

# Wyoming Foundation

## Overview



Wyoming Foundation  
*A division of the Community Foundation  
for Greater Buffalo*

The Wyoming Foundation was created in 1976 by a group of community-minded individuals with a goal of improving the lives of Wyoming County residents. Today, almost 50 years later, it would be hard to find someone in the county who has not benefited from the programs and organizations that have received support from the many funds at the Wyoming Foundation.

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### THE WYOMING FOUNDATION CONTINUES TO:

- Provide a vehicle through which individuals support causes and organizations important to them.
- Maximize clients' generosity by investing and growing their charitable assets.
- Support organizations on behalf of clients.

### ASSETS

In 2007, the Wyoming Foundation formalized its relationship with the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo becoming a geographic division of the Community Foundation. With this relationship, the Wyoming Foundation now has a professional staff to support its work. As a part of the Community Foundation family, the Wyoming Foundation has access to an investment pool of over \$800 million, along with investment returns that place it among the top performing community foundations in the nation.

The Wyoming Foundation has approximately \$4.75 million in assets including:

- Client directed funds.
- Funds for specific issue areas.
- Funds supporting specific organizations.
- Academic scholarships.
- Funding left to address the changing needs of Wyoming County over time.
  - Currently, the Council has approximately \$25,000 yearly to direct toward its funding priorities.

### FUNDING PRIORITIES

- Provide educational opportunities to youth, which equip them for future careers.
- Support and promote arts/cultural opportunities in Wyoming County.
- The Wyoming Foundation will support initiatives and programs that can show maximum positive impact on Wyoming County.
- For the past two grant cycles, the Council has requested applications focusing on collaborative, innovative approaches addressing youth (18 and under) mental health.

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## Council Commitment

### CURRENT WYOMING FOUNDATION COUNCIL

Emily Conable  
*Perry*

Margaret Dadd  
*Attica*

Scott Gardner  
*Chair, Warsaw*

Pilar McKay  
*Perry*

Daryl McLaughlin  
*Perry*

Jamie Pankow  
*Castile*

Eric Szucs  
*Vice Chair, Arcade*

Jennifer Tyczka  
*Secretary/Treasurer,  
Cowlesville*

Maria Walczak  
*Attica*



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### WYOMING FOUNDATION COUNCIL MEMBERS RESPONSIBILITIES

- Support the organization's mission.
- Ensure effective organizational planning and monitor implementation of plans.
- Provide proper financial oversight.
- Ensure legal and ethical integrity and maintain accountability.
- Recruit and ensure orientation for new Council members and assess Council performance.
- Regular attendance at board meetings and the annual advance. Attendance at Wyoming Foundation events and initiatives as time allows.
- Ensure adequate resources for the organization to fulfill its mission.
- Act as an ambassador to enhance the organization's public standing and image.

### ESTIMATED TIME COMMITMENT

- Four quarterly Council meetings lasting up to two hours each.
  - Meetings are held both in person in Warsaw and virtually allowing Council members flexibility.
- Individual application review in advance of the yearly grant meetings will take about four to five hours.
- Council members may be asked to present grant checks in person to nonprofit boards. Time commitment will vary based on location.
- There are optional opportunities to serve on Community Foundation committees, such as the Thiel Advisory Council or Community Impact Committee.
- Additional time may be required for planning purposes, such as special events or strategic planning.
  - Strategic planning is done at the direction of the Council. The last plan was completed in 2023.
  - Special events are at the direction of the Council and are not frequent.