

# newsletter

WINTER 2022

TOGETHER...

he Porter County Community Foundation is pleased to welcome Jeri Pat Gabbert as Vice President and Chief Philanthropic Officer. Jeri Pat will lead the Foundation's endowment fundraising strategies, nonprofit education and professional development programs. In her role, she will engage with



donors and nonprofits to **build permanent charitable funds** that will benefit our community across a wide array of causes.

Jeri Pat has more than **twenty years of fundraising experience**, having most recently served Indiana University Northwest as the Vice Chancellor for Advancement and External Affairs for the past ten years. In addition, she served Valparaiso University in multiple advancement roles. She is a faculty member with **The Fund Raising School** affiliated with the **Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy** and has taught as an adjunct faculty member at Ball State University, IUPUI, Hanover College and Valparaiso University.

Jeri Pat earned the Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) designation in 2009. She serves as the cabinet chair for the Council of Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) – District V, is a board member for the Association of Lutheran Development Executives (ALDE) and is a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP).

"The Porter County Community Foundation is privileged to welcome Jeri Pat to our team. Her extensive experience, knowledge and outstanding communication skills, joined with her great passion for promoting the power of generosity, will enhance the Foundation's capacity to serve our community," said Bill Higbie, President & CEO at the Porter County Community Foundation.

A well-respected fundraising professional, Jeri Pat has **contributed to philanthropic research and curriculum**. She has two articles published in *The Journal of Education Advancement & Marketing* as well as serving on its Editorial Review Board, and co-authored a chapter of *Achieving Excellence in Fundraising*.

"I am delighted to be joining the Porter County Community Foundation and look forward to collaborating with community leaders and local nonprofits to make a positive and long-lasting impact on Porter County and its residents," said Jeri Pat.

Jeri Pat was honored by *The Northwest Indiana Times* as a **member of the "20 under 40" class of 2015**. Jeri Pat is a current board member for Valparaiso Events and a previous board member for Hilltop Neighborhood House. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Hanover College in Communication and a Master of Arts degree in Communication Studies from Ball State University. She and her husband, Clay Patton, reside in Valparaiso with their two daughters.



# TOGETHER... We make

The Porter County Community Fund is just what the name implies - a fund that has been built by generous people - just like you - to be a permanent financial resource for our community.

Contributions to the Community Fund come in all sizes - no gift is too small; every single one counts and is a powerful way to show how much you care about Porter County.

Grants from the Community Fund are awarded through a competitive application process across a wide range of causes. Here are just a few.













Be a part of building a better Porter County for all! You can help make a difference today with a gift. Visit www.pccf.gives/communityfund.

### In 2022, the Foundation was pleased to provide funding to the following nonprofit organizations:

1st Kids Inc.

Art Barn School of Art

The Artistic Recovery

Boy Scouts of America, LaSalle Council #165

Call-A-Ride

The Caring Place

Chesterton Art Center

Community Theatre Guild

Crisis Center

**Dressed for School** 

**Exceptional Equestrians** 

Unlimited

Family & Youth Services Bureau

**MAAC** Foundation MAKS Corp Memorial Opera House Foundation

Moraine House

North Coast Cultural Association

Northwest Indiana Symphony

Our Greater Good

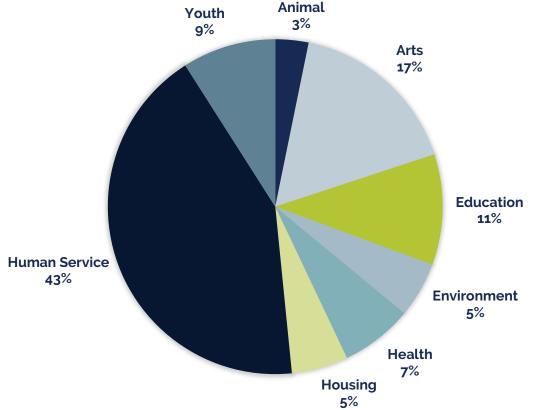
Parents as Teachers of Porter County

Pines Village Retirement Communities

Portage Recovery Association

Portage Township YMCA

Family House Porter County Association for Family Promise of Porter County Handicapped Children & Adults **Geminus Corporation** Porter-Starke Services Girls on the Run of Northwest **Project Neighbors** Indiana **Promise Porter County** Hebron Volunteer Fire Shirley Heinze Land Trust Department South Shore Performing Arts Hilltop Neighborhood House St. Agnes Adult Day Service Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry Center **Housing Opportunities** True North Training Stables Humane Indiana Valparaiso Creative Council Independent Cat Society Valparaiso Family YMCA Kouts Volunteer Fire Visiting Nurse Association of Department Northwest Indiana Lakeshore Public Media **Animal** Youth 3% **Arts** 17%











William P. Maar







**Berglund Construction Company** Grieger's Motor Sales Inc. **Hightower Great Lakes** Horizon Bank Shive-Hattery

M. E. Simpson Company, Inc. Urschel Laboratories Inc. Vidimos Inc.



Hodges & Davis, P.C. McColly Real Estate Precision Control Systems, Inc. Strack & Van Til **UFS** Corporation

John W. Anderson Foundation

Peter G. Horton Charitable Remainder Trust





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### TOGETHER...



We would like to say farewell to our outgoing Board members and thank them for their time, talents and resources **serving our community**. We are grateful for their dedication to the work of the Foundation. **Together...we create a more beautiful Porter County for all**.



ANDREW ARNOLD Precision Control Systems



**DR. ARJUN GUPTA**Retired Physician



JOE JASKOWIAK Hoeppner, Wagner & Evans



**KENT MISHLER** Horizon Bank



**DESILA ROSETTI**Organizational
Development Solutions



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Strengthening our community through lasting generosity and leadership.



BILL HIGBIE
President & CEO

BRENDA SHEETZ Vice President

JERI PATRICIA GABBERT Vice President & Chief Philanthropic Officer

ERYN LEONHARD Communications & Marketing Director KARISA ZACARIAS Accountant

JANELLE LEWIN
Receptionist

MARY JANE EISENHAUER, EdD Executive Director, First Things First Porter County

LAURA GREEN
Outreach Coordinator, First
Things First Porter County



ANDREW ARNOLD
Precision Control Systems

CHERI BIRKY Birky Farms

DEREK BRAGGS
Merrill Lynch

TIM COLEMAN
Centier Bank

SARADHA DE JESUS Panduit

JULIE ELISHA McColly Real Estate

DR. ARJUN GUPTA Retired Physician

CAROL HALL

**Berglund Construction** 

DAVID HOLLENBECK
Blachly Tabor Bozik
& Hartman

SCOTT HUFFORD
Portage Township Schools

JOE JASKOWIAK Hoeppner, Wagner & Evans

STEPHANIE JONES
Amazon

GEOFF LACIAK Laciak Accountancy Group

JEFFREY LEWIS
Shive-Hattery

MEGAN MARSHALL CAPTRUST

KENT MISHLER
Horizon Bank

AMY PARKER bNutty

DESILA ROSETTI
Organizational
Development Solutions

JENNIFER SHIKANY NIPSCO

MATT VESSELY

1st Source Bank

JENNIFER VIDIMOS
Retired Educator

JOHN WALSH Heat Wagon

Foundation

CELINA WEATHERWAX McMillan Family

MICHAEL WENDAHL
Incremedical Corporation