

New Starke County 4-H Agency Fund

Starke County Community Foundation and Starke County 4-H Council not only met their goal, but they exceeded it by over \$6,000. During the sixty day fundraising campaign, the agencies raised over \$16,000 total to create a permanently endowed fund for the 4-H Council's ongoing needs.

The fundraiser was initiated by the Community Foundation's offer of a match up to \$10,000, dollar for dollar, for the creation of a permanently endowed Agency Fund. With the Community Foundation's \$10,000 grant, the Starke County 4-H Fund total is now over \$26,000.

"Agency Funds, such as the 4-H fund, are a great way to provide continued support to area service organizations in pursuing their charitable missions," Starke County Community Foundation Associate Director Kathy Norem explained. "We saw this matching grant opportunity as a means of providing continued support for an organization that does so much for our community's youth."

Starke County 4-H Council President, Connie Lenig said, "We will be able to use the monies received from this fund to help finance specifically identified needs for our program each year." Lenig further explained that the money could possibly be used for scholarships, new programs, building and ground improvements, or specific needs deemed a priority as it relates to the 4-H Council's mission and goals.

"We will work with a representative volunteer committee, comprised of a variety of individuals, each year to determine the most appropriate use of the funds received," Lenig commented.

"This fund now provides a great vehicle for people to give back to a program that has really enhanced our children's lives over the years. Caring community members eager to support 4-H can make a gift that lasts forever through this fund," Norem explained. "That is because donations to this fund will be permanently endowed so that the interest will continue to support 4-H for perpetuity."

If you are interested in contributing to the Starke County 4-H Fund, you can do so with your credit card by clicking on Make a Donation page on the Community Foundation web site.

