Both George and Frances Ball were lifelong learners. George was always reading, researching, collecting, and getting involved with numerous organizations. Outside of his work at Ball Brothers, George explored his other passions. His love for history led him to gather books on historic topics and take an interest in preserving historic sites.

In 1928 he made a $5,000 donation towards the restoration of the home of Mary Washington, the mother of President George Washington. Before marrying, Mary’s maiden name was Ball – a connection in which George and his family were very proud. George made sure to pass the love of learning on to his daughter, Elisabeth. Elisabeth had a huge imagination and was extremely creative. She enjoyed reading, collecting books, and writing poetry. Curious about the world around them, collecting allowed George, Frances, and Elisabeth to continually learn new things together.

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT IN COVID-19

The George and Frances Ball Foundation staff has dedicated time for professional development, research, data collection, and enhancing the grant application process. There have been numerous online professional development opportunities through webinars and other activities for staff to upgrade skills, enhance leadership, and to continuously improve Foundation practices. One focus has been to use data analytics to identify ways in which the community can reach a more equitable future.

Personal and professional growth is something that is highly valued at the Foundation. The past six months have offered unique opportunities for our community to work together in joint problem solving activities, including the weekly non-profit and funder discussions organized by United Way. The entire community has had to pivot to continue their successful work, and it has been impressive to witness the ways in which numerous community organizations have risen to the occasion. The GFBF staff wishes to applaud these sometimes monumental efforts to support our community.
COVID-19 PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS
A TOTAL OF $248,400 INVESTED IN COVID-19 EMERGENCY FUNDING

During the COVID-19 pandemic, each organization has had the opportunity and charge to pivot and be innovative in their approach to reaching members in our community and continuing to make impact. Even though there are many uncertainties surrounding COVID-19, our community partners are consistently accomplishing great work. Below are just a few highlights of organizations among many that are doing outstanding work in the community. *We are grateful and honored to call these organizations "partner."*

PROJECT LEADERSHIP
- Enrolled 90% of eligible 8th graders for 21st Century Scholarship
- Delivered backpacks to seniors and conducted check-ins; reported that all seniors are on track to attend college in the fall
- Developing a social emotional wellness campaign/product to share with educators
- Planning a mental health first aid training for educators

TEENWORKS
- Employed 59 students from Muncie Central High School, Yorktown High School, and Delta High School with an 89% summer retention rate
- Added 5 new work sites: Parks Department, Prairie Creek Reservoir, Inside Out, Yorktown Junior Athletics Association, Boys & Girls Club
- 7 Pro teens successfully graduated the program, and 2 students were awarded scholarships worth a total of $7,500 for Ivy Tech and Ball State

INSIDE OUT
- Rescued and donated 59,273 pounds of food from March-June
- Distributed 112,940 pounds of groceries from March-June
- Handed out 7,980 bagged lunches donated by Panera Bread
- Allocated 22,018 hot meals, through their 6-days-a-week distribution over a 13-week period for COVID-19

WEB OF SUPPORT
- Muncie was granted the All-America City Award, and Web of Support's work was highlighted for enhancing community health and well-being
- Web of Support Ambassador’s created videos and postcards of gratitude and affirmation to be shared in the community

FUNDERS FORUM
- Partnered with 8 local public school corporations
- Funded 8 local Paths to Quality Level 3 and 4 Childcare Centers
- Supported the eviction alternative dispute resolution program through the Delaware County Circuit Courts