

The Heron Creek Community Foundation is now in its 11<sup>th</sup> year of operation and continues to provide needed support to those in need in our local community. The Foundation was started with one purpose in mind - to give back to the community where we live. Our mission statement, "improve the quality of life within the local community", continues to be our guiding principle. With over \$418,000 in grants awarded to date, our commitment remains as strong today as when it started.

From the start the board recognized the need to support the hungry, especially children, throughout our community. Thus, we have since annually supported collection and distribution of canned and nonperishable goods for donation to the All-Faith Food Pantry. This year, because of COVID-19, the Food Pantry requested cash instead of food donations. Heron Creek owners and members once again came through by opening your wallets and checkbooks and donating over \$21,000 during our annual Heron Creek Food Drive – enough to purchase 108,900 meals. A special "Thank You" goes to Kathy Lane and her awesome team captains who brought the whole plan together. Thank you to everyone who donated!

The Food Drive was a great way to kick-off this year's activities. Because of COVID-19, we again must adjust our annual schedule of fundraising activities. After consulting with the North Port Performing Arts Center and considering the possibility of COVID-19 restrictions being lifted, we rescheduled the Duprees Concert for January 21, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. This date will also be conducive to our "snowbird" residents being able to attend. We appreciate those of you who purchased tickets for patiently waiting for this fun event to take place. You will soon receive a letter with additional information regarding your ticket purchase. The annual HCCF Golf Tournament, which is always a sellout and tons of fun for all, has also been pushed to this fall. More details to come for each of these events.

As we continue with our fundraising efforts this year, we encourage you to visit our website and check us out or speak to one of our board members. If you are not yet a member of the HCCF, we would love to have you join us. A check for \$100 or more not only pays for your annual membership, but it is also a tax deductible donation. Your continued support is what keeps us going. Of note is the fact that of 830 Heron Creek households, only 241 households are HCCF members. HCCF is an amazing organization that is making a significant contribution to help those in need in the community where we live. Please visit our website at <https://www.heroncreekcommunityfoundation.org> to learn more about our endeavors and please consider joining us!