

Pugh Family Honors Beloved Father and Community Member

Honoring the late Scott Pugh—a beloved Put-in-Bay community member and island electrician—the Pugh Family created the Scott Pugh Scholarship Fund via the Ottawa County Community Foundation (OCCF), in 2024.

Scott's daughter Madeline indicated the family hoped to help Put-in-Bay students continuing their education, with preference given to those going into a trade. "Dad valued trade work so much, and it is so needed, now more than ever," she said. "Scott helped others every day of his life. He was the most giving and kind guy who would give anything to anyone and help in any way he could. Our goals were to spread that energy and light to others in his memory."

Scott's family formed the Scott Pugh Foundation, soon after. Scott and his wife Kim first met on South Bass Island, eventually raising two children—Madeline and her brother Carter. Daily, Scott impacted those around him. According to Madeline, he served on the local school board "hoping to better the education of students and influence a love of learning throughout one's life." Since 6th grade, Scott learned—hands-on—the electrical trade alongside his father, Don Pugh. He worked with him for years as an electrician, until his father unexpectedly passed and Scott took over the business. He was known for always calling people back and showing up rain or shine.

"He once left our table while eating Christmas dinner, because someone lost heat and needed his help," said Madeline. "That was just him. He showed up for everyone — our family and our community... The island loved him."

Scott passed in 2021, after losing a battle with cancer. When he became ill, Cancer Services in Sandusky helped make the Pugh home more accessible. The family proudly contributes to this organization. Scott was also an advocate for St. Jude's Children's Hospital, and, when the Pughs developed their family foundation, they wished to put their own spin on the concept, locally, to impact children battling cancer. Partnering with the Cleveland Clinic, the Pughs provided two families with financial support and gifts for the children going through treatment.

"I personally delivered everything to them, and it was an incredible experience," said Madeline. In the future, the Pughs also hope to help the elderly of Put-in-Bay via their family foundation. Committed to island life, Kim Pugh still lives in the family home and works in management at the Crew's Nest with her son. Madeline is a preschool teacher and realtor.

"I have such a deep love for this island and its people," concludes Madeline. "So incredibly special and rare is the sense of community



The Pugh family (clockwise): Scott, Carter, Madeline, and Kim

here... I've never experienced another place so supportive, accepting, and friendly. Living here, we have this mentality that we are all on this rock together, and the only way for all of us to survive is to lean on one another."

Scott Pugh lived that example. The Pugh's scholarship fund and family foundation continue his example of giving, and OCCF is very proud to be a part of honoring that legacy.

"Without the help and support of OCCF, we would have had a much harder time getting this up and going," concludes Madeline. "OCCF's existence is so important because funds and resources are going to real, local people, in a variety of capacities with a variety of needs. Being a local, countywide organization ensures that all OCCF support goes to local people firsthand, and that is so important."

To contact Madeline Pugh, email thescottpughfoundation@gmail.com. To discuss community giving through OCCF, reach out to OCCF Executive Director Shea McGrew, 419-635-7750.

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A MESSAGE FROM SHEA MCGREW, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

One of the things I've enjoyed seeing, over the past year, is the growing number of businesses choosing to partner with the Ottawa County Community Foundation. I believe that growth reflects something important: more local businesses are recognizing the role OCCF can play in strengthening our communities and enhancing the quality of life across Ottawa County.

Our Business Partners Giving Society brings together businesses that understand that a strong community and a strong local economy go hand in hand. Their support helps OCCF continue our grantmaking and charitable giving work, while also allowing us to invest in priorities such as workforce development that are important to the future of Ottawa County.

In this issue, you'll read about two of those partners, ALZO and Crown Battery. Both have deep ties to our area and have chosen to support OCCF at our highest Business Partners recognition level. We are grateful for their investment and for the growing number of businesses that see value in supporting the work of the Foundation.

We've also highlighted the Pugh family of Put-in-Bay, whose story offers another example of what giving through OCCF can accomplish. The family established the Scott Pugh Scholarship Fund to honor Scott's life and his commitment to helping others, with a special focus on Put-in-Bay students continuing their education and those pursuing the trades. Their story is a reminder that a fund can begin with something very personal and go on to make a difference for others for years to come.

Whether it is a business investing in the community where its employees live and work, or a family creating a fund in memory of someone they love, OCCF provides a way to turn that commitment to Ottawa County into action. We're grateful to all of our Business Partners, fund holders and donors who continue to put their trust in OCCF. Together, they are helping us support the people, organizations and opportunities that make Ottawa County a great place to live and work.



MORE THAN NUMBERS

Every statistic represents lives changed, dreams supported, and a stronger Ottawa County.



\$17.3M+
Assets Invested



\$5.6M+
Donor Directed Grants



\$2.3M+
Scholarships Awarded



\$1.6M+
Community Grants Awarded

\$9.5M+

Invested in Ottawa County Since 1999

Every grant. Every scholarship. Every gift. Every story matters.

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Follow us on Facebook.com/ottawaccf/

GRANT RECIPIENTS 2026



The Ottawa County Community Foundation is proud to recognize the recipients of our 2026 Community Grants. This year, OCCF awarded nearly \$140,000 in grants to organizations serving Ottawa County. Through their programs and projects, these organizations are strengthening our communities, supporting local families, expanding educational opportunities, promoting the arts and enhancing quality of life. We are grateful for the work these organizations do each day and honored to support their efforts through OCCF grant funding.

Bayshore Counseling Services - Provide treatment of behavioral health concerns

Cancer Services - Provide financial and emotional support for cancer patients

Concerned Citizens for Oak Harbor Area - Replace older appliances and carpeting in Oakwood Manor apartments

Cultivate the Clover of Ottawa County - Provide assistance with 4-H camp fees, supplies, counselor training

Diabetes Youth Services - Provide a day of family fun for families of children with Type 1 diabetes

Family & Child Abuse Prevention Center - Cover expenses for domestic violence court advocate

Firelands Symphony Orchestra - Provide a small ensemble concert and an orchestra concert on July 4th

Friends of Perry's Victory & Peace Memorial - Sustain and strengthen educational and commemorative efforts

Habitat for Humanity of Ottawa County - Provide home repairs for seniors and individuals with disabilities

Joyful Connections - Provide two student scholarships/supplies/equipment for after-school program

Lake Erie Islands Conservancy - Repair and restore the old garage building on the Duff Homestead

Lake Erie Island Nature & Wildlife Center - Help cover the cost of a student intern to assist with environmental education

Luther Home of Mercy - Revitalize activity room with new furniture/shelving/cabinets

Marblehead Lighthouse Historical Society - Enhance landscaping by installing new gardens and walkway in park

Middle Bass Island Historical Society - Purchase software/equipment to manage artifacts/history of Middle Bass

Musical Arts Series Port Clinton - Provide concerts for seniors in residential facilities

Oak House/Polly's Place - Provide raised garden beds, supplies, toys and bicycles for Polly's Place

Ottawa County Family Advocacy Center - Install sound insulation in the large meeting room

Ottawa County Holiday Bureau - Provide food vouchers for needy families in Benton-Carroll-Salem School District

Ottawa County Task Force on Aging - Design, print, and distribute an updated Ottawa County Senior Directory

Otterbein North Shore - Implement a program for Parkinson's patients

Port Clinton Area Heritage Foundation - Purchase equipment to make Ottawa County Museum materials available online

Port Clinton Firefighters Association - Purchase equipment/textbooks needed to update CPR/First Aid courses

Port Clinton Soccer Club - Upgrade/update equipment used in the youth soccer programs

Put-in-Bay Community Swim & Sail - Purchase a youth safety boat and trailer to support water safety

Schedel Arboretum and Gardens - Cover expenses for two weeks of Adventure Camp for children

Sleep in Heavenly Peace - Build and deliver beds to children aged 3-17 who have none

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry - Provide food/food certificates to people in need in Port Clinton school district

The Parkvue Community on Catawba Island - Furnish chairs and tables for gatherings for residents

The Salvation Army - Send eight underprivileged children to a weeklong camp at Camp NEOSA

Trinity United Methodist Church Thrift Shoppe - Replace damaged and worn-out carpeting to create a safe environment

United Way - Sustain Dolly Parton Imagination Library for children up to the age of 5

Walk in My Shoes - Purchase shoes for school children in need

Business Advisory Council Kells and Joan Pugh Fund -

Skilled Trades Academy - requested by J Pugh

Ohio State University Stone Lab - Field trips for all Ottawa County schools

JOY ROTH LITTLE TIGER AWARD

OCCF was proud to present Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) with the 2026 Joy Roth Little Tiger Award. Presented annually, the award recognizes a nonprofit organization whose service, leadership and commitment to others reflect the legacy of OCCF founder Joy Roth.

SHP exemplifies those values through its mission to ensure that no child sleeps on the floor. Through the work of its founders and volunteers, the organization builds and delivers beds to children and families throughout the community, providing each child with a safe and comfortable place to sleep.

Congratulations to SHP, and thank you to its founders and volunteers for the difference they continue to make for children and families across Ottawa County.

Pictured from left are Angel, mother of children receiving beds; SHP founder Jim Berlin; volunteers Lin, Ray and Dan; Angel's daughter; founder Kendra Berlin; and, center, Isobel, Jim and Kendra's daughter.



Business Partners Spotlight: Thank YOU for your support!

CROWN BATTERY

Crown Battery returns as 2026 members at the highest Benefactor recognition level of OCCF's Business Partners Giving Society.

Established in 1926 as a small battery repair shop, Fremont's Crown Battery, www.crownbattery.com, distributes across the globe and leads with "The Power Behind Performance" principle — a commitment to providing power to people around the world, whether for personal use, the railroad industries, underground mining equipment, steel mills, renewable energy installations, recreational marine and automotive industries, or aerial access equipment.

Diane and Hal Hawk were recently recognized with the 2026 President's Award by the Lake Erie Foundation for their exceptional leadership, generosity, and long-standing commitment to Lake Erie and the mission of the Lake Erie Foundation.

Business Partner contributions enable OCCF to continue the important work of grant-making and promoting charitable giving across Ottawa County. OCCF is grateful for the continued support of Crown Battery and the Hawk family, both as Business Partners and valued members of the OCCF Advisory Council.



ALZO HOMES

ALZO's William (Bill) Van Der Giessen joined OCCF's 2026 Business Partners Giving Society at the Benefactor level.



"Our support of OCCF can be credited to a number of factors... the effectiveness and efficiency of the Foundation, the positive accomplishment of its staff and supporters, and our desire to give back to the community, of which we have been blessed to be a part for more than 50 years," says Bill. He and his wife Darleen moved to Catawba Island in 1972.

ALZO offers quality construction on Catawba Island, as well as the 4-county area (Ottawa, Erie, Sandusky, and Seneca). According to Bill, the company's focus is the "consultative relationship with its clients, creating a personalized, high-quality home." The crown jewel is Catawba Bay, a very private development of more than 180 homes, condominiums, and marinas.

Bill is an Emeritus Trustee of the Catawba Island Historical Society (CIHS), with which OCCF works to administer the William Van Der Giessen Scholarship.

For more information, visit alzohomes.com or call 419-656-4300.

For details about becoming a Business Partner, visit OttawaCCF.org or contact OCCF Executive Director Shea McGrew, 419-635-7750.

STAY INFORMED!

We are building our email list to communicate quickly with our supporters. Please sign up for future digital correspondence by scanning the QR code and sharing your email address.



DOING GOOD GALA 2026

OCCF's annual Gala brought together friends and supporters for an evening celebrating generosity and our shared commitment to Ottawa County. Thanks to our sponsors, donors, volunteers, auction supporters and everyone who attended, the sold-out event was a wonderful success. Special thanks to the Port Clinton Yacht Club for hosting and to Bistro 163, 1812 Food & Spirits and Poseidon Lounge for helping make the evening one to remember. Proceeds from the Gala help OCCF continue to provide grants to local nonprofits and scholarships to area students.



***Thank YOU for touching the lives
of the people of Ottawa County!***

OCCF
OTTAWA COUNTY
Community Foundation
Doing Good. Forever.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

DONATION AMOUNT (Gifts are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.)

☐ \$100 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ OTHER: _____

☐ I would like my gift to remain anonymous.

☐ My gift is in honor of: _____ ☐ My gift is in memory of: _____

GIVING LEVELS:

Benefactor: \$5,000+
Sustainer: \$2,500 - \$4,999
Advocate: \$1,000 - \$2,499
Patron: \$500 - \$999
Supporter: \$100 - \$499
Friend: Up to \$99

Donate Today! Make checks payable to "Ottawa County Community Foundation." Mail to:
P.O. Box 36, Port Clinton, OH 43452. Or donate online by either using the QR Code or going
to www.OttawaCCF.org





P.O. Box 36
Port Clinton, OH 43452



Forwarding Service Requested

GOT INVESTMENTS THAT ARE JUST LYING AROUND?

Like a sleeping dog, your appreciated stocks or mutual fund shares may not be doing much these days – but selling them would trigger capital gains taxes. Instead, donate them to OCCF, avoid capital gains tax, and support your favorite charitable cause or OCCF's work to strengthen Ottawa County.

Learn more at: www.OttawaCCF.org
(use the QR Code)

Or Contact

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