

WILLIAM J. AND DOROTHY K.



**FOUNDATION
IN FOCUS
APRIL 2017**



Front Cover Images: 2016 ONF Grantees

Top Left to Right: Latino Economic Development Center (DC), Women's Storybook Project of Texas, and Family Support Services of West Hawaii.

Middle: DC School Reform NOW.

Bottom Left to Right: The Child Center of NY, Waiting Child Fund (OH), and Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (MD).

It is the mission of the William J. and Dorothy K. O'Neill Foundation to partner with nonprofits to improve the quality of life for families and communities, in places where O'Neill family members live.

Leadership

The Trustees

Kelly Sweeney McShane, Chair

David Donahey, Treasurer

Laura O'Neill Bower

Linda France Clifford

Bob Donahey

Tim O'Neill, Secretary

Leslie Perkul, President & CEO

The Investment Committee Members

David Donahey, Chair

Bob Donahey

Tim O'Neill

Will Donahey, Observer

The Foundation Staff

Leslie Perkul, President & CEO

Symone R. McClain, Vice President

Kathy Ladiner, Foundation Assistant

Marci Lu, Senior Program Officer

Marlene Corrado, Program Officer, Communications & NextGen Engagement

Letter from the Chair



The William J. and Dorothy K. O’Neill Foundation (ONF) last did a strategic plan six years ago, and a lot has changed over those six years – in our family, our communities, and the world around us. It’s time, therefore, to refresh our strategic direction for the next few years. The Trustees have been working with a facilitator over the past few months to design a process that will gather feedback from family members, grantees, and funding partners to help us focus our grantmaking more. We are committed to our Strategic Goals around having impact in our grant-making, engaging family members, planning for succession, and being good stewards. Our work so far has led us to think about making larger grants, over a longer period of time, in a more proactive manner, with nonprofit partners who are working for change in their communities in a collaborative manner. We’ve tried some “Deep Impact Grants” this year, which you can read more about in this newsletter.

We need your feedback! We want to know about what most excites you, and how you want to be involved. Keep an eye on your email inboxes for a family survey this week. Your responses will help us as we work to narrow down our areas of giving and make the process smoother. Please also join us for an O’Neill Foundation strategic planning day and family gathering on Saturday, June 10, 2017 in Denver, Colorado. We already have about 25 family members planning on joining us. A facilitator will lead us through a day of learning, sharing, and prioritizing on Saturday, June 10, to be followed by an evening of socializing. For more information, contact your family branch Trustee representative or Symone McClain at smcclain@oneill-foundation.org.

Last but not least, I would like to thank Sara O’Neill Sullivan and Connie Bowen Korzensky for their service as Trustees. They will be much missed in Trustee meetings. We are pleased to welcome Linda France Clifford and Laura O’Neill Bower to the Board. They have jumped right into this planning process and bring great insight to the conversation.

I hope to see you in Denver! Otherwise, feel free to email me with questions/comments, concerns/praise at ks_mcshane@hotmail.com. I’d love to hear from you!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelly Sweeney McShane".

Kelly Sweeney McShane
Chair

Meet the New ONF Staff



Marlene Corrado, Program Officer, Communications & NextGen Engagement

Marlene will implement the Foundation's communications strategy, including increasing ONF's social media presence and working with the Next Generation of O'Neill family members of all ages, to support their interests and engagement in working with the Foundation.

Joined the ONF Staff: February 2017

School: Grand Valley State University, Masters public & nonprofit administration; Grand Valley State University, BA in public & nonprofit administration

Career: National Center for Family Philanthropy, manager, development & marketing.

Hometown: Chicago

Favorite vacation: Backpacking South America



Marci Lu, Senior Program Officer

Marci will be the primary contact in working with family members and supporting ONF grantees in communities along the East Coast: NY, DC, Baltimore, Annapolis, and Richmond. She is seeking opportunities to cultivate relationships with colleague foundations and to participate in community activities, including collaborative grantmaking, which will further the work and impact of ONF.

Joined the ONF Staff: March 2017

School: Case Western Reserve University, Masters in nonprofit management; University of Michigan, BA in history

Career: Corporation for National and Community Service, program officer, Social Innovation Fund; Eugene and Agnes E. Meyer Foundation, consulting program officer, Children & Family Capacity-building Initiative; philanthropic & nonprofit consultant; and Cleveland Foundation, program officer.

Hometown: New York

Favorite vacation: Glacier National Park, Montana

Responsive Grantmaking

Responsive Grantmaking is the Foundation's largest grantmaking program, a portfolio that supports nonprofit organizations with family-focused programming for capacity building, special projects, or general operations funding.

In 2015, the Foundation Board approved a new grant program – Responsive Deep Impact Grants (R-DIG) – to target significant resources to specific issues important to the Foundation's mission and vision. Open to current/past grantees of the ONF, the grantmaking program would offer grants of up to \$100,000 per year for three years

Below is a summary of the RDIG grantees.

Educational Alliance's Manny Cantor Center (MCC) – New York, NY

Grant award: \$100,000 payable over one year
Grant term: September 2016 – September 2017

Since receiving support in 2016, MCC completed its first of three scheduled cohorts, with 22 families participating in six 90-minute, intergenerational art workshops. The majority of families are part of MCC's College Access and Success program, a two-generation approach to engage parents and children. The art materials, gathered and donated by local residents and businesses, were made available at no-cost to the low-income families to expose children and their parents to the joy of making art with repurposed materials.

The Family Arts Workshops provided a safe space for families to celebrate creative expression and diversity. In the first few months, MCC hired Mandarin and Spanish teaching assistants and interns to support the (English) language development of 15 non-native English-speaking parents.

Working side by side, MCC educators and parents captured creative processes through photography, journaling, and storytelling. Parents also engaged in peer-to-peer knowledge sharing and learned best practices for early childhood development and education. To support the continuation of healthy, creative practices beyond MCC's Materials Center, families brought art materials home each week.

Through the weekly parent sharing segments, MCC found that families are "gaining skills to use the arts as a tool to support their children's development including: improved parenting and co-parenting skills, enhanced conflict management skills and increased parent-child engagement." Additionally, families "experience positive psychological outcomes including self-efficacy, conflict management, connectedness, sense of belonging, psychosocial interactions with others, and high level of mental well-being."



One father mentioned that he has been using the workshop’s clean-up strategies at home with his son, while other parents commented on how they were surprised to see their children focus for long periods of time – often fully engaged in the exploration of materials as simple as cardboard and yarn.

In order to formally assess whether parents are gaining the skills outlined in the curriculum, MCC developed a short pre- and post- survey to complement a longer baseline survey, which was co-created with New York University’s Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development.

St. Clair Superior Development Corporation (SCSDC) – Cleveland, OH

Grant award: \$300,000 payable over three years

Grant term: September 2016 – September 2019

The St. Clair Superior community is home to several diverse populations found throughout its distinct ethnic neighborhoods – a stable industrial corridor, growing arts scene, and a myriad of unique dining and shopping venues.

Conversely, there are also a number of local residents affected by poverty. Pockets of the community have been identified as urban food deserts. In 2015, the SCSDC and neighborhood food retailers found that most stores (i.e. dollar and corner stores) don’t carry fresh produce, lean meats, whole-grain breads, or low-fat snacks – nor do they accept SNAP or WIC benefits from low-income individuals.

Committed to increasing access to affordable, locally-sourced, healthy food, ag|re|culture was designed to support the St. Clair Superior community’s revitalization.

Over the past year, ag|re|culture has hosted a series of pilot programs aimed at sparking conversations and engagement around food, arts and culture, and community. The SCSDC staff conducted initial research into best practices of their field partners, while hosting and supporting several neighborhood cooking circles and gardener network nights. These experiential learning opportunities allowed families to come together; explore the preparation of healthy, affordable meals; and celebrate cultural culinary traditions.



Enterprise Community Partners – Cleveland, OH

Grant award: \$330,000 payable over three years

Grant term: September 2016 – September 2019

According to United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, family homelessness increased by more than 200% from 2012 to 2013 in Ohio, and family homelessness in Cuyahoga County is currently one of the highest in the state.

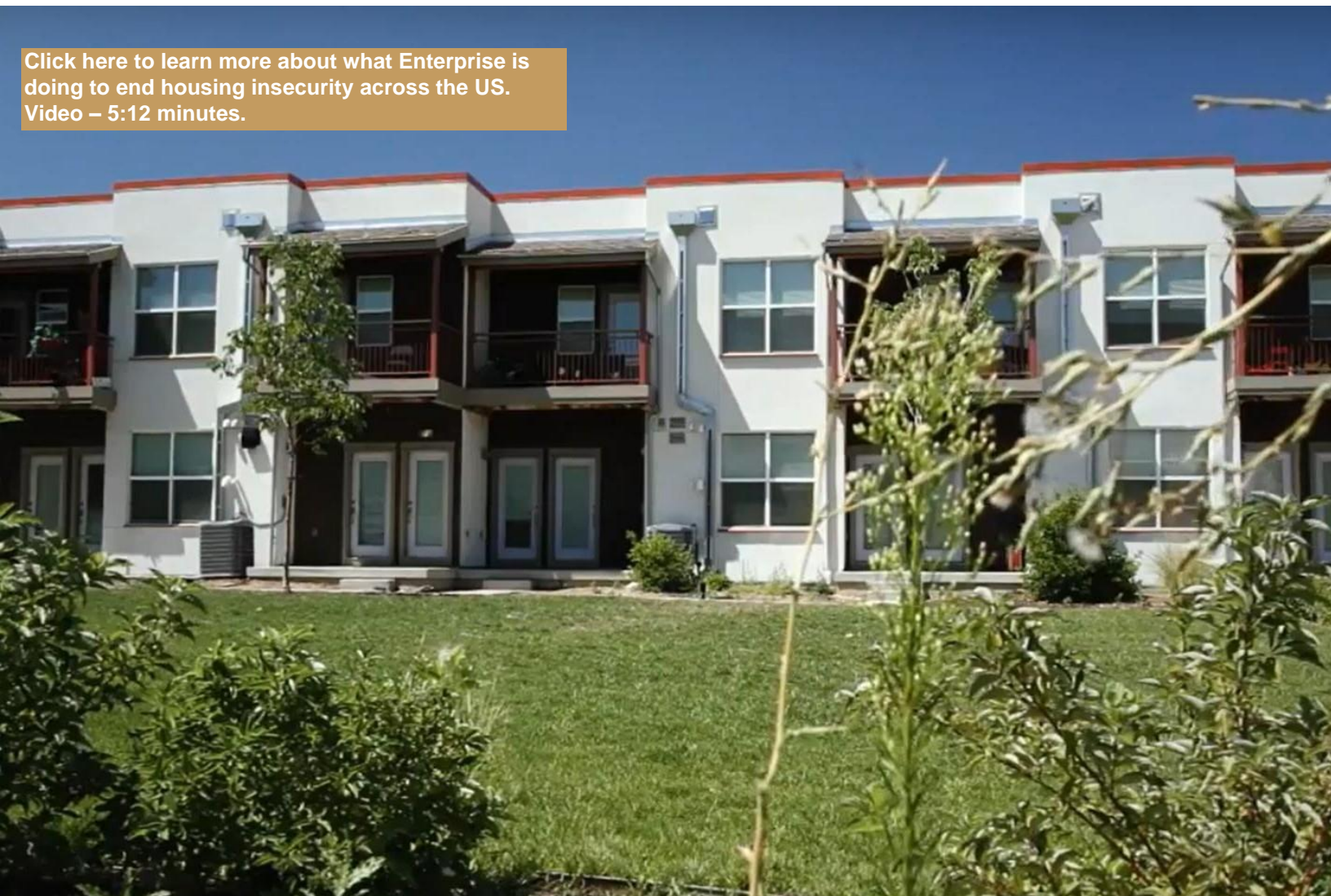
In Ohio's Cuyahoga County, more than 66,000 renter families are housing insecure, including more than 23,400 working single-parent households that, on average, have only \$33.46 per month left for all other living costs once they pay rent and utilities.

To address chronic homelessness, Enterprise Community Partners (Enterprise) has been partnering with EDEN and Frontline Service.

Within months of receiving the first installment of the responsive deep impact grant, EDEN hired a part-time Housing Stability Specialist, to assist with housing searches that help families quickly find new housing, prevent eviction, work with landlords when issues arise, and prepare tenants for inspections so they can remain in their apartments.

Enterprise also announced that it will co-chair the newly created Ending Family Homelessness Steering Committee with FrontLine Service and the City of Cleveland – overseeing all program outcomes for homeless families in Cuyahoga County.

[Click here to learn more about what Enterprise is doing to end housing insecurity across the US. Video – 5:12 minutes.](#)



Grantmaking Committee Members

COMMITTEE 1

Cindy O’Neill, Chair	Molly McShane
Connie France Bowen Korzensky	Kevin Sweeney
George J. Korzensky III	Molly Sweeney

P-DIG COMMITTEE

Laura Bower	Allison O’Neill
Megan Donahey	Brian Sullivan
Alec O’Neill	Sara Sullivan

COMMITTEE 3

Bob Donahey, Chair	Katy Marcus
Will Donahey	Tim O’Neill

COMMITTEE 4

John O’Neill, Chair	Kevin McShane
Megan Donahey	Kathy O’Neill

UTILITY PLAYERS

Linda & Jim Clifford	Kelly McShane
Suzy Dameron	Maureen O’Neill
David Donahey	Kim Polo
Megan Donahey	Meg Sweeney
Kathleen & Dan Dunn	

Want to learn more? Eager to join a committee? Please contact the Foundation staff or a committee chair for more information.

NextGen Voices

Special thanks to Megan Donahey who captured these interviews!



To me, philanthropy means giving back to a community. It doesn't require a price tag (you don't have to be wealthy to be a philanthropist), but you have to be passionate about making someone else's life better.

-- Maureen O'Neill, 3rd Generation

What's your first memory with the O'Neill Foundation?



[Megan Donahey] [The night at the Cleveland Zoo] was probably one of the coolest memories of my childhood because staying at the zoo is every child's dream. We walked around at night, listening to all of the animals, and we even got to hand feed the giraffes. We were tasked with having a discussion and made a decision as to where we wanted to give our money. This experience was a great way to get all of us to talk, discuss pros and cons, and learn how to do [the work of] the ONF.



[Molly McShane] One of my first, clearest memories was the retreat at Nemaquin when I was in high school, where I saw many family members for the first time in a while. We had good discussions about philanthropy and what causes were important to the family. It was one of the first times that I felt like I could articulate why certain issues were important to me and why I felt they should be included in our family foundation's giving.

What does your family legacy with philanthropy mean to you?



[Maureen O'Neill] My family legacy is to give back. I feel fortunate to be an O'Neill, but even more privileged that I grew up assuming I would give a large amount of my grandparent's money away. I remember Granny enough to know that she deeply cared about giving back... My family is a huge part of my identity, partly because of the work we do as a family grantmaking. It's a pretty unusual blessing we have.

What philanthropies are you passionate about?

[Megan Donahey] I am very passionate about Fieldstone Farm Therapeutic Riding Center. Seeing as riding has been a huge part of my life, competing in show jumping and polo tournaments, riding is my true passion and seeing what horses and riding can do for children and adults with disabilities is incredible.

[Maureen O'Neill] I'm passionate about healthcare organizations, women's health organizations, and organizations that help underserved mothers and children. I like to give my directed gifts to nonprofits in New Orleans because we don't give grants there, but I lived there for six years and the community is extremely important to me.

2017 DENVER GATHERING



WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN JUNE!

The 2017 gathering will provide an opportunity to reconnect, learn, and revisit the Foundation's framework for strategic grantmaking and approach for family engagement.

As a reminder, the Foundation will cover the room charges for Friday (6/9) and Saturday (6/10) and reasonable transportation costs if reimbursement is requested. Additional room nights, meals not listed on the agenda below, and any other expenses will not be reimbursed by the Foundation.

HOTEL

The Maven Hotel | 1850 Wazee Street, Denver, CO 80202

AGENDA

A brief agenda is listed below to help you plan for the meeting activities. A detailed agenda and reading materials will be forthcoming.

Friday, June 9, 2017

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM – Reception, *The Maven Hotel, Windsor Room*

Saturday, June 10, 2017

7:30 AM – 9:00 AM – Optional buffet breakfast, *Windsor I*

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM – Trustee meeting, *Windsor II*

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM – Family meeting, *Windsor I*

12:00 PM – Lunch, *Windsor II*

7:00 PM – 10:00 PM – Family dinner, *Venice Ristorante & Wine Bar*

CONFIRMED ATTENDEES

Laura, Dennis, Hugh and Maeve Bower

Alissa Bowen

Linda, Madeline and AJ Clifford

Bob, Colleen, Will and Megan Donahey

David Donahey

Bill, Billy, Claire, Mark, and Mary France

Connie and George Korzensky

Kelly, Molly, and Memuna McShane

Bill O'Neill

John O'Neill

Tim, Cindy, Maureen and Shane O'Neill

Blair and Maddi Ward

If you haven't already confirmed your attendance with Symone, please contact her at smcclain@oneill-foundation.org before May 5th.

Letter from the CEO



I know that it has been some months since we last issued a newsletter and I hope you enjoy the refreshed look and rich content in this edition. It is hard to believe that I joined the William J. and Dorothy K. O'Neill Foundation nine short months ago! I have been impressed and energized by the commitment of the Trustees and many other family members to the continued success of the Foundation's work. I am looking forward to our work together to refine and refresh the strategic plan as we work towards even greater impact in the communities we serve.

As I write this, we are in the first cycle of our responsive grants for 2017 and we have just completed a lightning round of site visits! Along with me and Symone, our new team members Marci and Marlene jumped right in to participate in these visits which was a great support to the Grantmaking Committees. I want to thank the many family members who have participated in these site visits and I highly encourage others to join in during Round 2, which will take place next September.

With so many changes made at the Foundation during the latter half of 2016 through 2017, I must acknowledge Symone McClain, who has given so much to support the family and the Foundation throughout this time that our new team members (including me) were onboarding into our new roles.

To the family members that I have had the opportunity to meet and speak with, thank you for the very warm welcome. To the others I have not yet met, I look forward to seeing many of you in Denver this June. In the meantime, I am always available by email or phone call if there is any way that I can assist you.

Finally, in keeping with the staff introduction themes of most memorable vacations, mine was a trip to Israel with 15 of my family members, including my father who was born and raised there!

Happy Spring to all!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leslie Perkul".

Leslie Perkul
President & CEO

WILLIAM J. AND DOROTHY K.



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2017 IMPORTANT DATES

MAY

May 15 | Investment Committee Meeting
Week of May 23 | Grantmaking Committee Meetings

JUNE

June 9 – 10 | Family Gathering & Trustee Meeting

AUGUST

August 14 | Investment Committee Meeting

SEPTEMBER

September 18 | Trustee Meeting

NOVEMBER

November 13 | Investment Committee Meeting
Week of November 14 | Grantmaking Committee Meetings

DECEMBER

December 11 | Trustee Meeting