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Downtown Coalition receives permanent endowment

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Everage

ANGOLA — An anonymous donor has made sure that the Downtown Angola Coalition has funds forever through an endowment at the Steuben County Community Foundation.

The DAC was supposed to meet Wednesday at the Foundation but due to gathering restrictions due to COVID-19 they met elsewhere and foundation President and CEO Jennifer Danic said in a video announcement that she just couldn't wait to share the good news.

"We have been so impressed and have had so much fun watching your group, the Downtown Angola Coalition, get started," Danic said in the video. "You've asked us for help, we've connected you with resources and you've been the epitome of our mission helping non-profits get started and excel in our community."

Danic had been talking with a donor that expressed interest in organizations working in arts and culture and the community.

"I had a great time telling her all about your organization," Danic said. "She asked then what do they need."

Fast-forward a few months after conversations back and forth and Danic said she was happy to say a donor has given \$10,000 for a designated endowment fund.

"The donor has given us \$10,000 and designated it only for activities from the Downtown Angola Coalition," she said. "Every year you will get a grant from us to use on whatever you want for general operations."

There is no application process required for the DAC to receive that money.

“It’s just us honoring the donor’s wish to give you grant money every year, forever,” she said. “We are so excited to honor this wish for the donor and also for you. We hope this is another piece of the organizational plan you’re putting together for outreach into the community.”

Circumstances beyond anyone’s control made the face-to-face sharing of the news impossible but Danic didn’t want to wait.

“This is all board approved, we have the funds and will manage and honor that money forever for the benefit of your organization,” she said.

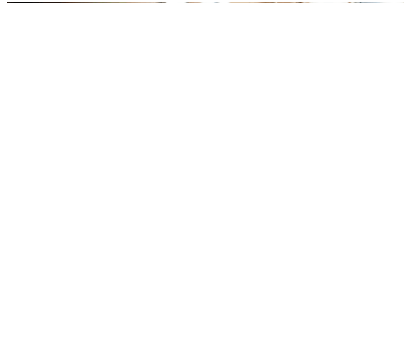
Newly elected DAC President Colleen Everage said the group is thrilled to receive the announcement from the foundation. Everage was elected Wednesday during a regular meeting of the DAC.

“As an organization, we are humbled and thrilled at the announcement from the Steuben County Community Foundation and the anonymous donor,” Everage said. “We are very grateful as we are a 100% 501(c)3 volunteer organization supporting the downtown through community events, arts and culture and developing and sustaining partnerships within and outside our community.”

She is excited to be leading the group forward as it continues to connect and grow.

“Angola is teeming with wonderful people,” she said. “The individuals that are active in Angola’s downtown and the arts festival, Santa’s arrival, wagon rides and Halloween committees are brilliant and I am looking forward to continued great things to come.”

Other officers elected Wednesday by the DAC include Karen DeForest as treasurer and Shelley Adams as vice president.



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