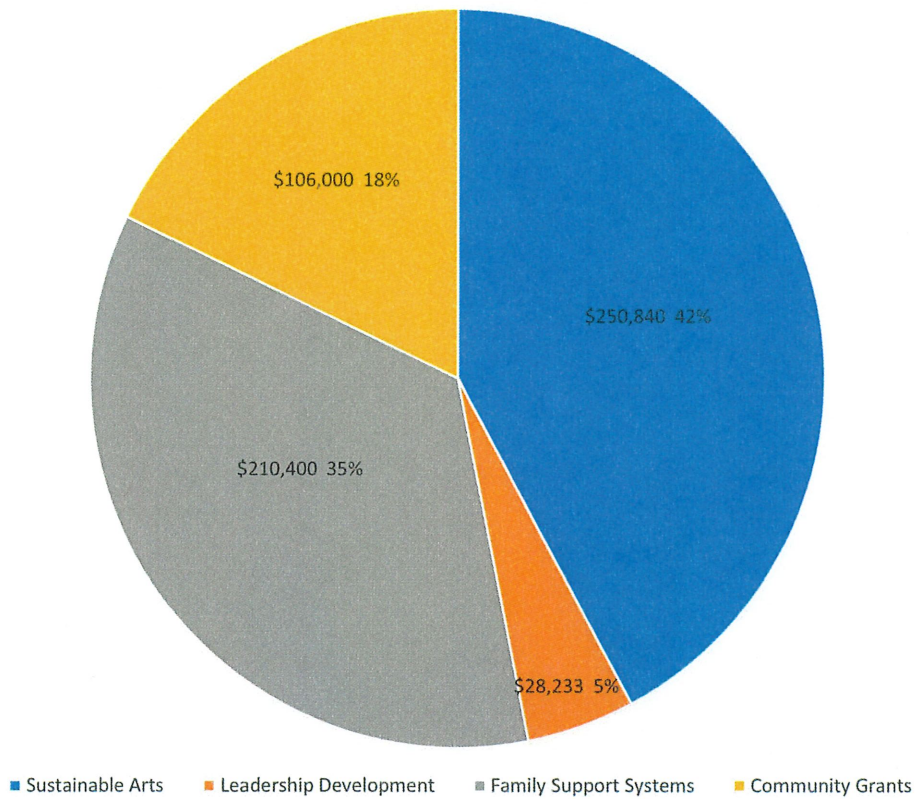


## ANNUAL REPORT 2023

We envision a vibrant, progressive community where everyone belongs and everyone thrives.

2023 Grants



*61 Grants invested in our community totaling \$595,473*

## Reflections from our Board Chair

In 2023, as we celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Marilyn and William Young Foundation, I was both proud and honored to look back on the tradition of community support our organization has been able to sustain since its inception. The Board and I are equally excited about the role the Young Foundation can play in the future, as we continue to focus on linking efforts with our amazing partners in the Owensboro/Daviess County community. Collaboration is one of my favorite parts of what we do.

The Young Foundation's work is to respond to community needs and to strengthen resources. Our Board strives to fulfill our capacity-building mission by funding leadership development, accessible arts experiences, and family support systems. In our strategic planning this year, we sharpened our focus to prioritize a welcoming community where everyone belongs and everyone thrives.

I hope you will take a look at this annual report and learn of the programs we have funded this year. In addition to our regular grantmaking in 2023, we awarded 25 unrestricted gifts to local service nonprofits as part of our anniversary celebration. We continued our efforts to promote leadership development by funding opportunities for other nonprofit boards and staff and by supporting other local civic engagement organizations.

Our leadership continued to evolve in 2023. Early in the year, we welcomed new board member Chad Benefield, who inspires us with his energy and charisma. Chad, who is Director of Content for Townsquare Media, also has a gift for serving the community through his work with area nonprofits and fundraising events.

Young Foundation Trustee Phil Malone retired from the Board at the end of 2023, after 25 years of service to our organization. Phil was a personal friend and advisor to Marilyn Young and was instrumental in establishing the Young Foundation as a philanthropic entity. His guiding wisdom and selfless dedication to the Board for all these years made him a worthy steward for the Young legacy. We will miss Phil's knowledge and experience.



Moving into our next era, the Young Foundation will continue to embrace our mission to support economic opportunity, well-being, and prosperity for our citizens.

As always, we welcome any input you might have about our mission and projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol C. Bothwell".


Carol Bothwell, Board Chair 2023-2024



## *Our Grantee Partners:*

Alma Randolph Charitable Foundation  
Aubrey's Song Foundation  
Bluegrass Music Hall of Fame & Museum  
Boulevard Mission—2 grants  
Brescia University  
CASA of the Ohio Valley  
The Center—2 grants  
Center for Nonprofit Excellence  
Cinderella's Closet  
Civic Engagement Institute  
Cliff Hagan Boys and Girls Club  
Community Dental Clinic  
Crossroads Homeless Shelter  
Daniel Pitino Shelter  
Dream Riders of Kentucky  
Faithworks  
Family Y  
Fresh Start for Women – 2 grants  
Friends of Sinners  
Girls Inc.  
Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana  
Goodfellows Club—2 grants  
Grantmakers of Kentucky  
Greater Owensboro Leadership Institute  
Green River Asset Building Coalition  
Habitat for Humanity  
The Help Office

H.L. Neblett Center  
Imagination Library  
International Center of Owensboro  
Kentucky Nonprofit Network  
Kentucky Rural Urban Exchange  
Kentucky Wesleyan College  
Kentucky Youth Advocates  
Leadership Kentucky Foundation  
Leadership Owensboro  
My Sister's Keeper  
New Beginnings Sexual Assault Support Services  
OASIS  
Owensboro Community & Technical College  
Owensboro Dance Theatre - 2 grants  
Owensboro Regional Farmers' Market  
Puzzle Pieces  
Philanthropy Southeast  
RiverPark Center  
St. Benedict's Homeless Shelter  
St. Joseph Peace Mission  
Salvation Army of Owensboro – 2 grants  
Senior Community Center  
Through Sleet's Eyes Festival  
Wendell Foster – 2 grants  
Western Academy—2 grants  
Western Kentucky Botanical Garden



## 25th Anniversary Celebration

To mark the twenty-five years since the inception of the Young Foundation, our Board awarded \$2500 checks to twenty-five local nonprofits that focus on social service needs. These grants were unrestricted in their use, and the selected organizations were challenged to match the award by soliciting funds from other donors or other creative means. The grant recipients were invited to a luncheon on July 27th in the Young Auditorium of the Wells Center at Kentucky Wesleyan College to celebrate the occasion and receive their grants. The celebration included grantee partners, colleagues, and local officials. We are grateful to everyone in attendance and what they do to strengthen our community.



Board Members (from left to right) Carol Bothwell, Phil Malone, Madison Silvert, Kaitlyn Cunningham, Chad Benefield, Diane Ford and Dave Kirk presented checks to the honored recipients.

### Grant Recipients:

Boulware Mission  
CASA  
The Center  
Cliff Hagan Boys and Girls Club  
Crossroads  
Dream Riders of KY  
Family Y of Owensboro  
Fresh Start  
Friends of Sinners  
Girls Inc  
Goodfellows  
Habitat for Humanity  
Help Office  
Imagination Library  
My Sister's Keeper  
Neblett Center  
New Beginnings  
OASIS  
Puzzle Pieces  
St. Benedict's Homeless Shelter  
St. Joseph Peace Mission  
Salvation Army  
Senior Community Center  
Wendell Foster  
Western Academy



**Our Mission:**

We are a capacity-building resource:  
opening minds, supporting the development of new skills, and linking efforts  
to ensure economic opportunity, well being, and prosperity for our citizens.

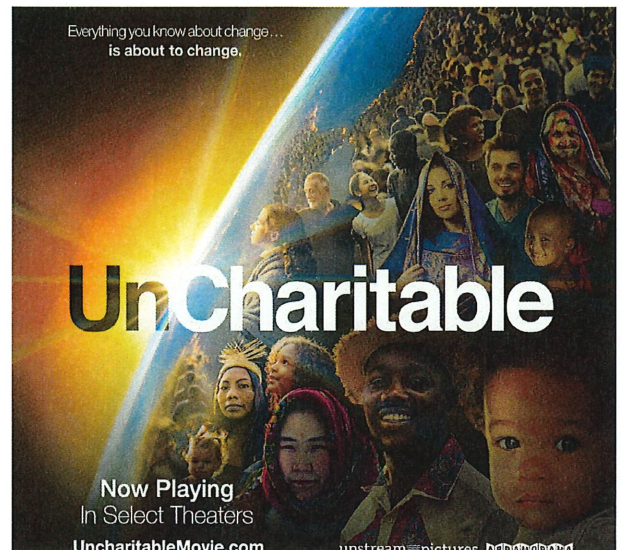
**Our Guiding Principles:**

Excellence \* Partnerships \* Accountability \* Integrity \* Welcoming

## *Uncharitable Screening*

This fall, a screening of the documentary *Uncharitable* was presented at the Bluegrass Music Museum and Hall of Fame. Based on the book by Dan Pallotta, the film examines how our society views funding charities and often constrains them from carrying out their missions effectively.

Offered as part of our Leadership Development strategy, the documentary screening gave us the opportunity to invite local nonprofit leaders and board members to attend, reflect on giving practices and explore how to unleash the potential of our local organizations. Over 130 screened the film and we hope it continues to spark meaningful conversations about philanthropy's role in supporting local charities.



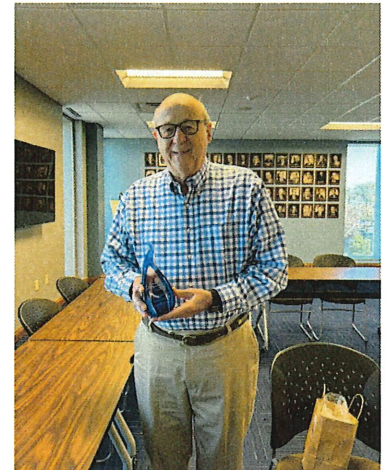
From left to right: Diane Ford, Ashtin Warren, Kenzie Andrews, Shelly Nichols, Candance Castlen Brake, Brenda Clayton, Sara Hemingway, Carol Bothwell, Madison Silvert

## *2023 Greater Owensboro Chamber of Commerce Member of the Year Award*

In January, we were honored and surprised to receive this recognition at the Chamber Annual Celebration. As long-standing members, we value the partnership that we have with their organization to develop local leaders through the Leadership Owensboro program.

## *Board Member Transitions*

Please join us in expressing gratitude to our retiring Board Member, **Phil Malone**. Marilyn and Bill Young were certainly the originators of the Foundation, yet Phil has been its architect. He has graciously served the Board since the inception of the organization. In his 25 years as a trustee, he was instrumental in establishing the structure and strategies of the Foundation. It is truly untold the number of lives his philanthropic efforts have touched. We will miss his astute, diligent counsel and leadership, but he has promised he is just a phone call away. Simply put, Phil is irreplaceable. We wish him all the best and thank him for his friendship and enduring contributions to the Foundation.



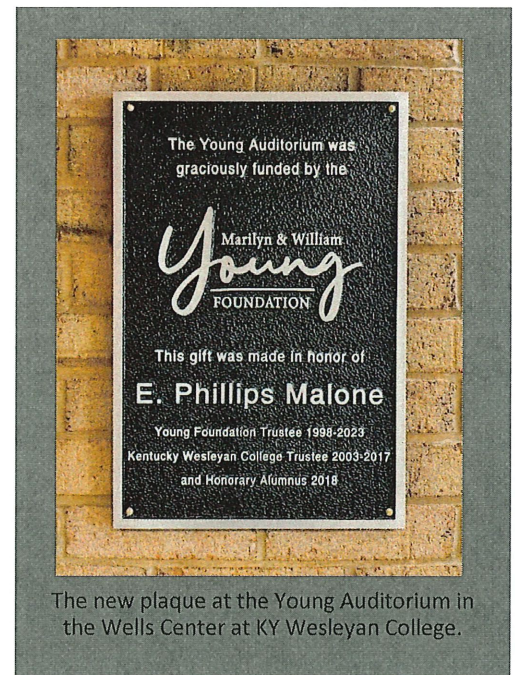
Phil Malone at his final meeting

We welcomed **Chad Benefield** to our Board in 2023. It would be difficult to find someone in the Owensboro region who does not know Chad! He is most generous to numerous local nonprofits in promoting their good work on local radio and entertaining the crowds at various fundraisers and civic events. Already an asset to our Board, we look forward to heeding his perspective and enthusiasm for creating the best community for all of our citizens.



Chad Benefield

Thank you for saying YES to joining us, Chad!



The new plaque at the Young Auditorium in the Wells Center at KY Wesleyan College.

*Dr. Bill and Susie Tyler awarded the  
Bill Young Community Leadership Award at the  
2023 Chamber of Commerce Annual Celebration*

Bill is a retired physician and Susie worked as a teacher and at the Owensboro Parks and Recreation Department. Together they operated the Weatherberry Bed and Breakfast for years. Bill and Susie donated 8 acres to start the Western Kentucky Botanical Garden in 1993. Under their guidance, the Garden grew from a soybean field to a valued part of our community featuring 13 themed gardens and a thriving education program. In 2022, for instance, the Garden was a destination for people from 47 states and 4 foreign countries. Bill and Susie donate countless hours to ensure that everything is running smoothly and operating efficiently. The foundation they laid with their dedication and unlimited enthusiasm for the Western Kentucky Botanical Garden ensures that the Garden will be here for many future generations to enjoy and experience the beauty of nature.



From left to right:  
Chamber Board Chair Brenda  
Clayton, Friend of the Tylers  
Marcia Carpenter, Young  
Foundation Board Chair  
Carol Bothwell and  
Chamber of Commerce CEO  
Candance Castlen Brake



Follow us on Facebook at  
The Marilyn and William  
Young Foundation



**Board of Directors:**

Carol Bothwell, *Chair*  
Madison Silvert, *Vice Chair*  
Kaitlyn Moore Cunningham,  
*Treasurer*  
Chad Benefield  
Diane Ford  
Dave Kirk  
E. Phillips Malone  
David Tandy

**Staff:**

Sara C. Hemingway,  
*Executive Director*  
Melissa Ashby,  
*Administrative Coordinator*

200 East Third Street  
Owensboro, KY 42303  
(270) 663-1043  
[www.mwyoungfoundation.org](http://www.mwyoungfoundation.org)