



SISTERS of CHARITY  
FOUNDATION  
OF CANTON

CELEBRATING  
*20 Years*

*Together,*  
WE CAN DO  
*Great Things!*

— MOTHER TERESA

— 2016 ANNUAL REPORT —



# Celebrating 20 Years of Focused Intentional Giving

Each year, the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton receives dozens of requests. While each has merit, our Foundation is strategic in its giving, directing funds to three categories of need. This report provides examples of the programs we fund.

Dear Friends,

As the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton celebrates 20 years of focused intentional giving, we thank the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine for the opportunity to serve and to stand in kinship with the poor and underserved in our community. We are grateful for the Sisters' generosity, we are inspired by their vision, and we embrace their commitment to improving the lives of those whom we serve.



We celebrate those with whom the Foundation has collaborated to serve our mission. Our partners have worked with us to tirelessly support programs that improve the lives of those in need. Some have given of their time, some of their talent, and some of their treasure—but all have given in communion with the Foundation in service to others. Our partnerships are examples of the power of compassion and kinship through collaboration.

The Board is grateful for our talented staff members, who have so passionately and faithfully carried out the mission of the Foundation. We are inspired by their innovative programming and willingness to collaborate with others. We are also proud of the Foundation-led initiatives they championed, and the local, state, and national reach of their efforts.

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve on the Board and I thank my fellow Board members, who have been so gracious in giving of their time and talent to preserve and promote the values of the Foundation. Although we come from varied backgrounds, we are united in service of the mission.

As we look forward to the next twenty years, please know that those of us who have served in this ministry are grateful, humbled, and cognizant of the truth behind Mother Teresa's words, "together, we can do great things."

Sincerely,

Judge Sara Lioi  
Board Chair

Dear Friends,

This report, marking our 20th anniversary, is an opportunity to say thank you. We are most grateful to our founders and spiritual guides, the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine. In an early press release, congregational leader Sr. Judith Ann Karam was quoted as saying, "When our new foundation ministry was established, it was our dream to develop initiatives which would have the potential to create systemic change to improve the lives of the underserved." Our work has been guided by that vision.



We have been consistently blessed with a strong, committed, and caring Board of Directors. The Board's support, paired with the drive and dedication of our small but mighty staff, makes for an unstoppable combination. It is truly an honor to work alongside all of you.

We are extremely proud of all of our work—whether we played a small or large role, whether we led or followed, whether we were successful or struggled. Each time, we've narrowed our focus, identified potential partners, built on the assets of this community, brought in national experts when needed, and recognized and honored the amazing work already going on all around us.

It seems fitting, as we mark two decades of focused intentional giving, that I thank Vicki Conley, the Foundation's founding director. Vicki's leadership helped set the course for our work from the start. As she stated in our very first press release, "Our goal is that the Foundation will work with others to strengthen the fabric of our community." Thank you, Vicki. And rest assured, that goal remains the same today.

Sincerely,

Joni T. Close  
President

## FOUNDATION-LED INITIATIVES

**The goal:** Develop and hone programs focused on systemic change.

Early Childhood . . . . .	4
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## STRATEGIC COLLABORATIONS

**The goal:** Join with others to launch programs that enhance efficiency in community services.

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## RESPONSIVE EFFORTS

**The goal:** Address short-term human needs in our community.

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A comprehensive list of programs supported by the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton in 2016

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## CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Two decades of focused intentional giving

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# Ready Schools: Engaging the Community

Mother Teresa said, "together, we can do great things." She was right. Schools are finding that when they work together with the community, it's transformative.

The Ohio Ready Schools Initiative is the result of a 2006 partnership between the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton, the Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators, and the Ohio Department of Education's Office of Early Learning and Readiness.

Initially, eight elementary schools participated in a two-year Ready Schools pilot project funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. In subsequent years, the work was supported by the Sisters of Charity Foundation and other funders. Today, there are 52 Ready Schools in Ohio.

**What is a Ready School?** For children, a Ready School must be ready to respond to the learning needs of all; ready to look beyond risk factors and build upon social,

emotional, physical, and cognitive skills; and ready to make a decisive difference in every child's life.

Just as important, a Ready School is the heart of a neighborhood, integral to the lives of families. The school's culture welcomes, honors, and connects with families. When families feel welcomed into schools, they're far more likely to be engaged in their children's learning. They're also far more likely to actively partner with teachers to focus together on their children's educational goals. That engagement has a lasting effect on children's success, both in school and beyond.

Ready Schools reach out to and collaborate with preschools, care providers, and community resources like local libraries and the SPARK kindergarten readiness program to ensure children make smooth transitions from home and early learning settings into the elementary environment.

They also reach out beyond their own communities: Ready Schools connect with other Ready Schools to learn from each other about what works and what doesn't. Networking is a critical part of the process; no one school has all the answers, and sharing strengthens every school's efforts.

To learn more, visit [ohioreadyschools.org](http://ohioreadyschools.org)



## McGregor Elementary Readiness in Action

Outreach activities are a little different at each Ready School. At McGregor Elementary in Canton, Principal Annie Arvidson lives and breathes her Ready School philosophy, eagerly reaching out to families every chance she gets. She considers the school and the parents to be one big team.

Principal Arvidson says, "we try to welcome in the entire community and have had father's walks, a Veteran's Day celebration (where we invited family members who have served into the school), celebrations of the children, and events that create bridges between reading skills and home."

She sees great attendance by parents at school events, which alternate between celebrating the achievements of the children and equipping parents with ways to keep the learning going at home. One such event focused on inexpensive learning games parents could make as holiday gifts for their children.

She also works to ensure that the school meets the needs of individual families, such as using smartphone technology to help a parent through the long, complicated process of creating an individualized education plan for a child with special needs.

Is the effort worth it? According to Principal Arvidson, absolutely. Getting the parents involved "changes your world."



Together  
WE SUCCEED





## HOMELESSNESS

# Housing the Work of Housing the People

Addressing homelessness has long been a team effort in Stark County. The work is complex. It requires input and participation from many social service sectors and a great deal of oversight and buy-in from elected officials and community leaders.

Stark County receives almost \$3 million in funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for efforts related to homelessness. To qualify for funding, the community must have a local Continuum of Care group consisting of representatives from a wide array of relevant organizations. Stark County's

"I would consider this work the 'poster child' for collaboration: we have shown that counties and cities can work together."

— County Commissioner Janet Weir Creighton

# Together

## WE TRANSFORM

Continuum has more than 75 members, an 18-member board, and various committees that fulfill a multitude of responsibilities as assigned by HUD.

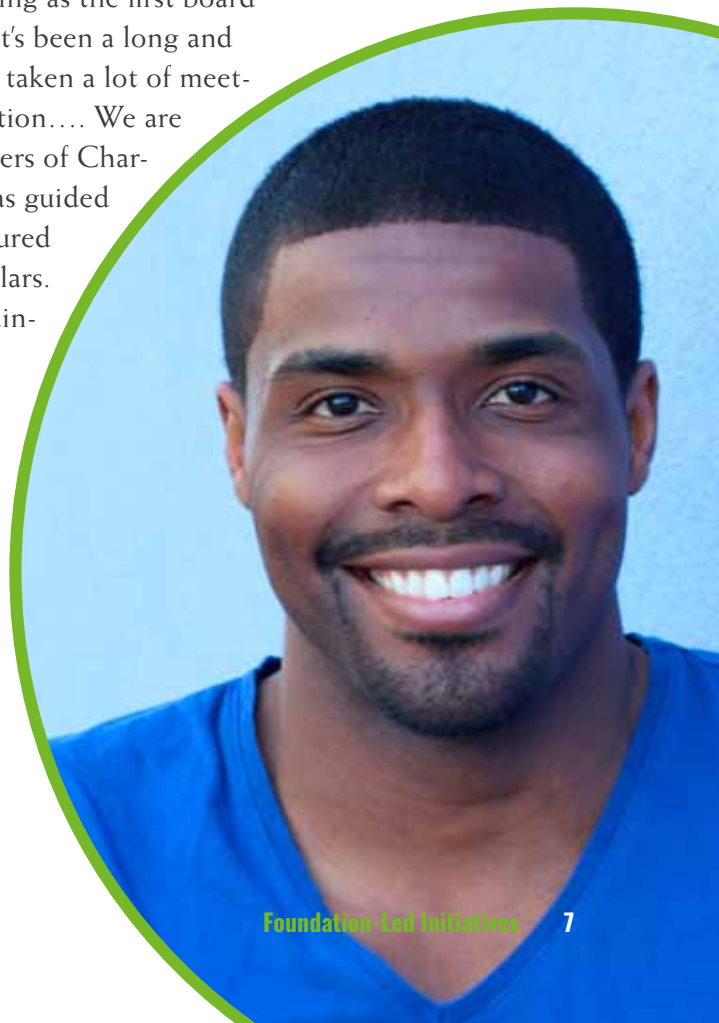
Our local Continuum has long relied on the sustained efforts of multiple organizations and community leaders volunteering their time and talents to meet HUD requirements. The structure as it stood was unsustainable.

After several months of planning and multiple meetings with mayors, commissioners, foundations, and business leaders, the decision was made to develop a permanent organizational structure. The result? A new nonprofit organization: Stark Housing Network, Inc.

Kurt Williams is Stark Housing Network's newly hired Executive Director; he will answer to the Network's board of elected officials and community leaders. His experience as a licensed social worker and in senior-level operational roles for a large Pennsylvania behavioral health organization will be instrumental

to the Network's success. Kurt assures us that he looks forward to "furthering the mission of the Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County by committing our service to the individuals and families experiencing homelessness."

County Commissioner Janet Weir Creighton is serving as the first board chair. She says, "It's been a long and winding road; it's taken a lot of meetings and cooperation.... We are fortunate the Sisters of Charity Foundation has guided the work and secured the necessary dollars. Our goal is to maintain and to allow our new director to take charge. I would consider this work the 'poster child' for collaboration: we have shown that counties and cities can work together."







FOOD SECURITY

# Pegasus Farm: Gardens Expansion

In 1985, three special education teachers established Pegasus Farm to provide equine therapy for individuals with disabilities.

During any given week, more than 200 clients participate in therapeutic equine programming. Equine therapy helps both physically and psychologically by

reducing stress; improving balance, coordination, and muscle strength; increasing self-confidence, self-esteem, and coping strategies; and improving interpersonal and social skills.

Support from multiple funders has allowed Pegasus Farm to branch out beyond its original mission, creating jobs

for people with disabilities, increasing community access to healthy food, and educating the public.

Located in Hartville, the farm's 120 acres include a large indoor arena and

In 2014, Stark Community Foundation found that 15% of all Stark County residents were food insecure.

gardens. As part of a larger food security initiative, the Sisters of Charity and Stark Community foundations jointly funded a grant to expand the gardens and adjoining Country Store, increase composting operations, and add a community education element. The expansion allows the store to offer a wider variety of gluten-free and organic food options, along with fresh produce grown in the Farm's gardens. The community education program piggybacks on that to offer community classes on nutrition, cooking, and growing.

Over more than three decades, Pegasus Farm has become a dynamic community resource and an example of the power of mission, determination, and collaboration.

## Food Security in Stark County

In 2014, Stark Community Foundation commissioned a study on local food security issues. The study showed that 15% of all Stark County residents—and 24% of children—were food insecure, meaning they didn't have reliable access to the food needed for a healthy diet. It also showed that demand for hunger services was continuing to rise.

Stark Community Foundation developed a framework that calls for addressing:

- Food access
- Community education
- Economic development
- Emergency services

The Sisters of Charity and Paul and Carol David foundations have enthusiastically partnered with Stark Community Foundation to increase access to healthy food for those in need and address food security issues throughout our community.

Together  
WE NOURISH





SUICIDE PREVENTION

# A Countywide Effort

Suicide is a major national health concern. The suicide rate has increased to its highest level in more than three decades.<sup>1</sup> It's the tenth leading cause of death for all Americans,<sup>2</sup> and the second leading cause for those aged 15-34.<sup>3</sup> In Ohio, suicide claims a life *every seven hours*.<sup>4</sup>

Since 2010, Stark County has had a suicide rate higher than the national average. In 2016, at least 74 Stark County residents completed suicide, which is the highest number on record and a sharp increase from 59 the year

before. Mental health organizations have mobilized to take decisive action.

The Sisters of Charity Foundation is one of many local funders supporting a comprehensive suicide prevention effort. Stark County Mental Health & Addiction Recovery is collaborating with the Stark County Suicide Prevention Coalition and the Crisis Intervention and Recovery Center to raise awareness, reduce stigma, provide more effective treatment and support, and ultimately reduce the number of suicides.

# Together WE CARE

This project will especially target those most at risk for suicide: men ages 45-59, individuals 75 years and older, youth and young adults up to age 24, and veterans. Efforts will include:

- A community assessment to identify service gaps and determine the best ways to reach the community. Information gathered during the assessment will then be used to devise a concrete plan of action.
- Training in consistent, best-practice methods of screening and treatment, and universal implementation of suicide probability assessments. Particular attention will be paid to individuals released from the hospital after a suicide attempt, when their chance of another attempt is at its highest.
- Expansion of community partnerships and implementation of mass marketing and social media campaigns to educate and reduce stigma. This will include efforts to increase awareness of the Stark County Crisis Text Line to appeal to younger populations.

- Renovation of the Crisis Center's stabilization unit to ensure that it meets evidence-based environments of care recommendations. Studies show that the care environment is a critical part of recovery.
- Establishment of a fatality review board to aid in future prevention efforts.

As serious as this is, there is hope. A countywide effort using evidence-based practices can—and we pray will—decrease the number of suicide deaths in Stark County.

1. [nytimes.com/2016/04/22/health/us-suicide-rate-surges-to-a-30-year-high.html](http://nytimes.com/2016/04/22/health/us-suicide-rate-surges-to-a-30-year-high.html)
2. [www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/suicide-datasheet-a.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/suicide-datasheet-a.pdf)
3. [www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/pdf/leading\\_causes\\_of\\_death\\_by\\_age\\_group\\_2013-a.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/pdf/leading_causes_of_death_by_age_group_2013-a.pdf)
4. <http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/public/2015/suicide/suicide-the-stigma.html>







COMMUNITY LEGAL AID SERVICES

## Stark County Housing Attorney

Each year, Community Legal Aid serves approximately 14,000 low-income and elderly clients across eight counties. Six housing attorneys handle foreclosure and landlord-tenant cases. These can be high-stakes cases: clients may not have anywhere to go if they're evicted.

When a housing issue arises, involving an attorney can

motivate a landlord to cooperate and seek resolution. If the issue isn't resolved, Community Legal Aid represents its clients in court. Nearly 90% of the housing cases litigated by Community Legal Aid staff in 2015 had a positive outcome for the client.

Before the Sisters of Charity Foundation provided funding for an attorney dedicated solely to

handling Stark County housing issues, only one attorney was working part-time to handle those cases. Many Stark County residents had to be turned away due to the lack of attorney capacity. More people in our community will now be able to retain their housing and avoid homelessness.

Together  
WE SUPPORT

EN-RICH-MENT

## Summer & Saturday Programs

Canton's Summit neighborhood is a troubled inner city area, plagued by the issues endemic to urban poverty. The EN-RICH-MENT program offers music, math, arts, and video production programs for Summit neighborhood children during summers and on Saturdays during the school year. EN-RICH-MENT's motto is *If you put an instrument in a kid's hand, he will not pick up a gun.* Each day, approximately 50 children ages 5-18 attend the programs.

Local college students volunteer to work with the children, as do many musicians from the

Canton Symphony and the Canton Bluecoats drum and bugle organization. A local high school student teaches art. Several children who began taking classes at EN-RICH-MENT are now involved in the Canton Youth Symphony and local school bands. Sisters of Charity Foundation funding will help give these children access to programming that will expand their learning and creativity and provide an outlet for self-expression, with guidance and assistance from adults who genuinely care about their well-being.



HARTVILLE MIGRANT MINISTRY

## After-School Program

During the annual summer growing season, more than 350 migrant and seasonal workers come to Hartville with their families to plant, tend, and harvest farm produce. Migrant families are among the most economically disadvantaged and medically vulnerable groups in society.

The children who are in grades k-12 attend classes at Marlboro School, while younger children are in the Hartville Migrant Head Start program.

After the school day ends, the high school students go to work in the fields. This leaves approximately 60 students in grades k-8 who need a safe place to be while their parents are working. Hartville Migrant Ministry's after-school program engages the children in learning, encourages participation, and offers socialization and structure. Sisters of Charity Foundation support is helping to fund classroom activities, DVDs, books, games, and field trips.





## New Blast Chiller

Each day, Meals on Wheels of Stark & Wayne Counties prepares, distributes, and delivers more than 1,400 meals for elderly and disabled clients. Each balanced meal provides one-third of an individual's daily nutrition needs. All meals are low in fat and sodium free. Diabetic options are available upon request, as are pureed meals and dietary supplements. More than 60 regular volunteers deliver daily meals to the homes of 1,000 clients, 90% of whom are homebound.

The blast chiller is a crucial part of the meal production process. It cools food very quickly to prevent bacteria growth and ensure meals are stored safely until they're re-heated and eaten. Meals on Wheels had relied on their old blast chiller for nearly two decades, making repairs as it aged, until repairing it no longer made financial sense. Thanks to support from the Sisters of Charity Foundation and other local funders, a new blast chiller will allow Meals on Wheels to continue serving its clients for years to come.



## Family Visitation Center Furnishings

The Stark County Department of Job and Family Services moved its Children Services Division into a new building in late 2016. Their family visitation center is used for children who are taken into custody due to concern for their safety and well-being. Approximately 400 children are in county custody at any one time, and the center hosts 10-12 family visits each day.

Center furnishings had not changed in nine years; they included office furniture and other items originally purchased for other uses. Games and toys had changed over in that time, but of course they receive a great deal of wear and tear. In addition, the new space is smaller and unable to accommodate some of the original furnishings. Funding for furnishings is unavailable in

the county budget, so it must be secured through foundations and individuals.

Sisters of Charity Foundation and funding from other local funders helped support the purchase of new furnishings that will make visitation a nurturing and positive experience. This helps to strengthen the parent-child bond and foster reunification when possible.



## Drum Circle Program



Warrior Beat is a new nonprofit organization founded by veterans and dedicated to helping veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, physical wounds, and substance abuse. Warrior Beat's therapeutic drum circle sessions harness rhythm and sound for healing. Studies show that drum circles have immense therapeutic benefits, reducing anxiety, tension, and stress; controlling chronic pain; and releasing negative feelings and emotional trauma.

During a session, 20-40 participants, each using one drum, come together with a facilitator.

The eight-week program meets twice weekly for three-hour sessions of drumming, sharing, and socializing.

In its first year, Warrior Beat hopes to serve 1,000 of the 48,000 veterans living in Stark County who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, physical wounds, and substance abuse issues, and who struggle with reintegration into family and society. Thanks to support from the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton, Warrior Beat has purchased drums and a facilitator kit to make the drum circles possible.

Together  
WE CHANGE THE  
Future



2016 TOTAL INVESTMENT **\$2,713,298**

## Foundation-Led Initiatives

2016 TOTAL: **\$1,608,862**

### EARLY CHILDHOOD INITIATIVES

<b>Early Childhood Resource Center</b>	<b>\$454,912</b>
To support Center programs for families and educators, SPARK services in Canton and Minerva, and management of SPARK replication in Ohio	
<b>Other</b>	<b>\$29,623</b>
Early childhood program-related expenses	
<b>SUBTOTAL:</b>	<b>\$484,535</b>

### HEALTH CARE ACCESS INITIATIVES

<b>Mercy Medical Center</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>
To support the dental clinics at Mercy Medical Center and St. Paul Square, over three years	
<b>Prescription Assistance Network</b>	<b>\$250,000</b>
To support operations, over three years	
<b>Other</b>	<b>\$20,882</b>
Health care access program-related expenses	
<b>SUBTOTAL:</b>	<b>\$420,882</b>

### HOMELESSNESS INITIATIVES

<b>Alliance Area Domestic Violence Shelter</b>	<b>\$7,000</b>
To support one-time expenses to help clients move out of shelters and into permanent housing, over two years	
<b>Alliance for Children and Families</b>	<b>\$16,600</b>
To support one-time expenses to help clients move out of shelters and into permanent housing, over two years	

<b>Alliance for Children and Families</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>
To support the B-FIRST permanent supportive housing project	
<b>Coleman Professional Services</b>	<b>\$55,000</b>
To support the Changing Destinies permanent supportive housing project	
<b>CommQuest Services, Inc.</b>	<b>\$11,200</b>
To support one-time expenses to help clients move out of shelters and into permanent housing, over two years	
<b>Goodwill Industries of Greater Cleveland and East Central Ohio, Inc.</b>	<b>\$124,000</b>
For start-up costs to form a new organization, the Stark Housing Network, and employ its executive director	
<b>ICAN Housing</b>	<b>\$77,330</b>
To support rapid rehousing services to move families with children out of shelters	
<b>ICAN Housing</b>	<b>\$19,500</b>
To support the required match for an Emergency Solutions grant to provide rapid re-housing services	
<b>ICAN Housing</b>	<b>\$1,020</b>
To support a staff member's attendance at the National Alliance to End Homelessness conference in Washington, DC	
<b>Refuge of Hope</b>	<b>\$24,000</b>
To support one-time expenses to help clients move out of shelters and into permanent housing, over two years	
<b>Stark Mental Health and Addiction Recovery</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
To support one-time expenses to help unsheltered clients move into permanent housing, over two years	

<b>Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority</b>	<b>\$870</b>	<b>YWCA of Canton</b>	<b>\$21,200</b>
To support a staff member's attendance at the National Alliance to End Homelessness conference in Washington, DC		To support one-time expenses to help clients move out of shelters and into permanent housing, over two years	
<b>YWCA of Canton</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>	<b>YWCA of Canton</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
To support a Housing Officer position		To support a staff member's attendance at the National Alliance to End Homelessness conference in Washington, DC	
<b>YWCA of Canton</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>\$178,725</b>
To support incentives to encourage staff of Continuum of Care-funded housing projects to complete online training on the social security income and social security disability programs available to clients		Homelessness program-related expenses	
		<b>SUBTOTAL:</b>	<b>\$703,445</b>

## Strategic Collaborations

2016 TOTAL: **\$344,000**

<b>Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>Northern Ohio Planned Giving Council (Leave a Legacy Stark County)</b>	<b>\$12,000</b>
To explore opportunities for a food security hub in Stark County (in collaboration with the Stark Community and Paul and Carol David foundations)		To support local fundraising training by Indiana University, over two years	
<b>Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank</b>	<b>\$42,500</b>	<b>Pegasus Farm</b>	<b>\$46,880</b>
To support the implementation of a merger with Community Harvest (in collaboration with the Stark Community and Paul and Carol David foundations)		To support expansion of the garden, compost operations, and community education programming, over two years, (in collaboration with the Stark Community and Paul and Carol David foundations)	
<b>Canton City Health Department</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>	<b>Stark County Mental Health and Addiction Recovery</b>	<b>\$40,000</b>
To support the comprehensive evaluation of Canton-Stark County THRIVE, over two years		A collaboration to provide a nonprofit leadership program, over two years	
<b>Friends of Stark Parks</b>	<b>\$27,420</b>		
For administrative support to allow Live Well Stark County to continue increasing access to nutritious foods, promoting healthy lifestyles, and reducing tobacco usage, over three years		<b>SUBTOTAL:</b>	<b>\$344,000</b>
<b>Goodwill Industries of Greater Cleveland and East Central Ohio, Inc.</b>	<b>\$95,200</b>		
To support evaluation of the Dream to Achieve employment program, over three years			



# Responsive Efforts

2016 TOTAL: **\$760,436**

## RESPONSIVE GRANTS

<b>CommQuest Services, Inc.</b> For capital campaign support	<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>Pathway Caring for Children</b> To enhance a mentoring program for children involved in foster care or mental health programs, over two years	<b>\$8,500</b>
<b>Community Legal Aid Services, Inc.</b> To expand legal services for low-income individuals with housing issues	<b>\$48,300</b>	<b>Salvation Army of Canton</b> To support the Pathway of Hope case management program	<b>\$25,000</b>
<b>Echoing Hills Village</b> To offer young adults with developmental disabilities opportunities for hands-on experiences in the community	<b>\$12,000</b>	<b>Stark County Community Action Agency</b> To support the Home Energy Assistance program	<b>\$11,000</b>
<b>Faith in Action of Western Stark County</b> To provide transportation, holiday dinners, and gift baskets for senior citizens, over two years	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>Stark County Job and Family Services</b> For new furnishings and equipment for the child and family visitation center	<b>\$30,000</b>
<b>Friends of Stark Parks</b> To support the Fry Family Park project	<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>Stark Mental Health and Addiction Recovery</b> For implementation of a countywide suicide prevention strategy	<b>\$185,000</b>
<b>Fund for Our Economic Future</b> To support economic development in northeast Ohio, over three years	<b>\$50,000</b>	<b>Wee Care Center</b> To support staff professional development requirements	<b>\$10,126</b>
<b>Girl Scouts of North East Ohio</b> To support the transition of several troops to a traditional troop model in Canton City schools, over two years	<b>\$33,100</b>		
<b>Hartville Migrant Ministry</b> To support the Magic of Education summer after-school program	<b>\$17,000</b>		
<b>Junior Achievement of East Central Ohio, Inc.</b> To support the Career Connections program for Canton City high school students	<b>\$6,560</b>		
<b>Meals on Wheels of Wayne and Stark Counties</b> To support the purchase of a blast chiller	<b>\$6,800</b>		
<b>OneEighty, Inc.</b> For implementation of a mobile application to support clients who are in recovery from addiction	<b>\$38,000</b>		
		<b>SUBTOTAL: \$691,386</b>	

## GOOD SAMARITAN GRANTS

<b>Caring and Serving Together</b> To support the CAST Apprenticeship and Mentoring program (CAMP), over three years	<b>\$9,600</b>
<b>EN-RICH-MENT</b> To support Saturday and summer music programs in the Summit neighborhood, over two years	<b>\$10,000</b>
<b>Warrior Beat</b> For start-up costs for a therapeutic drum circle program for veterans	<b>\$7,800</b>
	<b>SUBTOTAL: \$27,400</b>

## DEVELOPING SERVANT LEADERS IN STARK COUNTY GRANT PROGRAM

<b>Canton City School District</b> To support the Puppy Tales program at the Altitude Career Tech and Wellness Academy at Crenshaw	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Canton City School District</b> To support the Random Acts of Music program at McKinley Senior High School	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Canton Country Day School</b> To support the Service Learning program	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Canton Local School District</b> To support the Spreading Joy program at Walker Elementary School	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Canton Montessori School</b> To support the Operation Warm Winter program	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Holy Cross Academy Catholic Schools</b> To support the Little Free Library project	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Louisville City Schools</b> To support the Community Garden program at Louisville Middle School	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Massillon City School District</b> To support the Students with a Goal life skills class at Massillon Junior High School	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Minerva Local School District</b> To support the Coats for Kids program at Minerva Elementary, Middle, and High schools	<b>\$1,500</b>
<b>Plain Local Schools</b> To support KidsKare Holiday Workshop at GlenOak High School	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Plain Local Schools</b> To support the Helping Hands program at Glenwood Intermediate School	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Portage Collaborative Montessori School</b> To support the Caring for Canton program	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Saint Michael School</b> To support the Birthday Bags program	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Sandy Valley Local Schools</b> To support the Boo at the School program at Sandy Valley Elementary and High Schools	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Sandy Valley Local Schools</b> To support the Focused Learning Opportunities for Cardinal Kids program at Sandy Valley Elementary and High Schools	<b>\$1,000</b>
	<b>SUBTOTAL: \$15,500</b>

## SPECIAL PROJECTS

<b>Canton Local School District</b> To support the Fresh Start program	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Community Christmas</b> To support the Christmas Giving Center, over three years	<b>\$4,500</b>
<b>Homeboy Industries</b> In honor of Father Gregory Boyle, the Foundation's 20 <sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration speaker	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>Mercy Medical Center</b> Sponsor support for Mercy Service League's Harvest Ball	<b>\$4,200</b>
<b>Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina</b> Sponsorship for the Assembly of Catholic Foundations' annual conference in Charleston, South Carolina	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Stark County District Library</b> To support leadership development services for the management team	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>Thanksgiving Baskets Downtown, Inc.</b> To support 2016 Thanksgiving Baskets Downtown, in honor of the Foundation's 20 <sup>th</sup> anniversary	<b>\$2,000</b>
	<b>SUBTOTAL: \$22,700</b>

## BOARD HONORARIUMS

<b>Adaptive Sports Program of Ohio</b> In lieu of a holiday gift for the Foundation Board of Directors	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank</b> In lieu of a holiday gift for the Foundation Board of Directors	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Central Catholic High School</b> Gift on behalf of retiring director Robert Belden	<b>\$500</b>
<b>Early Childhood Resource Center</b> Gift on behalf of retiring director Sister Mary Denis Maher	<b>\$100</b>
<b>Project Kare (Kids Are the Responsibility of Everyone)</b> Gift on behalf of retiring director Patricia Gramoy	<b>\$100</b>
<b>SAM (Serving Area Military) Center</b> Gift on behalf of retiring director Ronald Manse	<b>\$500</b>
<b>Stark County Hunger Task Force</b> Gift on behalf of retiring officer Robert Belden	<b>\$250</b>
	<b>SUBTOTAL: \$3,450</b>



# CELEBRATING 20 Years

The Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton strives to embody the spirit of the founding congregation. We asked the Sisters to reflect on the Foundation as an extension of their mission, vision, and core values.

In 1995, the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine were given a gift that enabled the Congregation and its co-ministers to make a systemic impact on the needs of God's people. After much dialogue, the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton was founded in 1996 to help transform people's lives, especially the lives of those who are materially poor.

Our Constitution as a Congregation states that, "We participate in the mission of the Church by living out the charism of charity in our life

of apostolic services. ... We are focused on people, particularly those who are spiritually, socially, psychologically, physically, or materially neglected in any way."

Given the call to serve others, those involved in understanding the vision and mission are dedicated to making a difference in the lives of so many. Dedicated to healing people's lives, the Foundation board and staff led many initiatives – high-quality early education and care, oral health, prescription assistance – with significant collaboration to make an impact on the community served.

Twenty years ago, this precious vision was born. Yet today we

say, "We've only just begun!" God bless and keep all of the people served and those who will be cared for in the future as part of this ministry. Pope Francis describes the Church as a field hospital where the needs of the people come before anything else. All else is secondary. That is our foundation ministry, taking care of the unmet needs of people. God bless our next twenty years. We are so proud.

—*Sister Judith Ann Karam, CSA, FACHE*  
Congregational Leader,  
Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine

"I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things."

— Mother Teresa

## CORE VALUE

### Compassion

The Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton, being moved by compassion, generously gives grants and pursues their specific initiatives in order to meet the massive needs of God's people, and to work toward systemic change. As the Foundation serves through the gift of compassion, the healing love of Jesus is experienced by others through understanding, comfort, and hope. —*Sister Kathy Andrews, CSA*

## Highlights from two decades of focused intentional giving

### 1996–2001

- In 1996, the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton is established to address the needs of the poor and underserved in Stark and surrounding counties.
- The Foundation awards over \$2.1 million in its first round of grants.
- In response to requirements for families to move from welfare to work, the Foundation launches its first initiative: the Quality Child Care Initiative.
- The Foundation creates the Early Childhood Resource Center to provide professional development and resources for early childhood professionals and families.
- Sponsored by the Foundation, the first Town Hall on Race Relations is held in Stark County to stimulate local discussion and engagement.



CORE VALUE

# Courage

I think courage has been a key value. Foundations were set up to address unmet health care and education needs. In each case, the Sisters and board members, through convening groups of community organizations and local people, researched carefully what the actual needs of the area were. Programs and plans were courageously based on the real needs of the area. —*Sister Mary Denis Maber, CSA*



CORE VALUE

# Respect

What I admire most about the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton is the dedication and expertise of the staff and the board to the mission. This takes respect, courage, and commitment. I am especially pleased to see the dedication to the welfare of the children. As a CSA, I am proud to be associated with the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton. —*Sister Catherine Walsh, CSA*

# Together WE SERVE

## Highlights from two decades of focused intentional giving

### 2002–2006

- The W.K. Kellogg Foundation partners with the Sisters of Charity Foundation and awards a \$4.2 million grant for SPARK, a family-focused kindergarten readiness program.
- The Foundation partners with the Austin-Bailey Health and Wellness Foundation to lead the creation of the Prescription Assistance Network.
- In partnership with Mercy Medical Center, the Foundation helps to establish a dental clinic and general practice residency program at Mercy.
- The Foundation and seven other health- and policy-focused foundations establish the Health Policy Institute of Ohio to provide an independent, non-partisan source of health policy analysis for state policymakers and others.

### 2007–2011

- The W. K. Kellogg Foundation awards a \$1.5 million grant to support SPARK replication throughout Ohio.
- The Foundation provides support to the Stark County Educational Service Center to adopt Olweus, a best-practice model program for bullying prevention, in Stark County public and parochial schools.
- An initial partnership is developed with Stark County Mental Health and Addiction Recovery to respond to the need for updated technology and information systems.
- The Foundation surpasses \$40 million in grant funding awarded.





CORE VALUE

# Collaboration

"We have never done it alone," the often spoken quote from Sr. Mary Patricia Barrett, CSA, speaks to collaboration at its very roots. Yes, the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine have worked with others in collaboration and have created visions and plans for the future that touch the very human needs of God's people. The Sisters of Charity Foundation is engaged in health care

programs, high-quality child care for the poor and underserved, and programs for the homeless, to mention only a few. These joint efforts, by seeking out the needs of the poor and underserved and developing programs together to address their needs, have enriched the lives of those we served and also brought about a more sustainable and healthy future. —*Sister Miriam Erb, CSA*

CORE VALUE

# Justice

When I think about justice, I am reminded of this quote from the Gospel of Matthew: "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me." It is this spirit of justice that is foundational for the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton. They live it in their giving every day! —*Sister Marian Durkin, CSA*

# Together WE EFFECT Change

## Highlights from two decades of focused intentional giving

### 2012–2016

- With Foundation support, Goodwill Industries' Dream to Achieve program is created to respond to the needs of the chronically unemployed and underemployed in Stark County.
- The Foundation joins community partners to decrease infant mortality and disparity rates in Stark County.
- The Foundation partners with Stark County Mental Health and Addiction Recovery to fund an exploration and development process for local nonprofit leaders and potential future leaders.
- With the support of elected officials and community leaders, the Stark Housing Network is formed to respond to the need for a permanent organizational structure for efforts related to homelessness.

### The Future

The Foundation continues its mission to improve the quality of life of the poor and underserved so they can live to their fullest potential.



# Board OF DIRECTORS



**Judge Sara Lioi**  
Chair



**Ronald Becker**  
Vice Chair



**Ronald S. Young**  
Treasurer



**Robert F. Belden**  
Secretary



**Joni T. Close**  
(ex officio)



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MSMD



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**Susanna H. Krey**  
(ex officio)



**Susan M. Kunkle,**  
Ph.D.



**James Leahy**



**Sr. Mary Denis  
Maher, CSA, Ph.D.**



**Ronald Manse, CPA**



**Kathleen M. Poporad**



**Elaine Russell Reolfi**



**George T. Williams,**  
DDS

## OUR Vision

To improve the quality of life of the poor and underserved so they can live to their fullest potential, by initiating systemic change, enhancing community connections, serving as a community change agent to advocate for the poor, promoting innovative strategies to impact the root causes of poverty.

## OUR Mission

The Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton supports and furthers the mission and ministry of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine. The principal components of their ministry are health, education, and social services. The Foundation's focus is on issues of social justice relating to the poor and underserved in the Spirit of Jesus Christ.

## FOUNDATION STAFF

**Joni T. Close**, President  
**Trudy Brown**, Office Assistant  
**Liz Ford**, Office Manager/Administrative Assistant  
**Jennifer Haude**, Communications Specialist  
**Anne G. Savastano**, Grants Manager/Communications Manager  
**Jean C. Van Ness**, Senior Program Officer/Special Projects  
**Shannon McMahon Williams**, Program Associate  
**Carrie L. Wilson**, Program Officer

## CONTACT US

**Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton**  
**400 Market Avenue North, Suite 300**  
**Canton, OH 44702**

**Phone:** 330.454.5800  
**www.scfcanton.org**





SISTERS *of* CHARITY FOUNDATION  
OF CANTON

*A Ministry of the Sisters of Charity Health System*