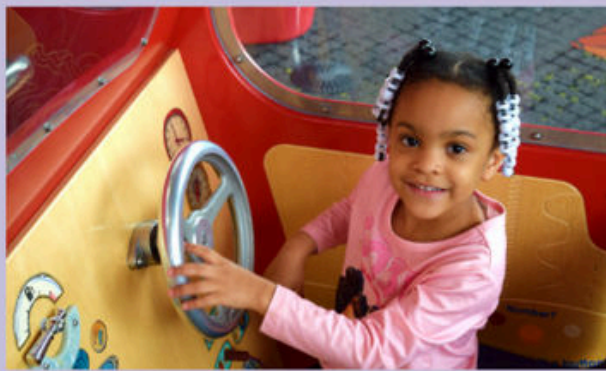




## **2024 Annual Report**

***Providing Low-Income Lucas County  
Residents With Access To Coordinated  
Healthcare Services***



community  
valuable  
advocates  
beneficial

important friends celebrating association friendly success  
inspire neighbors accountable caring  
vulnerable sympathy

***CareNet CHW Maria Hunter assisted Kayla Evans with her daughter, Kai-Lynn, left. More about Kayla can be found on page 3. Attendees of the Friends of CareNet Reception last fall were asked to list three words to describe CareNet, and their responses are at right.***

Dear Friends,

As we look back on 2024, I am in awe of all that we have accomplished together. In a time that continues to challenge individuals and communities in so many ways, your support and commitment to our mission have made a powerful difference.

CareNet has continued to grow, evolve, and respond with heart and purpose and guided by our 2024-2026 strategic plan. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to provide health care coordination to more than 560 low-income residents not eligible for any form of health coverage through our charity care network; hire a full-time bilingual community health worker to assist our neighbors who speak Spanish and have limited English proficiency; brought our community together for a two-day trauma informed care training in partnership with the City of Toledo & NAMI Greater Toledo. as well as three full-day virtual learning sessions on area resources; and so much more. These milestones are more than just numbers — they represent real people, real experiences, and real hope.

Behind every initiative, every service, and every success, there are dedicated staff, passionate volunteers, and generous donors like you. Together, we are creating a future for improved health outcomes and access to care.

Our annual report highlights not only what we've done, but why it matters. I hope as you read through it, you see your impact reflected in every page. Whether you've given time, resources, expertise, or encouragement, please know that you are a vital part of this journey.

As we look ahead, I am more hopeful than ever. With your continued partnership, we will keep building a more equitable, compassionate, and connected community.

Thank you for believing in us.

With deep appreciation,

Julie Grasso, MEd  
CareNet Executive Director



## Help Getting Back On Track

Besides raising three children and working as a nursing assistant, Kayla Evans is busy launching a scented candle and body scrub business. Blending scents and purchasing supplies are among her duties these days.

That is a far cry from early 2024, soon after Kayla's younger son was born. Kayla had been struggling with a long list of difficulties, with postpartum depression being chief among them.

Yet working with CareNet Community Health Worker Maria Hunter helped Kayla get her life back on track. Maria assisted Kayla with connecting to needed medical and community resources, including diapers, food, and transportation.

Kayla, who receives counseling for her postpartum depression, said Maria also helped her determine priorities and secure daycare so she could work.

"She never once told me 'We've tried everything. We've exhausted every option,' " recalled Kayla, who previously had received assistance from Maria with her daughter, Jai'-Lynn. "She was phenomenal."

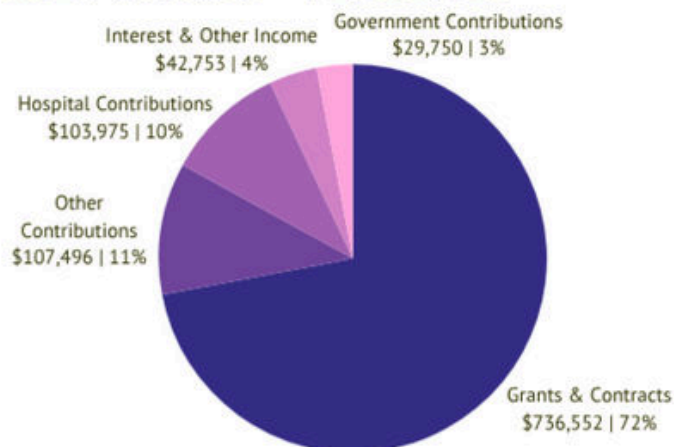
In October 2023, the then pregnant Kayla suffered an emotional and financial blow when her car caught on fire while she was driving it. Kayla, her daughter, and her three nieces escaped, but she didn't have a car for months.

Yet the fire was the impetus for J3 Creations LLC, the candle and scrub business that her mother helped Kayla fund and Maria encouraged her to start. Having additional support from Maria through tough times was invaluable, Kayla said.

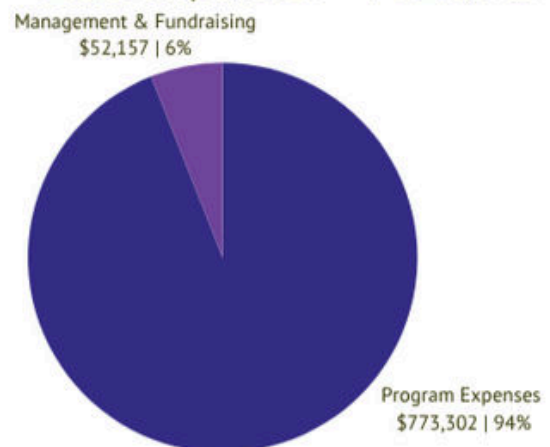
"Giving up is not an option no matter how hard things get," Kayla said.

## CareNet's Return On Investment 2024

2024 Revenue = \$1,020,526



2024 Expenses = \$825,459





## CHW Clients



# CareNet's Impact In 2024: Providing \$2.27 Million In Services



CareNet continued meeting the community's needs through the collaboration's charity care network, care coordination services provided by community health workers (CHWs), and Medicaid and Marketplace navigator services. The chart at right details the \$2.27 million in services that CareNet provided to residents overall in 2024.

Key activities include:

- Continuing to search for pulmonology, urology, pain management, and dermatology specialists to treat CareNet charity care network members.
- Receiving a grant from the Lucas County Commissioners to hire a bilingual community health worker to assist Spanish-speaking residents.
- Providing care coordination services to clients who needed more medical and social service connections and longer enrollment periods. As a result, CHWs served fewer clients in total.
- Fulfilling the request from the Ohio Association of Foodbanks to provide Medicaid and Marketplace navigator services in two additional counties - Lorain and Huron - for a total of 23 counties. CareNet navigators assisted more than 11,000 people and were recognized by the Ohio Association of Foodbanks for their efforts.
- Having three bilingual or multi-lingual navigators who can assist those who speak Spanish, Arabic, French, and Creole.
- Co-hosting a two-day training on trauma informed care facilitated by nationally recognized expert Shenandoah Chefalo. The free event drew participants from as far away as Cincinnati and addressed how trauma impacts clients, staff, and partners.

## Navigators



CareNet's Value to the Community	2023	2024	Change
 <b>Total Value of Services</b> 	<b>\$1,953,840</b>	<b>\$2,273,570</b>	<b>16% ↑</b>
Charity Care Network Members	468	565	17% ↑
Primary Care Visits	1,706	2,107	19% ↑
Value of Primary Care Visits	\$692,636	\$855,442	19% ↑
Specialty Care Visits	114	329	65% ↑
Value of Specialty Care Visits	\$94,620	\$273,070	65% ↑
Medical Tests	1,128	1,050	7% ↓
Value of Medical Tests	\$882,300	\$831,450	6% ↓
CHW Clients	197	121	39% ↓
CHW Home Visits	683	537	21% ↓
CHW Client Connections	764	1,119	32% ↑
Marketplace Enrollments	150	200	25% ↑
Medicaid Applications	542	889	39% ↑

Values Source: Charitable Healthcare Network







CareNET  
TOLEDO/LUCAS COUNTY

# CareNet Donors

January 1 through December 31, 2024

## **Founders Circle**

**\$70,000+**

Mercy Health

## **CareNet Circle**

**\$20,000+**

Lucas County Commissioners  
Toledo Physicians of Indian Origin

**\$15,000+**

University of Toledo Foundation

**\$10,000+**

ProMedica

## **Caring Society**

**\$5,000+**

City of Toledo  
Signature Bank, N.A.  
The Anderson Foundation  
Dr. & Mrs. Richard & Dorothy Munk

## **Safety Net Society**

**\$2,500+**

Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Barbara Berebitsky  
33 For Charity  
TKBW Private Foundation  
Drs. Jay & Valentina Jindal

## **Supporters**

**\$2,000+**

Dr. & Mrs. R. Jeffery & Diana Stephens  
Mr. David Reed

**\$1,500+**

Mrs. Susan Hartman Muska  
Mrs. Dorothy Kay Murray  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert & Susan Savage  
- The Savage Family Foundation

**\$1,000+**

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hovland  
& Valerie Bruce Hovland  
Dr. Carol Kollartis  
Dr. Jason Ofori  
& Mrs. Comfort Ofori-Akyeah  
Ms. Lindy Cree  
Mr. C. Michael Smith  
Dr. & Mrs. Jim & Cathy Hunyadi

**\$750+**

Dr. & Mrs. R. Daniel & Joan Rigal

**\$500+**

Ms. Nancy Feltz  
Mr. & Mrs. David & Carol Haddix  
Ms. Julie Grasson  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Stephanie Cihon  
Dr. Timothy Sigman & Ms. Chinda Misra  
Mr. & Mrs. Pete & Jan Ruma  
Mrs. Barbara Fry  
Mr. & Mrs. William & Sara DeHoff  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Karen Fischer  
Mr. Joseph Hessling  
Dr. & Mrs. Mark & Nancy Burton  
Mr & Mrs. Charles & Carol Stocking  
Dr. Daniel Rapport & Ms. Judy Leb  
Mr. & Mrs. Pete & Jan Ruma  
Dr. Mark Bruss  
SSOE

**\$250+**

Drs. William & Barbara Gunning  
United Way Greater Rochester  
- Anonymous Donor  
Mr. & Mrs. Bob & Kathie Maxwell  
Ms. Glori Puskarich  
Dr. & Mrs. Mukesh & Asha Pitroda  
Dr. & Mrs. Nasir Ali  
Dr. & Mrs. Karl & Shaila Fernandes  
Drs. Srinii Heejebu & Rashmi Goyal  
Mr. & Mrs. Tom & Jane Manahan  
Ms. Julie McKinnon  
Thomas M. Wernert Center  
Ms. Hayley Studer  
Ms. Nada Aried  
Dr. Nasser Hajar

**\$200+**

Kaptur Community Fund  
Mr. & Mrs. Pete & Carly Salamone  
Dr. Michael & Joyce Guinness  
Ms. Rita Mansour  
Ms. Erin Peterson  
Mr. Jack Rodgers  
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy & Jennifer Grasson  
Ms. Judith Grasson  
Dr. Stephen Smith  
Sr. Dorothy Thum  
Dr. & Mrs. Warren & Patricia Tipton

**\$100+**

Mr. & Mrs. Joshua & Shannon Anderson  
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel & Dawn Baldof  
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey & Kerry Burmeister  
Mr. & Mrs. William & Jean Buckley  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard & Kathleen Faist  
Ms. Jennifer Discher  
Mr. Mustafa Jaara  
Mr. J. Robert Jesionowski  
Mr. & Mrs. Mark & Breda Osbourne  
Ms. Erin Peterson  
Dr. & Mrs. Razi & Shahida Rafeeq  
Mr. Zach Reat  
Mr. & Mrs. Doug & Ann Miller  
Ms. Joan Rife & Mr. Gary Byers  
Dr. Anne Ruch  
Mr. Brad Toft  
Mrs. Valerie Wiley  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Aaron Pidsosny  
Ms. Charlotte Troike  
Mr. & Mrs. Keith & Barb Wilkowski

**\$50+**

Mr. & Mrs. Gregory & Michelle Burkhart  
Ms. Linda Fields  
Mr. & Mrs. George & Barbara Sarantou  
Ms. Leslie Miller  
Ms. Dasa Dzierwa  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard & Denise Hasbrook  
Mr. & Mrs. John & Jeanie Hayward  
Mr. Patrick Johnston  
Ms. Marriah Kornowa  
Ms. Kurstyn Loeffler  
Mr. Mark Reiter  
Mr. James Less  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert & Barbara Less

**Up to \$50**

Ms. Zaneh Adya  
Kroger Community Rewards  
Ms. Deyonca Wright

*Thank  
you*

## CareNet's Key Partners

Charitable Healthcare Network  
Community Cares Clinic  
Community of Hope Free Clinic  
Compassion Health Toledo  
Halim Clinic  
Mercy Health  
National Association of Free Clinics

Neighborhood Health Association  
Northwest Ohio Pathways HUB  
Ohio Association of Foodbanks  
ProMedica  
United Way of Greater Toledo  
UToledo Health

## Special Tributes In 2024

In Memory of **W. Scott Fry** - Mrs. Barbara Fry  
- Mr & Mrs. Robert & Valerie Hovland  
- Ms. Julie McKinnon

In Honor of **Ms. Julie Grasson** - Ms. Marriah Kornowa  
- Mr. & Mrs. Pete & Jan Ruma

In Memory of the **Rev. Tom Grasson** - Ms. Judith Grasson  
- Mr. & Mrs. Timothy & Jennifer Grasson  
- Ms. Julie Grasson  
- Mr. & Mrs. Doug & Ann Miller

In Honor of **Dr. A. Arthur Mancini** - Mr. & Mrs. Richard & Denise Hasbrook

In Memory of **Jim Murray** - Mrs. Kay Murray

In Memory of **Dr. Andy Torres** - Dr. & Mrs. Michael & Joyce Guinness

## TOPI Raises \$50,000 For CareNet

As part of their annual philanthropic efforts, members of Toledo Physicians of Indian Origin (TOPI) raised \$50,000 to support CareNet's mission of providing low-income Lucas County residents with access to coordinated healthcare services.

CareNet was chosen by TOPI last year to benefit from the nonprofit organization's annual Fall Gala. The local chapter of the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin, TOPI was founded in 2018 as a professional, social and philanthropic organization, said Dr. Srinu Hejeebu, past president of TOPI.

"We wanted a huge part to be philanthropic," Dr. Hejeebu said. "We've done really well in the community, and we wanted to give back to the community beyond what we do on a daily basis."

TOPI's Executive Committee, which is being led this year by President Dr. Sanjoy Banerjee, selects a local charity to fundraise for every year. Past beneficiaries include Connecting Kids to Meals and St. Paul's Community Center. TOPI Member Dr. Jay Jindal, a long-time CareNet volunteer and supporter, suggested CareNet for consideration, Dr. Hejeebu said.



## 2024 CareNet Board

Stephanie Cihon, Chair - ProMedica  
Jennifer Discher, Vice Chair - Mercy Health  
Haley Studer, Treasurer - achi  
Melinda Cree, Secretary - Community Representative  
Tiffany Whitman, PhD - City of Toledo  
Jessica Ford - Lucas County  
Shane Douglas - Neighborhood Health Association  
Angela Ackerman - University of Toledo Medical Center  
Marriah Kornowa - NAMI Greater Toledo  
Mustafa Jaara - Halim Clinic  
Valerie Bruce Hoveland - Salus Group

## CareNet Leadership Group

Dr. Stephen & Cathy Bazeley	Tim & Barb Petee *
Mike & Barb Berebitsky *	Erin Peterson *
Jamie & Ellen Black *	Larry Peterson *
Stephanie Cihon	Mike & Chrissy Rode *
Jennifer Discher	Dr. Greg & Janine Rosenthal
Dr. Barbara Gunning	Jan Ruma
John & Jeanie Hayward *	Pete & Carly Salamone
Drs. Jay & Tina Jindal	Bob & Sue Savage *
Dr. Bob & Joan Kose *	C. Michael Smith
Dr. Arthur & Mary Mancini *	Karl & Jen Strauss
Robert & Kathie Maxwell *	Sr. Dorothy Thum *
Kay Murray *	<i>*Emeritus Members</i>

## CareNet Staff

Julie A. Grasson, MEd - Executive Director  
Glori Puskarich - Lead Community Health Worker  
Maria Hunter - Community Health Worker  
Michele Webb - Community Health Worker  
Gloria Garza - Community Health Worker  
Latoya Butler - Community Health Worker  
Sadiq Sakhi - Community Health Worker  
Henry Garcia - Co-Lead Navigator  
Katarina Willcox - Co-Lead Navigator  
Abdallah Aldaher - Navigator  
Jodi Young - Navigator  
Ariel Gromer - Navigator  
Estephania Thevenin - Navigator  
Shannon Anderson - Executive Administrative Assistant and Navigator

For More Information:  
419-820-0161  
[carenet@nwocarenet.org](mailto:carenet@nwocarenet.org)



[toledocarenet.org](http://toledocarenet.org)  
Facebook: [@toledocarenet](https://www.facebook.com/toledocarenet)  
LinkedIn: [bit.ly/CareNetLI](https://www.linkedin.com/company/CareNetLI)