Twenty years ago, Steve and Salena Hitchens lived a starkly different life than they live today.

Steve, who worked in nursing home administration, struggled to support their family as Salena finished nursing school. One day, however, they took a great leap of faith that would forever change their lives – Steve quit his job and together they started an on-the-road therapy company called TheraTrust. They hoped to make enough money from this endeavor to eventually open a nursing home.

“We wanted to build nursing homes that encourage family members to come into the buildings,” Steve explained. “We wanted our patients treated with the respect and dignity they deserve.”

After just one year, TheraTrust generated enough income for the Hitchenses to purchase their first nursing home and launch Autumn Health Care. They purchased a deteriorating nursing home that had just 15 out of 50 beds filled, and they promptly tore it down to start from scratch. Once construction was completed, the facility went to 100% occupied and remained that way for the next 18 years.

Before they even finished construction on the first facility, the Hitchenses purchased a second building to rehab. Eventually, Autumn Health Care grew to include 10 facilities with 1,000 employees. The Hitchenses attributed much of the success to their focus on improving quality care and incorporating patients’ families. They even added playgrounds to encourage grandkids to visit, as well as ice cream shops and movie theaters.
Dear Friends,

The last several months have been busy – and fruitful – for The Catholic Foundation, and I’m pleased to share with you some of the many initiatives we’re working on.

We recently launched our Professional Advisor Choice program, which allows our donors to maintain relationships with their current financial advisors while also making a charitable contribution to The Catholic Foundation. As you read the story of Steve and Salena Hitchens, you can see this program in action – the scholarship fund that they established is part of our Professional Advisor Choice program.

In order to fully support this program, as well as our continued growth, The Catholic Foundation recently added Tiffiney Hatem to our development staff. Tiffiney comes to us from Bishop Hartley High School, and is charged with cultivating our professional relationships and managing the Professional Advisor Choice program.

Throughout this issue of Blessings, you will also read about our robust responsive grants program. As you may recall, we changed our grants process this year in order to allow for more meaningful and strategic granting. You’ll have the chance to read examples of our new Mission and Vision grants, as well see the many organizations who received funding through this updated process.

In this issue, you’ll also read about new partnerships that we’ve forged with local organizations. We’re pleased to share that The Catholic Foundation will serve as the official planned giving partner for many organizations, including Pregnancy Decision Health Centers.

Additionally, the Board of Trustees appropriated new funds to support a focus on evangelization. This allows The Catholic Foundation to continue to send our Pastors to The Amazing Parish conference and more. I look forward to sharing more about these initiatives as we began to see the true impact of the efforts.

As always, I want to thank our donors and friends for your continued support of our Catholic faith through The Catholic Foundation. I encourage you to consider how best to support your parish or Catholic organization, and the role that the Foundation can play in your giving plan. With your help, and with Christ as our guide, The Catholic Foundation will continue to be a resource for the future of our faith and our diocese.

In Christ,

Loren Brown
President & CEO

A Message From Our CEO

Upcoming

April 19, 5-9pm
Professional Advisors Group: Wine Tasting Social
Ruth Lang Board Room, The Catholic Foundation

April 26, 7pm
Young Professionals Group: New Member Social
Ill Mannered Brewing, 30 Grace Drive, Powell

May 5, 6-8pm
Kyrie Bequest Society: Cinco de Mayo Social
Ruth Lang Board Room, The Catholic Foundation

May 10, 8:30am – Noon
The Catholic Foundation & WesBanco Present:
Shakespeare & Lincoln Continuing Education Seminar
Ruth Lang Board Room, The Catholic Foundation

June 28, 6-9pm
Dei Gratia Dinner & Award Ceremony
St. Charles Preparatory School

Rest In Peace

God recently received the following fundholders, Kyrie Bequest Society members, or other individuals into eternal life with Him:

General James Abraham
Ms. Mary Brune
Dr. Richard Carr
Mr. John Fry
Ms. Teresa Gelonese
Mr. John Heller
Dr. Ralph Lach
Mr. George Landrum
Reverend Bernard McClory
Mr. Robert Moone
Mrs. Mary Plank
Reverend Harold Schneider
Reverend Monsignor Robert Schneider
Mrs. Rita Siemer
Ms. Kathleen Spencer, former Executive Director of The Catholic Foundation
Mr. Ron Sullivan

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the soul of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Laurels

Former Marketing & Communications intern, Myron Goldsmith, was recently named the 2016 Young Leadership award recipient of the St. Vincent Family Center Corcoran Awards. Way to go, Myron!
“In our last year of business, three of the 10 Autumn Health Care facilities ranked in the top 20 for customer satisfaction in the State of Ohio,” Steve said.

Over the years, as Steve and Salena’s business flourished, their personal goals and priorities grew and changed. Their success allowed them to give back to their community in ways they never thought possible, including providing significant support for Newark Catholic High School, where their youngest child currently attends.

“Steve and Salena Hitchens have never hesitated to silently assist whenever there has been a need in our community,” said Beth Hill, Principal of Newark Catholic High School. “From attending our weekly Family Rosary in the Newark Catholic Chapel, to making wreaths on behalf of a family in need, or giving a substantial donation for tuition assistance, they have shown great support for others.”

In early 2015, the couple made the decision to sell both TheraTrust and Autumn Health Care in order to focus on the next chapter in their lives. Soon after, the couple approached The Catholic Foundation about using some of the earnings to give back to the Newark Catholic community at an even greater level.

“What will we do with all of the money?” Salena said. “We secured the futures for our children, we give to the church, we help others anonymously…we can’t leave this all to our kids, they don’t need it.”

The couple decided to intertwine their passion for healthcare with their loyalty to Newark Catholic High School. They created the Steven L. and Salena A. Hitchens Scholarship Fund, which awards 2 full scholarships per year to graduates of Newark Catholic High School who are pursuing an LPN or RN degree.

“We were very fortunate to be successful in business,” Steve said. “We want to afford others who are in the position we started in the same opportunity. It was a major struggle to get funding for Salena to go to nursing school, and we want to help others accomplish what she did.”

“And Newark Catholic helped raise our child, they helped with the foundation of a good education,” he added.

Steve and Salena Hitchens, who started out struggling and not knowing where the next dollar would come from, are now blessed to be in the position of helping other struggling individuals through this scholarship fund. And, according to Steve, this is just the start of the great plans they have for ‘retirement’.

**PROFESSIONAL ADVISOR CHOICE PROGRAM**

Steve and Salena Hitchens had a long-standing relationship with their financial advisor at Park National Bank. When they opened the Steven L. and Salena A. Hitchens Scholarship Fund, they didn’t want their advisor to suffer by transferring the assets. Thanks to The Catholic Foundation’s new Professional Advisor Choice Program, their financial advisor was able to continue to manage the assets while still allowing the Hitchens family to set up the fund at The Catholic Foundation.

“We’d love to talk to you about how The Catholic Foundation can help you meet your charitable goals while maintaining your relationship with your financial advisor. For more information on the Professional Advisor Choice Program, please contact Tiffiney Hatem at 866-298-8893 or thatem@catholic-foundation.org.
Responsive Grants

After over 15 years of making responsive grants, The Catholic Foundation launched a new grant process to serve its four pillars of interest: Parish Life, Catholic Education & Faith Formation, Social Service, and Vocations. This year’s new grant cycle included a unique structure of funding opportunities, with three types of grants: Mission Grants, Purpose Grants, and Vision Grants. As in year’s past, the Dr. Edmond J. Goold Grants were also awarded.

Total Responsive Grants

$1,071,828

$595,947 Capital

$385,927 Education

$305,432 Mission Grants

$475,881 Programs

$306,325 Parish Life

$276,872 Purpose Grants

$306,326 Social Services

$359,324 Vision Grants

$18,250 Vocations

$130,200 Goold Grants

117 Grants

Gave funding to 100% of requests for adult faith formation

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Andrew Walker, Treasurer, St. Dominic Parish, Columbus
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Robert Morosky, Chair Emeritus, St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus

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Betsy Sewell, Director of Marketing & Communications
bsewell@catholic-foundation.org

Danielle Wetzel, Coordinator for Development & Grants
dwetzel@catholic-foundation.org
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<td>Peace Phone System Upgrade</td>
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<td>Technology Upgrade</td>
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<td>Support for St. John Food Pantry</td>
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<td>Spiritual and Social Journeys of Faith</td>
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<td>Little Library for Life</td>
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<td>Grounded in Faith: Flooring Replacement</td>
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<td>Spanish Language Training for Key Staff</td>
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The Stewardship Employment Ministry (SEM) established at St. Paul the Apostle Parish provides a faith-based road map to help them navigate the job market. The Stewardship Employment Ministry (SEM) Expansion grant will be leveraged to expand SEM throughout the Northland Deanery and train leaders from other parishes to replicate the program’s impact at St. Paul the Apostle.

“Stewardship Employment Ministry Expands Impact in 2016”

As job markets become increasingly competitive, many individuals in Franklin County bear the burden of unemployment. While they are still responsible for paying the bills and putting dinner on the table for their families, the unemployed no longer have a stable income to fulfill these obligations. Most job seekers are unfamiliar with the dynamics of acquiring work and have no road map to help them navigate the job market. The Stewardship Employment Ministry (SEM) established at St. Paul the Apostle Parish provides a faith-based solution to guide job seekers through the hiring process.

SEM aims to provide valuable resources to both the unemployed and underemployed through workshops, webinars, and one-on-one training in resume creation and interviewing techniques. Program participants attend weekly educational sessions to prepare them for SEM’s bi-annual job fairs which attracted an average of 32 companies and over 400 job seekers over four years. SEM has made a profound impact at St. Paul by supporting job placement of over 900 job seekers since its inception.

“SEM leaders will collaborate with deanery representatives in the upcoming months to advance expansion plans. While the Northland Deanery will be the first group to implement Stewardship Employment Ministry, The Catholic Foundation hopes that families from all over the Diocese will feel the program’s impact.”

In order for these programs to remain free of charge to any unemployed or over 900 job seekers since its inception.

Restricted funding has prevented SEM from holding a job fair since 2012, and the ministry lacked the support necessary to function at its full capacity.

After receiving a responsive grant from The Catholic Foundation, Stewardship Employment Ministry will be able to provide more opportunities to the unemployed than ever before. The grant will be leveraged to expand SEM throughout the Northland Deanery and train leaders from other parishes to replicate the program’s impact at St. Paul the Apostle.

“This ministry has a track record of success and, with the help of The Catholic Foundation, will expand its outreach to help even more people achieve their goal of full, meaningful employment,” said Deacon Racine of St. Paul the Apostle Parish.

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**VANDERBILT**

$197,322 CAPITAL

$122,747 EDUCATION

$68,500 PARISH LIFE

$85,625 SOCIAL SERVICES

**HIGHLIGHT**

Stewardship Employment Ministry Expands Impact in 2016

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$85,625 SOCIAL SERVICES

**HIGHLIGHT**

Stewardship Employment Ministry Expands Impact in 2016

As job markets become increasingly competitive, many individuals in Franklin County bear the burden of unemployment. While they are still responsible for paying the bills and putting dinner on the table for their families, the unemployed no longer have a stable income to fulfill these obligations. Most job seekers are unfamiliar with the dynamics of acquiring work and have no road map to help them navigate the job market. The Stewardship Employment Ministry (SEM) established at St. Paul the Apostle Parish provides a faith-based road map to help them navigate the job market. The Stewardship Employment Ministry (SEM) Expansion grant will be leveraged to expand SEM throughout the Northland Deanery and train leaders from other parishes to replicate the program’s impact at St. Paul the Apostle.

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SEM aims to provide valuable resources to both the unemployed and underemployed through workshops, webinars, and one-on-one training in resume creation and interviewing techniques. Program participants attend weekly educational sessions to prepare them for SEM’s bi-annual job fairs which attracted an average of 32 companies and over 400 job seekers over four years. SEM has made a profound impact at St. Paul by supporting job placement of over 900 job seekers since its inception.

In order for these programs to remain free of charge to any unemployed or underemployed individual, SEM relies heavily on contributions from parishes.

Restricted funding has prevented SEM from holding a job fair since 2012, and the ministry lacked the support necessary to function at its full capacity.

After receiving a responsive grant from The Catholic Foundation, Stewardship Employment Ministry will be able to provide more opportunities to the unemployed than ever before. The grant will be leveraged to expand SEM throughout the Northland Deanery and train leaders from other parishes to replicate the program’s impact at St. Paul the Apostle.

“This ministry has a track record of success and, with the help of The Catholic Foundation, will expand its outreach to help even more people achieve their goal of full, meaningful employment,” said Deacon Racine of St. Paul the Apostle Parish.

SEM leaders will collaborate with deanery representatives in the upcoming months to advance expansion plans. While the Northland Deanery will be the first group to implement Stewardship Employment Ministry, The Catholic Foundation hopes that families from all over the Diocese will feel the program’s impact.

**VANDERBILT**

$197,322 CAPITAL

$122,747 EDUCATION

$68,500 PARISH LIFE

$85,625 SOCIAL SERVICES

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DR. EDMOND J. GOOLD GRANTS

This fund was created by Dr. Goold to benefit needy and deserving persons who reside or work in the geographical vicinity of Mount Carmel Medical Center located on the near west side of the City of Columbus.

ORGANIZATION | CITY | PROJECT TITLE | GRANT
---|---|---|---
Birthright of Columbus, Inc. | Columbus | West side awareness | $6,000
Catholic Social Services | Columbus | Our Lady of Guadalupe Center | $16,000
Holy Family Soup Kitchen | Columbus | SPIRITUAL & CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY | $15,000
JOIN | Columbus | Homelessness Prevention | $15,000
Mount Carmel Foundation | Columbus | Mount Carmel Quailty of Life Partnership with SAMH Inc. | $4,000
Mount Carmel Foundation | Columbus | Mount Carmel Healthy Living Center - Cooking Classes | $16,000
New Directions Career Center | Columbus | Individual Assistance Program | $18,000
Run The Race Club | Westerville | Job Training and Jobs for Inner City Young People | $18,000
Society of St. Vincent de Paul | Columbus | Food for the Hungry | $15,000
St. Agnes Parish | Columbus | PADS Support Program | $1,500
St. Aloysius Parish | Columbus | St. Aloysius Thanksgiving dinner | $1,500
St. Joseph Cathedral Meal Program | Columbus | St. Joseph Cathedral Back Door Meal Program | $1,500

Total $130,200

12 GRANTS

DID YOU KNOW?
The IRA Charitable Rollover is Permanent

Are you looking for an easy way to help the causes you care the most about? If you are 70 1/2 or older, you can make a gift from your IRA account to help support the work of our organization this year and benefit.

WHY MAKE AN IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER GIFT?
Congress has extended the IRA charitable rollover and made it permanent. An IRA rollover gift is a way for you to support our cause today without impacting your checking or savings account balance. Gifts made from your IRA (up to $100,000 per year) are not reportable as taxable income. They also qualify for your required minimum distribution (RMD) which can lower your income and taxes.

In addition, making an IRA rollover gift may prevent you from:
- Being bumped into a higher federal and/or state income tax bracket
- Having the phaseouts on your deductions and personal exemptions
- Falling into the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT)
- Incurring the Affordable Care Act (ACA) tax

YOU CAN BENEFIT FROM GIVING FROM YOUR IRA IF...
- You wish to make a significant gift without using cash or other assets.
- You do not need all or a portion of your IRA income.
- You are paying too much in taxes and are looking to reduce your income.
- You do not itemize deductions. Because a rollover gift can reduce your income and taxes, you can still benefit from charitable giving even as a non-itemizer.
- You want to give over and above your normal giving this year.
- An IRA rollover gift does not count towards the 50% annual limitation on charitable gifts.

WHAT IF YOU HAVE A 401(k), 403(b) OR OTHER RETIREMENT PLAN?
This gift opportunity only works for IRAs. If you own another type of qualified retirement plan, you must first make a tax-free rollover of funds into an IRA. Then you can make the gift from the IRA account to support our work.

HOW CAN I MAKE AN IRA ROLLOVER GIFT?
Contact your IRA plan administrator to learn their procedure for making a rollover gift to charity. We can also provide you with a sample letter and assistance.

To learn more about the benefits of making an IRA charitable rollover gift, please contact Craig Heppner, Development Officer, at CHeppner@catholic-foundation.org or 614-443-8893.

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PARTNERSHIPS
PDHC Partners with The Catholic Foundation for Planned Giving

It is with great pleasure and excitement that Pregnancy Decision Health Centers announces it recently named The Catholic Foundation as its official planned giving partner.

“PDHC is excited to offer additional options to our donors who wish to support our long-term needs and vision,” said Tim Welch, President & CEO of PDHC. “Partnering with The Catholic Foundation will also allow the staff at PDHC to continue to focus on the four pillars of our mission: intervention, prevention, post-abortion healing and bringing people to Jesus.”

The Catholic Foundation administers The Pregnancy Decisions Health Centers Fund, and will assist PDHC in guiding current and potential donors through the process of making a planned gift by offering expertise in the areas of endowments, planned giving and bequests.

By definition, planned giving is a major gift that comes from the donor’s financial or estate planning. Gifts could come from appreciated securities or stock, real estate, a retirement plan or even cash – but they are generally made from outside of one’s discretionary income. Some donors are in a position to make the gift during their lifetime, but many make the gift as a bequest in their will. Planned gifts can offer many benefits to the donor, including tax benefits or the potential for returned income.

“By offering the Foundation’s expertise to PDHC and other organizations, we are helping to secure firm financial grounding to ensure these important services are available for many years to come,” said Loren Brown, President & CEO of The Catholic Foundation.

“The ultimate mission of The Catholic Foundation is to provide for the long-term needs of the Diocese of Columbus,” said Brown. “We look forward to working with PDHC to help provide for their long-term needs as an organization in the diocese.”

New Planned Giving Partnerships

The Catholic Foundation is honored to work with the following organizations as an official planned giving partner:
- Catholic Youth Summer Camp
- Mid-Ohio Foodbank
- Pregnancy Decisions Health Centers
- Run The Race Club
- St. Vincent de Paul Conferences of the Diocese of Columbus
- St. Vincent Haven

Congratulations, Andrew Walker!

Board Trustee Andrew Walker was recently named as President of Nationwide Bank, an award-winning $3.5 billion institution. He is responsible for planning and directing all banking activities, including establishing the Bank’s strategic roadmap.

Prior to this role, Andrew held the positions of Senior Vice President, IT Chief Financial Officer, and Chief Procurement Officer of Nationwide. On behalf of the $3 billion IT organization, he oversaw the strategic development and execution of enterprise-wide IT financial management. As the company’s Chief Procurement Officer, Andrew was responsible for $31 billion in third-party spending associated with the global sourcing and procurement of goods and services.

Andrew joined Nationwide in February 2007 as Vice President and Chief Operations Officer for Nationwide Bank. During this time, he led the launch of the newly chartered thrift institution and was responsible for developing the operational strategy and designing a competitive advantage platform for the Bank’s operations.

The Catholic Foundation is honored for Andrew to serve as Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee and Treasurer of the Board of Trustees.
In Christ, The Catholic Foundation inspires giving and assists donors to provide for the long-term needs of the Diocese of Columbus.