When the late Fr. Robert Armstrong started a humble soup kitchen in the basement of St. Louis Church in 1981 with the help of volunteers in the East Toledo neighborhood, he simply wanted to make sure the hungry could stop in for a bowl of soup and bread. He probably never expected Helping Hands of St. Louis to grow into the multi-purpose organization it is today with a wide base of community support.

Today, Helping Hands of St. Louis serves meals to 250 people each day, and distributes over 3,100 bags of groceries and 650 hygiene kits each year. It also provides a clothing and home center, which has served over 6,000 shoppers with free clothing and household items. Those who come for help receive it. There are no restrictions or questions asked about their eligibility.

The growth of Helping Hands is a testament to the hundreds of volunteers who serve there each year, and the generous funding from community supporters and foundations, including Toledo Community Foundation.

Located in the heart of East Toledo, where one in every four households live at or below poverty level, Helping Hands is largely operated by volunteers who provide over 30,000 hours of service each year. “The face of poverty here is all generations, all races,” said Rodney Schuster, Executive Director, Catholic Charities, which oversees Helping Hands of St. Louis. “It is families with children, those struggling with drug addiction, someone who recently lost their job, the middle aged, the young, the elderly.”

“We meet people where they are,” he said. “Helping Hands is not just about meals and hygiene kits. It’s a light for those who may think they

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Message from the President

Dear Friends,

This has been a year when friends have been needed more than ever, here in northwest Ohio and across the globe. In the midst of record-breaking natural disasters, a growing opioid crisis, and unthinkable violence, we have seen, again and again, that people remain inherently kind, generous, and good. For every human trafficker, there are a hundred people dedicated to providing hope and resources to the victims. For every child eager to learn, but struggling to do so, there are dozens of adults ready to step in. For every person wanting for food and shelter, there are volunteers ready to feed and clothe them, and guide them to services and training to help them get back on their feet.

The American journalist Charles Kuralt said, “There are a lot of people who are doing wonderful things, quietly, with no motive of greed, or hostility toward other people, or delusions of superiority.”

Many of those people live right here in northwest Ohio. You may not hear their names or read about their services because, quite simply, they want nothing more than to be a friend.

Each year, we turn to those friends—some old, some new—and ask them if they will again extend their hands to the work of Toledo Community Foundation through our Friends Campaign. Through their generosity, along with that of so many others, the Foundation has distributed nearly $30 million in grants to hundreds of nonprofits in the last two years. That’s the power of good, the loyalty of community, and humble generosity of friends.

Thank you for supporting the needs and growth of our northwest Ohio community.

Sincerely,

Keith Burwell, President

Save the Date to Give

It’s quick. It’s simple. It works. Each year, more and more nonprofit organizations have recognized the value of social media based #GivingTuesday, a global day of giving.

This year, #GivingTuesday will be Nov. 28, 2017. #GivingTuesday, now in its sixth year, is celebrated on the Tuesday following Black Friday and Cyber Monday.

#GIVINGTUESDAYNWO

Toledo Community Foundation and The Blade have once again partnered to support local nonprofits in this effort by promoting the program and encouraging donations through a matching grant opportunity.

Toledo Community Foundation invites area nonprofits to register their intent to participate in this effort at www.toledocf.org/givingtuesday by Nov. 27 at noon. Applications for matching grants for participating #GivingTuesdayNWO organizations will be accepted between Dec. 6 at noon and Dec. 13, 2017 at 11:59 p.m.

Watch the TCF website for more details about #GivingTuesdayNWO.
have burned every bridge they crossed and have no hope left."

"The generosity and support of Toledo Community Foundation helps us to meet the needs of those living in poverty with dignity and respect," explained Rodney. A $7,000 grant from the Robert A. Stranahan, Jr. Fund of the Toledo Community Foundation allowed Helping Hands to hire a part-time kitchen coordinator in 2016. "The funding for our part-time kitchen coordinator has been invaluable," said Rodney. "Nicole, our coordinator, is the face of Helping Hands. She is upbeat, smiling, and rolls with whatever occurs every day as we feed the hungry. We have 27 volunteer groups who come in every day to make sure we can continue to serve the community."

"Helping Hands is not just about meals... it’s a light for those who may think they have burned every bridge they crossed and have no hope left."

Helping Hands also received a $20,000 grant from the Stranahan Supporting Organization of the Toledo Community Foundation to support Helping Hands’ program, and a $10,000 grant from the Andersons Fund Supporting Organization of the Toledo Community Foundation for a wheelchair lift for its facilities. "If someone has a disability, it’s important to us that we reach out to them with the same dignity and respect we offer to everyone," said Rodney. "Without a wheelchair lift, those who use wheelchairs would not be able to come and eat with everyone else."

"We are so appreciative of the Toledo Community Foundation’s knowledge and assistance," he said. "I really respect their commitment to accountability because we want our donors to know that we are good stewards of their gifts."

"Every day, we let people know that we love them exactly where they are in their lives and try to help them see the gifts and skills they have and how their lives can be transformed."

Scholarships Available for Area Students

As the school year gains momentum, parents and students can turn to Toledo Community Foundation as a resource for area scholarships. To view current scholarship applications managed by Toledo Community Foundation, go to www.toledocf.org and Click on the “Scholarships” link for descriptions and guidelines for scholarship opportunities for the 2017-2018 academic year.

The application site is updated throughout the current academic year and TCF encourages parents and students to check the site often. Toledo Community Foundation manages over 200 scholarship funds. For more details, contact TCF Scholarship Officer Toni Shoola at Toni@toledocf.org.
Recognizing the mounting pressure to increase efficiency and effectiveness in nonprofit operations, sector leaders are seeking systemic ways to eliminate waste, save dollars and strengthen organizational stability.

The Center for Nonprofit Resources responded to this capacity building need and certified the first group of Nonprofit LEAN Six Sigma (LSS) Green Belt professionals. During the certification process, each participant returned to their respective organization with skills and tools to help increase organizational effectiveness, real-world project experience, and exposure to best practices in organizational management.

Brad Toft, President and CEO of the YMCA Toledo, and his team have embraced the LSS approach and are reaping the benefits. “Embracing LEAN Six Sigma principles has been transformational for our organization,” says Brad. “Our team has a dependable process to identify target conditions, overcome obstacles and know the timeframe in which they are going to do it. Leadership has definitely bought into the benefits of a LSS approach.”

The success deploying LSS at the YMCA highlights a critical predictor for the success of LSS initiatives; LEAN begins with culture and leadership supportive of an LSS approach, and is not strictly a focus on the tool set. Building on this premise, The Center is expanding LSS training to help leaders understand what LEAN Six Sigma is, why organizations use the methodology and the various roles needed to create a LSS culture. White and Yellow Belt training provides the foundational understanding of LSS. Green Belt training will continue to equip employees who spend some of their time on process improvement teams. This combined training approach develops effective people within your organization by involving employees in the improvement process, and builds trust by promoting a shared understanding of how each person is important to the organization’s success.

To learn more about LEAN Six Sigma training programs offered by The Center for Nonprofit Resources or request a technical assistance consultation to discuss the continuous improvement needs of your organization, visit www.c4npr.org.

Upcoming Deadline for Strategic Alliance Partnership

The Strategic Alliance Partnership employs a two-step application process. Step one is the submission of a letter of inquiry. Step two is submission of the full proposal. The next deadline for submission of Letters of Inquiry is February 15, 2018.

The Strategic Alliance Partnership supports nonprofit organizations that wish to explore forming collaborations, alliances and/or mergers that would enable Toledo-area nonprofits to achieve more effective and efficient use of financial and human resources, gain greater long-term financial stability and enhance social impact. Funds are granted twice per year through Toledo Community Foundation’s online grant system.

Interested applicants are encouraged to contact Heather Bradley, Director of The Center for Nonprofit Resources at Heather@c4npr.org or 419.241.9513 ext. 104.
When the David C. and Lura M. Lovell Foundation was created, its mission was to “build relationships by serving in the communities where our Trustees reside,” which included Toledo.

While the trustees of the Lovell Foundation no longer reside in Toledo, it was important to its members to honor the legacy of David and Lura Lovell in the Toledo area. To do so, the Lovell Foundation created a Donor Advised Fund through Toledo Community Foundation. Its focus is on mental health in Lucas County, an intrinsic part of the legacy of David and Lura Lovell.

The Lovell’s commitment and advocacy for mental health followed the birth of their son Robert, who was born with organic brain damage. Lura cofounded NAMI of Greater Toledo and was a founding board member of the Ohio Alliance for the Mentally Ill.

Lura, who passed away in 2013, once explained her commitment to mental health as such: “I’d worked in the mental health system because of Rob’s challenges. I realized how important it was for families to get information about their family member who was ill — and it wasn’t coming out of the mental health system or out of the psychiatrists. So, anything I could do to help educate the families was important to me.”

The David C. and Lura M. Lovell Foundation of the Toledo Community Foundation recently funded the work of the Thomas M. Wernert Center, NAMI of Greater Toledo, A Renewed Mind, and Imagination Station.

“We are grateful to the Toledo Community Foundation for helping us to be part of the northwest Ohio community even though we no longer have on-the-ground presence there,” said John Amoroso, executive director of the David C. and Lura M. Lovell Foundation in Tucson, AZ.

“ Toledo Community Foundation was with us every step of the way in creating the donor advised fund,” he said. “It was a very smooth process.”

“With the assistance of the Toledo Community Foundation, we have an opportunity to extend the dedication and legacy of the Lovell family to the mental health field.”

Are you interested in how you can make a difference by giving back to your community? Call us at 419.241.5049 and we’ll show you just how easy it can be.

The David C. and Lura M. Lovell Foundation of the Toledo Community Foundation recently funded the work of the Thomas M. Wernert Center.
With a $5,000 grant from the Katherine R. Smith Funds for Youth, AWAKE will enhance its work in supporting drug and alcohol prevention in the Anthony Wayne School District. Founded in 2008 by a grassroots group of law enforcement, parents, faith leaders, township governments, educators, youth and business owners, AWAKE works with schools, parents, youth and the community to prevent and reduce youth alcohol, marijuana and other drug use.

The award was one of nine grants totaling $31,840 from the Katherine R. Smith Funds for Youth. The Funds provide support for programming that enhances the lives of young people up to age 18, with an emphasis on serving children with developmental disabilities or those who have been abused.

Other grants were awarded to:

**Bittersweet, Inc.** — $4,000
To support the community integration programming for participants with autism spectrum disorder.

**Camp Courageous & The Arc of Northwest Ohio** — $4,000
To support day camp activities for youth with developmental disabilities.

**Children’s Rights Collaborative of Northwest Ohio** — $7,040
To support supervised visitation services between children and their non-custodial parents.

**Double ARC** — $3,000
To diagnose and treat children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders.

**Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center** — $2,500
To support the Children’s Advocacy Center and to deliver child abuse awareness and prevention.

**Sunshine Foundation** — $1,800
To support the equine program.

**Waterville Rotary Foundation** — $1,500
To support Anthony Wayne High School Interact Club activities.

**YMCA and JCC of Greater Toledo** — $3,000
To support three family events in Waterville, Monclova and Whitehouse.
Well Done!

The Great Lakes Collaborative for Autism, A Renewed Mind, and the Thomas M. Wernert Center were honored at the Seventh Annual Northwest Ohio Nonprofit Innovation & Excellence Awards on October 10.

The annual Nonprofit Innovation & Excellence Awards are designed to honor and recognize outstanding nonprofit organizations and their achievements in our community. Awards are given to three nonprofit organizations, one in each of the following categories:

- **Nonprofit Innovation Award:**
  A Renewed Mind for Project Direct Link

  Project Direct Link helps reduce the barriers to successful reintegration into society for individuals being released from jail. While they are incarcerated, individuals are screened for opiate addiction and, based on their personal commitment to sobriety and recovery, are referred for medical evaluation and the initiation of medication assisted recovery treatment. Project Direct Link ensures the individuals receive intensive case management when they are released including resources to help them address basic needs and ongoing addiction treatment.

- **Nonprofit Excellence Award — Small Organization (Budget under $500,000):**
  Great Lakes Collaborative for Autism

  Created just thirteen years ago by Bob and Suzy Tyner, a local Toledo couple with an adult son who has autism, the Great Lakes Collaborative for Autism (GLCA) has developed into a far-reaching organization that identifies and funds services and initiatives that enrich the lives and grow the future for all touched by autism. Among its accomplishments, the GLCA has created two early intervention programs, an after-school program for 13-22 year-old students, Venture Bound which is a transition to employment program, and social programs. Through GLCA fundraising efforts, $1.5 million in direct support to programs and families has been invested into 18 different northwest Ohio organizations. GLCA also worked with ProMedica to create a community autism center which now houses the Toledo Children’s Hospital Autism Early Learning Program along with five other community organizations including the GLCA.

- **Nonprofit Excellence Award — Large Organization (Budget over $500,000):**
  Thomas M. Wernert Center

  The Thomas M. Wernert Center helps to improve the quality of life for persons living with mental illness through peer-driven and focused programs which address recovery through education, peer support and advocacy. Its unique structure includes a board of directors with half of the members consisting of persons who are receivers of mental health services. This includes current and former attendees of the Wernert Center who have overcome obstacles and bring a wide range of thoughtful and creative ideas that help sustain and advance the organization’s mission. This firsthand approach helps the Center determine which best practices are most likely to work in recovery and determine what services will be offered locally.

The Northwest Ohio Nonprofit Innovation & Excellence Awards were presented by Toledo Community Foundation and The Blade, in partnership with The Center for Nonprofit Resources, Buckeye Broadband and WTVG-13abc.
January 15, 2018 — Community Funds
Provides seed money for new programs designed to meet emerging community needs or to expand existing successful programs.

January 31, 2018 — Bill Rowles Youth Foundation Fund
Provides support to programs that enhance the lives of young people under the age of 18. For more information, contact Anneliese Grytafey, Toledo Community Foundation, 419.241.5049 or Anneliese@toledocf.org

Upcoming Grant Deadlines

January 15, 2018 — Community Funds
Provides seed money for new programs designed to meet emerging community needs or to expand existing successful programs.

January 31, 2018 — Bill Rowles Youth Foundation Fund
Provides support to programs that enhance the lives of young people under the age of 18. For more information, contact Anneliese Grytafey, Toledo Community Foundation, 419.241.5049 or Anneliese@toledocf.org

For more information about various grant opportunities and to view guidelines, go to www.toledocf.org and click on Grants.

Call Us Before Submitting
The Toledo Community Foundation staff is happy to meet with you and is available to answer any questions you may have regarding the grant application process. We encourage you to call us at 419.241.5049 before submitting a proposal.

Follow/Like TCF
Take a minute to “follow” and “like” Toledo Community Foundation on Facebook. You’ll get the latest updates and news about our northwest Ohio community and grant opportunities. We welcome your comments and questions.

Visit us on the web at www.toledocf.org. You’ll find important information about upcoming grants, creating a fund, making an online donation, and more.

Holiday Hours
Toledo Community Foundation is here for all of your year-end giving needs and questions. Contact us at 419.241.5049. We welcome your calls and visits.

Our offices will be closed: Thursday, November 23, 2017
Friday, November 24, 2017
Monday, December 25, 2017
Monday, January 1, 2018