



NEWS ON THE

Horizon

ISSUE 20

UNCOMMONLY NKY
SUMMER 2025

One NKY

uncommonly
unified



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

We're excited to share that Horizon Community Funds is now Horizon Community Foundation of Northern Kentucky, a name that better reflects who we are and what we do: serve as your trusted community foundation.

This is more than just a name change. It's a reflection of what we stand for: a true giving community that is dedicated to driving positive, lasting change throughout Boone, Campbell, and Kenton counties.

This milestone comes as we settle into our new home at the OneNKY Center in Covington, a space designed to bring together key regional organizations for authentic collaboration and shared vision. Being part of this dynamic hub allows us to work more closely with partners across sectors and counties, accelerating impact like never before.

Inside these pages, you'll find stories on our Community Impact Fund grantees, our uncommonly connected giving circles, and our inspiring 2025 NKY Nonprofit Award winners, who will be honored at our upcoming annual NKY Philanthropy Summit on September 25th.

With fresh energy, Horizon Community Foundation is committed to continue building on the \$45 million we've already invested in our region and take on what's next, together.

With gratitude,

Nancy Grayson

President & CEO

Horizon Community Foundation of Northern Kentucky



I live here and I give here.

Your Gift, Doubled: Join Us in Shaping Northern Kentucky's Future

Since 2017, Horizon Community Foundation has invested more than **\$45 million** into the Northern Kentucky community, thanks to donors like you. Together, we've supported education, improved health outcomes, strengthened economic mobility, and uplifted over 130,000 of our neighbors.

Now, as we continue to evolve with a new name, a new home at the OneNKY Center, and growing momentum, we're asking for your help to carry this mission forward.

Our annual campaign is underway and we need your support.

This yearly appeal fuels the work that meets our region's most pressing needs. From responsive grantmaking to long-term solutions, your donation plays a direct role in the well-being of Boone, Campbell, and Kenton counties.

And right now, **your gift can go even further.** Thanks to a generous donor, all new contributions to this year's campaign will be **matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$20,000.** Whether it's \$45, \$145, \$450, or any amount that's meaningful to you, every donation matters. Your gift, combined with those of others, has the power to make a collective, lasting difference.

Together, we can build a Northern Kentucky where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.



**We need your help.
Are you in?**

Scan the QR code or visit
[https://horizoncnky.org/
fund/annual-appeal/](https://horizoncnky.org/fund/annual-appeal/)
to donate today.

Giving Circles

WHERE COMMUNITY MEETS IMPACT

THE
410

From river towns to rolling hills, Northern Kentucky is home to 29 zip codes across Boone, Campbell, and Kenton counties. We're diverse in geography and spirit but share one powerful number that connects us: **410**.

The 410 is a giving circle powered by people who care about making a difference in Northern Kentucky. With an annual gift of **\$410**, members come together to fund bold, community-driven projects that directly benefit nonprofits serving the 410 zip code region.

This is more than giving. It's belonging. It's connection. It's a chance to come alongside others who share your love for this place—and your hope for its future.

As a member, you'll:

- **Pool your resources** with others to award grants to local nonprofits tackling big challenges.
- **Vote on what matters most**, with input from your fellow members and community leaders.
- **Build relationships** with people who care deeply about Northern Kentucky, just like you.

2025 Member Events:

- **September 18** – Kickoff Gathering
- **October 16** – Focus Area Panel
- **November 6** – Vote & Grant Decision Meeting
- **December 16** – Celebration & Check Presentation

All events are from 5 - 6 PM



Be part of the movement. Be a part of this community. Let's build a stronger Northern Kentucky, together.



scan to learn
more about
The 410



Give Where You Live NKY Awards Q2 Grant to Esperanza Latino Center

Members of Give Where You Live NKY selected Esperanza Latino Center as the recipient of their 2025 second quarter grant, awarding \$5,500 to support the Covington-based nonprofit's bilingual services and community programs. Esperanza provides assistance with job applications, housing, healthcare navigation, and school enrollment, along with free ESL classes, tutoring, youth programs, and cultural events that build connection and belonging.

Give Where You Live NKY—offered by Horizon Community Foundation, in partnership with Mueller Financial—engages members in quarterly, one-hour meetings where participants nominate local nonprofits, hear brief overviews, and vote to award a pooled \$100-per-member grant to one organization serving Boone, Campbell, or Kenton counties.

2025 Member Events:

- **September 11** – The Standard 5 - 6 PM
- **December 11** – New Riff Distilling 5 - 6 PM



Learn more or sign up scan the QR codes below or contact **Dawn Denham** at ddenham@horizoncnky.org



scan to learn
more about
Give Where You Live



community impact fund

At Horizon Community Foundation of Northern Kentucky, we know building a better community takes all of us working together, giving together, and caring together. The **Community Impact Fund** connects people who want to help with nonprofits driving change across Boone, Campbell, and Kenton counties.

As our most flexible grantmaking resource, the fund supports both long-term transformation and rapid response, meeting needs as they arise, from emergency relief to bold new ideas.

Through collective giving, we work to break the cycle of poverty, enhance education, support the arts, and build a healthier, more successful Northern Kentucky.

The Community Impact Foundation grants invest in nonprofits that accelerate change, innovate solutions, and leverage partnerships for meaningful progress. Each year, a diverse group of local leaders selects grantees with measurable, community-centered impact.

When you give to the Community Impact Foundation, you're supporting our region's greatest needs, including those we can't yet foresee. Gifts of any size help our Council of Trustees direct resources where they're needed most.

We're excited to introduce our 2025 Community Impact Fund grantees on the following pages, organizations leading the way with purpose, creativity, and care.

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“
when you give to the
**Community Impact
Foundation**, you're
supporting our
region's greatest needs,
including those we can't
yet foresee.

”

scan to learn
how you can
make an impact!





Baker Hunt

"We are so grateful for the Horizon Community Foundation's support in helping us continue our mission of bringing art and culture into the community! The support of the Horizon Community Foundation means we can continue to offer free after-school art and cooking clubs, and free classes for the VA, senior centers, Easter Seals Redwood, and more! Thank you!"

— **Alex Noel**, Executive Director



Beech Acres Parenting Center

"We are proud of our longstanding partnership with Erlanger/Elsmere Schools, and this grant enables us to build on that foundation. It not only sustains the impactful work we've begun but also deepens our efforts and expands our reach within the community. We are excited about the opportunity to strengthen outcomes for students and families through this continued collaboration. Thank you to Horizon Community Foundation and our great partners in Erlanger Elsmere Schools"

— **Laura Mitchell**, CEO



Boone Conservancy

"The Boone Conservancy appreciates the continued support of the Horizon Community Foundation. As we prepare the 350-acre Ohio River Conservation Corridor for public use, we need to first identify and protect the property's sensitive cultural and environmental assets. This funding will allow us to take the next steps in planning for the site's future."

— **Christy Noll**, Executive Director



The Center For Great Neighborhoods

"Covington Sparks and Sparks in the Park is our answer to a community that is in need of safe and supportive places for their kids to go, outside of a school day. Every time we hold a Sparks event, we try to create an atmosphere that is welcoming, engaging, and catered to the needs and interests of the kids. We started with just an 8-week pilot program in 2024, and thanks to an overwhelming turnout and continued support from funders like the Horizon Community Foundation, we are thrilled to be able to bring back our indoor Fall/Winter programming this year and to continue to offer this opportunity for Covington kids."

— **Shannon Ratterman**, Executive Director



Enzweiler Building Institute

“On behalf of the Enzweiler Building Institute, I want to thank the Horizon Community Foundation for their generous \$15,000 investment in scholarships for students pursuing post-secondary trade school instruction in the construction trades. This support could not come at a more critical time. As our region works to address the housing crisis, developing a skilled construction workforce is essential to increasing housing supply, supporting that companies that keep our community, vibrant, and fueling economic growth. These scholarships will not only open doors for students but will help ensure that Northern Kentucky has the talent and expertise needed to build a stronger, more resilient future.”

— **Brian Miller**, Executive Vice President, Building Industry Association of Northern Kentucky; President, Enzweiler Building Institute



Faith Community Pharmacy

“We are incredibly grateful to receive a Community Impact Fund grant from the Horizon Community Foundation of Northern Kentucky. This support will directly enhance our prescription medicine program by providing vital funding to purchase more medications for our uninsured and underinsured neighbors. With this grant, we can reach even more individuals in need—helping them access life-saving medications they might otherwise go without. It’s an investment in both health and hope, and we’re proud to partner with Horizon Community Foundation to serve our community with dignity and compassion.”

— **Aaron Broomall**, Executive Director



FIESTA NKY

“This grant will allow us to help so many more families with much-needed programming and support. Health, mental health, and workforce development are our main goals, and we are fortunate to have many great partners helping us do this important work. We are deeply grateful for Horizon’s support and faith in FIESTA. With this generous grant, we can expand our services and empower Hispanic families in Northern Kentucky to build a brighter future.”

— **Theresa Cruz**, President/CEO Fiesta NKY



Reset Ministries

“The Reset team is grateful that Horizon has chosen to support the efforts of our organization to restore lives. The TANK Lifeline Project will allow us to add a crucial resource to our current support system through increased understanding of and greater access to bus transportation. The ability to navigate the TANK system with confidence will open opportunities in many areas for our residents to create a pathway to stability and hope for a future.”

— **Tom Sherwood**, Reset Executive Director

2025 Philanthropy Symposium

Horizon Nonprofit Awards

The Horizon Nonprofit Awards are an additional component of the symposium, recognizing outstanding individuals and organizations whose leadership and service strengthen our community. Honorees are celebrated for their achievements in innovation, motivation, community building, ethical integrity, and strategic leadership.

Our NKY Philanthropy Symposium is a convening of leaders from across Northern Kentucky—bringing together nonprofit professionals, funders, business leaders, and civic partners to address the issues that matter most to our region.

This year's theme, **"The Bridge to Impact,"** will focus on building collaborative solutions across critical areas like healthcare, education, and economic vitality. Through data-driven presentations, thought-provoking panel discussions, and inspiring real-life stories, attendees will explore how cross-sector partnerships can create lasting change for Boone, Campbell, and Kenton counties.

From addressing community health challenges to strengthening economic opportunity, the symposium will highlight both the pressing needs and the promising innovations shaping Northern Kentucky's future.

Thank you to our generous sponsors!

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Congratulations to this year's award recipients!



Sonya Fultz CEO, Adopt A Class
Executive of the Year – Large Organization

Sonya Fultz is a passionate and innovative leader dedicated to fostering educational equity and mentorship for students in underserved communities. Under her leadership, Adopt A Class has significantly expanded its reach, growing corporate and civic partnerships by 35% and engaging thousands of volunteers to mentor students. A lifelong educator, joined the organization in 2020.



Rachel DesRochers CEO, The Gratitude Collective
Executive of the Year – Small Organization

Rachel DesRochers is a serial entrepreneur, international speaker, thought leader on the power of gratitude, community builder, mother, dreamer, author, and podcast host. Gratitude and community are the foundation of everything she creates. Her diverse projects, businesses and nonprofit are housed under her umbrella, The Gratitude Collective.



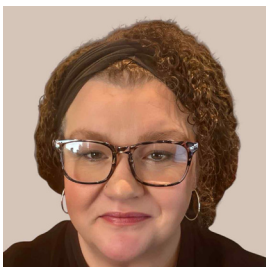
Travis Gysegem Director of Research & Underwriting, The Catalytic Fund
MVP – Nonprofit Staff Member

Travis Gysegem joined the Catalytic Fund in 2017, supporting the company's real estate investments through spatial and data analysis, as well as research on market, demographic, and policy trends. Passionate about creating a resilient, vibrant region, he is active in several professional and service organizations and currently serves as the Engagement & Outreach Chair for the Northern Kentucky Young Professionals.



Phyllis Yeager Chair, Board of Directors, Partners for Change
MVP – Nonprofit Board Member

A dedicated community leader, Phyllis has served on the Partners for Change board for seven years and is its current Board Chair, guiding the organization with a collaborative spirit and a focus on meaningful, lasting impact. She serves as Vice President of Human Resources for Park Wiseway Supply Group (PWSG), headquartered in Florence, KY.



Amy Carder Foster Adoptive Parent Association of NKY
Volunteer of the Year

Amy Carder has over 15 years of dedicated service in foster care and community outreach. She is deeply involved in supporting foster and adoptive families and serving in leadership roles with various community organizations and school councils. In addition to running FAPA of NKY and her extensive volunteer work, Amy works full-time for Kentucky Cabinet for Health & Family Services, raises six children, and is pursuing a degree in Human Services at Gateway Community and Technical College.



camp give

INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION OF GIVERS

This summer, Horizon Community Foundation proudly supported **two** Camp Give programs—one at Brighton Center in Newport and one at Florence Elementary.

Camp Give, a program by **Magnified Giving**, is a fun, hands-on summer camp that teaches youth the joy and impact of giving. With Horizon's support, campers not only volunteered with local nonprofits but also awarded real grant dollars to causes they care about.

Throughout the week, they explored their strengths, practiced leadership, and saw how small acts can create big change. From visiting community organizations to completing service projects, every activity showed them that giving back starts now.

We're honored to help nurture these future philanthropists—and excited to see the difference they will make for Northern Kentucky.

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