Inital results of a TutorSmart pilot program in two Toledo Public Schools (TPS) indicate the new academic tutoring model is on track for success. TutorSmart is a local, nonprofit organization aimed at increasing access to effective, high quality afterschool academic tutoring for at-risk students in the greater Toledo area. By building capacity in the afterschool tutoring space, children won’t miss out on the critical supports they need to reach their academic potential.

The Toledo Community Foundation, Lourdes University, Toledo Public Schools, Partners in Education and area business professionals helped develop TutorSmart after an extensive study by Lourdes University of best practices and business models for results-driven afterschool tutoring programs.

The need for a data-driven academic tutoring program is essential in combatting the lack of academic proficiency among many students in the community. Nearly 85% of K-3 students in Toledo Public Schools—over 3,200 children—struggle to improve their literacy proficiency, as indicated by poor performance on state mandated tests. While dozens of afterschool programs exist, many focus on homework help as opposed to academic tutoring.

“Many of the services afterschool providers offer to students are important, like daily meals and social and physical activities,” said Keith Burwell, president, Toledo Community Foundation. “But we need to put “academic care” into afterschool care. It’s critical that we get these children where they need to be academically.”

TutorSmart partnered with the YMCA to host pilot afterschool tutoring for 60 students at Riverside and Spring Elementary Schools in January. Students at the two sites averaged 18 months behind in math at the start of the program. The gap was reduced to an average of 12 months after less than 40 hours of data-driven individualized tutoring. The student achievements were at least double the growth rates of their typical peers.

“TutorSmart goes beyond homework help,” said Tiffany Adamski, executive director, TutorSmart of Greater Toledo. “It adds academic elements and data coordination that...”
Message from the President

Dear Friends,

There is seldom one right way to accomplish something. However, there are often better ways to do things. At Toledo Community Foundation, we work with business and community leaders, nonprofit organizations, and experts in many sectors to find the best ways to address community issues, build capacity and maximize time and dollars.

In this issue, our cover story on the TutorSmart initiative exemplifies that approach. We worked with key community partners and researchers to study best practices for academic tutoring. In Toledo, where more than 84% of K-3 students struggle to improve their literacy proficiency, it’s imperative to find the best way to address this gap. After considerable research, we believe the TutorSmart program is a better process for a better outcome for children who definitely deserve more. It’s a comprehensive, centralized, community-wide approach. It will ultimately mean better access to funding sources, and greater academic achievement for area children.

The TutorSmart program is just one example of the breadth of the Toledo Community Foundation’s work. While the funding of nonprofit organizations is essential, it’s equally important that we appropriately analyze the changing needs of our community, help facilitate strategic alliances that will result in stronger outcomes, and research best practices that are proven changemakers. We are grateful for everyone who plays a role in these crucial tasks. And we are always thankful to those who entrust us with their funds to help improve the quality of life in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan.

Sincerely,

Keith Burwell
President

TutorSmart continued

will help teachers and schools to see what methods are working with a student and what may need adjusting.”

Gathering and using the data is essential to an academic tutoring program. In the pilot, each student’s academic strengths and weaknesses were measured. Those benchmarks were used weekly to adjust to each student’s needs as they gained skills.

“TPS teachers used data from the online curriculum to tailor the tutoring sessions to each child,” said Tiffany. “The achievement gap was reduced for students through intentional, data-driven improvement cycles.”

TutorSmart is aiming for accelerated growth of the program over the next five years, dependent on funding. Plans include partnering with the YMCA, After School All Stars, and the Boys and Girls Clubs to offer academic tutoring at 11 TPS schools in the Fall of 2019; bringing TutorSmart to summer sites in 2020; and continuing expansion of high quality programs until all 41 TPS elementary schools have the afterschool tutoring support that they need for their struggling students.

“We are excited about scaling TutorSmart,” said Tiffany. “One of the major challenges will be funding. The annual cost to operate the program is approximately $400,000 for this upcoming year which works out to be approximately $900-$1600 per student, depending on the partner and number of children being served per site.”

“We know that high-performing and data-driven tutoring programs are what our community needs and are more likely to secure national funding,” said Tiffany. “We will need the help of our community, foundations, businesses and individuals to support TutorSmart Toledo and our partners in this effort. TutorSmart will help better position the entire network of afterschool providers in Toledo to become stronger, improve their impact and ultimately reach more children in need of support.”
Keeping a Good Thing Going

When the Pemberville Boys Ranch for troubled teens closed, the board of trustees for the ranch was far from ready to hang up their hats.

“We saw the impact programs could have on boys at the ranch and we wanted to continue to fund nonprofits that offered similar opportunities to youth,” said Bill Rowles, the last president of their board.

On the suggestion of one of the home’s board members, Greg Lodge, the board of trustees turned to Toledo Community Foundation for assistance.

“We wanted to put the proceeds from liquidating the Boys Ranch to good use,” said Bill, who was board president of the Ranch at the time and for whom the Bill Rowles Youth Foundation Fund is named.

“We knew there were many opportunities and needs in the area to help support troubled youth and those who have little access to funds to participate in activities.”

With the guidance of Toledo Community Foundation, the Bill Rowles Youth Foundation Fund, a field of interest fund, was created in 2009 with $218,000. Since its inception, the fund has awarded 53 grants totaling more than $105,000. The fund now has a value of $320,426.

The fund’s mission is to support youth programs, youth groups and youth serving organizations in northwest Ohio, particularly in Wood County.

“Wood County was very supportive of the work we did in Pemberville,” said Bill. “We wanted to concentrate our philanthropy there, particularly for children who often do not get to experience the physical and social activities like camps and sports that many other children participate in.

“Toledo Community Foundation has been very helpful and responsive since the Fund’s beginnings,” he said. “They solicit the proposals and provide them to our board for review.”

While he is humbled that the Foundation fund was named after him, Bill credits everyone on the board who helps make recommendations on the proposals.

“The staff at the Pemberville Boys Ranch were also very much involved in helping find the financial resources to continue this work,” said Bill. “The fund is very much a collaborative effort.”

“We are pleased that we’ve been able to provide funding, particularly seed monies, to help so many youth experience activities that are important to their well-being,” he concludes.

If you are interested in creating a fund, or would like more information on the charitable giving options available through the Foundation, contact Mike George or Bridget Brell Holt in our Philanthropic Services Department at 419.241.5049.
Community Funds Accelerator Grant from the Toledo Community Foundation to Partners in Education helped create a new level of success for the organization’s College and Career...Ready, Set, Go! (CCRSG) program.

“The Accelerator Grant offers nonprofits like Partners in Education the opportunity to really dig into your program with an expert in evaluation to understand how to create and maintain an effective continuous improvement model,” said Michelle Klinger, executive director, Partners in Education. CCRSG, which launched in 2011, was designed to prepare middle school students and their parents for post-secondary education or employment following high school. The program consists of 16 lessons delivered directly to students during the day, as well as out-of-school activities conducted throughout the year, including family field trips to local higher education institutions and job sites.

“Our College and Career readiness programming had been a part of Partners in Education for a few years, but our College Coach program was lacking in formal education content and success in parent engagement,” Michelle said. We heavily revised and renamed the program in early 2017 and wanted to have it professionally evaluated to measure the effects of our changes on teachers, parents, students and our staff.”

Partners in Education was awarded an Accelerator Grant of $16,765 in 2016 to assist them in evaluating the program and making adjustments to enhance its success.

“The Accelerator Grant allowed us to work with our evaluator, MetriKs Amérique LLC, to create a new evaluation plan with metrics and upgraded assessment tools that effectively measured the outcomes we were hoping to achieve,” said Michelle.

After their first report from MetriKs, Partners in Education was excited to see the following:

- solid gains in high school readiness and resiliency factors for students
- improved opinions about the program from teachers, administrators and Partners in Education staff, and
- increased parent engagement and knowledge about career readiness from the parents coaching their students toward career success.

“We also took the suggestions for program improvement from our evaluator and implemented them in accordance with our continuous improvement operations model,” said Michelle. “That led to even more good news—the changes helped create greater program sustainability through additional funding sources.”

As a direct result of demonstrated program outcomes based on Accelerator evaluation activities, Partners in Education received a $23,182 Community Funds grant from the Foundation in 2018 to expand the College and Career Ready, Set, Go! program.

“The College and Career Ready, Set, Go! program has grown by leaps and bounds from two schools with approximately 140 5th through 8th graders in 2016 to six schools with over 520 students in 2019,” said Michelle. “In 2019-2020, our program will expand to nine schools including two Toledo Public Schools, two Toledo Diocesan schools and five public charter schools with large percentages of students on free and reduced lunch.”
Get Out the Count

For the first time in the 230-year history of the United States census, most people will be completing the upcoming 2020 data-gathering count online. The digital process is designed to be more inclusive and reduce costs for the comprehensive census system.

In the philanthropy sector, the census is a crucial service in many ways. Accurate census data is used to help identify community issues that need to be addressed, establish strategic priorities, measure progress, and determine who should receive funding and how much. For every individual not counted, our community misses out on $1,814 of federal funds that could support community initiatives.

Locally, Toledo Community Foundation has committed $15,000 to the Library Legacy Foundation to support the local coordination of the U.S. Census. The City of Toledo and Lucas County have also committed $15,000, respectively, to the project. The support of the Foundation, City of Toledo and Lucas County will help provide a coordinator and facilitate volunteers at all of our local libraries to assist residents with the digital Census process.

In addition, the United Philanthropy Forum has worked since 2016 with 79 national and regional philanthropy-serving organizations to engage philanthropy to ensure a fair and accurate census count next year. Four of the nation’s large foundations—Ford, JPB, Kellogg and Open Society have committed $20 million to a massive and coordinated “get out the count” effort focused on the most hard-to-count communities.

Everyone counts. Watch your mail. Every household will be invited to participate via U.S. Mail in March 2020.

Lyndi S. Sheets, CPA, Named Controller

Lyndi S. Sheets, CPA, was named the Toledo Community Foundation’s Controller, a newly-created position for the Foundation.

“After an extensive search, we determined that Lyndi is the right person for this position” said Keith Bunwell, president of Toledo Community Foundation, Inc. “We are fortunate to have someone with her background and experience to lead the transition to a new integrated software package, as well as manage the Finance team for our organization.”

Lyndi is a skilled financial professional with 12 years of experience leading individuals in both industry and public accounting settings. Most recently, she was a partner in William Vaughan Company; prior to which she held positions as Controller for Independent Concrete Pipe Company and Audit Manager for Gilmore, Jasen & Mahler.

As part of her new position, Lyndi will oversee implementation of a new financial software program the Foundation will start using in October, called Community Suite.

Community Suite will streamline the Foundation’s donor management system. All grants and scholarships will be submitted through the software program in a process very similar to the current system starting in 2020.

The Toledo Community Foundation program staff will conduct workshops for nonprofit organizations to explain the changes in the online grant application process through Community Suite.

Patrick Johnston Promoted to Senior Program Officer

Patrick Johnston has been named the Foundation’s new Senior Program Officer. Patrick replaces Anneliese Grytafey who resigned to take a new position in the community.

Patrick’s prior employment at Owens State Community College afforded him experience as a Grants Developer, where he worked to secure grants from Federal, State and Foundation sources. He also gained program development experience through positions at the National Parks Service, Metroparks of the Toledo Area and the Maumee Valley Heritage Corridor.

“In the past five years, Patrick has achieved great things in the Program Department at the Foundation, helping us coordinate a variety of different funding opportunities for our local nonprofit community,” stated Keith. “Now, he is going to bring his knowledge and experience to lead our Program staff to orchestrate a $17 million annual grant-making effort for our community.”

Join us in congratulating both Lyndi and Patrick.
Child sexual assault victims and their families require extensive services and programs to deal with the horrors of sexual assault. The Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center, which serves over 50,000 people each year, recently received $52,800 in funding from Toledo Community Foundation to support its Trauma Focused-Cognitive Behavioral Therapy program, which offers specialized services for child sexual assault victims and their families. The Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center was one of 12 area nonprofit organizations that received grants totaling $382,284 from its Community Funds. Grants from the Foundation’s Community Funds are considered two times annually, and are awarded only to nonprofit, charitable organizations. Other nonprofits who received Community Funds grants were:

- **Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio** – $25,000 to support the 2019/2020 Lucas County Community Health Assessment.
- **JumpStart, Inc.** – $50,000 to launch business technical assistance services and network-building for fledgling entrepreneurs and small business owners.
- **Kidney Foundation of Northwest Ohio** – $30,000 to support educational and awareness activities recommended as a result of an external evaluation process.
- **Lott Industries** – $10,000 to support the Healthy Lott program.
- **Lucas County Housing Services Corporation** – $30,592 to support the Bridge to Independence and Success Pilot Housing Program for young adults.
- **Metroparks Toledo Foundation** – $100,000 to support the preliminary engineering plans of the new downtown Metropark in the Marina District.
- **Pathway, Inc.** – $18,912 to support the Pathway, Inc. Sisters United project.
- **Perrysburg Heights Community Association** – $15,000 to support afterschool academic programming.
- **Social Services for the Arab Community** – $10,000 to support the ADVANCE program that helps limited English speaking Arab immigrants and refugees connect to employers and jobs.
- **Toledo Museum of Art** – $20,000 to support the expansion of the Teen Leaders program.
- **Water for Ishmael** – $19,980 to support the Childcare Workforce Training project.
Katherine R. Smith Funds Support Programs for Youth with Disabilities

Bittersweet, Inc., an area nonprofit organization whose mission is to positively impact the lives of individuals with autism and those whose lives they touch, recently was awarded an $8,000 grant from the Katherine R. Smith Funds for Youth to support social programs for teen participants with autism spectrum disorder.

The Katherine R. Smith Funds for Youth 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. In addition to Bittersweet, Inc., the Katherine R. Smith Funds for Youth awarded these organizations grants totaling $42,020:

- **AWAKE** – $6,500 to support drug and alcohol prevention programming in the Anthony Wayne School District.
- **Camp Courageous & The Arc of Northwest Ohio** – $4,000 to support construction projects at a summer camp for youth with developmental disabilities.
- **The Cocoon Shelter** – $6,224 to support youth services at a domestic violence shelter.
- **Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center** – $5,398 to support the Children’s Advocacy Center.
- **The Ridge Project, Inc.** – $5,398 to support a program that serves juvenile offenders at the Lucas County Youth Treatment Center.
- **Sunshine Residential and Support Services** – $3,000 to support the equine program.
- **Waterville Rotary Foundation** – $3,500 to support Anthony Wayne High School Interact Club activities.

Field of Interest Fund Supports Area Youth Programs

Hands-on gardening is just one way Grace Community Center helps youth who are at risk of involvement with the criminal justice system. The Bill Rowles Youth Foundation Fund recently granted $1,500 to Grace Community Center to support their urban gardening program. Grace Community Center offers year round education and social development programs to young people, family case management, employment and career development, GED preparation for adults, youth development and leadership programs, and recreation programs, and collaborates with social service organizations to improve the lives of hundreds of families in the Center’s service area.
Bill Rowles created a Field of Interest fund at Toledo Community Foundation to support youth programs, youth groups, youth serving organizations and other activities in northwest Ohio which enhance the lives of young people, aged 18 years and younger. In addition to Grace Community Center, the following organizations received grants totaling $13,000 from the Bill Rowles Youth Foundation Fund:

- **Mountain Mentors** – $1,500 to support a mentoring program for underserved teen participants.
- **Perrysburg Heights Community Association** – $3,000 to support an afterschool tutoring program for students in the Perrysburg school system.
- **The RIDGE Project, Inc.** – $2,500 to support a program that teaches healthy life choices to juvenile offenders through the creation of public service announcements.
- **Serenity Farm Equestrian Center** – $1,500 to support equine-based occupational therapy services.
- **Sleep in Heavenly Peace** – $3,000 to build and deliver beds to children in Wood County.

**Music Education Reaches More Children through Oswald Supporting Organization**

More area children will have the opportunity to experience music through community lessons offered by the Toledo Orchestra Association, Inc. thanks to a $25,000 grant from the Oswald Supporting Organization of the Toledo Community Foundation. The Toledo Orchestra Association was one of seven nonprofits who received grants totaling $134,000 from the fund. The Oswald Supporting Organization was created by the late Joan and Chuck Oswald in 2000 to support projects in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan that enable families to develop skills to nurture each other and to promote the advancement, self-sufficiency and intellectual, social, emotional and cultural growth of woman and children. Additional recipients were:

- **Advocating Opportunity, Inc.** – $19,452 to support trauma-responsive care training for providers of human trafficking services.
- **Connecting Kids to Meals** – $25,000 to support afterschool and summer meal services for children.
- **Dental Center of Northwest Ohio** – $15,000 to support oral health and care management services for low-income families and their children.

**Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center** – $15,000 to support the Domestic Violence Advocacy Program.

**Lourdes University** – $13,500 to support the Parent Institute.

**TutorSmart** – $21,048 to support academic tutoring services.

**Upcoming Grant Deadlines**

**August 15**

**Community Funds and Community Funds Accelerator**

**September 1**

**Toledo Walleye Hockey’s Wishing Well Fund**

**September 15**

**Strategic Alliance Partnership**

The Strategic Alliance Partnership is a collaborative program funded by the Stranahan Foundation, Toledo Community Foundation and our newest partner, ProMedica.

Learn more about various grant opportunities and view guidelines at [www.toledocf.org/main/grants-module/](http://www.toledocf.org/main/grants-module/).

**Call Us Before Submitting**

Toledo Community Foundation is always available to answer questions you have about the grant application process. Feel free to call us at 419.241.5049 and speak to a member of our Program Department before submitting an application.
The Toledo Community Foundation’s Board of Trustees elected officers and welcomed one new member at its annual meeting in March.

The newly elected officers are Zac Isaac, Chair (Executive Officer, State Bank & Trust Co.); Hussien Shousher, Vice Chair (Retired President, GEM, Inc.); Susan Palmer, Secretary (Development Fundraising Consultant); and Pam Hershberger, Treasurer (Retired Toledo Office Managing Partner, Ernst & Young LLP).

Jay Morgan was appointed a new Trustee to replace retiring board member Scott Estes, and will serve a four-year term which began in March 2019. He is the Chief Operating Officer of ReNew, a real estate investment trust and a privately-held company founded in 2017, focused on investing in private pay independent living, assisted living and memory care communities. He has more than 20 years of experience in health care real estate development, acquisition and capital markets, and was previously associated with Miller Diversified and Welltower.

Skyelar Raiti of Toledo School for the Arts (TS4A) was named 2019 Scholar of the Year by Toledo Community Foundation and Buckeye Broadband. Skyelar was one of eight nominees chosen by a committee of community leaders and educators. Skyelar studied abroad in Kofu, Japan and China, and participated in and received numerous honors for his musical talents as an accomplished pianist and organist, and performances on the cello. He maintained a 4.35 GPA and received an ACT score of 35, and he was a TS4A Ambassador and Quiz Bowl team member. He plans to attend the University of Michigan in the fall, double majoring in linguistics and music. The Scholar of the Year honor is worth $10,000 to one individual, which can be applied towards tuition, room and board, books and fees.
The Center for Nonprofit Resources collaborates with organizations throughout our community to help close knowledge and competency gaps. Capacity building services offered by The Center help nonprofits strengthen their impact and efficiencies. One such collaboration developed with Aspire to help close identified knowledge gaps. Aspire is a community-based initiative focused on helping ensure the children of Lucas County, Ohio are born ready, school ready and life ready. Aspire uses a data-driven approach, continuous improvement tools, and community conversations to help identify needs and reinforce behaviors, best practices and programs to create successful futures for children.

“We knew early on from our Community Conversations with key stakeholders that a critical goal is to promote the importance of understanding cultural differences,” shares Katie Enright, executive director of Aspire. “A predictor for success is how providers honor differences that may exist between children and their teachers and mentors, or how families feel programs fill their needs. When data from assessments indicated cultural competence as a priority gap to be addressed, we engaged with The Center to identify and offer training to help close the gap starting in 2018.”

Continuing in 2019, cultural competency programming is available to all nonprofits while supporting the goals of Aspire. Upcoming workshops target very practical skills that can be applied immediately in direct service delivery.

“We are proud of our continued collaboration with local initiatives,” says Heather Bradley, director of The Center. “We source experts in the areas most needed and deliver cost-effective workshops in formats that help increase accessibility for participants.”

**Upcoming Workshops:**

**Improve Services by Understanding Cultural Types**  
September 5, 2019  9:30 am – 12:30 pm

**Improve Services for Limited English Speakers**  
September 5, 2019  1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

More details and registration for all C4NPR workshops can be found at [www.c4npr.org](http://www.c4npr.org).
Innovation & Excellence Awards Breakfast and Ceremony
Tuesday, October 15, 2019
8:00-9:30 AM
The Premiere
4480 Heatherdowns Boulevard
Toledo, OH
RSVP by October 4
at www.toledocf.org
(Registration opens August 15)

The annual Nonprofit Innovation & Excellence Awards are designed to honor and recognize outstanding nonprofit organizations and their achievements in our community. The program is presented by Toledo Community Foundation, The Blade and The Center for Nonprofit Resources.

All Award Recipients will receive:
- The honor and distinction of being recognized as a leader among northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan’s nonprofits;
- A one-of-a-kind glass art award engraved with the organization’s name;
- An unrestricted grant from Toledo Community Foundation in the amount of $5,000; and
- An unrestricted grant in the amount of $1,000 from The Andersons.

Thank you to our Breakfast Sponsors:
The Andersons, Eidi Properties and Monroe Superstore Dodge/Chrysler/Jeep Ram.

Connect with Us on Social Media and the Web
Find the latest news about our northwest Ohio community and current grant opportunities through the Foundation’s social media accounts. Just “follow” and “like” Toledo Community Foundation on Facebook and join us on LinkedIn. As always, we welcome your comments and questions.

Also 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.

Let’s Stay in Touch
Toledo Community Foundation often has important news and updates to share with our donors and friends. To make sure we get news to you quickly, make sure we have your email address. Or, if you have a new email address, please let us know. Simply email Laura@toledocf.org and type “Update Email” in the subject line so we can record your email address.
Serving Our Donors with the Highest Standards

You may have seen a recent article in the New York Times about a family who sued Fidelity Charitable for allegedly mishandling their $1 million donation to a donor advised fund they established with Fidelity.

Toledo Community Foundation wants to assure donors that this type of issue does not happen at community foundations, and especially not at TCF. Community foundations are set up much differently than commercial donor advised fund providers like Fidelity—and they have a different mission.

“The case mentioned in the New York Times isn’t just a case about a donor advised fund,” said Keith Burwell, president, Toledo Community Foundation. “Instead, it’s a case about making sure donated assets are properly managed.”

“We work closely with donors to make sure that their donations are invested and managed based on their philanthropic goals,” said Keith. “The difference between TCF and commercial/broker funds starts with that important word in our name—community—and that’s you. We work with you to build a better community, not just monitor assets under management,” he explained.

If you have any questions about how Toledo Community Foundation manages donor funds, please feel free to contact Mike George, Vice President, Philanthropic Services & Advancement, at 419.241.5049 or email Mike@toledocf.org.

Annual Report Highlights

The Foundation’s 2018 Annual Report was mailed in early July. If you did not receive a copy or would like an additional copy, please contact Laura Sams, administrative assistant, at 419.241.5049 or email Laura@toledocf.org.

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 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