A community standing strong

CELEBRATING DAYTON'S HEROES
Looking back on the previous year always gives us the opportunity to express gratitude for those who work tirelessly to change lives and build a stronger community. The past 16 months brought challenges no one expected as the community responded to COVID-19.

Throughout this issue of “Generations,” we thank the local heroes who came together to ensure people were cared for, basic needs were met, and students could continue learning. We applaud the creativity and innovation used to find new ways of serving others that put safety first during a crisis.

Although we could not gather in traditional ways, we continued to build engagement in the Foundation among multiple generations of the Mathile Family. For the first time, our third generation has participated directly in the Foundation’s work through the new G3 Giving Program (which you can read more about on page 14). During a time when connecting with others was limited, we cherished the opportunity to learn more about our youngest generation’s passions and priorities for their philanthropy.

Additionally, two important grantee organizations are celebrating their 100th Anniversary. We extend a sincere “congratulations” and “thank you” from our Family to The Dayton Foundation and Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley. We so appreciate all you do for this community.

As we look to the future, we’re grateful for the strong network of nonprofits in Dayton, as well as the chance to come together as a Family of multiple generations to support their work.

In community,

MaryAnn Mathile   Timothy L. Mathile
The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members.

CORETTA SCOTT KING

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Responding in Uncertainty

In March of 2020, we experienced almost every aspect of day-to-day life rapidly change as the world reacted to the COVID-19 pandemic. There was great uncertainty about how it would affect our organization and, more importantly, how it would affect the community.

The Mathile Family Foundation responded quickly by collaborating with other community partners and grantees to support the immediate frontline response, and ensure resources were available to meet basic needs of families and individuals grappling with significant change. We are grateful for the collaboration that informed our response.

We are also grateful to so many individuals and organizations in the community who stepped up to serve in a time of great uncertainty. Teachers and school staff not only transitioned classrooms to a virtual setting but became a critical support system for students and families. Healthcare workers tirelessly delivered compassionate care, even when it meant putting their own health at risk. Essential workers ensured our economy continued and we had access to necessary food and supplies. And organizations boldly sought new ways to serve and formed innovative partnerships and collaborations to have a greater impact. The response to COVID-19 was truly a community effort.

The Mathile Family Foundation’s COVID-19 response was focused on ensuring basic needs were met throughout the community, families and individuals had access to the care they needed, and students could continue to learn. Recognizing the effects of the pandemic would be ongoing, the Foundation supported both immediate and long-term response efforts.
Dayton Foundation Mobilizes to Support

In a matter of days, COVID-19 brought enormous challenges to individuals and families in our community—and it was evident that the increased need for support would be significant and ongoing.

The Dayton Foundation and the United Way of the Greater Dayton Area, as well as a coalition of other public and private supporters, acted quickly to establish the COVID-19 Response Fund of Greater Dayton to ensure funds were available to support the organizations serving on the frontlines of our community’s COVID-19 response.

Throughout the following 15 months, the COVID-19 Response Fund received over $2 million in donations that could be distributed as grants to nonprofit organizations. They assisted individuals and families with immediate, basic needs, such as food, housing, mental health, and safety, in response to COVID-19. Countless lives were impacted by the community’s generosity in times of uncertainty.

Congratulations to The Dayton Foundation on their Centennial Anniversary!
CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES PROVIDES SAFE SERVICES

As protective orders were put in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19, Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley reacted quickly to ensure their programs were operating safely. The Food Pantry, which serves families and individuals five days a week, became a first responder in addressing basic needs for the community—but it required flexibility and innovation.

To minimize the risk associated with people gathering in close proximity, the pantry changed how they operated for the safety of guests, staff, and volunteers. Previously, Catholic Social Services allowed guests to “shop” the pantry by selecting items. To reduce the number of people gathered and decrease the time guests spent inside the pantry, Catholic Social Services began assembling prepackaged boxes of food which could be taken directly out to guests. They also made special accommodations for dietary preferences and restrictions so all could be served with dignity and compassion. Many of the pantry’s consistent volunteers were older and considered higher risk—so younger volunteers and staff members who recognized the urgency stepped up to ensure services continued for the community.

In addition to the safety challenges, supply chain issues created direct out to guests. They also made special accommodations shortages and scarcity that made it difficult to acquire the variety and quantity of food needed at the pantry. Community need grew. The need for food assistance has increased as other assistance reduced, they will continue to provide prepacked boxes of food. The pantry plans to resume operation as a choice pantry once it is safe to do so, but until the risks of COVID-19 are minimized, they will continue to provide prepacked boxes of food. The generosity of the community made it possible for the pantry to serve those in need each day throughout the pandemic.

The Food Pantry plans to resume operation as a choice pantry once it is safe to do so, but until the risks of COVID-19 are reduced, they will continue to provide prepacked boxes of food. The pantry is expecting to continue seeing an increased need in the coming months.

Congratulations to Catholic Social Services on their Centennial Anniversary!

Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley

100 YEARS

DAYTON METRO LIBRARY PROVIDES FOOD FOR FAMILIES IN NEED

The library is typically considered a place for books and information, but in the summer of 2020, when children were no longer able to access school meal programs and many summer programs were cancelled due to COVID-19, the Dayton Metro Library thought differently about how they could serve the community. By leveraging their branch locations in neighborhoods throughout the community that are already a familiar destination for many families, library locations became distribution points to provide food for children.

Within the framework of the USDA children’s food program and a partnership with Children’s Hunger Alliance and Premier ProduceOne, Dayton Metro Library provided 10 shelf-stable, prepackaged meals for each child in a household each week. The economic impacts of COVID-19 left many families who had not previously accessed food assistance in need for the first time. To ensure families could access food at all branch locations, the library raised additional funds to support the program.

Throughout the summer, Dayton Metro Library provided 155,541 meals for 15,670 children and distributed 182,908 pounds of produce to families and individuals in need. Hundreds of volunteers powered the food distributions throughout the summer by helping to pack bags of food, greet guests, track data, and assist families bringing the food to their cars if needed.

The program has continued since a successful community-supported launch in summer 2020, serving more than 10,000 meals to date.
Learn to Earn Dayton Bridges the “Digital Divide”

As schools quickly switched to virtual learning amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, thousands of Greater Dayton students did not have access to the devices or Internet connectivity, making remote learning impossible. This disparity, known as the “Digital Divide,” stems from inequities that have created barriers for years but were magnified by the pandemic.

Learn to Earn Dayton quickly leveraged community resources to increase access to remote learning opportunities for high-poverty students. With the community’s support, Learn to Earn Dayton and the Montgomery County Educational Service Center were able to purchase and distribute approximately 900 Chromebooks to help students in high-poverty school districts access remote learning.

As students return to in-person learning, technology will continue to be a valuable education tool. Ongoing community efforts continue to address the disparities of the digital divide, including the availability of high-speed Internet in under-served communities.

Black Brothers Black Sisters Involvement Brings Neighborhood Kids Together to Learn

Black Brothers Black Sisters Involvement (BBBSI) delivers youth development programs to children in West Dayton.

As a school-based program, BBBSI needed to find creative ways to remain connected with the children they serve when schools were shut down. Recognizing that connecting virtually would be impossible for children who did not have laptops or Internet, they aligned their programs to work directly with students in their own neighborhoods. This included using front porches and tents as outdoor classrooms when schools were closed to in-person learning.

The program, called “Neighborhood Kids,” served 150 students in grades 4-10. Neighborhood Kids made home visits and phone calls to ensure students stayed engaged in learning throughout the pandemic. Students also benefitted from mental health, mentoring, academic support, STEM programming, music, and art. Licensed teachers and intervention specialists were also available to help students with remote learning.

BBBSI strengthened relationships with the schools they partner with and served as a resource to keep students connected to their teachers. The program also worked with families to share devices and Internet to make sure students had access to the resources required to participate in virtual learning.

Save the Music Foundation Saves the Music

As schools transitioned to virtual learning to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, many students struggled with the lack of support and social interactions they no longer could receive in the classroom. Teachers went above and beyond to meet the needs of their students who had varying technology and support at home.

Save the Music Foundation, who began supporting music education in Dayton Public Schools in 2018, recognized the overwhelming challenges facing educators as they redesigned lesson plans and worked tirelessly to foster connections and engagement with students through virtual classrooms.

In response, Save the Music quickly developed a virtual professional development series for music educators to reflect the rapid changes teachers were experiencing and to provide essential training for delivering virtual music education. Music educators throughout the district were able to connect with other teachers, share ideas, and learn from industry experts. This adaptation to more frequent, virtual trainings allowed teachers to receive the support needed to create an engaging and vibrant online learning opportunity for elementary and middle school students throughout Dayton Public Schools.

Save the Music Foundation and Dayton Public Schools began a multi-year partnership in 2018 to provide access to comprehensive music education for all students in 18 elementary and middle schools. The partnership includes resources and in-kind support from Save the Music Foundation, a commitment from Dayton Public Schools to provide music teachers, and funding from the local community to support the program costs. Schools receive classroom sets of instruments, high-quality music curriculum aligned with standards-based K-12 music education, and ongoing training and support for all music teachers. Dayton joins a network of over 2,000 schools in nearly 300 districts across the country.

Dayton Public Schools remained committed to music and arts during virtual learning, including weekly virtual music classes for elementary music and virtual instrumental instruction for middle and high school students. Ongoing music education offered opportunities for creative expression and engagement during a time of isolation.
Next-Gen Philanthropy: G3 Giving Program

The vision of the Mathile Family Foundation is to be a family foundation forever committed to learning and growing together by sharing God’s blessings in service of those most in need. We are committed to giving all generations of the Mathile Family opportunities to unite around shared values and philanthropic priorities. As we look ahead, multigenerational engagement leads to a stronger future for the foundation, as well as for the greater community. We are proud to welcome an upcoming generation of family members and are grateful for the energy and enthusiasm they have already brought to our work.

The Mathile Family Foundation launched our first G3 (third generation) Giving Program in 2020. Members of the third generation of the Mathile Family were invited to identify their own areas of interest and organizations they would like to support and participate first-hand in grantmaking. Throughout the process, they explored values that inform their giving as well as their philanthropic priorities. They discovered many of their values and interests align with each other, as well as with the Foundation. Social justice and marginalized communities, education, basic needs, and mental health are mutual priorities that provide opportunities for collaborative giving among the third generation in the future as they continue to engage with the Foundation’s grantmaking.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic brought many challenges, it also created a sense of urgency and shared experience to catalyze the third generation’s grantmaking. Barriers to gathering in person were resolved by meeting virtually, it made scheduling and participating more convenient for the third generation, and they had more time for connection and reflection. We look forward to continuing to build new opportunities for the third generation to engage with the Foundation and to connect with the important work happening in our community.

SHAREED GIVING VALUES

HUMILITY  ALTRUISM
CARE FOR THE UNDERSERVED
CARE FOR OTHERS
COMPASSION  CONNECTION TO
SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY SOMETHING GREATER
RELATIONSHIPS

SHAREED GIVING INTERESTS

65%  41%  71%  41%
SOCIAL JUSTICE & MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES  EDUCATION  POVERTY, FOOD & BASIC NEEDS  MENTAL HEALTH
The Mathile Family Foundation offered the first Course for Nonprofit Leaders at Aileron in August 2021. Representatives from 14 nonprofit organizations participated in the two-day course about professional management and how to apply it to nonprofit organizations.

One of the Mathile Family Foundation’s core beliefs is that the diligent practice of professional management strengthens organizations and deepens impact. The Foundation has committed to investing in the development of nonprofit leaders to strengthen the capacity of their entire organization and improve the outcomes of their important work.

By ensuring nonprofits have access to the resources that will help them perform at their best, we can help lift up a strong network of nonprofits who are able to meet the community’s needs and respond to change as they continue to grow.

We are looking forward to creating more opportunities that invest in the effectiveness and sustainability of nonprofit organizations in our community. Look for more information about how to participate.

Building Capacity through Professional Management
THANK YOU TO ALL ESSENTIAL WORKERS FOR YOUR SELFLESS SERVICE TO OTHERS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.
To learn more about the efforts of the Mathile Family Foundation, please visit us at: mathilefamilyfoundation.org.

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