

Finding Purpose Through Philanthropy

SPRING 2021

LINCOLN

F O U N D A T I O N

A LEGACY OF LOVE

The Bergmeyers'
family tradition of
giving back

LINCOLN COMMUNITY
F O U N D A T I O N

Greetings:

Lincoln Loves. It was prophetic. Here is a look back at my president's letter from February 2020:

"Each of us and all of us enrich the life of our community. This is how we will build the future where we all achieve a strong, diverse, and growing community – a community where everyone prospers. Put simply, for everyone to prosper in Lincoln, we need to lean in and love one another. Imagine such a city. If any city can do this, it is Lincoln. Philadelphia is the City of Brotherly Love, but we can be a city of action: Lincoln Loves."



Little did we know what was ahead a year ago. In 2020 we feared, grieved, hurt, cried, argued, learned, adapted, appreciated...you can add your adjectives. But our community came together in amazing ways to offer support to each other. We volunteered, made masks, started community conversations, bought local, donated basic needs with our goods and our philanthropic dollars. We were a force of nature. We showed our true grit.

Several stories of love are highlighted in our spring newsletter. You will read about how John and Kris Bergmeyer are showing their love for Lincoln through legacy giving, how our community stepped up to raise more than \$1M for its little ones on Lincoln Littles Day, and how our grant-making process pivoted to address the urgent needs of nonprofits. You will also learn more about our 10th Give to Lincoln Day Celebration on May 25th. Mark your calendars!

There are still many unknowns as we move toward recovery, but one thing we know for sure. We are a city where each of us and all of us enrich the life of our community. We are a city of action: Lincoln Loves.

With Gratitude,

Barbara M. Bartle
President



Contributors



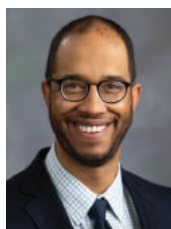
KELLY BURKEN

Kelly is the Digital Communications Specialist for the Lincoln Community Foundation as well as LCF's resident photographer. She specializes in wedding, family and senior portraits and lives with her husband, Kurt and their standard poodle, Banks.



MARY KAY ROTH

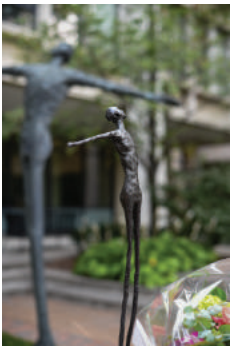
Mary Kay Roth was the director of Communications at Lincoln Public Schools for 20 years and, prior to that, was a newspaper reporter at various publications including the Lincoln Journal Star. She now freelance writes, hikes, travels, plays with her granddaughters and attempts to catch as many sunrises as possible.



CHUCK WILLIAMS

Chuck is the Marketing Coordinator for the Lincoln Community Foundation as well as LCF's Veteran Liaison. He is a podcasting enthusiast and amateur voice over talent. When he is not in his recording studio, he is active in his church community.

Save the Date



MAY 6, 2021 AT 12 PM Annual Donor Recognition Event & Charity Award Ceremony

On Thursday, May 6, join us for a special online celebration recognizing LCF's 2020 donors and our community as a whole for its acts of kindness and generosity. **To register for this virtual event, visit <https://my.lcf.org/charity>.**

MAY 25, 2021 Celebrate 10 Years of Give to Lincoln Day!

Lincoln Community Foundation's annual day of giving is back for its 10th year! Choose from more than 400 local nonprofits to support. If you have a donor advised fund at LCF, make your Give to Lincoln Day grant request at LCF.org through the donor portal any time before May 15 (please specify that it is for Give to Lincoln Day.) You may also make an online gift via credit card at **[GiveToLincoln.org](https://www.givetolincoln.org)** starting **May 1**.



LCF in the News:



LCF has been selected by the Community Foundation Opportunity Network (CFON) to participate in the inaugural cohort of foundations forming an aligned action network, **NEON (Nexus for Equity + Opportunity Nationwide)**. CFON is a national leadership and action network of 45 community foundations committed to narrowing the opportunity gap in their communities. This work has been the focus of Prosper Lincoln since 2015 with LCF serving as a convener for the community.

"Connecting with fellow foundations to accomplish our work is invaluable," said

Barbara Bartle, President of the Lincoln Community Foundation. "The NEON group is an attempt to take lessons learned in local situations and apply them nationwide. This is an opportunity to elevate the impact of Prosper Lincoln."

Open only to community foundations, this new cohort was selected for their leadership and standing in their community, track record of evidenced-based strategies resulting in measurable impact, and support from donors and other funders. NEON's mission is to dismantle structural and systemic racism and achieve equity in social and economic mobility in American communities. One community at a time, all at the same time.

The other selected foundations include: Central Indiana Community Foundation, Cleveland Foundation, Hawaii Community Foundation, Seattle Foundation, and Silicon Valley Community Foundation. Fairfield County's Community Foundation, Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, and the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven plan to work together as a state-wide consortium.

"These community foundations are highly regarded leaders in their communities, said Terry Mazany, network executive of CFON. "They will serve as exemplars for what we can do together."



LCF President, Barbara Bartle, accepts the 2020 Community Conscience Award on behalf of the Foundation during CenterPointe's virtual presentation.

LCF is pleased to share that it was awarded **CenterPointe's 2020 Community Conscience Award**. The Community Conscience Award recognizes outstanding efforts of individuals and groups in the community who have stepped up in their service to make Lincoln a better place for all citizens.

"Doing Good, While Doing Well is the tag line associated with the award and the Lincoln Community Foundation has exemplified that motto," said CenterPointe President/CEO, Topher Hansen. "Whether it be Tower Square, Give to Lincoln Day, Prosper Lincoln, South of Downtown Neighborhood development, Donor Advised Funds, or the many other examples, the work LCF has done to enhance the quality of our community is extraordinary."



NextGen Lincoln Board Chair, Max Rodenburg

ZOOMED OUT *but* TUNED *in to* THE COMMUNITY

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS GRANT \$15K TO LOCAL NONPROFITS

A year into the pandemic, many are feeling the effects of “Zoom fatigue” from working and socializing from home. However, when networking is a significant component of your organization’s activities, engagement is key. For NextGen Lincoln, a giving circle of young professionals, they responded to this virtual burnout by getting creative with their annual Abe Lincoln Party on February 19.

“It is a challenge,” said NextGen Lincoln Board Chair, Max Rodenburg. “The whole idea of NextGen is philanthropic networking so we had to keep things fresh in order to keep our members engaged.”

NextGen Lincoln (NextGen) is a giving circle of young adults who believe that, by coming together to give collectively, they can have a greater impact on Lincoln’s nonprofit organizations. NextGen offers an opportunity to give back, learn about the unique issues in our city, and get together in a fun and charitable way.

NextGen typically holds their kickoff party at a local establishment. This year, Sideshow Spirits hosted a mixology class and a virtual tour of their operations for the group via Zoom. Max, who became NextGen’s board chair in January, created

a “new member trivia” for folks to interact with on their mobile devices.

“It was pretty funny,” he confessed. “I think everybody learned a little bit more about each other.”

Events like the Annual Abe Lincoln party serve a larger purpose than just networking. Members of NextGen nominate local nonprofits at their events to receive unrestricted grants for their organization. The primary source of the award pool comes from annual membership dues, with additional funding from donations during Give to Lincoln Day, and a grant from the Lincoln Community Foundation. Local companies looking to partner with young professionals sponsor the events, which covers the group’s overhead costs.

Members vote on a nonprofit finalist at each event, and finalists traditionally send a representative to the final event known as the “pitch party.” The group has given tiered awards for first, second and third-place finalists in the past. In 2020, the group decided to award all three finalists: Lincoln Lighthouse, The Malone Center, and the Mental Health Association of Nebraska an equal portion of their \$15,000 award.

Many of the organizations that receive these awards from NextGen have been smaller non-profits. Max points out that this is one of the unique things about NextGen.

“Smaller non-profits are primarily grant-funded, or program funded, where a lot of the revenue is pre-allocated and has to be used on certain programs,” said Max. “Receiving a grant for general operations, where the funds can be used to help with payroll or keep the lights on, becomes a giant shot in the arm for them. It has been really rewarding to see the reaction from them when they receive the funds.”

NextGen currently has 46 members, up from 42 in 2020. The group’s goal is to have somewhere between 60 to 75 members by the end of the year.

“This is a great way for young people to connect with their peers who care about the community and to learn about non-profits that they can get involved in,” said Max. “I highly recommend any young professional to join because it is a really good group of people, raising money for great organizations.”

If you are interested in joining or sponsoring NextGen, contact Kelly Burken at 402-474-2345 or kellyb@lcf.org.

Partnering Up to Prevent Homelessness

LCF distributes more than \$2.5M in CARES Act Relief

Collaboration is key in the City of Lincoln – especially during these challenging times. Agencies and non-profits regularly join forces to achieve amazing things. Sometimes the relationships come together at the right moment to form something much larger than anyone could imagine.

That was the case with the Lincoln Prevention Assistance Common Fund (LPAC). LPAC is a partnership between the City of Lincoln Urban Development Department, UNL Center on Children, Families, and the Law (CCFL), and the Lincoln Community Foundation. The partnership formed to distribute funds to Lincoln residents from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

The local economy has been impacted by the pandemic in many ways: job reductions and furloughs, business closings, employees forced to leave the workforce to care for children no longer in schools and daycares. The ripple-effect through the workforce made it clear that if actions were not taken soon, people would be at risk of homelessness, many for the first time in their lives.

Lincoln is familiar with issues surrounding homelessness and has been working aggressively to create solutions as well as develop affordable housing. The Center for Children Families and the Law (CCFL) has been identifying and assessing the most vulnerable among the City's homeless population through their coordinated entry system, called All Doors Lead Home (ADLH). This system provides people and families experiencing homelessness multiple public and private access points in the City to be assessed for housing assistance.

Public access points include Center Pointe, Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach, Family Service, People's City Mission, The Hub, CEDARS and Community Action Partnership of Lancaster and Saunders Counties. Any person or

family experiencing homelessness in Lincoln can visit these public access points to be assessed and referred by the coordinated entry staff.

ADLH has been addressing the needs of individuals experiencing homelessness in Lincoln for the past four years, however the assessment of individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless, known simply as prevention, is a new component of the coordinated entry system.

"Prevention was going to be a piece of All Doors Lead Home," says Denise Packard, the Coordinated Entry Manager for CCFL. "We were already planning to go live with prevention and coordinated entry, however the pandemic made us do it in double-time."

The City already had a strong working relationship with CCFL, due to their involvement with the continuum of care in the Lincoln Homeless Coalition. It made sense for the City to partner with CCFL on CARES Act funding because of their existing relationship and framework for assessing homelessness.

"When we found out we would be receiving these funds, it seemed like a good fit," said Wynn Hjermstad, the Community Development Manager in the City's Urban Development Department.

The next step was bringing in an organization to manage the multiple streams of funding. Much of the funding came in the form of CARES Response and Recovery funds through Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. Other funds came from Emergency Solutions Grants and Community Development Block Grants. Each of these funding sources have different eligibility requirements that needed to be adhered to. Having multiple agencies manage the different funds would involve significant overhead.



That's when the Lincoln Community Foundation stepped in.

LCF and the City's Urban Development Department had already been working together to address Prosper Lincoln's community agenda focus area of Affordable Housing. The pieces were now in place: homeless management, prevention, and continuum of care are now centralized through ADLH, and flowing through one payment processor, LCF.

Getting the program off the ground was not an easy task. CCFL only had months to create a prevention process to integrate in the existing coordinated entry system. LCF had to pivot employee time and resources to process the payments.

"We were building the plane while we were flying it," said Michelle Paulk, Vice President Community Outreach at LCF.

That plane was the vehicle that helped many Lincolniters navigate through turbulence. Since July, more than \$2.5M in rent, mortgage and utility assistance has been distributed to more than 850 households, many who received assistance are families with children.

"I learned we can do so many different things," said Michelle. "The Foundation can be helpful to the community by being that neutral convener, that neutral place that can distribute funds and make a big impact on folks who need rapid assistance."

"I always knew our community is pretty darn awesome, but this solidifies it for me," said Denise. "Our partnership with the City and the Foundation has been wonderful. It makes me realize you can move mountains when you put your mind to it."



A LEGACY *of* LOVE

THE BERGMEYERS' FAMILY TRADITION OF QUIETLY GIVING BACK

Seeds of giving were sown early for John & Kris Bergmeyer – with precious family lessons about paying it forward and leaving a legacy of kindness. Now they are passing on that generosity and grace through the Lincoln Community Foundation by supporting the community needs of today as well as legacy plans for the future.

John Bergmeyer grew up in a small town in Nebraska. The kind of town where everyone was instilled with community values of pitching in and working together. John's dad was the community banker – always involved, always willing to share his time, treasure, and talent.

Kris Bergmeyer was raised in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, where she watched her dad give back to the community – both through volunteerism and financial support.

"My dad was a silent giver because he was always there, supporting, but always

from behind the scenes," said Kris. "I loved that he helped so many, but they never knew it was him. He gave, quietly, in his own wonderful way."

The Bergmeyers first came to Lincoln for college. A small-town boy and a South Dakota gal meeting at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and falling in love – eventually getting married and making Lincoln their forever home.

"Everything they say about Lincoln is true," said John. "This is a great place to raise a family, form friendships and find success in business."

John, a business law attorney/ shareholder at O'Neill, Heinrich, Damkroger, Bergmeyer & Shultz, P.C., L.L.O., acknowledges how the support from his community impacted his professional success.

"People treat you well here, they do the right thing," said John. "We were

fortunate to get so much support over the years, and we want to make sure that others have an opportunity for that same kind of support."

Both Bergmeyers agree it was a wise choice to customize their legacy giving plan through the Lincoln Community Foundation.

"We have both been so impressed with the Foundation's very visible impact on our community – and how, in turn, the community trusts the Foundation," said John. "Their track record speaks for itself. They are held in such high esteem in our community. They have outstanding leadership and a great team of professionals."

The Bergmeyers feel incredibly thankful for everything Lincoln has given them: family, friends, a home.

"We were blessed to be able to build a career and life here in this wonderfully diverse and growing city," said John. "We are happy to be able to give a little back to this organization and community. We love Lincoln."

This spring, they are helping their daughter, Allison, move to California where she will learn about serving as a vet tech. "She is an animal lover who believes in saving the world, one animal at a time," said Kris.

"Lincoln is our home, and we love giving back to our community," said Kris. "We also both believe strongly in giving, quietly, without recognition. Our reward is knowing that someone is receiving something they would otherwise not have received. It is meaningful to be part of making that happen – to be quietly part of the solution. And that makes us very happy."



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"We have both been so impressed with the Foundation's very visible impact on our community – and how, in turn, the community trusts the Foundation. Their track record speaks for itself. They are held in such high esteem in our community. They have outstanding leadership and a great team of professionals."

– John Bergmeyer

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LCF's Legacy Society

As you develop your legacy plans, remembering your favorite organizations and community can provide a lasting legacy in your name. The Lincoln Community Foundation has created the Legacy Society for those who love Lincoln and have made plans to leave an end-of-life gift through their estate or beneficiary designations via a retirement plan, investment account or insurance policy.

Legacy Society members are special friends of LCF and their future gifts, memorialized in their name or the name of a loved one, recognize their thoughtfulness and leadership for the community for generations to come.

"We are so fortunate to be able to give back, we decided to go ahead and get started," said Kris. "The Foundation provides access and resources to such a depth and breadth of non-profits in our community."

"We decided that making decisions early in life about our giving plans meant we would be able to enjoy and see the results, impact and benefits of the gifts," said John. "The Lincoln Community Foundation provided a wide variety of giving options. Working with them is definitely a win-win."

If you are interested in learning more about legacy planning, contact Tracy Edgerton at 402-474-2345 or tracye@lcf.org.



LINCOLN LIFTS UP ITS LITTLE ONES

GENEROUS COMMUNITY RAISES MORE THAN \$1M FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Lincoln's littlest residents had big news to cheer about on February 12. Nearly 700 donors came together to raise \$1,072,088 for early childhood education on the third annual Lincoln Littles Giving Day. Hosted on Abraham Lincoln's birthday by the Lincoln Community Foundation, the giving day raised funds for tuition assistance, allowing more children in need to access quality early childhood education.

"Hats off to you, Lincoln!" said LCF President, Barbara Bartle. "The community stepped up for our little ones during such a critical time and your generosity was absolutely heart-warming."

This year, Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird issued the "Mayor's Big Challenge for Lincoln Littles," to encourage community donations. The City identified one-time funds totaling \$500,000 from the recent federal stimulus bill to contribute to

Lincoln Littles. A goal was set to raise one million dollars through combined efforts to support high-quality childcare.

"Working families have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. Many have lost income due to the pandemic, and childcare has become even more difficult to access," said the Mayor. "My Economic Recovery Task Force highlighted these challenges and called for increased access to childcare as part of its recommended strategies to support our workforce and local businesses."

Matching sponsors provided backbone funding for the giving day and together with the community, surpassed the Mayor's challenge. The investment in Lincoln's current and future workforce is one that local individual and business philanthropists can feel good about. Research by James Heckman, Nobel Prize

winning American economist, shows every dollar spent on high quality, birth-to-five programs delivered a 13% per annum return on investment to the community.

"We extend our gratitude to the Mayor for this incredible commitment and show of support," said Barbara. "Our matching fund sponsors and generous community answered the call with their donations. These funds will help so many working families and will give our littlest residents the best possible start."

Even prior to the pandemic, parents reported expense as the biggest challenge to access high quality early childcare in Lincoln. In fact, it currently costs more per year to send an infant or toddler to a childcare center than one year of tuition at the University of Nebraska. With the added difficulties and stress wrought by COVID-19, working families are struggling

to stay in the workforce and provide quality learning experiences for their children.

“We are a family of four and my husband lost his job recently,” said one mother who received assistance through Lincoln Littles. “His income was the primary source of income for our mortgage, the cars, preschool, all the big things. When he lost his job, my first thought was – what about our kids? To say, ‘thank you’ wouldn’t even begin to describe our gratitude for the Lincoln Littles Scholarship we received.”

Since the giving day was launched in 2019, more than 300 local families have received tuition assistance through the Lincoln Littles initiative. Lincoln Littles grants funds to pre-qualified early-childhood programs (homes and centers) that participate in the state’s Step-Up to Quality program. Anne Brandt, Executive Director of Lincoln Littles, has seen firsthand how families and childcare providers alike have been negatively impacted during the pandemic.

“The pandemic has made it clear, high-quality childcare and education is essential,” said Anne. “The Lincoln Littles tuition

assistance dollars help support local children and families, but also our area childcare employees and business owners. With Lincoln’s commitment and generosity, we will continue to work to build a better early childhood system.”

You can still support Lincoln Littles and other Prosper Lincoln initiatives. Contact Chip DeBuse, Vice President for Development at 402-474-2345 or chipd@lcf.org.

Matching sponsors include Mae Whitmer Early Childhood Fund (Lead Sponsor); Buffett Early Childhood Fund; Bettenhausen Family Foundation, Rosalind Carr, in memory of Professor James D. Carr; Complete Children’s Health; Kile and Virginia Johnson; Krieger Family Foundation; Labenz & Associates LLC; Drs. Marilyn and David Moore; Nebraska Children and Families Foundation; Nelnet; Helen Raikes, in memory of Senator Ron Raikes; Drs. Bob and Lisa Rauner; Sue and Al Saathoff; Susan Sehnert Stuart; Donald and Janice Svehla Family; Tom and Susan Tallman; Union Bank and Trust Company; Dr. Eileen and Richard Vautravers; Ross and Judy Wilcox; and WRK Family Foundation.



LINCOLN *takes* ACTION

LINCOLN COVID-19 RESPONSE FUND GRANTS MORE THAN \$1.2M TO LOCAL NONPROFITS

Time was of the essence in early March 2020. Communities across the country were grappling with how to support their vulnerable residents in the first wave of the pandemic. Lincoln had not yet reported a confirmed case of the novel coronavirus. As uncertainty loomed, LCF President, Barbara Bartle, was prepared.

“Our colleagues from Seattle to Pittsburgh shared how rapidly the situation was evolving,” said Barbara. “As a community convener, we knew this was the time to come together and mobilize public, private and philanthropic support.”

A coalition of partners including LCF, the City of Lincoln, the United Way of Lincoln and Lancaster County, the Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development (LPED), the Community Health Endowment, and other philanthropic and business partners quickly formed to address how Lincoln would respond to the crisis. The Lincoln COVID-19 Fund was created to rapidly deploy flexible resources to nonprofit organizations in Lincoln that are working with communities disproportionately affected by the coronavirus pandemic.

Since the Fund was launched on March 20, 2020, more than \$1.2 million has been awarded to 66 local nonprofits. The grants have been a coordinated response to help support the basic needs of vulnerable and newly vulnerable Lincoln residents, including access to food, housing, medical information, childcare, and other support. The fund received nearly 800 individual donations from this generous community.

“This fund has made a real difference for many Lincoln individuals and families over the past year,” said Mayor Gaylor Baird. “Thank you to all those who contributed to the fund to help friends, neighbors and co-workers impacted by the pandemic. Lincoln residents and businesses again have demonstrated that we live in a compassionate community where we take care of each other.”

Grant recipients were identified by a committee, chaired by Bryan Seck, Director of Workforce Development for LPED.

Meagan Liesveld, Executive Director of the United Way served as Vice Chair. The committee moved quickly to distribute funds to nonprofits as fast as donations were coming in. Committee Chair, Bryan Seck, reflected on the experience one year later.

“This is how we operate in Lincoln,” said Bryan. “We work together, we identify a solution, and we do our absolute best to help each other. Nonprofits on the frontlines of the pandemic were supporting many residents who had never needed assistance before. It has been an honor to serve as chair and to see first-

hand the impact these grants made in our community.”

The rapid response and flexibility of the grants made a difference for nonprofits during such a challenging year. Laura McCulley, Grant Manager at the Clyde Malone Community Center, explained how the funds helped fill the gaps for their organization.

“If we’re missing supplies, or people, or things within the program that aren’t covered by restricted funds, these grants helped us go full-circle,” said Laura.

“Without unrestricted funds, we would not be able to do the extra, and we did a lot of extra this year.”

In the latest round of grant-making decisions this February, the committee also recommended a \$50,000 grant to the Lincoln Prevention Assistance Common (LPAC) Fund. LPAC is a partnership among LCF, the City Urban Development Department, and the UNL Center for Children, Families, and the Law to distribute housing and utility assistance to Lincoln residents in need due to the impacts of COVID-19. Future contributions to the Lincoln COVID-19 Response Fund will also be directed to LPAC.

“Grants from the Lincoln COVID-19 Response Fund have impacted hundreds of children, families and individuals in our city the past year,” said Barbara. “So many caring donors in our community have contributed. Thank you, Lincoln. These donations have truly been gifts of love.”

For more information on the Lincoln COVID-19 Response Fund, visit [LCF.org/covid](https://lcf.org/covid).



Photo courtesy of Food Bank of Lincoln

Open Door Grants

HELPING NONPROFITS DURING A TIME OF CRISIS

2020 was a critical year for grantmaking and the beginning of a new type of grantmaking at the Lincoln Community Foundation. Open Door Grants launched in January 2020, replacing LCF's Community and Quick Response Grants. The new grant process is designed to rapidly respond to needs and opportunities within the community. At the time Open Door grants launched, no one could have anticipated the obstacles nonprofits would face in just a few short months.

"Thankfully, we were already in a position to rapidly disburse grant funding when the pandemic hit," said Michelle Paulk, Vice President for Community Outreach at LCF. "Open Door Grants also served as a model for the COVID-19 Response Fund that deployed \$1.2 million in 12 months."

Local nonprofits can apply for up to \$10,000 in grants which may be designated for operations, programs, or capital projects. The application process is a single step, reviewed monthly and applications are accepted throughout the year. Nonprofits may apply when it makes strategic sense for their organization's fiscal calendar.

The result is organizations in the community have a simplified application process and a much faster response. In the first year of the Open Door Grants, LCF awarded more than \$239,000 to 50 nonprofits representing more than a dozen program areas. Program areas included, but were not limited to, arts and culture, community improvement, education and youth, health and human services, and environment and animal-related charities.

For more information on the Open Door Grants contact Michelle Paulk, Vice President for Community Outreach, at 402-474-2345 or michellep@lcf.org.



Photo courtesy of Malone Center

Celebrating 10 Years of Give to Lincoln Day!

Community-wide day of philanthropy approaches a new milestone



The stage is set for the 10th annual Give to Lincoln Day on Tuesday, May 25th. Coordinated by the Lincoln Community Foundation, in partnership with local nonprofit organizations, the annual event has raised more than \$33 million for local nonprofits in its nine-year history.

Give to Lincoln Day is a giving day event that encourages everyone to contribute to Lincoln and Lancaster County nonprofit organizations through a single online giving platform between May 1 and May 25. Every donation makes a bigger impact on Give to Lincoln Day because nonprofits also get a proportional share of a \$500,000 match fund made possible by LCF, Presenting Sponsor, West Gate Bank, and other generous sponsors. Donors may search nonprofits and give online at **GiveToLincoln.com**.

Gifts may also be made via check and mailed to the Lincoln Community Foundation at 215 Centennial Mall South, Suite 100, Lincoln, NE 68508 if postmarked by May 20. In lieu of mailing donations, donors may drop off checks between May 1 and May 25 at Presenting Sponsor West Gate Bank's Lincoln branches.

Donors who are 70½ or older may make qualified charitable distributions from their Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA) to charities participating in Give to Lincoln Day. If you are interested in learning more about how to support Give to Lincoln Day by using

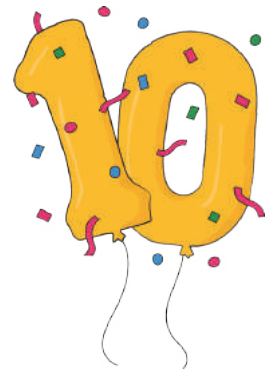
a qualified charitable distribution from an IRA, please contact LCF by May 10 at (402) 474-2345.

LCF staff heard about giving days in 2011 while attending a national conference for community foundations. Inspired by a day where everyone can be a philanthropist, LCF staff brought the idea back to the board.

"The board was so excited about the concept that we planned the first Give to Lincoln Day event just six months later," said Michelle Paulk, LCF Vice President for Community Outreach. "We raised \$1.3 million that first year and could not have imagined how the event would blossom and become a community-wide day of philanthropy that people watch for every year."

From \$1.3 million with 187 participating nonprofits in 2012 to \$7 million with 448 participating nonprofits in 2020, the event has grown tremendously year after year. The most recent record-breaking results in 2020 came at a critical time for nonprofits in our community. Nearly 31,000 individual donations were received, an increase of almost 10,000 from the previous year.

"Last year's results were an incredible show of support for our community and neighbors," said Barbara. "Our nonprofits have been on the front line serving our most vulnerable for over a year. Our generosity is needed now more than ever. On May 25th, let's wrap our arms around them and give them a great big community hug."



Support Nonprofits with DAFs

Open A Donor Advised Fund and Support Your Favorite Nonprofits on Give to Lincoln Day

If you have a donor advised fund at Lincoln Community Foundation, fees are waived when you support nonprofits for Give to Lincoln Day. Make grants to your favorite participating nonprofits and they will receive 100% of your gift. Use the My LCF online portal at www.lcf.org or email Michelle Paulk at michellep@lcf.org to request grant distributions by May 15. Minimum distribution of \$100 per nonprofit.

If you don't already have a donor advised fund with Lincoln Community Foundation, there is still time! Contact Diane Mendenhall, Vice President for Gift Planning at 402-474-2345 or dianem@lcf.org to set up and fund your DAF by May 1 to make your Give to Lincoln Day grants from the fund.

