

# Celebrating 30 Years of Positively Impacting Our Athens Community!

Dear Friends,

This is a time of reflection and celebration for us at the Athens Area Community Foundation. We have been actively investing in the betterment of the lives of the young and old here in Athens since 1994. Be it through scholarships, grants, serving on boards, or volunteering, **WE ARE HERE FOR ATHENS AND WE ARE IN IT FOR THE LONG HAUL!!!**

In total, **\$971,140.48** has been invested into our Athens community since 1994, including: **\$401,353.55** towards the continued education of our Athens youth.

**718** individual scholarships to **327** Athens graduating students attending **55** different universities, colleges, and technical schools.

**\$569,786.93** towards more than **500** individual grants to **77** different Athens organizations and programs.



**Veterans  
Memorial Park**



**Adopt a  
Highway cleanup**



**North Entrance  
to Village**



**Student loan and  
debt discussion**

## 2024 Highlights

### The Arts

- **\$5,000** grant was awarded this year for Athens art students to travel to the Detroit Institute of Arts Museum and to Art Prize in Grand Rapids.
- **\$10,000** grant was awarded to Athens Area Schools to purchase new band equipment. In collaboration with the Binda Foundation, Athens Youth Council, and VFW, a total of **\$25,500** was awarded!



**Joanne's Ark  
Rescue**



**Detroit Institute  
of Arts**



**Dedication  
Ceremony**



**Adopt a  
Highway cleanup**

## Education

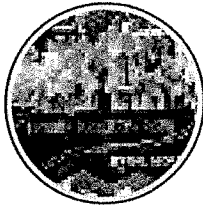
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- **\$3,500** grant was awarded to support the Summer Library Camp at the Athens Community Library.
- **\$2,000** grant to support the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program at the Athens Community Library.

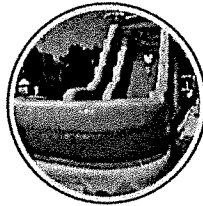
## Youth

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- Provided the funding to purchase solar eclipse viewing glasses for the entire Athens Area School District.
- **\$800** was granted to East Leroy Elementary for the Veteran's Day program.
- **\$3,000** granted to send all 5th graders to Sherman Lake Camp.
- **33** Athens students benefitted from the Prom Dress giveaway.
- Student debt and Trades Day Events.



Athens  
Band



Summer  
Homecoming



Scholarship  
Night



South Entrance  
of Village

## Senior Citizens

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- **\$5,439** grant was awarded to support Senior SocialTime every Tuesday at the Greenfield House. This provides a home cooked meal, fellowship, games and programming aimed at senior needs.

## Community Projects

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- **\$7,000** grant was awarded toward the renewal of the Veterans Memorial in downtown Athens,
- **\$4,200** was granted to the Athens Community Association to support the Athens Summer Homecoming. This year all rides/inflatables were free for our youth to enjoy throughout the entire event. We also funded much needed upgrading of the sound system for this annual community event.
- **\$1,797** to the Athens Area Historical Society for upgrades to the Greenfield House and Museum. We also funded the audible enhancement for actors in the Tombstone Tour. Attendees will be able to hear our local history come alive much easier now.
- **\$2,500** to Joanne's Ark Rescue to support a spay/neuter program of Athens dogs and cats.



**Summer reading  
program**



**Senior time @  
Greenfield House**



**Trades  
discussion**



**Senior  
Times**



**Prom dress  
giveaway**



**AACF Board**



**Greenfield  
House**

From young to old, student to Veteran,  
**WE ARE HERE AND WE WILL BE HERE FOR ATHENS!**

The **Athens Area Community Foundation Unrestricted Fund** is our workhorse. This is the fund we are working on building up so that it can give even more back to our Athens community. Our goal is to raise **\$30,000** through **\$30**, (or more!) gifts. We have several local folks who have anonymously stepped up and offered to match up to **\$15,000** of our donations! WE CAN DO THIS with **YOUR** help! **Can we count on you to make a \$30 (or more) gift to help us continue our impactful work?**

You can also support our efforts by naming the AACF as a beneficiary in your estate planning. We are working hard to obtain 30 of these planned gifts. This could look like leaving 10% of your life insurance policy or checking account, to a percentage of your entire estate. This kind of gesture has the potential to make a huge impact! You can also do a payroll deduction directly from your paycheck! We are grateful to the folks who are currently supporting us in this way.

**Every donation makes a positive impact on our Athens community!**

We are always on the lookout for new community projects to support! Can you recommend one? Do you have an idea on how we can help make Athens an even better place to call home? We are all ears!

Whatever you're able to give, be it your time or money, please know that we will gratefully put it to work in bettering our Athens community!  
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I'll be happy to hear from you!

Gratefully,  
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