

# commYOUUnity



## 2018 Annual Report



*Connecting people who care with causes that matter since 1982*





## Vision

Through leadership, stewardship, and grants, Community Foundation of Kankakee River Valley enhances quality of life throughout Kankakee and Iroquois Counties.

## Mission

Community Foundation of Kankakee River Valley is a vehicle for charitable giving that builds substantial endowment funds for the community by bringing together individuals and organizations to identify relevant issues, needs, and grant opportunities.

## We fulfill our mission by:

- Building and preserving the funds of many individuals and institutions
- Creating and supporting vital and caring communities through philanthropy
- Awarding grants to non-profit organizations that serve members who reside in the communities of Kankakee and Iroquois Counties
- Convening concerned individuals to shape flexible responses to the changing needs of our communities.

## Dear friends,

Community Foundation of Kankakee River Valley marked its 36th anniversary in 2018. While so much has changed over the years, one essential piece remains the same and stronger than ever ... **YOU**. Everything we pursue, initiate, and repeat focuses on **YOU** as the very heart and soul of our comm**YOU**nity.

Last year, CFKRV received a grant from the Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation to establish a sustainable children's mental health system of care. We embrace their vision that *every child in this state deserves the opportunity and the right to grow up healthy.*

With the leadership of Deb Baron, our program, PROJECT SUN, will create and launch a mental health system of care for children and families, integrating local educational, medical, and health organizations. We must have the capacity to prevent, identify, and treat children at risk for or with mental illness. PROJECT SUN will strive to ensure that our children have seamless and nonjudgmental access to the adults and services they need when their environments threaten them with harm, cruelty, or pain.



**YOU** are the most important piece of our comm**YOU**nity's future. Your support and volunteer efforts are the keys to the long-lasting health and emotional well-being of Kankakee and Iroquois Counties. Thank **YOU**.

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Nicole Smolkovich".

Nicole Smolkovich, Executive Director





# People, Pollinators, and the Perfect Park



If you build it, they will come. To the Grant Park Foundation, this line is more than a sentiment from a movie. It's a mantra to beautify their village. And that vision is focused on creating a lush park blooming with perennials and plants – even insects! – for everyone to enjoy.



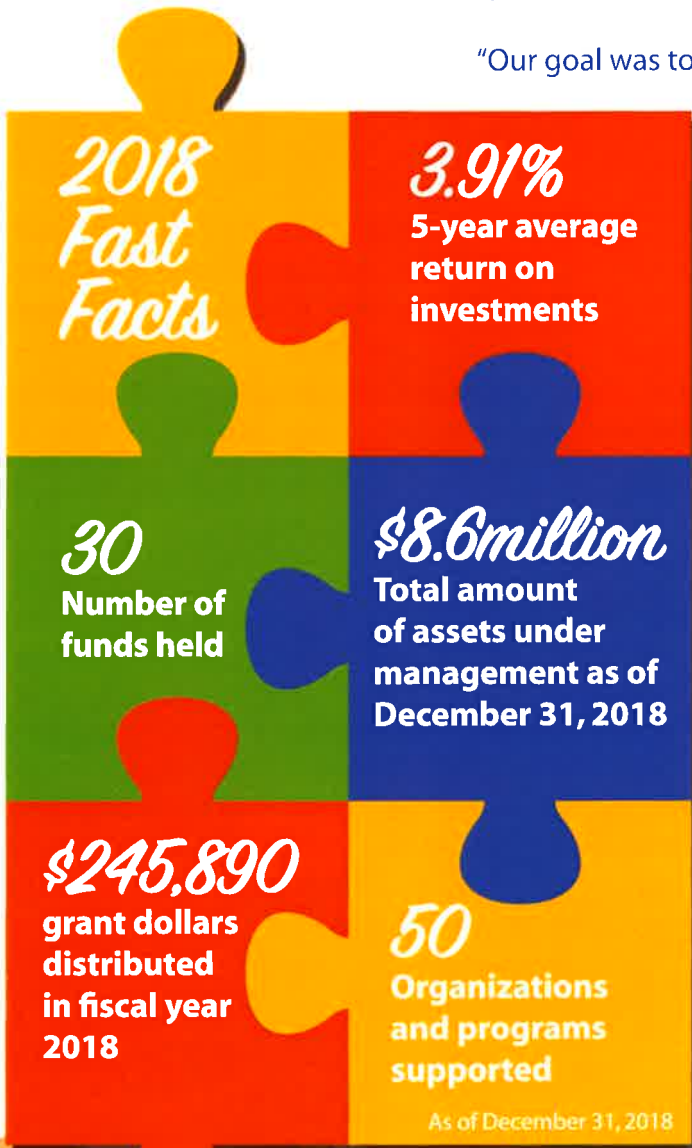
The project, Pollinators in the Park, began with a large expanse of land that had sparse perennials and few, if any, butterflies, bees, and insects. With a grant from Community Foundation of Kankakee River Valley, the park's volunteers added pockets of flourishing natural plants that have actively attracted insect pollinators and spawned educational and work programs for the community.

"Our goal was to provide an ecologically sustainable area in Grant Park to serve as a naturally beautiful place of fun and learning as well," commented Debra L. Morgan, president of GPF.

"With the addition of the plants, pollinators have flocked to the gardens and are breeding; we have had more visitors than ever; and the park's beauty has become a gorgeous backdrop for photos and special occasions."

Not only are coneflowers blowing in the wind and monarchs fluttering here and there, but children and students are enjoying programs like Beat the Blahs and the G Park Rangers.

There's even a butterfly-shaped bench and other ornamental interest points to highlight the picture-perfect park!





# Real Life Experiences + Career Exploration = STEM



*Tracey Valant, Math Teacher/Robotics Advisor,  
Zachary Curtis, Noelle Yartz*

Ask the high school students and teachers at Bishop McNamara Catholic School if science, technology, engineering, and math are fun, and you'll get a resounding YES!

With a grant from Community Foundation of Kankakee River Valley in 2018, BMCS added computer coding and programming academics to the Robotics Club of its STEM program.

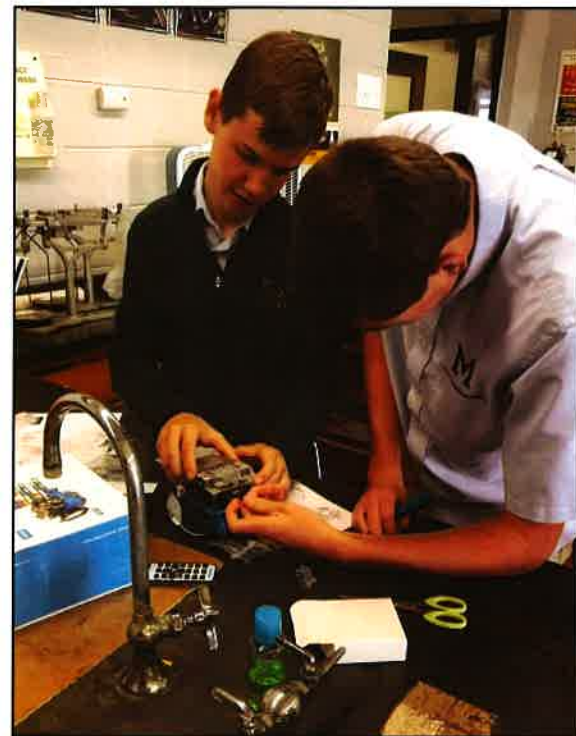
Areca Van Mill, director of advancement at BMCS, notes, "Our Robotics Club reaches out to students with an extracurricular program that meets their needs academically while preparing them for competitive college programs and for the community job force."

The club's two teams (30 students) use STEM to create and build "bots" – mechanics that address real life issues and solve problems. Then, they enter competitions with other high schools to share their creations.

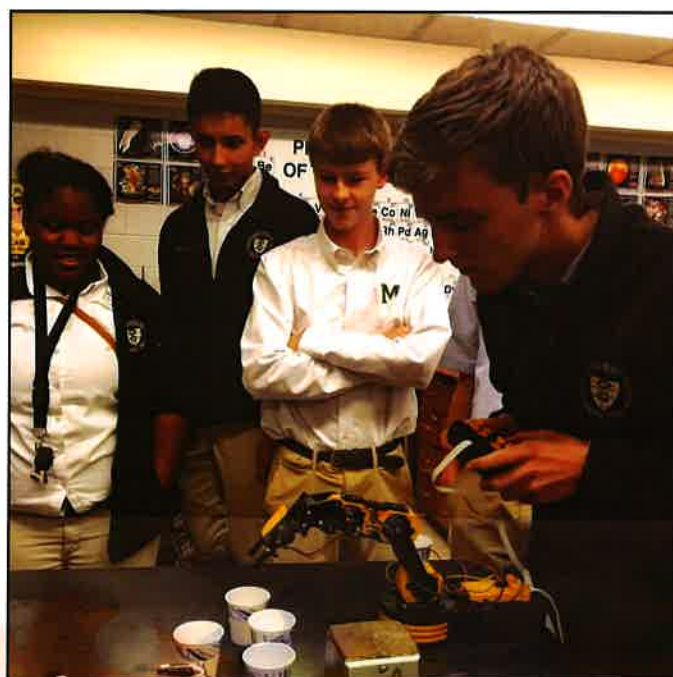
Grant Wheeler, a freshman, played a key role in the launch of BMCS' competitive Robotics Team. "STEM has helped me understand the importance of goals and staying focused on them," he says. These attributes will be invaluable as he prepares for a career as a nuclear engineer for the United States Navy.

Connor Curtis led the Robotics Club Build Group, using his academic knowledge and personal skills to communicate with students at all grade levels. "Everyone's input is instrumental to the success of our creations." His professional plans include coding, engineering, and architecture.

The CFKRV grant funded the first phase of BMCS' STEM initiative. Subsequent phases include programs for the school's elementary students.



*Ben Clark and Grant Wheeler*



*Kyra Williams, Ricardo Valtierra, Connor Curtis, and Jacob Godin*



## Stories That End With a New Beginning

Late one night, Sally snuck out of a bedroom window with nothing more than the clothes on her back. She scaled a fence and fled to Harbor House. It was the most important and courageous thing she has ever done. And it saved her life.

Sally was fleeing a long domestic relationship of emotional and physical abuse. Thanks to Harbor House and entities like the Rosie Fund, she began her healing process in a supportive community of other survivors, staff, and counselors.

That healing process included bus tokens so that Sally could travel to the courthouse to seek legal freedom from her abuser, to doctor's appointments for medical treatment, and to job interviews to rebuild her life.

"Thanks to the Rosie Fund and Harbor House, Sally learned she did *not* deserve or cause the abuse she endured. By liberating herself from her abuser's power and control, she learned that she is a valued and special person. Today, she lives independently and works at a place she loves where she is a light to others," wrote Jenny Schoenwetter, Harbor House/Kankakee County Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

The Rosie Fund Grant, supported by Community Foundation of Kankakee River Valley, assisted 100 other clients like Sally in 2018 with access to necessities so needed for them to move beyond their abusers' sphere of influence.

Without the Rosie Fund, Sally's story and so many others like hers would be different today. The Rosie Fund empowers women like Sally to break and live free from abuse and to become productive and contributing members of society.



### Rosie Fund Grant: 2018 Review

**\$546**

Cell phones and minute cards to replace ones abusers kept or broke

**\$480**

Bus tokens for local transportation to court, interviews, jobs, and appointments

**\$218**

Vehicle repairs so clients could work, attend appointments, and seek job training

**\$191**

Clothing

**\$116**

Bus transportation for clients fleeing the area

**\$109**

Repairs and replacement of home locks and keys



# Statement of Financial Position

<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
<b>Current Assets:</b>		
Cash and Certificates of Deposit .....	\$ .. 240,508	\$ ... 71,482
Investments .....	8,153,477	9,042,354
<b>Total Current Assets</b> .....	<b>8,393,985</b>	<b>9,113,836</b>
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Furniture and Equipment .....	19,926	19,926
Less: Accumulated Depreciation .....	(19,926)	(19,926)
<b>Net Fixed Assets</b> .....	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>OTHER ASSETS</b>		
Property .....	278,047	278,047
<b>Total Assets</b> .....	<b>\$ 8,672,032</b>	<b>\$ 9,391,883</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts Payable/Accrued Liabilities .....	\$ ..... 5,289	\$ ..... 1,916
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b> .....	<b>5,289</b>	<b>1,916</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Temporarily Restricted Funds .....	1,876,438	2,639,069
Permanently Restricted Funds .....	6,790,305	6,750,898
<b>Total Net Assets</b> .....	<b>8,666,743</b>	<b>9,389,967</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b> .....	<b>\$ 8,672,032</b>	<b>\$ 9,391,883</b>

# Statement of Revenue and Expense

<b>REVENUE AND SUPPORT</b>		
Contributions .....	\$ .. 290,192	\$ .. 211,437
Grants .....	29,050	235,870
Investment Income .....	227,413	174,021
Gain (Loss) on Sale of Investments .....	347,243	259,045
Unrealized Gain on Investments .....	(1,084,101)	955,846
Administrative Fees Collected .....	59,462	57,729
<b>Total Revenue and Support</b> .....	<b>(130,741)</b>	<b>1,894,048</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Operating Expenses .....	\$ .. 346,593	\$ .. 285,469
Charitable Disbursements (Grants) .....	245,890	375,468
.....	592,483	660,937
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b> .....	<b>\$ (723,224)</b>	<b>\$ 1,233,111</b>
Net Assets- Beginning of Year .....	9,389,967	8,156,856
Net Assets- End of Year .....	\$ 8,666,743	\$ 9,389,967

Full Audited Financial Statements available in the Foundation Office

# New and Unique Funding Ideas

## Keep Our History Alive

In 2018, the Herscher Area Historical Society launched a designated fund with Community Foundation of Kankakee River Valley to support the village's museum and treasured gem, the Anderson House. Funds are being used to preserve the museum and to support activities.

Last year, Bonfield Evangelical United Methodist Church initiated a "pass-through" fund with CFKRV to accept gifts of stock that are subsequently converted to cash and returned to the church. These funds are used to support parish needs.



161 N. Myrtle Street, Herscher



348 E. Smith Street, Bonfield

## Funds

### **Bonfield Evangelical United Methodist Church**

To support parish needs

### **Bourbonnais Township Park District**

For preservation of open space, development of park and recreational programs, and support for the Exploration Station, Recreation Station, and Willowhaven Interpretive Center

### **Community Stewardship**

For pertinent community needs

### **Community Development Fund**

For charitable and educational pursuits

### **CommunityWorks**

For land use and protection, workforce development, and early childhood education projects

### **Fine Arts**

For creative programs in dance, music, painting, sculpture, and theater

### **Helen Wheeler Center for Community Health**

For services to the community

### **Herscher Area Historical Society**

To support the village's museum and activities

### **Hospice of Kankakee Valley – Special Wish**

For special wishes that improve the quality of life for patients and their families

### **Kankakee Area YMCA**

For youth activities and programs

### **Kankakee County Museum**

For educational programs and community presentations

### **Kankakee Development Corporation Fund**

For educational and commercial projects

### **Kankakee Public Library**

For special projects

### **Kankakee Valley Park District**

For capital projects to enhance parks, educational grants, and grants for families in need of recreational services



**Wright in Kankakee**  
 For operational expenses of the B. Harley Bradley House and educational projects

**Zonta Club of Kankakee**  
 For opportunities and programs that improve the legal, economic, and professional status of women in Kankakee County

Herscher CUSD #2  
 Iroquois Mental Health Center  
 Iroquois West CUSD #10  
 Kankakee Area Career Center  
 Kankakee Community College  
 Kankakee County Center Against Sexual Assault  
 Kankakee County Health Department  
 Kankakee County Historic Preservation Commission  
 Kankakee River Valley Forest Preserve District  
 Kankakee School District 111  
 Manteno Public Library  
 Onarga Academy  
 Pledge for Life Partnership  
 The Helen Wheeler Center

## Grants

### Operating Endowment

For annual administrative expenses of the Community Foundation of Kankakee River Valley

### River Valley Conservation

For projects to protect the Kankakee River system, conservation of natural resources and natural species, and enhanced use and appreciation of the Kankakee River

### Rosie Fund

For non-profit agency projects that support unmet needs of women not covered by standard programs

### United Way of Kankakee County

For collaborative efforts, program funding, and mobilization of volunteers

### United Way of Kankakee and Iroquois Counties

Endowment fund for the benefit of Iroquois County

### Community Foundation Programs Funded Through CommunityWorks: \$27,800

Riverfront Trailways  
 WorkKankakee.org  
 Wright in Kankakee

### Community Stewardship: \$19,000

City of Watseka  
 Kiwanis Club of Kankakee  
 Northern Illinois Food Bank  
 Riverside Healthcare Foundation  
 Village of Bourbonnais

### CommunityWorks: \$72,762

BBCHS Ironclad  
 Bishop McNamara Catholic School  
 Blessings in a Backpack  
 Bourbonnais Township Park District – Exploration Station... a children's museum  
 Bradley Public Library District  
 Central Citizens' Library District  
 Child Care Resource & Referral  
 GiGi's Playhouse Bradley  
 Grant Park Foundation

### Hospice of Kankakee Valley - Special Wish Fund: \$5,278

Hospice of Kankakee Valley

### Kankakee Area YMCA: \$6,000 Programs

### Kankakee Development Fund: \$3,000

Kankakee Development Corporation

### River Conservation Fund: \$1,000

Riverfront Trailways Fund

### Rosie Fund: \$5,000

Harbor House  
 Kankakee County Center Against Sexual Assault

### Wright In Kankakee: \$50,000

Wright In Kankakee

### Zonta Club of Kankakee: \$5,000

Harbor House  
 Kankakee County Center Against Sexual Assault



# Donor-Advised Funds

## **Bridgewater Family Charitable Fund**

Arizona Cancer Foundation  
for Children  
Glendale Firefighters Charities  
Corporation

## **Dennis & Georgia Hess Fund**

Boy Scouts of America,  
Rainbow Council  
Good Shepherd Manor Foundation  
Hospice of Kankakee Valley  
Kankakee Area YMCA  
Kankakee Community College  
Foundation  
Kankakee County Training Center  
for the Disabled, Inc  
Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod  
Marco Lutheran Church  
Nexus, Indian Oaks Academy  
Olivet Nazarene University  
Riverside Healthcare Foundation  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School  
United Way of Kankakee  
& Iroquois Counties  
Wright In Kankakee

## **Florence B. McMullen Memorial Fund**

Kankakee Community College  
Foundation

## **Rebecca Schatz Memorial Fund**

ARC of Iroquois County  
Women in Networking



# Scholarships

## **African American Civic Leaders**

Breia Barry-White  
Jarred Fulford  
Tywan Hollis  
Jaylin Schreiner

## **John Locke**

Andrew Boudreau  
Daniel Chang  
Megan Lanie  
Gabrielle Palan  
Cade Turro  
Gavin Zimbleman



# Legacy Society

Members of the Legacy Society are dedicated to enriching Kankakee and Iroquois Counties by pledging \$5,000 or more over a five-year period to Community Foundation of Kankakee River Valley. They also introduce friends and colleagues to CFKRV, its mission, and its programs. To learn more about becoming a member of the Legacy Society, call **(815) 939-1611**.

## **PLATINUM - \$250,000 +**

Jim and Betty Bridgewater\*  
Jack and Gretchen Charlton  
Robert Dunn Charitable Trust  
Grand Victoria Foundation  
Norm and Janice Strasma  
United Way of Kankakee and  
Iroquois Counties

## **GOLD - \$100,000**

John Azzarelli Memorial Fund  
Dennis and Georgia Hess\*  
Illinois Children's Healthcare  
Foundation  
Marty Whalen and Kathleen  
Kennedy

## **DIAMOND - \$50,000**

Trudy Dickinson  
Mrs. Burrell Small  
Jean Thomas

## **SILVER - \$25,000**

AT&T  
Gaines and Sharon Hall  
Kankakee River Bike Club  
Mark and Karen Strasma-Koenig  
Family  
PNC Bank  
William and Patricia Schatz\*  
Jan and Jane Strasma  
Bob and Jenni Worth

## **BRONZE - \$20,000**

HomeStar Bank  
Kankakee Public Library  
Peoples Bank of Kankakee County

## **SAPPHIRE - \$15,000**

Kay and Don Green, Susan Green  
Lopez  
and Steven Green\*  
Debbie Halvorson  
Alex Panozzo  
Carol Shidler

## **RUBY - \$10,000**

Julie Belan\*  
Roger and Nancy Benson  
Paul and Donna Cardosi  
Comcast Cable  
Economic Alliance of Kankakee  
County  
Kankakee County Chamber of  
Commerce  
Kankakee Valley Park District  
Foundation  
Midland States Bank  
Steve and Carey Ortman  
Security Lumber  
Workforce Board  
Zonta Club of Kankakee

## **EMERALD - \$7,500**

Lynn Ahlden  
First Trust Bank  
Bill and Barbara Herzog  
Larry and Mardene Hinton  
Mrs. Edgar Johnson  
Dr. Merl and Jean Parlin  
Roy and Gretchen Rauschenberg

## **LEGACY - \$5,000**

Amita St. Mary's Foundation  
Anonymous  
BASF Corporation

Bourbonnais Township Park District  
Jim Jr. and Mary Bridgewater  
Craig and Kathy Copper  
Dr. David and Pam Debono  
Dow Chemical Company  
EDF Renewable Energy  
Joe and Mary Franco  
Scott and Linda Franco  
Herscher Area Historical Society  
Sean and Mimi Hogan  
Terry and Mary Jo Johnston  
Kankakee Community College  
Kankakee County  
Kiwanis Club of Kankakee  
Dr. Thomas and Jane Koehler  
Karl Kruse  
Bill and Mary Lucek  
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Blair and Debra Minton  
Ron and Jane Randall  
Dr. Richard and Carolyn Ray  
Dr. Jim and JoAnne Schwade  
Richard and Janice Simms  
Steve and Kathryn Smith  
Paul and Val Snellenberger  
Brian and Kristina Thomas

## **SPONSOR - \$1,000**

ABM Commercial Flooring  
Kim Alberts  
Don and Adrienne Albrecht  
Ken and Alice Allers  
Anonymous  
Aqua Illinois  
Harry and Debbie Bond  
Arlene Bartolini  
Dr. Syed Saeed and Rubia Bokhari  
Rita Bowsher



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Peggy Carlson  
Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home  
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Jeannine Guebert  
Raedelle Hall  
Health Alliance Medical Plans  
Ira and JoAnn Heiman  
Memorial for Edmond Irps/Joy  
Hansen-Irps  
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Glen and Janice Holmes  
Michael and Elaine Holtzman  
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Gwen Hopkins  
Wayne and Diane Hove  
John and Sue Hutchinson  
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Maureen James  
Jeff and Amy Jarvis  
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Visitors Bureau  
Kankakee River Valley Forest  
Preserve District  
Kankakee Valley Construction  
Company, Inc.  
Kankakee Valley Park District  
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Earl and Relda Kelly  
Alison Koenig  
Madison Koenig  
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Dimond Bros.  
John and Nila McCracken  
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Dr. Lynn McDonald and Harold Berg  
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Yolanda Rahman  
Dr. Renuka Ramakrishna  
Robert Rashkin  
Dennis and Cindi Reddish  
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Joe and Nicole Smolkovich  
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Deborah Sutherland  
Melissa Tanner  
Sylvia Thomas  
Mary Thomson  
Bill and Betsy Torman  
Dave and Gigi Tyson  
Mike and Areca Van Mill  
Village of Bourbonnais  
Village of Bradley  
Vennis and Emlyn Voges  
Volkman Jewelers  
Wes and Connie Walker  
WVLI/WIVR Broadcasting  
Dennis and Terry Yohnka  
Joe and Sandra Yurgine  
Karen Zander

*\* Donor-Advised Fund*



**Navigator Society**

The Navigator Society recognizes professional advisors who assist their clients with their charitable giving needs by directing them to have conversations with the Community Foundation of Kankakee River Valley. To learn more, call **(815) 939-1611**.

# commYOUunity

## 2018 Board of Directors

Nick Allen  
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Nina Epstein  
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Community  
FOUNDATION

OF KANKAKEE  
RIVER VALLEY

701 S. Harrison Avenue  
Kankakee, IL 60901

**815-939-1611**

[www.cfkrv.org](http://www.cfkrv.org)



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