

# Foundation **FOCUS**

FALL 2024



**Don't Miss: Celebration  
of Volunteers**



Before



**DuPage Community Transformation  
Partnership Provides More Than  
\$1 Million in Immediate Intervention Grants**

**DuPage** **Foundation** **DF**<sup>®</sup>  
Doing a world of good in our own backyard<sup>®</sup>

# A Message from Our President & CEO

Dear Foundation Friends:

It's hard to believe that fall is already here. As we prepare for the holidays and to close out what has already been an incredible year of impact and collaboration, I wish to extend a heartfelt thanks to our extraordinary donors, partners, and volunteer leaders. Your shared commitment to our community is the fuel that makes our work possible.

Last month we were proud to honor the contributions of three exceptional Trustees who completed their terms of service on our Board—Gerald Lewis, Paul Miles, and Nate Wasson, our outgoing Board chair. Working with these incredible people these past several years has been a privilege as their generous contributions of time, talent, and treasure have done much to further our growth as a catalyst for collective impact. We were also delighted to welcome new Trustees Supriya Jasuja and Jim Mark, along with new officers led by Board Chair Bill Blum. My sincere thanks to each of these individuals for their dedication to ensuring we realize our potential for our community. You can read more about them on p. 6 of this issue.

Additionally, in August, we awarded our final round of Immediate Intervention grants from the *DuPage Community Transformation Partnership* (DCTP) in conjunction with the DuPage County Board (see pp. 4-5). The grants totaled more than \$1 million and are helping 16 area social service not-for-profits provide critical aid to some of our county's most vulnerable residents. By the time of this issue's publication, we will have also awarded the last round of DCTP Transformational grants, totaling \$3.2 million. We look forward to sharing more about these grants with you in a future issue and reporting on the profound impact this incredible \$10 million partnership has had on our community in the areas of food insecurity, housing instability, mental health, and substance abuse.

I hope you enjoy the pages that follow. From inspiring stories of collaboration to savvy strategies on how you can maximize the impact and benefits of your year-end giving and long-term charitable planning, there is much to read about and celebrate.

Thank you for your continued confidence, trust, and partnership. Together, we'll keep **doing a world of good in our own backyard**®.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike".

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

## FOUNDATION SPOTLIGHT

### Trustee Jim Myers Honored as a Purdue University Distinguished Alumni



Congratulations to Trustee Jim Myers of Glen Ellyn on his recent recognition as a 2024 Agricultural Sciences Education and Communication Distinguished Alumnus by Purdue University! Jim, who has served as a Foundation Trustee since 2020, is a partner and chief creative officer for Simon/Myers, a boutique creative agency he cofounded in 2015 with offices in Chicago and Wheaton. In addition to serving as a past chair of the Foundation's Marketing and Strategic Planning Committees, Jim and his firm have provided a range of pro bono support to the Foundation over the years helping strengthen our brand and awareness.

### 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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Email [Karen Vicary](mailto:karen@dupagefoundation.org) at [karen@dupagefoundation.org](mailto:karen@dupagefoundation.org).

## Who's on the cover?

DCTP Transformational and Immediate Intervention grants are helping DuPagePads transform a 40-year-old hotel in Downers Grove into the future of ending homelessness, with 115 renovated rooms at the Interim Housing Center helping approximately 300 neighbors and families sleep safely each night.

## Spotlight corner cover image:

At our Celebration of Volunteers on September 19, retiring Foundation Board Chair Nate Wasson (left) handed the leadership reins to incoming Board Chair Bill Blum.

## New Funds Established

Since July 2024

- Benjamin Scholarship Fund
- Gwen Mundell Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Naperville Woman's Club Agency Fund
- Pathfinders Fund
- Teen Philanthropy Fund



# More Than \$1 Million in Immediate Intervention Grants Awarded to Social Service Not-for-Profits

**O**n August 13, Foundation representatives and the DuPage County Board welcomed grant recipients who were awarded \$1.03 million in Immediate Intervention grants through the *DuPage Community Transformation Partnership* (DCTP). These grants will help fund the work of 16 social service not-for-profit organizations serving DuPage County residents.

“The Immediate Intervention grant program was designed to have the highest level of impact in our communities and provide relief quickly to those in need,” said DuPage County Board Chair Deborah Conroy. “Each year, the Immediate Intervention selection process allows us to effectively assess what the most pressing issues are in our County and direct our grant dollars directly to address those service or funding gaps. Collaborating with DuPage Foundation streamlines the process and ensures that we can make an important difference in these critical areas including mental health, substance use, housing instability, and food insecurity.”

The following organizations were selected to receive funding:

<b>Food Insecurity Grants</b>	<b>\$197,000</b>
■ DuPage Senior Citizens Council	\$70,000
■ Hope’s Front Door	\$20,000
■ Milton Township Food Pantry	\$22,000
■ People’s Resource Center	\$85,000

<b>Housing Instability Grants</b>	<b>\$473,144</b>
■ Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet	\$113,700
■ DuPagePads	\$75,000
■ ICNA Relief	\$20,000
■ Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans	\$100,000
■ WeGo Together for Kids	\$34,444
■ World Relief Chicagoland	\$130,000

<b>Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Grants</b>	<b>\$362,633</b>
■ Alive Center	\$19,700
■ DuPage Health Coalition	\$50,000
■ Easter Seals DuPage & Fox Valley	\$50,000
■ Mercy Housing Lakefront	\$51,933
■ NAMI DuPage	\$126,000
■ Samara Care	\$65,000

**Total DCTP Immediate Intervention Grant Distributions: \$1,032,777**

“Rental assistance is an immediate, life-changing need that we provide to more than 500 unique, low-income Veterans and their families, a number that continues to rise.”

– Christine Lewis, executive director, Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans

In 2022, the DuPage County Board executed an agreement to allocate federal funds received through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to DuPage Foundation for a five-year, \$10 million grant program to address immediate and long-term community needs. A committee of DuPage County and DuPage Foundation staff, Board members, and volunteers review applications and select the DCTP grantees. To date, more than \$6.8 million has been awarded in Immediate Intervention and Transformational grants.

**“Many of our refugee, single mother, and low-income family clients come to us in moments of deep vulnerability—fleeing violence, escaping domestic abuse, starting their lives over from scratch, or struggling to keep their children safe. Emergency assistance is more than a roof over their heads; it is a lifeline of safety and hope, allowing them to breathe easier and take the first steps toward rebuilding their lives.”**

– Dr. Saima Azfar, chief strategy officer, ICNA Relief

Despite being made up of communities with tremendous resources, the needs in DuPage County remain significant and urgent. DCTP Immediate Intervention grants provide grantees financial resources to respond to immediate needs of clients and allow agencies to quickly increase their organizational capacity to deliver resources within the target service areas.

DuPage County’s not-for-profits, empowered by the DCTP, are leading the charge for change. To learn more about DCTP grantee projects, visit [dupagefoundation.org/DCTP](https://dupagefoundation.org/DCTP). ■

## Mercy Housing Expands Impact Using Community Connections

Mercy Housing Lakefront (MHL) develops affordable, program-enriched housing for families, seniors, and people with special needs who lack the economic resources to access quality, safe housing opportunities.

In 2022, MHL received a two-year *DuPage County Transformation Partnership* (DCTP) Transformational grant. This grant made possible group mental health programming for low-income residents living in three DuPage County affordable housing communities. As part of the pilot program developed by MHL, partnerships with the Association for Individual Development and NAMI DuPage, another DCTP grant recipient, were established to deliver the specialized services.



*Residents of Mercy Housing Lakefront’s Marian Park Apartments in Wheaton participate in a lively Wellbeing Wins group discussion facilitated by NAMI DuPage.*

“DCTP support has assisted in a strong collaboration amongst multiple mental health-focused organizations, a relationship we hope to replicate in other affordable housing communities,” said Mercy Housing Lakefront President Mark Angelini. “The impact on residents’ behavioral health has truly been transformative, with more than 75% of participants reporting better mental health, feeling more connected to others, and having positive relationships with loved ones.”

The 2024 Immediate Intervention grant awarded to MHL supports this continued partnership by increasing access to on-site, customized mental health programming. ■

# Celebration of Volunteers

**W**e were thrilled to celebrate a number of our volunteer leaders during a special reception held on September 19 at Naperville Country Club.

Among those honored were retiring Board Chair Nate Wasson and retiring Trustees Gerald Lewis and Paul Miles; new Trustees Supriya Jasuja and Jim Mark; and our slate of new officers, including Chair Bill Blum, Vice Chair Roger McDougal, Secretary Ted Saul, and Treasurer Kevin Phillips.



*(From left) Tom and Lucy Hayes with incoming Board Chair Bill Blum, his wife Jennifer, and Bill and Heather Hayes.*



*Retiring Board Chair Nate Wasson and his wife Sandra.*

“Serving on the DuPage Foundation Board for the last several years has been an extremely rewarding experience,” said Nate Wasson, outgoing Board chair. “I have grown personally and professionally

as a member of this passionate, community-focused, and generous group of volunteers, and am deeply proud of what the Foundation has accomplished for our community with our donors and partners.”

Nate has been a Foundation Trustee since 2013, serving as Board Secretary and Vice Chair prior to becoming Chair in 2021. During the September celebration, Wasson handed the leadership reins to Bill Blum, a trustee since 2017 and participant on several Foundation committees including Benefit, Board Development, Executive, and Financial Operations.

“Nate’s advocacy for community giving and leadership on Foundation initiatives have been invaluable to the organization’s consistent growth and increased impact,” said Blum. “I am determined to continue the Foundation’s trajectory of success moving forward.”

Special thanks are due to the evening’s generous sponsors, Bill and Heather Hayes and Tom and Lucy Hayes. ■

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## Supriya Jasuja and Jim Mark Join Board of Trustees

**T**he Foundation is proud to welcome Supriya Jasuja (Oak Brook) and Jim Mark (Plainfield) to our Board of Trustees.



Supriya Jasuja, MD, MPH, is an infectious disease physician who has served in multiple leadership and clinical roles in public health, value-based health care, and patient care. She works in utilization management at Oak Street Health and sees patients at the Cook County CORE Center and Cook County Department of Public Health.

She currently serves as a board member for the Oak Brook Historical Society. Supriya and her husband, Ankit Shah, have three adult children, Anya, Shiven, and Arjun.



Jim Mark, AIA, LEED AP, is a licensed architect and the managing director for private markets and chief strategy officer for Wight & Company. He is known throughout Chicagoland as an advocate for regional economic and community development and a champion of environmental stewardship and vital social

services. He currently serves on the board of directors for the Chinese American Service League, Choose DuPage, Friends of the Chicago River, Naperville Heritage Society, and Will County Center for Economic Development. Jim and his wife, Marykay, have two adult children, Nicole and Benjamin. ■

# More Than \$350,000 Awarded to Support Kindergarten Readiness

Our *Bright & Early DuPage* (B&ED) Initiative recently awarded \$352,000 in grants to support nine DuPage early childhood collaboratives. Area collaboratives are made up of people and organizations who share expertise and resources to promote the development of young children, with the ultimate goal of preparing them to be successful in kindergarten and beyond.

“Kindergarten is a milestone experience for children and their parents, and for some, it may be their first organized learning environment,” said Barb Szczepaniak, Foundation vice president for programs. “Collaboratives are providing tools that instill confidence in children and their parents to ensure a positive school experience that ultimately sets them on a lifelong path of success.”

The following organizations received B&ED grants:

- Addison Partners for Play, Learning & Education (APPLE) \$50,000
- Bensenville Early Learners Supporters (BELS) \$40,000
- Birth to Five Coalition (Bloomingtondale, Carol Stream, and Hanover Park) \$25,000
- Glenbard Early Childhood Collaborative \$30,000
- Supporting Early Education in DuPage South (SEEDS) \$30,000
- Villa Park Area Early Childhood Collaborative \$45,000
- Willowbrook Corner Coalition \$50,000
- WeGo Together for Kids (West Chicago) \$42,000
- Wheaton Warrenville Early Childhood Collaborative \$40,000

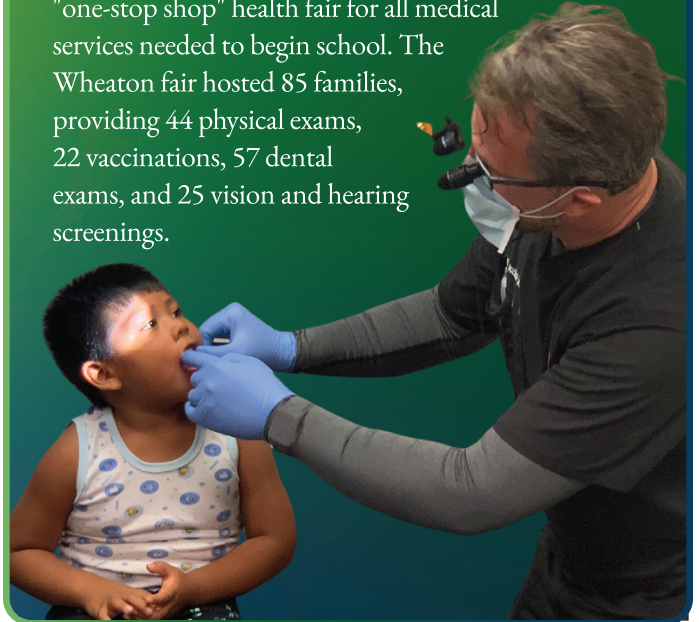
**Total B&ED Grant Distributions: \$352,000**

Collaborations spent the summer supporting the growth and development of hundreds of children.

The Villa Park Area Early Childhood Collaborative held a back-to-school fair at Tri-Town YMCA. Nearly 500 backpacks were distributed. Parent navigators helped families register for kindergarten, referred children for screenings, and engaged with parents while their children received top-notch face painting.



Teaming with Metropolitan Family Services, Wheaton Warrenville Early Childhood Coalition hosted a “one-stop shop” health fair for all medical services needed to begin school. The Wheaton fair hosted 85 families, providing 44 physical exams, 22 vaccinations, 57 dental exams, and 25 vision and hearing screenings.



BELS offered special education support groups, providing parents with educational tools to navigate their children’s unique needs.



The Birth to Five Community Coalition hosted parent sessions with discussions on behavior management, early literacy and play, routines, and screen time.



APPLE provided backpacks for more than 200 children in Addison and hosted presentations for parents with a nationally-recognized speaker on social-emotional development during the transition to kindergarten.



Learn more at [dupagefoundation.org/BrightAndEarly](http://dupagefoundation.org/BrightAndEarly). ■

# A 31-Day Celebration of the Arts

This October, *Arts DuPage* invites you to explore the world of arts and entertainment in DuPage County. Enhanced *Arts DuPage Month* (ADM) events offer special twists and incentives, providing attendees with high-quality, unique, and fun-filled experiences. Find a robust list of plays, concerts, and exhibits, taking place this October and beyond, at [artsdupage.org](https://artsdupage.org). To learn more about Arts DuPage, contact **Deborah Venezia**, director of Arts DuPage, at **630.598.5299** or [debbie@dupagefoundation.org](mailto:debbie@dupagefoundation.org). ■

## A Word From Debbie Venezia

### Q. What is unique about Arts DuPage Month?

**A.** Inspired by the Americans for the Arts National Arts & Humanities Month, we created Arts DuPage Month to celebrate the diverse arts and cultural activities taking place throughout DuPage County. With both social and economic benefits for our communities, we hope the positive experiences had by attendees will encourage lifelong habits of arts engagement.

### Q. How do initiatives like Arts DuPage Month impact the community?

**A.** Stimulating arts engagement also drives the economy. A 2023 study by Americans for the Arts revealed that typical arts and cultural event attendees spend an average of \$38.46 per person, per event, above the cost of admission. Many will go out to dinner beforehand or stop for drinks afterward. Some will buy gas, pay a babysitter, or purchase a program. Event-related spending benefits local merchants and keeps that money in the community, generating valuable tax revenue on a local, regional, and national level.

### Q. Who are some of your community partners?

**A.** BrightSide Theatre, Drury Lane, DuPage Symphony, Elmhurst Art Museum, Local Glass Studio, McAninch Arts Center, Paramount Theatre, Sonny Acres Farm, and Village Theatre Guild, are just a few examples of the many arts groups participating this year.

### Q. Which arts experiences are you looking forward to attending this fall?

**A.** I am trying to squeeze in as many events as I can this October! I have Drury Lane's *The Audience* and Paramount Theatre's *The Full Monty* booked. I am also looking at the Scott Keo #1 Michael Bublè Tribute Worldwide at the McAninch Arts Center and the Fall Festival at Sonny Acres Farm. It will be a fully immersive arts marathon, but I am not one to bypass a good deal! ■



*Arts DuPage Director Debbie Venezia (center) with the actors and director of the indie film, Relative. (From left) Elizabeth Stam, Emily Lape, Melissa DuPrey, and Michael Glover Smith.*

Arts  
DuPage  
Month

## Mark Your Calendars

### After Hours Film Society: What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?

Mon., Oct. 21, 7:30 p.m.

Tivoli Theatre, 5021 Highland Ave., Downers Grove

**ADM Perk:** 30% off autographed copy of Michael McClellan's book, *Cinema 62!*

### Dia De Muertos Opening Reception

Fri., Oct. 25, 7:00 p.m.

Elmhurst Art Museum, 150 S. Cottage Hill, Elmhurst

**ADM Perk:** Appetizers and wine provided at this free reception! Exhibit is on display October 20 - November 30.

### Electric Avenue: The 80s MTV Experience

Sat., Oct. 26, 7:30 p.m.

The MAC, 425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn

**ADM Perk:** \$5 off ticket purchases for October performances!





# Ways and Whens of 2024 Giving

**W**e're committed to helping you achieve the maximum impact and benefits from your giving. The fourth quarter can be filled with many distractions at a time you may also want to be thoughtful with your charitable planning. Below are some tips to ensure you achieve your goals efficiently with intention.

As the only wholly-focused community endowment builder in DuPage County, all gifts referenced here can help build critical permanent endowments to address our community's greatest challenges and opportunities across a variety of areas today, and for future generations. Donor-Advised Funds can also be funded with most gift types, except IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs), allowing you the flexibility to recommend grants to causes and organizations of your choosing on your timetable, locally and beyond.

Consult your tax and financial advisors as part of your year-end planning. Our team is here to help. To arrange a consultation, please contact **Michael Trench**, vice president for advancement, at **630.665.5570** or **michael@dupagefoundation.org**.

## Recommended Year-End Deadlines

### December 2

- Initiate IRA/QCD contributions.
- Initiate electronic mutual fund transfers.

### December 13

- Make grant recommendations from donor-advised funds to ensure grants are awarded by December 31.

### December 26

- Initiate ACH and electronic stock transfers.

### December 31

- Last day to personally deliver a contribution to DuPage Foundation office.
- Last day to get a USPS postmark for mailed gifts.
- Deadline for credit card donations.

## Ways to Give

### Contributions of Cash

#### By Mail

To ensure a contribution through USPS qualifies for 2024, envelopes must be postmarked by December 31.

**DuPage Foundation**  
3000 Woodcreek Drive, Ste. 310  
Downers Grove, IL 60515

(List fund name or donation purpose in memo line)

#### By Credit Card

Visit **dupagefoundation.org/donate** where completed online transactions qualify through December 31.

#### ACH Transfer

Contact us for transfer instructions or visit **dupagefoundation.org/donate**. Initiate ACH transfers by December 26 as they may take more time at year end.

#### Drop Off at Office

Offices will be closed December 24-25, and open through 3 p.m. on December 31.

### IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)

For those 70½ and older, initiate requests by December 2 to ensure distributions are received by the charity and deposited before year end. For 2024, the QCD maximum is \$105,000/individual or \$210,000/couple. QCDs can be contributed to all Foundation funds, except donor-advised funds. If you have IRA check-writing privileges, the funds must actually leave the custodial account by your IRA administrator's last business day of the year to count against your 2024 RMD.

### Contributions of Stock and Mutual Funds

Watch market schedules. Some mutual funds may take up to three weeks for transfer, so work with your account administrator to initiate mutual fund transfers by December 2 and stock transfers by December 26. Contact us at **630.665.5556** to request transfer instructions.

### Grant Recommendations from a Donor-Advised Fund

#### DuPage Foundation Fund

Grant recommendations can be made through our online Donor Portal or by contacting **Laura Ernst**, program officer, at **630.598.5295** or **laura@dupagefoundation.org**. Recommendations must be submitted by December 13 to reach charities by year end.

#### Non-DuPage Foundation Fund

Check the timeline of your Fund Sponsor to ensure arrival by year end.

### Contributions of Real Estate

The deadline to initiate real estate gifts for 2024 has passed. If you are interested in making such a gift in 2025, please reach out by September 30 of next year. Real estate gifts can minimize capital gains and allow deductions at current market value. Properties under any contract or encumbrance are not usually eligible to be gifted.

# Create a Lasting Legacy

Our Legacy Society honors the generous, visionary donors who have made a commitment to secure DuPage County's future by including the Foundation in their estate plans. We were honored to welcome our 200<sup>th</sup> known Legacy Society member this past August.

If you have been thinking about an estate gift that can do something truly transformative for your community and for the causes you love most, consider the benefits of a planned gift through us. Planned gifts can:

- Create a lasting legacy for you and your loved ones.
- Provide tax benefits for you and your heirs.
- Ensure your charitable dollars will be prudently invested and distributed in accordance with your wishes for maximum impact.
- Secure the sustainability of your favorite causes and charities.

Have a lasting impact on your community and the causes and charities that are most important to you by naming DuPage Foundation as a beneficiary of your will, trust, IRA, insurance policy, or other estate planning vehicle. Our team will work with you and your advisors to create a plan that meets your goals and will expertly manage your planned gift to ensure your intentions are honored, now and into the future.

Ready to join this special circle of community investors? Learn more at [dupagefoundation.org/Legacy](https://dupagefoundation.org/Legacy). Contact **Michael Trench**, vice president for advancement, at **630.665.5570** or [michael@dupagefoundation.org](mailto:michael@dupagefoundation.org). ■



## 2024 Benefit: *Through the Looking Glass*

Mark your calendars for an evening you won't want to miss on Saturday, November 9, at the Lombard Chicago Westin! Dust off your most curious attire and prepare to tumble down the rabbit hole for a night of wonder at DuPage Foundation's 2024 Annual Benefit: *Through the Looking Glass*. Wander through a whimsical wonderland filled with delicious delicacies, enchanting entertainment, and fantastical fun with friends.

As the Foundation's premier event, our Annual Benefit raises critical funding to help address the most pressing needs for our community and beyond.

Premier Sponsor



Lead Matching Challenge Partner



For more information, or to purchase tickets, visit [dupagefoundation.org/LookingGlass](https://dupagefoundation.org/LookingGlass). Thank you for your ongoing partnership in **doing a world of good in our own backyard**®. ■



# Building Relationships and Industry Knowledge Through Continuing Education

**O**n August 28, the Foundation was pleased to join with Sharpe Group, a national major and planned gift consulting firm, to host two philanthropy-focused programs for some of our area partners at Reserve 22 at the Village Links of Glen Ellyn.

The seminars featured Sharpe Group Senior Vice President Joe Chickey, MBA, CFP, a nationally-renowned expert on charitable planning strategies. The morning program, held for not-for-profits with agency funds at the Foundation, concentrated on national giving trends and strategies for building endowments and securing major and legacy gifts. The afternoon program discussed similar themes with a bent toward gift planning strategies that attorneys, CPAs, and financial planners can utilize to help their clients maximize their impact and benefits.

“This was a fantastic presentation,” said DuPagePads President & CEO April Redzic. “I learned a ton and really appreciate what DuPage Foundation does—not just lead from a giving perspective but also helps create an environment where not-for-profits can thrive!”



*(From left) Foundation staff members Kait Balsewicz, Mike Sitrick, and Clarice Swanson with presenter Joe Chickey of Sharpe Group, Professional Advisor Committee Chair Brandy Harrington, and Vice Chair Sandy Higgins with Foundation staff Michael Trench and Nicki Anderson.*

**Not-for-Profit Organizations:** Interested in securing your agency’s future through endowment-building? Please contact **Kaitlyn Miller Balsewicz, CFRE, CAP®**, director of donor services, at **630.598.5292** or **kait@dupagefoundation.org**.

**Professional Advisors:** Interested in learning how we can help your clients maximize the impact and benefits of their charitable giving? Please contact **Michael Trench**, vice president for advancement, at **630.665.5570** or **michael@dupagefoundation.org**. ■

## Falling Into Philanthropy with NGI

**O**n September 26, the *Next Generation Initiative* (NGI) hosted its annual Fall Social at Go Brewing in Naperville. The event highlighted 360 Youth Services’ critical mission of providing life-changing services to youth through substance use prevention education, counseling, and housing.

**Next  
Generation  
Initiative**  
DuPage Foundation



*More than 75 NGI members and friends turned out at Go Brewing in Naperville to connect, learn, and give back through our NGI Fall Social.*

With donations from attendees and NGI members, as well as a \$2,500 matching contribution from the Edward and Wanda Jordan Foundation, the *Next Generation Initiative Fund* awarded a grant of more than \$5,000 to 360 Youth Services. “We are so grateful to see this next generation of givers passionately support accessible mental health resources for our community’s most vulnerable youth,” said Brea Hayes, development director for 360 Youth Services.

Special thanks to the evening’s partners. Event Partner: Dan Firks Team (Naperville.com); Venue Sponsor: Go Brewing; Catering Sponsor: Busy Butternut; and NGI’s 2024 Annual Corporate Partners: Duly Health and Care, Crowe LLP Global, and Kaskov Valuations, Inc.

To learn more or to become an NGI member, visit **dupagefoundation.org/NGI**. ■



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## DuPage County Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast Set for January 20

The DuPage County Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "I Have a Dream" Unity Breakfast returns to Drury Lane on January 20, 2025, to spread Dr. King's message of equality, justice, and unity. Inspiring action and impact throughout DuPage County, proceeds from the annual breakfast support the *Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Fund of DuPage Foundation*, a permanently-endowed community fund seeded by The Inland Real Estate Group of Companies, Inc. Annual income generated by this fund provides grants through DuPage Foundation's *Community Impact grant program* to DuPage not-for-profits that prioritize serving Black, Indigenous, and People of Color and deliver equitable services in the areas of health, human services, and education.

Tickets and sponsorships for the Unity Breakfast are available at [dupagefoundation.org/MLKday](http://dupagefoundation.org/MLKday). To learn more about the DuPage County Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Advisory Committee, made up of more than 200 community members, contact [Jessica Barr](mailto:jessica@lwcoinc.com) at [jessica@lwcoinc.com](mailto:jessica@lwcoinc.com). ■

