

2021
ANNUAL
REPORT



Photo courtesy of Covington Partners
#MentorOneStudent #ThankYourMentor

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO



“
**there is no doubt Northern
Kentuckians are willing and eager
to show up for those in need**
”

BECOME A SUSTAINING DONOR!



A recurring monthly donation of just \$9 to our Community Impact Fund helps to create a better Northern Kentucky!

Dear friends,

While our world may look a little different these days, I feel confident we are hitting our stride with this “new normal.” Over the past few years, nonprofit organizations and donors alike have learned to pivot to address the unique issues that our community has faced. We are more agile when responding to needs, donors are giving at a higher rate, and nonprofits are finding new ways to serve their neighbors.

As needs arise, we as a community have shown we are prepared to answer the call. From our response to the pandemic, our efforts to welcome Afghan refugees, and the aid provided in the wake of the devastating tornadoes in Western Kentucky this winter, there is no doubt Northern Kentuckians are willing and eager to show up for those in need.

It’s an unfortunate reality that hardships will continue — natural disasters happen, public health emergencies develop, and hard times befall our neighbors every day. While we might not have the power to stop these occurrences, we can be positioned to act swiftly. We can learn from the past to help us be proactive and better prepared to respond the next time we are called to do so. We are optimistic about what is ahead and feel confident that we will be a stronger community with each passing day.

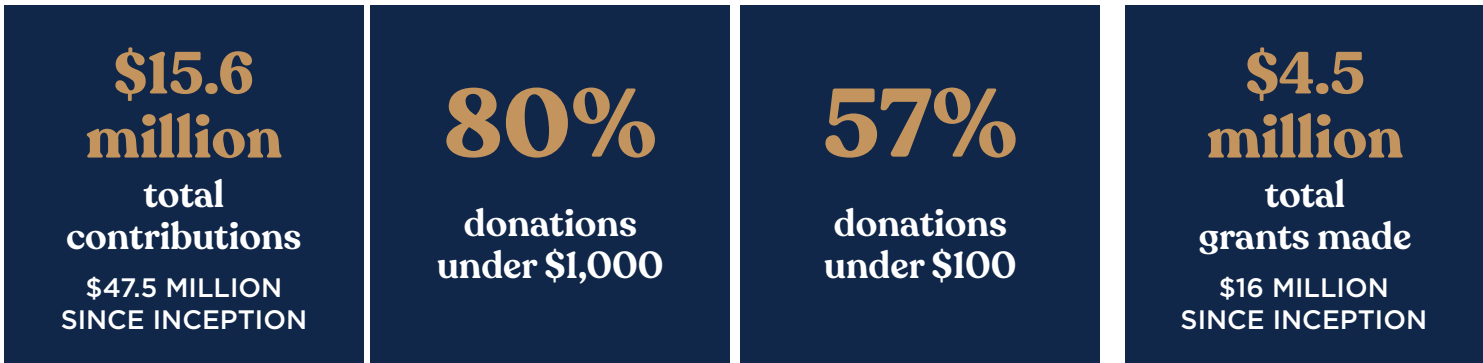
Northern Kentucky is well on its way to being known as the “Giving Community,” a title we are striving for every day. We boldly aspire to become the most giving community in our nation, and you are a vital part of making that goal a reality. You can help create common good for our common wealth. Join us.

Nancy Grayson, President & CEO

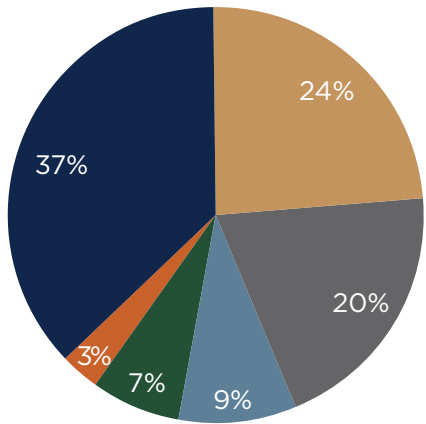
Horizon Community Funds of Northern Kentucky

2021

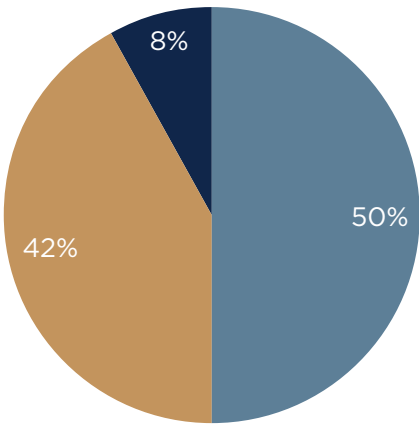
AT A GLANCE



grants by impact area

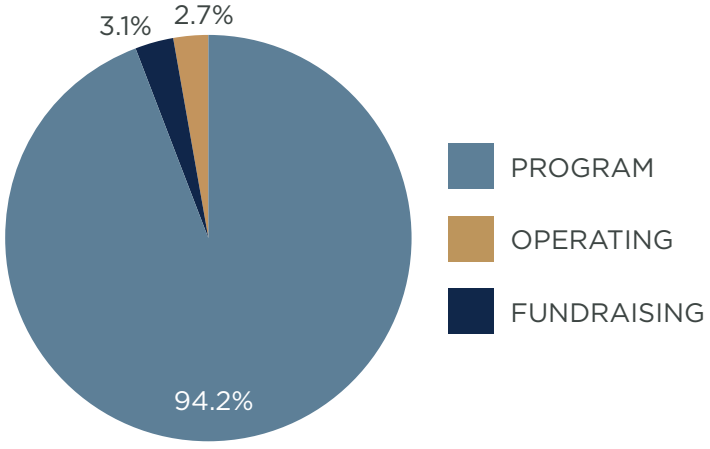


horizon nky coronavirus relief fund grants by impact area



- EDUCATION
- HEALTH
- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- REDUCING POVERTY
- RELIGION
- ARTS

functional expenses



- PROGRAM
- OPERATING
- FUNDRAISING

nky afghan evacuees community fund

The NKY Afghan Evacuees Community Fund was established at Horizon Community Funds this past fall to help Afghan refugees arriving to Northern Kentucky. RefugeeConnect, a vital partner in this effort, convened a Northern Kentucky Afghan Evacuee Welcoming taskforce in September 2021 to close equity gaps for Afghans and ensure a streamlined referral pathway between service providers, nonprofit partners, employers, and healthcare providers. In partnership with Kentucky Refugee Ministries (KRM), the taskforce recruited welcoming teams and co-sponsor groups to help Afghan evacuees acclimate to their new communities. Additionally, the Taskforce was able to assist in making connections to area landlords and property managers so that housing could be secured for families. KRM was able to forge a partnership with the Immigrant and Refugee Law Center to offer immigration legal assistance to Afghans as they began to apply for asylum. By the end of December, 18 Afghan evacuees were successfully relocated off military bases into Northern Kentucky.

Additional local community partners closely engaged in these efforts include: St. Elizabeth Healthcare, NKY Health Department, Kenton County Library, the Northern KY Justice and Peace Committee, Learning Grove, the Center for Great Neighborhoods, the NKY Area Center of the United Way of Greater Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky University, Cincinnati Compass, and Welcome House of Northern Kentucky.



horizon nky coronavirus relief fund

For the past two years, we have been addressing pandemic-related needs through our Horizon NKY Coronavirus Relief Fund. This fund was established in March of 2020 to support our neighbors most disproportionately impacted by the pandemic, and our community rallied together to raise over \$2.1 million for this effort. Since then, the grants we've made have assisted more than 85,000 Northern Kentuckians affected by the pandemic.

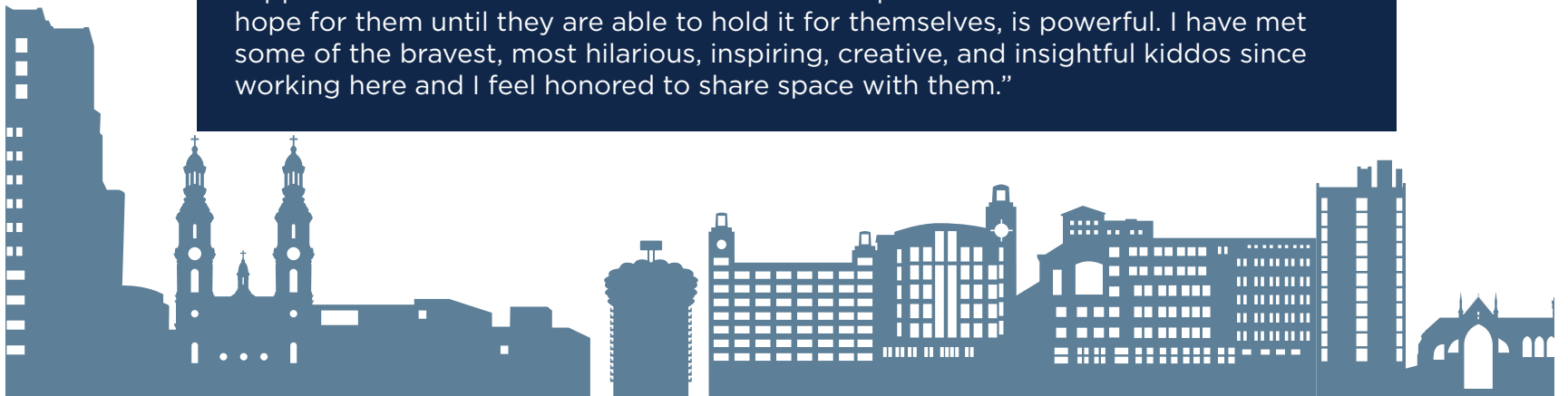
A wide array of needs arose from the pandemic. In 2021, we received several requests for help related to emergency rental assistance, food insecurity, and mental health concerns, stemming from causes such as loss of income and general stress brought on by the pandemic.

We were grateful for the opportunity to partner with organizations addressing these needs in our community.



In August 2021, Horizon Community Funds provided a \$61,000 grant to Family Nurturing Center to meet the increased mental health needs caused by the pandemic. This grant allowed them to hire a full-time therapist to address the growing waiting list and provide evidence-based therapies to children impacted by abuse and childhood trauma.

Rebecca Moore has seen dozens of children in the past year and provided specialized, trauma responsive interventions to help them find hope and healing. "I'm so grateful for the support of Horizon Community Funds," shares Rebecca. "Their support allows me to show up every day and create a space for people to be seen, to be heard, to be supported. Often families come to us in times of pain and to be able to hold that hope for them until they are able to hold it for themselves, is powerful. I have met some of the bravest, most hilarious, inspiring, creative, and insightful kiddos since working here and I feel honored to share space with them."



giving circles

THE POWER OF COLLABORATION

2021 was another banner year for our giving circles. With a combined total of \$44,600 in grants, Give Where You Live NKY and The 410 had a significant impact on six deserving nonprofits serving the Northern Kentucky community.

Each of these giving circles is unique in its own way. Give Where You Live NKY's fast-paced format is a fun and approachable way to have a collective impact, while The 410 gives members an opportunity to take more of a deep dive into the grantmaking process. Both are a fun and meaningful way to connect with our local community and they are always accepting new members.

add your voice and your vote

Contact Mary Kate Vanderglas at mvanderglas@horizonfunds.org or 859.620.8221 to join!



Members of The 410 chose to distribute their \$20,000 in grant money between two different organizations. After selecting individuals with disabilities as the focus area for this grant cycle, members voted to award both the Down Syndrome Association of Greater Cincinnati and DCCH Center for Children and Families each with \$10,000.

The giving circle gathered at the end of 2021 to present these funds to the grantees, and to learn more about the organizations' missions and plans for utilizing their grants.

The Down Syndrome Association of Greater Cincinnati (DSAGC) used the funds to support their efforts to help parents of K-12 students with Down syndrome build collaborative relationships with their child's school. It can be difficult for parents to fully understand their child's rights in the Individual Education Plan (IEP) process. The Down Syndrome Association addresses this through telephone and email contact, in-person consulting, classroom observation and attendance at IEP meetings. This grant allows the Down Syndrome Association to offer assistance to approximately 100 students with Down syndrome in Boone, Kenton, and Campbell counties.

DCCH Center for Children and Families' grant was put towards their Residential Treatment Program, which serves boys and girls ages six through 14 who have been removed from their homes by the state due to extreme physical, sexual, and emotional abuse and neglect. This grant was used for costs associated with therapeutic interventions for the 100 survivors of child abuse served annually. Behavioral therapy comprises most of the costs for the Residential Treatment Program.





While our community was still coping with the changes brought on by the pandemic, Give Where You Live NKY was able to host its 2021 quarterly meetings through both virtual and in-person gatherings. A total of \$24,600 was granted to four nonprofits. At each meeting, three nonprofits are randomly selected from a list of nominations provided by the giving circle members. After a quick pitch for each of the three selected nonprofits, members vote to choose one winner for that meeting. This engaging, one-hour format provides an opportunity for members to learn more about nonprofits serving Northern Kentucky, while the winning organization receives funding without any expense or work on their end.

We look forward to another great year of giving from these two groups in 2022!

congratulations to our 2021 winners

ESPERANZA LATINO CENTER



GO PANTRY



NO LIMITS



LIFE LEARNING CENTER



community impact fund

YOUR GIFT AT WORK IN NKY

Our Community Impact Fund provides funding to nonprofits that accelerate change, innovate solutions, and leverage partnerships and resources in Northern Kentucky. It allows us to assess our community's needs and support Northern Kentucky's most critical endeavors, both now and in the future. The Community Impact Fund relies on generous donors, business partnerships, and other support to bring grant opportunities to Northern Kentucky. In 2021, we granted a total of \$62,000 from this fund across six nonprofits that serve our community.



adopt a class

"With your help, we were able to spark passion and explore potential in students across Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky." - Marie Rusincovitch, COO of Adopt A Class

The \$6,000 grant Adopt A Class received allowed for more than 500 students at Ockerman Elementary in Florence to be mentored by local business and civic groups. Through this grant, Adopt A Class was able to better serve their student population and expose them to a breadth of careers and life experiences.



catalytic fund

"We very much appreciate Horizon Community Funds' support of our work in creating housing diversity, preserving historic assets, and converting vacant sites and buildings to productive assets that benefit community members." -Jeanne Schroer, Catalytic Fund President/CEO

The Catalytic Fund received a \$10,000 grant, which was used to amplify their work through a matching fund from the US Department of Treasury CDFI Fund. This leveraging of resources creates jobs, quality housing, and new economic activity in Northern Kentucky's River Cities.



covington partners

"I can't wait to watch our students learn that they have strengths and that they can use those strengths to be successful in school and in life."
- Stacie Strotman, Covington Partners Executive Director

Covington Partners' \$10,000 grant helped fund a pilot program to create Individual Strength Plans (ISP) for 225 students. This goal-setting activity helps students build a plan for individual growth and success based on their top five character strengths, which they can use to be successful in school and in life.



gateway community & technical college

"We are grateful to Horizon Community Funds for their very generous support of our River City Promise Scholarship." - Dr. Fernando Figueroa, Gateway President/CEO

Gateway Community & Technical College received \$7,500 to support their River City Promise Scholarship Program, which helps cover the cost of tuition for students with a high degree of financial need who attend River City high schools. For the Spring 2022 semester, Gateway has 53 students enrolled in the River Cities Promise Program with 15 of these students on track to complete their Associate Degree by the end of the year. Compared to Falls of 2018 and 2019, enrollment at Gateway from these six high schools has increased in the 2020 and 2021 Fall semesters by 42 students.



northern kentucky education council

"Literacy is the great equalizer, especially for children of color and those living with poverty. We are beyond grateful for the investment from Horizon Community Funds and their confidence in our One to One Read programs." - Polly Lusk Page, Northern Kentucky Education Council One to One Director

Northern Kentucky Education Council used their \$13,500 grant to increase the number of coaches, and thereby the numbers of students reached, in their One to One literacy program. One to One provides all members of the community an opportunity to play an integral role in helping struggling students with the support they need to be successful in reading and math.



refugeeconnect

"Horizon Community Funds' support enables us to reach more families and develop deeper partnerships with Northern Kentucky schools, organizations and providers." - Kristin Burgoyne, RefugeeConnect Executive Director

With their \$15,000 grant, RefugeeConnect expanded their Community Navigator program, which provides native language support to guide families in accessing resources and services in Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky. They were also able to assist families facing eviction and support Kentucky Refugee Ministries with intake for Afghan clients.

our uncommon advocates

DONORS IN THEIR OWN WORDS



Why did you decide to open a Donor Advised Fund?

We chose to open a Donor Advised Fund to simplify our charitable giving. Because our business income naturally fluctuates, we typically wait until the end of each year to make our charitable donations. It is wonderful to have the option of donating some or all of our yearly charitable gifts into one fund, where they can be held throughout the following year or years and paid out as needs arise, rather than having to hurriedly make decisions during the month of December. It has also been convenient to have a fund from which we can donate as we meet and get to know new-to-us organizations serving Northern Kentucky.

Why did you choose to open your fund with Horizon Community Funds?

My husband, Ryan, and I were both raised in Kentucky, and we are raising our family in Northern Kentucky. It is a blessing to be a part of a Kentucky-based organization who is committed to bettering the lives of our neighbors.

How would you encourage your peers to get involved with giving back in Northern Kentucky?

Take time to visit local nonprofit organizations with which you may not be familiar. You will discover some incredible operations in Northern Kentucky, with some of the kindest, most generous visionaries managing them. Having our children be a part of this process has been extra special because they can express what they are individually interested in and as a family we can learn more about what each child is interested in giving to. It gives each child ownership with our fund.

jordan dallas turner, union



Why did you decide to open a Donor Advised Fund?

Choosing a Donor Advised Fund was easy due to the flexibility it affords my wife Beth and me. You deposit the money, stock, etc., get the deduction in that year and then make your grants from there online, which is super handy. In our case we are trying to build up a good size fund so whenever I slow down and stop actively funding, there will be plenty to dole out over many years.

Why did you choose to open your fund with Horizon Community Funds?

We decided to open a fund with Horizon Community Funds because we are Northern Kentuckians and liked the local touch leaning to our community. Northern Kentucky has been so good to our family over many years, and we'd like to give back!

How would you encourage your peers to get involved with giving back in Northern Kentucky?

I encourage our Legacy Financial friends and clients to utilize this excellent giving tool. It's easy, matches our personal giving objectives, is tax efficient, and very inexpensive. The staff at Horizon Community Funds could not be any more professional and helpful.

paul sartori, crestview hills

Why do you give to Horizon Community Funds?

It's really easy - I give to Horizon Community Funds because they care about Northern Kentucky as much as I do. I love our region and feel so lucky to live, work, and serve in this community. I feel like I have a partner in Horizon Community Funds fighting with me to make Northern Kentucky better. I also appreciate how dynamic and flexible Horizon Community Funds is when supporting donation efforts for community emergencies.



Why did you choose to join The 410 giving circle?

I wanted to give to a young professional organization that provided actionable results. The 410 puts my donation to work immediately and gives me a voice in deciding how my donation is used. I also love how The 410 connects me to other individuals who care as much as I do about making our community better. It was also important for me to know that my donation would stay in Northern Kentucky.

How would you encourage others to give back to Northern Kentucky?

If you truly care about making Northern Kentucky better, then I would schedule a meeting with Horizon Community Funds and learn about the incredible work they are doing and how you can help. We are lucky that Horizon Community Funds serves as a positive catalyst for change in our community.

justin otto, newport

Why do you give to Horizon Community Funds?



My decision to give to Horizon was simple - due to the fantastic work and effort they are putting into this region. They are implementing change in Northern Kentucky in regards to quality of life, culture, race relations, the arts, and much more. I want to make a difference, even if it's just a small contribution.

Why did you choose to join The 410 giving circle?

I chose The 410 giving circle because as stated in my previous response, I just want to make a difference. If my contribution goes towards helping a cause or to aid in the improvement of one individual, then I have succeeded in my mission. I wanted to join a group of individuals with the same passion and dedication around helping others and improving the region and found it with The 410.

How would you encourage others to give back to Northern Kentucky?

I would look towards yourself and ask how can you make an impact on changing the Northern Kentucky area? How can you help those who might not receive the same resources, support, and guidance as you growing up or currently? It should be within our human nature to improve on our living surroundings and help those in need. If you can answer those questions, you should give back.

christopher owens, cincinnati

UNCOMMON ADVOCATES FOR NORTHERN KENTUCKY

WWW.HORIZONFUNDS.ORG

join your neighbors in creating common good for our common wealth



camp give

LEARNING THE VALUE OF CHARITABLE GIVING

We were honored to help bring back Magnified Giving's Camp Give NKY last summer. This philanthropy camp engaged students participating in Brighton Center's Youth Leadership Development program in service learning and philanthropy.

The students participated in service activities and learned about the impact philanthropy has on their community. Through Horizon Community Funds' support of Camp Give NKY, students awarded more than \$5,000 to four local nonprofits they had learned about during virtual site visits: Henry Hosea House, Emergency Cold Shelter of Northern Kentucky, Frankie's Furry Friends, and Angel's Food Pantry.

Camp Give NKY 2022 is scheduled to take place again this summer. It's a fun and effective way to engage youth in philanthropy. They learn firsthand the value of charitable giving and sharing their time and talent with their community. We are excited to be a part of this remarkable program for another year!

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COMMUNITY FUNDS

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c'mon y'all

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to receive our e-newsletter.



Photo courtesy of Magnified Giving