



LAKE SIDE CHAUTAUQUA ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR **APRIL 1, 2025–MARCH 31, 2026**



Imagine the future... *Stewarding Lakeside with Care*

FROM THE **PRESIDENT & CEO**

Dear Lakeside Friends and Neighbors,

For more than 150 years, Lakeside has been shaped by people who give their time, wisdom, leadership, and heart to a mission that matters.

Heartfelt Gratitude

As we reflect on our accomplishments, I want to begin with deep gratitude for every volunteer, committee member, staff leader, board member, donor, and community partner who gave their time, talent, and treasure this year. Thank you for your partnership, leadership, and love for Lakeside.

Our Collective Accomplishments & Stewardship

Our collective accomplishments this year were the result of disciplined execution, collaboration, and a community united by purpose. The Hotel Lakeside Lobby project, Campground expansion, and volunteerism throughout our programs are just a few examples of this work this year.

Stewarding Lakeside with Care

As we look toward the future, Lakeside stands within a beautiful and necessary tension—the place where heritage meets imagination, where memory fuels possibility, and where tradition and innovation walk side by side. This tension is not something to resolve; it is something to steward.

Together, we will preserve the Lakeside we love while creating a vibrant, welcoming, and intergenerational experience for the next 150 years. Revival is rising here—not as a moment, but as a movement. Together, we will shape a future worthy of the years to come, stewarding the vision that our founders set forth. Thank you for helping advance the mission.

With gratitude and hope,



Charles Allen
Lakeside Chautauqua President & CEO

Lakeside is a **nonprofit** community that relies on the generosity of families like yours to create the Chautauqua experience we all cherish.



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View audited financial statements at lakesideohio.com/financials.

2025-2026 THE LAKESIDE ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Jane Higgins Marx,
<i>Chair</i> | Bret Johnson |
| Gwen Swigart Nichols,
<i>Vice Chair</i> | MaryAnn Kelmer |
| Rev. Rachel B. Miller,
<i>Secretary</i> | Larry Kisabeth |
| Doug Adams, <i>Treasurer</i> | Rev. Scott Low |
| Jack Allen | Greg Moore |
| Steven Brunot | Kay Panovec |
| Greg Bricker | Randy Snow, <i>Lakeside</i> |
| Corey Clay | <i>Chautauqua</i> |
| Elizabeth Erwin | <i>Foundation, Chair</i> |
| Dr. Robert H. Huntington | Rev. Richard Thewlis |
| | Charles Allen, |
| | <i>President & CEO</i> |
| | <i>(Ex-Officio)</i> |

2025-2026 THE LAKESIDE CHAUTAUQUA FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Randy Snow, <i>Chair</i> | Jane Marx, <i>Lakeside</i> |
| David Workman, <i>Vice</i> | <i>Association Board of</i> |
| <i>Chair</i> | <i>Directors, Chair</i> |
| Don Longwell, | Charles Allen, |
| <i>Investment Chair</i> | <i>President & CEO</i> |
| Nancy Bundy, | <i>(Ex-Officio)</i> |
| <i>Nominating Chair</i> | Gwen Nichols, |
| Molly Allen | <i>Lakeside Association</i> |
| Jeannie Chaney | <i>Board of Directors,</i> |
| Jane Greene | <i>Finance Chair</i> |
| Linda Ruttencutter | <i>(Ex-Officio)</i> |
| Lorraine Schuchart | Doug Adams, <i>Lakeside</i> |
| Paul Seling | <i>Association Board of</i> |
| Josh Shade | <i>Directors, Treasurer</i> |
| Doug Talbott | <i>(Ex-Officio)</i> |
| Jim Young | |

The Power of Four Chautauqua Pillars
2025 SEASON
PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

The Lakeside Story is still being written...

In 2025, more than 205,000 participants engaged in more than 3,700 programs across all four pillars and special events. Each number represents a life shaped and a piece of someone's story. **These Lakeside stories are still being written.**

RELIGION



EDUCATION



ARTS



RECREATION



LAKESIDE MISSION

Lakeside's mission remains true today as we welcome thousands of individuals and families to the shoreline: *To enrich the quality of life for all people, to foster traditional Christian values, and to nurture relationships through opportunities for renewal and growth – spiritually, intellectually, culturally, and physically – while preserving Lakeside's heritage.*



NANCY BUNDY: THANKFUL TO HAVE GIVEN LAKESIDE A SECOND CHANCE

Since Nancy Bundy first came to Lakeside in 1989, the list of ways she has been involved in the community is anything but short.

She and her husband, Todd, own a cottage. She is a former business owner, current member of the Lakeside Chautauqua Foundation Board, and a Rhein Center instructor. Even with a busy schedule and many years of service to Lakeside, the community and spending time here with family remain top priorities.

"I love spending time with my family and friends in Lakeside," Bundy said. "I could spend my whole life just sitting on my porch, but I like the involvement."

A Second Chance at Lakeside

Bundy first learned about Lakeside through her aunt, whose grandfather was one of Lakeside's founding ministers and had visited the community for decades.

Although her parents and cousins visited often, Bundy didn't join them until after she was married.

After a rocky initial visit with no air conditioning and bugs freely making themselves at home, Bundy gave Lakeside a second chance when her parents invited her back, this time staying right on the lake. Her opinion of Lakeside changed quickly.

"We were like, 'Well, this is a whole different ball game now.'" Bundy said. "We went every year after. We fell in love."

Starting Dockside

In 2006, six years after purchasing her cottage and becoming a permanent summer resident, a Lakeside representative approached her about operating a food business along the waterfront. Bundy discussed the idea with her sister-in-law, Jennifer Bond, and they decided it would be fun to run a summer business.

Dockside opened in the space currently occupied by Bluebird. The menu featured hot dogs, hamburgers, pulled pork, hot pretzels, nachos, and ice cream.

Dockside was truly a family business. The staff included her children, nieces, nephews, and local Lakeside teens, many of whom still stop Bundy to say, "Hey, I worked for you."

When Bundy's last niece graduated, she decided to close Dockside after the 2017 season. She didn't want to continue without family working alongside her.

"Lakeside really tries to enrich lives."

"Looking back, it was pretty gutsy to take that on, but it worked," Bundy says. "People still talk to me about what it meant to have that down there. It wasn't saving lives, but it was an enriching experience. It was a big deal."

Active in Lakeside

Today, Bundy serves as the Nominating Chair on the Lakeside Chautauqua Foundation Board, a role that echoes her parents' own fundraising involvement.

"Everyone has a different reason as to why they want to see [Lakeside] continue for future generations," Bundy says. "Lakeside really tries to enrich lives, and for the most part, it's successful. That's why being on the board matters so much to me."

Bundy has also been a participant and instructor at the Rhein Center for several years. She enjoys

lectures, Hoover shows, and time spent with family along the lake and dock. She said Lakeside has a far different vibe than anywhere else.

"There's just something that suits my soul when I'm here," Bundy said. "You really can't explain it. You either get Lakeside, or you don't. When you walk down the street, there's always somebody to talk to, and you don't get that in most neighborhoods. I spend some time on my front porch because Second Street is the busiest street, so it's like I see the world go by, and it's fascinating."

"There's just something that suits my soul when I'm [in Lakeside]."

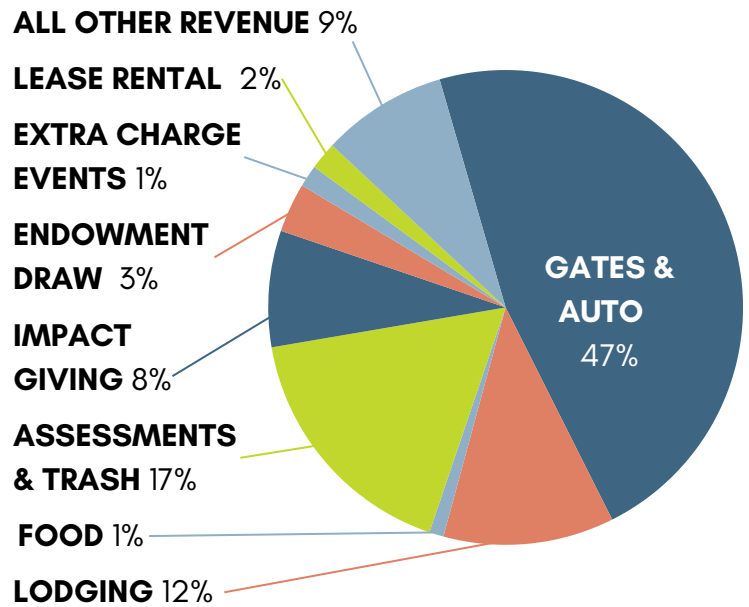
Read the full article at lakesidernews.com.

LAKE SIDE'S FINANCIALS

Lakeside Chautauqua is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that manages roughly one square mile of land with historic buildings, roads, and structures. With programming across all four Chautauqua Pillars, the holistic Lakeside experience makes an impact on thousands of individuals every year.

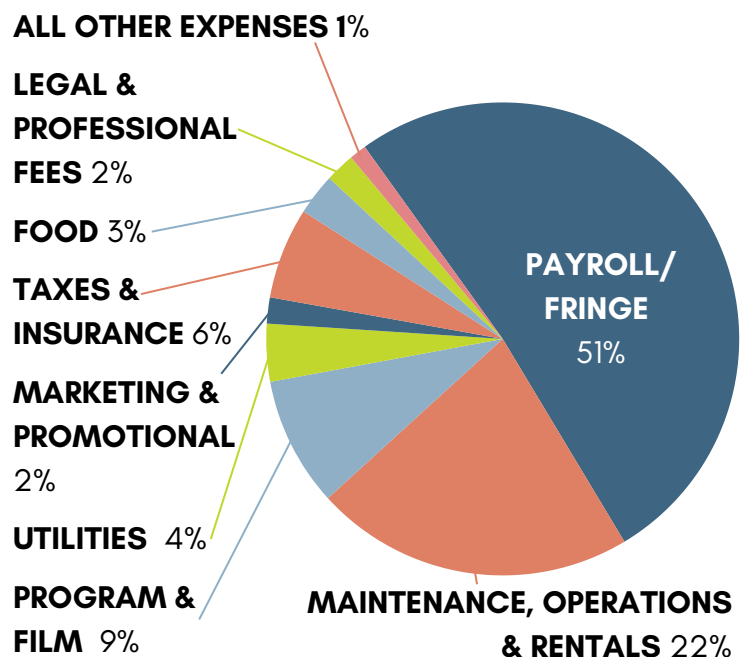
2025-2026 REVENUE

Revenue	Actual (\$000)	Percentage
Gates & Auto	\$5,729	47%
Lodging	\$1,416	12%
Food	\$119	1%
Assessments & Trash	\$2,082	17%
Impact Giving	\$964	8%
Endowment Draw	\$409	3%
Extra Charge Events	\$181	1%
Lease Rental	\$229	2%
All Other Revenue	\$1,041	9%
Total	\$12,170	100%



2025-2026 EXPENSES

Expenses	Actual (\$000)	Percentage
Payroll/Fringe	\$5,606	51%
Maintenance, Operations & Rentals	\$2,387	22%
Program & Film	\$967	9%
Utilities	\$431	4%
Marketing & Promotional	\$195	2%
Taxes & Insurance	\$682	6%
Food	\$310	3%
Legal & Professional Fees	\$221	2%
All Other Expenses	\$127	1%
Total	\$10,926	100%



*Revenue and expense figures in these reports are operational. The audited figures include such other items as Island View, restricted contributions, special assessments, and related matters.



YOUR GENEROSITY writes the Lakeside story.

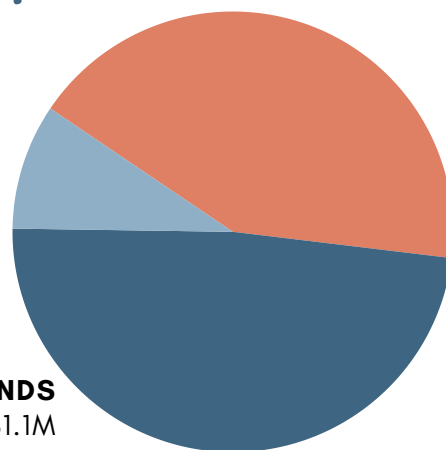
Your thoughtful generosity strengthens the Chautauqua Pillars and helps care for the historic buildings and beautiful grounds. It's because of you that individuals, families, youth, and children are able to learn, grow, reconnect, renew, and create their own Lakeside story.

Your financial support, volunteerism, and love for our community write the next chapter in our collective Lakeside story. Every gift, regardless of size, helps bring the Lakeside mission to life for countless families. Thank you!

ENDOWMENT
\$210K

RESTRICTED FUNDS
\$1.1M

**IMPACT
GIVING**
\$964K



**TOTAL 2025-2026
GENEROSITY*:**

\$2.27M

**TOTAL FAMILIES WHO
GAVE 2025-2026:**

969

**Does not include gifts-in-kind.*

GIVE TODAY AT [LAKESIDEOHIO.COM/TODAY](https://lakesideohio.com/today)

LAKE SIDE'S ENDOWMENT

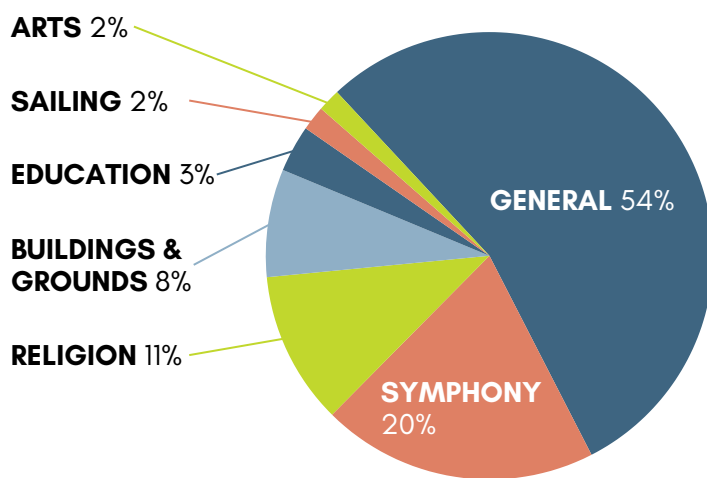


Lakeside's Endowment, the investments overseen by the Lakeside Chautauqua Foundation Board, supports future chapters of the Lakeside story. Gifts to the Endowment grow over time and create the experience future generations will enjoy at Lakeside.

DISTRIBUTION

Each year, 4% of the Lakeside Endowment is drawn to support the Chautauqua program and many historic buildings. The spending rule for the Endowment is 4 percent of a 12-quarter trailing average of the fund. **In the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the distribution totaled more than \$408,000 to support the operational budget.**

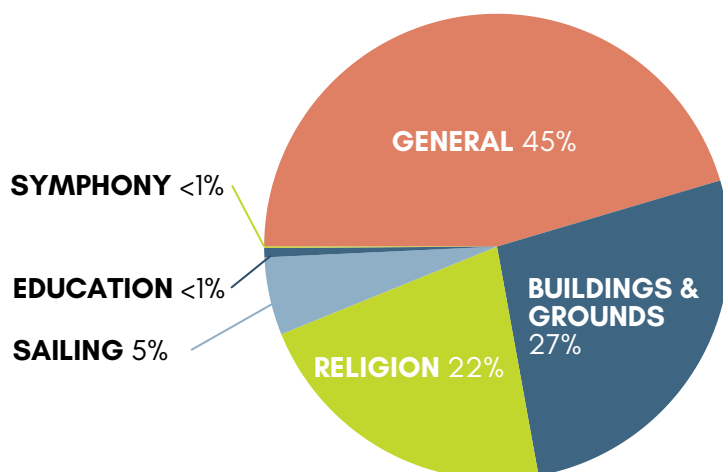
Area of Support	Actual	Percentage
General	\$222,304	54%
Symphony	\$81,600	20%
Religion	\$45,156	11%
Buildings & Grounds	\$31,868	8%
Education	\$13,816	3%
Sailing	\$7,268	2%
Arts	\$6,684	2%
Total	\$408,696	100%



2025-2026 ENDOWMENT GIFTS

The Endowment ensures the next generation experiences Lakeside, too. **In the 2025-2026 fiscal year, more than \$209,000 was added to the Endowment.** Many families designate their endowment gifts to one of the Chautauqua Pillars, an important building like Hoover Auditorium, or one of the parks or gardens.

Endowment Fund	Actual	Percentage
General	\$95,171	45%
Building & Grounds	\$56,000	27%
Religion	\$45,515	22%
Sailing Endowment	\$11,320	5%
Education	\$1,350	<1%
Symphony	\$200	<1%
Total	\$209,556	100%



LAKE SIDE'S ENDOWMENT

BALANCE

At the end of the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the balance of the Endowment totaled more than \$12 million. Imagine if the Endowment grew to \$25 million. The annual support would be more than \$1 million.

GIVE A GIFT TO THE
ENDOWMENT AT
LAKE SIDE OHIO.COM/TODAY.

Endowment Fund	Balance (\$000)	Percentage
General	\$6,525	52%
Symphony & Arts	\$2,507	20%
Buildings & Grounds	\$1,527	12%
Religion	\$1,372	11%
Education	\$432	3%
Sailing	\$224	2%
Total	\$12,587	100%

PLANNED GIVING

When you include Lakeside Chautauqua in your estate plan, your generosity helps preserve and maintain our historic community, focused on recentering and reconnecting with yourself and your loved ones – spiritually, intellectually, culturally, and physically. There are many ways to support Lakeside's mission and achieve your personal financial goals. Here are a few examples:

- **Wills & Living Trusts:** Name Lakeside in your will or trust with a percentage of your estate or a specific dollar amount.
- **Beneficiary Designations:** Name Lakeside as a beneficiary of IRAs, retirement plans, life insurance, donor-advised funds, or commercial annuities.
- **IRA & Retirement Distributions:** If you are 70½ or older, give up to \$108,000 annually from your IRA directly to Lakeside, potentially avoiding income taxes on the gift.
- **Appreciated Securities:** Donate securities or mutual funds held for more than one year to potentially avoid capital gains taxes and receive a charitable deduction.
- **Donor-Advised Funds:** Recommend one-time or recurring grants to Lakeside from your DAF, now or in the future.
- **Gifts to the Endowment:** Endowment gifts are invested to provide ongoing support. Create a named endowment honoring a loved one with a \$50,000 gift.
- **Charitable Remainder Trusts:** Receive income for life or a set period, with the remaining trust assets ultimately benefiting Lakeside.
- **Charitable Lead Trusts:** Provide payments to Lakeside for a set period, with the remaining assets then passing to your family or other beneficiaries.

Learn more at lakesideohio.planmylegacy.org and consult your financial advisor to determine the best option for you.

LAKE SIDE FOUNDERS SOCIETY

The Founders Society was formed to honor those who recognized the importance of investing in Lakeside and have included Lakeside in their estate planning.

Lakeside's future relies on planned gifts made today that will provide an enriching Chautauqua experience for the future. To date, there are nearly 100 Founders Society families, with many more Lakesiders already leaving their legacy at Lakeside through their estate planning. These gifts add to Lakeside's Endowment and ensure their legacy lives on in our community.

Learn more about the various ways to plan a gift to Lakeside at lakesideohio.planmylegacy.org.

If you have already planned a gift to Lakeside or would like to talk more about how planned giving enhances the Lakeside experience, please reach out to us at gcolon@lakesideohio.com.

GWEN & BRIAN NICHOLS: A SHARED LOVE OF LAKESIDE

When Gwen and Brian Nichols met at Otterbein University, they quickly discovered they had much in common, including a connection to a small community along the shores of Lake Erie.

"We found out we had a shared love of Lakeside," Gwen said.

Introductions to Lakeside

The couple took different paths to the Chautauqua community. Brian began visiting as a toddler, when his grandfather, a United Methodist minister in the East Ohio Conference, brought family to conference week each summer.

Gwen's introduction came later as a high school student traveling with a group called Youth Musicale. She arrived in the middle of a July heatwave to rehearse at Hoover Auditorium.

"I stepped off a school bus and somehow ended up on the stage of Hoover Auditorium," Gwen recalled. "That was my first visit, and I immediately fell in love."

Returning to Lakeside

After marrying in the mid-1990s, the Nicholoses began returning to Lakeside to visit friends, staying at the Campground or Hotel Lakeside.

In 2011, the family decided to make Lakeside a bigger part of their lives and purchased their first cottage.

They wanted their kids, Carson and Mabry, to fully experience Lakeside. They filled their days with bike rides, mini golf, sidewalk chalk art, rock painting, lemonade stands, and saving up money for trips to Marilyn's.

Still Enjoying Lakeside

Still based in Westerville, Ohio, Gwen and Brian continue to spend as much time in Lakeside as possible.



When in Lakeside, Gwen paddleboards while Brian reads from an Adirondack chair at the Pavilion. They sit on the Dock, ride bikes, walk their dog along the waterfront, and attend Hoover shows and Lakefront Worship.

“When you have experienced Lakeside, and it gets into your soul, you leave a little of yourself behind when you go home.”

The Fourth of July remains a highlight each year, when their children return with their significant others for a full week together.

"There are so many people, and being together as a family that week is what matters most," Brian says.

Gwen agrees.

"For us, that time is almost as important as Christmas," she said. "There is no competition for time with extended family. Our college friends are here, and our kids grew up together and enjoy reconnecting."

What Makes Lakeside Special

For the Nicholoses, Lakeside's appeal cannot be reduced to a single moment or activity.

"There is so much to experience here, all in such a beautiful setting," Brian says. "The four Chautauqua Pillars ensure that Lakeside offers variety for multiple generations."

Gwen sees it in the people.

"The people we know who love Lakeside have amazing

experiences to share and are fascinating to learn from," she said. "When you have experienced Lakeside, and it gets into your soul, you leave a little of yourself behind when you go home. Lakeside is a sacred place; open to all, grounded in faith, and alive with purpose - it deserves to be shared with others."

Lakeside is a sacred place: open to all, grounded in faith and alive with purpose. It deserves to be shared with others.

Read the full article at lakesidernews.com.

IMPACT GIVING



Lakeside Impact Giving powers the Lakeside story today, directly supporting the day-to-day operations. In **2025-2026, community members provided \$964,402 of support across all four Chautauqua Pillars, the grounds, youth programming, and more.**

Impact Fund Designation	Actual	Percentage
General	\$626,564	65%
Facilities, Grounds & Safety	\$122,340	13%
Religion	\$122,039	13%
Symphony	\$32,387	3%
Arts	\$16,355	2%
Education	\$14,274	1%
Rhein Center	\$12,735	1%
Recreation	\$9,215	1%
Youth Programming	\$7,033	<1%
Hotel Lakeside, Fountain Inn, & Campground	\$1,030	<1%
Group Housing	\$430	<1%
Total	\$964,402	100%

GROUP HOUSING
<1%

HOTEL LAKESIDE, FOUNTAIN INN, & CAMPGROUND
<1%

YOUTH PROGRAMMING
<1%

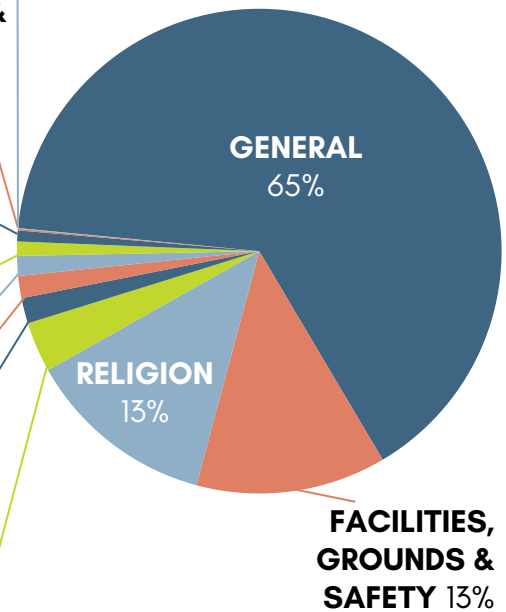
RECREATION
1%

RHEIN CENTER 1%

EDUCATION
1%

ARTS 2%

SYMPHONY 3%



GRANTS & SPONSORSHIP SUPPORT

In the 2025-2026 fiscal year, Lakeside received grant and sponsorship support from several organizations. Thank you to the following organizations for your partnership and support of Lakeside's mission!

- Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff
- CC&E
- Coffee & Cream
- DLR Group
- Erie Food Market
- Gifts That Give Back
- Greater Toledo Community Foundation
- Huntington Bank
- Key Bank
- The Kite Shop
- Lakeside Linen Supply

- Marilyn's
- Miller Boat Line
- Millie Magoo's & The Fine Print
- Miss Mercedes
- Ohio Arts Council: Lakeside Symphony Orchestra
- Ohio History Connection
- Otterbein Marblehead SeniorLife Community
- The Patio Restaurant
- Zimmerman Remodeling & Construction

2025-2026 TOTAL GRANT & SPONSOR ORGANIZATIONS:

20

For 2027 sponsorship information, contact Allyson Lane, Advancement Stewardship Manager, at allyson@lakesideohio.com.

SPECIAL PROJECTS



Each year, generous donors provide support to restricted projects, funds, and programs. In 2025-2026, donors provided support to Cherry Park, the Hotel Lakeside Lobby, the West Second Street Gate, Community Groups, and more.

Restricted Giving	Actual	Percentage
Capital Campaign Seed	\$500,000	46%
Hotel Lakeside 150th Anniversary	\$163,972	15%
Cherry Park	\$135,363	12%
Program Support	\$76,442	7%
Facilities, Maintenance, & Grounds	\$70,538	6%
Small Special Projects & Community Groups	\$55,326	5%
Religious Programming & Music	\$50,000	5%
Building Maintenance & Upgrades	\$25,930	2%
Hoover Auditorium	\$12,575	1%
Staff Appreciation	\$7,950	<1%
Total	\$1,098,096	100%

STAFF APPRECIATION <1%

HOOVER AUDITORIUM 1%

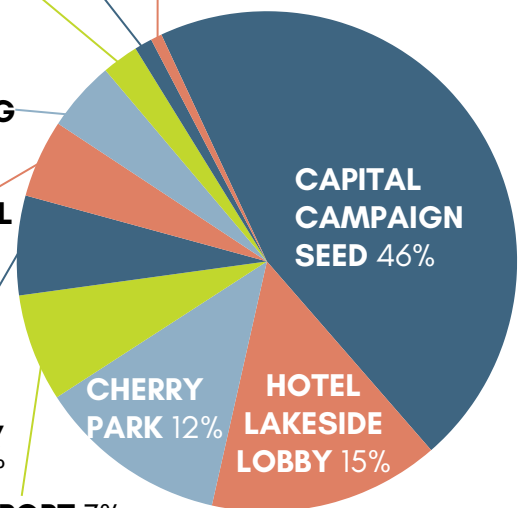
BUILDING MAINTENANCE & UPGRADES 2%

RELIGIOUS PROGRAMMING & MUSIC 5%

SMALL SPECIAL PROJECTS & COMMUNITY GROUPS 5%

FACILITIES, MAINTENANCE, & GROUNDS 6%

PROGRAM SUPPORT 7%



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS



During the 2025-2026 fiscal year, we made significant investments across the grounds in various capital projects. Here is a snapshot of the many improvements and upgrades completed ahead of the 2026 season.

WALNUT PLAZA & HOOVER AUDITORIUM

Legacy House Receives a Refresh

The Legacy House, home to Lakeside's Advancement & Marketing Team and Lakeside Cottage Rentals, received new exterior paint and signage.

Hoover Auditorium Improvements

At Hoover Auditorium, power washing was completed in the fall, and a new air conditioning unit for the stage house was installed in the spring to support performers throughout the summer.



WATERFRONT & BETTINGER PARK

Dock & Pavilion Painting & Awnings

The Pavilion and railings surrounding the Kiddie Pool and Splash Pad were painted ahead of the season. Awnings were installed on the Pavilion Annex building to refresh the space. This spring, work continued with repainting the metal edging along the dock.



Shuffleboard & Gaga Ball Updates

Thanks to Lakeside's dedicated Shuffleboard volunteers, the courts were repainted this spring. Nearby, the Gaga Ball pit was leveled and fitted with a new base to maintain a smooth, even playing surface.



New Recreation & Registration Hut

The former Mini Golf hut was transformed into a new Recreation & Registration Hut. Conveniently located near the waterfront and parks, the space has served as a central hub for watercraft rentals, class registration, private lesson sign-ups, and mini golf admission.

STREETS & SIDEWALKS

Repaved Streets in East Lakeside

Phase I of the Streets Project was completed last fall, bringing newly paved streets to Lakeside's east side.

Phase II Sidewalk & Drainage Work

Preparatory work for Phase II of the Streets Project was completed in the spring. Sidewalk replacement projects near Hoover Auditorium and throughout Lakeside improved both safety and accessibility while helping accelerate future construction timelines.



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

HOTEL LAKESIDE & FOUNTAIN INN

Thanks to the generosity of Lakesiders and the work of the Hotel Lakeside 150th Committee during last summer's celebration, several meaningful improvements at the historic hotel are enhancing the guest experience.

Hotel Lakeside Lobby Refresh

Painting in the lobby, first-floor hallways, and main staircase has been completed, and new carpeting was installed. New furniture was also added.

Front Porch Improvements

The iconic Hotel Lakeside porch received a refreshed coat of paint on the floors and trim, along with new screens for viewing the Lake Erie Islands.

Fountain Inn Enhancements

At the Fountain Inn, thanks to the generosity of a Lakeside family, a first-floor guest room has been fully converted to be ADA-compliant, including a fully accessible sink and shower. Several guest rooms also received new carpeting, and a new AC unit was installed for the lobby.

GARDENS & PARKS

The Grounds Team, along with our partners at Barnes Nursery and Corso's Flower & Garden Center, spent significant time preparing Lakeside's parks, landscaping, and gathering spaces this fall and spring.

Fall Park Improvements

New grass was planted by Barnes in Bettinger Park and on the Hotel Lakeside lawn last fall.

Early Spring Mulching & Planting

Landscape bed preparation and mulching were completed earlier this spring, and volunteers helped plant decorative containers displayed throughout the grounds. Corso's helped plant annual flowers across Lakeside ahead of Memorial Day weekend.

West Second Street Gate Enhancements

The West Second Street Gate entrance has received a refreshed appearance thanks to the work of Lakesider Nicholas Hall's Eagle Scout project and the generosity of the Lakeside community. Donations also made replacement fencing and gate improvements possible, creating a more welcoming entrance.

Cherry Park Transformation

Thanks to the Veith family's generosity, Cherry Park transformed over the winter and spring. A new all-abilities playground has been installed, the beloved boat playground has been relocated, and expanded greenspace and the Storybook Trail remain part of the park experience.

SOUTH LAKESIDE

Campground Expansion

The Campground Expansion Project added 17 new RV sites and converted three tent sites into RV sites, creating 20 additional spaces.

Trash & Recycling Transfer Station Relocation

To accommodate Campground improvements and address grading needs near the Oak Avenue lots, the trash and recycling transfer station was relocated farther south this winter.



LAKESIDE CHAUTAUQUA FOUNDATION ACTIVITIES & EVENTS



LAKESIDE COMMUNITY DAYS

April 26, May 2, May 9, & May 16, 2025

Lakesiders gathered to help prepare Lakeside for the season during four volunteer days.

LAKESIDE CHAUTAUQUA FOUNDATION DINNER | June 28, 2025

Each year, we recognize all donors who generously give \$1,000 or more to Lakeside. We were delighted to celebrate with more than 200 of these Lakesiders in South Auditorium.

DAY OF GIVING & GLOW RUN | July 3, 2025

Generosity bloomed during Lakeside's annual Summer Day of Giving, celebrated in conjunction with the return of the Glow Run & Dance Party. Many families jumped in to support Lakeside's mission.

OF FAMILIES: **200+** TOTAL RAISED: **\$11,000+**

FOUNDERS SOCIETY CELEBRATION July 11, 2025

The Founders Society recognized more than 90 families who have planned for Lakeside's future through legacy gifts. We celebrated these families at our July gathering.

HOTEL LAKE SIDE 150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION DINNER, RE-DEDICATION & ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Throughout July and August, we celebrated Hotel Lakeside's 150th Anniversary and raised funds to support the Hotel Lobby refresh project through several events.

LAKE SIDE SYMPHONY CANDLELIGHT SHOWCASE | Aug. 6, 2025

The 2025 Lakeside Symphony Candlelight Showcase celebrated Hotel Lakeside's 150th Anniversary, selling 130 tickets and raising over \$8,000 for the Lakeside Symphony Orchestra.

GIVING TUESDAY Dec. 2, 2025

OF FAMILIES: **165** TOTAL RAISED: **\$215,000+**

THE LAKE SIDE CHAUTAUQUA FOUNDATION

The Lakeside Chautauqua Foundation is a nonprofit organization under the laws of the State of Ohio. The Foundation is responsible for raising and growing charitable giving to support The Lakeside Association in accordance with Lakeside's mission. The Foundation manages the long-term Endowment funds and annuity accounts, oversees the Lakeside Impact Fund, and cultivates major gifts. The Foundation provides oversight and accountability for funds raised, funds distributed, and results achieved. Furthermore, the Foundation provides education regarding philanthropic support for Lakeside.

The Foundation supports The Lakeside Association Board of Directors. The Foundation Chairperson reports the Foundation's activities at all Lakeside Association Board meetings.

The Lakeside Association Board identifies and communicates the amount of charitable funds needed each year to implement the mission and vision of Lakeside. Subsequently, the Foundation plans solicitation of the donor community for the funds needed by the Association.



VOLUNTEERISM & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are an essential part of creating the Lakeside experience. They give their time to welcome guests to Hoover Auditorium, lead lectures, help in the gardens, work on a task force, or volunteer at special events.

In the 2025-2026 fiscal year, 214 volunteers generously gave their time to Lakeside. We are deeply grateful to these individuals for lending their skills, their hands, and their hearts to create a meaningful Chautauqua experience!

2025-2026 VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS

- Lakeside Community Days
- Ushers at Hoover Community Worship
- Greeters at Hoover Marquee Entertainment
- Greeters and setup and teardown assistance for Hoover Exhibits
- Lakeside Easter Weekend
- Lakeside Wooden Boat Show
- Lakeside Summer Day of Giving & Glow Run
- Group Housing refresh projects
- Gardens & grounds
- Hotel Lakeside 150th Committee
- Rhein Center teachers

View all volunteer opportunities and sign up at lakesideohio.com/volunteer!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

In the 2025-2026 fiscal year, Lakeside built relationships with many new community organizations and strengthened connections with long-standing partners. We are proud to have supported the local and regional community and introduced many individuals to Lakeside for the first time through these activities and events.

2025-2026 COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS

- **Hosted Lake Erie Commission Meeting**
- **Ottawa County Day**
- **Leadership Ottawa County**
- **Military Appreciation Day**
- **Friendship Village Visit** | More than 40 individuals from the Friendship Village Community in Dublin visited Lakeside for a special three-day experience in August.
- **Erie County Community Foundation** | More than 70 attendees representing 30 nonprofit organizations from Erie, Ottawa & Huron Counties gathered at Lakeside for a Nonprofit Team Retreat from Sept. 11-12, 2025.
- **American Red Cross Blood Drives** | Two Blood drives hosted at Lakeside during the 2025 Chautauqua season.





MEREDITH MEYER: ROOTED IN FAMILY, GROWING THE LAKESIDE LEGACY

For Meredith Meyer, Lakeside is home in every sense of the word. As a fourth-generation Lakesider, Meyer's connection to the community began long before she could put it into words.

"My parents have a cottage at Oak and Fourth, so I grew up spending my summers here," Meyer said. "My father's family is rooted strongly at Lakeside."

Those early years were marked by simple joys and lifelong friendships. Meyer remembers hours spent on the Dock making friendship bracelets, riding bikes to the lighthouse, sailing on the lake, and working summer jobs at The Abigail and at the gates. Lakeside was where friendships deepened, and independence blossomed.

When Meyer and her husband, Salam Chaudhary, started their own family, they had no doubt they wanted their children, Morgan and Reed, to grow up with the same summer traditions. In 2005, they purchased a cottage on Oak Avenue, continuing the family's legacy into a fifth generation.

"We wanted our kids to have the Lakeside experience growing up," Meyer said.

That desire naturally led to deeper involvement in the community. Meyer and Chaudhary have both served on the Lakeside Chautauqua Foundation and Lakeside Association Boards. Over the years, the couple has supported Impact Giving, and Meyer has found meaningful ways to contribute her professional experience in public relations and communications.

For Meyer and Chaudhary, service has also meant giving in ways that strengthen Lakeside for future generations.

Lakeside has provided a special place for us to connect.

When their children were young and taking classes at the Rhein Center, they noticed how limited space sometimes restricted participation. They proposed

colorful tents and made the lead donation to expand both capacity and programming outdoors. These tents have provided a canopy for creativity for all ages.

As their children entered their teen years, they saw another opportunity. Remembering the teen center from her own childhood, Meyer recognized the importance of a dedicated space where young Lakesiders could connect.

The couple supported the 2015 Giving Tuesday project to launch The Underground Teen Center. Today, the space serves teens six nights a week during the season. Meredith and Chaudhary also contributed to the community pool project.

"We saw what our kids and their friends needed," Meyer said. "If our kids needed it, then other kids needed it, too."

Even as their children have grown, the couple continues to give generously, ensuring Lakeside can meet evolving needs.

"Lakeside has meant so much to our family," Meyer reflected. "It has provided a special place for us to connect and for intergenerational experiences that you will not find anywhere else. We're grateful for Lakeside, and we want it to continue for our kids and for generations to come."

For Meyer and her family, giving back is about honoring a legacy, strengthening a community, and ensuring that Lakeside remains a place where stories like hers continue to unfold.

We want [Lakeside] to continue for our kids and generations to come.

THANK YOU!



The generosity of Lakesiders makes a significant impact on the Chautauqua experience...

Your generosity is what makes Lakeside the special place it is. In giving, you help uphold the mission. The following is a listing of gifts given between **April 1, 2025 and March 31, 2026**. We've made a significant effort to include all donors and supporters who contributed last fiscal year. Please accept our apology if your name has not been recognized. Contact allyson@lakesideohio.com to correct the listing.

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The Columbus Foundation
The Kite Shop
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United Methodist Foundation of Michigan
Wayne County Community Foundation
Wespath
Zion Lutheran Church





LAKESIDE MISSION

Lakeside's mission remains true today as we welcome thousands of individuals and families to the shoreline – *to enrich the quality of life for all people, to foster traditional Christian values, and to nurture relationships through opportunities for renewal and growth – spiritually, intellectually, culturally, and physically – while preserving Lakeside's heritage.*

LAKESIDE HISTORY

More than 150 years ago, the Lakeside community was born. A group of innovators with a desire to come together and share in life's experiences created a sense of belonging and purpose known today as Lakeside Chautauqua. With Methodist heritage and roots in the camp meeting, the founders of Lakeside dreamed of a place where people could gather in community to reconnect, learn, create, worship, and renew in a sacred, peaceful setting along the shores of Lake Erie.

Lakeside is connected to the Chautauqua Trail and is one of the thriving Chautauqua communities still in existence. Year after year, a group of dedicated leaders, staff, board members, volunteers, individuals, families, homeowners, faithful supporters, and the community have deepened their connection to Lakeside's timeless mission.

2025-2026 LAKESIDE STAFF

Charles Allen, President & CEO

Sam Chelliah, V.P. of Finance

Gretchen Colon, V.P. of Advancement & Marketing

Meg Johnson, Executive V.P. &

Chief Administrative Officer

Dennis Doolittle, V.P. of Municipal Services

Karyn Torigoe, V.P. of Programming