



2023 ANNUAL REPORT



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President's Message



As we look back on our accomplishments in 2023, we are reminded of the ways in which we remain grounded in the mission of the USTA/Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation (MTEF); to connect the joy of tennis together with educational opportunities, enhancing the lives of youth and all persons with disabilities. To be a strong tennis community, we must work hard to adapt to new circumstances and opportunities, listen to the needs of the individuals and tailor a better solution. We worked hard to accomplish that in 2023.

The Foundation achieved a significant milestone with the renewal and increase in grant funding from Laureus, Sport for Good. The funds awarded to us in 2024 are now an amazing \$175,000. This allows the Foundation to increase access, quality and tracking of social and emotional youth-based and development-based programming throughout the State of Illinois. What connects this grant to our organization is that this grant is designed for youth in under-resourced areas of Illinois, tracking sports-based youth development programs and their individual growth experiences in Social and Emotional Learning (SEL: the process of how youth understand and manage emotions, set and achieve goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions).

The USTA/Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation believes that Positive Youth Development (PYD) can be achieved through a community approach with NJTLs (National Junior Tennis and Learning) chapters, non-profits like our Community Tennis Associations (CTAs), and with the assistance of our dedicated volunteers. In 2023, MTEF tracked components of SEL using a program called Hello Insight. It is crucial to integrate coaches, programming, and a delivery model that includes psychological, and emotional safety as well as physical safety. Hello Insight allows us to measure impact with quantitative and trackable metrics for long-term analyses. And we know it's working by other measures as well. For the second year in a row, the USTA/Midwest Section boasts a winner of the USTA Foundation's NJTL Essay contest: Ayianna Jenkins-Cain from Milan, MI, who plays at the Opportunity Tennis Academy (an NJTL in Detroit, MI).

The Foundation was allocated an amazing \$245,000 in additional grants and scholarships. The details are provided in our 2023 Annual Report as well as highlights from our twenty-eight National Junior Tennis and Learning Chapters.

During our Tennis Month of May, the MTEF Board of Directors ambitiously launched their annual fundraiser. In a single month, every Board member contributed money from their own pocket and even raised additional funds through their network of friends and family. These donations were matched from an individual up to \$25,000, making the total over \$60,000; the most successful Board fundraiser in the last three years.

With your help, the Foundation is continuing its mission in 2024. We continue to build a stronger tennis community and invite you on this journey with us as the Foundation works to make a difference through tennis in the Midwest Section.

In Community,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy M. Albi".

Joy Albi,
President and Board Chair
USTA/Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation



Mission Statement

We connect the joy of tennis to educational opportunities and enhance the lives of our youth and all persons with disabilities.

Value Statement

Our values serve as a compass for our actions and describe how we behave in the world.

Collaboration: Leverage the collective genius.

Integrity: Be real.

Accountability: If it is to be, it's up to me.

Passion: Committed in heart and mind.

Diversity: As inclusive as our brands.

Quality: What we do, we do well.

Vision Statement

We are dedicated to inspiring character and leadership through education and impacting entire communities by keeping people active through tennis.

Diversity and Inclusion Statement

The USTA/Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation is committed to connecting the joy of tennis to educational opportunities and to creating a dynamic and inclusive culture in which diversity, differences and the richness of ideas are valued. A culture where people of all backgrounds and abilities actively participate to shape the future of our organization.





INDIVIDUAL GRANTS

FOUNDATION

The USTA/Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation offers individual grants, expanding its mission to support programs for specific adult populations including Adaptive Tennis, Wheelchair Tennis, Special Olympics, and Veterans with disabilities. The Foundation awarded a total of \$64,600 to individuals in 2023.

The following grants are funded and selected by the USTA/Midwest Section and are awarded by the Foundation

DIVERSITY

The USTA Midwest Section Diversity individual player grants awarded are up to \$1,000 to each player and are intended to help those living in diverse communities to pursue their tennis-related interests.

This grant is available to young players (8 to 15 years of age) from racial, ethnic, socio-economic, and LGBTQ+ diverse communities who are starting to play competitive tennis and show a great deal of commitment and the potential to become outstanding players. The Foundation awarded a total of \$8,650 to individuals in 2023.

ADAPTIVE

The USTA/Midwest Section continues to increase Adaptive Tennis participation by awarding grants to individuals. The Adaptive Family-Individual Grant is for families with a special needs child who plays adaptive tennis or for individuals who play adaptive tennis. The Foundation awards up to \$1,000 per individual or family and is limited to one grant per family. The Foundation awarded \$3,750 in 2023.

WHEELCHAIR

The USTA/Midwest Section continues to increase wheelchair tennis participation by awarding grants to individuals. The individual wheelchair grant assists wheelchair players by expanding their opportunity to play wheelchair tennis and increasing their skill level with fun activities in the Midwest Section. The Foundation awarded \$21,850 in 2023.

A.H. SPORTS, HUNTER HECK, AND LYNN BENDER YOUTH WHEELCHAIR TENNIS GRANT

On behalf of A.H. Sports, this \$1,000 scholarship is awarded to a junior wheelchair tennis athlete 18 years or younger in the USTA/Midwest Section. It helps fund athletes in the pursuit of excellence on the tennis court. The Foundation awarded \$5,959 in 2023.

DOROTHY KOHL FUTURE STAR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Dorothy Kohl Future Star Achievement Award is awarded to a USTA Midwest junior female player who is competing as amateurs in Girls 14, 16 or 18 age divisions at the National level, the ITF level, or the professional level. The USTA/Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation awarded \$10,000 in 2023.

PARKER ROSS MEMORIAL JUNIOR TENNIS GRANT

The Parker Ross Memorial Junior Tennis Grant was established this past year to honor Parker's legacy and his love of tennis. This grant is to provide greater access and opportunity for promising junior players who have the raw talent and drive to up their game and need financial support to compete successfully in USTA junior tennis. The Parker Ross Memorial Junior Tennis Grant is awarded annually to two talented players (one girl and one boy) between the ages of 10 and 18, who have demonstrated a commitment to competitive tennis and the desire to become an outstanding player and student athlete. In 2023 the family awarded \$4,000.

HARRISON AND SHELBY MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT

The Harrison and Shelby Memorial Endowment was created in 2018 as a grant to provide tennis scholarships to local student athletes. The fund honors the short lived yet impactful lives of the two teens who were so special to the Central Indiana tennis community. The fund keeps their amazing legacy alive. This grant is available to players living in the USTA/Central Indiana District. The goal of this grant is to help offset the financial cost of tennis for developing players, ages 13 through 15. The local athletes are evaluated on financial need, good sportsmanship, high character, leadership, work ethic, tournament potential or desire, participation on a High School tennis team and a love of the game of tennis. In previous years, this grant provided up to \$5,000 funding annually. Through fundraising efforts from family, friends and the tennis community it was made into an endowment for perpetuity. In 2023, the endowment awarded \$7,500 due to their efforts.

PROGRAM GRANTS

FOUNDATION

Established in 1992, this program grant is dedicated to supporting youth tennis programs, activities, and individuals throughout the USTA/Midwest Section. The Foundation awarded a total of \$33,500 in 2023.

DIVERSITY

The USTA/Midwest Section Tennis Diversity Program Grant is available to organizations who initiate or expand USTA programs or recreational tennis programs focused on racially, ethnically, socioeconomic, and LGBTQ+ diverse communities. The Foundation awarded a total of \$20,000 in 2023.

ROBERT P & BARBARA D HARRIS COMMUNITY TENNIS GRANT

The Robert P. & Barbara D. Harris Community Tennis Grant is for Community Tennis Organizations of any kind seeking to start new or expand existing USTA programs. The funds may be used to develop instructional programs, assist organizations in initiating or expanding their tennis programming or organize league play for players of all ages, abilities, and populations. The long-term goal is to help programs become self-sufficient.

CTA PROGRAM GRANT

The Community Tennis Association (CTA) Grant is available to those eligible Community Tennis Associations seeking to start new or expand existing USTA programs. The funds may be used to develop instructional programs, assist organizations in initiating or expanding their tennis programming or organize league play for players of all ages, abilities, and populations. The long-term goal is to help programs become self-sufficient. The Foundation awarded a total of \$30,040 to CTAs in 2023.

SCHOLARSHIPS

RICHARD BRADLEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Richard Bradley Memorial Scholarship was established in September 2014 and awards \$2,500 to an African American high school senior who will attend college in the fall.

USTA/MIDWEST TENNIS & EDUCATION FOUNDATION COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship was established in 1998 and awards \$2,500 each to one female and one male junior tennis player from the USTA/Midwest Section. It is awarded based on financial need, ability, aptitude and promise as students and as tennis players.

RICK VAN HORN SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship was established in 2008 and awards \$1,000 to one junior tennis player from the USTA/Midwest Section. The scholarship helps those with a passion to work in the tennis industry.

ANNE KRUPP MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship awards \$5,000 to one or more USTA/Midwest Section tennis players of any age who need additional training or assistance with travel to participate in Special Olympics, Adaptive or Wheelchair Tennis, and displays excellent sportsmanship on and off the court, and exhibits the true spirit of Anne.

KEVIN MINOR LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP

The Kevin Minor Legacy Scholarship was created this past year honor of Kevin Minor, a dedicated husband, ultimate girl dad, and tennis parent. Kevin and his wife raised three elite student athletes who played NCAA Division I tennis and knew all too well the sacrifices that came with it and so easing the financial burden for other families is something that he would love. Kevin believed that it is part of his community responsibility to bless others as he and his family have been blessed. This scholarship will go towards supporting the training and travel for a female, USTA/Midwest Section junior tennis player under the age of 14 and their family. In 2023 the family awarded \$5,000.



NJTL

The Midwest Tennis and Education Foundation helps support our USTA/Midwest Section National Junior Tennis and Learning (NJTL) Chapters and their mission to bring tennis and education together. Over the past four years, Midwest has welcomed 14 new NJTL Chapters, the fastest growth across all USTA Sections, bringing the current total to 28. NJTLs provide free or low-cost tennis in addition to educational programming. There are many opportunities within the NJTL network, including scholarships and the annual USTA Foundation Essay Contest.

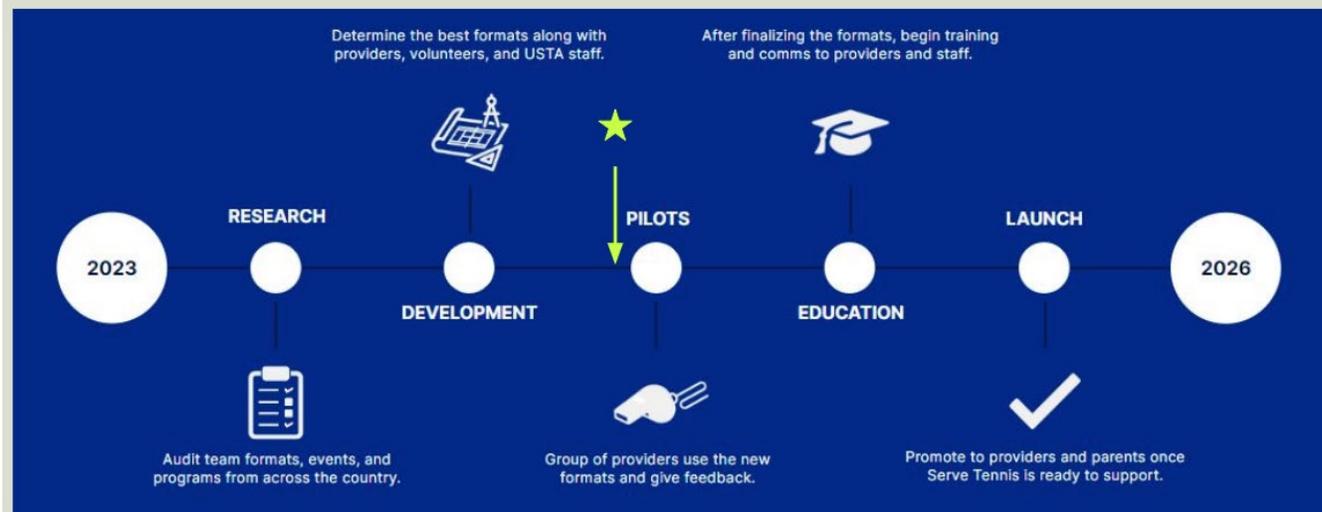
The USTA/Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation directly supports the NJTLs through program grants, individual grants, and scholarships. MTEF granted \$57,000 (to help ease the financial struggles during the pandemic) in 2020, \$29,000 in 2021, \$40,000 in 2022, and \$50,000 in 2023.

Grant funding to NJTL's from the USTA Foundation (National) hit an all-time high, with 19 Midwest Chapters receiving \$522,000 in 2023! Funding from USTAF has continued to increase during the past three years. The USTAF gave Midwest NJTL Chapters \$152,500 in 2020, \$249,500 in 2021 and \$312,000 in 2022. This is an increase of more than \$200,000 from the previous year!

In addition, 6 Midwest NJTL Chapters have been approved to receive funding from USTAF for the new Court Resurfacing grant. They will receive the money after a final technical review. This is an opportunity offered exclusively to NJTL Chapters.

10 Midwest NJTL Chapters are taking part in the USTAF Youth Team Initiative. This pilot program was created from a partnership between USTAF and USTA Community Tennis. The goal is to get kids to play right away and increase retention through a team experience. The program hopes to develop a national youth tennis league that is easy to administer and available in public, private, commercial facilities and after school locations. Participating Youth Team pilot chapters will receive free 10 & Under equipment and giveaway prizes. The league will allow for local, or section enhancements based on geographic and/or facility type.

PILOT ROAD MAP



Dublin Tennis Outreach Program (Dublin TOP) received the 2023 USTA/Midwest NJTL of the Year award! This NJTL was founded in 2019 by Weihong (William) Sun, now a junior at Johns Hopkins University. The organization is unique for being run solely by high school students with a 100% volunteer policy. The group's current leader, high school senior Soham Gunturu, has been the Director for the past two years (a coveted spot.)

Dublin TOP's concept is the "bigger kids" help the little kids. They offer free tennis clinics and one-on-one tutoring sessions to hundreds of kids in grades K-5 in Dublin, Ohio, and multiple surrounding communities. Their mission is to promote and inspire the youth of the next generation without the cost barrier. For more information: www.dublintonline.org



14 Midwest Chapters attended the USTAF Impact Conference in Orlando, FL, October 10-14, 2023. Attendees shared ideas, connected with other NJTL's, participated in workshops, and attended seminars on a range of topics, including fundraising, coaching, USTA resources, positive youth development and the Hello Insight (social and emotional learning) program. This program will be offered by the USTAF free of charge to all NJTL Chapters in 2024. The Midwest Foundation is also currently offering the Hello Insight program to the Illinois NJTL Chapters taking part in the Laureus grant. Lori James, Laureus grant recipient and Director of Love to Serve, was a conference presenter on Winward Academy, a SAT/ACT prep course offered free to NJTL participants.





2023 marked the strongest year in a decade-long Chase Return the Serve partnership with the USTA. Chicago NJTL's The ACE Project and XS Tennis were among 11 Chapters nationwide chosen to host events and receive grant money. Midwest Section NJTL Liaison, Zoy Brown, attended the XS Tennis event on July 14th. Love to Serve and Tennis Opportunity Program (TOP) also participated in these events. These four Chicago NJTL's gather for monthly Play Days at XS Tennis in the winter/spring.



The NJTL Star System is being replaced by levels, including Gold, Silver, and Bronze. This will allow some Chapters to apply for more funding than allowed in the past.

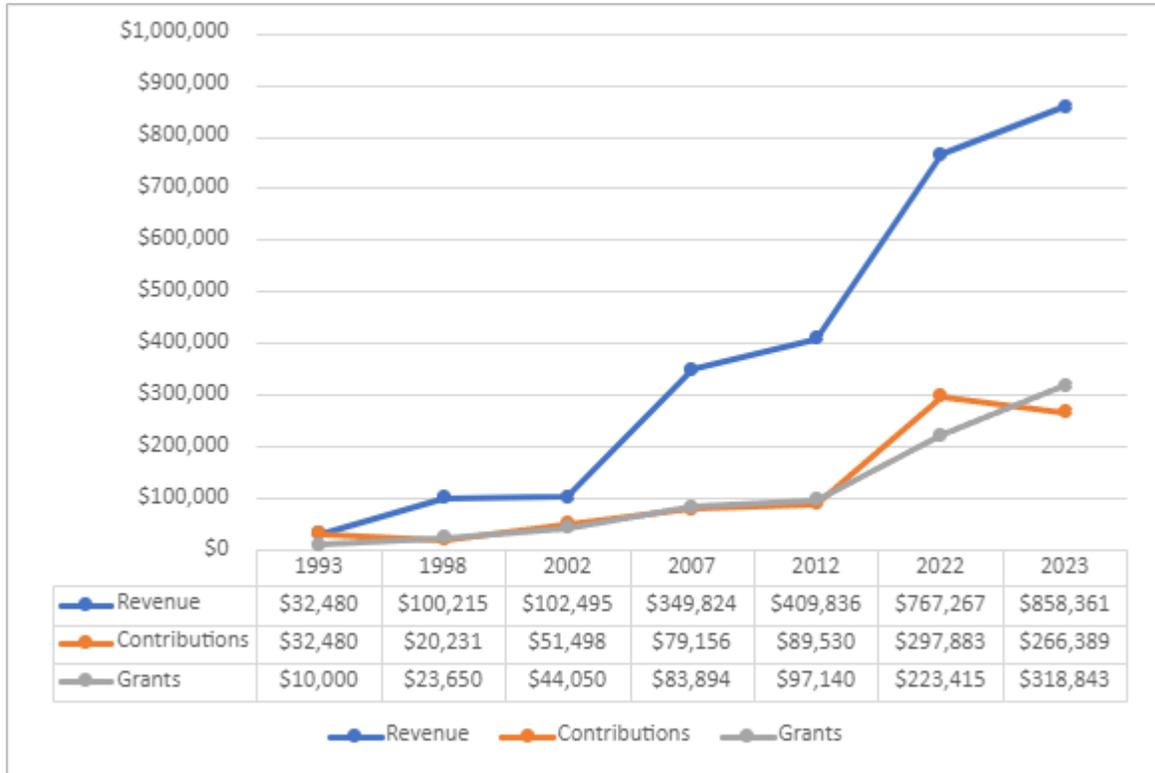
The NJTL enrollment process has been streamlined into one system, Salesforce. Leaders and staff can now access participation numbers, demographics, and grant funding all in one place. Salesforce continues to add more features for users.

There are now 28 Midwest Chapters. Recent additions include Western Michigan Community Tennis in Grand Rapids, Mount Zion COGIC Club 188 in Muskegon, MI, Rajeev Ram Foundation in Indianapolis and Central Illinois Tennis Association in Springfield, IL. The Mid-South District now has an NJTL Chapter!

Midwest NJTL Chapter leaders continue to meet bimonthly to hear important reminders and announcements and share feedback/ideas. Midwest and District staff/volunteers are also encouraged to attend.

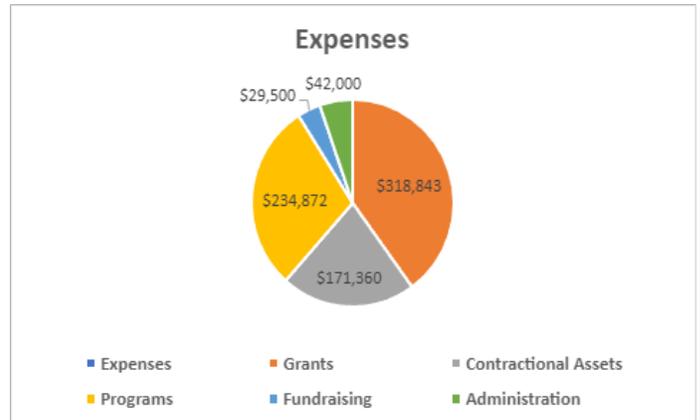
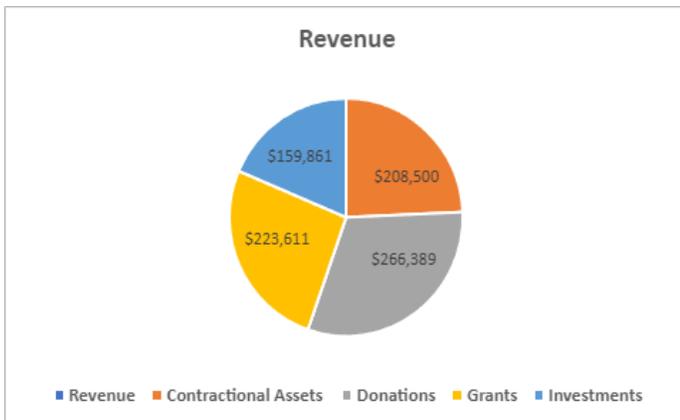


Making History



Please note that in 2023, the Foundation awarded \$100,292 in grants which were funded directly by the USTA/Midwest Section. Those dollars are not included in the grant total for the revenue or expenses to provide a consistent presentation over time. The building revenue and expense is not included either for the same reason, which is projected to be \$484,000 in 2023.

Financial Overview



2023 MTEF Board of Directors

Joy Albi, President | Paul Farah, Vice President | Fay Peters, Treasurer | Tim Ross, Secretary | Neil Harris, Director-at-Large | Curt Bender, Director | Jorge Brioni, Director | Lynn Callahan, Director | Don Harris, Director | Jim Hendrix, Director | Susan Klumpner, Director | Don Newport, Director | Todd Schorle, Director | Tammy Simone, Director | Jeff Stassen, Director



Not Pictured Above



Fay Peters



Jim Hendrix



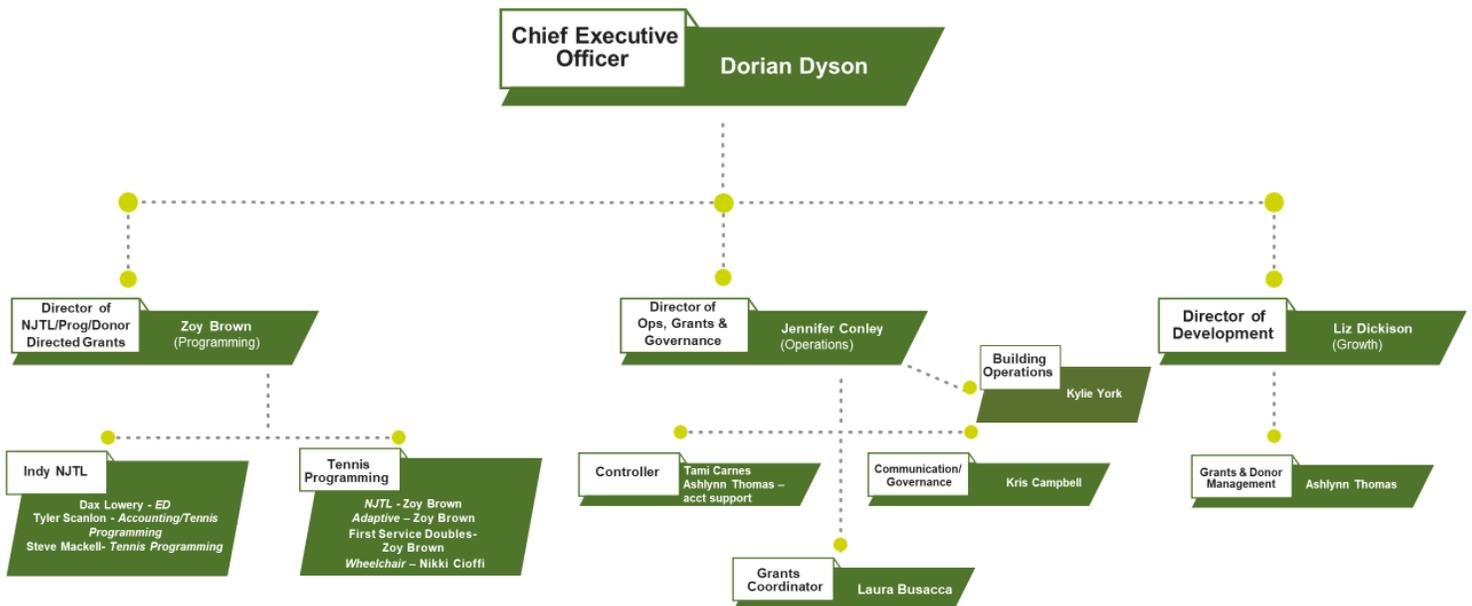
Neil Harris

2023 MTEF Staff

Dorian Dyson, Chief Executive Officer | Jennifer Conley, Director of Operations and Governance | Liz Dickison, Director of Development | Tami Carnes, Controller | Zoy Brown, Programming | Kylie York, Building Operations | Kris Campbell, Communications/Governance | Ashlynn Thomas, Grants & Donor Management | Laura Busacca, Grants Coordinator



FOUNDATION STAFF 2023



The Foundation staff is provided by the Midwest Section. Their Foundation work is incorporated with their regular Midwest duties. The Donated Services by the Midwest means the overhead costs are very small and the vast majority of the donations goes to the recipients.

Individual Donors \$250 and Over

Anna Albi
Frank & Joy Albi
Dallas Aleman
Colin Atkinson
Brice Beckstrom
Diana Begley
Marcia Bensman
Jorge Brioni
Christian Bronk
Ron Brooks
Anna Brown
Stephen & Kathryn
Butzlaff
Lee Christie
Violet Clark
Abigail Collins
Alexander Cutler
Kathy Dalla Costa
Douglas Davies
David Dickenson
Elizabeth Dickison
Linda Dorley
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Cheryl Engle
Paul & Marcia Farah
Bobbie & Jim Farley
Linda Freedman
Jeffrey Fry
Terry Geurkink
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Camilla Owen
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Fay Peters
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Jennifer Reinbold
Ann Rutherford
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Mark Saunders
Curtrice Scott
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Jonelle Smith
Jeff Stassen
Barney Straus
Tim Stewart
Herbert Tews
Diane Tobey
Melvia Wallace
Doug & Julie Wenger
Ryan Whipple

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Butzlaff Charitable Fund
Cincinnati Open
Kevin K. McKinney
Charitable Fund
Old National Bank
Purlee Family Charitable
Gift Fund
Spoonful of Comfort
Stifel Investment
Services
Tennis for Charities
Thomas Fahey Family
Western Athletic Club
USTA Central Indiana
USTA Chicago
USTA Northern Illinois
USTA Northwestern Ohio
USTA Northern Indiana
USTA Ohio Valley
USTA Southeastern
Michigan
USTA Western Michigan
USTA Wisconsin