NEWSLETTER
Ninth Edition, August 2026

Growing in Giving

www.rochellefoundation.org **350 May Mart Drive PO Box 74 Rochelle IL 61068** **follow us on Facebook and Instagram**

2026 Board of Directors


Yazmin Nambo
President


Kathleen Isley
Vice President


Debbie Howard
Treasurer


Tony Doyle
Secretary


Ashley Jackson

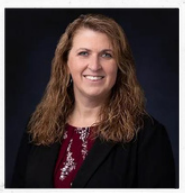

Kim Ewald


Maggie Craft


Doug Jarvis


Jake Albers


Blake Toliver


Trena Thompson


Kathy Yocum


Kwami Gati


Emily Anaya
Executive Director


Abby Dall
Administrative Assistant

Here's How We're Growing

2026 Granting Futures Event
Fund Spotlight/Good Neighbor
Non-Profit Spotlight

Donor Spotlight
Mission/Vision/Purpose
April -July 2026 Donor List

2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT-Yazmin Nambo
VICE PRESIDENT-Kathleen Isley
TREASURER-Debbie Howard
SECRETARY-Tony Doyle
Ashley Jackson
Doug Jarvis
Jake Albers
Kathy Yocum
Trena Thompson
Blake Toliver
Kim Ewald
Maggie Craft
Kwami Gati
Emily Anaya-Executive Director
Abby Dall-Administrative Assistant, Editor



Giving Made Easy

Rochelle Area Community Foundation (RACF) makes it easy to give. Many donors give generously through monthly donations to RACF. There are two ways to set up a recurring gift.

Give through our website

rochellefoundation.org
-Click "Donate"
-Choose a Fund you want to support
-Click "Donate" under the appropriate fund
-Click "Make this a monthly donation"
-Fill out the secure information via PayPal
-Now your gift will be successfully sent each
month to that fund

Give through Online Banking

-Go online to your bank account
-Login to your account
-Set up "Bill Pay"
-Add Rochelle Area Community Foundation"
PO Box 74
Rochelle, IL 61068
-If an account number is required, please contact our office at 815-561-3600 or email
director@rochellefoundation.org
-Set up the monthly donation
-If you have a specific fund you wanted to support, please contact RACF prior to your
first donation to establish the fund recipient.
-All gifts without an established fund recipient
will go to the RACF Endowment Fund.

Should you have any questions, would like to set up your own fund, or have difficulties with the process please contact us and we will be happy to assist you in any way.

Thank you for being a supporter who truly cares for your community!

Visit our website to learn more about our members. Do you have an interest in joining our board? We have several different committees where you could best use your skills and talents to make a difference in your community. Help us know more about you by filling out a questionnaire on our website to see if this could be a good fit for you.



Emily Anaya

You are invited to learn about all the great things RACF has been up to. As you read this edition of our newsletter, one theme stands out: collective impact. It is created when generous donors, dedicated nonprofits, and community partners work together to strengthen the place we call home.

Inside, we celebrate the people and organizations behind this work through our donor, fund, and nonprofit spotlights; highlights from recent events; upcoming opportunities to connect; and recognition of those whose generosity makes our mission possible.

You will also see a recap of our Granting Futures event, where more than $150,000 in local grant funding was awarded to organizations serving our community. Each grant represents more than financial support...it reflects shared trust, partnership, and a commitment to meeting local needs.

Thank you for being part of this collective effort. Together, we are creating meaningful change and building a stronger future for the Rochelle area.

~Emily Anaya

NEWSLETTER
Ninth Edition, August 2026

Growing in Giving

www.rochellefoundation.org 350 May Mart Drive PO Box 74 Rochelle IL 61068 follow us on Facebook and Instagram

EVENT HIGHLIGHT
GRANTING FUTURES: A COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE













What a night for our community!

The annual Granting Futures event brought us all together to cheer on the local nonprofits and partners doing incredible things throughout Rochelle. The room was full of celebration, connection, and pride in the people who make this community special.

Thanks to our generous donors and the dedication of our nonprofit partners, we celebrated $150,000 in local grant funding and the bright futures those dollars will help create.

2026 Granting Futures Event

On Wednesday, April 29, 2026, the Rochelle Area Community Foundation hosted the annual Granting Futures Event where local nonprofits, community leaders, and supporters gather for an evening of local philanthropic impact.

During the evening, RACF awarded more than $150,000 in competitive grants to local nonprofit organizations and community partners working to strengthen Rochelle and meet the needs of those they serve.

The event was a celebration of generosity, partnership, and the incredible work happening throughout our community. From the check presentations to the conversations shared throughout the evening, Granting Futures highlighted what is possible when people come together to invest in local causes.

Since its founding in 2005, RACF has reinvested more than $1.5 million back into the community, with grant dollars supporting programs and organizations that make a lasting difference right here at home.

We are grateful to everyone who joined us and helped make the evening so meaningful. Please enjoy the photos from the evening's celebrations.



Community Coordinated Child Care



Tilton School District 231



Creston-Dement Public Library



Stepping Stones Preschool



Tilton School District 231



Village of Progress



Lutheran Social Services of Illinois



Rochelle Elementary District



Shining Star

2026 Granting Futures Event



RTHS Alumni Association



Rochelle Elementary District #231



Rochelle Rescue Mission



Rochelle Elementary District #231



Rochelle Christian Food Pantry



St. Paul Lutheran School



Todd Ackland Legacy Fund



Northern Illinois Food Bank



Serenity Hospice and Home



Rochelle Police Department &
Rochelle Fire Department



Foundation for Focus House



St. Paul Lutheran School









Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County

2026 Granting Futures Event



Communitiy Action Network



Flagg Township Library



Camp Cedar Illinois



Rochelle Elementary District #231



Sauk Valley Voices of Recovery



Kings School



HOPE of Ogle County



Pegasus Special Riders, Inc.



HUB Senior Center



Lincoln Highway Heritage Festival



Tilton School District 231



Flagg Township Museum





Fund Spotlight

HOPE of Ogle County Domestic Violence Support Fund



Every fund tells a story, and the HOPE of Ogle County Domestic Violence Support Fund is a story about compassion, courage, and planning for the future.

HOPE of Ogle County provides advocacy, education, and support to individuals and families impacted by domestic violence, helping survivors find safety, stability, and healing during some of life's most difficult moments.

Through this new agency endowment at the Rochelle Area Community Foundation, HOPE is helping ensure its services remain available for generations to come.





The fund will support long-term sustainability while giving individuals, families, and businesses another meaningful way to support its mission.

As HOPE's programs grow with the needs of the community, this endowment will provide lasting support and help ensure survivors continue to have access to compassionate, confidential services.

More than a financial investment, this fund represents a lasting commitment to survivors and to a future filled with safety, dignity, support, and hope.

RACF is honored to partner with HOPE of Ogle County and help build a lasting legacy of hope and healing.



UPCOMING Events

- **October 13-Dessert Drive Thru**
- **October 28-31 Hansen Halloween House**
- **November 19 Nonprofit Partner Meeting**
- **December 1 #GivingTuesday**

Donor Spotlight

CITY OF ROCHELLE



Donor Spotlight: City of Rochelle Employees

We are incredibly fortunate to have the City of Rochelle as a community partner—and even more grateful for the generous employees who choose to give back to the place they serve. Through voluntary payroll deductions, City employees contribute more than $34,000 of their own earnings each year. Over the past six pledge years, they have committed an extraordinary $187,657 to the Rochelle Area Community Foundation.

That generosity reaches far beyond City Hall. Their gifts help support local nonprofits, programs, and initiatives that make life better throughout the Rochelle area. It is a beautiful extension of the service City employees provide every day: they show up for our community at work, through volunteerism, and through their personal giving.

To every City employee who has participated, thank you. We are blessed to collaborate with a City whose staff believe so deeply in supporting local. Your generosity is helping build a stronger Rochelle for everyone

Congratulations

GOOD NEIGHBOR

If you would like to nominate a resident of Ogle County for 'Good Neighbor of the Week' please contact the Rochelle Area Community Foundation at (815) 561-3600 or at admin@rochellefoundation.org

GOOD NEIGHBORS

April:
Jennifer Herrera, Doug Jarvis, Lindsey Dixon, Manny Lopez

May:
Ashley Bick, Dr. Bryan Wills, Veranica Phillips, Miguel Valdez, Larissa Hicks,

June:
Trisha Vaughn, Jim Withers, Talina Nava, Jeff Tilton

July:
Jillian Condon, Pete Fader, Ed Kissick, Belinda Luxton

MISSION

To offer those with a philanthropic heart a simple way to make a positive difference.

PURPOSE

Be a vehicle for philanthropy and empower community nonprofits through donor stewardship.

VISION

A generous, Vibrant, and sustainaole community where a helping hand is always within reach.





NON-PROFIT SPOTLIGHT

Serenity HOSPICE & HOME





Similar to RACF, Serenity Hospice and Home is a community based nonprofit, deeply rooted in the communities we serve providing hospice and palliative care services. As an independent nonprofit, our decisions are made locally and are guided by the needs of our patients and families. Our goal is to help patients remain comfortable, maintain dignity, and make the most of every moment while also supporting caregivers and loved ones through illness, death, and grief.

Each year, we care for more than 600 patients and their families wherever they call home. Serenity's team cares for an average of 90+ patients per day. In addition, we offer Integrated Therapies, Grief Support Service, Palliative Care Program and are the only hospice in the area to provide pediatric hospice care.

The reason we are able to accomplish our mission is through our incredible team members, our volunteers, and the support we receive from our community. The Rochelle Area Community Foundation is a perfect example of this. One of the ways the grant assists is our integrated therapy program, which provides massage therapy for our hospice patients. This past year the program provided services to both a newborn and a 102 year old! Grant funding allows Serenity to invest in specialized programs and training that are not supported by Medicare, Medicaid, or private insurance reimbursement.

The best way to learn more about Serenity is to call us at 815-732-2499. We are here to have a personalized conversation about your healthcare journey. We want you to know all the options and to be able to receive the care you deserve.

While we are proud of our recognitions, the true measure of our work is found in the experiences of our patients and families. It's moments like these, when a patient's symptom is brought under control, a child and their family receive specialized hospice support locally, a caretaker has a volunteer visit in order to attend mass, or a grieving individual discovers that they do not have to walk through loss alone.

Behind every recognition is a patient, a family, a volunteer, a team member, and a community committed to making every moment matter.

We are Growing because of you!

Thank you to our Donors
April 1, 2026 - July 31, 2026

- Justin and Anna Adolph
- Anonymous (149)
- Diane Berg
- Ashley Bick
- Flight Deck Bar & Grill
- Tyler and Brittany Carls
- Megan Carriere
- Eric Cech
- Donald and Jane Chambers
- Jillian Condon
- Jacqueline Cruz
- Crest Foods Co., Inc
- Michael Dale
- Michael Daugherty
- Terry and Jacqueline Dickow
- Tony and Krista Doyle
- Jeff Figgenschuh
- Jeff and Michele Glen
- John Bearrows
- Jennifer Hartmann
- Amy Hayden
- Curtis Helgren
- Autumn Hernandez
- Kevin & Deb Howard
- Michael Hudetz
- Rose Mary Hueramo
- Cal Jacobs
- Sean Kessler
- Mr. Doug Kroupa
- Elizabeth Loveday-Smith
- Rose Malloy
- Julie Mann
- Joseph F. McKinney
- Glen Mehrings
- Yazmin Nambo
- Michelle Pease
- Jeff Perry INC
- Barton Pillen
- Kelly Polz
- Paul and Jane Quinto
- Rochelle Elementary School District #231
- Rochelle Veterinary Hospital
- Rochelle Community Hospital Association
- Nancy Reed
- Dwayne Rangel
- Joe Rice
- Donald Romes
- Kim Salsbury
- David Sawlsville
- Sue Sawicki
- Serenity Hospice and Home
- Jennifer Siebel
- Jamey Sullivan
- Tim and Jennifer Thompson
- Pamela Tobler
- Blake Toliver
- Ryne and Alison Vrana
- Tootie Vogeler
- Weatland Tube, LLC
- Danae White
- Christene Willis





**Disclaimer* We do our best to recognize every donor. If you feel we have accidentally missed your name, please contact our office at 1-815-561-3600.*