2019 Cargill and PNC Fishing Derby

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

– Margaret Mead (1901-1978)
“The Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition shall stimulate public interest and support for the conservation, development, and interpretation of the natural, historical, and recreational resources along the route of the Ohio & Erie Canal.”

– Mission Statement of the Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition

Letter from President and Chief Executive Officer

Dear Friends,

Thanks to your generous support, we continued to make progress along the Ohio & Erie Canalway National Heritage Area, Towpath Trail, and connector trails in 2019.

From raising $507,500 to develop the ¼ mile section of the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail connecting Stark County with the Village of Bolivar, receiving a $512,810 Ohio Department of Transportation grant award to extend the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail another 4 miles, to connecting neighbors throughout communities along the Towpath Trail in Akron, the Ohio & Erie Canalway achieved tremendous accomplishments during 2019 thanks to the continuing support of our volunteers, community partners, corporate sponsors, funders, and members.

Enclosed in this annual report, you will find numerous examples of successful community partnerships and collaborative projects. While we continue to make progress on the development of the Ohio & Erie Canalway National Heritage Area, much work remains.

Some of our projects and challenges in 2019 include:

• Implementing the $10 million Reimagining the Civic Commons project along the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail, with the support of GAR, JPB, Knight, Kresge and Rockefeller Foundations. Some of the activations include lighting and seating at Locks 2 and 4, lighting, landscaping and seating on the State Route 59 Bridge, and providing shaded seating, swings, nature play and Pop Up Nature Center at Summit Lake.

• Coordinating the Summit County Trails program and the development of regional connector trails throughout Summit County, including planning for the 6-mile Rubber City Heritage Trail through Akron.

• Raising $507,500 to develop the ¼ mile section of the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail connecting Stark County with the Village of Bolivar.

• Renovating the Limbach Buildings in the Village of Clinton and developing the Richard Howe House Exploration Gardens in Akron

• Implementing the Adopt-A-Trail program along the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath to promote stewardship and assistance with maintenance and landscaping.

• Coordinating the Summit Bicycle Share to provide residents and visitors with access to bicycles at 10 locations in Akron and Barberton.

• Coordinating 3 Canal Cleanups with more than 300 volunteers and removing 6 tons of trash.

• Presenting the Ohio & Erie Canal Fishing derby to more than 250 inner city school children.

• Implementation of the Tuscarawas County Trail and Green Space Plan.

On behalf of our Board of Trustees, professional team and volunteers, I want to thank you for your continued support of our organization and our efforts to develop the Ohio & Erie Canalway, Towpath Trail, and connector trails. Together, we are creating a legacy for future generations!

Daniel M. Rice
President & Chief Executive Officer
INCOME

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EXPENSES

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<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
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NET INCOME

Unaudited Financial Information

NET INCOME $0
Canal Cleanups
More than 300 volunteers participated in this year’s canal cleanup program, which supports our local natural resources while promoting stewardship along the Ohio & Erie Canalway. Two public cleanups were held during the year – one in spring and one in summer – with other cleanups supported and led by amazing partners. Thank you to all of our volunteers who came out to remove tons of trash from the Ohio & Erie Canalway!

Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company Towpath Trek
The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company once again proudly sponsored the Towpath Trek, a program aimed to celebrate the development of the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail while engaging local community members and organizations. The Trek ran from September 1 to November 30, with individuals, friends and families hiking or bicycling four sections of the Towpath Trail to earn a Goodyear Towpath Trek pin.

Canoe Adventure
More than 60 participants joined the Ohio & Erie Canalway on Saturday, July 20, for the annual canoe trip along the Ohio & Erie Canal. The trip included historical information about the Canalway and concluded with a picnic lunch at the Reach Opportunity Center at Summit Lake. Thank you to our participants, volunteer kayak guides, and sponsors for making this a great experience along the Canal!
Cargill and PNC Fishing Derby
This year’s Fishing Derby hosted more than 250 children from Akron Public Schools and their families to the Wilbeth Road Trailhead on Wednesday, October 2, for an afternoon of fishing, supporting the Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition’s goal of cultivating environmental stewards. Volunteers helped children put bait on hooks, reel in fish, and release them back into the canal. Thank you to our sponsors, including Cargill, Huntington Bank, PNC Bank, and nearly 50 other corporate and individual donors for their support!

Congressman Ralph Regula Memorial Ride
More than 100 riders participated in a leisurely bicycle journey along the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail on August 10. This year’s Regula Ride hosted cyclists along the trail from Barberton and Massillon, then in Canal Fulton for lunch.

Healthy Steps
One-hundred sixty walkers participated in the 2019 Healthy Steps, a walking program aimed at improving the wellness of residents and workers along the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail. The participants were encouraged to reach their goal of 10,000 steps per day, while exploring the trail as a resource for physical and mental health.
Towpath Classic

The Towpath Classic once again hosted a number of supporters at the Roses Run Country Club for a day of golf, prizes, and dinner on August 23, 2019. The event raised more than $26,000 for continued development of the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail thanks to the 72 golfers who participated and sponsors of the event.

Huntington Towpath Century Ride

As part of the tenth annual Towpath Century Ride, 126 riders raised a record of more than $170,000 for continued development of the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail, connector trails, and public spaces! The riders took to the trail from Cleveland to New Philadelphia over June 8-9, supported by volunteers, staff, and a dedicated bicycle support crew. Thank you to all of our riders for their commitment to the event, and to our volunteers and sponsors for making it possible!

Captain's Ball

More than 200 guests were in attendance for the 2019 Canal Boat Captain's Ball on May 17, honoring Canal Boat Captain, Dr. Brian Harte, President of Cleveland Clinic Akron General. The event raised $40,000 for the continued development of the Towpath Trail and connector trails through Summit, Stark, and Tuscarawas Counties. Included in the event is a silent auction, live auction, raffle prizes and a Fund-A-Need portion of the event which raised a separate $20,000 for the 2019 Fishing Derby.

Honorary Canal Boat Captain, Dr. Brian Harte, President of Cleveland Clinic Akron General.
Bike & Brew
Cyclists welcomed Autumn with our bicycle ride along the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail and Oktoberfest at The Canal Tavern of Zoar on October 12, 2019! Guests traveled between State Route 800 and Fort Laurens before heading to the restaurant for food, live music, brews, and raffle prizes.

Taste of Tusc
On Friday, March 15, 2019, the Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition welcomed more than 300 people to the Performing Arts Center at Kent State Tuscarawas for its 10th annual Taste of Tusc event, which raised $14,000 for continued development of the Towpath Trail and connector trails in Tuscarawas County. The event hosted 20 vendors who offered samples of food, dessert, beer and wine to guests, giving guests a chance to taste some local flavors and support the businesses that call the Ohio & Erie Canalway home.

Lockheed Martin Towpath Freedom 5K
More than 100 runners braced freezing cold temperatures on November 9, 2019, for our annual 5K honoring veterans of the US military. The run takes place in downtown Akron along the Towpath and includes a ceremony to honor all veterans attending.

2019 Taste of Tusc participants.
Summit County Trail & Greenway Plan

Summit County Government continued their support of the Summit County Trail & Greenway Plan with a grant of $30,000 for seed projects identified on the Summit County Trail & Greenway Plan. This seed grant leveraged a total of $216,425 of public and private investment in trails and greenways in Summit County. From 2002 to 2019, the Summit County Trail & Greenway Community Grant Program awarded 103 grants totaling $1,481,650 for trail and greenspace projects, matched with $23,892,183 in private, local, state and federal funding. For every $1 of Summit County investment, an additional $15 of public and private investment was leveraged for trail and greenspace projects. Over the past 18 years, the Summit County Trail and Greenway Program achieved the following results:

- Construction of 60 miles of trails.
- Planned and designed 126 miles of regional trail connectors
- Conserved 350 acres of greenspace
- Retained or created 650 trail and greenspace jobs, including design, engineering and construction, with an average salary of $20,056, for an economic impact of $12,675,392. (Based on the U.S. Department of Commerce calculations)

Tuscarawas County Park Department

During 2019, Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition provided technical assistance and support, including meeting facilitation, organizational development, land acquisition, trail planning, fundraising and project management, to the Park Advisory Committee, Park Department and various community partners working on trail and green space issues. Some of the trail projects include the Zoar to Zoarville trail, McDonnell Trailhead at the Tuscarawas River Aqueduct Bridge, State Route 416 Bicycle Lanes, Panhandle Passage, Buckhorn Creek Trail, Bolivar Towpath Trail, Dover Canal Park, Zeisberger Trail and Parks, New Philadelphia Bicycle and Pedestrian Connectivity Plan, Norma Johnson Nature Center and the Tuscarawas County Towpath Trail connection from Zoar to the cities of Dover and New Philadelphia.
Reimagining our public spaces in Akron through community engagement, design, and innovation

In 2019, a number of amazing projects represented the conclusion of the $5 million Reimagining the Civic Commons grant awarded to Akron in 2016, phase one of Akron Civic Commons. Civic Commons intends to create great public places that are shared by everyone, a neutral ground where common purpose is nurtured. In 2019, we worked with our communities to forward our goals of community engagement, environmental sustainability, value creation, and socioeconomic integration. The project was kickstarted by a three-year grant from four national funders: The JPB Foundation, Knight Foundation, Kresge Foundation, and Rockefeller Foundation. The Akron project is also supported locally by GAR Foundation.

Highlights from the project in 2019 include the largest KaBOOM! playground installation in Akron, opening of the Summit Lake Trail, an augmented reality canal boat in Lock 2, increased programming on Cascade Plaza, opening of the Growing Mindz Memorial Garden, study trips to various cities across the U.S., and a community-engaged performance by world-renowned artist Nick Cave.

We look forward to continuing the growth of the downtown, Park East, and Summit Lake neighborhoods as we move toward phase two of our work in 2020 and beyond, creating a better future for our citizens along the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail.

Top: Mayor Daniel Horrigan at the dedication of the Growing Mindz Memorial Garden. Bottom: Park East KaBOOM! playground installation.
Ohio & Erie Canalway
During 2019, the Ohio & Erie Canalway continued to maintain progress and momentum on the development of the Ohio & Erie Canalway from Cleveland to New Philadelphia, Ohio.

Some of the major accomplishments included:

- Completion of 90 miles of the 101-mile Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail.
- Raising $507,500 to develop the ¼ mile section of the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail connecting Stark County with the Village of Bolivar.
- More than 150 participants in the Healthy Steps and Towpath Tuesdays walking program that promotes health and wellness along the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail.
- Receiving a $512,810 Ohio Department of Transportation grant award to extend the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail another 4 miles in Tuscarawas County.
- Planning and design of the City of Cleveland, City of Massillon, Village of Bolivar and Tuscarawas County Towpath Trail sections.
- Distribution of over $340,000 in grants to resource conservation, interpretation and recreational projects in Cuyahoga, Summit, Stark and Tuscarawas counties.
- Presenting the Huntington Towpath Trail Century Ride, Cleveland Clinic Akron General Towpath 50, Congressman Ralph Regula Memorial Ride, Bike and Brew family bicycling event, Canoe Adventure and Lockheed Martin Towpath Freedom 5K.
- Providing educational programs and events to over 250,000 individuals, children and families along the Ohio & Erie Canalway.
- Coordinating Canal Cleansups with more than 300 volunteers and removing 6 tons of trash.

Through the matching grant program, the Ohio & Erie Canalway leveraged $3 dollars of private, local and state investment for every $1 of federal investment.
Legislative Issues
Through the outstanding leadership and support of our entire Congressional delegation, the Ohio & Erie Canalway National Heritage Area received a federal grant for the implementation of the Management Plan and development of the Towpath Trail and Ohio & Erie Canalway. Special thanks to Senator Sherrod Brown, Senator Rob Portman, Congresswoman Marcia Fudge, Congressman Bob Gibbs Congressman Anthony Gonzalez, Congressman David Joyce, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur and Congressman Tim Ryan for their tremendous support of the Ohio & Erie Canalway and Towpath Trail.

We are currently working with Senator Sherrod Brown, Senator Rob Portman and Congressman Tim Ryan, Congressman David Joyce and Congressman Anthony Gonzalez on the reauthorization legislation for the Ohio & Erie Canalway National Heritage Area. Our current authorization is September 30, 2021 and in order to continue to receive federal funding, we need to update our legislation. This legislative corrections bill would ensure that the Ohio & Erie Canalway National Heritage Area is able to continue to receive federal funding to continue to develop the Ohio & Erie Canalway National Heritage Area, including developing and enhancing the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail and connector trails, preserving historic structures, conserving natural areas, and providing educational programs, events and publications. Special thanks to Senator Sherrod Brown, Senator Rob Portman, Congressman Tim Ryan, Congressman David Joyce and Congressman Anthony Gonzalez for their incredible support and leadership for the Ohio & Erie Canalway National Heritage Area extension legislation.

Alliance of National Heritage Areas
As Chairman of the Heritage Development Partnership (HDP) and a Member of the Alliance of National Heritage Areas, President and Chief Executive Officer Dan Rice remains involved and engaged with heritage development issues at the national level.

State Heritage Area Support
The State of Ohio continued to support the development of the Ohio & Erie Canalway and Towpath Trail through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Clean Ohio Fund, NatureWorks and Recreational Trail grant programs, and the Ohio Department of Transportation Improvement grant programs. Special thanks to State Representative Emilia Sykes and all the members of the Ohio legislature for their continued support for the Towpath Trail and the Ohio & Erie Canalway National Heritage Area.
The Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition thanks all of the supporters who contributed to the Coalition during 2019. Together we are making the Ohio & Erie National Heritage Canalway a reality!

The Ohio & Erie National Heritage Canalway

INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Adrian Achtermann
Ryan Adams
Virginia Addicott
Ann Adkins
Arden & Sue Ahnell
Larry R. Albert
Mary Albrecht
Nancy Alman
James Alkire
Sally Allikre
Barbara Jo Allen
John Allen
Mary Carol Allen
Rosemary Allen
Janna Amole
Chris Anderson
Craig Anderson
Pamela R. Anderson

Tom Anderson
Mufasa Andrews
Tim Andrews
Stavros Androulakakis
Jonah Ankrom
Christina Antal
Ursula Apaetaegui
Michele Aranda
Anne & Chuck Armoo
Keith Armstidge
Alice Armstrong
Becky Armstrong
Denise Armstrong
Jean Armstrong-Mathews
Deborah Atsberger
Deb Audu
Daniel Auker
Gary Auman
John Auman
George Austin
C.J. Arcariello
Chuck Ayers
Mr. Lynn Baker
Donald Ballant
Mary Ballantine
Craig Balloon
Alexander Balog
Shebly Banas
Joyce Barker
Robin Barnaby
Mark Barnes
Blair Barnhart-Hinkle
Adolf Barracato
Amy & Mike Barron
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Josh Banas
Stephen L. Benson
Deidre Bentacourt
Ken Berger
John Beringer
Robert Berk
Kay Berner
Mark Bernlohr
David Berry
Parker Berry
Elizabeth Bickett
Liz Biegacki
Gretchen Birch
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Michael Bird
Ralph Blachly
Richard & Alice Blaumeiser
Craig Blikle
Cathryn Block
Ladonna Blueeye
Christine Boehnllein
Alane Boffa
Joe Boldensmith
Chuck Bonawitz
James Borchert
Sandra Bonhorst
Andrew Borsi
Bryan Bortz
Alyce Bosser
Steven Botnick
Jim Bowen
Tom Boyd
Libert & Madeline Bosselli
Karen Bozzelli-Campbell
Robin Bradach
David Bradshaw
Nancy Bradshaw
Laura Brandenburg
Brian Brant
Jill Branthoover
Tammy Bratron
Dirk Breiding
Maggie Brelof
Anne & Chuck Brennan
Nancy Brennan
Ellen & Errol Brick
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Karen Briggs
Steve Brightman
Travis Brinkley
Jeff & Cathy Bross
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Dan Brown
Mary Beth Brown
William Brown
Cindy Browning
Nick Browning