

DEKKO FOUNDATION 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

# Heart & Sole

35 PEOPLE WHO READ  
THIS REPORT WILL  
WIN A NEW PAIR  
OF SHOES.

*Are you feeling lucky?*

*It's true!* Simply by opening this annual report and reading through, 35 people will win a new pair of shoes. **Why would we give away shoes?** Well, we turned **35** in 2016 and, to celebrate, we sent **35** shoes to 35 people who personify the kind of work we want to support. But, shoes? **Oops!** *We need to back up.*



Tom Leedy President



*Carrie*  
alday

DeKalb County  
Central United School District

You see, Mr. Dekko, our founder, left us with the mission to foster economic freedom through education. There are a TON of ways we might have done this. We chose to make sure that children have the chance to gain skills, knowledge and character — vital building blocks for economic freedom — during their formative years.

Most people have the heart for children and want them to succeed. But we think more is needed! In our eyes, there is an effective, time-tested, approach to building skills, knowledge and character in young people that beats any other. That approach calls for adults — parents, teachers and communities— to STEP BACK before they act and thoroughly consider children's developmental needs. Once adults have considered children's needs and they tweak their thoughts a bit, they're ready to offer the children in their care the specific information, guidance and experiences they need to thrive.

The act of stepping back, then, becomes critical to preparing children for economic freedom.

For our birthday we found 35 people in our grantmaking areas who not only love children, but also step back with effectiveness and consider their specific developmental needs.

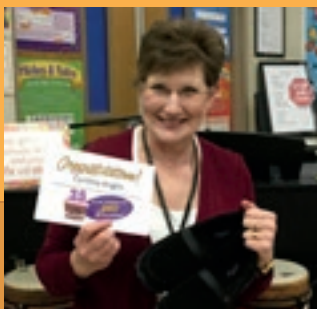
In this report, we'll show you some of the great things that happen when adults step back and consider what children need to grow and develop. You'll meet our 35-35th birthday shoe recipients. You'll learn how we're tracking the growth of skills, knowledge and character in young people.

*And you just might be among the lucky 35 who snag a new pair of shoes!*

Great things happen <sup>step back and</sup> when adults consider what children need to grow and develop.



IN HONOR OF OUR 35TH BIRTHDAY, WE RECOGNIZED 35 VERY SPECIAL FOLKS WHO PUT THEIR HEARTS AND SOLES INTO THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN.



2

Cynthia  
anglin

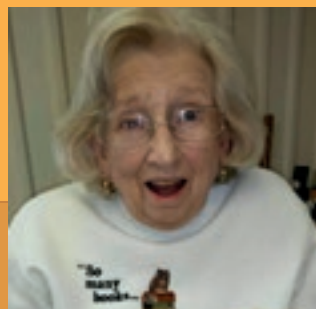
Athens City Schools



3

Vanessa  
bills

Whitley County  
Community Foundation



4

Joan  
callison

Murray Public Library



5

Jennifer  
danic

Steuben County  
Community Foundation



# Vocational study ➤ **confidence** and a



Danielle Stump says that during her freshman year at Garrett's high school, she wanted to be a brain surgeon. As a sophomore, she decided she couldn't take the sight of blood. Then what? Someone from the Impact Institute, a local vocational training center, spoke to Garrett's students about what the Institute had to offer.

Danielle went home and told her parents, "I think I want to go to Impact Institute and learn to weld."

"My parents don't say 'no' too much," she says, "as long as I'm trying my best and what I want to do isn't hurting myself or others." So, as a junior, Danielle spent most of her mornings learning to weld – afternoons she focused on academics in Garrett's Academy.

"Welding was not easy," Danielle says. "I didn't know people, and I'm a little shy, so that was hard. But there was an amazing woman there, Jeanne Hosted, and she just kept me going. She would say, 'You're the one who has to get up in the morning and look in the mirror and decide you can do it. It doesn't matter if you're scared or a girl, or too skinny or too tall or whatever—you can do it.'"

"I've come a long way," Danielle says, "especially since welding. I learned it's okay to make mistakes and you have to ask questions. I met kids who were different than me, and I looked up to them for their skills. I like those kids' way of being. They live life loud—confident and passionate. I really like that!"

SHE WAS GOING  
HAPPILY ALONG,  
JUST BEING AMAZING  
ACADEMICALLY,  
AND IT HAPPENED...



# offers **skills,** new *career arc.*



And somewhere in the striving and the scariness and the determination came an awareness of the properties of metal and of metallurgy as a field of study. A job shadowing opportunity followed with a local company, Metal Technologies. Out of it all Danielle, now a high school senior, knows where she's headed. For her, it's a career in mechanical engineering—making important things work using metal and a knowledge of metal properties.

Danielle was supported by parents willing to let a gifted academic student try vocational school. Her exploration was buoyed by a high school that offers variety and flexibility, a local company willing to offer exposure in her chosen field and a caring adult who cheered for Danielle but let her decide what was right for her. Danielle figured out the career puzzle on her own.

"I have been surrounded by the best adults," she says. "Just this morning, Mr. Stevens, the Calculus II teacher, told me that even though I can't fit his class in my schedule, he thinks he can use his free period to teach me. See what I mean?"

**THROUGH OUR GRANTMAKING AND  
ADVOCACY, WE'RE SUPPORTING ADULTS'  
GROWING UNDERSTANDING THAT  
YOUNG PEOPLE OF ALL AGES THRIVE  
(AND FIND THEIR PLACE IN LIFE)  
THROUGH EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY.**





# Grants

## Early Childhood DEVELOPMENT BIRTH TO AGE FIVE

ORGANIZATION	CITY/STATE	PROJECT TITLE	AMOUNT AWARDED	TOGETHER, WE'RE TRACKING:
Agape Day Care Ministry	Hudson, IN	Observation Windows	\$1,420	Children's increasing engagement in learning due to fewer interruptions.
Agape Day Care Ministry	Hudson, IN	American Montessori Conference	\$4,221	Teachers' increasing ability to prepare engaging learning environments.
Agape Day Care Ministry	Hudson, IN	Operating Support	\$17,600	The school's increasing financial sustainability.
Big Lake Church of God	Columbia City, IN	Outdoor Learning Environment	\$20,000	The increasing number of children who engage in independent learning outdoors.
Creative Play School	Auburn, IN	Equip for Excellence	\$1,000	The increasing number of children who can study in ways that match their learning style.
Early Learning Indiana	Indianapolis, IN	Partnerships for Early Learners	\$10,000	The progress of registered ministries as they build the capacity needed to enroll into a quality indicator system.
Garrett-Keyser-Butler Community School District	Garrett, IN	bloom! Experience Boost	\$2,025	The growing ability of Head Start assistants to understand child development principles.
Joe's Kids Inc.	Warsaw, IN	Operating support	\$20,000	The increasing number of children with developmental delays who receive early intervention.
Kosciusko Community YMCA	Warsaw, IN	Assess Early Learning Needs	\$17,000	The growing community understanding of the need for quality child care.
Lamoni Community Daycare	Lamoni, IA	Operating Support	\$82,000	Teachers' increasing ability to understand and meet the learning needs of children.
New Beginnings Preschool and Child Care	Milford, IN	Operating Support	\$25,000	The growing number of students that learn in quality early education environments.
North Webster Day Care	North Webster, IN	Business Upgrade	\$7,500	The increasing number of students who learn from an educationally stimulating curriculum.
North Winona Child Care Ministry	Winona Lake, IN	Operating Support	\$5,000	The school's increasing enrollment.
Oak Farm School	Avilla, IN	Operating Support	\$2,000,000	The school's increasing financial sustainability.
Tippecanoe Valley School Corporation	Mentone, IN	Mentone Kindergarten Readiness Center	\$10,000	Students' growth in ten critical learning areas.
Trinity Preschool	Creston, IA	Classroom Expansion	\$9,231	The increasing number of two-year-old students who build a foundation for learning.



To learn more about our grantmaking and see tips for grantseekers, visit our website [dekkofoundation.org/grant-making/](http://dekkofoundation.org/grant-making/).



6  
*Jo*  
drudge

Gas Light Playhouse  
Children's Theater



7  
*Abby*  
elliott

Mt. Ayr Community Schools



8  
*Amy*  
evans

Wawasee Community Schools



9  
*Dave*  
fox

Gene Stratton-Porter  
Memorial Society

# Awarded

## 2016

### Middle Childhood DEVELOPMENT

AGES SIX THROUGH TWELVE

Great things happen <sup>step back and</sup> when adults consider what children need to grow and develop.

ORGANIZATION	CITY/STATE	PROJECT TITLE	AMOUNT AWARDED	TOGETHER, WE'RE TRACKING:
Athens City Schools	Athens, AL	Musical Equipment	\$4,200	The building of musical skill which leads to increased self-confidence.
Cole Center Family YMCA	Kendallville, IN	Summer Day Camp	\$17,000	Campers' increasing confidence, self-esteem and skills.
Community Foundation of Whitley County	Columbia City, IN	Camp Invention Whitko	\$3,600	Campers' budding collaboration and confidence in science and engineering subjects.
DeKalb County Central United School District	Waterloo, IN	Experience Washington DC	\$4,125	Students' increasing belief that education is important to their future.
DeKalb County Central United School District	Waterloo, IN	Playground McKenney-Harrison School	\$60,000	The gaining of confidence in elementary students.
DeKalb County Central United School District	Waterloo, IN	Safe School Ambassador	\$10,000	A decrease in mean and hurtful behavior.
DeKalb County Central United School District	Waterloo, IN	SPARK Curriculum Training	\$2,562	Teachers' growing ability to help elementary students make healthier choices.
Diagonal Community Schools	Diagonal, IA	Sites for Learning	\$50,000	Children's increasing exposure to Developmental Assets.
East Noble School Corporation	Kendallville, IN	Camp Potawatomi Experience	\$31,500	Children's increasing number of real-life experiences, which lead to learning connections.
Lindsay Lane Christian Academy	Athens, AL	School Security	\$30,000	The increasing number of children who feel safe in their school environment.
Lutheran Outdoor Ministries	Angola, IN	Operating Support	\$20,000	An increase in the number of children who are supported in their development by positive college-aged role models.
Mount Ayr Community Schools	Mount Ayr, IA	Summer Reading Program	\$1,800	The increasing number of students who retain their reading skills over summer break.
Mount Pleasant Lutheran Church	Kendallville, IN	Apple Tree Center Operating Support	\$20,000	An increase in young people who can state, "I know at least five adults who are there to support me."
Tippecanoe Valley School Corporation	Akron, IN	Maker Space	\$5,000	The building of persistence and finishing what one starts.
Warsaw Community Schools	Warsaw, IN	Reusing Plastic Bottles	\$8,825	Students increasing skills in the areas of problem solving, math, reading and research.
Warsaw Community Schools	Warsaw, IN	Solar Energy	\$20,447	The increasing number of students that understand alternative strategies for energy production.
Warsaw Community Schools	Warsaw, IN	Omega Gardens	\$5,000	Students' ability to grow at least one pound of produce per week.
Warsaw Community Schools	Warsaw, IN	Science Central Visits	\$3,000	Students' increasing collaboration with peers and application of problem-solving skills.
Wawasee Community School Corporation	Syracuse, IN	Full STEM Ahead	\$4,000	The increasing number of students who persevere until they have solved a problem.
Wawasee Community School Corporation	Syracuse, IN	Fostering Innovation and Inquiry K-5	\$600,000	The increasing number of K-5 classrooms where students are engaged through innovation and inquiry.
West Noble School Corporation	Ligonier, IN	Cinco de Mayo Celebration	\$560	An increase in the number children exposed to Mexican culture and traditions.
West Noble School Corporation	Ligonier, IN	3D Design and Printing	\$1,500	Students increased engagement in learning.
West Noble School Corporation	Ligonier, IN	Growing Grape SEED for All Kids	\$75,000	An increase in the number of first-grade students who read at grade level by the end of the school year.



10  
Troy  
gaff

Central Noble Community  
School Corporation



11  
Melody  
glass

Cole YMCA/Albion Preschool



12  
Tracy  
hall

Chariton Community  
School District



13  
Karrie  
kirschbaum

Gary Cares

# *Grants Awarded* 2016

## *Adolescent* DEVELOPMENT AGES 13 – 18

ORGANIZATION	CITY/STATE	PROJECT TITLE	AMOUNT AWARDED	TOGETHER, WE'RE TRACKING:
Athens City Schools	Athens, AL	Empowering Students Through Literacy	\$20,000	The increase of students who feel comfortable in the school library and with reading.
Athens City Schools	Athens, AL	Share the AP Love	\$67,000	The increasing number of teachers who can apply healthy risk taking and problem solving in their classroom.
Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Northeast Indiana	Fort Wayne, IN	Youth Mentoring Programs	\$30,000	The increasing number of at-risk youth matched with a volunteer adult mentor
Butler Youth Evangelistic Association	Butler, IN	Entrance Security Upgrade	\$5,500	The increasing number of children who report that they feel safe.
Cahoots Coffee Café	Angola, IN	Summer Workshop	\$5,000	Adults' increasing tools and strategies for interacting with youth.
City of Kendallville	Kendallville, IN	Mayor's Youth Advisory Council	\$3,500	Young peoples' increasing contact with elected officials and community leaders.
DeKalb County Central United School District	Auburn, IN	Field Trip to the Museum of Science and Industry	\$3,300	Students' increasing exposure to possible career choices.
Gary Cares	Gary, MN	Youth Philanthropy Shock and Awe	\$60,000	An increase in the number of connections between young people and adults.
Indiana Troopers Youth Services	Indianapolis, IN	State Police Summer Youth Camps	\$3,500	Young peoples' increasing respect for themselves and others.
Iowa Association of Business and Industry Foundation	Des Moines, IA	Business Horizons Experience	\$1,200	Campers' increasing awareness of skills and abilities that lead to future careers.
Kosciusko County Community Foundation	Warsaw, IN	Youth Philanthropy KEYS	\$30,000	Young philanthropists' development of grantmaking and problem-solving skills.
Kosciusko County Educational Development Group	Warsaw, IN	Donor Build	\$10,000	The increasing number of high school seniors on track to graduate.
Lakewood Park Christian School	Auburn, IN	Library Update	\$10,000	The increasing number of students who accomplish their reading goals.
Limestone Area Community Foundation	Athens, AL	Ph-alling into Philanthropy	\$4,000	An increase in the number of young people who participate in community service.
Limestone County Schools	Athens, AL	Classroom Improvement	\$5,000	Science students' progression from observer to participant.
Limestone County Schools	Ardmore, AL	Rags to Riches	\$19,400	The increasing number of young people who learn life lessons through marching band participation.
Lindsay Lane Christian Academy	Athens, AL	Robotics Challenge	\$5,000	The increasing number of young people who gain the skills of persistence, problem solving, critical thinking and teamwork.
M.S.D. of Steuben County	Angola, IN	Academic Competition Support	\$335	Students' increasing skills in the areas of time management, mastery of subjects and confidence.
M.S.D. of Steuben County	Angola, IN	High School Art	\$2,500	Students' increasing artistic skill and confidence.
Murray Community School Corporation	Murray, IA	3-G--Generations of Growing in a Greenhouse	\$30,000	Students' increasing hands-on understanding of how food is grown and produced.
South Central Iowa Community Foundation	Chariton, IA	Youth Philanthropy HELP	\$27,750	Students' increasing passion for community service and involvement.
South Central Iowa Community Foundation	Chariton, IA	Youth Philanthropy YACC	\$17,000	Young peoples' increasing community leadership.
Steuben County Community Foundation	Angola, IN	Youth Philanthropy FIST	\$8,000	Young peoples' increasing understanding of careers and how school connects to their future.
Teen Parents Succeeding	Syracuse, IN	Teen and Preschool Education	\$12,000	Teen parents' increasing ability to care for themselves and their young children.
The Learning Center of Southwest Iowa	Creston, IA	Improving Instruction	\$6,253	Teachers' increasing confidence in supporting students through math challenges.
Wawasee Community School Corporation	Syracuse, IN	Early Career Opportunities	\$12,500	Students' increasing likelihood of high school graduation.
West Noble School Corporation	Ligonier, IN	Computer Science Hands-on Components	\$1,000	Young peoples' mastery of problem solving and increasing self-motivation.
West Noble School Corporation	Ligonier, IN	Arts Field Trip	\$1,000	Young peoples' increasing stage comfort
Westview School Corporation	Topeka, IN	Career Pathways	\$53,700	Students' increasing woodworking skills which will lead to employment opportunities.
Whitley County Consolidated Schools	Columbia City, IN	Firefighter Training	\$80,000	The increasing number of students who earn firefighter certifications.
Windsong Pictures	Fort Wayne, IN	Technological Mobility to Serve Students	\$3,400	Students' growing confidence and ability to set future goals.
Wunderkammer Company	Fort Wayne, IN	Teen Art Workshops	\$1,500	Students' growing creative thinking skills.
Youth for Christ of Northern Indiana	Fort Wayne, IN	City Life DeKalb County	\$60,000	The increasing number of donors willing to support youth development programming.





Great things happen *step back and*  
when adults consider  
what children need  
to grow and develop.

## Community DEVELOPMENT

ORGANIZATION	CITY, STATE	PROJECT TITLE	AMOUNT AWARDED	TOGETHER, WE'RE TRACKING:
Auburn Arts Commission	Auburn, IN	Sculptures on the Square III: The Magic of Metal	\$15,000	Increasing community pride; increasing downtown foot traffic.
City of Ardmore	Ardmore, AL	Library Children's Room	\$55,000	The increasing number of children who build the habit of reading for pleasure.
City of Columbia City	Columbia City, IN	Aquatics Facility	\$1,000,000	The increasing number of children who learn life skills including punctuality and working toward a goal.
City of Gary	Gary, MN	Gary Pines Nature Trail	\$30,000	Families' increasing opportunity to enjoy outdoor experiences.
City of Kendallville	Kendallville, IN	Pavilion	\$28,000	Increasing the number of places young people can gather to interact with role models.
City of Kendallville	Kendallville, IN	Outdoor Sports Complex	\$1,000,000	The increasing number of young people who enjoy sports and learn from positive adult role models.
City of Lamoni	Lamoni, IA	Central Park Improvements	\$25,000	The increasing number of safe, public recreational spaces families can enjoy together.
City of Osceola	Osceola, IA	Safe Routes to School	\$15,000	The increasing number of children that take healthy walks to school.
Clear Lake Township Land Conservancy	Fremont, IN	Capacity Building	\$8,500	The organization's increasing sustainability and visibility.
Community Foundation DeKalb county	Auburn, IN	Learning Link Outcome Framework	\$9,750	DeKalb County's increasingly clear pathways to living wage jobs.
Community Foundation of Whitley County	Columbia City, IN	Building Unrestricted Grantmaking Capacity	\$100,000	The organization's increasing ability to address needs and advance opportunities.
Courthouse Square Preservation Society	Albion, IN	ALL-IN Block Party	\$3,000	Residents' growing knowledge of the community's past, present and future.
East Noble School Corporation	Kendallville, IN	50th Anniversary Recognition	\$8,000	Residents' increasing awareness of arts programming.
Eckhart Public Library	Auburn, IN	Heart of the Park	\$10,000	Children's increasing community roots.
Fort Wayne Zoological Society	Fort Wayne, IN	ZSI and Zoomobile Programs	\$95,000	Students' increasing skills in data collection, observation and critical thinking.
Freedom Academy	Kendallville, IN	Operating Support	\$250,000	The increasing number of students who choose to improve their workforce skills and abilities.
Gene Stratton-Porter Memorial Society	Rome City, IN	School Programming	\$24,000	The increasing number of nature career possibilities offered to student visitors.
Grace College and Seminary	Winona Lake, IN	Center for Lakes and Streams Operating Support	\$25,000	Students' increasing awareness that their actions impact the environment around them.
Graceland University	Lamoni, IA	Evaluating the Impact of Youth Programming	\$5,000	Staff members' increasing knowledge of how to evaluate program effectiveness.
Graceland University	Lamoni, IA	AmeriCorps Youth Launch	\$412,800	The increasing number of students who have adult champions in their lives. Students' growth in Developmental Assets.
Harold W. McMillen Center for Health Education	Fort Wayne, IN	Operating Support	\$25,000	Students' increasing knowledge of healthy habits and good decision making.
Kosciusko County Community Foundation	Warsaw, IN	Capacity for the future	\$190,000	The organization's increasing ability to address needs and advance opportunities.
LaGrange County	LaGrange, IN	David Rogers Country Fair	\$3,000	Students' increasing appreciation for the struggles of pioneers.
Limestone Area Community Foundation	Athens, AL	If You're Reading This—Get Involved	\$19,000	Young peoples' increasing community service commitment.
Noble Trails	Kendallville, IN	Fishing Line Trail	\$500,000	The increasing number of safe public places families can enjoy together.
Norman County Agricultural Society	Ada, MN	Wildlife Museum	\$1,500	The increasing number of children per year that are exposed to the history of their community.
Steuben County Literacy Coalition	Angola, IN	Legal Counsel for Project Start-up	\$2,500	The Coalition's increasing ability to plan, and provide for, its future projects.
Stone's Trace Historical Society	Ligonier, IN	Building Repairs and Programming	\$10,000	Students' increasing understanding of history and the struggles of pioneers.
Syracuse-Wawasee Park Foundation	Syracuse, IN	Park Design for Conklin Bay Boardwalk	\$13,584	The Park's increasing ability to complete its planned future trail.
Town of Milford	Milford, IN	Waubee Park Playground	\$10,000	Children's increased safety and enjoyment of the park.
YMCA of DeKalb County	Auburn, IN	Christian Service Expansion	\$30,000	The YMCA's increasing ability to share Christian values and principles.
YMCA of DeKalb County	Auburn, IN	Youth Development Complex and Family Pool	\$1,000,000	The increasing number of participants in Christian character-building sports programs.

# Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the accompanying modified cash basis financial statements of Dekko Foundation, Inc., (Foundation) which comprise the statements of financial position as of August 31, 2016 and 2015, and the related statements of activities for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

## Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 1; this includes determining that the modified cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Foundation's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Foundation's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

## Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Dekko Foundation, Inc. as of August 31, 2016 and 2015, and the changes in its net assets for the years then ended in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 1.

## Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter. Fort Wayne, Indiana November 18, 2016.

BKD, LLP





14

*Sherri*  
lackey

Westview School Corporation



15

*Maggie*  
lindsey

City of Mt. Ayr, Iowa



16

*Ben*  
maples

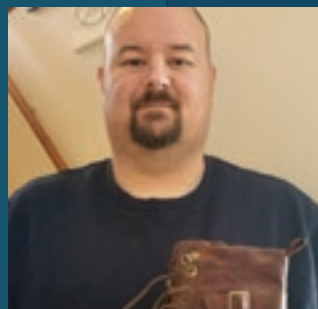
Limestone County Schools



17

mayor  
*Ronnie*  
marks

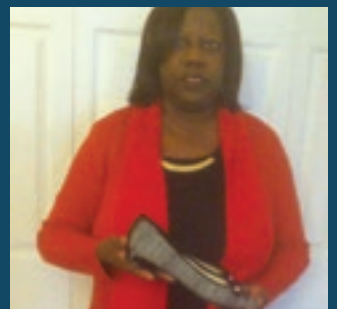
City of Athens



18

*Sean*  
martin

Warden, Whitley County Jail



19

*Deborah*  
mcdonald

David's Temple Missionary  
Baptist Church



**STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION –AUGUST 31, 2016 AND 2015– Modified Cash Basis**

	2016	2015
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 7,002,531	\$ 4,678,408
Investments	187,830,230	194,335,861
Property and equipment, net	140,294	92,517
Total assets	<u>\$ 194,973,055</u>	<u>\$ 199,106,786</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Payroll tax withholdings	\$ 2,414	\$ 5,575
<b>Unrestricted Net Assets</b>	<u>194,970,641</u>	<u>199,101,211</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 194,973,055</u>	<u>\$ 199,106,786</u>

	2016		2015	
	Total	Percent of Total	Total	Percent of Total
<b>Receipts</b>				
Contributions	\$ 319,903	3.98%	\$ 319,903	1.63%
Interest and dividend income	4,957,376	61.63	4,863,927	24.83
Net realized gains on investments	2,765,757	34.39	14,402,930	73.52
Other	265	0.00	4,706	0.02
Total receipts	<u>8,043,301</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>19,591,466</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
<b>Disbursements and Expenses</b>				
Grants	9,294,488	76.35%	10,662,208	78.74%
Administrative	906,560	7.45	790,060	5.83
Library	1,368	0.01	1,242	0.01
Depreciation	8,004	0.07	8,693	0.06
Utilities	16,714	0.14	15,293	0.11
Office supplies	7,608	0.06	6,842	0.05
Equipment	13,595	0.11	5,101	0.04
Repair and maintenance	83,941	0.69	94,719	0.70
Dues and membership	20,982	0.17	22,220	0.16
Training	23,894	0.20	37,675	0.28
Travel	148,984	1.22	122,536	0.91
Postage	10,550	0.09	4,102	0.03
Insurance	28,111	0.23	25,882	0.19
Professional fees	333,957	2.74	357,601	2.64
Investment management fee	968,422	7.95	1,171,436	8.65
Federal excise tax and unrelated business income tax	164,386	1.35	152,003	1.12
Other	142,307	1.17	64,370	0.48
Total disbursements and expenses	<u>12,173,871</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>13,541,983</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Change in Unrestricted Net Assets	(4,130,570)		6,049,483	
Unrestricted Net Assets, Beginning of Year	<u>199,101,211</u>		<u>193,051,728</u>	
Unrestricted Net Assets, End of Year	<u>\$ 194,970,641</u>		<u>\$ 199,101,211</u>	



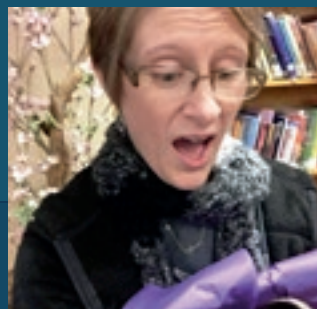
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*Geraldine*  
mcdonald

David's Temple Missionary  
Baptist Church



21  
*Eva*  
merkel

Lakeland School Corporation



22  
*Andrea*  
michael

Tippecanoe Valley  
School Corporation



23  
*Richard*  
miller

Angola Kid's League, Inc.

NOTE 1: NATURE OF OPERATIONS AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature of Operations

Dekko Foundation, Inc. (Foundation) was incorporated as a not-for-profit foundation in 1981, under the laws of the state of Indiana. The mission of the Foundation is to foster economic freedom through education in the areas where its founder, Mr. Chester E. Dekko, had an interest. For that reason, the Foundation focuses its grant making in portions of Alabama, Florida, Indiana, Iowa and Minnesota. Primary sources of revenue for the Foundation are estate contributions and investment income. Mr. Dekko's intent for his Foundation was to give young people the opportunity for high quality experiences that would lay the groundwork for the development of financial independence. To carry out that mission, the Dekko Foundation makes grants to not-for-profit organizations that promote developmentally appropriate experiences. The Foundation also invests in the capacity of youth and community development organizations to sustain and elevate their work.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with the Foundation's modified cash basis of accounting requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of receipts and disbursements and other changes in net assets during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on a modified cash basis of accounting which differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as follows:

- Cash paid to charitable organizations and vendors is expensed when paid, not when the grant is approved or when the obligation is incurred as required by GAAP.
- Investments are recorded at cost, not fair value, and investment income is recorded when received, not when earned, as required by GAAP. In addition, certain disclosures are not provided regarding the nature of certain investments, as required by GAAP.

Net Asset Classifications

The following class of net assets is maintained:

Unrestricted Net Assets – The unrestricted net asset class includes general assets and liabilities of the Foundation. The unrestricted net assets of the Foundation may be used at the discretion of management to support the Foundation's purposes and operations.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Foundation considers all liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents. At August 31, 2016 and 2015, cash equivalents consisted primarily of money market accounts with brokers. At August 31, 2016, the Foundation's cash accounts exceeded federally insured limits by approximately \$1,532,000.

Investments

Marketable securities and other investments are recorded at cost or, if donated, at the fair value at the date of gift. Other investments are comprised of nonmarketable securities, such as private partnerships and limited liability corporations. Investment gains and losses are recognized upon realization using the specific-identification method.

Income Taxes

The Foundation is exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and a similar provision of state law. The Foundation is considered to be a private foundation under Section 509(a) of the Code. The Foundation is subject to excise tax on investment income. In addition, the Internal Revenue Service requires that certain minimum distributions be made in accordance with a specified formula.

The Foundation files tax returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction. With a few exceptions, the Foundation is no longer subject to U.S. federal examinations by tax authorities for years before 2013.

Property and Equipment

Expenditures for property and equipment and items, which substantially increase the useful lives of existing assets, are capitalized at cost. The Foundation provides for depreciation on the straightline method at rates designed to depreciate the costs of assets over estimated useful lives as follows:

	YEARS
Furnishings and equipment	5 - 7
Buildings and improvements	15 - 31

NOTE 2: INVESTMENTS

The Foundation's investments are as follows:

	2016		2015	
	COST	FAIR VALUE	COST	FAIR VALUE
U.S. Government and U.S. Government agency securities	\$ 15,456,835	\$ 15,624,072	\$ 12,443,768	\$ 12,413,765
Equities	115,583,916	144,257,485	88,979,808	116,622,761
Corporate bonds	18,349,343	19,614,919	47,910,690	46,171,990
Nonmarketable securities	38,440,136	41,503,920	45,001,595	53,320,484
Total	\$ 187,830,230	\$ 221,000,396	\$ 194,335,861	\$ 228,529,000

The fair value is based on quoted prices in active markets, if available. In the absence of readily determinable fair values, the fair value of alternative investments is based on the net asset value of the fund either provided by the investment's fund manager or general partner or estimated by management based on audited financial statements received from the respective investment's fund manager or general partner.

Investment securities, in general, are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, credit and overall market volatility. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the notes to the financial statements.

NOTE 3: PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

The Foundation's property and equipment are as follows:

	2016	2015
Buildings and improvements	\$ 561,027	\$ 511,256
Furnishings and equipment	202,936	209,713
	763,963	720,969
Accumulated depreciation	(623,669)	(628,452)
Total	\$ 140,294	\$ 92,517

NOTE 4: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

The Foundation maintains a 403(b) defined-contribution plan for the benefit of substantially all of its employees, which allows for both employee and employer contributions. The Foundation's contribution consists of a discretionary contribution of 10 percent of eligible compensation, and a matching contribution of 100 percent of employee contributions, up to 5 percent of eligible employee compensation. The Foundation's contribution to the plan was \$87,345 and \$84,138 for 2016 and 2015, respectively.

NOTE 5: RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During 2016 and 2015, a portion of the Foundation's investments were managed by an investment advisor who is a related party of the Foundation in the amount (cost basis) of \$32,543,070 and \$32,287,469 as of August 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively. The investment advisory fee (which was paid to the brokerage firm, not the related party advisory firm) was \$210,950 and \$237,154 for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively.

NOTE 6: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Subsequent events have been evaluated through the date of the Independent Auditor's Report, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.



24  
*Terri*  
newton

Diagonal Community  
Preschool



25  
*Mary*  
niklaus

Norman County West



26  
*Tom*  
ray

Warsaw Community Schools



27  
*Marc*  
roberg

High Lakes Outdoor Alliance

# About Our Founder



## OUR FOUNDATION IS THE LEGACY OF MR. CHESTER E. (CHET) DEKKO.

Mr. Dekko was born in 1925 in the town of Ada, Minnesota. His development was shaped by the love of a close-knit family and the realities of the Great Depression. Mr. Dekko's experiences forged in him a dedication to family and a certainty that education, hard work and self-reliance were the keys to a life of independence and choice.

In 1952, Mr. Dekko and a partner (Mr. Lyall Morrill) took on the significant personal and financial risk of starting a manufacturing business. Employing their similar convictions and work ethic, the partners' risk paid off as their business grew to be one of the largest privately-held operations in northeast Indiana.

In 1981, Mr. Dekko used his proceeds from that business venture to start the Dekko Foundation. As he considered how he might leave a legacy, Mr. Dekko consulted friends and family, and studied the wisdom of our country's founding fathers and thought leaders such as Milton and Rose Friedman.

**ECONOMIC  
.. FREEDOM ..  
THE ULTIMATE LIBERTY  
TO ACT UPON CHOICES  
REGARDING ONE'S  
OWN LIFE.**

Again, his convictions played a part in his decision making, as Mr. Dekko chose for his Foundation the mission of fostering economic freedom through education. Mr. Dekko passed away in 1992, but his passion continues through the Dekko Foundation. Each investment we make is designed to help young people build the skills, knowledge and character that will prepare them for the kind of life to which Mr. Dekko aspired: A life that offers the maximum opportunity for personal independence and choice.



**WATCH A VIDEO  
.. ABOUT MR. DEKKO'S LIFE ..**

[DEKKOFOUNDATION.ORG/OUR-FOUNDER/](http://DEKKOFOUNDATION.ORG/OUR-FOUNDER/)



28

*Arlene*  
rodriguez

Judy A. Morrill Recreation Center



29

*Tammy*  
schneider

East Noble School Corporation  
Middle School Cafeteria



30

*Rob*  
stanly

The Crossing Educational Center



31

*Greg*  
sutherland

Graceland University



# About The Foundation

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Erica Dekko  
Tad Dekko  
Phil Salsbery

## STAFF

Mary Allen *Grants Manager*  
Kim Davidson *Program Officer*  
Victoria Goodwin *VP of Youthful Ideas*  
Alyssa Gulick *VP of Youthful Ideas*  
Ashlee Guthrie *Program Officer*  
Tom Leedy *President*  
Robin McCormick *Controller*  
Jenna Ott *Program Officer*  
Joe Pounds *Director of Adolescent Well-Being*  
Kimberly Schroeder *Program Officer*  
Sharon Smith *Program Director*

## CONTACT

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f @DekkoFoundation

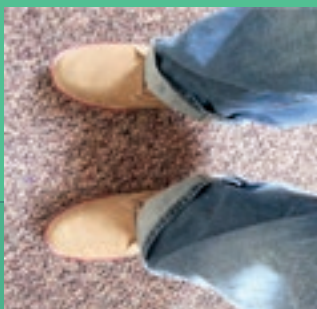
## GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE

Mike Axel *Kendallville, IN*  
Jordan Gehlhaar *Humeston, IA*  
Pam Gunnerson *Ada, MN*  
Toni Landers *Afton, IA*  
Grace Martin *Athens, AL*  
Suzanne Rainey *Athens, AL*  
Jeff Thornburgh *Leesburg, IN*

## INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

Scott Frick *Kendallville, IN*  
Dave Hunter *Kendallville, IN*  
Chuck Schrimper *Fort Wayne, IN*

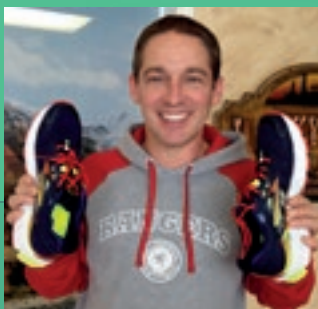
.. MISSION ..  
FOSTERING  
ECONOMIC FREEDOM  
THROUGH  
EDUCATION



32

Josh  
vargas

Strong Tower Worship Center



33

Daron  
white

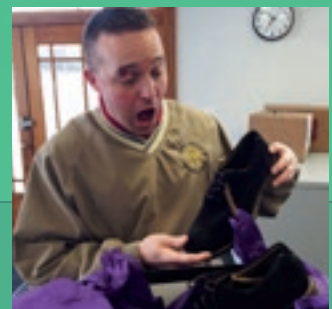
All Star Soccer Academy



34

Aaron  
wilcoxson

Kosciusko County KEYS



35

David  
worman

Central Noble Community  
School Corporation

# Achieving ECONOMIC Freedom

HERE'S HOW WE THINK IT WORKS

Great things happen when adults *step back and* consider what children need to grow and develop.

5

Young adults have the economic freedom they need to nurture the next generation and even be philanthropic!

4

People enter young adulthood with a vocational plan(s) already underway.

3

Children and young people gain the skills, knowledge and character they need from experiences offered by caring adults.

SOLE



2

Wanting children to thrive, adults *step back* to seek information about children's development and the experiences they need to thrive.

HEART



1

Adults—parents, educators and community members—love children and care deeply about their future happiness and livelihood.



TO APPLY FOR A GRANT

Visit [DEKKOFOUNDATION.ORG](http://DEKKOFOUNDATION.ORG) and click on **APPLY NOW**  
or discuss your idea with us at 260-347-1278