

It Will All Work Out

Nothing can prepare a parent to lose a child, whether it occurs in infancy, childhood, or adulthood. It's not supposed to happen in this order. Chris Durbin lost her daughter, Nicole (age 34), during the early phases of the pandemic in New York City in 2020. This is Nicole's story.

Nicole was an inveterate overcomer. After graduating from Harrison High School, she headed east to pursue her undergraduate degree in diplomacy and international relations at Seton Hall on a full scholarship. She loved the Big Apple and was accepted into the New York City Teaching Fellows program, hoping to teach in public schools while pursuing a Master's Degree in Education. The economic crash of 2008 dashed her dreams due to teachers postponing their retirements, thus causing a lack of open positions.

No job, no problem. Nicole was an optimist and true believer that "it will all work out." She found employment as a copywriter for a small software company and was trained in a new field, UX Design, which eventually landed her jobs at Amazon and Google. Each step climbing the career ladder was fraught with stumbles. As is common in tech industries, jobs appeared and disappeared, leaving Nicole out of work for months in search of new employment. She judiciously used the time off and severance pay to explore the world. She traveled to Italy, Mexico, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Japan,



Nicole Durbin used her time between jobs to explore the world.

Cambodia, Thailand, London, and Hawaii.

Nicole's love of life exhibited itself in her bubbly personality, her pink bubble gum-colored hair, and her wide circle of friends. When she was suddenly taken from this world, it caused shock, grief, and disorientation for all who loved her. Chris began the arduous task of sorting out her daughter's life from what remained in her Brooklyn apartment. She discovered that Nicole was financially savvy and passionate about her community by supporting the arts and women who were victims of domestic violence.

When Chris consulted her attorney about ways to honor Nicole's memory, she suggested setting up an endowment at The Community Foundation. Chris found the process of establishing a donor-advised fund to be simple and straightforward. Although Chris is a social worker, this was her first experience interfacing with The Foundation and its breadth of impact on the nonprofit organizations and their patrons in our community. Chris also became a member of the Legacy Society and 100+ Women Who Care. She feels

like she is keeping Nicole's bright spirit alive through the good works of the Nicole Ahl Durbin Endowment and finds comfort in the lasting effects it will produce for years to come.

2025 Offerings for Nonprofits

DOUGLAS W. EBERLE NOT-FOR-PROFIT BOARD GOVERNANCE SERIES

The 2025 Series features a combination of foundational concepts and sessions meant to strengthen the knowledge gained in prior years. This series is the premier resource for Greater Lafayette nonprofits and their boards to get the essential tools and guidelines for board governance. Executive Directors are encouraged to attend along with board members.

February 12 | **Nonprofit Fundamentals**

March 5 | **Core Responsibilities of Nonprofit Boards**

April 2 | **Effective Staff and Board Roles**

May 14 | **Strategic Board Recruitment**

September 10 | **Creating an Inclusive Board Culture**

October 1 | **Effective Orientation and Onboarding**

November 12 | **Managing Board Conflict**

The Eberle Series provides educational and networking opportunities for local nonprofits and their board members.

All sessions will take place at the Lafayette Country Club from 11 am – 2 pm with lunch provided. The cost will be \$30 per session or \$150 for the full series.

Also new in 2025 is an opportunity for current/incoming board chairpersons to attend a Board Chair Bootcamp with their executive director/CEO. In the bootcamp, participants will learn leading strategies to thrive in the Board Chair role, with topics including: preparing for and chairing effective Board and Executive Committee meetings; supporting the chief executive; and managing Board dynamics. These sessions will take place on January 16 and May 22 at the Lafayette Country Club from 10 am – 12 pm and will require separate registration of \$30 per person. Register at: uwlafayette.org/eberle.



FUNDRAISING TRAINING

The Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette is pleased to offer area nonprofit organizations the opportunity to participate in specialized fundraising training beginning in 2025. The Foundation has partnered with the The Fund Raising School at the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy to bring their world-class fundraising courses to Lafayette. Participants will have the opportunity to earn their Certificate in Fundraising Management after completing 4 courses. The sessions will be from 8 am - 5 pm on the dates listed below and will take place at the Lafayette Country Club with lunch provided. These courses are eligible for nonprofit organizations serving the Greater Lafayette area and are looking to strengthen their fundraising efforts. Preference for attendees is given to organizations with 5 or fewer development staff.

Typically, these courses cost over \$1,100 each, but The Foundation is offering them for a drastically reduced rate.

To register, please reach out to Gretchen at gretchen@inspiringgreater.org.

Principles & Techniques of Fundraising

April 29 - May 2 (4 days)

\$400 per person

Developing Annual Sustainability

September 17 & 18 (2 days)

\$200 per person

Fueling Opportunity

Cars for Keeps is a nonprofit organization that serves the Greater Lafayette community by providing lease-to-own vehicles for those in need of reliable transportation. They also work closely with Homestead Resources to provide clients with financial assistance classes and quarterly budget reviews to increase their stability, freedom, and potential for success. The affordability of the recipient and the term of the lease are what establish the budget that Cars for Keeps uses at wholesale auction to purchase a vehicle that meets the needs of the recipient. Unlike traditional vehicle leases, there are no payoff balances or mileage penalties, upon completion of the lease the title is simply turned over to the recipient, and they own the vehicle.

This summer, Cars for Keeps was awarded a grant for a new laptop to maintain their website, monitor budgets and invoicing, and perform day-to-day operations. Executive Director, Cory Shively said, “I am so grateful for the flexibility and portability of this new laptop. It has enough power to use the graphics



Cars For Keeps Executive Director, Cory Shively hands over the keys to a happy client's new car

programs, to redesign our logo, and maintain and adjust our marketing brochures. Being able to maintain our marketing collateral in-house has saved Cars for Keeps approximately \$3,000 in 2024.”

Cory also attends many of the Douglas W. Eberle Series sessions. “The Eberle series has provided guidance and insight on how to structure and grow our board. We have added 4 members this year and attending Eberle sessions have helped identify clear roles and the launch of new committees,” said Shively.

A Place to Preserve History

The Tippecanoe County Historical Association (TCHA) purchased the Frank C. Arganbright Genealogy Center in 1977, fulfilling a need for more space for their ever-growing staff and collection. Currently, the Frank C. Arganbright Genealogy Center houses the Alameda McCollough Research Library, Richard B. Wetherill Archives, TCHA Administrative offices and collections storage. In addition to the

important roles it serves for TCHA, this building is one of the best commercial examples of the mid-century modern architecture style in the greater Lafayette community. Over the last 5 years, efforts have concentrated on the interior of the property. This year, TCHA began to shift to the exterior of the building. A grant they received from The Foundation this fall for \$43,640 aims to assist in those efforts.

Recent Gifts JULY • AUGUST • SEPTEMBER 2024

IN MEMORY

Jane Early Boswell
Barry Priest and
Rebecca Morrison

Miriam Epple-Heath
Roger and Beth Bangs

Larry and Becky Lyons
Nathan Dixon
Jesse Lomas

Mick and Shirley McTague
Dana and Maggie Smith

Betty Rowe
Joan Banning

Christy Smith
Virginia Clemenko

Bob Sorensen
Linda Sorensen

Katie Traynor
Kevin and Gail Bosman

Carol Du Clos and
Megan Brown
Eric and Sara Miedema
Amanda Nutty
Terry Printz
Mike and Margaret Schreiber
Kelly Stein
Gary and Cindy Traynor

Mary Twiddy
Roger and Beth Bangs

IN HONOR

Jim and Sandy Bodenmiller
Art Museum of
Greater Lafayette

John and Prella McBride
J. Scott McBride

Joe and Bernie Seaman
Jeannie Jones
Michael Seaman

Grants

FALL GRANTS

ART MUSEUM OF GREATER LAFAYETTE

\$43,557 | Exterior siding, signage, and lighting upgrades

FOOD FINDERS FOOD BANK INC.

\$14,971 | Reach-in freezer for warehouse

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF LAFAYETTE

\$14,650 | Home repair tools and equipment

HANNA COMMUNITY CENTER

\$65,000 | Bus

LONG CENTER

\$16,000 | Truss, steel beam, and stage access ramp

NICHES LAND TRUST

\$17,825 | Stewardship headquarters building

RIVER CITY CHURCH - ADVENTURE STATION DAYCARE

\$18,690 | Replace carpet

TIPPECANOE COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

\$43,640 | Arganbright exterior refresh

WEST LAFAYETTE PARKS AND RECREATION FOUNDATION

\$35,000 | Sound mitigation for multipurpose gym

YWCA OF GREATER LAFAYETTE

\$30,667 | Computer upgrade



Tippecanoe County Historical Association received a grant to make exterior improvements

NOW GRANTS

JULY/AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

ART MUSEUM OF GREATER LAFAYETTE

\$10,000 | Security system replacement

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF GREATER LAFAYETTE

\$4,785 | New MacBook and iPad

GIFTS OF GRACE ADOPTION SUPPORT CENTER

\$2,301 | Mobile office equipment

ROBERT AND ELLEN HAAN MUSEUM OF INDIANA ART

\$3,825 | Computer upgrade



Finance and Development Associate

LIZ WETLI

Director of Finance and Operations

ANGELA STRADER

Betty M. Nelson Director of Philanthropy

CANDY SILVER

Marketing, and Grants

Director of Communications,

GRETCHEM SHELTON

James Kirby Risk President and CEO

DAVID LASATER

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**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
OF GREATER
LAFAYETTE**

Inspiring Greater **POSSIBILITIES**

100+ WOMEN WHO CARE 2025 DATES

December 9

September 16

May 13

February 11

December 2

September 9

May 6

February 4

100+ MEN WHO GIVE 2025 DATES

Upcoming Events

NON-PROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT 595
LAFAYETTE IN