizations helping DuPage County residents most severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In January, the DuPage County Board executed an agreement to allocate federal funds received through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to DuPage Foundation for the grant program. Through 2026, the *DCTP Fund* will award \$10 million in grants to address immediate and long-

term needs in the community in response to the COVID-19 health emergency.

The purpose of DCTP Immediate Intervention grants is to provide financial resources to enable organizations to respond to the immediate needs of their clients and/or to quickly increase capacity of the organization to deliver efficient services.

“These grants provide the opportunity for transformative change for our community,” said DuPage Foundation President & CEO **Dave McGowan**. “Through these grants and our partnership with the County, we are routing much-needed assistance to many of our not-for-profit partners that have been searching for solutions to meet the sweeping demand for their services. The needs in our community have grown significantly since the onset of the pandemic, and we are proud to deploy help where it’s needed most.”

“These grants provide the opportunity for transformative change for our community.”

-Dave McGowan

“DuPage Foundation has been a wonderful partner as we developed a grant program to benefit residents impacted economically and socially by the COVID pandemic,” said DuPage County Board Chairman **Dan Cronin**. “I’m confident these recipients will make a positive impact on our community to support those in need.”

The following organizations received a DCTP Immediate Intervention grant:

Food Insecurity Grants:

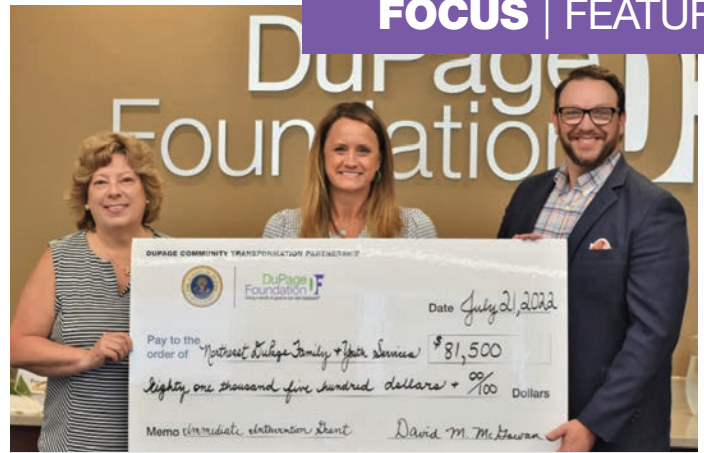
• Elmhurst-Yorkfield Food Pantry	\$20,000
• Hamdard Health Alliance	20,000
• HCS Family Services	20,000
• Northern Illinois Food Bank	100,000
• People's Resource Center	60,000
• West Suburban Community Pantry	60,000

Housing Instability Grants:

• Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet	\$163,700
• DuPagePads	80,000
• Metropolitan Family Services DuPage	25,000

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder Grants:

• Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet	\$60,000
• DuPage Health Coalition	50,000
• Easterseals DuPage & Fox Valley	60,000
• Gateway Foundation	74,135
• Metropolitan Family Services DuPage	75,000
• Northeast DuPage Family and Youth Services	81,500
• SamaraCare	60,000
• Senior Home Sharing, Inc.	42,900
• The Community House	50,000



Pictured left to right: DuPage Foundation Trustee and Grant Committee Chair Megan Shebik, NEDFYS Executive Director Shannon Hartnett and DuPage Foundation Board Chair Nate Wasson.

Northeast DuPage Family & Youth Services (NEDFYS) received a DCTP Immediate Intervention grant to expand mental health counseling for middle school and high school youth. NEDFYS Executive Director Shannon Hartnett visited the DuPage Foundation Board of Trustees meeting in July and spoke about the struggles NEDFYS was facing to keep up with the demand for mental health counseling.

Through the DCTP grant program, organizations can apply for Immediate Intervention and Transformational grants. To be eligible to apply for a grant, an organization must be a 501(c)(3) social service not-for-profit providing assistance in the areas of food insecurity, housing instability, mental health, or substance use disorder that meets at least one of the following criteria:

- Have more than 50 percent of its total clients be DuPage County residents; or
- Provide services in facilities physically located in DuPage County; or
- Have a DuPage County advisory board. ■

For more information, please visit dupagefoundation.org/DCTP.

DuPage Foundation Grants

\$678,380 to 37 Not-for-Profit Organizations

During the spring 2022 cycle of its **Community Needs Grant Program** (*Community Needs*), DuPage

Foundation granted \$678,380 to 37 not-for-profit organizations providing essential health and human services to residents across DuPage County.

The following organizations received a grant:

• Bridge Communities, Inc.	\$25,000
• CASA of DuPage County, Inc.	20,000
• Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet	25,000
• Center for Advancing Domestic Peace	2,500
• Chicago Dental Society Foundation	20,000
• DayOne PACT	23,000
• Donka, Inc.	10,000
• DuPagePads	25,000
• Easterseals DuPage & Fox Valley	25,000
• Evangelical Child & Family Agency	7,500
• Family Focus	15,000
• HCS Family Services	8,155
• Hope's Front Door	2,500
• Little Friends, Inc.	11,225
• Loaves & Fishes Community Services	24,500
• LOVE Christian Clearinghouse	10,000
• Mayslake Village	5,000
• NAMI DuPage	25,000
• Neighborhood Food Pantries	25,000
• Northeast DuPage Family and Youth Services	25,000
• Northern Illinois Food Bank	25,000
• Outreach	25,000
• Path To Recovery Foundation	10,000
• People's Resource Center	26,000
• Poised For Success	2,500
• Ray Graham Association	25,000
• SamaraCare	25,000
• Sharing Connections	25,000

• Spectrios Institute for Low Vision	15,000
• Teen Parent Connection	20,000
• The Community House	25,000
• The Outreach House	14,000
• Variety the Children's Charity of Illinois	23,500
• Warm Coats for Cool Kids	13,000
• West Suburban Community Pantry	25,000
• Youth Outlook	20,000
• YWCA Metropolitan Chicago	25,000

“This cycle of *Community Needs* awarded grants for programs focused on improving behavioral and mental health, food pantry capacity and support for children and people with disabilities,” said **Megan Shebik**, DuPage Foundation Trustee and Grant Committee chair. “We also recommended grants for emergency assistance, as the effects of COVID-19 continue to interrupt daily life and operations for many organizations seeking to help our residents.”

Additional donations from DuPage Foundation’s donors and donor-advisors increased the spring 2022 *Community Needs* grant budget by 26 percent.

“Our not-for-profit partners have seen increased demand for their services for more than two years, and are still facing situations exacerbated by the pandemic,” said **Barb Szczepaniak**, DuPage Foundation vice president for programs. “We are grateful to the donors and donor-advisors who make it possible for the Foundation to go the extra mile when it comes to *Community Needs*. Thanks to their generosity, we can award more grants and increase our reach throughout the community.” ■

Applications for DuPage Foundation’s Community Needs Grant Program are accepted twice per year and are reviewed by the Foundation’s volunteer Grant Committee. Learn more at dupagefoundation.org/CNGP.

Megan Bradshaw Memorial Scholarship Winner Produces Impactful Documentary on Water Crisis in Kenya



Mojeri Coker

When he was a senior at Wheaton Warrenville South High School, **Mojeri Coker** was an average student with big dreams and a bigger personality.

“I would aim to cheer people up while in the hallway at school,” said Coker. “I liked to have a positive impact on someone’s day.”

And others took notice. In the spring of 2016, Coker was chosen by the school faculty to receive an award from the **Megan Bradshaw Memorial Scholarship Fund** of DuPage Foundation towards his tuition for College of DuPage (COD). The scholarship fund was created by the late DuPage Foundation co-founder Jerry Bradshaw and the late Trustee Emerita, Betty, in memory of their daughter, Megan. Jerry and Betty named DuPage Foundation as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy to support the scholarship fund in perpetuity.

“It was an impactful moment in my life,” said Coker. “I was touched by the story of the Bradshaw family.”

While he started at COD as an engineering major, Coker always had a passion for storytelling. During his time working at a local escape

room, he made a short marketing video for the business. Coker’s supervisor asked if he would be interested in helping document a water project in Kenya for his father, who had done a lot of philanthropic work.

Soon, Coker was on his way to Kenya and, what was intended to be a five-minute video, turned into a feature-length award-winning documentary. *Pipe Dreams* documents the true story of Silvester Mwami, a Kenyan villager who embarked on a 20-year journey to save his village from a 50-year drought.

During his time at COD, Coker landed an internship at ARCO/Murray in Downers Grove and shared his experience making *Pipe Dreams*. Leadership was impressed with his work and offered him a full-time job as their lead video producer. Since then, ARCO has sponsored clean water projects through MicroFinancing Partners in Africa (MPA), a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the cause. In partnership with MPA, Coker has leveraged the film as a platform to help raise funds for its Clean Water Program and awareness of the water and sanitation crisis. To date, *Pipe Dreams* and MPA have raised over \$200,000 providing water access for thousands. The film has been screened across the country and won Best Documentary from the California Independent Film Festival in 2019.

As far as the impact of the scholarship on Coker’s unexpected career, he is thankful.

“There really aren’t many instances where people have been rewarded for having good character,” he said. “But that’s what the scholarship did for me.” ■

Watch the film at pipedreams.tv and make an impact at microfinancingafrica.org.

Megan and Steve Shebik Named Philanthropists of the Year



Steve and Megan Shebik

Longtime DuPage Foundation volunteer leaders **Megan and Steve Shebik** were named “Philanthropists of the Year” by the **West Suburban Philanthropic Network** as part of its 2022 Annual Philanthropy Awards.

The Shebiks have been enduring champions of local philanthropy for decades and opened the first donor-advised fund at DuPage Foundation in 1996. Through their time, talent, and treasure, they have supported several local not-for-profit organizations, including DuPage Foundation.

Sharing his financial expertise, Steve serves on

the Foundation’s Investment Committee and previously served on the Financial Operations Committee. Throughout her tenure as Grant Committee chair, Megan helped the Foundation make crucial decisions to rapidly deploy \$1.8 million in grants during the onset of COVID-19. She is also chair of the **DuPage Community Transformation Partnership**, a five-year, \$10 million grant program. Megan is a Trustee, chairs the Bylaws Committee and has served on its Executive and Strategic Planning committees.

The Shebiks always included their three children in philanthropic activities – from volunteerism to donating – teaching them the importance of service and community. They recently opened a second donor-advised fund at the Foundation for their children to recommend grants benefitting the causes they care about most.

Together, the Shebiks have created the foundation of a lasting legacy which has already made significant impact in DuPage County and beyond. Congratulations, Megan and Steve, and thank you for your unwavering dedication to our community!

DuPage Foundation Honored by Project HELP

DuPage Foundation was named the 2022 Honoree of the **Project HELP DuPage** “Community Begins at Home” sixth annual breakfast, held on May 18. The Foundation was recognized for its leadership in the community and more than 35-year history working to raise the quality of life throughout DuPage County.

Vice President for Programs **Barb Szczepaniak** spoke on behalf of the Foundation and presented a \$25,000 *Community Needs* grant to **YWCA Metropolitan Chicago (YWCA)**.

“We are forever grateful to DuPage Foundation and the truly life-altering support it has given our program over the years,” said YWCA Director of Child and Family Development **Peggy McGuire**.

“Much of our success lays at the feet of the Foundation believing in our program!”



DuPage Foundation awarded a \$25,000 grant to YWCA Metropolitan Chicago during the Project HELP DuPage “Community Begins at Home” annual breakfast on May 18. From left to right: YWCA CEO Nicole Robinson, DuPage Foundation Vice President for Programs Barb Szczepaniak, YWCA Director of Child and Family Development Peggy McGuire, and YWCA Chief Reimagination Officer Shelley Bromberek-Lambert.

Maximizing Your Year-End Impact and Benefits in Uncertain Times

Planning effectively in a volatile economic climate is always challenging. If you're like many of our constituents, you've probably been waiting patiently to implement your year-end charitable giving plans as we weather the continued impact of inflation, supply chain disruptions, daily market volatility, the lingering effect of COVID and the uncertainty that inevitably stems from a looming election season.

Despite these headwinds, now is the time to start finalizing your planning and ensure your charitable goals are accomplished by the end of 2022 to maximize your potential benefits and tax savings.

There are a number of opportunities available through DuPage Foundation to help you make the most of your giving and see more impact for your favorite causes and charities.

Members of our team will be on call through **Friday, December 30**, to help you—but remember—acting sooner is better!

Certain types of gifts require significant lead time.

For example:

- **Real estate gifts**, which require an appraisal and certain environmental testing, must be initiated by **Friday, September 30**;
- **Mutual fund gifts and IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)** should be initiated by **Friday, December 2**;
- **Appreciated stock gifts** should be initiated several days prior to year-end (a good target is **Friday, December 23**); and
- **Cash gifts** must be received (or post-marked, if mailing checks) by **Saturday, December 31**.

You can also donate directly through our website, dupagefoundation.org/Donate, via credit card or ACH debit.

Our knowledgeable staff is here to help you and your team of advisors. Please reach out to us at **630.665.5556** with questions, to learn more about local needs and opportunities, discuss potential gifting strategies, make a donation to one or more of our existing funds, or create a customized plan that achieves your specific intentions. ■

Create Your Legacy Through DuPage Foundation



What will your charitable legacy be? Our team at DuPage Foundation is here to support you in answering this question and achieving your personal goals for your community and favorite causes. By adding some simple language naming DuPage Foundation as a beneficiary of your will or trust, or as a beneficiary of your retirement account, a life insurance policy, or other type of asset, you can ensure that your community and the causes you love are supported while reducing or eliminating potential estate taxes.

Our staff will work with you to create a customized charitable plan that meets your unique goals while helping you and your advisors

maximize benefits for yourself, your loved ones, and the causes you wish to support.

Friends who create charitable legacy plans through DuPage Foundation become members of our Legacy Society and are honored for their forward-thinking commitments on behalf of our community.

*To learn more about how you can create your charitable legacy and join this special circle of Foundation friends who are investing in the future of our community, please contact Director of Gift Planning Yashica Weeks, MS, CFRE, at yashica@dupagefoundation.org or **630.598.5288**. ■*

Alebrijes Exhibit Tour at Cantigny Park



More than 50 Arts DuPage ChARTer members embarked on an adventure on August 3 at Cantigny

Park to explore the magic behind the **Alebrijes: Creatures of a Dream World exhibit**. Arts DuPage Advisory Committee member **Sara Phalen** served as the event's tour guide and described the challenges and successes the **Mexican Cultural Center-DuPage** endured while bringing the exhibit to DuPage County. Attendees learned the back story of the Alebrijes and the six resident artists from Mexico City who brought them to life.



The Alebrijes sculptures will be on exhibit at Cantigny Park through October.

Everyone who loves art is invited to become a ChARTer member of Arts DuPage to enjoy discounts for events, exclusive tours of local arts venues and exhibits, and much more! To learn more, visit dupagefoundation.org/ArtsMembership.

DuPage Foundation's Next Generation Initiative Fund Grants \$6,000 to Poised for Success



DuPage Foundation's Next Generation Initiative (NGI) and the DuPage County

Bar Association (DCBA) co-hosted a summer social event that raised \$6,000 for Poised for Success, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing women with free business attire to inspire confidence and independence.

Held at Pinstripes in Oak Brook, the event featured a clothing drive that brought in more than 225 pieces of donated clothing for Poised for Success.

"The grant and the clothing collected at the event will help us continue our mission of empowering women as they tackle unimaginable obstacles toward gainful employment and self-sufficiency," said Poised for Success Executive Director **Gail Foster**.



Sophia Luo with NGI members Paige and Nathan Ronchetti, and Nipun Chauhan.

Special thanks to former DuPage Foundation Trustee **Denise Horne** and her husband, **John Pcolinski**, along with the **DuPage Bar Foundation**, for generously matching \$3,000 in contributions for the Poised for Success grant. The funds were granted to the organization by the *Next Generation Initiative Fund*. ■

Learn more at dupagefoundation.org/NGI.



Matt Wilson Promoted to Finance Officer

Matt joined the Foundation in May 2019 as accounting associate, supporting the finance department. In his new role as finance officer, he will perform additional accounting and finance functions, including assisting the programs department with the DuPage Community Transformation Partnership, a five-year, \$10 million grant program.

Matt will continue preparing financial reports, processing weekly grants and accounts payable, and reconciling bank and investment accounts. He also produces monthly investment performance reports and supports the annual audit and budget processes. Congratulations, Matt!

Board, Committee and Staff Social

On June 20, DuPage Foundation hosted a summer social at La Barra in Oak Brook for our Board of Trustees, Trustees Emeriti, committee members and staff. ■



From left to right: Former Board chairs Frank Hudetz and Jack Mensching.



From left to right: Yashica Weeks and Professional Advisor Committee member Sandy Higgins.



From left to right: Trustee Peter Paolilli, Elmhurst Art Museum Executive Director and Arts DuPage Committee Member John McKinnon, Debbie Venezia and Professional Advisor Committee member Alice Wood.



From left to right: Dave McGowan, Barb Szczepaniak, Trustee Emeritus Norm Beles, Peggy Jones and David Weisz.



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Celebrate Carte Blanche at Bonjour DuPage



DuPage Foundation will host its **2022 Annual Benefit: Bonjour DuPage** on **Saturday, November 5**, at The Westin Chicago Lombard.

Adorned with a French cabaret theme, the event will kick off with a cocktail hour at 5:30 p.m., followed by a gourmet dinner and music by gypsy jazz band, lePercolateur. Guests can bid on curated items and experiences in a silent auction, or try their hand at various casino games after dinner. In lieu of a traditional photo booth, caricature artists will provide digital caricatures for couples and groups. ■

For more information or sponsorship and ticket opportunities, please visit dupagefoundation.org/Bonjour or call **Kait Balsewicz**, assistant director of donor services at 630.598.5292.

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