

# 2020 IMPACT & ANNUAL REPORTS



## 2020: A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER

2020 was undoubtedly one of the most challenging years in all of our lives. But we persevered. It takes a village to thrive—let alone survive—during such difficult times. As always, the Wright State University **COMMUNITY** stepped up to the challenge—nearly **\$10 million** in support!

The **COMPASSION** of our alumni, donors, community partners, faculty, and staff during this unprecedented year was beyond compare. You helped our students when they needed it the most. Your **COLLABORATION** allowed us to continue to provide a quality education under the most unusual of circumstances.

As we present this impact report to you for 2020, please know that any statistic you see is so much more than a number. It represents a gift that made a difference in the life of a Wright State student—a gift that transformed a dream into a reality. And in the uncertain year that was 2020, your gift might have been the deciding factor as to whether a student could stay in school.

Your **CONTRIBUTION** will not be forgotten. Thank you for your continued support of Wright State and our students. Here's to better days ahead!



COMMUNITY

COMPASSION

COLLABORATION

CONTRIBUTION



# COMMUNITY

## HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED

Thanks to a \$50,000 grant from the George B. Quatman Foundation, Fifth Third Bank Trustee, a new garden will be constructed on the Dayton Campus to honor military veterans and those individuals who serve and support them. Located outside Allyn Hall, the Veteran and Military Center (VMC) Champion Garden will consist of a 1,000-square-foot paver patio with a pergola, benches, tables, and landscaping.

Members of the community are invited to honor special veterans in their lives by purchasing an inscribed patio paver or an inscribed dog tag that will hang from the pergola.

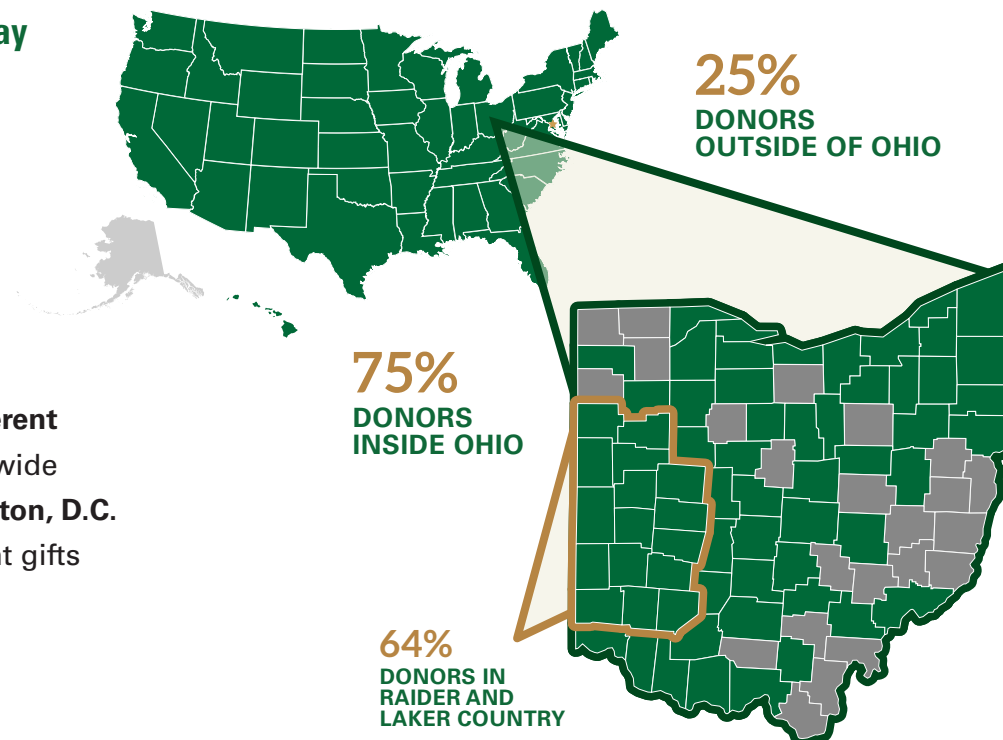
The stories behind the names in the VMC Champion Garden will be captured through a variety of narratives, including digital text, audio recordings, and videos. As students and visitors enjoy the peace and tranquility of the garden, they will also be able to interact with the names that surround them by reading or listening to their stories.



“Fifth Third values veterans and the service they have provided for our country,” said Doug Compton, Senior Vice President and Dayton City Executive, Fifth Third Bank. “The Quatman Foundation gift will be a way to honor these service men and women, while also creating a welcoming space for them and all who support them.” Learn more at [wright.edu/champion-garden](https://wright.edu/champion-garden).

Donors from a from an array of diverse communities stepped up to support Wright State University in 2020.

We had donors from **65 different counties in Ohio** and nationwide from **49 states plus Washington, D.C.** Beyond the U.S., donors sent gifts from Canada, Qatar, and the United Kingdom.



# COMPASSION

## HELPING STUDENTS IN NEED

In a beautiful display of compassion and empathy, the Wright State family came together in 2020 to help our students when they needed it the most. As the COVID-19 pandemic placed the entire world on lockdown, alumni, faculty, staff, and community partners quickly stepped up to donate \$67,287 to Wright State students in need.

Many students who faced unemployment due to the pandemic were struggling to put food on the table or keep a roof over their heads. “Work was my only source of income,” said one Wright State student. “I have no extra money to spend on things I need the most, mainly groceries and toiletries. I’m not sure where my next meal may come from.”

As one of the leading donors to the Wright State Student Emergency Relief Campaign, the Dayton Foundation made a grant from the COVID-19 Response Fund for Greater Dayton and directed the gift to the Raider Food Pantry.



“The ability for students to learn and continue their pursuit of higher education degrees has been challenged during these times, and students who are food insecure are doubly challenged,” said Barbra Stonerock, vice president of community engagement for the Dayton Foundation. “It is our hope that this partnership with Wright State’s Raider Food Pantry helps to ease this burden for students in need.”

Helping a student realize their educational dreams is perhaps the ultimate gift of compassion.

In 2020, **1,873 donors** showed their compassion for our students by donating **\$3,521,160.67** to **362 different scholarships** across all areas of campus.

**\$67,287**  
AMOUNT RAISED FOR  
STUDENT EMERGENCY RELIEF CAMPAIGN

MORE  
THAN **\$17,000**  
PURCHASED IN GIFT CARDS TO HELP  
WRIGHT STATE STUDENTS BUY GROCERIES

**529**  
DONORS  
ALUMNI, FACULTY,  
STAFF, AND  
COMMUNITY  
PARTNERS



# COLLABORATION

## SEALING A NEW TRADITION

For many students, the official seal of Wright State University has always been something of a mystery. Most students never even see it until they receive their diplomas. To help students become more familiar with this symbol of university pride and tradition, the '67 Society student organization devised a plan to permanently display the seal on campus.

After extensive collaboration with Office of Marketing staff and the university's facilities team to determine logistics and cost, the '67 Society received a Students First Fund grant from the Wright State University Foundation to finance the project.

Installed in September 2020 in a large granite rock near Hamilton Hall plaza, the 300-pound bronze seal measures 48 inches in diameter and is inscribed with the words "ad docendum," "investigandum," and "serviendum" —the Latin words for Wright State's founding principles of teaching, research, and service.

With the university's seal now prominently featured on campus, students will become familiar with it long before graduation. When they look at their diplomas



as alumni in the years to come, the seal will serve as a fond reminder of their days at Wright State.

"They can think back to the positive times they had on campus and the great things that Wright State was able to offer them," said Aaron Brautigam, a senior human resource management major and member of the '67 Society. "It provides a deeper level of meaning to your experience at Wright State. You're tying back all of the positive memories you made on campus when you see that image."

**At Wright State, our faculty and staff understand that by collaborating together between all areas of campus we can provide our students with a more cohesive educational experience. Our donors understand that too.**

In 2020, nearly **\$10 million** in charitable giving impacted every area of campus—from lecture halls to libraries, labs to locker rooms.

Academics	\$1,274,546.32
Athletics	\$366,153.53
Facilities and Equipment	\$132,769.00
Faculty Support	\$1,270,025.00
Gifts in Kind	\$910,506.21
Library	\$23,404.27
Programs and Services	\$1,828,431.92
Research	\$42,703.00
Scholarships	\$3,521,160.67
Unrestricted	\$594,206.10
<b>\$9,963,906.02</b>	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	

# CONTRIBUTION

## BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE

When Wright State alumnus Vercie Lark and his wife, Lisa, created the Hammond and Lark Family Fund, they wanted to help a group of students who don't normally receive financial assistance. With high-achieving students often earning scholarships based on their academic merit and lower-income students frequently helped by grants, the couple directed their gift to assist students who are caught in the middle and can easily be overlooked.

"Those in the middle are the ones who really struggle financially," said Vercie. "They may be working one or more jobs while going to college or they may simply need some additional money to stay in college."

For mechanical engineering major Donald Seaborn, the Larks' scholarship has been a godsend.

"Scholarships like these make it so much easier for people of my background. I can focus more on school without having to work as hard," said Seaborn, who has



juggled up to three jobs while going to school full time. "Once I graduate, there is nothing looming over my head. I can focus on building my future."

"You don't have to wait until you're rich to make a difference," said Vercie. "You can do it at any time in your life if you're willing to give. Give a little. If you do that every year, it adds up."

**Exactly 5,000 alumni and friends made commitments to Wright State University in 2020, compared to 4,737 in 2019. That's a 5% increase during a year when all of us were doing more with less.**

### IT TAKES MORE THAN A VILLAGE

- Per the Ohio Revised Code, municipal corporations with a population of 5,000 or more are considered cities.
- 5,000 is nearly double the population of the nearby Village of Enon.

WHO GAVE	NUMBER OF DONORS	FIRST-TIME DONORS	TOTAL
Alumni	2,558	339	\$1,607,700.65
Corporations	179	48	\$5,950,752.14
Foundations	69	14	\$819,315.98
Friends	2,442	736	\$1,586,137.25
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>5,248</b>	<b>1,137</b>	<b>\$9,963,906.02</b>

	DONOR COUNT	TOTAL COMMITMENTS
Donors who Gave Commitments of \$50 or Less	2,290	\$78,833.59

THIS ANNUAL REPORT IS A LITTLE DIFFERENT.

Normally we proudly report the number of events, thousands of participants, hundreds of volunteers, and volunteer hours, but 2020 made in-person events and volunteering impossible.

Like many institutions when COVID-19 hit, we had to pivot. We wanted to continue to engage our alumni and rolled out a variety of virtual events and opportunities. We introduced virtual music bingo, virtual alumni service opportunities, virtual Alumni Speaker Series, virtual network and society meetings, a virtual Homecoming, and the popular Raider on the Rocks virtual mixology class.

We have also increased our social media engagement strategies with more questions, polls, and contests. While we miss seeing our alumni in person, we were thrilled to see alumni in regions that our in-person events do not normally touch. Alumni from Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., New York City, Florida, Virginia, Louisiana, and even Canada have joined our virtual events!

We have been able to maximize our reach, all while providing FREE programming to our alumni.

WRIGHT DAY TO GIVE

OUR BRIGHT SPOT WAS THE OUTPOURING OF DONATIONS MADE BY ALUMNI TO THE STUDENT EMERGENCY FUNDS.

Our Wright State students were hit especially hard by the pandemic, and many found themselves with no place to live and nothing to eat. Our Wright State community stepped up and broke all previous records for number of donors in a single day and total dollars raised on the Wright Day to Give. Wright-Patt Credit Union was the leading corporate donor, contributing \$2,500 in matching gifts for diversity and inclusion, and a separate \$15,000 gift for six identity group student emergency funds.

ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

194 VOLUNTEER HOURS

54 EVENTS | 3,200+ ATTENDEES

ANNUAL GIVING

\$2,304,240  
TOTAL ALUMNI CONTRIBUTIONS – FY20

2,558 ALUMNI DONORS

\$218,623  
TOTAL DOLLARS RAISED

950 DONORS

64% ALUMNI  
32% FRIENDS  
2% STUDENTS  
2% CORPORATE/  
FOUNDATION

\$47,700  
STUDENT EMERGENCY FUNDS

\$24,240  
ALUMNI LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

The Wright State University Foundation is a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) corporation that receives and administers gifts for Wright State University. Although closely related to the university, the foundation is a separate and distinct charitable organization and its affairs are directed and supervised by its own board of trustees.

Looking for more information? The foundation’s financial statements were audited by Crowe Horwath LLP. If you would like a complete copy of the foundation’s audited financial statements, please visit our website at [wright.edu/giving/financial-reports](http://wright.edu/giving/financial-reports) or call 937-775-2251.

CONTACT US

Thank you for supporting Wright State University!

Learn more about the ways you can continue to impact the lives of students and the community by contacting us.

In person: 3070 Presidential Drive, Fairborn, Ohio 45324  
Mailing address: 3640 Colonel Glenn Highway,  
Dayton, Ohio 45435-0001  
800-535-0688 | 937-775-2251  
[giving@wright.edu](mailto:giving@wright.edu) | [wright.edu/giving](http://wright.edu/giving)

- Facebook icon Wright State Giving
- Twitter icon @WrightGiving
- Instagram icon Wright State Giving

The Wright State University Alumni Association was founded in 1971. The purpose is to foster a fellowship of individuals who share a common institutional interest and to develop a sound collegiate heritage by coordinating activities and services that contribute to the academic, cultural, and physical growth of Wright State University.

CONTACT US

Learn more about the ways you can actively engage as an alumnus, and support current and future alumni by contacting us.

In person: 2455 Presidential Drive, Fairborn, Ohio 45324  
Mailing address: 3640 Colonel Glenn Highway,  
Dayton, Ohio 45435-0001  
937-775-2620 | [alumni@wright.edu](mailto:alumni@wright.edu) | [wrightstatealumni.com](http://wrightstatealumni.com)

- Facebook icon Wright State University Alumni
- Twitter icon @WrightStAlumni
- Instagram icon Wright State Alumni

WRIGHT STATE FOUNDATION

Scott Rash, President & CEO  
Bob Batson  
Andrea Wall

UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT

Bill Bigham, Interim Vice President of Advancement

ADVANCEMENT COMMUNICATIONS

Kim Patton

ADVANCEMENT RESEARCH AND INFORMATION SERVICES

Rob Boley ‘99, ‘05  
Lisa Hornick  
Patty Shrout  
David Stuart ‘04

ADVANCEMENT SERVICES

Brianna Beedy  
Sheri Coyle ‘02, ‘12  
Lori Lindsey  
Kaelin Queeney

ALUMNI RELATIONS

Bing Bingham ‘16  
Nicole Craw  
Kathy Kuntz  
Brooke Leppla ‘05, ‘11  
Elaine Pruner  
Greg Scharer

ANNUAL GIVING

Amy Jones ‘06

CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT

Connie Bajek

COLLEGE AND UNIT DEVELOPMENT

Athletics: Gary Dillabaugh III, Jeff Giles  
Boonshoft School of Medicine:  
Angela Clements, Nicki Crellin ‘98  
College of Engineering and  
Computer Science: Sara Collins  
College of Liberal Arts: Colleen Lampton-Brill,  
Nick Warrington ‘12  
College of Science and Mathematics:  
Jacqueline Neal ‘95, ‘06  
Lake Campus: Gretchen Rentz ‘09  
Raj Soin College of Business: Jennifer Ruhl

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Mary Jean Henry ‘06, ‘08

DONOR RELATIONS

Cheryl Hutchinson ‘11  
Cristie Scharer

PLANNED GIVING

Bill Bigham



**Wright State Foundation**  
**Wright State Alumni Association**  
3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy.  
Dayton, OH 45435-0001

[wright.edu/wrightday2give](https://wright.edu/wrightday2give) | #WrightDay2Give

Join us **Friday, October 1, 2021**,  
for the fifth annual Wright Day to Give!

**SAVE THE DATE!**

