



# *the* MOLINE FOUNDATION

## Discover your meaning and purpose



The holidays and conclusion of another year traditionally lends itself to a time of personal reflection - what important milestones transpired or perhaps what have I accomplished this past year? These contemplations help plant the seeds of hope and optimism for the upcoming new year. For many of us this enthusiasm turns into planning. Family reunions, vacations, and many other special upcoming occasions are placed on our calendars with details to follow.

I invite you to add one more item your calendar. Find a local non-profit to volunteer and support which reflects who you are and what you care most about. Service to others not only gives meaning and purpose to our lives but invaluable connects us to our community.

If you are looking for inspiration, please read about two local individuals, Ann and Tamra who have found their passion and are truly making a difference.

Thank you for subscribing to The Moline Foundation newsletter and best wishes for a happy, healthy holiday season.

Paul Plagenz



### Tapestry Farms creates an atmosphere of acceptance and empowerment

In 2016, a group of people from St. Paul Lutheran Church in Davenport partnered with World Relief Quad Cities to welcome a mom and six kids from Democratic Republic of Congo. Ann McGlynn, founder of Tapestry Farms remembers, "Walking alongside these seven incredible people taught us a lot about navigating all sorts of systems in our community, especially when a person's first language is something other than English." Those who supported this family gained first-hand knowledge of the barriers that the family encountered during their time in the QC and recognized that they came with strong agricultural skills. "One day in June 2017, the oldest daughter brought our me a bowl of spinach from her garden. I filed the papers two weeks later to start Tapestry Farms," McGlynn said.

Tapestry Farms is an urban farm system that reclaims underutilized land in the QC to grow fresh vegetables, fruit, herbs, and flowers. Refugees are employed to put their agricultural experience, skills, and talents to work, benefiting their new community and their families.

The Moline Foundation granted \$10,000 to Tapestry Farms from the recent fall grant cycle towards expanding capacity for refugee support. "The investment that the Moline Foundation is making in Tapestry Farms is an investment in the people who arrive in the Quad Cities ready to rebuild their lives - and that means the world to us." Tapestry Farms is working to build capacity to support families as they work to connect, contribute, and thrive in the Quad Cities. In the next year, Tapestry Farms will welcome between 450 and 600 people from Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Myanmar, and Sudan.

“We recognize that the work of welcoming and supporting refugees in the most generous and empowering way possible can be challenging, yet joy-filled work. We hope we are one of the leaders in building a bigger table, with a seat for every single person, so that all in our community, including refugees, can thrive.”



[Learn more about Tapestry Farms](#)

## Quad City Youth Conference teaches life skills



In 1985, a group of dedicated community members saw that the youth in the community weren't getting everything they needed to live fully. So, they founded the Quad Cities Youth Conference to provide youth with the opportunity to establish contacts with community resources and enhance decision making skills. The conference is a unifying force in the community working to motivate young people to make good decisions, provide decision-making skill development, assist youth in connecting to community agencies, bridge communication between parents and teenage children, and foster

relationships between schools and community agencies to better utilize funding and reduce duplication of services.

“We want to empower students to have as much information as possible so they can be who they are created to be,” co-founder Tamra Krohn said. “And we do that through the conference.”

The Quad Cities Youth Conference is a two-day event that serves middle school and high school students. In 2020, the conference reached up to 1,000 kids and included 34 schools. There were also nine colleges and trade schools that participated and 37 organizations.

The Quad Cities Youth Conference is working diligently to grow their endowment, which is held and administered in partnership with The Moline Foundation. “The endowment challenge was welcomed because what we would like to see is to have this endowment get used to raising money each year, and have it grow to the point that the endowment takes care of the day of costs,” Krohn said.

Gail Jackson has been a key leader for the conference, fundraising and building relationships with the community for years. As a result of her hard work, the growing endowment will leverage her fundraiser efforts, allowing the conference to expand reach to more kids in the community. “We really want to grow this conference to meet kids where they’re at,” Krohn said. That expansion includes workshops, scholarships and possibly work within schools.

“We want the children of our community to know that there’s hope and that there’s something for them after school, so they don’t just feel helpless.”

The 2022 Quad City Youth Conference will take place February 22 and 23 and include workshop sessions like “Disagreeing Appropriately,” “Bullying is Whack,” and “Social Media and the Teenage Brain.”

[Learn more about the QCYC](#)



## Create a Named Endowment

Do you have an organization or cause you care about?

The Moline Foundation is ready to help you establish a charitable fund by working in partnership with you and your financial advisors, attorneys, or accountants.

[Click here to start the conversation with the professional staff at The Moline Foundation](#)

[Click here for examples on how to create your legacy](#)

## Important Dates

- February 15 - General scholarship applications due
- February 28 - Deadline for Vietnam Veterans Scholarship/Assistance for Veterans Chap. 299
- April 22 - Moline Foundation Fall Grant Deadline



### Leaders in Philanthropy - Together

When someone asks me what a community foundation is and what it does, I think of one of my favorite quotes is by Margaret Mead - "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world, indeed, it's all that ever has."

-Paul Plagenz, CEO of the Moline Foundation

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