

A QUARTERLY
NEWSLETTER FOR OUR
DONORS AND FRIENDS
VISIT OUR WEBSITE
www.mccf-in.org

DATES TO REMEMBER

Scholarship Application Deadlines

January 11

The Lilly Endowment Community
Scholarship

March 5

All others scholarships

April 13

The James G. and Patti J. Pearson
Scholarship and The Bob J. Tandy
Scholarship

April 20

Volunteer of the Year Nominations
are due

*All applications are available at
www.mccf-in.org*

MCCF Board of Directors

Mr. Roy Kaser, President
Dr. Gaylon Ross, Vice President
Ms. Susan Smith, Secretary
Mr. John Tidd, Treasurer
Ms. Amy Cooper
Dr. Anne Dantzig
Ms. Nancy Doemel
Ms. Anita Klein
Mr. Phillip Littell
Mr. Don Livingston
Mr. Steve McLaughlin
Mr. Morris Mills
Mr. Dale Petrie
Ms. Nancy Sennett
Ms. Chris White

Everyone Benefits from Volunteering

by Cheryl Keim

January 2010

As we ring in 2010, many of us contemplate New Year's Resolutions which often center on self improvement through diet, exercise and perhaps smoking cessation. Research tells us that we might also want to add volunteering to that list of lifestyle changes. The old adage, "tis better to give than to receive" certainly seems to hold true in the context of volunteering according to research conducted over the past twenty years.

According to a report titled, "The Health Benefits of Volunteering" compiled by the Corporation for National & Community Service, "we have seen a growing body of research that indicates volunteering provides individual health benefits in addition to social benefits." Those who volunteer have lower mortality rates, greater functional ability, and lower rates of depression later in life than those who do not volunteer and the benefits increase with age. Those most likely to reap these benefits are those who devote "considerable" time (about 100 hours per year).

The local Women's Resource Center is just one of dozens of agencies here in Montgomery County who depend on volunteers to accomplish their missions. With just one full-time and three part-time paid employees and two locations to operate, volunteers are essential to WRC. According to Executive Director, Patti Harvey, volunteers perform a wide range of duties ranging from running errands, helping with fund raising, and serving as client advocates and prayer warriors.

Robyn Henderson is one of about fifty volunteers who carry out the necessary functions of the Center. Robyn

has been a volunteer for WRC since 1991, serving as a peer-counselor for the past eight years. Empathy for women facing crisis pregnancies and her conviction against abortion led to her decision to volunteer. Working about 8 hours each month, she counsels expectant mothers (typically ages 18-22) throughout their pregnancies and until baby reaches 3 months of age. Throughout the counseling, mother-to-be learns about self care and about infant care. In addition to the education and support, mothers earn much needed baby items through participation in the program. Last year MCCF awarded a grant of \$3,200.00 to WRC for the purchase of baby items, pregnancy tests and prenatal vitamins. For more information about WRC, call 362-3028.

If you're looking for a way to volunteer, consider your talents, interests, passions and concerns and seek a job that fits them. To explore opportunities, talk with others and visit the Montcares website, www.montcares.org to get started.

Volunteer in 2010 and make it a happy new year for yourself and for others!



Women's Resource Center Executive Director, Patti Harvey shows a cabinet stocked with baby items. MCCF awarded \$3,200.00 to WRC in 2009.

Ten Reasons to Update Your Estate Plan

Used with permission from *Crescendo*

You have completed a will and perhaps a revocable living trust. Your Durable Power of Attorney for healthcare and a living will are accompanied by a HIPAA release. All of your records are safely in place and carefully organized.

So you now are through with your estate planning. Or are you? Will there be changes in your circumstances or your family that should lead to a review of your plan? Could some events cause you to need to revise or update the plan?

Yes, there are a number of reasons to consider revising or updating your plan. These include any of the following ten “reasons to update your estate plan.”

1. New children, grandchildren or other heirs

Your estate plan almost certainly makes provision for children and other heirs. If you have a specific transfer to one child, a new child may receive a smaller than intended inheritance. For example, John Smith had a \$1 million estate and left a \$400,000 residence to child A. He then divided the balance of the estate with 1/6 of the balance to child A and 5/6 to child B. If a third child is born, depending upon state law, the child might receive nothing or perhaps would benefit from a portion of the residue. In either case, the uncertainty could lead to estate litigation or to family strife. If you have a sizeable estate and if there are large specific bequests, the arrival of a new heir is a good time to review your plan.

If the estate is \$1 million, in some states a child C who is later born would receive 1/3 of the estate. This could dramatically change the benefit for child B and leave her with a reduced inheritance. In addition, child C could be a minor or a very young adult and not capable of managing his or her property. For several reasons, the arrival of a new heir makes a review of your plan very important.

2. Move into a different state

If you are married and move to a different state, there may be a change in the laws that affect ownership. Some states are called “common law” property states and some are “community property.” If you move from one state to another and change in either direction, it may be important to clarify the ownership of property as separate property or joint property. For individuals with moderate to larger estates, there could be significant estate inheritance taxes. Several states have inheritance taxes that will apply at lower levels than the federal \$3.5 million per person. A new state may have a substantial tax that could depend on whom among your relatives receives your property.

Finally, many states have specific rules on Durable Powers of Attorney for healthcare, living wills or advanced directives or even the

HIPAA release. If you acquire legal residence in the state, your doctors will expect that your medical planning documents should reflect their state law.

3. Sale or purchase of a major asset

You may have a major real estate asset or a business that is to be transferred to one of your heirs. If that property is sold or substantially increases in value, your entire plan could change. For example, if a property greatly increases in value and there is a large estate tax that is paid out of the residue of your estate, the beneficiary of that specific property could receive a much larger inheritance than you intend. Those children or other heirs who are receiving the residue could find their inheritance greatly reduced by estate tax paid on the asset transferred to the first child.

Alternatively, if the first asset is sold, then a child may receive a smaller than intended inheritance. Therefore, a significant sale or purchase is a good time for an estate planning review.

4. Reaching age 70½

The four types of estate property are generally cash and cash equivalence, stocks, real estate and qualified plans. Over the years, your qualified retirement plan may become a large portion of your estate. Your IRA, 401k or other qualified plan will require distributions to start on April 1 the year after you reach age 70½.

If you pass away before all of the plan is paid out to you during your retirement years, the balance is transferred to your designated beneficiary. Because retirement plans have grown substantially over the past decade (even with a reduction in plan value during the 2008 downturn), it’s very important to review your beneficiary designations. Many individuals pass away and the plan value is transferred to beneficiaries who have been selected 10, 15 and even 25 years earlier. There could be many reasons why you would want to update that beneficiary designation and age 70½ is a logical time to do so.

5. Your selected beneficiary is deceased

In many families there are unmarried brothers or sisters. It is quite common for these individuals to receive an inheritance and to remember the surviving brothers and sisters in their plans. However, even if there are two or three unmarried brothers or sisters, one will inevitably be the survivor and hold most of the assets. If you are remembering a sibling in your plan, there is a substantial possibility that he or she will pass away before you do. In that case, it is useful to revise the plan and select a new recipient of that share of your estate.

6. Divorce or remarriage

Estate plans for single persons are quite different from those of married couples. A single person who transfers assets to a former spouse will not qualify for the unlimited marital deduction. While property settlements are typically handled during the dissolution of marriage proceedings, there are many cases where individuals forget to change beneficiary designations on retirement plans and insurance policies. Particularly if you later remarry and then pass away with a new spouse, there is a high likelihood of litigation between the ex-spouse and the new spouse if you have forgotten to update your beneficiary designations. Therefore, your plan and your beneficiary designations should always be reviewed in the event of a divorce or remarriage.

7. Substantial change in value

If your estate increases or decreases significantly in value, there can be major impact on beneficiaries. For example, mother has children A, B and C. She leaves a home valued at \$300,000 to child A, a farm valued at \$400,000 to child B and the liquid assets to child C. While she is in a nursing home and no longer able to change the will, oil is discovered on the farm. When mother passes away, child B receives not \$400,000 but \$4 million. To add insult to injury, the estate is now larger than the \$3.5 million exemption and each child must pay estate tax on his or her inheritance. While child B with the largest inheritance will under most state tax apportionment laws pay the largest tax, it will be a matter of considerable sibling unhappiness for the two children who receive the smaller shares and still have to pay a large estate tax on their portion.

8. Adding a major property to a living trust

If you have a substantial estate, you may hold your real estate in a living trust. If you invest in real estate or acquire a major new property and transfer that to the living trust, it will be



Our ongoing mission is to enrich the quality of life in Montgomery County by creating a comfortable, convenient and cost effective means for donors to achieve their goals of charitable giving while fulfilling a variety of current and future community needs.

useful to review the plan. In some circumstances, there may be different beneficiaries for the living trust and for your qualified plans and life insurance. The addition of a high value asset to the living trust could increase the benefits for the persons receiving shares from the trust in comparison to the rest of your heirs.

9. Selected executor or trustee not available

With a will or a revocable living trust, you may also select a successor executor or trustee. While this usually will handle the situation in which the primary executor or trustee predeceases you, it still is useful to review your plan if one of these persons passes away. You can easily select a new primary executor or trustee with an appropriate backup person.

10. Passage of time

Estate plans are affected by changes in your asset value, by changes in your family and potentially by changes in federal or state law. Therefore, it is useful every three to five years for you to sit down with your attorney and review the plan. Given all the potential areas that can change, it's quite likely that you may wish to modify some portion of the plan

The local Professional Advisors Council members are listed on our website.

New Ways to Make Gifts

There are now two new ways to make gifts to MCCF. We can now accept gifts made with your VISA and MasterCard credit/debit cards. You will see this option on giving devices and if needed, you may also phone us with the information.

In addition, we have established a PayPal account making online gift giving possible! The link is found on our website with step by step instructions. Memorial and honor gifts can be made and gifts may be directed to the fund of the donors choice. You may use either your own PayPal account or skip that and simply use your VISA or MasterCard credit or debit card. We are pleased to be able to offer these conveniences to our donors.

Volunteer of the Year

Nominations are being sought for MCCF 2010 VOY from local not-for-profits. The agency that submits the winner will receive \$1,000.00 in that individual's honor. Submit an essay about an individual who has made an exceptional impact on your organization to us at P.O. Box 334, Crawfordsville by April 20. *Family members and spouses of current board members and staff of MCCF are not eligible for nomination.*

MCCF TRIVIA

1. How much money did donors direct to FISH through MCCF's annual holiday giving drive?

Answer: \$1,250,000

The Inside Scoop

Wow! Our first ever "Denim & Diamonds" Dinner Tour was a great success and raised nearly \$12,000.00! Thanks to the agency representatives who greeted us along the way: Steve Hoffman and Steve Akers at Boys and Girls Club, Tamara Hemmerlein at the Old Jail Museum's Steam Plant, Dale Jones at the Coal Creek Fire Dept., Dick Walker at Camp Rotary, Diane Cross at Mountie Mission and Steve Boyer at Old Normal Hall. Everyone came away with a better understanding of the good that our local agencies do for our community and the positive impact that MCCF grants have on them. Many thanks to our very entertaining emcees on the busses, Bonnie Yund, Joyce Meyer and Andy Biddle. After a delicious dinner provided by Bon Appetit, guests were treated to wonderful classical music by Cheryl Everett on piano and Alfred Abel on violin.

Thanks too, to our generous sponsors: Waveland Charter, Nucor, Capital Cities, Let's Go! Travel & Tours, Bon Appetit, St. Clare Medical Center, MutualWealth Management Group, Huth Thompson, Teachers Credit Union, Creek Jewelers, allie marie designs, Lafayette Bank and Trust, Harmon Communications, Brian Keim's Lawn Service and Tri-County Bank & Trust.

Denim & Diamonds 2010 is slated for Sat., October 23rd. The event website, www.denimanddiamonds-mccf.org is still up with pictures of all the fun posted.

Planned Giving

There are many ways to approach planned giving and a bequest is just one of them.

SAMPLE BEQUEST LANGUAGE

"I give, devise and bequeath [the sum of/percentage of/residue of my estate] to Montgomery County Community Foundation, a not-for-profit corporation in Crawfordsville, Indiana to be used for its general charitable purposes."

For more information about bequests or other methods of making a planned gift, visit our website at www.mccf-in.org. Under the "Resources" tab, click "Indiana Giving," then "More Planned Giving Features." From there, there are many choices including a tool to "Create Your Own Plan." Please call us for assistance.

The Board Spotlight Shines on....



Don Livingston

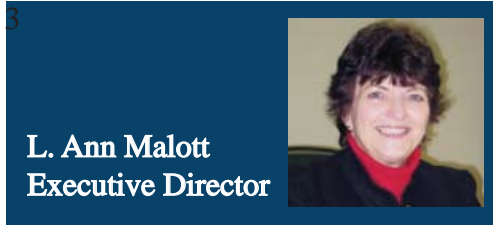
MCCF is fortunate to have men and women in our community who are willing to share their time and talents serving on our Board of Directors. Our Board members are loyal to our mission and supportive of our goals and objectives and we are so grateful for their diligence. Because of their vital role at the Foundation, we'd like to give you a closer look at our Board by profiling one member in each of our newsletters. In this edition our Board spotlight shines on **Board Member Don Livingston.**

Don is a graduate of Purdue University and has lived in Montgomery County nearly all his life. As a farmer, his career has been deeply embedded in the soil of our county as he farmed close to 1,000 acres over the years. He served in the military through the ROTC and while he was stationed in Colorado Springs, he met his future wife, Jane.

Don feels that it is a privilege to serve on the Board of the Montgomery County Community Foundation because he is surrounded by so many capable people. His service on the Scholarship Committee of MCCF has been especially rewarding. It is no small task to plow through the multitude of scholarship applications that are received, yet he gladly assists in the process because he believes so strongly in education.

Although "retired," Don thinks that spare time is sparse! When he does find it, his interests are people, horses, British sports cars, antiques, and travel. He is also an active member of the Wabash Avenue Presbyterian Church. He and his wife have two children and four grandchildren and Don is glad their families have chosen to settle close to home. We are glad that Don chose to make his home in Montgomery County and are grateful for his service to the Foundation.

By Paula Reed



A year ago when I wrote this column, America had just sworn in a new president and our country was facing the aftermath of turbulent financial markets. If we were all honest, there was a certain level of fear and trepidation about the year 2009. No one knew just how far the bottom would fall or how slow our economic recovery would be. At the Foundation, we had to face our own uncertainty over the effects our losses would have on grants and scholarships.

Well, not only did our country survive 2009, we actually made some significant recovery and here we are in the beginning of yet another new year. I am so pleased to say that last year MCCF was able to grant over

\$700,000 to non-profit agencies and hopeful scholars! How did that happen in the midst of such turmoil? It happened because of *you* – our faithful donors who were determined to meet the needs in our community and continued to give in spite of their own concerns.

Most recently, your generosity was reflected in our holiday gift drive as your donations enabled us to give over \$2,000 to FISH, our local food pantry. While all of our agencies perform vital roles in our community, we felt a more immediate concern was to help ensure that food would be available to those less fortunate, especially during the holidays. That was our reasoning to designate FISH as the recipient of those holiday gifts and you responded charitably as I knew you would. I'm sure there were many thankful prayers uttered throughout our county as once bare cupboards were filled not only with food – but with hope.

Change and uncertainty will always be with us. And while no one can accurately predict what will happen this year, there is one thing of which I am certain. Regardless of shifting stock markets, job losses, or other woes, our community rises to meet challenges head on and responds generously whenever and wherever there is a need. Your faithful partnership with us is always a blessing in any given year and continues to be the backbone of the Foundation. May all of you discover this new year to be rich in blessings and full of promise!

“For last year’s words belong to last year’s language and next year’s words await another voice. And to make an end is to make a beginning.” - T. S. Eliot



Return Service Requested

P.O. Box 334
Crawfordsville, IN 47933



Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Crawfordsville, IN
Permit No. 10