

# Foundation **FOCUS**

SPRING 2023

**DON'T MISS!**

**A Message From Our New**

**President & CEO**



DuPage Community Transformation Partnership

## **The Power of Coordinated Impact**

Tri-Town YMCA, DCTP Grantee

### **Contact us at:**

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**DuPage**   
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Doing a world of good in our own backyard®

# A Message From Our New President & CEO

Dear Foundation Friends:

I hope your 2023 is off to a great start! It is a pleasure to be writing to you as DuPage Foundation's new president & CEO and to have succeeded my friend and colleague, **Dave McGowan, CFRE**, who retired this past December after 25 years of distinguished service to our organization and community.

Since starting my new role in January, there has been much excitement throughout the organization and among our partners around what we can continue accomplishing together for our community.

2022 marked one of DuPage Foundation's most impactful years to date, culminating with the start of our powerful new alliance with the **DuPage County Board** through the **DuPage Community Transformation Partnership (DCTP)**. This five-year, \$10 million grant program, established through federal funds received by the County through the **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)**, is enabling us to deliver vital support to area social service organizations helping our most vulnerable residents who continue to struggle in their recovery from the pandemic with a focus on addressing four key areas: food insecurity, housing instability, mental health, and substance use disorder.

As you'll read in the pages ahead, since the creation of the DCTP, we have already committed nearly \$5 million in grants—an unprecedented level of community support for us.

This is just one example of how we are working collaboratively to raise the quality of life throughout DuPage. From addressing broad needs through our signature **Community Needs Grant Program**, to investing in our county's vibrant arts sector through our **Arts DuPage initiative**, and ensuring that area children have access to quality, affordable early childhood education through our **Bright & Early DuPage initiative**, the scope of our impact is robust. Since our inception we have now granted more than \$75 million on behalf of our donors and partners throughout our community and beyond.

But we can't meet the needs of our residents alone. We need more partners to join us in our work if we're to take our impact to new heights and truly make a difference for our community. It's time to go **All In for DuPage, together**.

As we begin this next chapter, rallying partners around opportunities to deliver targeted, coordinated impact will be my primary focus. I invite you to join us in this important work.

From helping address our community's most pressing needs collectively, to helping you support one or more causes that you're passionate about, or creating a personal charitable legacy plan for you and your loved ones, DuPage Foundation is here to be your partner.

Thank you for your continued advocacy and support. We look forward to seeing what the future has in store for our incredible community. Together, we'll keep **doing a world of good in our own backyard.**<sup>®</sup>



*Mike*

**Mike Sitrick, JD, CFRE**  
President & CEO  
DuPage Foundation

## 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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## New Funds Established

Since August 2022

- John and Pamela Dalby Fund
- Faithful Family Fund
- Willis M. Gillett Family Fund
- The Hillcrest Fund
- His Hessed Fund
- Pane e Pesci Fund
- Jeffrey and Susan Williams Family Fund

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# Fall Community Needs Grants Deploy Nearly \$475,000 to 37 Not-for-Profit Organizations

During the fall 2022 cycle of its **Community Needs Grant Program (Community Needs)**, DuPage Foundation granted \$473,150 to 37 not-for-profit organizations working in the areas of education, arts & culture, environment, and animal welfare.

Through Community Needs, DuPage Foundation supports programs and projects that impact, improve, enhance, and enrich the quality of life for DuPage County residents. Through two grant cycles each year, the Foundation accepts applications from local not-for-profit organizations serving the community.

“We were able to fund so many unique needs in our fall grant cycle,” said **Barb Szczepaniak**, DuPage Foundation vice president for programs. “From music therapy for senior adults and business skills development for youth, to replacing trees and providing low-cost veterinary services, the positive impact the grantees make with these funds will touch the lives of countless DuPage County residents.”

Additional donations from the following DuPage Foundation donors and donor-advised funds increased the fall 2022 Community Needs grant budget by \$167,000:

- *Phil and Judy Barnett Family Fund*
- *Linda and Clark G. Carpenter Fund*
- *Donor Advised Fund for Needy Children*
- *History DuPage Fund*
- *JCS Arts, Health and Education Fund*
- *Martha J. Johnson Fund*
- *Andrew C. Langert Family Foundation*
- *Molex*
- *Morrissey Family Fund*
- *Perma-Seal Fund*
- *Betty W. Smykal*
- *Summer Oaks Fund*

“We are incredibly fortunate to be in the position to provide this level of support to not-for-profits making a difference in the lives of so many,” said DuPage Foundation President & CEO **Mike Sitrick, JD, CFRE**. “It’s because of the generosity of our donors and donor-advisors that we’re able to deliver targeted, coordinated impact for our community.” ■

The following organizations received a grant:

## Education:

- Alive Center: \$20,000
- B.R. Ryall YMCA: \$25,000
- Best Buddies: \$10,000
- Career & Networking Center: \$23,000
- Child’s Voice: \$2,500
- Compudopt: \$5,000
- Doodlebug Workshop Vocational Training Center, Inc.: \$5,000
- DuPage Children’s Museum: \$18,000
- Exodus World Service: \$19,000
- Glen Ellyn Children’s Resource Center: \$25,000
- H.O.M.E. DuPage, Inc.: \$25,000
- Innovation DuPage: \$15,000
- Inside Out Club DuPage: \$12,500
- KidsMatter: \$14,250
- Literacy DuPage: \$22,000
- Your Children’s Bookshelf: \$15,500

## Arts & Culture

- b.university: \$7,500
- Buffalo Theatre Ensemble: \$20,000
- Chicago Sinfonietta: \$5,000
- College of DuPage Foundation: \$25,000
- Covenant Living at Windsor Park: \$5,000
- DuPage County Historical Museum Foundation: \$2,500
- Elmhurst Art Museum: \$20,000
- ESSE Adult Day Services: \$5,000
- Glen Ellyn-Wheaton Chorale: \$2,000
- Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art: \$2,500
- Naperville Heritage Society/Naper Settlement: \$5,000
- Opera for the Young: \$2,500
- Salt Creek Ballet: \$5,000
- Spirito!: \$5,000
- Young Naperville Singers: \$2,500

## Environment

- The Conservation Foundation: \$25,000
- Partnership for Education Progress: \$9,200
- SCARCE: \$25,000
- Village of Glen Ellyn: \$10,000

## Animal Welfare

- Fetching Tails Foundation: \$9,700
- Hinsdale Humane Society: \$23,000

**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](https://dupagefoundation.org/CNGP).**

# Foundation Friends “Come Together” To Celebrate Dave McGowan’s Retirement

After 25 years of working “Eight Days a Week” as DuPage Foundation’s chief staff officer, it was only fitting that **Dave McGowan, CFRE**, was surrounded by more than 200 Foundation partners, family members, and friends as they sent him off in style.

McGowan’s retirement party on December 1, at Danada House in Wheaton, featured Beatles’ cover band American English and **Republic Bank’s 4EVER4** Beatles memorabilia exhibit.

Thank you to Republic Bank for its lead sponsorship and for providing the 4EVER4 exhibit and to Foundation friends **Al and Patti Gustafson, Janet Hodge, Laurie McMahon, and My Chef Catering** for their generous underwriting of this event.

When McGowan started as executive director in 1998, Foundation assets totaled nearly \$4 million and cumulative grantmaking totaled nearly \$1 million. At the close of his career, assets exceeded \$130 million and cumulative grantmaking totaled \$70 million—a combined \$200 million in total charitable capital. McGowan was named president in 2003 and CEO in

2015. During his tenure, the Foundation experienced immense growth, established new initiatives, received countless accolades, and made significant community impact. In 2022, he was named “Humanitarian of the Year” by **West Suburban Philanthropic Network**. ■



*Dave McGowan surrounded by Foundation staff.*

Dave and his wife, Mary, have named DuPage Foundation as a beneficiary of their estate and created the **Dave and Mary McGowan Fund** for their children and their families to recommend grants benefitting DuPage organizations. To contribute in honor of Dave’s service, visit: [dupagefoundation.org/mcgowanfund](http://dupagefoundation.org/mcgowanfund).

# Mike Sitrick Named Foundation’s New President & CEO

A new year brings a season of change at DuPage Foundation with the appointment of **Mike Sitrick, JD, CFRE**, as our new president & CEO.

The announcement came after the December 30 retirement of **Dave McGowan, CFRE**, who spent 25 years as the Foundation’s chief staff officer. “We knew the day would come when Dave would decide to hand over the reins and I couldn’t be more pleased with the outcome in finding a strong

successor to take over this important leadership role,” said Foundation Board Chair **Nate Wasson**, who chaired the committee that led a national search in coordination with **DHR Global**.

Sitrick, whose selection was unanimously approved by the Foundation’s Board of Trustees, most recently served as the Foundation’s executive vice president for advancement. He has held multiple roles within the organization dating back to 2003 and initially served as its first full-time development staff member before going on to study and practice law. He returned in 2013, leading the Advancement Department, helping achieve a period of unprecedented growth and community impact.

“It is an honor to succeed Dave and serve as DuPage Foundation’s next leader,” said Sitrick. “I look forward to working with our phenomenal staff, volunteer leaders, and partners to continue delivering on our promise of raising the quality of life throughout DuPage County and seeing even greater impact for our residents.” ■



*Dave McGowan, left with Mike Sitrick, right.*



## A Powerful Partnership: DuPage Community Transformation Partnership (DCTP)

In January 2022, a powerful new collaborative endeavor was established between **DuPage County** and **DuPage Foundation** named the **DuPage Community Transformation Partnership (DCTP)**.

The DCTP officially launched on February 22, 2022, with DuPage County presenting \$10.6 million in federal **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)** funds to DuPage Foundation to manage the DCTP program over the next five years.

Thanks to the County's funding, in July 2022, \$1,102,235 in Immediate Intervention grants was distributed to 18 social service not-for-profit organizations in the areas of food insecurity, housing instability, mental health, and substance use disorder. These funds were intended to provide financial assistance for local not-for-profits to meet the immediate needs of their clients.

A second set of funds was also distributed in October 2022, with \$3,849,374 in Transformational

grants awarded to 17 social service not-for-profit organizations. Transformational grants are two-year grants intended to support evidence-based programs that focus on long-term solutions to build capacity, improve efficiency, and ensure efficacy of programs that support DuPage County residents.

As part of its community recovery plan, DuPage County sought a strategic partner in DuPage Foundation to augment its efforts to support residents in need.

The goal of DCTP is to eliminate food insecurity, promote housing stability, and provide effective mental health and substance use disorder treatment and prevention programs.

"The impact we've been able to make in year one of this partnership has been incredible for DuPage County residents," said DuPage Foundation Trustee and DCTP Committee Chair **Megan Shebik**. "Together with the DuPage County Board, we've provided transformative change in some of the

hardest hit sectors of social services. I'm proud to be a part of this partnership and committee that is making a difference in the lives of so many." ■

The DCTP is a five-year program, currently in year two. Grant applications for Immediate Intervention will be available in 2023. Transformational applications will be available in 2024.

The following 17 social service not-for-profit organizations received DCTP Transformational grants in October 2022:

• Access Community Health Network	\$300,000
• B.R. Ryall YMCA	253,000
• Bridge Communities, Inc.	200,400
• Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center	100,000
• Healthcare Alternative Systems, Inc.	350,000
• KidsMatter	200,000
• Mercy Housing Lakefront	82,710
• Northeast DuPage Family and Youth Services	500,000
• Ray Graham Association	86,940
• SamaraCare	302,704
• Senior Home Sharing, Inc.	100,000
• Teen Parent Connection	257,500
• The Community House	250,000
• Tri-Town YMCA	335,000
• Wayne Township Pantry & Senior Services, NFP	25,500
• West Suburban Community Pantry	235,620
• World Relief Chicagoland	270,000

**“The first year of this partnership has been incredibly powerful as we’ve worked together to ensure that residents who have been adversely affected by COVID-19 receive assistance from the many wonderful area not-for-profits that are there to help.”**

-DuPage County Board Member **Greg Schwarze**, chair of the Board’s Human Services Committee

**Total October 2022 Grants                    \$3,849,374**



*A game of Uno at the Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center, one of DCTP's Transformational grant recipients.*

### Grant Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for a grant through the DCTP, 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.

**Letters of intent for Immediate Intervention grants are due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 24.** Visit [dupagefoundation.org/DCTP](https://dupagefoundation.org/DCTP) for grant guidelines, application deadlines and evaluation criteria.

# 2022 Annual Benefit Raises Nearly \$540,000

**D**uPage Foundation's Annual Benefit: **Bonjour DuPage**, welcomed nearly 300 guests on Saturday, November 5, to experience the grandeur of French cabaret at The Westin Chicago-Lombard.

With generous support from donors, community partners, and sponsors, the evening grossed nearly \$540,000 for DuPage Foundation operations and programs aimed at raising the quality of life throughout DuPage County.

More than \$140,000 was generated during a paddle raise, thanks in part to a generous \$50,000 matching challenge from **Duly Health and Care**, **Earl and Kay Harbaugh** of St. Charles, and **Joe and Amy Weidenbach** of Naperville.

"Bonjour DuPage was a stunning success thanks to the generosity and support of DuPage Foundation's donors," said **Nicki Anderson**, event hostess and Foundation volunteer. "It was a beautiful evening celebrating the impact DuPage Foundation has in supporting community residents in so many ways."

The evening featured gourmet French-inspired cuisine, music by the French jazz band **lePercolateur**, a can-can performance by **The Honey Taps**, casino-themed games and more. Thank you to all who helped make this critical event a success! ■



*DuPage Foundation was delighted to host four generations of the Cline family at its Annual Benefit: Bonjour DuPage on November 5. Pictured from left are: Jill and Jeff Cline of Glen Ellyn, Rich Cline of Wheaton, Sara Cline Howland of Glen Ellyn with her son Davis, Carole and Dick Cline of Wheaton, Linda Cline Raymond and Jim Raymond of Wheaton, and Patty and Ted McDougal of Elmhurst.*

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# Fall Program Highlights

## Solutions to Community Needs

On Thursday, October 13, 2022, DuPage Foundation presented a special program featuring a panel of expert government and not-for-profit leaders who discussed how their institutions are collaborating to provide transformational solutions to some of our county's most significant challenges in the areas of food insecurity and housing instability.

Held at The Morton Arboretum, panelists included **Jennifer Bucko Lamplough**, chief impact officer, Northern Illinois Food Bank; **Mary Keating**, director of community services, DuPage County; **April Redzic**, president & CEO, DuPagePads; **Barb Szczepaniak**, vice president for programs, DuPage Foundation; and **Mike Sitrick**, new president & CEO, DuPage Foundation, who moderated.

The event highlighted the shift toward innovative thought and transformation of service delivery to meet the changing needs of the community. "It really showcased the difference that our culture of collaboration can make," said DuPage Foundation volunteer and Glen Ellyn resident **Candace King**.

"Despite being one of the wealthiest counties in Illinois, more than one in four households struggle to meet basic needs such as access to nutritious food and safe and affordable housing," said

Szczepaniak. "Rising inflation on the heels of the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in more families needing assistance and this event provided a forum for community members and donors to learn about the growing needs and new strategies that are being employed by local not-for-profit organizations to meet the increased demand for their services."

This program was the first of a two-part series. The second program will be presented in Spring 2023 focusing on mental health and substance use disorder. ■



*From left to right: Panelists Jennifer Bucko Lamplough of Northern Illinois Food Bank, April Redzic of DuPagePads, Barb Szczepaniak of DuPage Foundation and Mary Keating of DuPage County Community Services.*

## 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](mailto:yashica@dupagefoundation.org) or **630.598.5288**.*

## Next Generation Initiative Charity Trivia Night Sells Out

DuPage Foundation's **Next Generation Initiative (NGI)**, hosted its sixth annual **Charity Trivia Night** on Thursday evening, February 2.

After two years of virtual trivia, the sold out, in-person event at **Empire Burgers + Brew** in Naperville, made it clear that everyone was thrilled to be back together.

"You could feel the energy and excitement of being



*Trivia Night First Prize Winners, "Pillars of the Earth" from left to right: Cody Fleming, Emily and Dave Mansell, and Will Finrock.*

back in-person," said **Kait Balsewicz**, DuPage Foundation's assistant director of donor services. "Thank you to the NGI Steering Committee for their dedication and for creating such fantastic events that bring passionate individuals together from all over DuPage County to have fun and make a difference."

The event raised nearly \$8,000 for NGI's grantmaking activities. Two hundred participants represented 34 teams vying for the championship title and the opportunity to recommend a grant from the **Next Generation Initiative Fund** to their favorite charity.

The first place team, "Pillars of the Earth" recommended a \$2,000 grant to **North Central College's Center for Financial Literacy**, whose mission is to prepare students to be informed citizens and leaders.

Special thanks to the evening's Event Partner, **Chris and Kaylee Phalon of Edward Jones**, and to Empire Burgers + Brew in Naperville for the in-kind donation of their facility for the evening. ■

## Bright & Early DuPage Fall Grants and Latest Collaborative: Villa Park



In September 2022, **Bright & Early DuPage (B&ED)** awarded five grants totaling \$250,000 to support early childhood collaborative efforts in three areas: System Capacity Building, Parent Engagement, and Outreach.

Collaboratives could request funding of \$20,000 in each area to support programs and projects aligned with that category.

In January 2023, B&ED also awarded a \$20,000 grant to the newly-launched **Villa Park Area Early Childhood Collaborative (VPAECC)**, to support a bilingual outreach specialist who will provide education and resources to promote positive early childhood development for the area's most vulnerable families. VPAECC is the seventh early childhood collaborative launched with B&ED support since 2013.

"We're delighted to serve as a catalyst for expanding early childhood collaboration into a new DuPage community," said **Barb Szczepaniak**, DuPage Foundation vice president for programs. "It takes a village to prepare children for school and to launch them on the road to lifelong success, which is why the Foundation invests financial resources to help communities establish and build a coordinated approach toward this goal." ■

### The following organizations received a B&ED grant:

- **Addison Partners for Play, Learning & Education:** \$20,000
- **Bensenville/Elmhurst Early Learning Supporters:** \$60,000
- **Glenbard Early Childhood Collaborative:** \$90,000
- **Wheaton Warrenville Early Childhood Collaborative:** \$20,000
- **Willowbrook Corner Coalition** (Partially funded by the *Snodgrass Family Fund*): \$60,000

View the DuPage Early Childhood Community Profile at [dupagefoundation.org/BrightAndEarly](https://dupagefoundation.org/BrightAndEarly).

# NCTV's Spotlight on DuPage Foundation



In December 2022, DuPage Foundation's **Debbie Venezia**, director of **Arts DuPage**, and **Kait Balsewicz, CFRE**, assistant director of donor services, together with **Nathan Ronchetti**, Next Generation Initiative (NGI) Steering Committee member, were featured guests on **Naperville Community Television's (NCTV's) Spotlight**. The program invites representatives from local not-for-

profit organizations to talk about their mission and the programs and services they offer the community. While Debbie talked about the latest Arts DuPage activity, Kait and Nathan spoke about the Foundation's Next Generation Initiative's impact. ■



## Staff Updates

### Robin Carroll Joins the Foundation as Director of Marketing & Communications



DuPage Foundation is pleased to welcome **Robin Carroll** as its new director of marketing & communications. Carroll started this past January and is responsible for continuing to build the Foundation's brand as DuPage County's philanthropic leader, communicating the impact of its programs and initiatives, and highlighting community needs and opportunities to address them while seeking to increase awareness and engagement through multiple marketing channels.

Prior to joining the Foundation, Robin served as marketing director for Hinsdale Humane Society for ten years, ran her own copywriting and public relations firm for 13 years, and spent a number of years at Merchandise Mart Properties, Inc. in Chicago, IL, as director of public relations.

Carroll has served as a board member of the Western Springs Foundation for Educational Excellence (WSFEE), as public relations chair for the Western Springs Historical Society, and as a contributor to the Western Springs Journal. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee with a Bachelor of Arts in English and a minor in art history. ■

### The Dedicated staff at DuPage Foundation have Special Anniversaries to Celebrate

- **Samantha Hollis**, communications associate  
January 10: One-year anniversary
- **Kait Balsewicz, CFRE**, assistant director of donor services  
March 5: Five-year anniversary
- **Mike Sitrick, JD, CFRE**, president & CEO  
April 1: Ten-year anniversary (second start date)
- **Yashica Weeks, MS, CFRE**, director of gift planning  
April 4: One-year anniversary



*From left to right: Samantha Hollis, Kait Balsewicz, Mike Sitrick and Yashica Weeks.*

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## JCS Arts, Health and Education Fund Supports Public Art in Glen Ellyn

Glen Ellyn's Taylor Avenue Pedestrian Tunnel provides a safe, illuminated route for residents. The **College of DuPage (COD)**, **Village of Glen Ellyn**, and **DuPage Public Art Committee (DPAC)** set out to change it from a utilitarian passage to a work of art.

The resulting public mural installation is part of the **DuPage Public Art Project** proposed by **McAninch Arts Center** Director **Diana Martinez** (who is also a DuPage Foundation Trustee and chair of Arts DuPage), in response to COD President **Dr. Brian Caputo's** commitment to the Arts, Culture, and Community Engagement Pillar of COD's Strategic Long-Range Plan. The art competition was announced and garnered more than 60 applications from artists around the world. "The Grove," a design submitted by Pilsen artist **Juan De La Mora**, won and was brought to life with generous support from the **JCS Arts, Health and Education Fund** of DuPage Foundation. ■



Arts DuPage and the *JCS Arts, Health and Education Fund* of DuPage Foundation invite local DuPage County governmental agencies and 501(c)(3) organizations to apply for a grant to support public art in 2023. The JCS Fund is offering a matching grant of \$25,000 for DuPage County permanent public art projects. To learn more, visit: [dupagefoundation.org/jcsfund](https://dupagefoundation.org/jcsfund).