



Rush County Community Foundation

live. life. local.

April 2025

You've likely heard the quote, "Be the change you wish to see in the world." **No matter who said it**, the message is clear: real change starts with us.

Want to see more kindness? Be kind. Less litter? Pick it up. A more vibrant community? Get involved.

As National Volunteer Appreciation Week approaches, we're especially grateful for the 61 incredible volunteers ensuring we're good stewards of your gifts. To the many others in our community making a difference every day - thank you!

Your generosity matters, too. **Thanks to you, we've already distributed \$296,637 in annual designated grants to 64 local organizations this year.** With scholarship evaluations underway and unrestricted Community Grant applications due soon, even more impact is on the horizon.

Positive change doesn't just happen — it's made. And you're making it, Lisa. When it comes down to it, it's up to us.

LCC Grand Opening Celebration



Pride filled the building at 1850 N. Main Street in Rushville on March 22nd. So

did people for the Grand Opening and ribbon cutting ceremony of the [Love Community Center presented by Jay and Christie \(Kile\) Love](#).

Several people spoke that day. But none as poignant as Christie Love.

“This community provided for me, everything I needed to learn to be a person who values other people for who they are and not what they have. And to trust in your neighbor and be there for them and be loyal and true. That’s something that I hope this center just permeates into every young person - and senior citizen - that steps in here,” she shared.

Now it's up to us to take Christie's words to heart. We are forever grateful to the Loves for their generosity and kindness!



Watch more of Christie's speech. We all got a little emotional around the 1:25 mark.

[READ MORE & WATCH THE VIDEO](#)

Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Housing Program

****Please note the updated 2025 HIGHER income limits and help us spread the word! Applications and more information available on 4/16 at the meetings listed below.**** [DOWNLOAD FLYER](#)

The Rush County Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Housing Program is part of [RCCF's Rural Revitalization Plan](#) funded by Lilly Endowment's GIFT VIII Large Scale Community Leadership Implementation grant.



RUSH COUNTY

OWNER OCCUPIED REHABILITATION HOUSING PROGRAM



QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must live in the limits of Rush County, excluding Rushville residents
- Must be a single-family, owner occupied home
- Home must be insured.
- Home cannot be in floodplain
- Manufactured homes must be on permanent foundations

ELIGIBLE REPAIRS:

- Roofing
- HVAC Replacement
- Lighting and Electrical Upgrades
- Water Heater Replacement
- ADA accessibility up to the threshold of the home.

*Repairs offered at **no cost** to homeowners

How to Apply:

Applications are available for interested homeowners for pick up at the meetings below.

Unfortunately, all homes within the Rushville city limits are not eligible for the program, as the application deadlines have already passed. We encourage you to stay informed about future opportunities.

Must meet program income guidelines below:

INCOME LIMITS:

Rush County

| <u>Household Size</u> | <u>Income Limits</u> |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1-Person | at or below \$48,100 |
| 2-Person | at or below \$55,000 |
| 3-Person | at or below \$61,850 |
| 4-Person | at or below \$68,700 |
| 5-Person | at or below \$74,200 |
| 6-Person | at or below \$79,700 |
| 7-Person | at or below \$85,200 |
| 8-Person | at or below \$90,700 |

PLEASE JOIN US AT THE MEETINGS BELOW:

Public Engagement #1:

April 16th at 11:30 AM
@Carthage Community
Center 1 N Main St, Carthage,
IN

Public Engagement #2:

April 16th at 2:30 PM
@Love Community Center
1850 N Main St Rushville, IN

Public Engagement #3:

April 16th at 5:30 PM
@Milroy United Methodist
Church
114 N Pleasant St, Milroy, IN

Public Hearing:

May 5th at 9am
@Rush County Courthouse
101 E 2nd St Rushville, IN

CONTACT US:

VICTORIA BECHERT OR KILEY SPARKS
812.689.5505



****The County is applying for additional funds for this program. If you or someone you know qualifies, [please take/share this survey to help show the need](#).****



Two Corporate Donors Support the LCC



A major addition to Rush County's new Love Community Center has been secured with the naming of "Diamond Pet Foods Main Street," thanks to a generous contribution from [Diamond Pet Foods](#).

"At Diamond Pet Foods, we believe in supporting the communities we serve, and this project is an incredible opportunity to create a space that brings people together," said Mark Schell, vice president at Diamond Pet Foods. *"We are honored to be part of the Love Community Center and to support its mission of enhancing the well-being of Rush County residents."* [READ MORE](#)

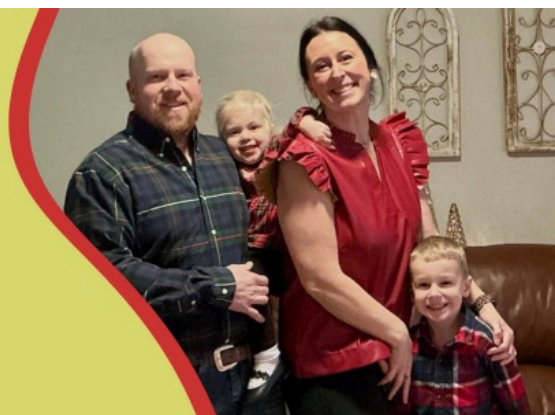
A vital resource within Rush County's Love Community Center (LCC) will bear the name "Rush County Food Pantry made possible by Citizens State Bank" following a generous donation from the financial institution.

"It's exciting to see the Love Community Center coming into operation knowing all of the ways it will positively impact Rush County," said Dan Maddox, Chairman and CEO of [Citizens State Bank](#). *"Combatting food insecurity is a philanthropic focus of Citizens State Bank and we couldn't be prouder to be associated with this project in this way."* [READ MORE](#)

Meet the RCCF Board: Jessica Vogel

Meet the
RCCF
Board

Jessica Vogel



"I always said that I wanted to come back home and take care of people in my community," shared Dr. **Jessica Vogel**, new RCCF board member and 2017 graduate of the IU School of Dentistry. And she has.

[READ MORE](#)

Your Support in Action: Grantee Updates



Recently, the **Posey Township VFD** hosted a vehicle extrication training at their station, using [tools purchased with a Community Grant](#). They invited Manilla and Rushville Township VFDs to join them.

"Hosting these joint trainings allows us to network and get to know each other better, as well as see what kind of equipment each department carries and how it all operates," shared Zachary Tucker, Fire Chief Posey Township VFD. "We wanted you to know the funding is being put to good use. Thank you for your support!"

Your gifts to RCCF have invested \$283,476 in our county's volunteer fire departments over the years! Three of these departments have funds set up specifically for their benefit, providing annual support - [Posey Township VFD](#), [Manilla Community VFD](#), and [Raleigh VFD](#).



Rush County Chorale: Sustain operations

\$1,729.72: [Music for Rush County Fund](#) grant

With this grant under the direction of **David Doyle** and with accompanist **Mary Jane Truster**, the Rush County Chorale was able to provide their annual Christmas concert at St. Mary free of charge to the public.



Benjamin Rush Middle School: Grief Share Student Group

\$780: [Dave Kehl Memorial Fund](#) grant

Shyla Sharp, certified 500-hour yoga instructor and BRMS and RCHS alumni, teaches trauma-informed mindfulness and yoga to students. She shares knowledge and techniques so they feel safe and

Don't miss their free [spring concert of Broadway classics](#), including RCCF's Julie Leisure!

grounded in order to reduce stress, improve overall well-being, and break negative patterns going forward.

IMPORTANT DATES

[FREE Owner Occupied Housing Repairs informational meetings](#) | 4/16/2025

- 11:30am | Carthage Community Center
- 2:30pm | Love Community Center
- 5:30pm | Milroy United Methodist Church

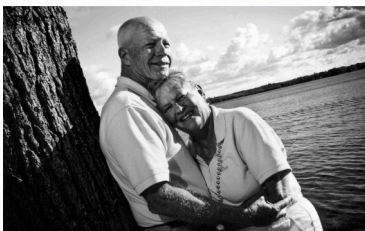
Letters of Intent for unrestricted Community Grants due by 5/1/2025. [Apply now.](#)

Public Hearing for Owner Occupied Housing Repairs | 5/5/2025, 9am | Rush County Courthouse

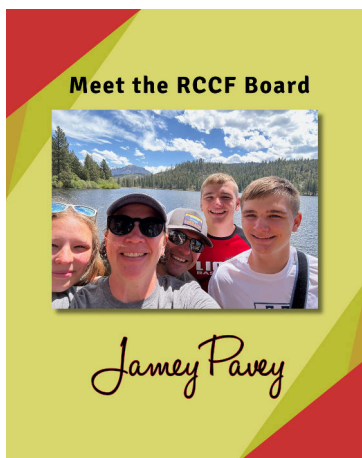
Community Events Calendar: [Find and submit local events.](#)

ICYMI (In Case You Missed It)

Here are the top stories from last month.



Two families support LCC: [Mohrs](#) & [Mosters](#)



[Meet the RCCF Board:](#) [Jamey Pavey](#)



Harcourt Family Scholarship Fund



[New fund: Harcourt Family Scholarship](#)

What Will Your Legacy Be?



Retirement assets like an IRA, 401(k) or pension are a powerful way you can care for your loved ones and support Rush County forever. By designating RCCF as a beneficiary, you can leave a percentage or specified amount of your retirement plan to carry on your values.

[LEARN MORE](#)

March Tribute Gifts

Each gift you make in memory or in honor of a loved one supports Rush County forever. We are grateful for your kindness and generosity!

In Memory of:

Alice Ruth Wiley, Glen Wiley,
Lauren Alice Wiley
Angie Hill
Bill Pike
Carol Wiley
Carolyn Turner
Eric Magee
Fay Webb
Glen Hatfield
Grant Brower
Gretchan Barber
Jack Clarkson
Jack Webb
Jim Ephlin
Joe Bridges
John Foster

John Kuhn
Kim Yager
Marion Liggett's 100th Birthday
2/22/1925
Mary Markland Jarboe
Melissa Mourey
Penny Busald
Ralph Niehoff
Stephanie Ward
Tony Laird
Wilson Brooks

In Honor of:

Joan Lines' 95th Birthday

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