
MEDIA RELEASE



Tuesday, April 5, 2011 – Fort Wayne, Indiana

SHAFFER GIFTS REACH \$1 MILLION MILESTONE

Fort Wayne, IN---Recent grants awarded by local residents Paul and Dorothy Shaffer through the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne to Purdue University and Indiana University-Purdue University, Fort Wayne (IPFW) have now topped the \$1 million milestone.



The Shaffers began to support projects at Purdue University and IPFW more than 25 years ago. Over time, their gifts have supported a variety of causes including the Helmke Library, a joint professorship to the business school, and a number of scholarship funds. One scholarship fund supports students from Paul and Dorothy Shaffer's hometown of Rockford, Ohio, and another 4-year scholarship for a Junior Achievement student is awarded each year.

Contributions from the Shaffers to the universities began in 1985. A recent gift to support scholarships, athletics, and the Library Endowment Fund means that their cumulative giving now tops \$1 million. "We were pleased to have been able to support such wonderful institutions," said Dorothy, "and to top the \$1 million level of giving has been a source of great personal satisfaction for us."

The Shaffers use the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne to help them manage their charitable giving. "It was just a natural," Paul said, "that we would go to the Community Foundation to take on that role to take over the work and save us tax money."

The Shaffer's also generously support a wide variety of other charitable causes in addition to Purdue and IPFW, including United Way, Junior Achievement, their church, and numerous other nonprofits. The couple hopes that their giving will inspire others to support IPFW and to use the Community Foundation to help reach their charitable goals. Paul added, "We want to inspire others, who can do so, to give."

Paul Shaffer is the retired president and chairman of Fort Wayne National Bank. He is a member of the IPFW Advisory Committee and was chairman of the most recent Library Endowment Fund drive. He received an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Purdue University and has served on the President's Advisory Board. Dorothy is a longtime community leader and volunteer.

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Established in 1956, the **Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne** is a public, charitable foundation serving Allen County for more than fifty years. The Community Foundation had assets of more than \$100 million at December 31, 2009 and awarded over \$11 million in charitable grants and scholarships in that year.

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