

# Annual Report

— 2025

## Strengthening Community, Building Legacies

From scholarships to nonprofit support, we connect generous donors with the causes that matter most in our community.



**Scioto Foundation**

Your Local Charitable Resource.

[sciotofoundation.org](http://sciotofoundation.org)

# Accomplishments in 2025

## During 2025 the Scioto Foundation:

**Accepted 10 new funds;** (5) Scholarships, (3) Designated, and (2) Organizational Endowments.

**Received \$2,245,198 in donations.** \$230,254 or 10% of the total arrived during Scioto Gives.

Not to mention, 117 first time donors made gifts to the Foundation.

**Earned a total return on investments of 15.99%.**

**Awarded 68 grants for a total of \$515,088.** The average grant award was \$7,575, the maximum award was \$50,000 and the smallest was \$850.

**Awarded 667 individual scholarships totaling \$877,427.** UCAN scholarships represented 13% of the total or \$113,491.

**Awarded \$110,000 in matching grants,** Scioto Gives participants received \$60,000 and UCAN Schools received \$50,000.

**Processed 775 vouchers and made \$2,198,251 in total grant payments.**

**Ended the year with assets of \$74,992,369.**

**Welcomed 2 new staff members,** Kenny Sanderlin and Janice Johnson.

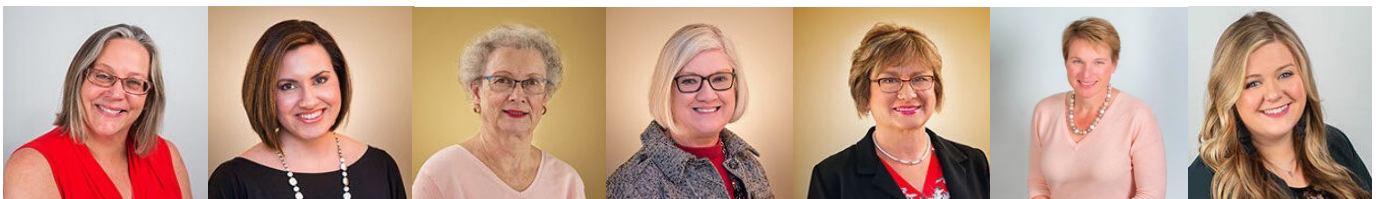


Kenny Sanderlin  
Staff Accountant



Janice Johnson  
Consultant

## Scioto Foundation Staff



Kim Cutlip,  
Executive Director

Therese Egbert,  
Assistant Director

Kay Bouyack,  
Staff Writer

Patty Tennant,  
Program Officer  
Donor Services

Ginnie Moore,  
Grants /Scholarship  
Coordinator

Christy Wilcox,  
UCAN College  
Advisor

Laikyn Johnson,  
Accounting Assistant

## Management

The Scioto Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) organization established in 1974 to improve the quality of life for residents of the Scioto County area. The Foundation is a collection of approximately 377 separate funds created by gifts, bequests, and other contributions from individuals, families, businesses, and other tax-exempt organizations. These funds, endowed in perpetuity, generate income to make grants to qualified agencies serving the Scioto County Area.

A five-member *volunteer* **Board of Governors** is responsible for policy and grant making decisions at the Scioto Foundation.

Governors include men and women who are competent in business and management and have demonstrated exceptional qualities of leadership. Members of the Governing Board during 2025 were Jodi High, Board Chair, Debbie Esham, Treasurer, Attorney Joshua Howard, Grants Review, Barb Bradbury, PhD, Member and Chris Hamilton, Member.

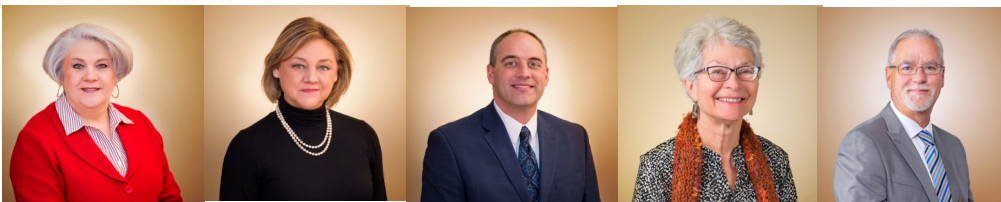
Nine staff members manage the day-to-day operations of the Foundation. Kim Cutlip is Executive Director, Therese Egbert is Assistant Director, Kay Bouyack is Staff Writer, Patty Tennant is Program Officer for Donor Services, Ginnie Moore is Grants and Scholarship Coordina-

tor, Christy Wilcox is UCAN College Advisor, Janice Johnson is consultant, Kenny Sanderlin is the Staff accountant and Laikyn Johnson is Accounting Assistant.

### **Past Governing Board Members:**

Mr. Duncan Baxter†  
 Mrs. Jonica Burke  
 Mr. George Clayton†  
 Mr. Richard Diehl†  
 Mr. Robert Flinchbaugh†  
 Mr. Michael Gampp, CPA  
 Dr. Gregory Gillen  
 Attorney Howard Harcha, Jr. †  
 Mr. Charles W. Herrmann  
 Mr. Beverly D. Horst†  
 Mr. Calvin Johnson†  
 Mrs. Maxine Levi†  
 Attorney Robert McCurdy†  
 Mr. Eugene McKenzie  
 Mr. R. Lee Powell  
 Mr. John Rahal  
 Attorney Daniel P. Ruggiero†  
 Mrs. Sallie Schisler  
 Dr. Wayne B. Wheeler  
 Dr. Charles Wilson †  
 Mrs. Julia Wisniewski  
 Mr. Ralph Wisniewski †  
 †deceased

## Scioto Foundation Board of Governors



Jodi High,  
Board Chair

Debra Esham,  
Treasurer

Josh Howard,  
Grants Review

Barb Bradbury, PhD  
Member

Chris Hamilton,  
Member

## Foundation Fundamentals

### What is a fund?

A fund is the basic building block of the Scioto Foundation. It can be started by an individual, a group of donors, a business or corporation, or a non-profit organization.

Fund agreements between the donor and the Scioto Foundation specify the purpose of each fund and how the Foundation will administer it.

At the close of 2025 the Foundation had 377 funds serving a variety of purposes. They are classified into five basic types: **Unrestricted, Field of Interest, Designated, Donor Advised, and Affiliated Funds**. As a donor, you select the appropriate type of fund which best meets your charitable desires.

An **Unrestricted Fund** is the most responsive to the changing needs of our community. Such a fund permits the Foundation to meet urgent community needs with the greatest degree of flexibility. Earnings are distributed for grants that support local purposes and projects. The Foundation's Governing Board makes all grant decisions.

A **Field of Interest Fund** specifies that grant dollars be awarded in broad areas such as the arts, education, or health services. These funds do not designate support to a particular organization.

A **Designated Fund** supports one or more charities. If a beneficiary ceases to exist or inhibiting factors arise, the governing board will select an alternative recipient in keeping with the spirit of the donor's original gift. There are three categories of Designated Funds: *Scholarship Funds*, *Organizational Endowments*, and *Administrative Funds*.

By creating a *scholarship fund* with the Foundation, a donor can leave a permanent legacy and assist a local student or

students in attaining his or her educational pursuits. Scholarship funds can be designated for any level of education, from preschool to post-graduate work.

Some 501 (c) (3) non-profit organizations have endowment funds that they find difficult to manage. Creating an **Organizational Endowment** with the Foundation may be a solution to that problem. The Foundation provides professional administration, supervision of investments, income distributions when needed, and minimal fees. Nonprofits with Organizational Endowments can also choose to participate in Scioto Gives, our one-day matching gift program.

You may wish to assist the work of the Foundation by helping to defray its operating expenses. You can create an *Administrative Fund* in your own name and specify that its income be used to further the charitable purposes of the Foundation by contributing to its operational budget.

The **Donor Advised Fund** represents a partnership between an individual, family, or corporation, and the Scioto Foundation. Living donors or their designees enjoy the privilege of suggesting grants from the fund, but by law, the Governing board has the responsibility to accept or reject these suggestions. Most advisory funds become unrestricted or field of interest funds after the death of their advisors as directed by the legal document.

A fifth and final type of fund is the **Affiliate Fund**. An affiliated fund is a supporting organization of the Foundation. It is an alternative for private or family foundations. A support organization is a separate entity of the SF, has its own board of trustees, makes its own decisions, and has its own 501 (c) (3) tax exempt status from the IRS.

### What are the advantages of giving to the Scioto Foundation?

All donors who establish funds at SF have a strong desire to "give back" to their community. Unlike corporate giving programs, private family foundations, and other charitable enterprises, your financial gift to the Scioto Foundation will...

#### Fulfill your charitable goals

No single donor, family or corporate entity controls the charitable funds of the Foundation. As you establish your own fund, you may specify its purpose or purposes. You decide how to benefit your favorite charity or charities, such as your church, a college, the arts, or community activities.

#### Be made in your name

You may choose any name you wish for the fund – your own or that of your family, a friend, or an organization. Such funds are open-ended and may be increased at any time by additional gifts. Grants from your fund will always be recorded in the name of the fund, a lasting symbol of your caring.

#### Be permanent

The fund that receives your contribution will continue to benefit the community now and in future years.

#### Meet changing community needs

Many donors place no restrictions on how the earnings of their funds are used and leave the decision to the Foundation's Governing Committee. If the intended purposes of your gift become obsolete, the Foundation's authority to amend provisions of your fund will ensure that the fund will continue to meet future needs of the community.

#### Be accountable to the public.

The Foundation's Governing Committee assures the continued use of funds for the public interest. Each year the Foun-

dation makes available their annual report. The Foundation makes the annual audit conducted by an independent auditor available at our website, [www.sciotofoundation.org](http://www.sciotofoundation.org). In addition, each year the Foundation files tax returns that are open to public disclosure.

Be professionally managed

The Foundation’s Governing Committee assures sound administration which smaller individual trusts or foundations may not be able to offer. Because funds in a community foundation are invested in common, donors have the advantage of a diverse investment mix.

Ease your tax burden

As a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, all contributions made to the Foundation qualify at the maximum deductibility for income, gift, and estate tax purposes.

**How can I become a donor?**

You can support the Foundation either by making gifts to existing funds or by creating new ones. To create a new fund, simply contact the Foundation by telephone at 740.354.4612 during our normal business hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. We will set up a meeting with you to discuss your charitable goals and discuss how the Foundation can assist you in meeting them.

Once you have determined your charitable goal, you will then want to begin planning your gift in concert with your attorney, tax and/or financial advisor. These individuals will help you to determine the best tool for giving based upon your current and future financial requirements.

You can make gifts to the Scioto Foundation during your lifetime, by will, or through a planned gift that benefits you and your charity. All gifts to the Founda-

tion are tax deductible and can earn you other financial benefits as well.

Cash

Gifts of cash are the easiest way to share in the work of the Foundation.

Gifts of Appreciated Assets

These gifts save income tax and help you to avoid capital gains tax that would be imposed if you sold the asset yourself.

Bequests

You can include the Scioto Foundation in your will as a beneficiary of your estate. You may provide for the Foundation to receive a certain amount, the remainder of an estate, or a contingent bequest if other beneficiaries fail to survive the donor. Although most any charitable purpose may be designated, it is wise to consult the Foundation or your attorney for the language.

Life Insurance

Life insurance can be an ideal way to create a major gift at a relatively low cost to the donor. The Scioto Foundation is named owner and beneficiary of a new or existing policy. The net cost of providing an ultimate benefit to the Foundation by using life insurance is surprisingly low. The current cash requirements, which may be deductible in most circumstances, for premiums is minor compared to the return realized by the Foundation and hence the community. In addition, use of insurance may guarantee that the lifetime giving donor is continued without ceasing abruptly on his death, thus perpetuating his personal community contribution scheme.

Charitable Trusts

The Scioto Foundation can be named as the ultimate beneficiary of a *charitable remainder trust* or the income beneficiary of a *charitable lead trust*. Both are highly effective charitable planning tools that can benefit designated individuals now or later.

**What are Acorn Funds?**

The Scioto Foundation established a method of creating permanent funds, the Acorn. Acorn donors visualize a charitable future from their gifts now. They plan to provide long-term financial support for their favorite charities by making contributions in installments. Acorn members pledge a minimum of \$1,000 per year or \$85.00 per month towards an endowment fund goal of \$10,000. When their gifts and reinvested earnings from these annual gifts added together reach their goal, donors can begin recommending annual grants to their favorite non-profit organizations.



Acorn donors can support many good things: scholarships for worthy students, the arts, community parks, children’s programs, education, and so on. *By planting “acorns” and adding to them annually, these funds will mature into “oak” trees, thereby creating permanent charitable giving funds.*

Much like any other permanent fund of the Foundation, donors can establish Acorn Funds as Designated, Field of Interest, Unrestricted, or Donor Advised.

For more information please contact the Foundation office at 740-354-4612 or by email at [info@thesciotofoundation.org](mailto:info@thesciotofoundation.org).

# Vital Statistics 2025

## Contributions Received

During 2025 the Scioto Foundation received 1379 donations for a total of \$2,245,198. The average gift size was \$1,628 dollars and stock gifts made up 13% of the total. Additional details can be seen in the chart below.

## New Funds

We welcomed 10 new funds to the Foundation in 2025. Five were scholarship funds (three will begin as acorns), three were designated funds and the final two were organizational endowments. See below for the names and types of funds created.

2025 Contribution Details	
Contribution	Amount
Number of donations	1379
Total Gifts	\$2,245,198
Average Size	\$1,628
Smallest	\$10
Largest	\$599,401
Amount Scioto Gives	\$230,254
% Scioto Gives	10%

2025 New Scioto Foundation Funds by Type	
Name	Type of Fund
Dr. Whitney Jenkins Mohawk NATION Scholarship	Scholarship/Acorn
ACCF: Sue Fistoe McGovney Giving Back Fund	Designated
Rarden Daily Bread Endowment	Org. Endowment
Albert & Betty Varhola Memorial Fund	Designated
Albert & Betty Varhola Memorial Scholarship	Scholarship
Charles L. Queen Memorial Scholarship	Scholarship/Acorn
Bone & Fiddle Arts Collective Fund	Org. Endowment
Portsmouth AAUW Jill Pierson Riffe Scholarship	Scholarship
ACCF: Ellis E. & Virginia Mae Dorton Scholarship	Scholarship/Acorn
ACCF: CE Smith Family Charitable Fund	Designated

## Scholarships

Scholarships are a very important part of the Scioto Foundation. In fact,

- Scholarships comprised 32% of Foundation assets or \$21,138,263.
- There are 181 active scholarship funds, ranging in size from \$1,000 to \$4,000,000.
- Donors set the criteria for each scholarship and can be used for high school tuition assistance to post graduate work.

For the 2025/2026 school year, the Scioto Foundation awarded \$877,426 in scholarships to 339 students from 10 counties, Adams, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto and Vinton Counties in Ohio, and Carter, Greenup, and Lewis counties in Kentucky.

Students receiving scholarship assistance:

- graduated from 38 separate high schools in the region.
- declared 109 separate college majors.
- held an average high school GPA of 3.82, and an average college GPA of 3.24.
- earned an average ACT test score of 22.8. Twelve students received an ACT score of 30 and one student received a perfect score of 36.

For the 2025/2026 school year students receiving scholarships from the Scioto Foundation planned to attend 63 different colleges, universities, and trade schools.

**Grants Paid**

In 2025 \$2,198,251 was paid to universities for scholarships, grants and distributions to nonprofits, churches and schools, and disbursements to nonprofits from their own organizational endowments.

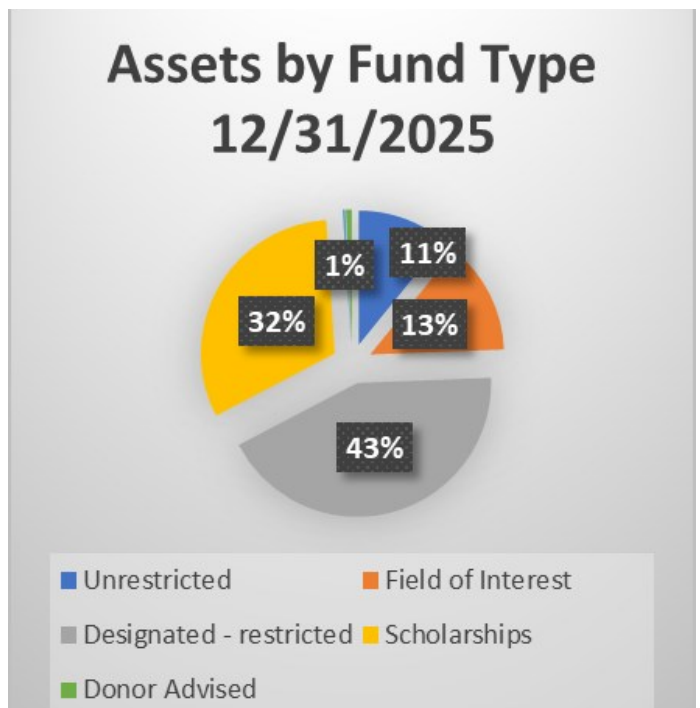
Seven organizations received 52% of all grants paid during the year. These include the Southern Ohio Museum, Shawnee State University, Sierra’s Haven, Portsmouth Athletic Complex, Ohio University, Miami University and Ohio State University.

2025 Grants Paid by Type and Amount	
Type	Amount
Designated	\$581,041.31
Donor Advised	\$42,689.62
Field of Interest	\$291,266.05
Organizational	\$434,508.96
Scholarship	\$735,432.14
Unrestricted	\$113,313.11
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,198,251.19</b>

Seven Organizations Receiving 52% of all Grants Paid	
Organizations	Amounts
Southern Ohio Museum	\$402,776.98
Shawnee State University	\$274,774.27
Sierra’s Haven	\$133,336.60
Portsmouth Athletic Complex	\$110,000.00
Ohio University & Branches	\$81,707.34
Miami University	\$81,227.00
Ohio State University	\$59,986.49

**Asset Management**

The Foundation ended 2025 with assets of \$74,992,368.78. Designated funds comprise the largest asset group (43%), followed by scholarships (32%), Field of Interest (13%), Unrestricted (11%) and Donor Advised (1%).



**Money Managers**

Edward Jones, Portsmouth, Ohio; Huntington Bank, Columbus, Ohio; US Bank, Hamilton, Ohio; and Money Concepts, Portsmouth, Ohio manage the assets of the Scioto Foundation.

**Return on Investment**

1 year	3year	5 year average
15.99%	13.35%	8.0%

# Scioto Foundation Signature Programs



The University College Access Network (UCAN) was

formed in 2008 with the vision that one day, every student in our UCAN partnership will have the financial resources to attend the college, university, or post-secondary program of his or her choice. We believe that education is economic development and that any degree, certificate, or post-secondary education program improves the quality of life for our area’s residents.

### Our Support

- Challenge or matching grants to all participating schools to help grow their scholarship endowment funds.

- Mini-grants to schools for college preparedness activities offsetting expenses for AP or ACT exams, and for college visits.
- One-on-one college coaching.

UCAN Data 2025 and Program Totals (2008 - Present)		
	2025	Totals
UCAN Scholarship Amounts	\$113,491	\$1,094,286
UCAN scholarship Numbers	116	1,285
Mini grant Amounts	\$34,000	\$329,856
Mini-grant Numbers	17	213
Challenge grants amounts	\$50,000	\$1,010,203
Scioto Foundation Scholarships	\$877,427	\$8,172,004

Market Value of UCAN Endowment as of 12/31/2025	
School	Market Value
Bloom-Vernon Scholarship Legacy	\$332,570
Clay Schools Legacy Scholarship	\$502,507
East Community School Scholarship	\$254,919
Green Schools and Community Endowment Scholarship	\$192,640
Minford Falcon Legacy Scholarship	\$227,671
New Boston Schools Endowment Fund	\$251,404
Northwest Education Endowment Scholarship	\$160,501
Notre Dame - UCAN/Oberling Family ND Scholarship	\$305,537
Portsmouth High School Endowment Scholarship	\$226,082
Valley Legacy Scholarship Endowment Scholarship	\$254,197
Washington-Nile Local Legacy Scholarship	\$269,847
Wheelersburg Excellence Scholarship	\$294,477
Manchester Karen Ballangee Education Scholarship	\$31,554
Wellston High School Alumni Scholarship Fund	\$31,488
Jackson Ironman Pride Scholarship	\$11,569
South Point, Beverly Christian Osborne Memorial Scholarship	\$30,106
Symmes Valley Viking Scholarship Fund	\$41,441
Ironton Catholic Schools Scholarship	\$2,057
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$3,420,569</b>





Scioto Gives is our one-day on-line matching gift program benefiting local participating nonprofit organizations. It occurs on the third Thursday of October each year from 8am to 8pm.

During that time donors can make contributions to their favorite charity or charities, knowing that their gift will be matched by the Scioto Foundation.

We deposit all donations and matching gifts into the designated nonprofit endowment fund where they are invested in common with all other funds of the Foundation. Contributions, matching dollars, and investment earnings help the funds to grow over time. A small percentage of the fund (4%) is available each year for the nonprofit to use as they see fit. As the fund grows, so too does the amount available for distribution. Endowments provide nonprofits with the annual support they can count on.

In 2025 the Scioto Foundation

- Set aside \$60,000 to use as matching money. *\$5,000 more than in 2024.*
- Determines the matching amount after all donations were received. In 2025 the match was \$.26 on the dollar.

- Announced award amounts during the annual fall reception held on Thursday, November 13, 2025.

How can a nonprofit participate in the program?

- Organizations must be 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organizations, and create an organizational endowment with the Scioto Foundation.
- Nonprofits must actively promote and encourage their donor base to participate in Scioto Gives.
- Organizations must attend the annual fall reception three weeks after the Scioto Gives one-day campaign to celebrate the success of Scioto Gives.

Scioto Gives Contributions 2025 & Program Totals		
	2025	2013-2025
Contribution Numbers	545	5,995
Contribution Amounts	\$230,254	\$1,589,472
Matching Amounts	\$60,000	\$555,000
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$290,254</b>	<b>\$2,144,471</b>

## Scioto Gives 2025 Participating Nonprofits

14th Street Community Center † 1810 House † Animal Welfare League of Scioto County † ASEND Counseling & Recovery Services † Bone & Fiddle Arts Collective † Boy Scouts of America, Simon Kenton Council † Candyland Children’s Museum † CAY Memorial † Compass Community Health, Inc. † Compass Point Housing † Connex, Inc. † Deaf Services Center † Friends of the American Red Cross, Tri-State † Friends of Greenlawn Cemetery Foundation † Friends of Portsmouth † Friends of the Skate Park † Friends of Scioto County DD † Friends of the Scioto County Homeless Shelter † Friends of Shawnee Family Health † Friends of Spartan Stadium † Goodwill Industries of Southern Ohio † Habitat for Humanity of the Tri-State † Market Square Park (Burnside Brankamp Park) † Miracle City Academy † Mt. Hope Bible Camp † Ohio River T1D † Mainstreet Portsmouth in Bloom (Paul & Kevin Johnson) † Portsmouth Area Arts Council † Portsmouth Beautification Society † Portsmouth Little Theatre † Portsmouth Murals, Inc. † Portsmouth Wind Symphony † Potter’s Housing Ministries † Rarden Daily Bread † St. Francis Outreach Center † Scenic Scioto Heritage Trail, Inc. † Scioto County Heritage Museum † Sierra’s Haven for New & Used Pets † South Central Ohio ESC † Southern Ohio Folk Life † Southern Ohio Medical Center † Scioto County Special Olympics † Steven A. Hunter Hope Fund † The Counseling Center † Trillium Project † Time Out for Me † UCAN † United Scioto Senior Activities, Inc. † West Portsmouth Youth Sports Complex † Wings of Hope †



(740) 354-4612 [sciotogives.org](http://sciotogives.org)

**OCTOBER 16, 2025**  
**8 AM - 8 PM**

**Support Our Local Nonprofits**

*Save the Date For Our Day of Giving!*



# Scioto Foundation Signature Programs

## Scioto 365



The 2025 Scioto 365 theme was “Pathways to Purpose, Engaging Youth.” The request for grant proposals asked local nonprofits to focus upon assisting and empowering at-risk children. Eligible grants could be for direct support or nonprofit capacity building providing at-risk youth with safe and healthy activities.

### Organization & Project Title

Cirque d'Art Theatre: “Cirque d'Art Theatre Play Project: Providing Support for Participation Multisensory Immersion Room”

Hardknocks Training Center LLC: “HKTC Community Outreach & Inclusion Initiative Boxing & Safety equipment”

The Hilltop Initiative Neighborhood Association: “Mound Park Playground & Culture Center”

Main Street Portsmouth in Bloom: “Young Bucks Farmers Market Nutrition Program for Healthy Food”

Market Square Park LLC: “Burnside Brankamp Park at Market Square”

Potter's House Ministries: “Summer Feeding Program 2026” (Summer Camp activities/trips)

Serenity Outreach: “Purpose Pathways' after- school/weekend/ summer opportunities for at-risk kids”

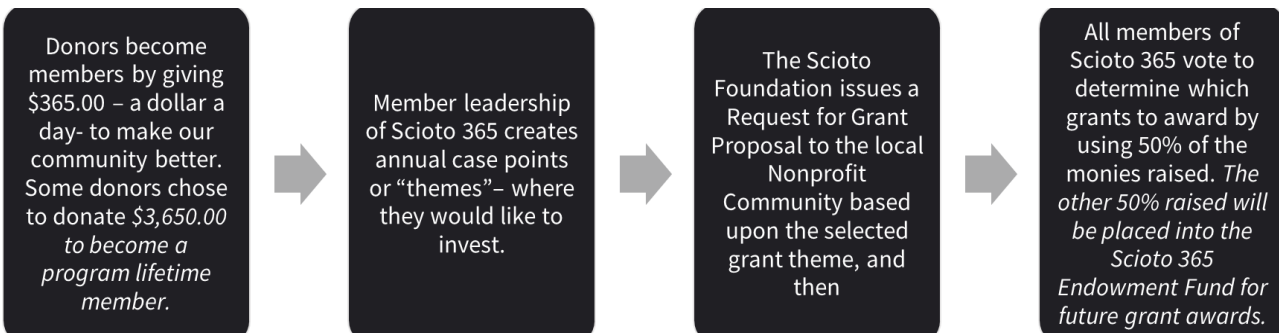
West Portsmouth Youth Sports Complex: “Gym A/C for all year-round activities”

Wings of Hope: “Summer Outreach Program academic/ professional development”

Nine local nonprofits applied. *See table at left.* Scioto 365 members reviewed the applications and 70% rated applications as very good to excellent. While each organization received one vote, members selected the **Burnside Brankamp Park at Market Square** as the 2025 Scioto 365 Awardee. *Shown below.*



## Scioto 365: How it works.



# Scioto Foundation Internships

The Scioto Foundation launched the UCAN Internship in the summer of 2017. We provide students the opportunity to participate in a five-week paid internship at a local nonprofit organization participating in Scioto Gives, or local governmental agency.

The objectives of the internship are to:

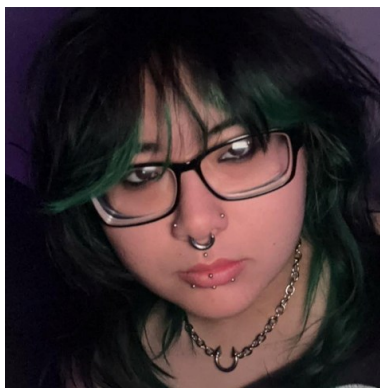
- Offer college sophomores, juniors, seniors, and recent graduates the opportunity to participate in a meaningful career-related work experience,
- Provide students with first-hand knowledge of Scioto County's public and nonprofit sectors, and their importance to and impact upon our community,
- Assist local nonprofits with short-term projects; and
- Introduce students to career paths available within nonprofit organizations and/or governmental agencies.

To date, fifty-seven students have participated in the internship program.

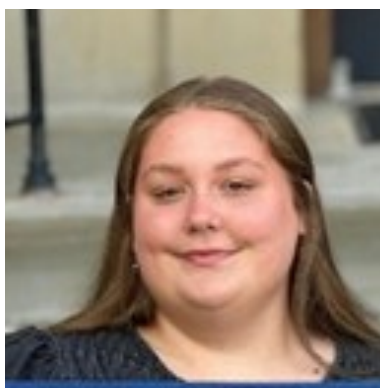
In 2025 four students were placed in local internships.

At the completion of the internship students were asked to complete an exit interview. Below is their responses to one question, "What were you able to accomplish during the internship?"

- I was able to meet new people, learn more about working with individuals with disabilities, and what all goes into a nonprofit.
- Event organizing, grant writing, social media marketing strategy, connecting with community members.
- I was able to help with little things and details for the show.
- Catalog artifacts, create programs for children to be more involved with local history.



**Christina Gray**  
PHS graduate, Miami University Undergraduate, attending Case Western Reserve, Mandel School, Masters of Nonprofit Organizations.  
Host Site: Mainstreet Portsmouth in Bloom.



**Hope Myers**  
Wheelersburg High School graduate. Attending West Virginia University, majoring in History & Anthropology.  
Host Site: Southern Ohio Museum.



**Aleigh Spradlin**  
Clay High School graduate. Attending Shawnee State University majoring in Graphic Design.  
Host site: Cirque d'Art Theatre.



**Chesnee Ayres**  
West Union High School graduate. Attending Morehead State University majoring in Respiratory Therapy.  
Host Site: Goodwill Easter Seals Miami Valley.

# Annual Report

2025



[sciotofoundation.org](https://sciotofoundation.org)



**Scioto Foundation**

Your Local Charitable Resource.