# Foundation **FOCUS** SPRING 2021

Roy and Laura Ann Spencer Their Foundation for Giving is Multi-Layered

DON: Y HIL

by ing Parents Up Young Kids

#### **Contact us at:**

3000 Woodcreek Dr., Suite 310 Downers Grove, IL 60515-5408 630.665.5556 dupagefoundation.org

# DuPage Foundation Foundation backyard®

#### FOCUS | EDITORIAL

# **A Letter From the CEO**





It is with great pride that I acknowledge the 35th anniversary of the founding of DuPage Foundation and the milestone of surpassing \$100 million in total assets (more than \$110 in fact), along with the release of the executive summary of our 2020-2024 Strategic *Plan.* Each of these events continues to solidify the Foundation's place as DuPage County's philanthropic leader. They also have enabled us—thanks to you and your support—to grant more than \$55 million to raise the quality of life throughout the County and beyond.

It is difficult to imagine the void in our community if three people—Brooks McCormick, Mary Eleanor Wall and Jerry Bradshaw—had not come together that

winter of 1986 to formalize the conversations that allowed the Foundation to begin to fulfill its mission. Since then, hundreds more volunteer leaders have helped to make the Foundation what it is today.

And, in times of crisis like the recent pandemic we have all been living through, we can quickly and efficiently alleviate hardship for our neighbors who are hardest hit.

In a recent DuPage Foundation video, Trustee Emeritus Dick Kuhn said it best: "The Foundation is the perfect vehicle between the donor, the agency and the need, and that's what it's doing so well."

That \$55 million in grants has delivered food, shelter, health services, mental health services and programs that have provided enormous impact on the environment and the arts community, animal welfare, education and more.

Each donation and grant generates uplifting, positive stories about effective change. As an example, see our cover profile of how Roy and Laura Ann Spencer have used their business success to help others. Then, there's the Biancalana family: they not only provided nearly 100 children of limited resources a brand new playground, they also honored the memory of their own loving parents with a charming legacy.

You, too, can create your own legacy through DuPage Foundation. Explore the Foundation's Legacy Society and consider naming DuPage Foundation as a beneficiary of your estate. Then, let us know! We want to make sure your charitable goals and wishes for the future of our community are honored.

As we continue to roll out the *2020-2024 Strategic Plan*, we are counting on your support. With your help, millions more dollars can be poured into our community. Thank you.

David M. McGowan, CFRE President & CEO DuPage Foundation



Download and support DuPage Foundation's 2020-2024 Strategic Plan for growth at dupagefoundation.org/StratPlan

#### **Our Vision**

To raise the quality of life throughout DuPage County.

#### **Our Mission**

To foster philanthropy, connect donors to area needs, and build community partnerships.



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# Would you like to receive this newsletter electronically?

Email Ginger Wheeler, director of communications, at: ginger@dupagefoundation.org



through March 2021

- Amber's Fund for Bridge Communities
- Children Fund of Central DuPage Pastoral Counseling Center
- DuPage Federation on Human Services Reform Agency Fund
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#### FOCUS | FEATURES



# What's YOUR Legacy?

Signature



"We see our lives being comprised of three phases: Learn, Earn and Return. We have been blessed in so many ways and we are now in our

"Return" phase of life. In this regard, we are trying to be very intentional and focused in our giving to support local charities that serve our most vulnerable population. Thankfully, both our estate planning attorney and financial advisor spoke highly of DuPage Foundation, and we've now been involved with the Foundation for a number of years. We have tremendous respect for DuPage Foundation and we know we can trust it to honor our intent to support our local charities and causes well into the future."

-Michael J. and Mary T. Schroeck, DuPage Foundation Donor-Advised Fund Advisors and Legacy Society Members

#### Projected Transfer of Wealth Presents Unprecedented Opportunity for Charitable Impact

ore than \$9 trillion will be transferred through people's estates in our country within this decade.\* And while a staggering accumulation of wealth has occurred, a lack of economic opportunity and upward mobility have left many struggling and in need of help including many right here in our own backyard. DuPage Foundation is committed to raising the quality of life throughout our community for all residents especially our most vulnerable—and fueling not-for-profits working to make that happen.

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have seen DuPage residents and not-for-profits forced to contend with unparalleled challenges.

- Food pantries are serving a record number of people
- Homeless shelters are handling a record
  number of requests for housing
- Utility assistance programs are in high demand
- Mental health issues are impacting every demographic

\*According to a study by LOCUS Impact Investing and the Center for Rural Entrepreneurship.

- Our vulnerable senior population is struggling with access to transportation, access to technology and the need for home-delivered meals
- Our arts community is fighting to survive without the ability to sell tickets to live events
- Humane societies are facilitating a record number of animal rescues
- Environmental causes continue to need our support

#### **How Can You Help?**

We are so much more impactful when we combine our resources to meet the needs of our community. And that's what we do best at DuPage Foundation—match passions and resources with needs and opportunities. Whether you choose to give in support of our *DuPage Forever Fund*, which addresses all of our community's needs, a particular field of interest, or to create a fund to accomplish your personal goals, together we can raise the quality of life for every resident of our county for generations to come.

#### **Create a Legacy**

DuPage Foundation's Legacy Society exists to provide people who share a love for our community a means in which to unite in making transformational change by committing a charitable gift from their estate. Consisting of nearly 170 known members and representing tens of millions of dollars in commitments, the Legacy Society honors our generous and forward-thinking donors who have included DuPage Foundation in their estate plans.

From naming DuPage Foundation in your will or trust to including the Foundation as a beneficiary of your retirement assets or a life insurance policy, there are a number of ways in which you can work with us to SEE MORE IMPACT for the causes and organizations you love—throughout our community and beyond.

#### It's As Easy As a Phone Call

Please join us and become a part of the DuPage Foundation family by increasing your charitable impact and partnering with us in **Doing a World** of Good in our own Backyard<sup>®</sup>.

Work with your attorney, financial planner and other advisors to facilitate your wishes by donating assets during your lifetime or through your estate plan.

For assistance with your charitable planning or to learn more about our Legacy Society and other charitable giving strategies, please contact us at **630.665.5556** or reach out to Alice Wood, JD, director of gift planning, at **alice@dupagefoundation.org**.

#### **Remember Us in Your Estate Plan**

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

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

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

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

# 

#### foun dation /foun daSH(a)n/

noun

Definition of *foundation* 

- 1. a basis (such as a tenet, principle or axiom) upon which something stands or is supported;
- 2. an organization or institution established by an endowment with provision for future maintenance;
- 3. an underlying base or support, especially the whole masonry of a building

#### A Foundation Based on Love

s owners and operators of Perma-Seal Basement Systems, a basement waterproofing contractor and foundation repair specialist serving Chicago and Northwest Indiana, Roy and Laura Ann Spencer know the importance of a strong foundation. But more than a knowledge of which *underlying base or support* for a home is best, the Spencers are confident in the personal *principles upon which they stand*.

"If you build something without a solid foundation, it may be beautiful, but it won't be sustainable," said Roy. "Our family and our company are built on our personal values, and those are all about making the world a better place." While working for several waterproofing companies in the 1970s, Roy was unsure that any were doing honest, ethical work. This was his impetus to start Perma-Seal in 1979. "It's not just about being better than our competition," said Roy. "Laura Ann and I, and our employees, our tribe, we want to be better people than we were yesterday."

DuPage County residents for most of their adult lives, the Spencers currently reside in Naperville where they raised their six children and now enjoy time with two grandchildren. "Naperville really is a diverse community—in economic status, background, race, religion and in challenges, too," said Roy. "We know it is an affluent community, but I'm struck by how generous people are in giving of their time, talent and treasure." Laura Ann credits her early involvement with Rotary Club of Naperville Sunrise as the launchpad for their local impact. "We have a good pulse on what's going on and what the future looks like for Naperville," she said.

Interested in strategically making their corner of the world better, the Spencers enlisted the help of another type of foundation, DuPage Foundation. This particular *institution established by endowment with provision for future maintenance* is especially poised to connect donors to area needs—an effective partner for those with personal and professional charitable goals like the Spencers. "The Foundation is plugged into both the community's crises and the services provided by local not-for-profits," said Roy, who first heard of the Foundation from his estate planning attorney and Foundation Trustee emeritus, Brett Dale of Huck Bouma PC. Since then, Laura Ann and Roy have been impressed by their experience with the Foundation.

"DuPage Foundation goes above and beyond and is very easy to work with," said Roy. "We know that just as a permanent home repair has more value than a temporary fix, our giving through the Foundation will have an impact in perpetuity, which is important to us."

When not "Perma-Sealing," Laura Ann and Roy enjoy being outdoors, gardening, cooking and fishing. They are also actively involved with Atlas Network, an organization that increases global prosperity by promoting individual freedom, and Conscious Capitalism, a global community of business leaders who operate with purpose and for profit. "Like many conscious capitalists who are doing important, responsible work, we've found that the value of having engaged team members and partners always comes back to us," said Roy.

The Spencers are fortunate to now sit in seats within Perma-Seal as coaches, guides and protectors of the culture they want the company to stand for, a culture that attracts like-minded people committed to sharing with others and, like DuPage Foundation, strives in **doing a world of good in our own backyard**<sup>®</sup>. "The world's problems can seem daunting, so we try to have an impact on those we interact with on a daily basis," said Roy. "We empower our vendors, suppliers, communities and tribe, and we see a ripple effect from there." The Spencers focus on what is within their span of influence and how they can help within their circle. "When Perma-Seal shares, or gives or cares, it influences 300 other lives," said Laura Ann. "Our team is a part of this giving cycle; they're helping through us."

#### "If you build something without a solid foundation, it may be beautiful, but it won't be sustainable"

#### – Roy Spencer

Laura Ann and Roy are coaching one of their sons to serve as successor for their Foundation donor-advised fund. In the future, he'll continue to recommend grants in alignment with the family's interests, primarily education, job training and language skills. "It's easy to write a check," said Laura Ann. "More importantly, we're looking for community and societal issues and diving deep with not-for-profits' guidance to determine which programs we want to get behind and how our support can help break downward cycles."

"I've been very fortunate in my work and have had many opportunities along the way," said Roy. "In our company, as well as in our community, it feels good to be able to provide others with similar opportunities for success."



Perma-Seal tribal members and their families at the Feed The Need Food Packing Event hosted at North Central College. From left: Michael Blaszczyk, Laura Ann Spencer, Claudia Malone and family, Roy Spencer, Bill Jirsa and Family, Lisa Kapoun and family, Kevin Gray and family, Joel Spencer and Family, Nadia Ahmad

#### **FOCUS** | FEATURES

# Honoring Loving Parents E Lifting Up Children

here's a special sound that evokes a simpler more carefree time for many people: the sound of children laughing and playing on a playground. For life-long Chicagoans Minnie and Eddie Ceragioli, that sound meant pure joy. Now, thanks to a lifetime of the Ceragiolis' hard work and the remarkable foresight and vision of their daughter, Judy Biancalana, and her family, the children living in Wheaton's Marian Park Apartments have the opportunity to make those fun-loving sounds on a brand new playground.

The thrill of swings, the swoosh of a slide and the bump of a seesaw are reveries many adults reading this may take for granted from their own childhoods. For those lucky enough to have grown up in a place where a playground was a normal part of childhood, that sound inevitably brings back happy memories of endless days and ceaseless movement. But the Ceragiolis were children of the Depression.

#### **A Childhood Without Playgrounds**

Judy Biancalana said, "My dad started shining shoes as a very young child. My parents didn't get the chance to play on playgrounds because they had to work, even as children."

As children of Italian immigrants living during the Depression in Chicago, times were tough for Judy's parents. Money was scarce. "They grew up very poor. If it were today, they would be considered children living in deep poverty. But they never felt deprived because everyone they knew was poor. They had friends and they used their imaginations. My mother grew up in the Depression, which was why she saved money. She was very concerned because she felt that someone could take it away," said Judy.

Minnie finished high school and went to work at Goldblatt's Department Store, where she finished her career decades later as a human resources professional. Eddie, with some high school education, worked at International Harvester. As a married couple, the Ceragiolis both worked--and saved money--their entire lives.

#### **Devoted to Family and Giving Back**

Judy said her mom also volunteered to help others. "She wanted to join the PTA, but one member said a woman who works wouldn't have time to be in the PTA and tried to prevent her from joining. But others let my mom join and she became one of their most passionate volunteers and even did more than that member who didn't want to let her in."

The Ceragiolis were devoted parents to Judy and devoted grandparents to Judy's daughter, Natalie. Judy said, "My dad used to love to take Natalie to the park. When they were older, both my parents would go to the parks just to watch the kids play. I think it comes from not having had that when they were kids."

#### How a New Playground Came to Be

When Minnie Ceragioli died in 2010, just twelve hours shy of her 90th birthday, she had already set up a trust through DuPage County lawyer, Daniel Hands. Having lost her dad prior to that, Judy wanted something to honor her parents. Hands suggested Judy set up a donor-advised fund at DuPage Foundation. "My main goal was that my parents wouldn't be forgotten and the money would go for things they supported and is doing some good for others," said Judy.

She continued, "My parents were interested in creating spaces for kids to play and be children, so when I heard about the need at Marian Park Apartments for a playground, I thought that would be a perfect fit."

Judy had learned of the need at the facility, a Mercy Housing Lakefront property, through Barb Szczepaniak, DuPage Foundation's vice president for programs. The grant was recommended by the Biancalanas from the *Edward and Minnie Ceragioli Fund* which supplemented the Foundation's signature *Community Needs Grant Program* last year.

#### A Collaborative Construction Project

Mercy Housing Lakefront is a not-for-profit that provides affordable housing for individuals, families and older adults with low incomes, with onsite supportive services. About 100 children live at Marian Park Apartments with their families. The community also offers affordable housing for senior adults. Marian Park had been in need of new playground equipment for several years. Mercy Housing Lakefront had applied to and received a *Keurig Dr. Pepper-KABOOM! Let's Play Construction Grant*, but additional funds were needed in order to build the new playground. The *Ceragioli Fund* grant, which matched the KABOOM! grant, made it possible for the playground to be completed.

Maggie Dodge, corporate & foundation relations manager for Mercy Housing Lakefront, said, "The kids were waiting eagerly for the chance to play on the equipment, and the older adults were excited to see it being done. As soon as it was ready, the kids were on it, playing and having a blast. The added benefit is the seniors can watch them play from their apartment windows."

Dodge added, "A community collaboration brought the project together, but we wouldn't have been able to complete the project without the Biancalanas and their support which allowed us to take advantage of the Kaboom! grant. Northwestern Medicine and USG Corp. also underwrote the cost of the construction equipment rental."

Judy said the Ceragiolis would have loved this playground. "There's something about that sound of children playing: It makes you feel more positive and makes you feel good. My parents were very careful with how they spent their money. This was what both of them would have wanted."

To learn more about setting up a fund, like the Biancalanas, or to contribute to an existing fund, see **dupagefoundation.org/MakeADifference**.

#### **DuPage Foundation's** Access to Recreation (A2R) Endowment Fund



DuPage Foundation has supported numerous park and recreation programs with grants throughout its history both from the *Community Needs Grant Program*, which funded the Marian Park Apartments playground through a special donation from the Biancalana family, and from individual donors through their own donor-advised funds. In addition, the Foundation launched the *Access to Recreation (A2R) Initiative* in 2007 to create an endowment to support accessible recreation projects. Numerous grants and many additional donors, including the *JCS Arts, Health & Education Fund* have supported the work. Among the most prominent projects are:

- Forest Glen Park (Woodridge, IL)
- Knolls Community Park (Lombard, IL)
- Jefferson Playground at the Jefferson Early Childhood Center (Wheaton, IL)
- Sensory Garden Playground (Wheaton, IL)

## FOCUS NEWS 2021 Charitable Giving Incentives:



urious about what the charitable giving landscape looks like for 2021? As we wait to see if the new Biden administration and Congress will take up significant tax reform after passing a third stimulus package, several charitable giving incentives have already been enacted for 2021 to address the impact of the pandemic.

Here are some opportunities to consider as you plan your giving for the year:

#### \$300 Tax Deduction for Non-Itemizers Extended and Expanded to \$600 for Couples Filing Jointly

Last year, the CARES Act created an allowance for an above-the-line charitable deduction of up to \$300 for individuals and households claiming the standard deduction. This allowance has been extended for 2021 to continue at \$300 for individuals while expanding to \$600 for married couples filing jointly. The deduction applies only for cash contributions made to qualifying 501(c)(3) charities and excludes donations to donor-advised funds, private foundations and supporting organizations.

#### Expanded Tax Deduction for Itemizers Giving Cash Extended

The CARES Act provision temporarily increasing the limit itemizers can deduct from their Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) for cash contributions from 60% to 100% has been extended for 2021. The deduction applies only for cash contributions made to qualifying 501(c)(3) charities and excludes donations to donor-advised funds, private foundations and supporting organizations. Taxpayers who make this 100% of AGI election can also carry forward unused qualified cash gift deductions up to five years. Talk to your tax advisor for more detail.

Cash gifts to donor-advised funds are eligible to be deducted up to the normal 60% of AGI with a five-year carryforward.

Contributions of appreciated assets held for a year or more (stocks, mutual funds, real estate, closely-held business interests, etc.) to qualified charities, donor-advised funds and supporting organizations remain limited to a deduction of up to 30% of donors' AGI. Contributions of such assets to private foundations remain capped at 20%. A five-year carryforward also exists for unused qualified gift deductions of long-term appreciated assets up to their regular limits.

#### **Corporate Tax Deduction Increase of 25% Extended**

For corporations, the usual 10% gross incomebased limitation remains increased to 25% during 2021 for charitable contributions made in cash to any qualifying 501(c)(3) charity, excluding donor-advised funds, private foundations and supporting organizations.

#### **Qualified Charitable Distributions**

Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) remain a powerful strategy for seniors-particularly with the restoration of Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) in 2021. Donors who are 70<sup>1/2</sup> or older may elect to make charitable donations directly from their traditional and other types of IRAs to their favorite charities and have the donations reduce their Adjusted Gross Income (AGI). For donors who are 72 and older, these QCD donations will also count toward their annual RMD. The limit on these donations remains at \$100,000 per individual and \$200,000 per married couple. However, with the enactment of the SECURE Act. IRA account owners must now reduce their intended QCDs by any contribution amounts made into their IRAs after age 70<sup>1/2</sup> (the age cap that was put in place to make IRA contributions before the passage of the SECURE Act), to the extent they have not already been used to reduce their QCDs. Be sure to talk to your tax advisor for further guidance if you have contributed to your IRA after turning 70<sup>1/2</sup> and wish to make a QCD. QCDs also may not be made to donor-advised funds, private foundations or supporting organizations. However, they are the perfect tool for donating to any number of local charities and community-focused funds here at DuPage Foundation.

Additional QCD Tip: Because RMDs are taxable, donors wishing to make QCDs should consider making them early in the year, before taking any RMDs, since QCDs taken later cannot offset taxes already incurred on RMDs.



Tax-deductible gifts in support of the *DuPage Forever Fund* help bolster the Foundation's ability to meet the most pressing needs of our county through the *Community Needs Grant Program*. Above: DuPage Children's Museum provided STEM virtual labs to Title I schools and not-for-profit partners in DuPage County thanks to a DuPage Foundation grant.

#### Don't Need Your Stimulus Check? Consider Donating It!

If you have received a stimulus check as part of the government's COVID-19 Relief efforts and don't need it, consider doing a world of good in your own backyard and donating it to one or more of your favorite local charities or one or more of our many community-focused funds here at DuPage Foundation. As many of our neighbors, businesses and not-for-profits continue to struggle with the devastating economic and health consequences of the pandemic, your help is needed now more than ever.

# Want to Learn More? Contact Us for a Personal Consultation

DuPage Foundation is here to help. Our staff will work with you and your advisors to help you give efficiently and effectively to ensure you SEE MORE IMPACT with your philanthropy.

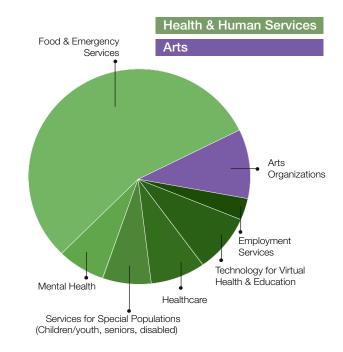
Donate at dupagefoundation.org/Donate or contact our Advancement Team for assistance at 630.665.5556.

The content provided is for informational purposes only and should not be construed as or relied upon as legal or tax advice. DuPage Foundation does not provide legal or tax advice and recommends you consult with your tax attorney and other professional advisors before making a significant charitable gift. There is a list of DuPage Foundation advisor-partners consisting of accountants, attorneys and wealth managers at dupagefoundation.org/Advisors.

### Grant-Making Reaches New Heights During COVID-19 Response

ust over a year ago, the world was stunned and shuttered—when news of a global pandemic halted travel, shut down businesses and forced those who could to work at home. Not-for-profit organizations were hit hard as their volunteer bases dried up and demands for their services multiplied overnight. It's hard to imagine just where DuPage County would be without DuPage Foundation's *COVID-19 Response Fund* and the \$1.7 million it has poured into the community thus far.

We took a look at the percentages: For Health & Human Services support, \$1,372,650 in grants went to food pantries, organizations serving the homeless, and organizations delivering physical and mental health services and more. \$327,350 was granted to local arts organizations that were hit particularly hard. As employers with thousands of workers, they are crucial to enhancing the local economy in myriad ways. These



funds were distributed in addition to the grants from the Foundation's signature *Community Needs Grant Program (Community Needs or CNGP)*, which granted over \$1 million to not-for-profits in the area of Health & Human Services, Education, Arts & Culture, Environment and Animal Welfare in FY20.

To learn more about DuPage Foundation's COVID-19 Response Fund grants, visit dupagefoundation.org/COVID. To learn more about Community Needs grants, visit dupagefoundation.org/CNGP

## **Foundation Staff On Video**



#### Alice Wood Featured in Compass Mortgage Video

DuPage Foundation was thrilled when Compass Mortgage offered to feature our own Alice Wood, JD, director of gift planning, in their video series promoting not-for-profits in DuPage County. *Watch the video at* dupagefoundation.org/WhyDuPageFoundation

Mike Sitrick "Can't Take His Eyes Off Of You"

And we can't take our eyes off of him! Kudos to DuPage Foundation Vice President for Advancement, Mike Sitrick, for volunteering his singing services to help Naperville Chamber of Commerce in its Bold & Bright Gala. Find it at DuPage Foundation's YouTube Channel () (at the top of every web page at dupagefoundation.org).





#### Dave McGowan Speaks During "For the Love of Frida" Virtual Gala

DuPage Foundation President & CEO Dave McGowan was a featured speaker at the College of DuPage Foundation's fundraiser, "For the Love of Frida," in support of the upcoming *Frida Kahlo: Timeless* exhibit coming in June. Learn more about *Frida Kahlo: Timeless* on page 13. *Watch the video at* dupagefoundation.org/ForTheLoveofFrida

#### FOCUS | NEWS

## Next Generation Initiative

#### **Connecting and Collaborating at Trivia Night**

he Foundation's Next Generation Initiative (NGI) helps Naperville residents Nathan and Paige Ronchetti fulfill a passion for lifting up their local community by providing them with opportunities to connect, learn and give back. NGI Members since 2019, Nathan and Paige have learned first-hand about the many ways local not-for-profits, large and small, are *doing a world of good in our own backyard.*®

"DuPage County has such diverse needs. Through NGI, we've been exposed to so many organizations helping our neighbors in need," said Nathan.



"DuPage Foundation allows us to give back to a community that's given us so much. As members of NGI, we are more connected with the needs of our neighbors"

- Nathan and Paige Ronchetti

At NGI's fourth annual – and first virtual – Charity Trivia Night on February 24, the Ronchettis put together a team to play for Little Friends Inc., a local not-for-profit that empowers people of all ages experiencing autism, intellectual and emotional disabilities and their families to live, learn, work and thrive in their communities.



NGI Charity Trivia Winners Jared Bogan, Cynthia Hyett, Sam Nelson, and Nathan and Paige Ronchetti gathered via Zoom.

Playing against 28 other teams, the Ronchettis' team, Team Jared + the Cleveland Spiders, rose to the top! They clinched the win and the honor of recommending a \$1,500 grant to their charity of choice, Little Friends. The event also succeeded in netting more than \$6,000 for the Foundation's NGI Fund to help build its endowment and support its grants and activities throughout the year.

Join in the fun by becoming a 2021 NGI member or sponsor today! Memberships start at \$100 and sponsorships begin at \$500. ■

Partner with us as a 2021 member or sponsor to connect, learn and give back alongside other community leaders and philanthropists. For more information, visit dupagefoundation.org/NGI or contact Kait Balsewicz, CFRE, Foundation development officer, at 630.598.5292 or kait@dupagefoundation.org.



## Frida Kahlo: Timeless



he Cleve Carney Museum of Art (CCMA) and the McAninch Arts Center at College of DuPage (COD), will host an

exhibition of works from one of the largest private collections of original artwork by iconic Mexican artist Frida Kahlo June 5-Sept. 6. The multifaceted exhibition, *Frida Kahlo: Timeless* will be the most comprehensive presentation of Kahlo's work displayed in the Chicago area in more than 40 years.

The *Frida Kahlo: Timeless* exhibition and related programming is organized by Diana Martinez, executive director, McAninch Arts Center, who is also a DuPage Foundation Trustee, in collaboration with Justin Witte, *Frida Kahlo: Timeless* curator.

"Frida was very much a person of the people and this intimate, educational showcase brings works never before seen in the Chicago area to DuPage County," said Martinez. "This exhibition is one of a kind and our setting within a performing arts center and academic institution has provided us with resources not typically available to most museums, enabling us to present work by an iconic historical figure in a new light."

Excitement surrounding the Frida Kahlo exhibit spread rapidly throughout DuPage Foundation. Its *Community Needs Grant Program* awarded \$36,000 in grants for *Frida Kahlo: Timeless*, Frida Fest and a Frida-inspired mural in Glen Ellyn. In addition, the *JCS Arts, Health and Education Fund* sponsored the exhibit and Arts DuPage supported *For the Love of Frida*, a fundraising gala that featured the style, culture and cuisine of the Mexican artist, along with remarks from Dave McGowan, DuPage Foundation president & CEO. June 5-September 6, 2021, McAninch Arts Center, Glen Ellyn

#### Cleve Carney Connection:

Cleve Carney, for whom the art museum at COD is named, was a DuPage Foundation Trustee and Trustee Emeritus who played a significant role in escalating fundraising efforts in the Foundation's



Frida on Bench by Nickolas Muray

early years. A longtime collector of contemporary art, Mr. Carney also was passionate about public art institutions. He donated roughly \$1 million in cash and art to help establish the Cleve Carney Art Gallery at the College's McAninch Arts Center. Mr. Carney's long tradition of giving earned him the title of West Suburban Philanthropic Network's Philanthropic Leadership Award in 2004 and Philanthropist of the Year in 2006.

"Cleve was a great philanthropic ally who was not only 'Mr. DuPage Community Foundation,' he was 'Mr. DuPage.' He was one of DuPage County's greatest assets."

- Dave McGowan, President & CEO, DuPage Foundation

In preparation for the upcoming Frida Kahlo exhibit, the Cleve Carney Art Gallery underwent a \$3 million expansion and transitioned into the Cleve Carney Museum of Art, complete with a grade LED lighting system, security system and climate control system to maintain the standards of the American Alliance of Museums.

"An exhibition of this magnitude in the museum that bears Cleve Carney's name definitely honors his legacy. He was passionate about many areas of philanthropy — the arts, the environment and the general welfare of people in the community. He would have been thrilled," said Dave McGowan, president & CEO, DuPage Foundation.

Find out more at theccma.org/frida-kahlo To secure tickets, visit artsdupage.org

## **Raising the Quality of Life Family**

#### by Family: The Willowbrook Corner Early **Childhood Collaborative**



or a family living in poverty, taking a new baby home from

the hospital is both joyous and fraught with challenges. As just

one example of the perils ahead, consider car seats. With little money, how does a family choose between keeping their baby safe in transit (and not breaking the law) or providing food, medicine or housing? When families are stressed over such weighty decisions, the importance of early childhood development can often become backburner, even though experts say it should be among the first concerns for a young child. That's where Bright & Early DuPage steps in.

#### **Delivering Services to Lift Up Children in Under-Resourced Areas**

Consider Willowbrook Corner, located in the far southeastern corner of DuPage County. DuPage County Board Member Julie Renehan said, "We have a community needs assessment that shows this census track has one of the largest lowincome minority populations."

There, the Willowbrook Corner Early Childhood Collaborative (WCECC) is making a big impact thanks to funding from the Snodgrass Family Fund of DuPage Foundation through the Foundation's Bright & Early DuPage initiative.

#### Anne M. Jeans School is the Hub

The Snodgrass Family Fund grant enables the YWCA Metropolitan Chicago and Burr Ridge Community Consolidated School District 180 (CCSD180) to lead the collaboration. They have partnered with many other organizations, such as other local not-for-profits, churches and other religious organizations, and individuals to provide services to area families. The Anne M. Jeans School, a preK-4 elementary school in Burr Ridge, is the hub for a variety of programming designed to deliver services. Dr. Tom Schneider,

superintendent for CCSD180, said, "Bright & Early DuPage is incredibly important for our families so they have access to birth to five support systems. It fills a need for our families



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to find additional resources as they start on the journey of being parents. We're thrilled to be able to work as partners with Bright & Early DuPage and we are incredibly appreciative of DuPage Foundation and the Snodgrass family for the program."

#### One Area of Many in DuPage **County Needing Services**

Willowbrook Corner is just one of many communities scattered throughout DuPage County where people do not enjoy the amenities and resources that typically come with residency in some of the more upscale suburban towns, despite being near such resources.



Photos supplied by Head Start program at Anne M. Jeans school.

Each community has its own unique set of challenges and issues. Bright & Early DuPage, with six working collaboratives, is tackling these issues community by community, family by family, and working to raise the quality of life for everyone in the County.

To access the Bright & Early DuPage FY20 Annual Report as well as read more about the challenges Willowbrook Corner faces and how WCECC is working to prepare children for kindergarten, please visit dupagefoundation.org/BrightAndEarly

## **DuPage** Foundation

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## See More Impact: What They're Saying

**uPage Foundation** is grateful to the people who have contributed to or established funds at the Foundation to maximize their charitable giving. We would especially like to acknowledge the testimonials of Dr. Sunil Chand, former president of College of DuPage, and former DuPage Foundation Trustees, George Gilkerson and Dick Kuhn. In case you missed their videos, visit DuPage Foundation's YouTube channel **D**. Their words resonate and inspire. The YouTube channel link is available at the top of every page at dupagefoundation.org.



Dr. Sunil Chand

George Gilkerson

Dick Kuhn

If you're inspired to help us raise the quality of life throughout DuPage County, please visit our website at **dupagefoundation.org** or give us a call at **630.665.5556**. We can't wait to talk to you!

