



Growing in Giving

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



Here's How We're Growing

RACF Board of Directors
2024 Community Needs Grants
Featured Donor

Fund Spotlight/Good Neighbor
Mission/Vision/Purpose
Non-Profit Spotlight



Emily Anaya

A message from our Executive Director

Welcome to our *Growing In Giving* newsletter. I am thrilled to extend a warm invitation to join us in celebrating the achievements and impactful initiatives facilitated by RACF.

At the heart of our mission lies a steadfast commitment to fostering positive change and growth within our community. You will experience the array of goodness captured as we spotlight the recipients of the 2024 Community Needs Grants.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the unwavering generosity and support of our donors and fund holders. They play a vital role in fueling our collective effort and advancing our shared vision for a better tomorrow. Their commitment to giving back and making a difference inspires all the good work being done here in our community.

I trust you find this edition enriching and you are inspired by the transformative potential of philanthropy within our community.



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!



2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Emily Anaya-Executive Director
Stepanie Messer-Administrative Assistant, Editor

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 questioner on our website to see if this could be a good fit for you.



FEATURED DONOR FROM THE HEART

On February 3, the 16th annual From the Heart Gala & Auction was held at Flight Deck Bar & Grill of Rochelle. This year's event raised a total of \$90,000!

The Proceeds from this event equally benefited eight local nonprofit organizations. These nonprofits include: Rockelle Area Community Foundation, HOPE of Ogle County, Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, Pegasus Special Riders, Hub City Senior Center, Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center, CASA and FOCUS house. Each of these nonprofits received \$11,250.

"I can't say enough about the community and the generosity that it shows each and every year." Says Dave Eckhardt, From the Heart President and Founder.

Every year this event grows and is able to make more of an impact on those organizations within our community and the people those organizations serve. It takes a lot of people working together to make this event possible each and every year and that effort makes a big impact!





Spotlights

DUAL LANGUAGE EDUCATORS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

This fund was started with a generous donation from the Crawford Foundation. The purpose of this donation was to support the school district's effort to build and maintain a pipeline of qualified dual language educators.

RACF was honored to be a part of the **Spring Small Business Bingo**. Proceeds from that event were divided between the Rochelle Area Community Foundation and The Kitchen Table. This event had a great turnout and exceeded expectations with sponsors, donations and money raised. A big **THANK YOU** to Ashley Patrick and her committee who made this event possible.



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

<p>January: Kathleen Isley, John and Dina Bearrows, Rod and Karen Alfano, Krista Stewart, Dave Eckhardt</p>	<p>March: Colleen Esterday, Roy Threlkeld, Chad and Dionne Horner, Pete Alfano, Ashley Patrick</p>
<p>February: Sam Graber, Kari Andrist, Michelle Pease, Gary Ohlinger</p>	<p>April: Taylor Bigelow, Chris Wexell, Danny and Stephanie Williams, Ashley Bick</p>



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 sustainable community where a helping hand is always within reach.



NON-PROFIT SPOTLIGHT



Serving our community for 40 years!



With Serenity Hospice and Home celebrating their 40th year, we wanted to take a moment to highlight all they do for our community and the surrounding areas. Serenity Hospice and Home is a nonprofit located in Oregon, IL and offers care to the terminally ill and their families. This includes the physical, spiritual and emotional needs of the family unit with an emphasis on the desires of the patient and family. Serenity believes that living continues until the moment of death and their focus is on promoting optimal living through this final journey of life.

Serenity goes above and beyond to provide the highest quality and compassionate care to their terminally ill patients and their families. They aim to give comfort and ease physical pain for their patients as well as to meet their psycho-social needs. Hospice care takes a holistic approach to support the patient and their families physically, emotionally, socially and spiritually.

Serenity Hospice and Home was a 2023 Community Needs Grant Recipient. RACF was proud to grant out \$2,500 for their program "Expanding Virtual Reality for Patient Peace." This grant funded the purchasing of VR headsets for patient use. These headsets create soothing experiences that ease pain and enhance quality of life, inspiring a sense of communion with nature or taking patients to a bucket list destination even when they are immobile.

Serenity loves sharing their mission with the community. They welcome visitors to tour their in-patient unit in Oregon, the Serenity Home, as well as their unique bereavement center and the Serenity Shed. If you would like to arrange a visit please call 815-732-2499. If you would like to learn more about Serenity Hospice and Home, you can visit www.serenityhospiceandhome.org or follow them on Facebook or Instagram.

We are *Growing* because of you!

Thank you to our Donors January 1, 2024-April 30, 2024

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**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.*