

2015

ANNUAL REPORT

BAKER & TAYLOR FOUNDATION



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Board of Directors & Foundation Committee

The Baker & Taylor Foundation's Board of Directors and Foundation Committee consists of Baker & Taylor employees whose work spans locations, departments and functions. They bring to their roles deep knowledge and understanding, open minds and big hearts.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

George Coe,
President and CEO

FOUNDATION COMMITTEE

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Publisher Relations*

Backpacks filled with school supplies, scholarships for students and aid to repair damaged homes. These were among the items that the Baker & Taylor Foundation provided to our employees and communities last year thanks to your generosity.

The Foundation was founded to provide financial assistance to those in need during a crisis situation. During 2015, the Foundation provided more than \$43,000 to assist 22 employees and their families who struggled with serious illness or rebuilding their homes after fires and flooding. Water was a common theme among the stories we heard from people requesting aid. Historic rains soaked the Midwest last year, devastating many communities, and we feel fortunate that through the Foundation we were able to help employees who unexpectedly found their homes flooded.



While the Foundation was formed to provide financial assistance, it has evolved to provide much more. We awarded two scholarships last year through the Jean Srncz Memorial Scholarship Fund. The Foundation also supports charities and our employees who volunteer by providing matching grants. Grants awarded last year helped raise money and awareness for Hope Cancer Ministries and supported the Relay for Life. The Foundation also provided school supplies to in-need students, not only helping them prepare for the year but also boosting their self-esteem by showing the students they were worth investing in. More than 1,000 contributors donated \$67,590 to the Foundation and scholarship fund in 2015 — an amazing effort. Thank you for your contributions that help our employees and communities. I am proud of your generosity.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George F. Coe". The signature is written in a cursive style.

George Coe

4 YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE WORTH CELEBRATING

Thank you for all of your contributions and support. We celebrate you for impacting lives, one donation at a time!



903 contribute bi-weekly
to the Baker & Taylor
Foundation



56 contributors to
Jean Srnecz Memorial
Scholarship



22 Foundation Assistance
requests granted

Two scholarships awarded
(Jean Srnecz Memorial
Scholarship)





News file photos from the 2015 Watseka flood

You know, I can't really put into words how grateful I am to work for a company like Baker & Taylor. In January 2015, my significant other and I were devastated by the flood of Watseka, Ill. We woke up and went to work like normal, not thinking anything about the massive amount of rain that had fallen in the days prior. The day was just as normal as it could be until we got the phone call informing us that our house was surrounded by water. It broke our hearts, and still does, when we think about how everything we had worked so hard for in the past three years was practically gone.

We got into town and the local fire department had to take us by boat to our house to get our animals and pack a small bag. We then had to leave the home we'd just moved into only a few months prior. We lost each of our six vehicles, and everything in the garage picked up and shifted because of the back flow from Sugar Creek.

When we moved to Watseka, we'd exasperated all of our emergency funds we had due to unfortunate events. Luckily, people at work, including Sandy Wisniewski, told me about the Baker & Taylor Foundation. The Foundation helped me pay off the other half of a car so I could get back and forth to work, and it helped me purchase a new washer and dryer. We are also grateful for my supervisor, Alex Pena, for his understanding during our difficult circumstances, to Dieter Jaehn for checking in on my home when I couldn't, and to Bart Frazier for helping me with the process of applying for the Foundation grant.

People may not be familiar with the Foundation, and I'd like to say one thing: The Foundation brought back hope after everything else failed. If it weren't for the Foundation, we would have been left alone struggling to cope with this disaster. Thank you so much to everyone who recommended the Foundation.

- Krystal Colbert

Indiana had a lot of rain in June last year, to the point water was standing in the fields. Anybody who had a crawl space or basement ended up flooded.

I'd been watching waters levels for a few weeks. I saw it get in the yard, and set out special lines to try to pump it out to a ditch. I was watching and worried. My dad was a farmer for most of his life, and we've never seen the amount of water, or the crop devastation, as this year. Because of the water, the blocks underneath the back of my house collapsed underneath the crawl space.

I wasn't at my house when it moved because of the water. When checking to make sure the water and sump pump were working properly, I noticed my house was in trouble. I went to my daughter's to make phone calls to my insurance company. While I was there, the county commissioner and state police officers came to find me.

They told me my house had been deemed unsafe to live in. It looked like my house had moved two feet. I was in shock, and I didn't know what to do. Luckily, I had family nearby and could stay with them. But insurance wouldn't cover the damage, estimated to be at least \$10,000. I'd paid for insurance all these years and never had filed a claim. Yet they denied the claim.

I tried to get my own money to pay for repairs. I tried the federal government, the state government, and applied for grants to no avail. Even a state senator tried to help me and find financial assistance.

My boss suggested I try the Foundation. I'd contributed to the foundation during my 10 years with the company, but I never thought I'd have to actually ask for the money. I was so greatly surprised and appreciative of the generosity from the Foundation. I was able to use the money to help pay for repairs, and was able to move back into my house at the beginning of this year.

I'd never dreamed I would have been one asking for help. It was just one of those things that life throws at you that you didn't expect, and that's what my boss said the Foundation was for. I'm so glad and thankful it was there for me.

- Sherry Moyer



Photos Courtesy of Sherry Moyer

In our seventh year and still growing...

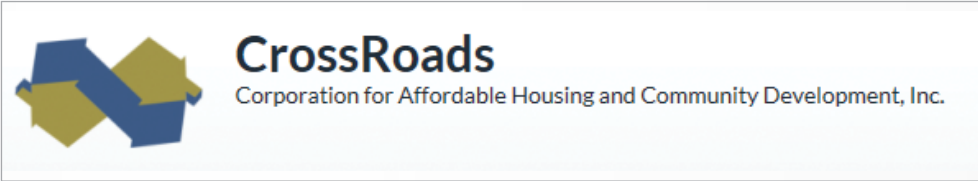
The Baker & Taylor Foundation was founded in 2009 to provide financial assistance to those in need during a crisis situation. Whether it means helping a family recover from a tragedy or supporting employee volunteer initiatives, the non-profit Baker & Taylor Foundation is committed to assisting our employee base and the local communities we serve.

In addition, we have given eleven college scholarships through the Jean Srnecz Memorial Scholarship Fund to deserving students of Baker & Taylor employees.

The B&T Foundation has one specific goal: to demonstrate our compassion and concern for others through giving to those who need assistance due to a crisis. Examples of situations where the Foundation may provide financial assistance include (but are not limited to): loss of home due to a natural disaster or fire; escalating bills for unexpected illnesses; or unforeseen financial distress due to no fault of your own.

The Baker & Taylor Foundation remains committed to all of our employees. Not just those suffering from personal crisis, but those employees who donate their time for worthy volunteer activities and support other non-profit organizations. Through the B&T Foundation's efforts, we have been able to positively impact hundreds of our employees over the past seven years. With your ongoing support, we will continue to support our Mission of providing individuals in crisis with assistance for today and hope for tomorrow.





The B&T Foundation is excited to report that we have assisted **22 employees and their families** during 2015. Situations where assistance was provided in 2015 included:

- Apartment fires
- Families facing serious illnesses
- Families rebuilding from flooding

The B&T Foundation is excited to report that **nine of our employees and/or teams of employees participated in various charitable activities** during 2015 in which the Foundation provided a matching grant.

The Jean Srnecz Memorial Scholarship Fund, started in 2009, awarded **two scholarships** in 2015. These went to **Perry Hardy** (son of Kevin & Wendy Hardy, Order Management Manager and Customer Service Specialist in Commerce) and **Austin Kroeger** (son of Greg Kroeger, Director, Planning & Allocation in Bridgewater). **► SEE PAGE 12 TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS YEAR'S WINNERS**

Based on the on-going generous contributions of our employees, the Foundation currently holds slightly over **\$406,000** in assets.

2015 CONTRIBUTIONS

B&T Foundation	\$63,840	903 Contributors
Jean Srnecz Memorial Scholarship	\$3,750	56 Contributors

2015 ASSISTANCE

Foundation Assistance Grants	\$43,660	22 Grants / 9 Volunteer & Matching
Jean Srnecz Memorial Scholarship	\$6,000	Perry Hardy and Austin Kroeger

2015 INTEREST

\$600.94

2015 YEAR ENDING BALANCES

Foundation Assistance Grants	\$406,000
Jean Srnecz Memorial Scholarship	\$3,800



Finance Employees Help Local Students

The finance group organized a book drive this year and delivered school supplies to help underprivileged students — and their efforts ended up helping in more ways than intended.

The Finance team volunteers or donates to a charitable cause every year. This year, the group wanted to provide books and other items to students to help with back to school. “We weren’t sure how to identify recipients, given the large number of area schools, said Loretta Pruss, a senior payroll specialist at Baker & Taylor.”

Co-worker Pete Chepul offered up a suggestion: contribute to Bulldogs Matter, a tutoring/enrichment program run by CrossRoads Corporation in Charlotte. Bulldogs Matter works with middle school youth in Grier Heights, many of whom live in single parent homes. Bulldogs Matter provides after-school opportunities and a safe place to be when the school day is over. The program targets at-risk students with programming four days a week during the school year, and for six weeks during the summer. Pete has worked with the group for nearly two years, and enjoys seeing the kids’ energy and excitement.

“This was a great opportunity to help in a big way, and get supplies directly to children that needed it,” Loretta said.

Employees donated money and supplies to fill 60 backpacks with all the items necessary for a successful school year. Donated items included notebooks, pencils, pens, paper, glue sticks, flash drives, rulers and calculators. The Baker & Taylor Foundation supplied the bags.

The backpacks were distributed in September. Program director Rebekah Bowen told Loretta that the backpacks helped in multiple ways. Not only did they help give students a successful start to a new year, but the supplies helped attract parents to the program, meaning more children would have access to the services provided by Bulldogs Matter throughout the year.

“Basic supplies such as notebooks and pencils can often be a challenge. The drive was important because it communicated the message that these kids mattered, and they have what it takes to be successful,” Rebekah said. “The recipients were able to walk into school on the first day feeling prepared, excited and confident. I think the drive showed the students and their families that someone thought they were worth investing in... and that always is significant.”



Walking for Hope

Hope Cancer Ministries is a 501 (c) (3) charity that supports cancer patients and their families. Each year they host Kate's Race for Hope to increase awareness and raise funds for the ministry. Hope currently supports 86 families in Charlotte.

The funds will be used to off-set a portion of the cost of the race and help provide benevolence for their client families. Services that are provided include meal delivery, transportation to and from chemo and radiation treatments, assisting with utility and rent payments, visitation, home maintenance, and any other type of task that the families need.

Ten people from Baker & Taylor ran/walked in the event and many others have contributed personally to the ministry.



Commerce Walks to Raise Money and Remember

Rogers Ramblers Family and Friends — a group from the Commerce Service center — walks each year in the Relay for Life and raises money year-round to help find a cure.

The money supplies patients with gas cards to help them get to and from treatments. There is also a service that transports patients to and from their treatments. They also have the Hope Lodge, which houses caregivers and cancer patients when they must travel away from home for treatments. In addition, they provide wigs and implants to those who can't afford them - all at no cost to the patient. They do research to find a cure and treatments, and they have a 24/7 hotline that provides information and helps people get the help they need (1-800-227-2345).



We are proud and honored to walk this walk for the survivors and to remember all of those who have fought the fight. Last year our team provided 187 luminaries which were lit around the track with the names of family, co-workers and friends.

14 JEAN SRNECZ SCHOLARSHIP

In 2009, The Baker & Taylor Foundation established an annual college scholarship in honor of former colleague, Jean Srnecz, to support the higher education of Baker & Taylor employees' children. This year, Baker & Taylor is pleased to announce it awarded two college scholarships.

The recipients, Perry Hardy and Austin Kroeger, each received a \$3,000 scholarship. These are the 10th and 11th Jean Srnecz Scholarships given to date.

"We are pleased to honor Jean by recognizing, encouraging and rewarding young people with a passion for books and learning," said George Coe, President and CEO of Baker & Taylor. "This year's scholarships are being awarded to two individuals who are motivated to make a positive contribution in their communities and fields of study, and we are delighted to make that happen."

Perry Hardy is the son of Kevin and Wendy Hardy. Kevin, an Order Management Manager, and Wendy, a Customer Service Specialist, both work in Baker & Taylor's Commerce, Ga., service center. Perry plans to pursue a degree in electrical and electronics engineering from the University of Georgia. After graduating with honors from Athens Technical College and interning with a local company, Perry said, "The combination of these experiences and my innate curiosity for all things electrical led me to choose electrical engineering as a career."



Austin Kroeger is the son of Greg Kroeger, the Director of Planning & Allocation in Baker & Taylor's Bridgewater, N.J., location. Austin will attend DeSales University to pursue a degree in finance. Austin is proud of his academic, athletic and service achievements in high school and plans to "build on the foundation that I have developed and the lessons that I have learned and will strive every day to make a real contribution in the classroom, campus, community and baseball field."



Congratulations to our two 2015 Jean Srnecz Memorial Scholarship recipients!

About the Jean Srnecz Scholarship

Jean Srnecz was among the passengers of Continental flight 3407, which crashed February 12, 2009, outside Buffalo, N.Y. Jean, who was traveling to see family, was the Senior Vice President of Merchandising at Baker & Taylor and a long-standing Director of the Book Industry Study Group (BISG). Jean spent more than 30 years at Baker & Taylor, serving in a number of key roles. For many in the publishing industry, she was the public face of Baker & Taylor. To many inside Baker & Taylor, she was a respected colleague and dear friend. She believed passionately in contributing to the development of our industry and it was this belief that led her to be active in BISG, the Educational Paperback Association and other industry groups. Jean loved books and learning.



The Baker & Taylor Foundation, a nonprofit organization led by Baker & Taylor, established a college scholarship in Jean's name to annually support the education of a child of a Baker & Taylor employee. This continues to be a wonderful and meaningful way to honor her memory.

APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE FOUNDATION'S WEBSITE

<http://btfoundation.baker-taylor.com/>

DON'T FORGET

The Baker & Taylor Foundation exists thanks to ongoing donations from you and your coworkers. Please remember to nominate grants to not only support your coworkers, but to support your individual giving of funds and time to organizations that you value.

If you have any questions about what might qualify, please contact one of the Foundation committee members listed on Page 2.



www.baker-taylor.com

<http://btfoundation.baker-taylor.com/>