

A PLACE FOR FAMILIES - A PLACE TO LEARN - A PLACE TO EXPLORE - A PLACE FOR NATURE

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

This was a transitional year! First and foremost, the *Spreading our Wings* Capital Campaign reached the goal of \$3,000,000 in pledges, grants, and in-kind donations. In 2022, we were able to complete our immediate needs of replacing the roof on the Taylor Education Center Building and paving the driveway and parking lot. Trail map kiosks were added to the trails and medical equipment and supplies were purchased to improve the inhouse care we provide our avian patients.



IN MEMORY OF TOM WITKOWSKI

This year had its hardships as we grieved the loss of longtime board member and friend, **Thomas Witkowski**. Tom was well known for his love of the outdoors, his passion for scouting, and professional leadership skills. He had been involved with the Sanctuary since its inception and served as the President of the Board through the Strategic Planning process that led to the building of our accessible Treehouse Classroom. Every where you look, Tom has left his mark on the Sanctuary. He influenced the building of the songbird aviary, octagon flight cage, and the Treehouse Classroom. He was truly a dear friend to the Sanctuary.



PROGRAMS

Memorial Day through Labor Day the Sanctuary presented programs on Saturdays in the Treehouse Classroom. Elliott, the Black Vulture, soared in to show off his impressive wing span and one of our owls or falcons would also be spotlighted in these "Feather Friend Encounters." We plan to host these programs again this summer and expand the Treehouse experiences to include public open hours with a naturalist.

Looking forward to 2023, we are excited about our expansion projects that will enhance our visitor's experience, quality of bird care, and management of the nature preserve. More details about our plans for the Capital Campaign Projects are on the following pages.

We look forward to the seeing you at the Sanctuary!

Gail Laux, Founder



OHIO BIRD SANCTUARY



Dear Friends,

I am pleased to announce that we have hired Julie Schwartz as our new Executive Director. Many years of planning by the Board and myself have gone into this process, and we are excited to finally be at this point.

Julie has been involved with the Sanctuary since 2016 as a naturalist and as a past board member. Julie not only has an immense passion for the Sanctuary and its mission, but also has the professional and personal attributes to lead the Sanctuary and impact its growth. She holds Bachelors Degrees in Biology and Education from the University of Toledo and a Masters Degree in Educational Leadership from The Ohio State University. She started her career as a Biology teacher and then Assistant Principal in Ashland City Schools. Following her passion for connecting young people with nature, she joined the staff at the Ohio Bird Sanctuary as a Teaching Naturalist and Youth Programming Coordinator from 2016-2018.



For the last 5 years, Julie has continued to spread her passion for nature and further develop her skills in nonprofit management as the Head of School at Discovery School.

I am looking forward to bringing Julie onboard this summer and working with her and the staff in my new role. The position of the Executive Director has grown larger than what one person can do. Julie will fill the role of a powerful and skilled administrator that the organization needs. I, as the Founder, will oversee the completion of the Capital Campaign projects and continue building the Annual Fund to sustain operations. We are so fortunate to have Julie join our team at OBS, and I look forward to the opportunity to introduce her to all of you!

Sincerely,

Gail Laux



January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022

The Ohio Bird Sanctuary has the financial goal to create sustainability through three main initiatives: Diversify revenue sources, build and renovate physical infrastructure to serve operation needs, and grow staff to serve current and expanding programming and bird care.

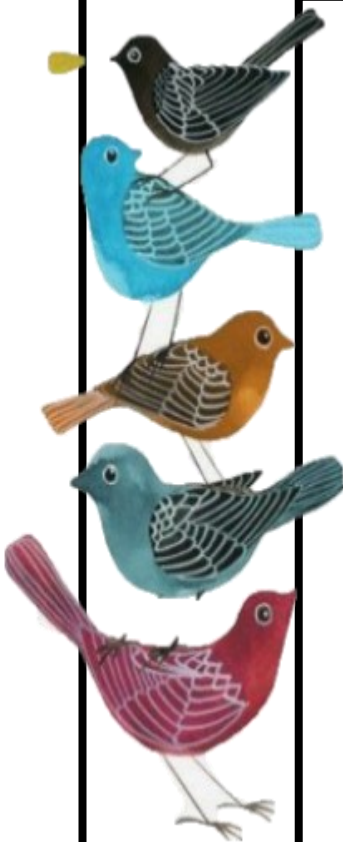
In 2022, we wrapped up the *Spreading Our Wings* Capital Campaign. The funds raised through this three-year campaign will fund the construction of the new Avian Encounter Area, driveway and trail improvements, Visitor Center expansion and renovations, and the establishment of a trust to support the maintenance of the Sanctuary. We also established a new Annual Fund dedicated for support of daily operations.

Please contact Gail Laux, Founder, if you would like more information on how to support the Annual Fund. gaillauxobs@gmail.com or 419-884-4295.

INCOME

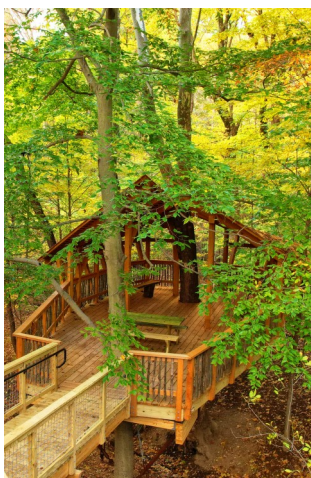
Capital Campaign	\$733,751*
Maintenance Trust	\$309,200*
Programs	\$81,413
General Donations	\$52,964
Annual Fund	\$54,980
Operational Grants	\$45,812
Admission	\$45,087
Membership	\$34,815
Gift Shop Sales	\$31,389
Endowment	\$21,954
Memorial Gifts	\$11,660
Events	\$10,856
Misc. & In-Kind	<u>\$7,977</u>
Total	\$1,441,858

* Funds are restricted and not for general operations.



EXPENSES

Capital Projects	\$388,093
Bird Care	\$138,079
Programming	\$119,756
Capital Campaign	\$95,169
Business/Admin	\$62,355
Programming	\$61,515
Operations	\$58,262
Payroll Taxes	\$29,518
Facilities	\$24,421
Utilities	\$13,795
Gift Shop	\$11,085
Accountant/Audit	\$10,650
Community Collaborations	\$9,270
Investments	\$5,969
Volunteers	\$1,572
Events	<u>\$1,411</u>
Total	\$1,030,920





2022 PROGRAM REPORT

Emily Tackett, Director of Operations

Part of the mission of the Ohio Bird Sanctuary is “to create an environment of learning and interaction with nature that generates within people a desire to be compassionate and good citizens of our natural world.”

We are firm believers that when you see something and learn about it, you will be much more likely to care for it in the future. This is why our programs at the Sanctuary are so important! We want everyone who enjoys a Program from the Ohio Bird Sanctuary (on or off-site), to leave with a greater appreciation for birds and the natural world! Thank you to the many families, groups, organizations, and schools that allowed us to be a part of their year!



School & Community Outreach

In 2022, 2,481 students experienced outreach programming from OBS in school. This represents over 100 different classes! Over 3,900 people experienced outreach programming in a variety of community settings. The Sanctuary conducted 101 individual outreach programs in settings such as libraries, churches, senior centers, camps, and community events. Bird of Prey Programs were also offered at the Mohican Lodge every Saturday evening from April through November.

Field Trips & On-Site Programs

Over 2,000 students visited the Ohio Bird Sanctuary for a field trip in 2022! Our Field Trips range from 1.5-3.5 hours and can be individually catered for students preschool through high school. The Sanctuary’s Home School Program hosted 25 students each month during the school year, and the Sanctuary’s Preschool Program hosted 10 -15 students each month during the school year.



Over 400 individuals visited the Sanctuary for an on-site program such as a Tour or Raptor Up-Close Program. Our new “Easels with Elliott” events were a hit and we are so excited to continue offering these programs in 2023. This year we also added bird of prey presentations in the Treehouse Classroom every Saturday from Memorial Day to Labor Day and a Movie & Game Night for kids in December.

Nature Camps

Throughout the year, the Ohio Bird Sanctuary offers Nature Camps for children ages 6-12 years old and Preschool Camps for children 4-6 years old. In 2022, this included 3 Winter Camps, 6 Summer Nature Camps, 2 Summer Preschool Camps, and 2 Evening Camps. We also held one week of Nature Camp as a scholarship camp for Richland County students that would benefit from the camp experience. A huge thank you to the Richland County Foundation for providing a Summertime Kids Grant that helped fund this scholarship camp!



Junior Naturalist Program

The Junior Naturalist Program is made up of students ages 13 to 18 years old who exhibit a strong interest in nature. In 2022, the students were regularly involved at the Sanctuary as volunteers and went on field trips to learn about a variety of environmental topics. During their volunteer shifts, the Junior Naturalists were a huge help in maintaining our gardens and trails! Off-site field trips included a tour of Malabar Farm, volunteering and kayaking at Pleasant Hill Lake, and a camping trip on Kelleys Island.



Special Events

Our Special Events included: Love Is In the Air (February), Mohican Wildlife Weekend (April), Fall Family Festival (October), and Christmas for the Birds (December). We are grateful for everyone who has continued to support the Sanctuary and make us a part of their seasonal/holiday traditions!





2022 Bird Report

Amanda Vanderford, Curator of Birds



2022 was another busy year for our rehabilitation services. Our staff did over 400 intakes of injured, orphaned, and sick birds.

During the year, we were able to acquire additional equipment to better treat and stabilize these patients to improve their chances of survival. A few of these tools included a veterinary laser to treat inflammation and pain, an ocular pen to measure pressure within the eyes, and a blood analyzer to get immediate, in-house results of organ function and hydration status. These tools will help us make more accurate and quicker decisions on treatment improving our humane care and increasing the bird's chances to be returned to the wild.

Although our goal is to get these birds back home to the wild, this can't always happen. That was the case for a few birds this past year. Even though they were not able to be released, they will have a great quality of life in human care, educating people about their species.



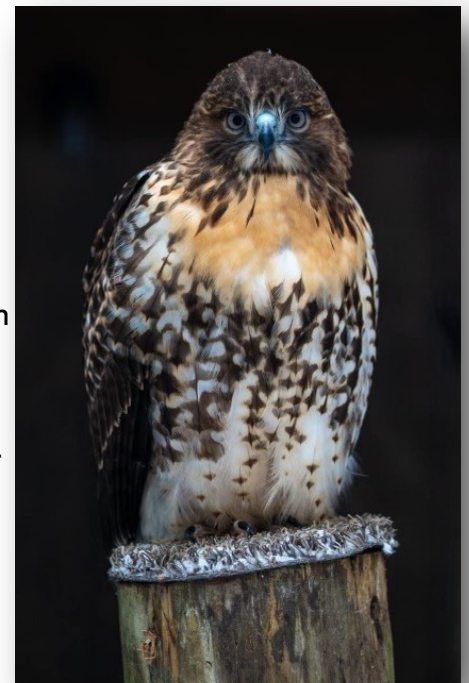
Meet Maple and Maverick! Two of our newest additions.

Maple is a Barred Owl who was removed from the wild as an owlet and illegally kept as a pet. Although Maple's care takers did have good intentions, she started to recognize humans as her own species and became what we call a "human imprint." When wild animals imprint on a human, they will then turn to them for food and protection. They can also become dangerous once sexually mature as they have no fear of humans. Now that Maple is with us, we have been working very hard with her training. All our birds' training is positively reinforced so Maple can choose to work with us, and then be rewarded when she does!

Maverick is a Red-tailed Hawk who was found on the ground as a nestling. Most of the time, nestling birds just need help getting back into the nest. Fortunately for Maverick, she was brought to the Sanctuary for evaluation where it was determined her wing had been fractured in two places. During Maverick's stay in hospital, she also developed a lung disease called aspergillosis. Many birds are susceptible to this, especially if they are under stress. Maverick spent many days on oxygen in intensive 24/7 care. Although we were able to save her life, she is not releasable because she is a human imprint.

We are honored to have both of these birds join our family to help us on our mission to educate and excite people about birds and their habitats.

Don't forget to check our website's calendar of events for this summer's Treehouse Encounters programs for a chance to meet Maple and Maverick! Our Treehouse Classroom will also have open hours on the weekends this summer for you to enjoy!





"SPREADING OUR WINGS" PROJECTS

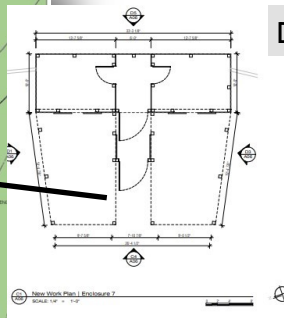
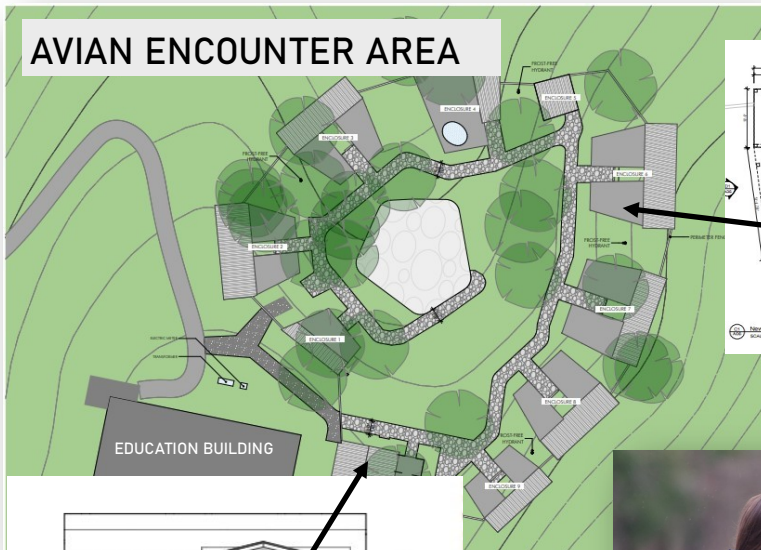
The goal of the Capital Campaign was to raise the funds needed for property improvements, expansions, and to build a trust to support maintenance of the preserve and buildings. We successfully reached the goal, but due to an extreme rise in building costs, we had to adjust our plans. Renovations to the Field Classroom and construction of the marsh boardwalk will be postponed until additional funding is available.

We were able to complete two main projects in 2022. These included the repaving of the drive and parking areas, and replacing the roof on the Taylor Education Center Building. We would like to acknowledge the Leadership Gifts that were received for this phase of the capital improvements from the **Taylor Family Fund of the Ashland County Community Foundation, Alumni Roofing, and Kokosing Foundation.**

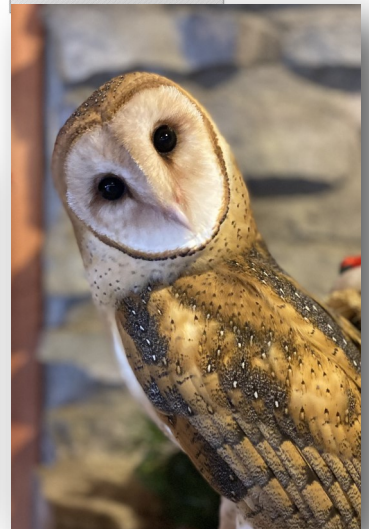
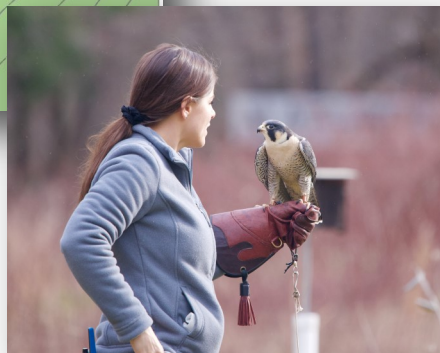
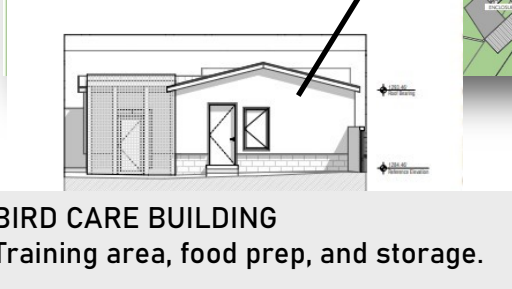
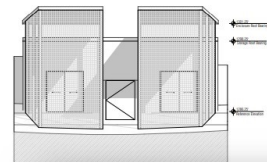


Plans for 2023

The Capital Campaign Project that will have the greatest impact on the Sanctuary's ability to serve current program needs and expand our visitor experience is the addition of the Avian Encounter Area. This area will house our program birds that reside at the Sanctuary due to a condition that inhibits their release. This new area will be located adjacent to the Taylor Education Center Building and will have a centralized area for programs. Construction on this area will begin this spring. The Leadership Gifts for the Avian Encounter Area were generously provided by: **Leona Miles Fund of the Richland County Foundation, Mary K. Dare, Robert & Esther Black Family Fund of the Richland County Foundation, and Cleveland Cliffs Foundation.**



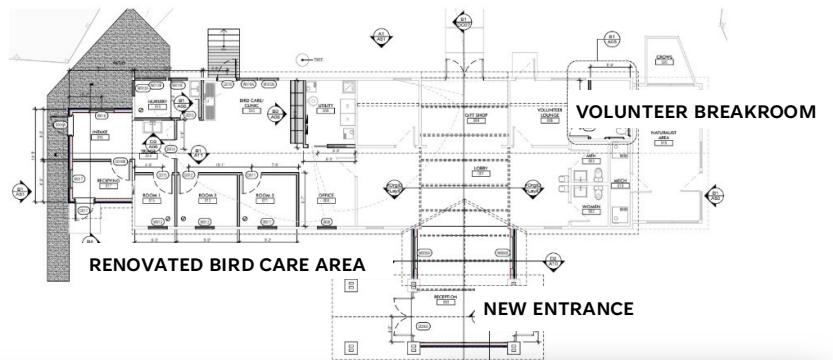
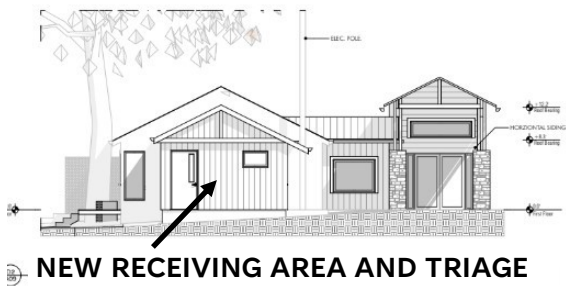
DESIGN OF BIRD ENCLOSURES



VISITOR CENTER RENOVATIONS



The projected start date for expansion and renovation of the Visitor Center is November 2023. The entrance to the lobby and bird display area will be enlarged to improve accessibility. The lobby area will also be renovated to expand the gift shop, add a natural display area to house our Screech-Owl, and create a new area dedicated to acknowledging donors. The south end of the building will be expanded to include a new receiving and triage area for our avian rehabilitation services. The existing rehabilitation space will be transformed into a new songbird nursery, treatment area, diagnostics lab, and intensive care unit. The Leadership Gifts for this project were received from: **James & Katherine Fanello, Philip & Dawn Wisdom, Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust, and House Bill No. 687 Parks and Recreation Improvement Fund.**



The final phase of the Capital Campaign is the establishment of a trust to provide financial support for annual maintenance of the infrastructure of the Sanctuary. The Leadership Gift for the "Wings Maintenance Fund" was received from: **The Cecil Fund of the Santa Cruz Community Foundation.** This fund will continue to grow through gifts, grants, and planned giving to help sustain the Sanctuary's future.

We will be holding two events to recognize the donors of the *Spreading our Wings* Capital Campaign. The first event will be the ribbon cutting for the new Avian Encounter Area planned for fall of 2023. The second will be at the completion of the Visitor Center and will include a reveal of the new donor recognition area.



2022 "Spreading Our Wings" Campaign Gifts

Thank you to the individuals, corporations, and foundations that made gifts to the *Spreading our Wings* Capital Campaign in 2022. Many of these gifts are representative of a portion received from a multiple year pledge.

\$300,000-\$600,000

Cecil Fund of the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County
Leona Miles Fund of the Richland County Foundation
House Bill No. 687—Parks and Recreation Improvement Fund

\$50,000-\$100,000

Mary K. Dare
Robert & Esther Black Family Fund at the Richland County Foundation
Kristine & Todd Lindeman—Alumni Roofing
James C. Gorman Fund at the Richland County Foundation



\$25,000

Annie & Juanita Carter
Carl & Anna Marie Fernyak
Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust
Kokosing Foundation

\$1,000-\$3,000

Miller Advised Fund at the Richland County Foundation
Sandi Arnold
Aubrey Bates
Judy & Loyal Bemiller
Zak & Abby Bramlage
Cheryl Callis
Mike & Linda Chambers
Brenda Doner
Eberts Heating & Cooling
The Milton R. and Beulah M. Young Foundation
William Hurdle
Antonie & Karen Marallo
Jeanne and Gunter Meisse
Grace Meister
Dick & Salli Rohm

\$5,000-\$10,000

Margaret Black
Preston & Amberly Boyd
John & Katherine Fernyak
Nick & Sally Gesouras
Chriss & John Harris
Hessenauer Charitable Trust
Edith & Joseph* Humphrey
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
Alex & Amanda Kulka
Roby Family
Jane H. Wingerd

* DECEASED

\$10-\$500

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Charles Adair
Linda Albert
Frank Ardis
Bette Backus
Bruce Barrett
Ken Berger
Neil & Renate Bernstein
Robert & Brenda Brandenburg
Linda Brogan
Robert Buskey
Phil Chatman
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Blessed to Give Fund
Richland County Foundation

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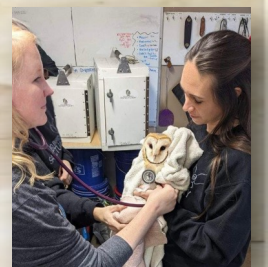
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Marilyn Weiler
Sue Weirick
Thomas Wells
John Welsh
Sherry White
Kathy Wilkinson
George Williams
Lynn Wilson
Kristen Wiltanger
Nancy Witkowski

2022 GENERAL DONATIONS

Thank you to all the individuals and corporations who supported the Sanctuary's mission through a donation of a monetary gift, Wish List items, workplace giving, and by providing professional in-kind services. Your gifts provided the necessary resources to care for our 90 acre preserve and supported the care of our Avian Ambassadors who are the foundation of our educational programming.



Courtney Aguiar
Lyndsey Anderson
Julie Arter
Steve Arvai
Pat Backus
Dawn Baker
Robin Barrett
Joshua Bates
Alice Baughman
Barbara Bechtler
Jeffrey Bennington
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Sherry Bjerke
Jason Black
Tina Black
Candy Bores
Raphael Bostic
Jean Bowden
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Mitch Boyd
Tom Boyd
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Joe Williamson
Carl Winstead
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Jamie Woodward
Aleta & Dan Yates
Janet Yockey
Leah Yoder
Beth Zamora
Jenni Zepnick
Joe Zemancik
Dale Ziemianski



Fredericktown Veterinary Hospital	Natures Nursery
Lilac Hill Veterinary Hospital	Nationwide Associates
Elks Education & Civic Fund	Bellville Lions Club
Russell & Mary Gimbel Foundation	Destination Mansfield





ANNUAL APPEAL

Donations to the Annual Appeal provide camp scholarships, supports our Junior Naturalist program, purchases bird care supplies, and supports general operations.



Joyce Adair
Dorothy and Tom Adamecu
Nanci Alexander
Sharon R. Ault
Ernie Bandy
David Barnes
Barbara Bechtler
Mark Kroger & Belinda Bogner
Glenn Bennet

Tom & Sarah Freundlich
Cindy Fry
Tammy Gabrelchik
Nick Gesouras
Bill Gilbert
Michele Gingerich
Rick Gunder
Marianne Hamilton
Dolly Harding

Lilac Hill Veterinary
Ruth Ann Lindsey
Cathy Massengill
Ramona and Jim Matthes
Brandon McCall
Barb McCammon
Jammi McClead
Gary Mccue
Kimberly McKee
Chris Mcquillen
Anthony Mehle
Dixie Mehock
Gary Meyers
Cindy Mlay
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Bipin Shah

Nelson Shogren
Theresa & David Siebold
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Sally Simpson
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Becki Smith
Tobie Smith
Penny Smith
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Rob Snyder
Pam Steinbach
Robert Steinman



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Renate Bernstein
Rhonda & Dennis Berry
Nancy Bletner
Robert & Brenda Brandenburg
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Beth Butts
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Koke and Cheryl Cummins
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Charles Evans
Marilyn Evenson
Marsha Farrell
Debbie Fisher
Gorman Family Foundation
Kurt Freeman
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Rosemary Love
Ron Lybarger
Lisa Mace
Paul Martin



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Marge Stoodts
Robert & Betsy Tannehill
Lisa Taunt
Nancy Teeter
Mary Louise Thomas
Julie Timberlake
Patricia Warner & Tricia Funari
Vicki Uhde
Emily Van Buren
Pat Voelp
Bonnie Warner
Barbara Watkins
Marilyn Weiler
John Welsh
Christy and Brian White
Mary Wise
Rob Workman
Meredith Worthington
Jeanie Wymer





GIVING TUESDAY



In November 2022, the Sanctuary joined its peer non-profit organizations to encourage individuals to support our missions through Giving Tuesday. The Richland County Foundation supported this initiative by providing all organizations an online giving platform and by providing prize money for reaching fund-raising goals. Thank you to the following donors that participated in Richland Gives and helped us win \$4,250 in prize money!

Melanie Asher
Bob Barrett
Jennifer Beavis
Kyle Bierly
Marlene Bisel
Leah Blay
Frederick H. Boll
Terra Bonte
Candy Bores
Preston Boyd
Jim Boyd
Abby & Zak Bramlage
Kim and David Chronister
Bellville Elementary
Steven O. Cummins
Sarah Exten
Joy Etter - Link
Cheryl Callis

Elizabeth Carmean
Si Carmean
Steward Freeman
Carrie Fanello
Jan Ferrell
Jeanne Fogarty
Jenna Forest
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Lois Freeman
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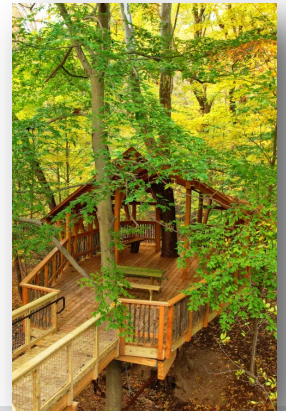
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