



## DEAMICIS JOINS WCCF'S BOARD

In January, long-time board member John Hall decided to step down from his position on WCCF's board. He first joined the Board in 2017 and has been an invaluable addition. We would like to thank John for his years of dedication to the Village of Carey, WCCF and Wyandot County. We will miss him and his sense of humor!

We are pleased to announce another Carey resident has joined WCCF's Board. We would like to welcome Trisha DeAmicis! Trisha is a community-focused banking professional and active civic leader in Wyandot County. She currently serves as a Vice President | Business Development Officer | Branch Manager with First Citizens National Bank, where she works closely with local businesses, nonprofits, and families to strengthen economic growth and connection across the region.



With nearly a year in her current role and a strong passion for community engagement, Trisha has been instrumental in building partnerships, supporting local initiatives, and promoting financial literacy. She believes deeply in the power of collaboration and service, and she is committed to helping Wyandot County thrive for future generations. Trisha is a proud mother of three and values faith, family, and service. She is honored to serve on the board of the Wyandot County Community Foundation and looks forward to contributing to its mission of enhancing the quality of life throughout the community. We are so excited to work with Trisha!

## HARD WORK GROWS MORE THAN CROPS: IT GROWS COMMUNITY



WCCF's Gifts of Grain Advisory Committee met recently to establish long-term planning for the fund. Farmers who donated 100 bushels of grain this year were officially inducted into our 100 Bushel Club. Always a good sport, Mike Thiel modeled one of our 100 Bushel Club tshirts. Are you interested



in learning more about Gifts of Grain or joining our 100 Bushel Club? Scan the QR code for more info!

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**Wyandot County  
Community Foundation**  
PO Box 364  
Upper Sandusky, OH 43351  
(419) 835-1009  
wyandotfoundation@gmail.com  
<https://www.wyandotcommunityfoundation.org/>

# WCCF PROVIDES GRANT FOR SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

BY ELLEN SHEAFFER

We have all had one of those long days when you can't wait to get home and just go to bed. Or maybe you have had one of those mornings when you wake up feeling fantastic because you had a great night's sleep. But what if instead of a soft bed, you go home to a pile of blankets on the floor, or a twin bed with three of your siblings. While this may seem to be an exaggeration, this is the reality for many children in our local communities.

During the summer of 2025, a new non-profit organization was created to address this problem, Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP). Crawford county resident, Ed Pfeifer, founded the Crawford/Wyandot chapter after listening to a podcast by Luke Mickelson, founder of SHP. "I was immediately interested. It seemed like a mission that fit my skill set and that would meet a need in my community," Pfeifer said. "It also provides a way to serve others without needing to travel far to do so. Working with your community to serve your community is very powerful."

Founded in Twin Falls, ID in 2012, SHP is a national organization with 200 chapters nationwide, 16 in Ohio, and has delivered more than 373,000 beds. Pfeifer and his wife Jenny Lynne assembled a core team of 10 people. After approval, four members went to Salt Lake City for two days of new chapter training. At training they had a crash course on how to run a bed build, manage volunteers and capture volunteer hours, manage their funds, vet applications, navigate all the computer programs necessary to run the chapter, and how to share the core values of SHP with others. "Our Core Team was easy to assemble with people eager to join the mission. They were people who we know valued serving their communities," Jenny Lynn shared. New volunteers enjoy the experience and return to help build and deliver beds.

The chapter started with a grant from Lowes to purchase power tools and enough lumber to build a few initial beds. Donations began to arrive from individuals and local organizations, including a grant from the Wyandot County Foundation. The cost to build a bed is \$150 which includes lumber, hardware and a mattress. The group also provides a mattress cover, bedding and a pillow that are provided by donations. Their goal is to hold one bed build a month. The bed builds are open to anyone. No previous skills or training are needed and all tools are provided. The group has already delivered 59 beds and has a waiting list of 34. The group is currently borrowing a barn outside of Bucyrus to store equipment and build beds. Pfeifer shared the group's ultimate wish, "Our dream for the future would be to have our own shop/warehouse space to build and store beds, about 3-4000 sq ft. We have been shocked and amazed at the need in our community, the need is real."

**Additional information, including upcoming bed builds, can be found on the Facebook page: Sleep in Heavenly Peace-OH Crawford/Wyandot**

**Monetary donations can be made at: <https://shpbeds.org/donate>**

Requirements to apply for a bed: must be between 3-17 years old, not have a bed of his/her own, live in a covered zip code, have room for a bed, and the parent must be reachable by phone. Beds are available by zip code. Zip codes that are currently available are 43351, 44820, and 44849. SHP determines when the chapter can open a new zip code. The group is hopeful that additional zip codes in the two counties will open soon. Applicants can be submitted at: [shpbeds.org](https://shpbeds.org). If their zip code is open, the website will allow them to apply. If not, they will be notified that their zip code hasn't been open yet. Applicants should expect a phone call from an SHP volunteer to vet the application.



# A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

WCCF is 25 Years Strong! January 25, 2001 serves as the date on record where dedicated Wyandot County citizens gathered to create the organization now known as Wyandot County Community Foundation.

The group that gathered at that first meeting couldn't have known the impact WCCF would have on our community:

- Since the inception of our grant program in 2013, we have given \$184,885 in grants to small non-profits.
- We've provided \$376,000 in scholarships since 2005.
- In 2025, we had a total giving of \$293,607 through Scholarships, Grants and Donor-Directed Grants – all being reinvested back into our community.

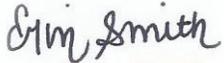
I am grateful for their foresight, for the work they started in Wyandot County. A huge thank you to you, the donor, for making ALL of this possible. I cannot put into words how grateful we are for YOU!

On a more personal note - Where were you in on January 25, 2001? I was in my senior year at Upper Sandusky High School, looking forward to changing the world as a special education teacher. But as they say, if you want to hear God laugh, tell Him your plans – and instead of being a special education teacher, I became a special needs mom. Eventually through a path that I can only call serendipitous, I ended up at WCCF.

Those dedicated citizens couldn't have known the impact WCCF would have on me – it has given fresh purpose to this special needs mom.

Whew - A lot can happen in 25 years. What will the next 25 years bring for WCCF? We have big plans, and we would love for you to join us. Save the Date for our 25th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, October 24th at the Moose Lodge in Upper Sandusky. More details coming soon!

Take care,



Erin Smith, Executive Director



**W**  
**Wyandot**  **County**  
**Community Foundation**  
— 25 Years Strong —

*Happy Birthday  
to us!*



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## GRANT REPORTS

**LOVE AND SUPPORT:** The mission of “No One Fights Alone” is to love and support local cancer patients and their families. The organization provides emotional support, and a gift bag filled with items that can be used as patients go through cancer treatment. With grant money from the Wyandot County Community Foundation and other groups, patients will receive this year an embroidered “No One Fights Alone” fleece blanket and a message of love and hope as they continue their cancer treatment.



**RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE:** The American Red Cross of North /Central Ohio received a \$2000 WCCF Grant to support Wyandot County Blood Drives. Since receiving the grant, 17 blood drives were held throughout Wyandot County collecting 406 units of blood from local- residents. This winter’s extreme weather and elevated flu activity have led to multiple cancellation and postponements contributing to a national blood shortage. Locally blood drives are held at Wyandot Memorial Hospital, Upper Sandusky Elks Lodge, Mohawk Community Library, Carey Shrine Cafeteria and John Stewart Methodist Church in Upper Sandusky.

**CRITICAL STORAGE UNIT:** The Wyandot Health Foundation received a Wyandot Community Foundation Grant last fall, to assist with the purchase and installation of a new laboratory freezer for Wyandot Memorial Hospital. The unit provides safe, reliable cold storage, which is essential for the integrity of lab specimens, to ensure accurate test results for time-sensitive conditions such as infections, cancer and metabolic disorders. Other sources of funding for the project included individual donations and hospital funds.





**Wyandot County Community Foundation**  
**PO Box 364**  
**Upper Sandusky, OH 43351**

(419) 835-1009  
wyandotfoundation@gmail.com  
www.wyandotcommunityfoundation.com

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## REMEMBER US

We distributed nearly \$56,000 in scholarships to 33 students, and we funded 13 grants totaling nearly \$27,000! We've also broadened the reach of Wyandot County Imagination Library. **Please help fund our organization so that we can continue "Doing Good. Forever."**



## Help us sustain our mission and reach our goals in 2026!

Your donation may be tax deductible. Please contact your tax advisor.



Please identify your Sponsorship Level and make checks payable to the Wyandot County Community Foundation. Thank you!

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- \_\_\_\_\_ Friend of the Foundation --- \$500
- \_\_\_\_\_ Foundation Supporter --- \$100
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