



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

ERIE COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS OVER \$311,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO LOCAL STUDENTS

Sandusky, Ohio, May 6, 2026 — Erie County Community Foundation is proud to announce it is awarding \$311,788.97 in scholarships to 118 local high school and college students.

Since its founding in 1995, Erie County Community Foundation has awarded over 1,500 college and post-secondary education scholarships worth nearly \$2.6 million to high school and college students from Erie County, Ohio and regionally.

“On behalf of Erie County Community Foundation board and staff, it is a privilege to celebrate the achievements of our 2026 scholarship recipients,” said Debralee Divers, Erie County Community Foundation Scholarship Chair and board member.

“This year’s scholars represent an extraordinary blend of academic dedication and a genuine passion for serving others. We are continually inspired by their drive, and remain steadfast in our belief that these young leaders will shape a bright future for Erie County and the world at large. As they step forward into the next chapter, they carry with them our full confidence and pride. Our community is made stronger by their vision and promise.”

Erie County Community Foundation manages over 50 named scholarship funds for the benefit of local students. Scholarships available are based on field of study, merit, financial need, sports, and community involvement, among other criteria. Students completing the Universal Grant Application are automatically matched by skills and financial need with the criteria for each scholarship, eliminating the need to complete multiple scholarship applications.

Upcoming high school seniors interested in applying for scholarships can find complete information and the application at eriefoundation.org/scholarships or by calling 419.621.9690.

About Erie County Community Foundation

Erie County Community Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to building a thriving and vibrant Erie County, Ohio. The organization, which celebrated its 30th Anniversary in 2025, addresses community needs, provides leadership, and cultivates resources for a lasting impact. The organization's primary purpose is to provide a means for people to make permanent gifts of assets to enhance the quality of life in Erie County and Sandusky, Ohio—today, tomorrow, and forever.

Erie County Community Foundation is governed by an independent Board of Directors and Officers, comprised of Erie County business, civic, and non-profit leaders. The Board of Directors employs the



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Foundation's President & CEO, establishes policies and priorities, and directs final grantmaking decisions. The Board's strength lies in the diverse range of knowledge and expertise of its members, and in their shared commitment to improving the quality of life in Erie County, Ohio.

Since Erie County Community Foundation's founding in 1995, the Foundation has grown from assets totaling \$1.8 million to more than \$52.9 million in 2025. During this time, the Foundation has distributed over \$27 million to area non-profits and students for local projects, programs, scholarships, services, and initiatives to improve the quality of life in Erie County, Ohio.

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