A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

2014 has been another exciting year for Bexley and our Foundation—18 grants totaling $150,000 to 25 community partners = community-wide impact. Your gifts to the Bexley Community Foundation are making a difference in our community. Since we began making grants in 2011, our donors have enabled us to invest over $410,000 in Bexley through 45 grants focused on Arts and Culture • Beautification and the Environment • Community Building • Economic Development • Health and Wellness • Lifelong Learning • Recreation and Youth.

At the Bexley Community Foundation, we’re always thinking about tomorrow. If we exceed this year’s campaign goal of $125,000, we will be able to achieve another year’s campaign goal of $125,000. If we exceed this year’s campaign goal of $125,000, we will be able to achieve another year’s campaign goal of $125,000. We are marked by the words at the Bexley Community Foundation are making a difference in the Bexley community partners = community-wide impact. Their grants focused on Health and Wellness in Bexley, we will be able to achieve another year’s campaign goal of $125,000.

The Bexley Wellness Fund was established in 2014 to promote community, family and individual health and wellness in Bexley. The fund supports activities, programs and services that:
• Empower those who live, work or study in our community to achieve healthy lifestyles;
• Foster informed public understanding and discussion of current and emerging health and wellness trends, issues, topics and ideas;
• Promote fitness, healthy eating and physical and emotional health;
• Develop health and wellness initiatives for the Bexley community

The Bexley Wellness Fund was initiated with a significant gift from Beth Grimes-Flood and was officially announced at the October 7th annual meeting. “When I decided to create a fund that would give something back to my community, wellness seemed like a natural topic for me. For the last 15 years I have personally been on a journey to improve my own health and learn about staying well.”

The fund will sponsor a variety of opportunities and activities for those interested in broadening their knowledge about making healthier choices for themselves and their families. Together, we can be well in Bexley!” — Beth Grimes-Flood

Happy Holidays,
Jim Gross, Board Chair

Grants from our Bexley Beautification Fund paid for new end caps on Fair Avenue, Bexley Park Road and Bryden Road.

A Look at Some of Our Grants

The Bexley Community Foundation Conference Room: The City of Bexley received a grant of $8,350 to create a conference room in the new City Hall. The Bexley Community Foundation Conference Room will be a first-class conference space serving community organizations, as well as the city. It will be ADA accessible and available for after-hours use, with seating for 14-16 people, comprehensive audiovisual equipment, and coffee and beverage service.

WOSU Neighborhoods: WOSU TV received a $5,000 grant to support its upcoming Columbus Neighborhoods Bexley documentary. This is the fourth in a series of documentaries that WOSU has created and produced as their contribution to Columbus’s bicentennial celebration. The documentary will provide Bexley residents an opportunity to learn and celebrate the rich history and culture of our neighborhood.

Montrose Elementary School Playground: The Montrose PTO received a $12,000 grant to help with a much-needed renovation of the school playground. The playground is used by both the school and the community and needed to be ADA complaint. Our grant funded ADA accessible play structures. We partnered with the Bexley Public Schools, the Bexley Education Foundation, local businesses and other donors.

Thinking About Tomorrow

The Bexley Community Foundation held its annual meeting of donors, volunteers and community partners on October 7 at The Columbus Foundation, where it celebrated a year of increased giving and funding of projects that enhance the community.

The theme of this year’s meeting was “Thinking About Tomorrow,” emphasizing our community’s bright future and the role of the Bexley Community Foundation in creating Bexley’s tomorrow by the investments we make today. Barb and Gary Giller and Susie and Charlie Rath were honorary co-chairs of the event.

The Foundation’s Cornerstone Award for Philanthropy and Service is given each year at the event to honor current or former Bexley residents who inspire us by their exceptional service and giving to Bexley and the greater community. This year’s award went to the members of Pelotonia Team Bexley, rather than an individual.

“Since the inception of Pelotonia, Team Bexley has raised over $1.5 million for cancer research at The Ohio State University,” said Board Chair Jim Gross. “Their message is powerful — when Bexley works together as a team on a common goal, we produce amazing results.”

The Ohio State University (University Advancement and University Hospital East) was Gold Sponsor of the Pelotonia event.

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2015 Grant Deadlines

For giving guidelines and priorities, please visit our website at www.bexleycommunityfoundation.org

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The Bexley Community Fund is our general purpose fund making grants for a full range of Bexley projects and programs and is supported by our annual campaign.

The Bexley Youth and Recreation Fund is a special purpose fund supporting youth and recreation programs, activities and facilities, including the City Recreation and Parks Department, and is funded by our annual "Meet Me at the Mansion" event.

The Bexley Beautification Fund is a special purpose fund focusing on beautification, tree planting, landscaping and environmental projects and is supported by our "Bexley in Bloom" and "Trees for Bexley" campaigns.

The Denise and Barry Blank Tree Fund is a donor designated fund dedicated to the planting of trees and is supported by gifts from members and friends of the Blank family and other interested donors.

The Jeffrey Mansion and Park Fund is a special purpose fund for the maintenance and improvement of the mansion and its grounds. The fund is supported by designated gifts from donors.

The Bexley Wellness Fund is a special purpose fund devoted to activities, programs and services that promote community, family and individual health and wellness in Bexley. The fund is supported by designated gifts from donors and grants from organizations interested in health and wellness.

Our Youth and Recreation Fund has supported programs such as the Spinal, Splish and Dash Youth Triathlon, the Kids Fit and Fun Expo and the Cub Scout Pack 66 Beekeeping Project.

We invite you to learn more about how you can become part of future projects that enrich the lives of Bexley's youth through physical, creative, and cultural activities.

Meet Me at the Mansion

In 1942, Robert H. Jeffrey donated his family estate and its 32 acres to the City of Bexley for public purposes. Since then, the property has been the recreational heart of our community.

Tech Corps, founded in 1995, is a local non-profit that puts together after school workshops, clubs and camps that keep young people engaged in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) related programs.

Our $4,500 grant is funding three Bexley-based workshops for third through sixth graders consisting of one-hour modules on robotics, programming, coding and application development.

Tech Corps partnered with Bexley City Schools, Bexley Public Library, Columbus School for Girls, Capital University and Bexley Recreation and Parks Department. The workshops are being held at Cassingham Elementary School, CSG and the library.

"We are so grateful for the generous support from the Bexley Community Foundation and partners for the opportunity to educate, excite and empower Bexley students with technology," said Carla Thompson, Regional Director, Central Ohio TECH CORPS. "It was great to see the kids so engaged and excited about the programming and robotics activities. So far, we have had a student participation of 42 percent girls and 58 percent boys. I'm elated to see so many girls jumping at the opportunity to nurture their inner techie."

Ways to Give

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Youth Technology Workshops

Plans for Jeffrey Mansion Entry Underway

In 2014, the Bexley Community Foundation awarded a grant to install two brick sidewalks leading from Parkview Avenue to the mansion, making it safer for everyone.

In 2014, the Trees for Bexley campaign and the Denise and Barry Blank Tree Fund awarded grants for a new entryway on North Parkview. These grants, in addition to a number of designated private contributions, will fund the construction of a new entryway consistent with the mansion’s architecture and period.