



## Growing a Foundation for good in our community

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Springfield ... our hometown. As we wrap up Thanksgiving weekend, I find myself reflecting on our hometown. It's where I grew up and made my first friends. It's where I work, and where Nancy and I chose to raise our family. Like any community, we've had our ups and downs — but one thing hasn't changed: our commitment to making our little part of the world a wonderful place to live.

Over the past 15 years, local individuals, families and businesses have been the driving force behind the launch and growth of one of our community's most important resources — the Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln.

The Community Foundation is a steward of more than \$30 million of charitable assets that support the causes that donors care about. By bringing funds together, and hiring expert staff who work closely with donors and nonprofit organizations, the Community Foundation provides administrative, investment and grant-making support that eliminates the need for individual donors to set up separate institutions, formulate policies and monitor grant recipients.



*Hy Bunn*

In 2017 alone, the Community Foundation has already granted over \$1.7 million to launch and expand programs that work, including the Nurse-Family Partnership and Minds in Motion for Alzheimer's patients and their families. They've supported preservation of historic gems, such as the Vachel Lindsay Home and Walgreen Bridge at Lincoln Memorial Garden. Innovate Springfield has been expanded, and a bi-annual citizens' survey was conducted through support from the Community Foundation. And more than \$130,000 in scholarships — including the prestigious Student of the Year — have been awarded to local students.

All of these accomplishments were made possible because of people who are passionate about the long-term health and well-being of our community. To all of those individuals, I extend a sincere "thank you."

They say that all good things must come to an end. At the moment, that sentiment rings true for me as I head in to my final weeks as chair of the board of directors for the Community Foundation. It has been a distinct honor and privilege to work side by side with staff, fellow board members and donors each week to ensure that the Springfield area is a place that offers opportunities where everyone can excel.

I encourage readers to learn more about their local Community Foundation and how you might get involved.

By establishing a charitable fund at the Community Foundation, you can set aside your money now and decide at a later date which organizations will receive it. It allows you to think strategically about how you give and to what organizations while also taking advantage of tax deductions.

There are also a variety of giving circles, including Women for Women, Young Philanthropists and the King's Daughters Organization, that pool member contributions to make large, impactful grants each year. Women for Women is celebrating its tenth annual grant in 2018 with its largest award; Young Philanthropists is set to award \$10,000 in December to a local program serving children and youth; and King's Daughters Organization has topped \$1 million in cumulative grant-making over the past decade.

The Community Foundation is one of the easiest ways to plug in to the causes that are most important to you and make a positive difference. While my term as board chair may be ending, I look forward with enthusiasm to my continuing relationship with the Community Foundation and its donors to support the needs of our community and keep its future bright. I hope you will join us!

*Arthur "Hy" Bunn is chair of the Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln's board of directors and president and CEO of Bunn-O-Matic Corporation. To learn more about the Community Foundation, call 789-4431 or visit [CFL.org](http://CFL.org).*