

# FOELLINGER *focus*

*Focusing on children and their families*

*inside*

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2007 Annual Report



**FOELLINGER**  
FOUNDATION

*Serving children and families  
by supporting effective nonprofits*

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## Dear Community Leader:



Every year or so, I visit the archives of the Foellinger Foundation and poke around in the considerable collection of artifacts from the Foellinger family.

Their bric-a-brac are not like yours or mine - unless you have personal invitations to White House functions, travel papers from your African journeys and photographs of groundbreaking ceremonies for buildings that you built.

The Foellinger archive is like a vast family scrapbook, with items dating back to the early 1800s when the first of the American Foellingers, the German immigrant Jacob, set up shop as a shoemaker.

One of my favorite items is a photo of Esther Foellinger, mother of foundation co-founder Helene, in her beloved garden with one of her cats. The Foellinger family loved animals (especially horses), gardening, and the outdoor life in general.



One reason I appreciate this particular picture is that many, many families in Allen County have family photos just like this one - an early color Polaroid of a cherished loved one. In so many ways, the Foellinger family mirrors the broader family of Allen County residents.

This year the Foundation that the Foellingers created celebrates 50 years of giving. This issue is the first of three to be published during the year. As you will see, the influence of the Foellinger's gift reaches every corner of Allen County today.

Helene Foellinger set the tone for the work we do today through her roles as publisher of *The News Sentinel* until 1980 and director of the Foundation until her death in 1987. In the decades since, the Foundation has followed Helene's long-term vision by developing a strategic framework to assure that the Foundation remains a vital asset for years to come. Just as an example of Helene's influence today, consider the Foundation's emphasis on organizational effectiveness. A major portion of our grantmaking - almost \$8 million in recent years - is devoted to grants that help nonprofits become stronger by developing more effective leadership structures. This trait for identifying and encouraging top-notch leaders was a key characteristic of the Foellinger family in their business and philanthropic activities.

As you will see in the pages of this issue, the Foundation today supports nonprofits ranging from the YMCA to The Literacy Alliance, from the Paul Clarke Nonprofit Resource Center to Power House Youth Center. It is the diverse range of grants - from program and project and capital support to crucial operating funds - that gives the Foellinger Foundation its unique role in our community.

Fittingly, the Foundation is celebrating this anniversary by awarding more grants to improve organizations and, by extension, the lives of Allen County children and families. We have introduced special "Inspire Grants" to create opportunities for nonprofit leaders to reflect on their work and then turn that reflection into practical application. Investing in strong leaders is among the most effective uses of Foundation funds and we are committed to continuing these investments.

Cheryl Taylor, President

# A family and a community march through history, *together*

It was 50 years ago that Helene Foellinger (right) and her mother, Esther, solidified their far-reaching



devotion to the community they loved by creating the Foellinger Foundation. Theirs was a gift for the ages and one well worth celebrating as a community.

It is rare in American history that a community and a family share a heritage as closely woven as that of Allen County and the Foellingers, the founders of the Foellinger Foundation.

Like Fort Wayne and Allen County, the Foellinger family thrived across the centuries, with each generation passing along an ever-growing legacy for the next. The Foellingers helped shape, and were shaped by, life in our hometown decade after decade.

The Foellinger family scrapbook could serve equally well as a scrapbook for our community. An immigrant shoemaker named Jacob Foellinger was the American forefather of a family that later owned Fort Wayne's oldest company, *The News-Sentinel*, as the Foellinger family grew and prospered, so, too, the community was transforming from a modest military outpost into Indiana's second largest metropolitan area.

In large ways, the history of Allen County and the Foellinger family are one. And thanks to the extraordinary gift that Helene and Esther left to our community, the same is true of the future.

During its anniversary year, the Foundation will mark 50 years of giving – with more giving. Public events will allow the community to celebrate with the Foundation a half-century of grantmaking that touches thousands of local residents. In addition, special grants will be offered to nonprofit organizations.

Like the love of the Foellinger family, the Foundation's assets are a lasting resource. Each year the Foundation awards millions of dollars in grants to dozens of nonprofits to benefit all residents of Allen County. The Foellinger Foundation is one of the largest sources of charitable funds in Allen County. Its assets are invested with a philosophy of long-term stewardship to assure that as long as there are strong organizations helping children and families to create a better life in Allen County, there will be a source of financial support.

How might the forward-thinking Foellingers describe a half-century of giving?

*“A good start.”*



## Apply now for Inspire Grants of up to \$25,000

Grants of up to \$25,000 will give nonprofit leaders the incentive to think, reflect and explore. Just as its founders Helene and Esther Foellinger consistently encouraged organizations to better serve Allen County, the Foundation offers this grant opportunity to continue that tradition.

The job of a leader is to inspire others. But who inspires the leader? The Foellinger Foundation plans to do just that, with its new Inspire Grants.

Inspire Grants are competitive grants with two phases: the Inspire Phase and the Action Phase.

- During the Inspire Phase (up to \$15,000), leaders will have an opportunity to look beyond their daily duties, to renew their energies and to explore new perspectives. Leaders can also use this opportunity to not only develop themselves, but to provide development opportunities for key staff members - the next generation of leaders. The grant will pay for personal or group retreats, personal research projects, sabbaticals - it's up to the organization. The Inspire Phase can engage the CEO or executive director and/or key board members and staff leaders.
- During the Action Phase (up to \$10,000), the results of this newfound inspiration will be put to work to make the nonprofit stronger.

This competitive grant opportunity is an important way of marking the Foundation's 50th anniversary.

Based on 50 years of experience, we have learned that investing in strong leaders is among the most effective long-term uses of Foundation grants.

While there are always immediate issues to be met, the future of our community depends on having a pool of energetic, motivated nonprofit leaders who have the ability to think deeply about the issues of the people they serve.

That was true when Helene and Esther Foellinger started the Foundation in 1958. And it is especially true today, when our economy places enormous demands on local nonprofits.

Today's nonprofit leaders must adapt to constant change, manage to do more on limited funds, and confront never-ending demands on their time and resources. The Inspire Grant opportunity will help make sure these leaders are equipped to deal with such challenges. Supporting the personal and professional development of strong leaders represents an investment in an organization that will pay dividends for years to come.



**For details on how to apply, request a copy of our Inspire Grant brochure by calling (260) 422-2900, or download it from our website at foellinger.org.**

## Grants that help strengthen your organization

The Foellinger Foundation's strategic intent is to support well-managed, mission-driven, results-oriented organizations that focus on children and families most in need with the least opportunity. The Foundation has dedicated millions of dollars over the past decade to help encourage local nonprofits to become more effective. The Strengthening Organizations grant category is an important part of that strategy.



Strengthening Organizations grants provide all eligible applicants funds to make their nonprofits stronger. These grants meet a need not addressed by any other local groups and do it in a user friendly way. Grants are awarded

**This grant opportunity enables all eligible nonprofits to apply year-round for funds to make their nonprofit organization stronger.**

to nonprofit organizations throughout the year regardless of the Foundation's regular grantmaking calendar. Grants may be used to fund board governance, staff development, strategic planning and other activities that directly address the effectiveness of the organization. For more information, please visit our website at [foellinger.org](http://foellinger.org)

## Award spotlights great local leaders

The annual Carl D. Rolfsen Stewardship Award is named for a now-retired Foellinger Foundation board member who served in leadership positions on the board for a quarter century. Mr. Rolfsen, who was personally chosen by Helene Foellinger to lead the Foundation, retired from the board in 2005 but continues to serve on its Investment & Finance Committee. During his board tenure he provided exceptional service to the Foundation, ensuring that it remained constant to the donors' intentions.



To qualify for consideration for the award, organizations may nominate a board member who exemplifies at least three of the *Ten Basic Responsibilities of Nonprofit Boards*, as identified by BoardSource.

The Foellinger Foundation created this award to advance the Foundation's strategic intent by elevating the role of nonprofit board leaders throughout Allen County. The Carl D. Rolfsen Stewardship Award allows the Foundation to shine a spotlight on those nonprofit leaders who exemplify the best board governance practices. The nomination deadline is July 11; the nominee luncheon is Oct 28, 2008. For more information, please visit [foellinger.org](http://foellinger.org) or call (260) 422-2900.



### *A piece of local history on display*

The Foellinger family influenced thousands of local lives, as employers, civic leaders and philanthropists. The Foundation has created a historical display based on selections from the Foellinger family archives. The exhibit is on display now through April at the Allen County Public Library in the Genealogy Department.

**Helene Foellinger meets Richard Nixon at Baer Field (Fort Wayne International Airport) during a visit to the Summit City.**



### YMCA uses grants to develop strong children and families

Since 1858, the YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne has provided leadership and innovation in programming and services designed to develop spirit, mind and body. It goes far beyond a typical workout facility by encompassing an attitude of service and commitment to members and program participants.

The Foellinger Foundation has financially supported the YMCA since 1984. To date, the YMCA has received almost \$4 million from the Foellinger Foundation for operating, program and capital grants. More than \$900,000 has directly supported youth development programs. These grants have helped the YMCA continue its work - building strong kids, strong families and strong communities.

"The Foellinger Foundation has been a financial catalyst to help provide quality youth development programs in the central city and southeast areas of our community," said Marty Pastura, President and CEO.

"Foellinger Foundation support has helped the YMCA improve the quality of life for the children who use our facilities for after-school and summer programs and for character-building activities like sports, education, art, computer classes, music and recreation," Pastura said.

"They understand the importance of youth development activities, especially after-school hours and during the summer," he added. "They understand that these activities help build character in young people."

### Fighting illiteracy by paying the electric bill

For The Literacy Alliance, the fight against illiteracy takes many resources: staff, programs, learning materials.

And just like any organization, The Literacy Alliance has overhead expenses such as rent, electricity and other business necessities.

"The Foellinger Foundation is so helpful with regard to operating support," said The Literacy Alliance Executive Director Judith Stabelli, using the term for grants designated for general use. "Operating dollars are scarce and hard to get, and obviously we can't meet our mission without those necessities."

The Foellinger Foundation has supported The Literacy Alliance for 20 years with grants exceeding \$2 million.

"In addition to operating support, the Foundation has helped us with grants for our family literacy programs that help parents develop their own literacy skills while learning about how they can support their children's literacy," Stabelli said.

She added that The Literacy Alliance has also benefited from Strengthening Organizations grants, designed to provide strategic and technical assistance. "By making The Alliance stronger as an organization, these grants help us to provide better service to the people who need our help."

## The 'go-to' resource for local nonprofits!

Established with a grant from the Foellinger Foundation, Allen County Public Library's Paul Clarke Nonprofit Resource Center is a unique, fully staffed education and information center for nonprofits in Allen County and Northeast Indiana. Today the Center is an example of local foundations working together to meet a compelling community need.

Prior to 2001, the Center stood as a Cooperating Collection of the Foundation Center, a very useful library resource, but with limited staff and minimal programming. Since its restructuring in 2001 and with nearly \$1 million in Foellinger Foundation support since then,

the Paul Clarke Nonprofit Resource Center is not only the site for information and tools for nonprofit governance and management; it is also a key source of training for nonprofit boards of directors and staff members. Services provided to the nonprofit community include classes, one-on-one consultations, training, research and special workshops. The Center also generates an excellent e-newsletter.

In addition, the Foellinger Foundation has provided the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne over \$300,000 for the development of the "Go! Series," offered in collaboration with the Paul Clarke Nonprofit Resource Center. The Center has partnered with the Community Foundation over several years to provide the "Go! Series," offering information and educational opportunities that help nonprofit agencies. The purpose is to increase the effectiveness of Allen County nonprofits.



Speakers, discussion groups and 10 "Go! Guides" offered easy-to-access information about topics fundamental to high-performing nonprofits. Following the success of "Go! Guides," the Community Foundation expanded the Series to "Go! Team." The "Go! Team" program allowed nonprofit representatives to increase their agency effectiveness by using Stephen Covey's "7 Habits of Highly Effective People." Currently, the Community Foundation is working with the Center to offer "Go! Tech," a technology effectiveness program available to selected nonprofit volunteers and staff.

In 2006, the Paul Clarke Foundation provided a gift of \$1.3 million to the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne to create an endowed fund, the income from which will benefit the Paul Clark Nonprofit Resource Center, actively partnering with the Foellinger Foundation to provide resources dedicated to increasing the capacity of all nonprofit organizations.

For more information on the Paul Clarke Nonprofit Resource Center, contact Marilyn Fauth at (260) 421-1238. Or visit the Center online: [www.acpl.lib.in.us/nrc](http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/nrc).

**Today, the Community Foundation and the Foellinger Foundation jointly commit substantial resources to the Center to provide Allen County with a central clearinghouse for nonprofit information and resources without duplicating services.**

## Young people benefit from support provided to Power House

Power House Youth Center is a local nonprofit organization that strives to provide youth with positive alternatives to negative behaviors in a safe, drug-free environment. Power House offers a variety of programs for teenagers in middle and high school. Programs include after-school opportunities, mentoring, support groups, dance classes, life skills education, service projects, and even Friday night dances. All programs are free to teens and staffed by Power House volunteers and directors.

"Grants from the Foellinger Foundation have been a benefit to us and the teens we serve," said Cheryl Karr, Executive Director of Power House.

"As a smaller nonprofit, it is vital for us to keep up with the needs of our members and provide them with the best possible opportunities. Through the support of the Foellinger Foundation, not only have we been blessed with vital funding, but also training for our staff and Board of Directors. The Foellinger Foundation has helped lay a foundation of success that can be built upon for years to come. With ongoing and up-to-date research, tools, and support, we are able to provide even better services to teens and their families," she said.

"The Foellinger Foundation enables Power House to continue to provide vulnerable teens with vital resources helping them to become healthy and productive members of our community."

### Summit Representatives

The Foellinger family's dedication to their local community is legendary. This commitment extended to involvement in affairs on a national level as well. When presidents visited Fort Wayne or called upon them, the Foellingers served as leading representatives of the Summit City.



Oscar Foellinger was Herbert Hoover's Hoosier State manager for Hoover's presidential campaign. (In this photo, Hoover is second from the left, and Oscar Foellinger is third from left.)



Helene Foellinger shares her views with President Gerald Ford at a Washington, D.C., press event.

What's remarkable is that the Foellingers moved with equal grace and aplomb whether at a

White House gathering or in the gritty pressroom of their newspaper plant, with equal amounts of dignified leadership and humbleness.

### Foellinger Fundamentals

# Humble beginnings

**The story of the immigrant shoemaker.** Jacob Foellinger was a German youngster of 18 when he moved from the Old Country to Fort Wayne in 1836. The young man made his way in the world making shoes and boots for the pioneering residents of this ever-changing community.

Before long, the successful young shoemaker was getting involved in civic affairs. He was elected to the Fort Wayne City Council and helped start the city's public schools in 1853.

Jacob had a son named Martin who followed his father in the shoemaking business. Eventually, Martin launched his own company. Like his father, Martin was active in civic affairs and showed the same flair for business.

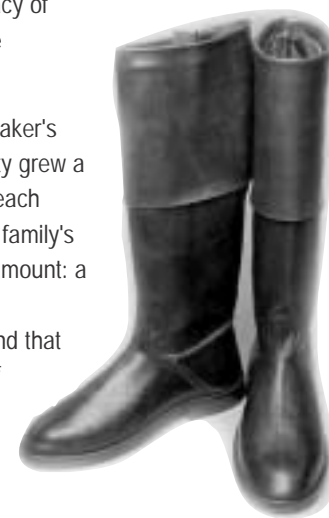
Martin's son Oscar, born in 1885, left school at age 12. He learned accounting at a bank before getting a job that would change his life. Oscar Foellinger became business manager for *The Fort Wayne Journal Gazette* in 1906, at the age of 21. In 1912, he assumed the same role for the rival *Fort Wayne Daily News*, which in 1918 merged with another daily to become *The News-Sentinel*. Oscar purchased *The News-Sentinel* in 1921 and became its publisher.

He also continued in what was truly the Foellinger family business — civic affairs. Oscar used the paper to promote political causes. He was even friends with President Herbert Hoover and managed Hoover's Indiana campaign.

It was Oscar's wife, Esther, and daughter, Helene, who continued the family's legacy of civic affairs by creating the Foellinger Foundation.

From an immigrant shoemaker's craft and love of community grew a local business empire. At each stage of this extraordinary family's growth, one idea was paramount: a sense that the community transcends self-interest; and that success is just a means of creating the resources needed for growth.

Jacob Foellinger came to Fort Wayne seeking a better life. He launched a family tradition of public involvement that helped shape generations to come.



To commemorate the Foellinger Foundation's 50 years of giving, please join us for

# *beauty and music*

These public events are a gift to the community from the Foundation, one of Allen County's largest grantmakers supporting local nonprofit organizations. Please come help us celebrate!

## *A Gift for Mom*

Helene Foellinger found the perfect way to honor her own mother, Esther, an ardent gardener. Esther imagined a botanical conservatory and Helene made it a reality. In honor of the Foellinger Foundation's 50th anniversary, we invite you to celebrate Mother's Day at the place that Helene loved: the Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory. On Sunday, May 11, 2008, from noon - 4 p.m., bring your moms, grandmas, aunts and anyone else who means MOM to you for a free visit to the Conservatory. Mom will enjoy the spectacular displays of flowers, including a special exhibit of butterflies, and she will receive a special plant to take home.\*

\* While supplies last.

## *A Gift of Music*

On Tuesday, June 24, 2008, from 7-9 p.m., the Fort Wayne Philharmonic will perform a free concert that brings the best in music to all residents of Allen County. The concert will be at the Foellinger Outdoor Theatre, built in honor of Oscar Foellinger, located in Franke Park. Seating is limited to 2,000. Free tickets will be available in the weeks prior to the event at the Fort Wayne Philharmonic box office at 2340 Fairfield Avenue and on the day of the event at the Foellinger Outdoor Theatre ticket window. For ticket information, please call the Philharmonic box office at (260) 456-2224.



"We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give."

Winston Churchill said that, and Barbara Burt has lived it.

Barbara, board chairman and past president of the Foellinger Foundation, earned



the statewide Hazelett Award for Leadership in Grantmaking by the Indiana Grantmakers Alliance. The award is presented to an individual who displays character and leadership in philanthropy.

Barbara has been a mentor to a generation of local leaders who themselves went on to achieve great things. Her ability to not only lead, but to inspire leadership in others is what sets Barbara apart.

On the occasion of its 50th Anniversary, the Foellinger Foundation salutes Barbara's life of service to the Allen County philanthropic and nonprofit community and the people they serve.

Barbara's award reflects credit on her and on the Foellinger family, whose interests she consistently represents.

## Foellinger Foundation 2008 board members



### BOARD MEMBERS

*Left to right – seated:* Carolyn R. Hughes, *Vice Chairman and Secretary*; Barbara A. Burt, *Chairman*  
*Standing:* Mary F. Barksdale; David A. Bobilya, *Treasurer*; Thomas J. Felts; Cheryl K. Taylor, *President*; Richard B. Pierce

The role of the Foellinger Foundation Board of Directors is to ensure that the values and principles of the donors — Integrity, Accountability, Responsibility and Results — are embedded in the Foundation's governing structures and to honor the donors' intent in all decision-making.

# 2007 Foellinger Foundation *annual report*

## 'Show me your budget, and I'll tell you your priorities'

During a political debate, one of the candidates said something like this: "Don't tell me what your priorities are; show me your budget and I'll tell YOU what your priorities are."

Exactly. That's what you'll find on the following pages.

Why does a private foundation publish an annual report?

The main reason is to tell a story in the language of numbers – the clear, concise, unequivocal language of mathematics. Of course the Foellinger Foundation is in the people business, and numbers can't tell the whole story; but they do provide an excellent picture of the Foundation's priorities.

We never forget, however, that behind each number is a face; a child, a parent, a neighbor. Look hard enough, and you'll probably see yourself somewhere in these numbers, because the Foellinger Foundation's grantmaking reaches far and wide and touches many residents of Allen County.

If you use the library, have a child in Girl Scouts, use the YMCA, listen to public radio, visit the zoo or Science Central, visit the parks, or enjoy the arts, you are a part of this numeric portrait of the Foundation's activity.

The rows and columns on the following pages tell a story that is 50 years in the making, dating back to the day that Helene and Esther

Foellinger made the ultimate gift when they left their estates to the Foundation for the benefit of Allen County. The numbers show that the Foundation's grantmaking has increased along with its assets across the decades.

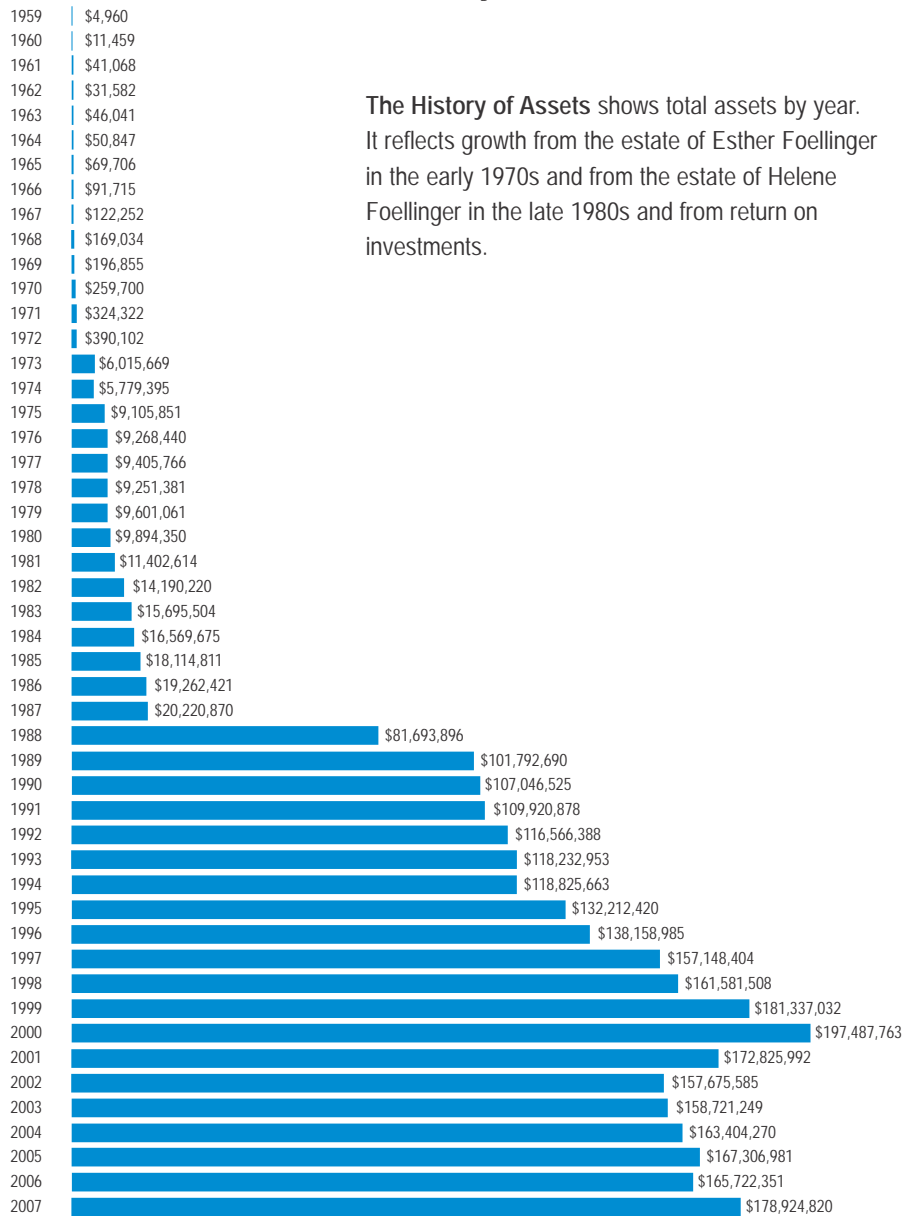
This reflects two key functions of the Foundation: awarding grants and prudently investing its assets to sustain its grantmaking activity for generations to come.

**MORE ONLINE:**  
You will find our  
auditor's report and  
financial statements  
on our website at  
[foellinger.org](http://foellinger.org).



## History of Assets

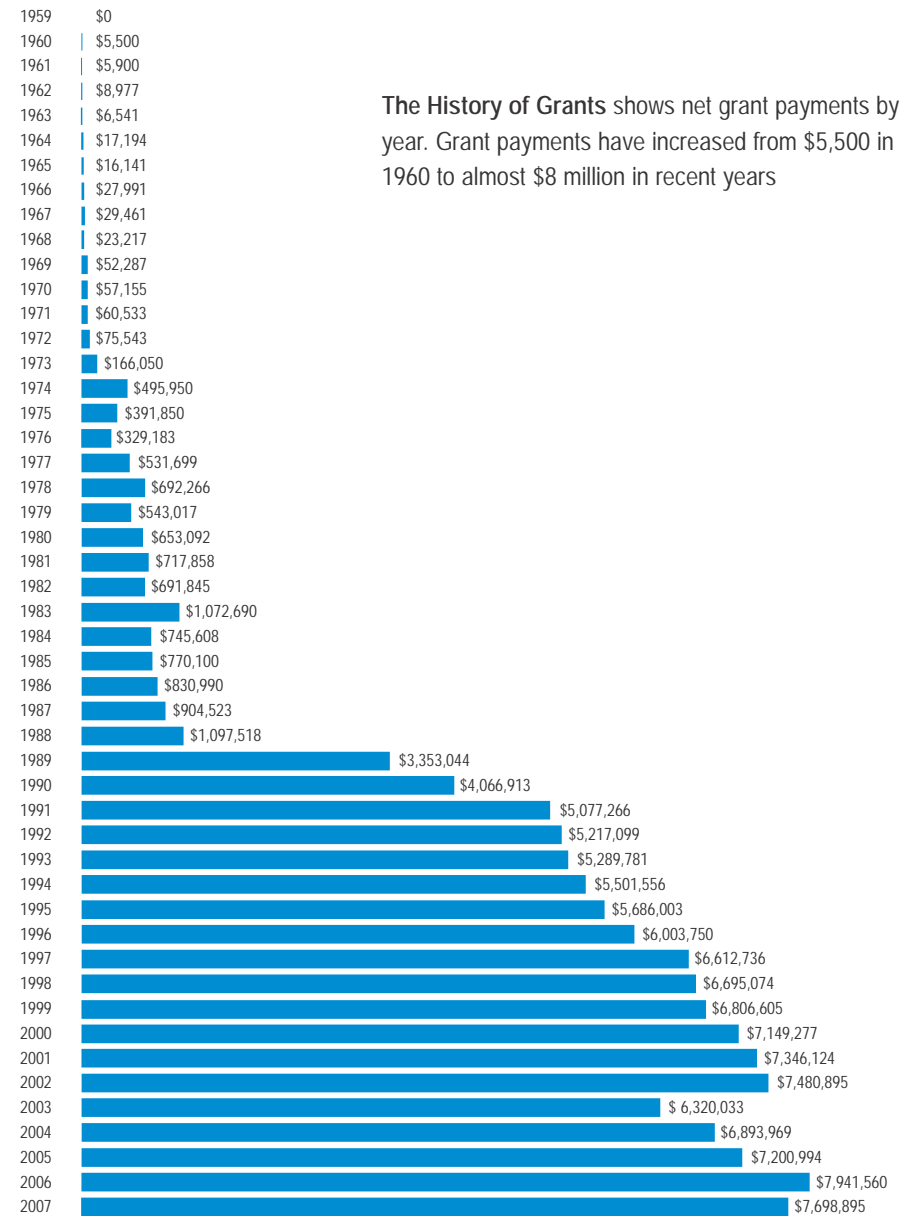
since the Foundation's inception



The History of Assets shows total assets by year. It reflects growth from the estate of Esther Foellinger in the early 1970s and from the estate of Helene Foellinger in the late 1980s and from return on investments.

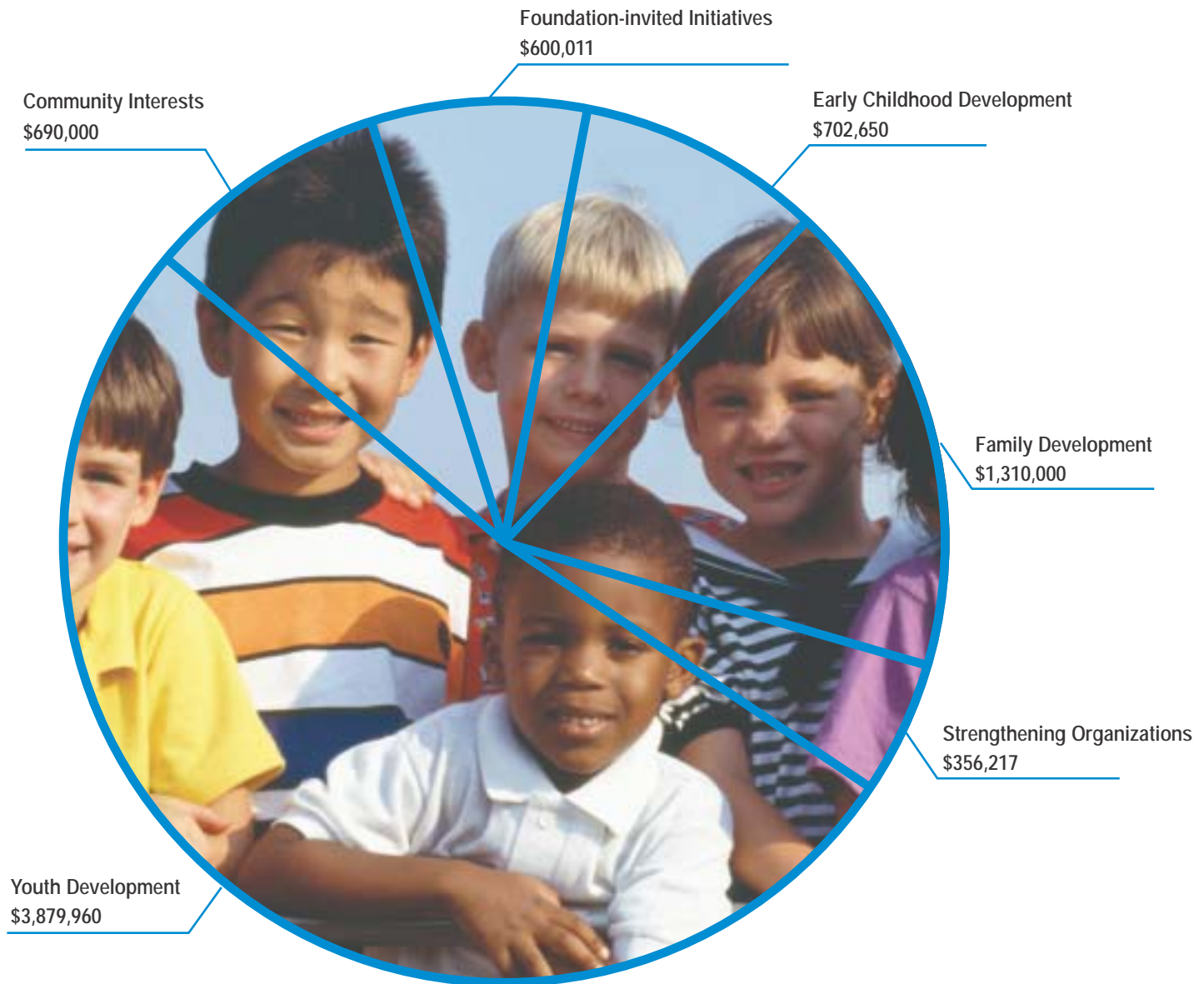
## History of Grant Payments

since the Foundation's inception



The History of Grants shows net grant payments by year. Grant payments have increased from \$5,500 in 1960 to almost \$8 million in recent years

# 2007 Grant Approvals



## 2007 Grantees

### Foundation-Invited Initiatives

- Allen County Public Library
- Anthony Wayne Rehabilitation Center for Handicapped and Blind
- BoardSource
- Community Action of Northeast Indiana
- Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne
- Early Childhood Alliance
- Fort Wayne Area Youth for Christ
- Fort Wayne Philharmonic Orchestra
- Fort Wayne Urban League
- Harold W. McMillen Center for Health Education
- Healthier Moms & Babies
- Junior Achievement of Northern Indiana
- Lifeline Youth and Family Services
- Power House Youth Center
- Turnstone Center for Disabled Children and Adults
- Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home
- YMCA
- YWCA

**TOTAL: \$600,011**

### Early Childhood Development

- Community Action of Northeast Indiana
- Early Childhood Alliance
- Fort Wayne Dance Collective
- Fort Wayne Philharmonic Orchestra
- Fort Wayne Public Television
- Gingerbread House
- Lutheran Social Services
- Martin Luther King School
- Vincent House

**TOTAL: \$702,650**

### Family Development

- Allen County Education Partnership
- American National Red Cross
- East Wayne Street Center
- Fort Wayne Dance Collective
- Healthier Moms & Babies
- Interfaith Hospitality Network of Greater Fort Wayne
- Lutheran Social Services
- National League of Cuban American Community Based Centers
- United Hispanic-Americans
- Wellspring Interfaith Social Services
- YMCA
- YWCA

**TOTAL: \$1,310,000**

### Youth Development

- Anthony Wayne Rehabilitation Center for Handicapped and Blind
- Arts United of Greater Fort Wayne
- Boy Scouts of America
- Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fort Wayne - South Bend
- Cornerstone Youth Center
- East Allen County Schools
- Fort Wayne Area Youth for Christ
- Fort Wayne Center for Learning
- Fort Wayne Community Schools
- Leadership Fort Wayne
- Lifeline Youth and Family Services
- Lutheran Social Services
- Power House Youth Center
- Purdue University
- Taylor University

**TOTAL: \$3,879,960**

### Strengthening Organizations

- Associated Churches of Fort Wayne - Allen County
- Cancer Services of Allen County
- Community Harvest Food Bank of Northeast Indiana
- Early Childhood Alliance
- Easter Seals Arc of Northeast Indiana
- Fort Wayne Women's Bureau
- Headwaters Park Alliance
- Interfaith Hospitality Network of Greater Fort Wayne
- Leadership Fort Wayne
- Literacy Alliance
- Northeast Indiana Innovation Center
- Public Broadcasting of Northeast Indiana
- Right Relations
- Science Central
- St. Joseph River Watershed Initiative
- Taylor University
- Turnstone Center for Disabled Children and Adults
- United Way of Allen County

**TOTAL: \$356,217**

### Community Interests

- African/African American Historical Society
- AIDS Task Force
- ARCH
- Artlink
- Arts United of Greater Fort Wayne
- Community Harvest Food Bank of Northeast Indiana
- Community Transportation Network
- Fort Wayne Ballet
- Fort Wayne Children's Choir
- Fort Wayne Cinema Center
- Fort Wayne Civic Theatre
- Fort Wayne Dance Collective
- Fort Wayne Healthy Cities Committee
- Fort Wayne Museum of Art
- Fort Wayne Philharmonic Orchestra
- Homebound Meals
- Leadership Fort Wayne
- New Haven Area Heritage Association
- Science Central
- United Way of Allen County

**TOTAL: \$690,000**

# scrapbook



Photos, from left to right: (top) Helene Foellinger with one of her beloved pets; making a speech as owner of WGL radio, a media property that she owned in addition to her newspaper enterprise; Helene in the saddle on one of her beautiful horses; (bottom) Helene (left) with mother Esther at the wedding of Helene's sister, Loretta, shown with her new husband, Richard Teeple; Esther and Helene at the groundbreaking of the Fort Wayne Newspapers building (Esther is second from left; Helene is next to her).

## Our Mission

### Foellinger Foundation Vision, Mission and Strategic Intent:

**Our vision** is to help Allen County residents increase their self-reliance by moving from dependence to independence, to helping build community through recognition of their interdependence.

**Our mission** is to provide grants and technical assistance to strengthen organizations that serve children and families, particularly those with the greatest economic need and the least opportunity.

**Our strategic intent** is to support well-managed, mission-driven, results-oriented nonprofit organizations.

# Times change, but Foellinger values and principles endure

Helene Foellinger and her mother, Esther, established the Foellinger Foundation 50 years ago.

Today the Foundation is one of the largest sources of grant funding for nonprofit organizations that do so much to support our economy and improve life here in Allen County.

Many things have changed over the past five decades, but some things will never change — the Foundation's commitment to the founders' values and principles:

**Integrity.** The Foundation and its grantees should demonstrate faithfulness to this fundamental value.

**Accountability.** The Foundation and its grantees should continually seek to improve their overall organizational effectiveness.

**Responsibility.** The Foundation and its grantees should fulfill their obligations to each other and demonstrate mutual trust and respect.

**Results.** The Foundation and its grantees should strive to help people in Allen County advance from needing help, to helping themselves, to helping one another, and measure discernable effects.

The community is stronger thanks to donors who insisted that their gifts be managed as effectively as possible.

The Foundation is focusing the Foellinger family gifts strategically. The Foundation invests in grants to organizations led by people who have demonstrated leadership, a relentless focus on mission, and a commitment to results.



*Serving children and families by supporting effective nonprofits.*



**FOELLINGER**  
FOUNDATION

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