



Community Foundation of Wabash County

We're here for giving. We're here for good.

Press Release

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Dr. Howard Liebengood leaves \$1.6 Million to Community Foundation **Largest single gift in history will support grants, operations**



The late Dr. Howard Liebengood of Silver Lake began working with his professional advisor, Ralph Naragon, many years ago to create an estate plan that would accomplish his goals. A \$1.6 million gift to the Community Foundation of Wabash County was part of that plan.

This bequest is the largest single gift in the Community Foundation of Wabash County's 55-year history. The funds will add to four endowments Liebengood established during his lifetime and will create three additional endowments that reflect his areas of interest. These gifts will benefit both Wabash and Kosciusko Counties. His endowments include:

- \$500k for the Dr. Howard and Helen Liebengood Scholarship Fund (created in 1997),
- \$300k for the Howard B. Liebengood Donor Advised Fund (created in 2001),
- \$252.5k for the Howard B. Liebengood, D.V.M. and Helen F. Liebengood Cornerstone Endowment,
- \$200k for the Dr. Howard B. & Helen F. Liebengood Good Deeds Endowment (created in 2002),
- \$200k for the Ruth Scholer Liebengood Memorial Donor Advised Fund (created in 1994),
- \$143.3k for the Howard B. Liebengood, D.V.M. and Helen F. Liebengood 4-H Endowment (Kosciusko County)
- \$100k for the Howard B. Liebengood, D.V.M. and Helen F. Liebengood Kosciusko County Animal Shelter Endowment

According to his financial advisor, Ralph Naragon, Liebengood chose the Community Foundation of Wabash County to receive these funds because it provided a great deal of flexibility.

That flexibility allowed Liebengood to create a variety of funds including: designated endowments that will provide support for 4-H and the Kosciusko County Animal Shelter; donor advised funds that allow Liebengood's designee to direct funds to charitable organizations and programs; and unrestricted endowments that add to the Foundation's "Good Deeds Endowments," which fund the three competitive grant cycles each year. The establishment of the Howard B. Liebengood, D.V.M. and Helen F. Liebengood Cornerstone Endowment capped off the Foundation's Cornerstone Campaign. The Foundation's Development Planning Committee has been working to reach \$500,000 in operating support since 2006.

"We are truly awed by Dr. Liebengood's gift," says Foundation Executive Director Tracy Trump, "We'll never truly be able to measure the impact of his decision to include the Foundation in his estate plans."
