

GENEROSITY PAVED THE WAY FOR NEW CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER

“YOUR CAREER STARTS HERE.”

Step through the doors of the brand-new Magoffin County Career and Technical Center (MCCTC), and you're greeted by these inspirational words. All thanks to the vision of a generous Magoffin Countian who laid the foundation for this transformative center, where futures are built and dreams come to life.

For years, Magoffin County High School (MCHS) career and technical students were bused off campus to the district's career and technical center. School leadership, including then-Principal, now-Superintendent Chris Meadows, wished the students could stay at the high school for these classes, but it seemed unachievable.

What Chris would soon learn is that nearly anything is achievable when BGCF fundholder Scotty B. Patrick is in your corner. Scotty, a lifelong benefactor of Magoffin County, wanted to do something big that would have a lasting impact for his community. After conversations with school board members, it became clear to Scotty that the high school desperately needed a new facility where students could learn valuable, hands-on career and technical skills.

Scotty pledged a charitable donation of \$5 million to help build a new, state-of-the-art career and technical center on the MCHS campus. This pledge from Scotty served as a catalyst, allowing the district to apply for a grant from Kentucky's School Facilities Construction Commission.

“In October of 2021, Gov. Andy Beshear shows up at the old building with one of those humongous cardboard checks to fill in the gap, and now here we are, owing no debt on this project,” said Chris.



MCCTC ribbon-cutting



Scotty B. Patrick



Gov. Beshear tests out state-of-the-art equipment at MCCTC.

“No financial debt, that is. We do owe a huge debt of gratitude to people willing to dream and contribute.”

Since retiring from Ashland, Inc. over two decades ago, Scotty has been intimately involved with community projects in his home county. Seeing that needs were great, but funds were lacking, Scotty took advantage of the opportunity to repay his hometown. Through his friendship with former BGCF board chair John Hall, Scotty connected with BGCF to create a community fund that would benefit Magoffin County. The Magoffin County Community Fund's impact has been extraordinary: scholarships for 200 MCHS seniors, \$1.4 million raised for local nonprofits through the annual Community Day, and numerous grants to support community projects and organizations. His most ambitious effort to date, the MCCTC, is no longer just a dream.

The community celebrated the completion of the MCCTC with a ribbon cutting ceremony and a full tour of the facility. Gov. Beshear addressed the crowd saying, “Congratulations to the Magoffin County Career and Technical Center, and a huge thank-you to Scotty Patrick, not only for stepping up and making this happen, but for making the application to the state to meet the unmet need that much more attractive.”

Scotty's early years in Magoffin County were formative and critical to his professional and personal success, making him uniquely positioned to give back and help Magoffin County students today, and for many generations to come.

When asked what's next, Scotty is always dreaming about the future. “We're not done, yet!” says Scotty. “Stay tuned.”

Whether you can give \$5, \$500 or \$5 million, BGCF is here to help make your dreams for your hometown community come true!



Visit bgcf.org/community-funds to learn more.

BGCF 365 THE POWER OF GIVING A DOLLAR A DAY **BGCF365 GRANTS \$30,000 AT THE FINALS**

BGCF365, a dynamic giving circle at BGCF for emerging philanthropists, hosted its annual grantmaking event, The Finals, on May 8 at The Melodeon in Downtown Lexington. The fast-paced event showcased three local nonprofits pitching innovative projects, vying for a total of \$30,000 in grants.

BGCF365 members selected “Connecting Communities to Resources” as the grant theme for the 2023-24 grant cycle, to highlight programs that connect Fayette County adults and families to services that help them prosper and thrive.

After a meticulous review of more than 40 exceptional project proposals, the BGCF365 Advisory Committee handpicked three finalists to present their initiatives at The Finals: GreenHouse17, Jubilee Jobs and the Marafiki Center. Each nonprofit delivered a compelling 10-minute presentation, followed by live voting from BGCF365 members to award the \$30,000 in grants. Those grant amounts and winners are:

First Place \$15,000 Grant Winner: **MARAFIKI CENTER**

The Marafiki Center creates opportunities for cross-cultural connection, building a bridge of mutual understanding through education, events and advocating for improved representation of the Swahili-speaking community. The BGCF365 grant will help the Marafiki Center expand *AfroLex Connect* — a series of professional development training and networking events aimed at supporting African refugee young adults ages 18-30 with resources to build a sustainable career and economic future.



Marafiki Center staff and volunteers

Second Place \$10,000 Grant Winner: **JUBILEE JOBS**

Jubilee Jobs offers hope to all in Fayette County who desire to work but face barriers. Its seven-step program educates people about becoming employed, helps place them in jobs and encourages them to grow beyond their initial placement. The BGCF365 grant will help launch *Breaking Barriers, Building Futures*, a new comprehensive effort to address the complex challenges hindering employment, through tailored support services, professional counseling and a data-driven approach.



BGCF365 Advisory Team members pose with grantees.

Third Place \$5,000 Grant Winner: **GREENHOUSE17**

GreenHouse17 is an advocacy agency committed to ending intimate partner abuse and its impact on families and our community. The BGCF365 grant will support its *Nature-based Work Readiness After Surviving Intimate Partner Abuse* program, through which intimate

partner abuse survivors reimagine the possibility for economic stability for themselves and their children through nature-based work readiness training.

BGCF365, an initiative of Blue Grass Community Foundation, empowers emerging philanthropists to collectively impact Fayette County. Open to givers of all ages, BGCF365 members pledge \$1 a day (\$365 annually) to BGCF365. Half of these contributions fund immediate grantmaking, while the other half is invested in a permanent endowment, ensuring ongoing support. Quarterly social and networking events foster community engagement. To date, BGCF365 has awarded \$180,000 to Lexington nonprofits.



Lexingtonians seeking to amplify their charitable impact can join BGCF365 online at bgcf.org/bgcf365. Monthly payment plans are available and all contributions are tax-deductible. Join us in making Lexington a better place for all to live, work, and play!

INNOVATE TO ELEVATE: PROGRAM UPDATE



Jubilee Jobs and the Black Male Working (BMW) Academy have hit the ground running since receiving a \$500,000 grant from BGCF and the Walton Family Foundation in January. Through their joint initiative, “Innovate to Elevate,” they’re revolutionizing education-to-workforce programs for Fayette County students in grades 6-12, and the results are already rolling in!

“Innovate to Elevate” is more than just a program; it’s a game-changer. Geared towards bridging the gap in educational and professional performance among young men of color, this effort is paving the way for success. Utilizing cutting-edge VR technology, career simulations and mentorships from Lexington’s finest, young African American men are being empowered for thriving careers in the 21st century.

The BMW students recently embarked on an eye-opening trip to Huntsville, Alabama, where they dove into the world of engineering careers and entrepreneurship. From touring a joint Mazda Toyota

manufacturing plant to learning about Boneal Aerospace, the experience was both educational and inspiring. Additionally, visits to Alabama A&M University and Grissom High School provided invaluable insights into STEAM-based education.

Back home, Jubilee Jobs introduced VR programming to BMW students and families, enhancing their understanding of the technology and its employment applications. With summer approaching, Jubilee Jobs is actively assisting students in securing meaningful jobs and internships, while also collaborating with BMW to host a mental health workshop, ensuring students enter the summer season well-equipped.

“Innovate to Elevate” will continue to make waves through 2025. With the incredible progress made in just a few short months, we can’t wait to see what the future holds! Stay tuned for more updates as this groundbreaking initiative continues to flourish.

ENDOW KENTUCKY TAX CREDITS ARE BACK!

Thanks to the Endow Kentucky Tax Credit, there has never been a better time to invest in the future of our community. Gifts to endowed charitable funds at Blue Grass Community Foundation are eligible for up to 20% in state tax credits. Unlike tax deductions, tax credits are subtracted from a donor’s tax bill, dollar for dollar. A gift of \$5,000 can reduce what you owe in state taxes by \$1,000. A gift of \$50,000 can reduce your tax bill by \$10,000. And this is in addition to your federal and state charitable tax deductions.

But these credits go fast! The Kentucky Department of Revenue begins accepting applications for Endow Kentucky Tax Credits on July 1.

All applications submitted between July 1 and July 7 are guaranteed to receive at least a prorated portion of the credit pool.

An endowment’s income provides annual support for charities and charitable causes in perpetuity. Whether it’s supporting an existing endowment at BGCF or creating one of your own, we can help.

A gift to an endowment fund is an investment in today and tomorrow.

Would you like to make a gift that qualifies for the Endow Kentucky Tax Credit? Call us at 859.225.3343 or visit bgcf.org/EndowKY to download our Endow Kentucky Tax Credit Toolkit.



ENDOWMENTS CULTIVATE LASTING IMPACT IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Warmer weather brings the excitement of outdoor activities. For many in the Bluegrass, gardening is a favorite pastime that allows for enhanced beautification of our community and, in many cases, delicious food to be enjoyed by family and friends.

Imagine yourself gardening – planting a seed today that grows into something that provides

sustenance and support for generations to come. Endowment funds are the financial seeds of philanthropy, nurturing communities with a legacy of lasting impact. Much like a well-tended garden, these funds are carefully cultivated, generating dividends that fuel charitable initiatives, support local causes and foster a brighter tomorrow.

At Blue Grass Community Foundation, we are home to 175 endowment funds dedicated to making Central and Appalachia Kentucky a better place to live, work and play. But don't take our word for it! Keep reading to learn about three amazing endowment funds hosted at BGCF and discover how they are the roots of enduring change in their communities.



“By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in youth, our communities and ourselves,” said Morehead Optimist Club president, Bill Redwine.

The support and funding efforts by the

endowment fund at BGCF, it jumped on the opportunity.

Bill explained, “We made the decision to start investing in an endowment fund that could enable us to maintain and continue our programs after many of us are gone or too old to fundraise. That endowment is now valued at more than \$500,000 and helps us meet our objectives, like an annual scholarship awarded to a graduating RCSHS student continuing their studies at Morehead State University or the Rowan Campus of MCTC.”

While raising funds and networking in the community is a joyous aspect of membership for those in the Optimist Club, Bill and his fellow club members have a clear favorite: “Everything about helping kids!”

“We are always welcoming new members,” he said, “and are happy to help others join us in these impactful endeavors!”

MOREHEAD OPTIMIST CLUB

The Morehead Optimist Club is a local chapter of Optimist International, a worldwide volunteer organization whose members work each day to make the future brighter for youth in their respective communities. The Morehead Optimist Club was founded in 1964 by a group of local business leaders and educators, and continues to flourish today, providing more than \$175,000 annually to the youth of Morehead and Rowan County.

Morehead Optimist Club in Rowan County and surrounding areas have provided a multitude of opportunities for youth in the community, such as funding numerous youth sports leagues and teams, as well as the Rowan County Senior High School speech team, theatre program and prom activities.

When the Morehead Optimist Club learned about the many benefits of starting an

If you are interested in learning more about the Morehead Optimist Club, please visit moreheadoptimist.com.



LEGACY GREENSCAPES

In 2012, the Greater Clark Foundation initiated a collaborative effort, engaging hundreds of community members of all ages to share ideas for revitalizing the former Clark Regional Medical Center site in Winchester. Community feedback emphasized the desire for an innovative public park that would prioritize fun, cleanliness, safety, inclusivity and accessibility, alongside the integration of public art and eco-friendly infrastructure.

Following years of planning and community input, the park, aptly named Legacy Grove, was officially dedicated as a legacy gift to the community by the Greater Clark Foundation in June 2021.

With the park build complete, Legacy Greenscapes (a nonprofit established in 2017 dedicated to improving access to parks and greenspace) took on the important role of



operating and maintaining Legacy Grove.

“Legacy Greenscapes wants Legacy Grove to enrich people’s lives, promote physical and emotional well-being, and provide outlets for fitness and relaxation for the widest possible audience,” said Executive Director Deborah Jackson. “Legacy Grove was designed with accessibility in mind.”

Public parks such as Legacy Grove raise the quality of life and well-being in our community. For the community members who love Legacy

Grove, making sure it’s around for many years to come is vital.

“Legacy Greenscapes’ stewardship of Legacy Grove Park and its free programs and events isn’t just about green spaces; it’s about nurturing community connections, fostering unity and enriching lives,” Deborah said. “Our endowment fund at Blue Grass Community Foundation ensures its perpetuity as a treasured space for generations to come.”

Legacy Greenscapes and Legacy Grove provide a connection to the outdoors, close-knit social groups and a source of pride for community members. Gifts made to the endowment fund will ensure the people of Clark and surrounding counties have engaging, fun and well-maintained public spaces well into the future.

To learn more about Legacy Greenscapes and Legacy Grove, visit legacygreenscapes.org.





FRIENDS OF THE LEXINGTON SENIOR CENTER

In April 2024, Forbes Health surveyed 2,000 adults at varying ages asking a simple question: Are you afraid of aging?

They reported that 53% of people are not afraid of growing old. In fact, people seem to fear aging less with each year they grow older! Many participants stated they were more excited to find new independence and experience new adventures in the next chapter of life. The Lexington Senior Center is a place where Fayette County residents who are embracing that next chapter can find new

ways to learn, move and explore – throughout their senior years!

Since 2016, the Lexington Senior Center has served as a vital hub for aging individuals, fostering dignity, independence and community engagement. Offering a diverse array of free programs tailored for Fayette residents aged 60 and above, the center consistently attracts an average of 131 new participants monthly. From arts and music to exercise, educational workshops and travel opportunities, the center provides a dynamic environment for seniors. However, sustaining these impactful programs necessitates ongoing funding and support.

That’s where the Friends of the Lexington Senior Center comes in!

“Friends of the Lexington Senior Center is here to help keep things lively by catching the little things that tend to slip through the cracks in operating budgets,” said one board member. “Little things like well-supplied art and music studios, well-maintained exercise equipment and well-stocked shelves of paper goods for purposes both practical and creative. Little things like free coffee to encourage camaraderie and conversation, and free rides so those without transportation don’t miss out on the fun. That’s what we are passionate about.”

The Friends of the Lexington Senior Center Endowment Fund was established in 2019 to help keep the “little things” abundant for the people in our community to take advantage of the Lexington Senior Center for years to come.

“We believe Lexington seniors deserve a lively place to convene, create, compete, exercise, explore, play and make the most out of life. With our endowment fund at BGCF, we are confident we can maintain this critical support.”



To learn how you can become a Friend of the Lexington Senior Center, visit lexseniorcenterfriends.org.

PLANT A SEED: GIVE TO AN ENDOWMENT

Endowment funds help nonprofits safeguard charitable dollars for the future of their work and mission. Donations to these funds, or any of the 175 endowed nonprofit funds at BGCF, are eligible for the Endow Kentucky Tax Credit.

Scan this QR code to download a full list!



For more information about endowments, or how to establish your own, contact



Lisa Adkins, President/CEO, at ladkins@bgcf.org or 859.255.3343.



HOMETOWN LEGACY

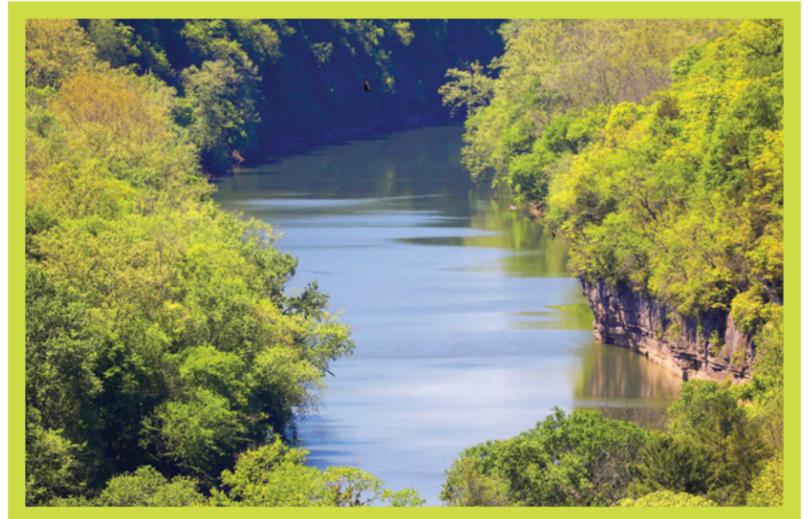
Blue Grass Community Foundation hosts a network of endowed community funds, each seeking to improve the quality of life in its geography. In partnership with local volunteer leaders, these funds work to increase charitable giving and build local charitable resources to impact each community's greatest needs and opportunities.

Contributing to your local community fund is one important way to invest together for community good.

If you live in, or love, Clark, Fayette, Franklin, Harrison, Madison, Magoffin, Rowan or Woodford counties, visit our website to learn more about endowed community funds in these counties: bgcf.org/communityfunds.

FUND FOR GREATER LEXINGTON BREAKS GROUND ON KELLEY'S LANDING

Mayor Linda Gorton, LFUCG Council members, Lexington Parks & Recreation staff, the Fund for Greater Lexington, Blue Grass Community Foundation leaders and other attendees celebrated a significant milestone with the groundbreaking ceremony for Lexington's new 30-acre riverfront park, Kelley's Landing.



Situated off Old Richmond Road, adjacent to the I-75 bridge leading into Madison County, Kelley's Landing holds historical significance, named in honor of the late John Kelley. The property, acquired by the Kelley Family in 1924, has served as the site for a general store and a recreational boat dock over the years. Now, it embarks on a new journey, poised to become a favored destination for kayakers and canoeists seeking access to the Kentucky River and captivating views of the palisades.

direction of Lexington," said Noa Gimelli, co-chair of the Fund. "With an investment of \$150,000, the Fund for Greater Lexington is thrilled to announce the selection of Gresham Smith, an outstanding and experienced design firm, to develop a master plan for Kelley's Landing. At the heart of the master plan design will be an extensive and inclusive community engagement process to ensure the park reflects the needs and wants of Lexington's residents — an important priority for the Fund for Greater Lexington."

Progress is already underway on crafting a comprehensive master plan for the park, generously funded by the Fund for Greater Lexington. Mayor Gorton expressed gratitude for the Fund's contribution, emphasizing its pivotal role in expediting the park's development while ensuring alignment with the community's aspirations.

Creating a master plan, an extensive study that is used as a guide during development, is critical to maximizing utilization of the land and ensuring the park meets the needs of the community. Help shape the future of Lexington-Fayette County's waterfront by sharing your vision for Kelley's Landing at kelleyslanding.com.

"Through the Fund for Greater Lexington's direct involvement in transformative projects like the Kelley's Landing master plan, this community endowment can contribute to the long-term vision and



Learn more about Kelley's Landing and future Fund for Greater Lexington projects at bgcf.org/fgl.



I ♥ MY COMMUNITY AND WANT TO GIVE TO THE FOLLOWING COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND:

Clark Fayette Franklin Harrison Madison Magoffin Rowan Woodford

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____ .

I commit to give \$ _____ each year for the next five years.

I would like to make my gift after July 1 to earn Endow Kentucky Tax Credits. (We will contact you with instructions.)

I would like to learn more about making my gift using stocks/other appreciated assets.

I am interested in making a gift through my estate.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

(_____)

Email Address _____

Phone Number _____



Contact Jane Higgins, Director of Community Advancement at 859.225.3343 or jhiggins@bgcf.org

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EXCEEDING THE CHALLENGE IN HARRISON COUNTY!



The Harrison County Community Fund (HCCF) kicked off the early months of 2024 with a full schedule of fundraising and community engagement.

In January, the HCCF board of directors was challenged to raise \$25,000 in six months.

Powered by their dedication and passion for Harrison County, board members rallied together to raise an astounding \$37,100 in just one week!

Although they already rose to the challenge, the fundraising didn't stop there. In February, HCCF hosted an event at Pike Street Wine House to engage the community and help folks get better acquainted with HCCF,

while raising funds for a special match challenge issued by the James and Martha Brown Foundation.

With the help of committed donors, community members and the James and Martha Brown Foundation match, HCCF raised an additional \$31,568, bringing the total raised across January and February to \$93,668! Thanks to the matching campaign, more dollars will be invested back into Harrison County for the benefit of the entire community.

Fueled by the excitement of exceeding its fundraising goal, HCCF partnered with the Cynthiana Chamber of Commerce to sponsor the Breakout Leadership Conference. The conference was designed to support and inspire leadership throughout Cynthiana and gave attendees the opportunity to learn from top leaders, network with peers and discover innovative strategies to lead with impact.

As the title sponsor of the conference, HCCF hosted a breakout session focused on the significance of giving back to Harrison County and the importance of providing sustained, annual support to provide a brighter future for all.

The Harrison County Community Fund is certainly making waves in its community and looks forward to making an even bigger splash in the last half of 2024, and beyond!



To learn more about upcoming projects and ways you can be involved with your local community fund, visit bgcf.org/community-funds

AMPLIFYING GIVING IN CLARK COUNTY!



The GoodGiving Challenge was founded by BGCF and Smiley Pete Publishing to raise awareness of, and funds for, local nonprofits. Since its

inception in 2011, the GoodGiving Challenge has become Central and Appalachia Kentucky's biggest giving event, raising over \$23 million for local causes and organizations.

One way the GoodGiving Challenge creates such a large impact is through the generosity of local donors who offer matching funds to incentivize giving. Whether seeded by family foundations, corporations, or BGCF fundholders, these match challenges make it possible for donors to maximize their contributions and impact.

One community took that idea and ran with it, changing the game for local donors and organizations across Clark County.

Since the beginning of the GoodGiving Challenge, Clark County Community Foundation (CCCF) has committed a portion of its annual grantable funds to use as matching dollars to support Clark County

nonprofits participating in the GoodGiving Challenge and to incentivize the community to give more.

The only stipulation to qualify for the match? "The nonprofit must use the funds to support Clark County," said BGCF's General Counsel/Director of Planned Giving and Clark County native Halee Cunningham. "As long as Clark County is being impacted for the better, CCCF wants to help however it can."

In 2023 alone, CCCF contributed \$214,266 in GoodGiving Challenge matching funds. Since 2011, that number well exceeds \$1 million!

"While that's a big number," said Halee, "for the Clark County Community Foundation, there is no limit to its support to make Clark County the best it can be."

Thirty organizations in Clark County participated in the 2023 GoodGiving Challenge and greatly benefited from the matching funds provided by CCCF. The total raised, including matching funds, by Clark County nonprofits was \$770,000. With the 2024 GoodGiving Challenge around the corner and the incredible generosity of our community donors, the sky's the limit!

Mark your calendars: The 2024 GoodGiving Challenge kicks off on December 3!



To learn more about how you can incentivize giving through your own matching challenge, visit [BGgives.org!](https://BGgives.org)

Blue Grass Community Foundation creates more generous, vibrant and engaged communities by growing charitable giving throughout the Bluegrass and Appalachia Kentucky.



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Online newsletter:
bgcf.org/BGCFyi

GOODGIVING

CHALLENGE

BLUE GRASS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

GOODGIVING CHALLENGE REGISTRATION IS GOING ON NOW!

The 14th annual GoodGiving Challenge kicks off on Giving Tuesday, December 3, and preparation is already underway! **Nonprofit registration is open NOW through August 30 at BGgives.org.** Charitable organizations located in Blue Grass Community Foundation's service area are encouraged to sign up for this online four-day fundraising event. The GoodGiving Challenge

has helped hundreds of organizations raise nearly \$24 million to fuel their missions of supporting animals, the arts, education, the environment, human services, youth and more!



Learn more about requirements and how to register at bgcf.org/goodgivingchallenge.

FROM LISA ADKINS

Our President's Letter

Money doesn't grow on trees; it grows in endowments! We say it all the time at the Community Foundation, because we know how true it is. This issue of BGCFyi proves the point that charitable endowments play a critical role in sustaining and enhancing the quality of life across our communities. For BGCF fundholders and donors, it's a terrific way to perpetuate one's values and priorities, create a permanent legacy and make a significant investment in the future. For nonprofit organizations, it creates an ongoing stream of income, diversifies the funding base, enhances sustainability and helps promotes more giving.

We are fortunate the state of Kentucky incentivizes endowed charitable giving at community foundations through the Endow Kentucky Tax Credit program. The team at BGCF is here to help you build your charitable legacy and invest in the communities and organizations you love. If you're interested in establishing an endowed charitable fund or applying for Endow Kentucky tax credits, don't hesitate to contact me at 859.225.3343 or ladkins@bgcf.org.



Happy Giving!

Lisa Ashner Adkins, J.D.
President/CEO