

Foundation Matters

Winter 2021

**GTCF initiative transforms
area manufacturing landmark**

Creating a Better Community for Generations to Come.


Greater Toledo
**Community
Foundation**
Strength in Giving. Hope in Action.

OUR MISSION

Greater Toledo Community Foundation — a public, charitable foundation — exists to improve the quality of life in the region by:

- Providing a flexible, informed, effective means for donors to achieve their charitable goals in perpetuity
- Addressing the changing needs of the region through efficient, prudent, high impact grantmaking
- Serving as a source of information about and as a catalyst in shaping the region's response to those needs, and
- Facilitating the work of other grantmaking organizations to achieve effective and efficient grantmaking practices

AFFILIATED COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS

Affiliated Community Foundations offer emerging and established community foundations in northwest Ohio the ability to build assets and make grants — in their local communities — while taking advantage of Greater Toledo Community Foundation's administrative structure and oversight.

- Bowling Green Community Foundation
- Greater Fostoria Community Foundation
- Henry County Community Foundation
- Ottawa County Community Foundation
- Waterville Community Foundation
- Wyandot County Community Foundation

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Below: Greater Toledo Community Foundation owns the solar array recently installed in Overland Industrial Park, on land owned by the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority.
Photo credit: Toledo Aerial Media

On the cover: Keith Burwell, president of GTCF (left), and Thomas Winston, president and CEO of the Port Authority (right), look over the property from Jeep Parkway.



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Message from the President

K E I T H B U R W E L L

Dear Friends,

Thinking outside the box became the norm during the COVID-19 pandemic. In the midst of the stay-at-home order local breweries switched from making beer to producing hand sanitizer for individuals and first responders. Toledo Plus One, an initiative created by local business professionals, helped feed overburdened first responders and keep local restaurants afloat while their doors were temporarily shuttered. The effort raised over \$70,000 in donations and 4,100 meals were delivered to area hospitals, police stations, skilled nursing facilities, and more. Nationally, major automotive manufacturers transformed their assembly lines to produce life-saving ventilators. The list goes on.

Greater Toledo Community Foundation has always encouraged organizations to shift from auto-pilot solutions to innovative strategies that lead to forward-thinking results. We've showcased one of the best examples of thinking outside the box in this newsletter—the Overland Industrial Park Solar Array. The project has transformed the original Jeep manufacturing site in Toledo, Ohio into a solar array that is producing renewable energy with the goal of supporting neighborhood reinvestment and creating resources to meet community needs.

We are fortunate to have so many individuals, organizations and businesses in our community who think strategically and push past the roadblocks that limit thinking—and progress. Your efforts have produced innovative solutions that will benefit our northwest Ohio community for years to come. We appreciate all of you and your support of Greater Toledo Community Foundation.

Sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Keith Burwell".

Keith Burwell
President
Greater Toledo Community Foundation

Area Nonprofits Enjoy Boost from GivingTuesday



▲ Pictured (l to r): Tami Matthews, interim director, Joyful Connections; Kurt Franck, president/general manager, The Blade; Keith Burwell, president, Greater Toledo Community Foundation; and Luke Reed, development director, Autism Model School.

Photo credit: The Blade/Dave Zapotosky

Even in the midst of the unprecedented pandemic, our local community responded en masse to this year's GivingTuesday, the nation's national day of giving. For the eighth year, Greater Toledo Community Foundation, in partnership with The Blade and The Center for Nonprofit Resources, encouraged area nonprofits to showcase their work on social media platforms and promote their online giving programs on

GivingTuesday. In 2020, results obtained through an online survey (65 of 99 organizations self-reported) indicated the participating nonprofits raised \$323,437.96 on this year's GivingTuesdayNWO, December 1, 2020.

GivingTuesday dovetails into the Greater Toledo Community Foundation's mission of promoting and creating philanthropy and building the capacity of nonprofits. In the weeks building up to GivingTuesday, nonprofits build awareness of their

programs, spotlight their successes through videos, photos and stories on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and other social media channels. Then, for 24 hours on GivingTuesday, the community is encouraged to donate online to the nonprofits they care passionately about.

In addition to helping nonprofits prepare for GivingTuesdayNWO, Greater Toledo Community Foundation provided \$10,000 to fund two unrestricted grants for local nonprofit organizations participating in GivingTuesdayNWO. The combined efforts of the Foundation and our local nonprofits resulted in more than \$333,000 being distributed to worthy causes in Toledo and northwest Ohio.

Two nonprofit agencies were randomly drawn from the list of those nonprofit organizations that participated in GivingTuesdayNWO 2020 and reported their results. One lucky winner was chosen to receive an award of \$5,000 from each of two categories: Small Organization and Large Organization. Those awards went to:

- **Small Organization:**
Joyful Connections
- **Large Organization:**
Autism Model School

Ken Elkins Named to New Foundation Position



▲ Ken Elkins

Ken Elkins joined the Greater Toledo Community Foundation as Chief Operations Officer & Vice President-Special Projects. He began his new role on Dec. 1.

The Chief Operations Officer at Greater Toledo Community Foundation is a new position that reports to the President and supervises the Vice

President of Philanthropic Services & Advancement, Vice President of Community Investments, Director of Marketing & Communications and the Director of The Center for Nonprofit Resources. The Chief Operations Officer is charged with meeting goals and contributing to the overall growth of the Foundation; overseeing the day-to-day operations for the organization; as well as overseeing special initiatives or projects on behalf of the Foundation.

"We are excited to announce this addition to the Foundation staff," said Zac Isaac, chair, Greater Toledo Community Foundation Board of Trustees. "Ken is the ideal candidate to serve in this important staff leadership role, and we look forward to the

contributions he will make offering his skills, experience and management style to help this organization grow."

Ken was most recently the Regional Executive Director of Big Green in Detroit, Michigan. Prior to that, he was the Chief Operating Officer of Winning Futures, a nationally recognized expert in empowering high school students to succeed.

"We are fortunate to have someone with Ken's background and experience who will contribute to the overall growth of the Foundation," said Keith Burwell president, Greater Toledo Community Foundation.

Ken obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Digital Media Production and Marketing from Ferris State University; a Certificate in Fundraising from Boston University's Nonprofit Management program; and a Certificate in Nonprofit Leadership from Northern University's Nonprofit Management program. He has significant experience in media production and served in the U.S. Navy Reserves before being honorably discharged as an E-4 rank.

"My goal has been, and will continue to be, to help build communities where all have the opportunity, resources and power needed to thrive," said Ken. "I look forward to joining this dynamic team and to furthering the mission of creating a better community for generations to come."

Get the Latest Email Updates



If you have changed your email address, please let us know so we can update our records and get news to you quickly. Simply email Laura@toledocf.org and type "Update Email" in the subject line so we can record your email address.

Follow us on Social Media

Make sure you get the latest news about our northwest Ohio community and upcoming grant opportunities. Follow the Foundation's Facebook account: [facebook.com/](https://facebook.com/toledocf) and join us on LinkedIn. We welcome your comments and questions. Also visit us on the web at toledocf.org. You'll find important information about upcoming grant opportunities, creating a fund, making an online donation and more.





Photo credit: Toledo Aerial Media

It's looking brighter—figuratively and literally—at the old Jeep manufacturing site in North Toledo off I-75. The 80-acre site, once home to the 96-year old Jeep plant, has sat dormant since the plant was closed in 2006 when manufacturing shifted to a new Chrysler assembly plant nearby.

The old site, where over 11 million vehicles were produced since 1910, has a shining new purpose—acting as a 21,000-panel solar field that will generate clean, renewable energy for Dana Incorporated's adjacent 300,000 square foot axle assembly operation.

Solar Field Generates

The sale of the energy to Dana will simultaneously support neighborhood reinvestment and create resources to meet the needs of the surrounding neighborhoods.

“The switch has been flipped, energy is flowing and revenue is starting to build,” said Keith Burwell, president of Greater Toledo Community Foundation (GTCF).

The solar project, over four years in the making, represents one of the largest business, government and community collaborations in northwest Ohio's history.



provided by GEM Energy, JDRM Engineering, Mannik Smith Group and TTL Associates. The installation of solar panels on the South Site was completed in August 2020.

“This type of collaboration to deliver a sustainable community investment is unprecedented,” said Keith. First Solar’s responsibly-produced solar module technology has the lowest carbon and water footprints of any solar technology available today, and will generate enough power to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide by more than 1,600 tons, or the equivalent of removing more than 300 cars from the

manufacturing — including development, construction, operations and the nation’s premier solar recycling facility — Ohio has it all.”

“Solar power is working for communities and businesses across the United States. Renewable energy projects are in the forefront of cutting-edge solutions that meet multiple economic and environmental concerns, said Jason Slattery, director of solar, GEM Energy. “Projects like Overland, which involve numerous partners with significant ties to the community, demonstrate how success can be achieved through broad-based collaboration.”

“The switch has been flipped, energy is flowing and revenue is starting to build.”

—Keith Burwell, GTCF President

erates Power, Revenue and Hope

The 2.5-megawatt solar array owned by GTCF was developed across two sites in Toledo’s Overland Industrial Park – the North Site and South Site. Preparation of the land for installation of racking to hold the solar panels on the North Site started in September 2019, racking was installed, and solar panels started being installed in June 2020. By July 2020, the North Site was completed with solar modules provided by the largest American solar technology manufacturer, First Solar, Inc.; inverters provided by Yaskawa Solectria Solar; and design and construction services

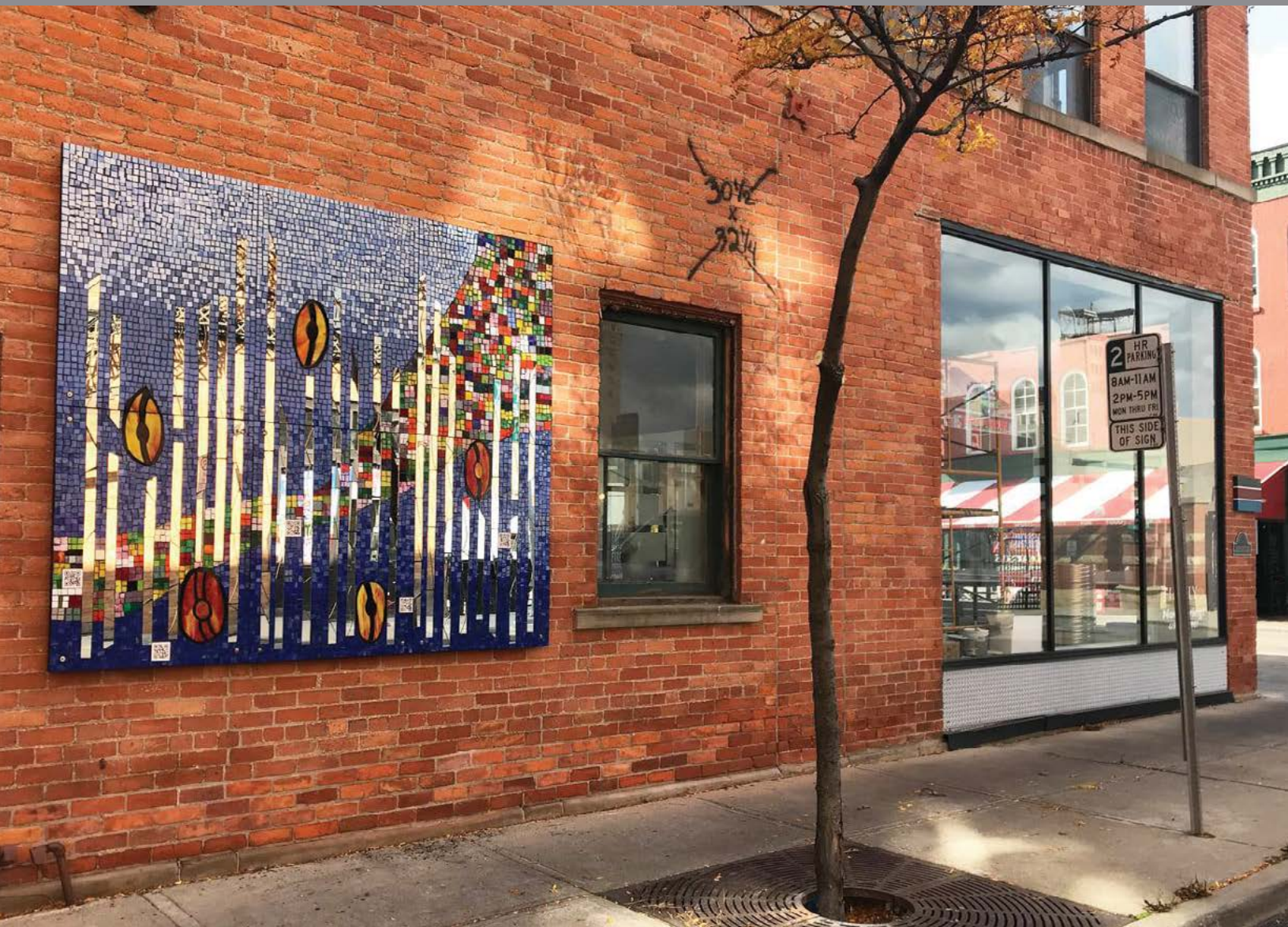
roadways each year. The company originated in the Toledo area and operates the Western Hemisphere’s largest solar manufacturing footprint across two factories in Perrysburg and Lake Township, Ohio.

“We’re thrilled that this important project is powered by technology that was developed in the Toledo area,” said Michael Koralewski, chief manufacturing operations officer, First Solar. “The project serves as an important reminder not just of the role that responsible solar can play in energizing our communities, but of the fact that Ohio is the home of American solar. From R&D to

The solar array was tested on Sunday, December 13, 2020, in coordination with Toledo Edison, the Interconnecting Utility and the array began to generate electricity and help the adjacent community.

The electricity will be purchased by Dana’s Toledo Driveline facility, located in the park. Revenue from the sale of electricity will be invested in the Solar Toledo Neighborhood Foundation of the Greater Toledo Community Foundation, and grants will be awarded to local nonprofit

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A Mosaic Helps Shatter the Stigma of Mental Illness

There is power in art. In creating it. In viewing it. In thinking about it.

Recognizing the impact art can have on mental health, the Zepf Center recently received funding from the David C. and Lura M. Lovell Foundation Designated Fund of the Greater Toledo Community Foundation to have local artist Gail Christofferson create community murals to address the issues many face with mental illness. The Lovell Foundation awards grants to nonprofit organizations whose programming seeks to reduce the stigma around living with and seeking services for a mental health issue.

“Gail’s murals are one of the most unusual projects to come before the Lovell Foundation,” said Francine Lawrence, member of the Lovell Foundation’s Board of Advisors for over 25 years. “The murals are a remarkable way of using the arts to engage with those who are homeless and mentally ill.”

The murals address the stigma related to mental illness. They are located on the City Paper Building on Adams and 12th Streets and on the corner of Perry and N. St. Clair Streets, both in downtown Toledo. Five Zepf Center clients created self-portraits on the City Paper mural. Portraits of Abe Lincoln and Vincent Van Gogh, who both dealt with mental illness, are also included in the mural. The Perry Street mural focuses on an interactive approach with 3-D printed QR codes. Those viewing the mural can use the codes to get more information on mental health.

“The goal of the murals is to help start a conversation about mental illness, said Deb Flores, chief executive officer, Zepf Center. “And when you start to talk about it and understand it, you help remove the stigma that is often attached to it.”

“It takes different modalities to engage people,” said Deb. “This project brought together more than 50 clients from our Safety Net (youth homeless shelter), Adult Case Management, Adult Art Services and First Episode Psychosis, as well as members of our MOMS group, who helped piece the mosaic together.”

Showcasing the murals in downtown Toledo was also deliberate, with the goal of placing them in areas of heavy foot traffic to engage as many people as possible.

“The murals helped instill a sense of pride in those who contributed to it,” added Francine. “The murals will forever be a tribute to the artists who deal with mental illness and helped create them. They are also a lasting tribute to the Lovell family and all they have done to help bring awareness to the challenges associated with mental illness.”

Francine serves as the local liaison to the Lovell Foundation who has maintained its commitment to meeting mental health needs in the Toledo area although Lovell family members no longer live in Ohio.

“The relationship between the Lovell Foundation and Greater Toledo Community Foundation has been very satisfying and productive,” said Francine. “Chris Dziad, program officer with the Foundation, has been the perfect point person to work with. It’s been a flawless process.”



▲ Mosaic artist Gail Christofferson examines photos of the newly completed installation at the City Paper Building.

Why give?

Explore with us the many benefits of managing your charitable giving with a Greater Toledo Community Foundation fund.



▲ Aparna and Chris Brown with their twin daughters.

“We know we can’t fix everything, but we can choose a corner of the world and do something to help.”

—Chris Brown

Local Financial Manager Has Many Reasons for Giving

Chris Brown can list several reasons he decided to create the Aristides Capital Charitable Fund/Donor Advised Fund with Greater Toledo Community Foundation in 2015.

Some have to do with the ease of working with the Foundation, others are related to tax benefits, but most simply fall into the “it’s the right thing to do” category.

“There is an emotional perk to being able to give to organizations knowing that it helps balance what the world needs now with what the world also needs in the future,” said Chris, founder of Aristides Capital LLC, an SEC Registered Investment Adviser which manages two long/short equity hedge funds.

Chris and his wife created the donor advised fund at GTCF with the goal of helping fund numerous nonprofits that align with their interests in community needs. Over the past five years, they have helped fund Leading Families Home, which serves individuals and families experiencing homelessness, along with organizations that assist with civil liberties, sex workers’ rights, transgender rights, and basic human needs like food and health care.

“I really like the premise of the donor advised fund,” said Chris. “It’s reassuring to know that you can set aside money without knowing exactly what you want to do with it immediately, but you know that Greater Toledo Community Foundation will help you research your areas of interest and identify nonprofits that serve those interests when we are ready to disburse the funds.”

“The need is great in so many areas right now with a large division in income and equality,” he said. “There are a tremendous number of people who can’t pay their rent, don’t have a job, or even a home. We know we can’t fix everything, but we can choose a corner of the world and do something to help.”

“And when you are ready to make your gift, the Greater Toledo Community Foundation is right there, ready to assist you. They are familiar with which nonprofit organizations are leading certain initiatives in the community and can align them with your interests and objectives.”

“Knowing the Foundation has done all the homework helps us to be confident that the nonprofits we support are meeting our donor goals.”

Chris, a former Air Force doctor who became a hedge fund manager, has found the donor advised fund process with Greater Toledo Community Foundation so helpful, he’s recommended the Foundation to colleagues who were also interested in creating donor funds.

Chris, who said he’s grateful for the background he had and the ability to choose careers and a life he enjoys, believes giving back makes sense for the greater good of the community and the country.

“The stability of our society is really in everyone’s self-interest,” said Chris. “If we can help, we should. We’re all in the same place. If everyone succeeds, our society succeeds.”



Foundation Dollars at Work



After-School
All-Stars

Community Fund Grants

The **After-School All-Stars** organization was one of eight nonprofits to receive a grant recently from the Greater Toledo Community Foundation's Community Funds. The After-School All-Stars received \$50,000 in funding to support afterschool programming at three Lucas County Metropolitan Housing complexes. The nonprofit provides comprehensive afterschool programs that keep children safe and help them succeed in school and in life. Its vision is for the "All-Stars" to graduate high school and college, find careers they love, and then give back to their communities. The most recent round of Community Funds totaled \$300,687. Other recipients were:

- **Boys & Girls Clubs of Toledo – \$50,000** to support the Growing Futures Together project, which is a collaborative initiative between First Tee of Lake

Erie and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Toledo that will offer leadership development, homework help, tutoring support and recreational opportunities for young people in the Rogers High School district of southwest Toledo.

- **Diabetes Youth Services – \$4,021** to coordinate peer support services for families whose children have been newly diagnosed with type 1-diabetes.
- **Foundation Center – \$9,734** to support programming for nonprofits in northwest Ohio.
- **Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio – \$110,382** to support the Advanced Care Planning program.
- **Lucas County Sheriff's Office Drug Abuse Response Team – \$41,550** to conduct an independent evaluation of the Lucas County DART program.

- **Midstory – \$10,000** to support a multimedia storytelling program that generates solution-oriented research for national audiences and connects young professionals to the Toledo-area.
- **So All May Eat dba SAME Café – \$25,000** to launch a nonprofit restaurant based on a successful model in Denver that supports low-income and homeless clients.

Stranahan Supporting Organization

HOPE Toledo (Helping Our Population Educate) received \$50,000 in funding from the Stranahan Supporting Organization to support its Pre-K Initiative. HOPE Toledo was started by the Kadens Family Foundation with the hope of creating a groundswell movement to ensure that all under-resourced public school children in Toledo, Ohio would have access and opportunity as it relates to post-secondary education upon high school graduation. HOPE Toledo was one of 10 organizations who received grants totaling \$332,628 from the Stranahan Supporting Organization. The other nonprofit recipients were:

- **Bittersweet Farms – \$20,000** to support the agricultural-based vocational program for adults with autism.
- **Boys & Girls Clubs of Toledo – \$49,628** to support the Growing Futures Together project.
- **Catholic Charities – \$25,000** to support the Opportunity Kitchen.
- **Cherry Street Mission Ministries – \$12,000** to support staffing costs of temporary kitchen personnel.
- **Lucas Housing Services Corporation – \$31,000** to support the Bridge to Independence and Success program.
- **Partners In Education – \$50,000** to support provision of the College & Career Ready, Set, Go program at Washington Local Schools.
- **Pathway, Inc. – \$50,000** to support the Sisters United program.

- **Toledo School for the Arts – \$25,000** to support the Overland Solar Sculpture Garden Project.
- **Tutor Smart – \$20,000** to support tutoring services.

Sisters of St. Francis Foundation Fund

A \$35,209 grant from the Sisters of St. Francis Foundation gave the **Arts Commission of Greater Toledo** additional support for its Arts and Community Conversations project. The Arts Commission is the longest-standing arts commission in the state of Ohio, serving youth, artists, arts organizations and the general public.

The grant was one of 14 totaling \$477,906 from The Sisters of St. Francis (Sylvania) Foundation Donor Advised Fund. The other area nonprofits who received funding include:

- **Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. – \$50,000** to support the Immigration Advocacy Project.
- **Advocating Opportunity – \$49,697** to support legal and social advocacy services for victims of human trafficking.
- **Habitat for Humanity - Maumee Valley – \$25,000** to support the home repair program.
- **Habitat for Humanity of Lenawee County – \$5,000** to support the home repair loan program.
- **Heartbeat of Toledo – \$40,000** to support the Your First Look program.
- **Inclusive for Women, Inc. dba Women of Toledo – \$16,750** to support the Responsive Advocacy Initiatives project.
- **La Conexion – \$28,000** to support the Immigrant Rights project.
- **The Ability Center of Greater Toledo – \$40,000** to support the Social Justice Now Initiative.
- **The Cocoon – \$16,500** to support services for survivors of sex trafficking.
- **The Mareda Center, Inc. – \$41,750** to support the Equity in Education Project.

- **US Together, Inc.** – **\$50,000** to support mental health services for refugees.
- **Water for Ishmael** – **\$30,000** to support the American School for Women program.
- **Zepf Center** – **\$50,000** to support the Safety Net Emergency Shelter programming for youth at risk of human trafficking exploitation.

Community Resilience Fund

Nearly all nonprofits struggled throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly as new protocols and advisements halted large fundraising events and other activities that often generate significant funds for organizations. Greater Toledo Community Foundation created the Community Resilience Fund to help nonprofits continue to offer services through the pandemic recovery. The Foundation awarded the second round of grants totaling \$64,974 and the third and final round of grants totaling \$100,650 from its Community Resilience Fund. Combined with the grants announced in early September, this brought the total granted from this fund to \$247,824.

Among the recent recipients was **Anne Grady Services** which received a Community Resilience grant to support an employment program for developmentally disabled participants. Anne Grady Services works to enable individuals to experience lives of dignity and respect, by offering the highest quality care possible to individuals with intellectual disabilities.

Community Resilience Fund grants were also awarded to:

- **Adelante** – to upgrade the organization’s communications system.
- **After-School All-Stars** – to transition service delivery to residential locations through a partnership with Lucas Metropolitan Housing.
- **Arts Commission of Greater Toledo** – to support the capacity building project.
- **Children’s Theatre Workshop** – to support collaboration programming among three theatrical companies designed to explore long-term partnerships in the sector.



Anne Grady Center

- **Girl Scouts of Western Ohio** – to support the technology upgrades needed to offer programming in a virtual format.
- **Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio** – to launch a collaborative approach to advanced care planning.
- **Lutheran Social Services of Northwest Ohio** – to support technology costs required to transition to a telehealth service delivery for mental health programming.
- **Team Recovery** – to transition to a virtual approach to supporting family members of recovering addicts.
- **Toledo Opera** – to support the transition from large theatrical productions to a small-scale troupe model utilizing resident artists.

- **Toledo Repertoire Company dba Toledo Repertoire Theater** – to support a collaboration with two other performing arts groups to transition to virtual performances.
- **Water for Ishmael** – to support the American School for Women program.
- **YMCA and JCC of Greater Toledo** – to support transitioning the Wayman Palmer location into a community hub.

ProMedica Junction Neighborhood Fund

With nearly \$1.7 million in new grant funding, 13 area nonprofits will focus on education and training, basic needs, health and wellness, stable housing, and jobs and training in the Junction neighborhood. The ProMedica Junction Neighborhood Fund awarded grants totaling \$1,675,000 to the nonprofits.

The **Toledo Museum of Art** received \$126,000 to support afterschool programming through the **education and training** portion of the grant. Other recipients of education and training funds included:

- **Girls on the Run** – \$31,500
- **Girl Scouts of Western Ohio** – \$15,000

Urban Wholistics received \$72,000 from the ProMedica Junction Neighborhood fund to help **neighborhood environmental health**. Urban Wholistics produces life-giving herbs and food by creating local food hubs that give residents an opportunity to sell handmade items, fresh produce, and allow community members to buy them.

In the **jobs and finances** area, the **Zepf Center** received \$185,000 to help support workforce development and financial literacy and counseling. Other recipients of jobs and finances funds were:

- **Art Tatum Zone** – \$300,000
- **Junction Coalition** – \$50,000

To support homelessness prevention, homeownership, repairs and renovations and to help promote **stable housing**, the following nonprofits received funding:

- **Ability Center** – \$50,000
- **Art Tatum Zone** – \$100,000
- **Habitat for Humanity – New Build Project** – \$127,000
- **Habitat for Humanity – Rehab Project** – \$155,000
- **Lucas Housing Services Corporation** – \$141,500
- **Zepf Center** – \$70,000

The **Martin Luther King Center Kitchen for the Poor**, which received \$140,000 in funding, was one of three organizations to receive funds related to **basic needs**, including food, childcare, transportation, and other services. Additional recipients were:

- **Family House** – \$62,000
- **Neighborhood Health Association** – \$50,000



Toledo Museum of Art



Strategic Alliance Partnership Grants

Greater Toledo Community Foundation recently awarded Strategic Alliance Partnership grants totaling \$32,400 to two nonprofit organizations.

Strategic Alliance Partnership grants support programs that create cost savings or service enhancements; programs that strengthen infrastructure, management capacity or service delivery by supporting alliances among nonprofit organizations; and programs that encourage collaborative partnerships that employ comprehensive strategies to strengthen community systems.

Recipients of recent Strategic Alliance Partnership grants were:

- **Sylvania STEM Center – \$12,000** to support exploration of a proposed merger with Sylvania Arts and Sylvania Recreation Corporation, Inc.
- **United Way of Greater Toledo – \$20,400** to support exploration of the potential merging of organizational strategies with Aspire Toledo.

Call Before Submitting

Have questions about a proposal you are considering? The program team of Greater Toledo Community Foundation is happy to answer any questions you may have. Feel free to call us at **419.241.5049** before applying.

Upcoming Grant Deadlines

Community Initiative Fund — Shared Services Alliance	April 1, 2021
Andersons Fund Supporting Organization	April 15, 2021
First Solar	May 1, 2021
Community Builder	July 15, 2021
Community Impact	July 15, 2021

Watch the grants page for open funding opportunities at toledocf.org/grants-2/.

Foundation Initiatives

How Greater Toledo Community Foundation is shaping philanthropy and strengthening our communities



"Spark" Continues to Ignite Ideas Among Young Philanthropists

The second cohort of SPARK, a new affinity group of Greater Toledo Community Foundation that engages groups of new, young philanthropists, hasn't let COVID-19 dampen their enthusiasm or commitment.

Comprised of 11 individuals representing a variety of business sectors in the Greater Toledo area, the SPARK cohort met virtually in January to learn about the philanthropic work of a community foundation, how donor advised funds are created and managed, and discuss their interests in different philanthropic areas. The group of future philanthropists decided on education and health and human services as their areas of focus for this year. As with the first cohort, each member invests an agreed upon amount in the group with a goal of awarding a grant to a nonprofit in April.

Emma Barrasso, a member of the second SPARK cohort, said, "It has been really informative to learn the fundamentals of grantmaking. The thing I have enjoyed most so far is learning about the amazing support among organizations in the greater Toledo area. I've been introduced to a handful of organizations that are doing important work and I look forward to understanding what they

need to better serve the community."

"I joined SPARK to meet a likeminded group of young professionals," Emma said. "Being new to the area, I was looking for a way to branch out beyond work; SPARK has been a great fit for my interests and the cohort is great!"

"This group of next generation philanthropists tend to dive deep into the nonprofits they are interested in," said Jesse Stock, philanthropic services coordinator, Greater Toledo Community Foundation. "Next generation philanthropists like to take an active role in the organizations they support, going beyond the donation element – they strive to maximize the impact of their philanthropic dollars."

"The SPARK initiative is much more than deciding which organizations will receive a grant," said Jesse. "A larger part of the program is allowing the participants to determine what they want to learn and take away from the process. Whether it's enhancing critical thinking or developing a better understanding of issues our community faces, we're here to help them understand philanthropy as an ongoing mission and the role they can play in the future."

2020 SPARK Cohort

Carter Bayer	Kate Matz
Morgan Bayer *	Colin McHugh
Jim Bingle *	Yasmeen Moore
Matt Bryant	Stefanie Schoviak
Heather Hall	Desmond Strooh *
Tim Hanson *	Bob Tucker
Allie Isaac	

2021 SPARK Cohort

Emma Barrasso	Amy Luck
Melina Bast	Mona Rafeeq
Nicholas Cosentino	Juli Seiwert
Molly Findley	Nicole Susdorf
Nicole Howe	Josh Unice
Aaron Lewandowski	

*Spark steering committee member



Heather Bradley,
Director

The Center *for nonprofit resources*

Training and resources to improve the impact of

Certificate Program Offers Executive Leadership Training for Minorities

The Center for Nonprofit Resources is a capacity building resource for local nonprofit organizations. If you are involved with a local nonprofit organization, be sure to familiarize yourself with the resources provided at c4npr.org, including the grant resource center, workshops and professional development opportunities, and other resources and tools to help your organization grow in its mission. If you have any questions about the services provided by The Center, contact Heather Bradley, Director, at 419.241.9513 or email Heather@c4npr.org.

Kenneth Chenault, former CEO of American Express and the third African American CEO of a Fortune 500 Company, said “dedicate yourself to a core set of values. Without them, you will never be able to find personal fulfillment, and you will never be able to lead effectively.”

Along with core values, becoming an effective nonprofit leader is a learning process that requires skills in board governance, fundraising, financial management, human resources, and a myriad of other competencies. The Center for Nonprofit Resources has offered a Minority Executive Leadership (MEL) Certificate Program since 2013 that trains emerging minority nonprofit leaders in these skills and more. Since its inception, 62 individuals have completed the program. In 2020, creative modifications to the program were needed during a time of COVID-19 to be flexible yet maintain the integrity of the experience. Six area nonprofit minority professionals graduated from the program in the 2020 cohort. “I found the portions of the program dedicated to fiscal accountability, fundraising and addressing conflict of interests the most helpful,” said Duane Herron, project manager, Northwest Ohio Pathways HUB, Hospital Council of NW Ohio and 2020 MEL graduate.



“Even more helpful was looking at ways to fundraise.”

“All elements of this program were incredibly helpful to me,” said Danielle Johnson, development and alumni relations manager, Leadership Toledo and 2020 MEL graduate. “I am new to the nonprofit sector so this information was vital to my current position as a Development Manager. I am using my skills to my advantage and the advantage of my organization.”

The Minority Executive Leadership program includes a mentorship segment to help guide the participants and provide ongoing support systems.

“Working with my mentor was the highlight of the entire program,” said Duane. “I’ve not only gained a mentor, but a professional colleague. We are both writers and our careers parallel one another. This made the relationship even more meaningful. Because she’s been at nonprofit management and consulting much longer than me, I

▼ MEL Certificate Program participants met virtually to close out the 2020 program.



found her insights and assignments valuable. She's pushed me closer towards my goals and for that I am beyond grateful."

"My mentor was a business owner and entrepreneur in Toledo," said Danielle. "His perspective was so unique and he helped me to see my job from a different point of view, which was incredibly beneficial. Being in the nonprofit world, I am always running into and networking with others in nonprofits so having the outlook on fundraising and working with people from an entrepreneur's standpoint was invaluable." "I'd recommend the Minority Executive Leadership program to any professional," said Duane. "Even after twenty years, I am still learning new things."

Persons interested in the Minority Executive Leadership program can watch for announcements of new cohorts in The Center for Nonprofit Resource's e-newsletter and check the website: c4npr.org.

Solar Field Generates Power, Revenue and Hope *continued from page 5*

organizations to focus on development of the neighborhoods surrounding Overland Industrial Park.

"Dana has a rich history in Toledo, and our employees and retirees are a core part of the fabric of this community," said Doug Liedberg, senior vice president, general counsel and chief compliance and sustainability officer for Dana Incorporated. "This investment allows us to leverage sustainable energy – an important part of our long-term goal of reducing our greenhouse gas emissions globally by more than 50 percent by 2035 – while simultaneously supporting the continued development of a vibrant community around our facility."

The solar array is expected to generate more than \$300,000 annually. The funds are projected to be available at the end of 2021 for distribution to local nonprofit organizations working to better the neighborhoods surrounding the Overland Industrial Park. Grant amounts will be determined by the amount of energy Dana uses on an annual basis less any operating expenses for the solar array, such as insurance and ongoing maintenance. Once revenue is received from the sale of energy, a grants committee comprised of both community leaders and neighborhood residents will recommend the grant awards, followed by approval of the Board of the Solar Toledo Neighborhood Foundation of the Greater Toledo Community Foundation.

Overland Industrial Park, which is home to Dana's Toledo Driveline Facility, Detroit Manufacturing Systems, All Phase Electric and now the new solar array, is nearly complete, as two parcels remain for development.

"We're very proud to be a partner in such an impactful initiative," said Thomas J. Winston, president and CEO of the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority. "Instead of the floodplain portion of the site being used primarily for greenspace, we've worked with our local partners to innovatively utilize the land and creatively develop a resource for investment into the surrounding community."

"Toledo has previously been called 'The Silicon Valley of Solar Energy' and Ohio was identified years ago as a leader in the nation for alternative energy development," Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz said. "Toledo is indeed leading the nation as one of the world's top producers and researchers of clean, green, renewable, alternative energy, and I am very proud of this innovative and collaborative project, which has taken the former Jeep site and transformed it into a solar array to produce clean, renewable energy, while also supporting neighborhood reinvestment."

"This is a milestone for this project – and an exciting one," stated Keith Burwell, president of Greater Toledo Community Foundation. "Thanks are due to all of the partners in this project for making it become a reality. It has been years in the making, but will support our community long into the future."

New Videos Explain How to Start a Fund

Have questions about starting a fund with Greater Toledo Community Foundation? Go to our website — www.toledocf.org — and check out our new short videos on Charitable Giving Funds, Legacy Funds and IRA Rollovers. These brief videos will help you understand the ease of creating a fund with the Foundation — your first step in joining more than 900 other individuals, families and businesses who have created a unique charitable giving partnership with GTCF to improve the quality of life in communities.

