

CommYUnity

GROWING TOGETHER

Spring 2022

701 S. Harrison Avenue, Kankakee, IL 60901

815-939-1611

www.cfkrv.org



CEO Nonprofit Coffee Talk

Nonprofit CEO's gathered in March for our quarterly CEO Nonprofit Coffee Talk sponsored by community partner AMITA Health St. Mary's Hospital Kankakee. Partnering with the Kankakee County Chamber of Commerce, we aim to give nonprofit CEO's the opportunity to network and discuss topics such as marketing, staffing issues, board governance, strategic planning and much more.

If you're a nonprofit CEO and would like to join us for our next coffee talk, sign up for our e-blast newsletters at www.cfkrv.org to receive information on all of our upcoming events.

Does your organization need a speaker for an event?

Community Foundation of Kankakee River Valley would like to share our mission with you! Learn how we can continue growing together with the community in order to make a difference now, and for future generations.

If you would like us to speak at your event, please call us at 815-939-1611 or email info@cfkrv.org



Christmas with the Arts



Dance in the Light studios of Bradley, IL

In November of 2020, the Foundation announced the matching funds challenge for the Fine Arts Fund put forth by former executive director Norm Strasma in memory of his wife, Janice, who passed in 2018. Mr. Strasma generously chose to match donations up to \$50,000. This will allow the fund to grant up to \$5,000 each year to support programs in the areas of literature, music, architecture, sculpture, painting, performing arts, and film. The Christmas with the Arts event was held last December as an interactive fundraiser to help meet the matching goal. Community members gathered at the Majestic Theater to enjoy activities centered around each pillar of the Arts.

This event featured a string quartet from the Kankakee County Symphony Orchestra, live performances from Dance in the Light Studio, movie and architecture trivia, a community paint by number, literature wine bottle pull, gingerbread house crafts, photo booth and carolers from Acting out Theater Co.

The fund is now over \$62,000, including matching funds earned so far, bringing us over halfway to our goal. With this achievement, the Foundation plans to launch the Fine Arts grant cycle this fall. A special Thank You to the sponsors of this event: Graystone Consulting, Peoples Bank of Kankakee County, Pathfinder, Amita Health St. Mary's Hospital, Jake Lee - County Auditor, Olivet Nazarene University, Majestic Theater, Midland States Bank, Art's Landscaping, and Aqua.

Please consider taking part in this challenge by making a donation. You can donate online through our secure website, www.cfkrv.org, or send your donation to Community Foundation of Kankakee River Valley, 701 S. Harrison Ave, Kankakee, IL 60901.



Christmas Carolers
Acting out Theater Co. of Bradley, IL



Community Paint by number



Gingerbread house building



Movie & Architecture Trivia



Community Foundation of Kankakee River Valley provides a simple, powerful, and highly personal approach to giving. We offer a variety of giving tools to help people achieve their charitable goals. You can make a gift of cash, stocks, bonds, real estate, or other assets to your community foundation.

Please consider including CFKRV in your will and estate planning. It is a wonderful way to continue your legacy in our communities. For information, call Nicole at 815-939-1611 or email Nicole@cfkrv.org

Catholic Charities Back to School Fair



Last August, 2021 Communityworks Grantee, Catholic Charities held their annual Back to School Fair for low-income families living in Kankakee and Iroquois Counties. Catholic Charities is a faith-based organization providing service to people in need and calling others of good will to do the same.

The families attending this Back to School event are representative of the “working poor” as well as residents from homeless shelters, transitional housing, and domestic violence shelters. These families have limited resources available to prepare their children for the upcoming school year. Catholic Charities provide 352 school aged children with new backpacks and school supplies to ensure a successful start to the new school year.



190 households were positively impacted by the Back to School Fair with resources and information on supportive programs in the community. Their families also received nutritious food boxes purchased from the Northern IL Food Bank and informational bags. These bags provided information on local businesses and non-profit program resources available to the community as well as hygiene supplies and household items.

Each year the Communityworks Grant awards are made available for projects addressing issues in the areas of Early Childhood Education, Land Use & Protection and Workforce Development. Join us for our Annual Luncheon on May 19 to learn about the 2022 Communityworks recipients and their programs. Visit www.cfkrv.org to purchase your tickets.



Lunch and Learn

Community Foundation's next Lunch and Learn will be held on Wednesday April 13 at KCC featuring fundraising tips led by speakers Dr. Jeff Williamson and Jenny Schoenwetter.

This Lunch and Learn series was created to provide capacity-building around topics of interest for the nonprofit agencies in Kankakee & Iroquois Counties at little to no cost utilizing local experts.

In December of 2019 the Foundation distributed a survey for nonprofit leaders to complete, gathering information about capacity-building topics they would be interested in learning more about.

We are excited to support local nonprofits in our community with these events. Sign up for our e-blast newsletters at www.cfkrv.org to receive information on the next Lunch and Learn event.

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info@cfkrv.org



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