

Forward by CommUNITY

2025 Annual Report
The Yellow Springs Community Foundation

Eat
Shop
Laugh
Play
CARE

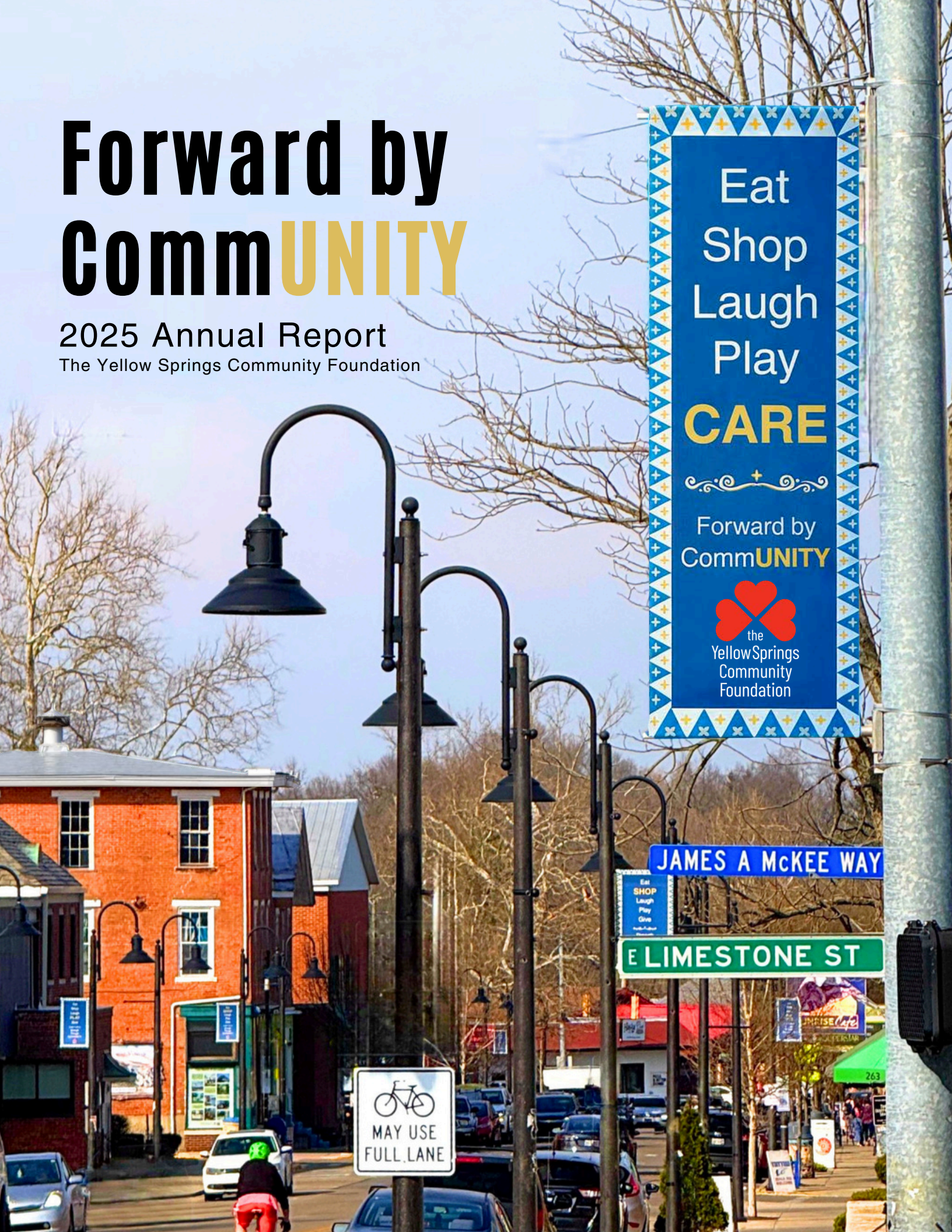
Forward by
CommUNITY

the
Yellow Springs
Community
Foundation

JAMES MCKEE WAY

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

Yellow Springs is a rare gift. Our colorful history, a one-of-a-kind downtown, our good schools, our supportive nonprofits, the many outdoor spaces, local news options, cultural variety, and so many more community treasurers—these are not accidents. These are the result of mindful, focused, proactive, and generous residents who have chosen, generation after generation, to invest in this vibrant place.

People come here and stay. Those who leave often find their way back. This is Yellow Springs.

In 2025, the Foundation listened more intently, brought our community together more often, and focused your funding into programs that serve our neighbors and strengthen our community.

The pages ahead illustrate our story—from the families you helped feed to the nonprofit leaders who attended training, from YSEQUITY participants feeling more financially stable to community conversations about how we ensure a vibrant future. It is a story of Yellow Springs moving forward, together.

That is what Forward by CommUNITY means to me. Not just a theme for this report—but a description of how this place works at its best, people working together, and the Foundation is honored to help you ensure this.

Thank you for believing in Yellow Springs and for entrusting the Foundation Board and Staff with your giving, grant funding, and projects.

Jeannamarie Cox, Executive Director
937.477.3252 | jcox@yscf.org

THE PEOPLE BEHIND OUR MISSION

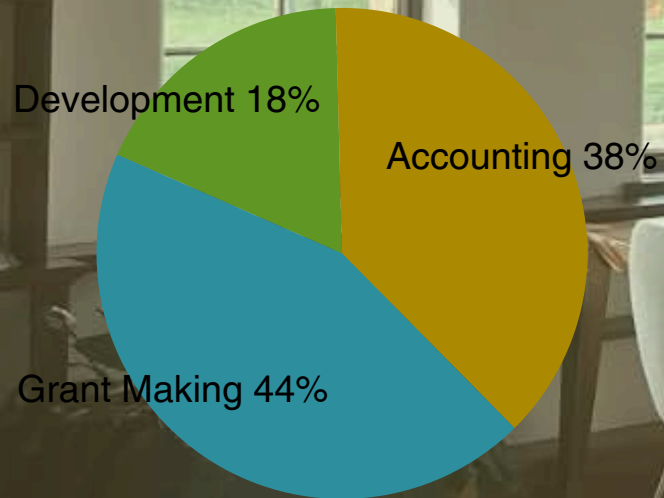
FINANCIALS

Current Board of Trustees

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Joanne Lakomski , Chair | Terry Graham |
| Dr. Raphael Allen | Artie Isaac |
| David Hammond-Butcher | Jalana Lazar |
| Rich Bullock | Todd Leventhal |
| Steven Conn | Joshua Mabra |
| Matt Denman | Lisa Abel , Emeritus Trustee |

Thank you to **Angie Hsu!**
 (Rolled off of the Board December 2025 due to her Village Council Election)

Staff Time/Hours



Dedicated Staff (hours per week)

- | | |
|---|---|
| Chloe Manor
Project Manager, YSEQUITY (30hrs) | Mychael Roberts
Donor Relations Administrator (20hrs) |
| Maria Ramirez
Grant Making (30hrs) | Brianna Ayers
Operations Manager (30hrs, 10hrs) |
| Melissa Heston
Youth Action Board (5hrs through March 2026) | Sara Miller Gray
Payroll Administrator (15hrs) |
| Sarah Wallis
Scholarship Administrator (10hrs) | Kim McCarthy
Accountant (30hrs) |
| Jeannamarie Cox
Executive Director | |

Total Managed Funds



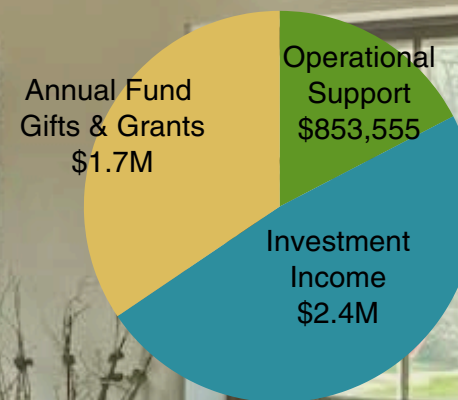
Foundation Funds



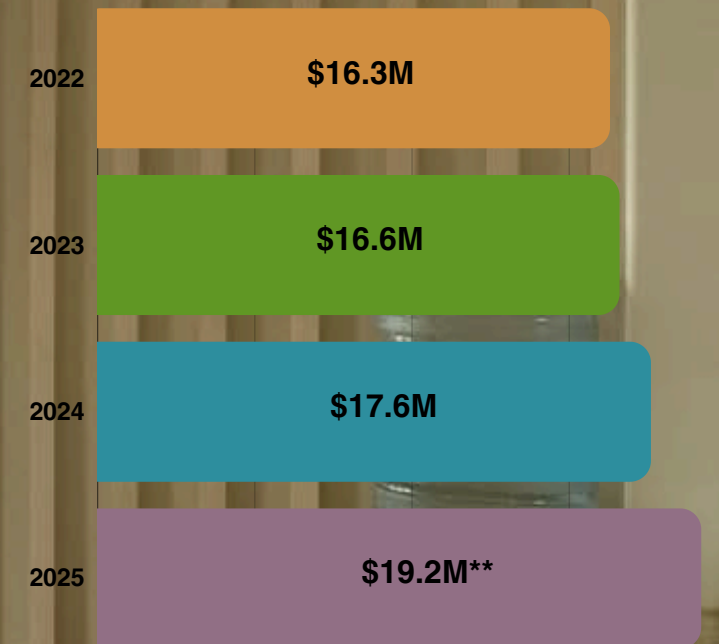
Endowed Funds*



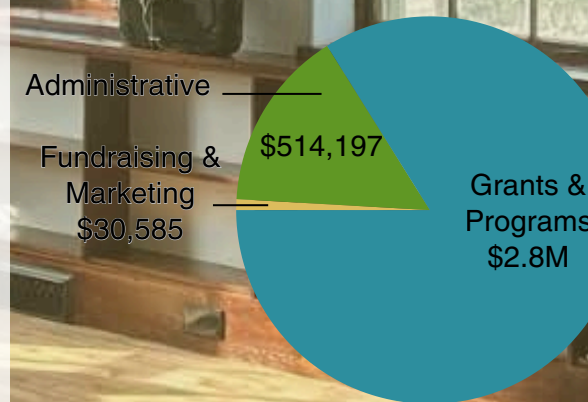
2025 Income



Foundation's Growth



Expenses



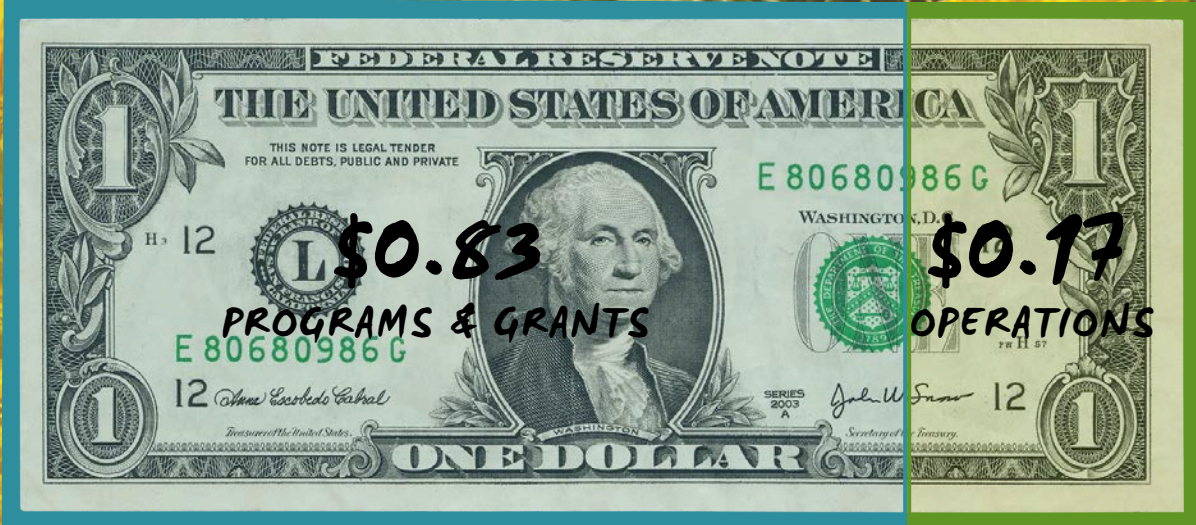
*A full audit of all donations by fund, starting from our first donation in 1974 through today, has been completed to ensure we understand the value of the principal in our endowments. Thank you, Brianna, for your dedicated work on this project.

** Audit & 990's at YSCF.org/Foundation

YOUR GIFTS AT WORK

OUR STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

What happens to \$1 given to YSCF? A Lot!



For every dollar entrusted to the Yellow Springs Community Foundation in 2025, 83 cents went directly to grants, programs, and community impact — with just 17 cents covering the operations that make it all possible.

Our Program Expense Ratio compares favorably to community foundation benchmarks tracked by Candid and the Council on Foundations.

Whether your gift was \$10 or \$10,000, your dollar worked hard for Yellow Springs, thank you.

Proactively Convene Community Collaborations

Key Initiatives: Tom's Community Market (exploring community ownership), Partner on the Bowen Housing Needs Study, Local Credit Card Partnership with Bridge Credit Union, Vibrant Community Conversations

Impact: Multiple Organizations Engaged and Partnerships Developed

Be the Foundation Of Choice For Local Giving

Key Initiatives: Audit & 990's Posted, Donation Internal Audit, Focus on Donors and Their Giving, YSCaringTuesday, and Strategic Local Investments

Impact: \$19.2 Million Under Management, Balanced Budget, 8% Growth YTD, \$1.5M Granted to Our Community

Engage the Next Generation of Donors and Active Citizens

Key Initiatives: YSEQUITY, Community Action Project, CFLeads – Economic Mobility Project, Youth Action Board (YAB), Miller Student and Encore Grants, Nonprofit Governance Training

Impact: 70 YSEQUITY participants, 60 attended Governance Training, YAB 6th Year Engaging 116 Students, 15 Years of the Miller Program engaging Students/Encores/Nonprofits

Expand Awareness and Visibility of YSCF

Key Initiatives: Foundation Friday newsletter, Love of Community Campaign, 50th Reunion Scholarship Newsletter, YSEQUITY Newsletter, Keep It Vibrant Survey

Impact: Growth in Annual Grant Funds, Regular Community Feedback



Community Dance Party on Short St.



Tom's Market Town Hall



YS Film Fest



YS Pride Parade

Bringing the Community Together

Tom's Market

We hosted two community meetings to discuss a community ownership model, building on the conversation from a Town Hall in January with over 200 attendees.

Housing Needs Study (YS/MT)

A new working group has formed to update the 2018 Bowen Housing Needs Study, with funding support shared between the Foundation and the Village.

Community Kitchen

Planning is underway for a community kitchen at Presbyterian Westminster Hall.

Local Credit Card Partnership

In partnership with the Bridge Credit Union and Chamber of Commerce, a new initiative offers 1% cash-back on local purchases with a matching gift provided to local nonprofits.

COMMUNITY

Over the past year, we helped bring people together through conversations and community events that strengthened connection and collaboration.

Funded Projects

- Peace Mask Project
- Short Street Concerts
- YS Film Festival on Short St.
- Running for Local Office Program

YSCF Programs

- Vibrant YS "Product Availability" Survey
- Monthly Nonprofit Directors' Breakfasts
- Vibrant YS Leaders Task Force
- Community Dance Party



Food Security, Emergency Funding & Guaranteed Income



YS Senior Center, Friday Free Lunch for the Community



\$33K

Tom's Coupons supported food access through Village Outreach, the Senior Center, Who's Hungry?, and Yellow Springs Schools. The SNAP Shutdown heightened the need.

An additional \$49K in Food Security Funding supported the **Beloved Community Project**, the **YS Community Pantry**, **Small Pantries**, and **Who's Hungry?**.

70

Participants Reached as of January 1, 2026

YSEQUNITY

YSEQUNITY is built on a simple belief: people in need know best how to use financial support to meet their own goals.

YSEQUNITY administers a guaranteed income (GI) program to income-qualifying Yellow Springs and Miami Township residents that provides \$300/month unrestricted cash for 24 months. Applications open twice a year, May 1–15 and November 1–15. YSEQUNITY is the only guaranteed income program in the U.S. that takes place in a village.

2025 Program Highlights

- **Distributed** Over \$98K in Unrestricted Cash to YS Residents Struggling to Make Ends Meet.
- **May:** Featured GI Participants' Photo Elicitation Project on Community Belonging During the Foundation's Annual meeting, with Presentations from the Ohio State University's School of Social Work and the University of Pennsylvania Center for Guaranteed Income Research.
- **October:** Launched the Community Action Project, Bringing Together 14 Collaborators with Lived Experience of Income or Housing Instability in Yellow Springs to Develop Community-Driven Solutions to Economic Inequities.
- **January–September:** Participated in the CFLeads Economic Mobility Cohort with Foundations across the U.S. and received a \$50,000 Grant to support the Community Action Project.

\$81K

\$47K YSCF - YSCaringTuesday match from the \$100K awarded for food security initiatives by the YSCF Board.

\$31K

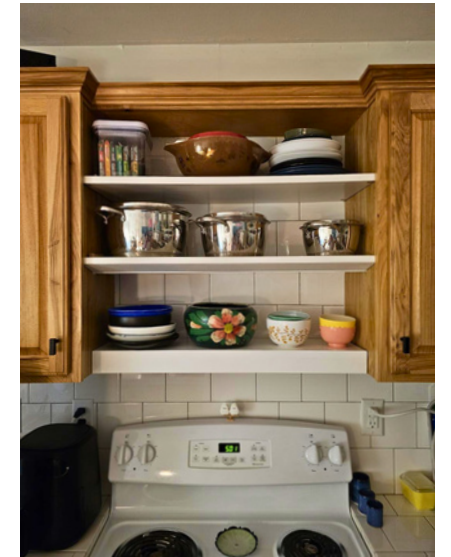
Gifts to YS Emergency Funds

24 Grants

From the Emergency Fund

The YS Emergency Fund at the Foundation was created to focus on the specific emergency needs of individuals and families in YS/MT. We partner with The Feminist Health Fund, Yellow Springs Emergency Assistance, Village Community Outreach, and other area nonprofits to get funding out to the households who need it most.

In Their View: YSEQUNITY Participants Elicitation Project



It's been a blessing. The program has gifted me with just enough financial rope each month to pay my household bills in full; knowing the funds will be there each month lifts the mental weight of worry.



GRANTS

Through strong grantmaking and fiscal responsibility, we continue to invest in the long-term vibrancy of our community. In 2025, we distributed over **\$300,000** in competitive grants to local nonprofits, administered **more than 200 funds**, and provided **rapid-response support to meet emerging needs**. At the same time, we strengthened internal systems, expanded transparency, and supported nonprofit leadership through programs like the Miller Endowment.



365 Project "Blacks in Yellow Springs" Walking Tours



Hanif Abdurraqib Presenting for the Speaker Series at the Foundry Theater

Generosity in Motion

Your charitable dollars generate investment returns while strengthening the local economy, creating jobs, and funding grants that enhance Yellow Springs.

Nonprofit Support Programs

- Nonprofit Luncheon Holiday Event
- Capital Campaign Training – Lilly School of Philanthropy
- Enhanced the Nonprofit Directory
- YSCaringTuesday Support and Matching Funds
- Governance Training
- Quarterly Nonprofit Leadership Breakfast

\$304K General Competitive Grants (GRC)

28 Nonprofits with grants ranging from \$1,392 to \$20K

26 Rapid Response Grants

Quick Turn-Around Nonprofit Program

15th Year of the Miller Endowment Program

2025: 23 Nonprofits, 23 Students & 13 Encores

7 Grants to YS Schools from Endowment for Education (YSEE)

Plus \$400 to Each Teacher for Classroom Needs During Construction



Little Art Theatre Marquee Reveal



World House Choir on Their Way to Perform in Prague



YSDC Ownership with YSCF Support



YS Porch Fest



Multiplying Your Gifts Close to Home

Bridge Loans: Short-Term Funding Until Committed Grants and Funds are Received by Nonprofits

Lines of Credit: Supporting Day-To-Day Nonprofit Operations with Fund Collateral

Emergency Loan Funding (Nonprofit, Individual, and business via Bridge Credit Union): Quick-Response with Low Barriers & Favorable Terms

Real Property Loans: Short-Term Financing for Nonprofit Capital Projects

WHERE FUTURE LEADERS TAKE ROOT

From the Youth Action Board to nonprofit governance training, YSCF is investing in the people who will lead Yellow Springs for decades to come. In 2025, we supported 23 student Miller jobs, awarded 35 scholarships, and trained 60 nonprofit leaders.



James A. McKee Association Candidates Night
With Questions from Youth Action Board
Photo Credit: Philip O'Rourke

Young Voices Real Impact Our Future



50th Reunion Scholarship Recipients at Scholarship Awards

116

Students Have Participated in the Youth Action Board Across Six Years

A special recognition: Melissa Heston's final year mentoring the program. Thank you, Melissa.

35

Scholarships Awarded to YSHS Students.
\$45K Total for Yellow Springs Students

The 50th Reunion Alumni Scholarship Fund Raised \$12K in 2025, Fund Total Now Above \$315K

60

Nonprofit Leaders Trained with Expert Trainers from the Lilly School of Philanthropy and Leadership Columbus.



Youth Action Board

Young People Leading Real Change

The YAB — 33 students from YSHS and Middle School raised over \$12,000 this year to fight food insecurity, matched 2 to 1 by YSCF, for a total of \$36,000 for small community grants. Grants went to Food2Go (weekend food packs for 50+ YS kids), the Community Kitchen Project, and Tom's Market Coupons for students in need.



Workshop by Jalyn Q. Roe for Youth Action Board

Miller Fellows

Bringing Students and Encores Together

- Streamlined Grant Process
- Improved Connections with Students and Encores
- 2025: 23 Nonprofits, 23 Students & 13 Encores



Nonprofit Governance Training

Telling Our Story

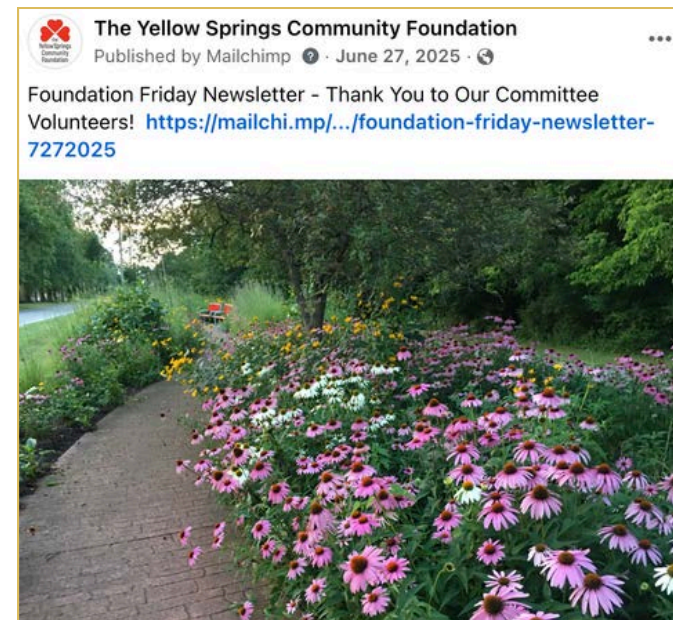
Foundation Friday

Keeping the Community Informed and Connected Every Week

51%
Open rate

1,600+
Subscribers

Our weekly newsletter covering news and highlights about our Donors, Nonprofits, and Community. Reprinted for YSNews and social media



Social Media

Growing Presence Across Platforms — More Consistent Posting, More Community Connection

On the Air & In the News

- **WYSO 91.3 - Food Security**

The **Youth Action Board's** work fighting food insecurity was featured on WYSO Public Radio, bringing YSCF's story to a regional audience.

May 2025 *"How young people in Yellow Springs are fighting food insecurity in the community."*



2025/2026 Youth Action Board

- **Dayton Daily News - Tom's Market Co-op**

The Dayton Daily News covered the foundation's plan to transition the Yellow Springs staple into a community-owned co-op — and the town hall where roughly 250 residents turned out in overwhelming support.

Love of Community

The Love of Community campaign raised \$149K — Up 15% from the year before.

- 60% of gifts were for community projects
- 20% YSEQUITY
- 20% Foundation Operations

Scan here to visit the Love of Community Fund or visit YSCF.org/LoveofCommunity



WHAT'S COMING

Looking Ahead: 2026

- Continued Local Investment For Our Vibrant Community
- Community Action Design Project
- More Community Conversations
- Tom's Market Community Ownership Decision
- YSEQUITY Savings Program Implementation Under Consideration
- Speaker/Author Series at The Foundry Theater & Little Art Theatre with YS Library Association
- Ohio Underground Film Festival
- YS Film Festival, Mini Fest & Film Short St.

Thank you, YSCF Staff, and especially Mychael, for creating our annual report



Bench on the Corner of Corry St. & Xenia Ave.

SUPPORTING OUR WORK

A Donor for 35+ Years, WHY?

"I fondly remember my tenure as both a member and president of the YSCF in the late 80's and 90's, during which time the total assets of the YSCF went from roughly \$200,000 in 1983 to passing the \$1,000,000 mark when I retired as president in 1996. One million felt like such a monumental accomplishment with such widespread community support back then, and now, with assets over \$17 million, I am in awe of what this little town can do. Knowing the dedication it takes to sustain a growing organization — from volunteers to the staff who manage it day to day — we have contributed yearly, earmarking our gift to the Read & Beverly Viemeister Administrative Endowment. We love what the YSCF does and congratulate all those members and staff over the past decades who have enabled its success!" Vicki Morgan

HOW TO GIVE:

Mail: P.O. Box 55, Yellow Springs, OH 45387

Online: [YSCF.org/give](https://www.yscf.org/give)

Monthly Giving: Sustaining support

Donor-Advised Funds: Flexible philanthropy

Stock/Assets: Tax-advantaged giving

Legacy Gifts: Thank you for including us in your legacy plan

Visit Us: 201. S Walnut St., Yellow Springs, OH

Call Us: 937.767.2655



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