A Note From Davette

As you can see in this newsletter, we hosted the first Celebrating Achievement dinner in May. We created Celebrating Achievement to bring together all the people involved in our scholarship program – donors, students, families, school personnel and reviewers. Our goal was to create a meaningful experience for each person that is touched by CKCF through scholarships.

For a few moments, I got to stand in the back of the room and watch. I saw real conversations between 17-year-olds and 87-year-olds, and lots of ages in between. A scholarship recipient sharing her dreams and plans for the future. A donor sharing her life experiences. I saw tears as family members remembered deceased loved ones memorialized through scholarships. And in those same people, satisfaction and pride through their investment in students. I saw laughter and hugs as families celebrated the success of students.

Standing in the back of the room...I had the best seat in the house.

Scholarships are about so much more than a check to a school. And that is what we saw demonstrated amongst the 321 people who attended. Local scholarships are about us, as a community, investing in our young people. Telling them we believe in them. Giving them financial support to accomplish their goals. Scholarships provide a link between those who have traveled a few miles in life, to those who are just starting that journey. What a great way to make a connection - through the investment in the education of a young person.

Celebrating Achievement

When people create a scholarship fund, they give a gift of lifelong opportunity - an investment in the future of our youth.

“It’s humbling, I grew up on a farm and never thought I would do much past farm work. Then I found I liked computers, but never thought it would amount to anything because of my education level. Then I found that CKCF offers scholarships to help people. Because of the foundation, I can keep going to class.” – John Prus, CKCF Scholarship Recipient.

This year, CKCF awarded 110 scholarships offering hope and opportunity to students across our region, totaling more than $243,000. To honor the recipients and donors, CKCF hosted the first ever Celebrating Achievement dinner. This event gave the opportunity to connect scholarship donors with the recipients.

“For me this is a personal scholarship. We work hard to keep it funded and it’s very near and dear to my heart. Meeting the students that receive the scholarship means the world to me,” Brenda Tiffany, Trooper Ponder Memorial Scholarship.

“It really does make me think of giving back. People are so generous donating their money so that we can go to college. We should continue the cycle and give so other people can go to college. Thank you for valuing our education and giving us a way to go to college.” Kiara Jones, CKCF Scholarship Recipient.

Creating a scholarship fund is an excellent way to give a gift of opportunity, hope and higher education. Contact us today for more information.
Nonprofits raise more than $114,000

From making sure people don’t go hungry to providing needed resources in schools, our nonprofits serve people from all walks of life and enhance the communities where we live. On Kentucky Gives Day, our region came together for a powerful day of giving, raising over $114,000 to support the work of our nonprofit organizations.

“This is the first year St. James Catholic School participated in Kentucky Gives Day, and we are thrilled with the outcome,” said Principal Sister Marie Hannah. “We not only raised funds to provide enhanced security for our school and percussion instruments for our students, but through the excitement of the day, there was much community building among our school and parish as we continued to update individuals on our progress.”

St. James Catholic School placed first in the CKCF regional Kentucky Gives Day leaderboard by raising over $62,000 in 24-hours! They also were first on the statewide leaderboard.

Participating nonprofits were eligible for regional and statewide prizes, which added to their fundraising efforts. CKCF awarded $700 in prizes to this year’s regional winners.

Feeding America, Kentucky’s Heartland won 2nd place with $11,435 raised. Amber Lyvers accepts their prize check from Davette Swiney.

Helping Hand of Hope won 3rd place in the regional leaderboard with $5,550 raised. Gary Bohannon accepts their prize check from Davette Swiney.

St. James Principal Sister Marie Hannah and St. James students accept their prize check from Davette Swiney.
Giving with a Donor Advised Fund

A wise man, Francis of Assisi, once said, “For it is in giving that we receive.” Since the beginning of time, the greatest philosophers have suggested that you find happiness in helping others.

Now, in the 21st century, making an impact has never been easier or more rewarding. Donor Advised Funds are growing in popularity because they make giving easier. Donor Advised Funds provide flexibility and an ongoing philanthropic involvement.

When you make a gift to your Donor Advised Fund, you receive an immediate tax deduction. Over time, you recommend grants (distributions) from the fund to organizations and charitable purposes you want to support. CKCF handles the details for you.

A Donor Advised Fund is convenient and a tax-smart solution for charitable planning.

Finding happiness in helping others is easy when you partner with CKCF and create a Donor Advised Fund. Those dollars will give back forever to the charities that matter most to you. If you want to feed the hungry, support your church, enhance lives young and old, or support other meaningful causes, consider setting up your Donor Advised Fund today. Find happiness in giving.

Learning through play at Get Ready! Camp 2018

Experts say play is an essential part of early childhood development and learning, and we couldn't agree more. CKCF just wrapped up our 7th year of Get Ready! Camp, a three-week camp designed for children age 0-5 and their parents. This year we had over 490 children exploring, playing and learning at Get Ready! Camp. Children received hands-on experience with early concepts in literacy, math and science.

“We had so much fun and are learning too!” - Get Ready! Camp Mom

“Get Ready! Camp is very entertaining and educational for my one year old. I received many helpful tips as well.” - Get Ready! Camp Mom
CKCF and Hardin County Farm Bureau hosted a screening of the film Farmers For America along with a panel discussion comprised of farmers from our region. It was an evening well spent learning about the challenges and obstacles that our agricultural producers are facing. This documentary told the story of young people across our country who are stepping up to the challenge of farming and the struggles they face.

Local farmers shared their challenges and successes as well. “We have to be paying attention and learning how we can preserve our land and take care of it; leaving it better than we found it,” said Caleb Ragland, LaRue County farmer.

“As a community foundation, it is part of our role to stay abreast of changes and challenges facing people in our region. Of significant importance is our food supply. This film brings to light obstacles and opportunities our local farmers, the agriculture industry and consumers must consider,” said Davette B. Swiney, President and CEO of Central Kentucky Community Foundation. “In our rural area, the next generation of farming plays an important role in our economy.”

Thank you to our moderator, Warren Beeler and our panelists: Matt Adams, Daniel Hayden, Jeremy and Joanna Hinton, Ray Allen Mackey, Caleb and Leanne Ragland and Mark Thomas.