

THE CHARLES AND SALOME  
**Reymann**  
FOUNDATION

FALL

# NEWSLETTER

October 2023

## Board of Directors

**John M. Reymann**  
Chairman of the Board

**Stephen C. Reymann**  
Vice Chair

**Rose A. DeBord**  
Treasurer

**Mary Kennedy Lawson**  
Secretary

**T. Gregory Reymann II, Esq.**  
Legal Counsel

**Margaret Reymann Skinner**  
Marketing & Communications  
Chair

**Jonathan Wyll**  
Governance & Strategic Planning  
Chair

**Alice Maher Luse**  
Development & Community  
Engagement Chair

**Christopher C. Reymann**  
Trustee

**Kenneth Subak**  
Trustee

## Advisory Board

**Bill Considine**  
CEO Emeritus, Akron Children's  
Hospital

**Gary L. Cook**  
President & CEO, Direction Home  
Akron Canton Area Agency on  
Aging and Disabilities

**Kenneth Orihel**  
Retired President & CEO, Akron  
Hardware

**Michael J. Reymann**  
Senior Vice President & Manager,  
US Bank

**Mark Waickman**  
VP Private Wealth Management,  
Robert W. Baird & Co.

**John B. Wilson**  
CEO, The Wilson Companies

## A Fall Welcome from John M. Reymann, Chairman of the Board of Directors

Dear Friends and Family,

The Charles and Salome Reymann Foundation has a proud heritage, a legacy passed on to us from our original founders, and a history of helping those in our community most in need. We strive to continue the good works exemplified by the lives and examples of Charles and Salome Reymann.

Every year the Foundation is faced with challenges, yet also boasts great accomplishments. This year is no different. During strategic planning for 2023, the decision was made to focus the Foundation's fundraising efforts on promotion of the annual Salome's Heart Appeal, in lieu of hosting an annual fundraising event, such as Casino Night. Within this Newsletter you will find heart warming stories and remembrances of Salome Reymann, whose legendary kindness inspired the creation of this Foundation. We are hoping that your heart is stirred by these stories and that, knowing this is the Foundation's major fundraising effort, you respond generously in her name and continue the spirit of giving that she showed us all.

The Reymann Foundation accomplishments are many, however this year two hold special significance.

In memory of Father James Reymann, the last surviving child of Charles and Salome and the first chairman of the Foundation, the Father James J. Reymann Community Service Award was established. You may have read about this Award in our Spring Newsletter. As you read on, you will learn about the first recipient of this Award, The Dane Foundation. We look to the future of continuing to recognize those among us who are truly making a difference every day.

We take great pride in sharing with you the story behind the creation of The University of Akron's Center for the Advancement of Transition Services for Urban Youth. Foundation board member Kenneth Subak channeled his talent, expertise, passion and drive to make this remarkable program, funded by a grant from the Reymann Foundation, a reality.

The Reymann Foundation's Friends & Family Celebration held at the Akron Rotary Camp in August was a fun time for friends, family, partners and supporters to gather under sunny skies and cool waterfront breezes. I enjoyed reconnecting with family and friends and making new acquaintances.

Our blessings are many!





# THE CHARLES AND SALOME Reymann FOUNDATION

## MISSION

The Charles and Salome Reymann Foundation is a charitable organization dedicated to improving the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities in Northeast Ohio.

## VISION

To be a leading charitable organization in Northeast Ohio that makes significant contributions to the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities.

## VALUES

We will build our community by respecting the inherent dignity of all citizens. We will treat those we serve with empathy, support and love. We will lead in all we do. Our actions are guided by the Catholic heritage of the Reymann family.

## Friends & Family Celebration

### We are grateful for our network of family, friends, partners and supporters.

We were especially fortunate to gather for our August 19th Friends & Family Celebration at the beautiful Akron Rotary Camp on Rex Lake. Guests enjoyed comradery, Reymann Trivia, pontoon boat rides, corn hole, delicious food catered by DeFeo's and learning about the Foundation's involvement within our community. We launched our annual fundraiser, Salome's Heart Appeal, and drew the winning raffle ticket for the beautiful Salome Temperature Afghan (congratulations Reymann granddaughter Mickey Kortsch!). We were especially excited to announce the recipient of the inaugural Father James J. Reymann Community Service Award, The Dane Foundation. All this under sunny skies with cool waterfront breezes!





### Salome as a Philanthropist, Charity Near & Far, Community Activist



The Reymann family often jokes about the many acres of land donated by Charles and Salome Reymann to erect St. Matthew's Catholic Church in Akron, feeling that the church was built to support the two priests in the large family as well as the sons, daughters, spouses and 'oodles' of grandchildren. Land was also donated for the church, rectory and convent, as well as the adjacent gardens for the clergy and nuns to enjoy. These generous donations of land by Charles and Salome were just small fractions of their philanthropic efforts, especially for Salome.

One of their sons, Fr. Albert Reymann, became a Maryknoll priest and was assigned to Guatemala in Central America, where he fell in love with the country and its people. From afar, Salome supported her son in his efforts to spread the Catholic faith and tend to his flock. When Fr. Al needed funding to establish a parochial school for young girls, Salome underwrote the school, making the much needed institution a reality. When the Padre recognized the need for improved communications within the country, he established a radio station to transmit the Good Word to folks living in very remote areas. The challenge this created was on the receiving side, so Salome stepped in to host card parties to raise funds for hundreds of radios to be placed in countryside homes. And later, when a seminary in Guatemala celebrated the ordination of six seminarians, Salome stepped in again to fundraise.

"The Guatemalan seminarians were from very poor families, too poor to afford to buy the new priest his first chalice" says grandson Louis Reymann. "Salome successfully organized a series of garden parties in the Reymann family orchard, and raised the funds needed to purchase six shiny gold chalices. Once ordered, the chalices were delivered to my childhood home in West Akron (Marcel Reymann's house), and looked fabulous on the dining table prior to shipment to Guatemala."

So beautiful and intriguing were these chalices, that the Marcel Reymann children decided to put them to use and drink milk from the precious vessels. We can only imagine the horror that their mother, Linda Reymann, felt upon discovering this act of her innocent children.

"Salome supported St. Matthew's Parish by donating a silver tea service as a door prize to the annual Christmas bazaar," recalls granddaughter Selma Anne Elstun. "Not only did Salome donate the item, but she won it back when the ticket was drawn. I'm not sure if Salome insisted that another ticket be drawn, or if the tea set was donated back a year later!"

When asked about their grandmother as a community activist, the Marcel Reymann family recalled Salome in action caring for her family, her neighborhood, her church, and her community. But Louis Reymann is quick to tell a story of Salome the matchmaker, truly being an activist even in the love life of her children.

"Sixty-eight years ago, a young man was dating a girl that Salome knew who lived a few miles west of Marcel's family. The young man wanted to take this girl to a Notre Dame football game in South Bend, Indiana – across state lines. When the boy's father heard about this, he forbade it. Salome decided to intercede on the girl's behalf, called her son Marcel and asked if his twelve-year-old son, Louis, could go with the couple to South Bend, thereby giving the appearance of propriety – a simple phone call – a spur of the moment act of kindness.

Marcel agreed that it would look proper if Louis went on the date. The boy picked Louis up at 5:00 am the day of the game, then he picked up the girl and off they went. Five hours later they were in time for the kick-off. The Irish won! It was a wonderful time! One might wonder how this couple's relationship would have turned out had Grandma not played matchmaker and made that one simple phone call. Nevertheless, it is now known how it did turn out. One and a half years later, the young couple, Thomas Reymann and Barbara Mough married. They had four sons, two of which – Chris and Gregory, currently serve on the Reymann Foundation Board. And the Reymann cousins grew up calling this young girl Aunt Barbara."

Perhaps in her wisdom, Salome showed us love in action, whether it be within her family, or in a faraway country. And she also showed us how to be gracious in giving, that we may receive tenfold.





### Salome as a Businesswoman, Her Intellect and Acumen

Stories are often shared among the Reymann family regarding the many wonderful attributes of Salome Reymann, our matriarch, our grandma. Per Barbara Reymann Strigle, married to Thomas Reymann and daughter-in-law to Salome, she was “a remarkable woman in every way.” Yet, often we overlook the fact that Salome was a very astute and intelligent businesswoman in her own right, a talent that enabled her to be a savvy entrepreneur alongside her husband. “It was clear that Grandma was very, very smart” says Barbara, and continues “at a time when bankers were accustomed to dealing with men only, Salome conducted transactions on her own and navigated the money management processes by herself.” She was an independent woman and a trend-setter without even realizing it!

Barbara also recalls stories shared of the early 1900’s, back to German settlements in Akron, and an area of town appropriately dubbed ‘Goosetown’. It is said that women plucked and gathered goose feathers, making pillows and other household items from the feathers. “In the side yard of their Sherman Street home, Salome even made mattresses for her family,” says Barbara. “I believe this was the start of the Akron Mattress Company, founded by Salome and supported by her husband Charles.” Through necessity and creativity, Salome ultimately founded a company that became a hallmark institution in Akron, one which employed many of the Reymann children as well as others in the growing city.

Grandson Richard Reymann, nicknamed Dick, echoes the business support that Salome gave to her husband Charles. “When Charles decided to buy out the other original owners of the Atlantic Foundry to become sole owner, Salome offered guidance and support. She knew what this step would mean to others, to her family, and to her and her husband.”



# SAN HYGENE



Granddaughter Christine Kovesci recalls hearing her father Clem talk about Salome’s financial acumen long after Salome had passed away. “When Grandma died, all of the home finances were in order, bills had been paid, and there were no outstanding banking issues to be handled. Even in her aged years, she was organized and made certain that her financial obligations were always current.” Steve Reymann, Christine’s brother and Clem’s oldest child, shared that rarely did the Reymann children require traditional bank loans. Grandma, or “Mom” to Clem and his siblings, frequently and generously loaned money for land, homes and other large purchases. To the contrary, it was Grandpa, or “Pop” that arranged gifting of company stock to the children at the holidays.

Clearly Salome was talented in many ways, and as Barbara concludes, “The hand of God was with Salome in many ways, many instances ... always!”



### Salome as a Cook, Baker, Seamstress and Ultimate Home Manager

When asked of her memories of her grandmother, Salome Reymann, as a family and home manager, granddaughter Mary Michael Lawson realized that she may have a unique and special perspective. In her youth, Mary spent many days living in the Reymann home. And while Mary and her parents did not reside in Akron, they visited "Grandma" often, spending days and sometimes even weeks. Mary's unique experiences with Grandma are because she spent day-to-day from morning until night, witnessing and living all things Grandma.

When arriving at the house, Mary and her parents, Reymann daughter Agnes and her husband Bud Kennedy, were always greeted with hugs and an incredible home-made apple pie. Apparently, Bud, early in his courtship of Agnes, complimented "mom" on her delicious pie. Grandma took the compliment to heart and there was always a pie waiting for Bud.

Mary's bedroom was two doors from Grandma's bedroom, however Mary never heard Grandma awake in the morning. Mary would go down to the kitchen and find Grandma there, dressed in a house dress, comfortable shoes, and hair braided wrapped in a crown on her head. And always with one of her hand sewn aprons on for the remainder of the day, hard at work in the kitchen. The kitchen was equipped with a commercial three door refrigerator, a commercial electric mixer, large kettles and pots and a huge wooden rolling pin. Special built-ins included in the cabinetry were flour and sugar bins. Grandma was known for her delicious cooking but never wrote down a recipe. Over the years people attempted to capture her recipes but the written instructions are interpreted from her pinch of this and handful of that. Many included Grandma's vegetables and fruits she harvested from her own garden, orchard and vineyard.

Mary recalls Grandma cooking for an army, even when most of her sixteen children had left home. Two adult sons, Mary's uncles Joe and Richard, lived in the Reymann home plus there always seemed to be extra people at the large kitchen table at dinner time. Grandma's kitchen and table were open to all. Grandma's seat at the table was strategically by the sink so that she could pop up when needed. As with most families, all seemed to have their designated seat. Charles Reymann, Grandpa, died when Mary was young but she vividly remembers his seat, next to Grandma.

Another early memory was coming down to the kitchen and discovering Grandma and Elizabeth, Grandma's good friend and household helper, preparing kuchen, the table covered. And Christmas was a spectacle of delicacies to be enjoyed, spread out on the dining room table and buffet.

Grandma was an excellent seamstress. Mary recalls the sewing room with large built-in cabinets at the top of the back staircase. Grandma told of growing up in Alsace and receiving little formal education, focusing on domestic chores. Young girls were taught gardening, cooking, baking and sewing. Grandma was especially gifted at embroidery. Raising her large family, many of Grandma's sewing skills were used in clothing her children, and frugally recycling worn sheets that would become table linens, edges tatted or embroidered, dish towels and eventually rags. Every scrap of fabric had a very long and useful life! Two precious recycled items, used many times by the Reymann children, grandchildren, great and even great great grandchildren, are the baptism gowns that Grandma made from pieces of her own wedding gown, intricate and beautiful.

Mary remembers, especially in the summer, Grandma doing laundry in the basement, using a wringer washer until it was replaced with a more modern washing machine. Grandma would haul large laundry baskets of wet clothes and linen up the cellar stairs and hang them on the lines that stretched across the backyard.

Grandma was truly the ultimate in home management. She managed her household, employed skilled labor when needed, managed her finances, financially helped her family, and supported charities beyond what others were even aware of. Her desk was located in the foyer room at the bottom of the main staircase and she could be found there with her paperwork.

To Mary, all that Salome, Grandma, did seems overwhelming. She truly was, and is, an example of a valiant woman, wife, mother and grandmother. In her later years, Grandma would dress for the day and come downstairs. She was weak but never stopped. Climbing the stairs was an exertion so she would not return to her bedroom until the end of her day. A day always spent in service to others.



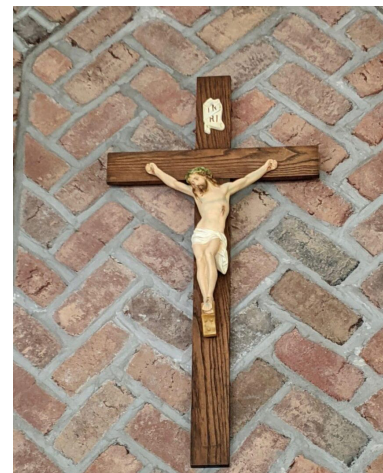




### Salome as a Devout Catholic and Faith-Filled Woman



Loving God and caring for His people was deeply ingrained in Salome Reymann, a devout Catholic and faith-filled woman. Grandson Richard (Dick) Reymann remembers his father, Martin, reciting his nightly prayers on his knees next to his bed. "I think it was a practice that he learned from his mother," states Dick. Starting and ending the day with thankfulness and prayer was an example that Grandma set for her family. Adds granddaughter Christine Kovesci, "When my twin sister Connie Roulett and I stayed with Grandma, we would peek down the grand hallway into Grandma's bedroom in the early morning hours, where we would see Grandma on her knees saying the rosary." As old as she was, she never skipped the opportunity to offer a few humble words of gratitude for her blessings, which were always plentiful.



Practicing the faith for Catholics in the early to mid-decades of the 1900's was not easy, and certainly not so in Akron, Ohio where several hate groups flourished. "When working with the Cleveland Diocese to establish St. Matthew's Church in Ellet, Salome and Charles secretly procured property and donated the land in spite of Catholics being unwelcome in the area," said Dick. Nevertheless, Salome had a vision of fostering good, loving your neighbor, and erecting a church right across the street from her orchard of pear, cherry and apple trees.

Little did Salome know that two of her children would become priests, saying their first Masses immediately following their ordinations in St. Matthew's Church. Father Albert Reymann was ordained in 1947, and Father James Reymann followed nine years later with ordination in 1958. Priests hold their mothers in special high esteem, which led to much notoriety for Salome within the Diocese of Cleveland. But for Salome, she gained many more seminarians and clergy for which to pray; a silent but welcome blessing for all.

And we know that Salome's prayers were heard and answered. During wartime, seven of Salome's children served in various branches of the armed forces, and they all returned home without significant injury. "At the time, many young men lost their lives and their families were devastated. The safe return of a loved one was not always the case, and Salome received all her sons back home, which was rare and unheard of," states Barbara Reymann Strigle.

Testimony to the power of Salome's faith and her dedication to God were witnessed by all who knew Salome. And many benefitted from her prayers, whether they were offered in silence, or spoken aloud in quiet moments. Certainly, the kind influence and guidance from Salome continues still, years after her passing in 1968.





### Salome as a Mother

"Mother" was undoubtedly the most cherished title Salome held, a role in which she excelled and one that she loved. Being raised in a large family in Alsace, and then raising a large family of her own, Salome was committed to caring for her children in a way that was unparalleled. And of course, there are many family memories woven around Salome as a mother.

"She was a fierce and protective mother, and even more so as a grandmother," relays granddaughter Christine Kovesci. "I remember visiting Grandma with my sisters and my father, Clem. We were generally well-behaved, and loved our visits with Grandma – it was mutual. Dad however was impatient, so when he was ready to leave...he was ready to leave! But, Grandma was not done visiting with the 'kinder', and she quickly retorted with words in a heavy German dialect, most likely expletives that she did not want us to understand. 'Leave those precious children alone!' was the message, and Dad clearly understood. Of course, we were allowed to visit a bit longer."

Granddaughter Anna Reymann recalls a story shared by her parents, Clem and Margie Reymann about another visit to the Reymann homestead in which Salome protected the humble ones. "That particular day, Dad's sister Agnes was flying into Cleveland, and their brother Joe was planning on picking her up at the airport. Back then, it was novel to visit the airport, and Mom looked forward to riding along. Uncle Joe, noticed Mom's intentions to join the group, and nastily ordered her to stay home. The disappointment and embarrassment showed on Mom's face, as she quietly sat down and bowed her head. Grandma noticed Mom's sadness, and quickly instructed Uncle Richard to get the car. All of them were going to Cleveland! When Aunt Agnes got off the plane, there were two cars waiting for her. Grandma announced 'Agnes, we're here to take you home. Get in the car.' Uncle Joe was left behind to drive home by himself." Salome had a softness for the meek and mild, and clearly a passion for justice as well!

"Salome understood women and was a supporter of all mothers, showing empathy for the many challenges they faced", shared granddaughter Connie Roulett. "She was a warrior for mothers that tirelessly cared for their children, often performing charity under the radar when she noticed a woman in need. She was accepting, tolerant and welcoming", continues Connie. Among the many children and grandchildren, Salome had a gift to make each child feel special. "She was kind, loving, and warm. I felt loved without her telling me, but the hugs and kisses were always plentiful," sentiments shared by twins Connie and Christine. "The house was always safe and warm, filled with beauty and love. It was the essence of Grandma. Love was prevalent, and I loved it there," concludes Christine.

Salome let kids be kids...climb trees, play ball, go exploring, get hurt. "I can remember hiding in the pine trees in the circle driveway, thinking it was the best secret fort ever," says Margaret Skinner, Salome's granddaughter. "When a thunderstorm rolled in with heavy rain and lightning, and my uncles shooed me out of my hiding place into the kitchen, Grandma was there to console this wet and shaken little girl." Salome was also quick to mend torn clothing, offer a snack and to heal boo-boo's. Chores and work ethic were important things to learn. A good education was important to earn. And being faithful to the Church was critical to care for the soul. Like a mother hen, she cared for her peeps, giving them the experiences they would need to be successful in life.

Grandson Steve Reymann recalls memories shared by his father, Clem, about his own mother, Margie. "Our mom did not have the greatest role model in her own mother. When Mom married into the Reymann family, she was in awe of Grandma's kindness. Mom was very humble, and Grandma loved that trait. Grandma also saw the inherent beauty of mom's soul and personality. Mom never wanted to take advantage of Grandma, but only wanted to learn from her. Grandma took mom under her wing and taught her things she never learned at her childhood home, well beyond the cooking that Salome was renowned for. By example, Grandma taught how to treat other people, how to manage a home, how to support her husband, how to incorporate her faith in everyday life, how to love unconditionally, and how to persevere during difficult times. Dad said mom loved to visit the Reymann home on Sundays and for years that trip was a regular part of their weekly routine. Grandma became the mom our mother always wanted."

Many family members, neighbors and friends have been blessed with Salome's motherly touch. Her legacy of love and kindness lives on in all of us, and we are all richer for Salome's influence on our lives.



## The Charles and Salome Reymann Foundation Board of Directors, Ken Subak

A familiar quote from St. Francis de Sales is “Nothing is so strong as gentleness, nothing so gentle as real strength.” With that in mind, the saint aptly describes Ken Subak, who serves on The Charles and Salome Reymann Foundation Board of Directors.

Don’t make the mistake of overlooking this quiet and unassuming man. Ken is a great listener, and selectively chooses to opine only when he can bring value to the conversation. But when he speaks, the room is silent, with others eager to absorb his wisdom.

Ken built his career as an Intervention Specialist, and currently works for the Six District Educational Compact, which includes the Summit County public high schools of Tallmadge, Woodridge, Hudson, Stow, Kent Roosevelt and Cuyahoga Falls. He expands on his title as “...more of a career-based interventionist. I help students with disabilities develop a path for successful post-graduation employment.” Paired with the initiatives of the Reymann Foundation, Ken has become pivotal in developing Transition-To-Work programs, involving both high school and college level students.



Motivated to embrace the field of Special Education by both his wife and children, Ken observed inequity in school systems when addressing the concerns of students with disabilities. “In the 1980’s, things started to shift at the federal level when legislators dictated that educational services cannot be denied due to disabilities. It’s a civil right, and Individualized Education Programs (IEP’s) help protect that right.” Ken further explains how critical it is for a parent to advocate for their child, and how extremely important it is to have a well-defined IEP in place as a tool to ensure that child’s future.

It is inspiring to hear Ken’s stories about the difference he has made for his students. “Teachers don’t always know how students were impacted by your help and guidance,” says Ken. “It’s typically years before you hear from them, but every once in a while, someone reaches out with gratitude, in unexpected ways.” Upon receipt of an order for home renovation supplies, Ken was pleasantly surprised to see that the shipping employee that packed his order was one of his former students. “He included a very kind note, thanking me for providing the training and support he needed to secure a job that he enjoys. It made my day!” chuckles Ken.

How do you wrap up a fulfilling career when planning for retirement? Ken jokingly quips, “I’m not really going to retire. But I am planning on utilizing my knowledge and talents for what could and should be done to assist the special needs community. I’m going to continue to advocate and make a difference with all that I have to offer, on my own terms.”

The culmination of Ken’s career experiences may very well be in the creation of a Transition-To-Work program with The University of Akron. With Ken’s quiet humor, he states, “Before I check out, I want to see this become a reality. This program will be a true, fact-based and data supported program, the first of its kind at the college level.” Formally titled The Urban Youth Transition Center at The University of Akron, the program includes experiences and training for area high school students with disabilities, all on Akron University’s campus, with the goals of gaining job and life skills and securing great job placements upon completion. The program is a careful orchestration of efforts between the Six District Educational Compact, select department heads at The University of Akron, and The Charles and Salome Reymann Foundation. But to Ken, “It’s simple. We know what we need, and this program is created to deliver on that. Everyone involved is excited to see this come to fruition.” Ken adds a bit more personal history, “I’ve been thinking about this and planning this program for ten years, I just didn’t think it would happen so fast. But I finally found the right people, people with heart, and they found me. And together we are going to make it a reality.” The Reymann Foundation is fortunate to have been introduced to Ken, and Ken to us. Clearly, he has been patient for quite a few years. And at this point, Ken believes, “Let’s go big. Let’s get the program launched and explode this thing as much as we can. There is so much that we can do, and we are well on our way.” One thing is for sure, don’t be an obstacle in Ken’s way!

The Urban Youth Transition Center at The University of Akron program, funded by a grant from the Reymann Foundation, launched during the University’s first semester. We look forward to the impact on our students and on our community. And hopefully one day in the future, we will receive a note from a participating student, sharing their story of employment satisfaction and success.

The appreciation for a job well done goes to our own Ken Subak!

## The University of Akron and The Charles and Salome Reymann Foundation Launch Urban Youth Transition Program

In partnership with The Charles and Salome Reymann Foundation, The University of Akron proudly launched the Urban Youth Transition Center on September 11, 2023, an initiative that aims to equip high school students with disabilities promising future job opportunities. This trailblazing program is one of the nation's first of its kind, and is generously funded by the Reymann Foundation. Welcoming 8-10 high school students from Cuyahoga Falls High School, the initiative caters to individuals in grades 10-12, who possess mild to moderate disabilities identified under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).



This initiative, which is strictly data and outcome driven, is located entirely on the UA campus and aims to immerse participating students in authentic employment experiences and educational services, enhancing their post-graduation preparedness for competitive integrated employment. Moreover, the program offers experiential learning opportunities for undergraduate education majors, allowing them to engage in hands-on experiences that positively contribute to the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities and provide practical exposure to transition services, enabling better preparation for real-world situations.

Driven by a collaborative spirit, 12-14 University of Akron students pursuing special education as their major will actively participate in this initiative, dedicating up to six hours per week to interact with high school participants. High school students will receive one-on-one mentoring, including life skills and employment training, which is critical to the individual's success. Students will embark on a journey of job exploration, visiting diverse sites across the campus including the Athletics Department, Music Department, College of Business, Student Union, and School of Education. These students will engage in classroom sessions using individual laptops and state-of-the-art VR headsets to access a tailored digital curriculum. Through these sessions, high school students will cultivate essential employment skills, independence and social aptitude.

*"This project is a wonderful partnership. The Reymann Foundation's vision is fulfilled, while both college and high school students gain invaluable opportunities."*

-Lisa Lenhart, Dean of the LeBron James Family Foundation School of Education at UA

## The Father James J. Reymann Community Service Award Winner

We are proud to announce the presentation of the Father James J. Reymann Community Service Award to The Dane Foundation. This award was established in memory of our Foundation's first Chairman of the Board, Fr. James Reymann, a loving shepherd of people, an ecumenical advocate, and a community activist. The Foundation seeks to honor Fr. Reymann and his good works by recognizing others who have made significant progress in improving the lives of the developmentally disabled community in Northeast Ohio, contributing significantly to their community through civic activism and brotherly love.



The Dane Foundation was established by the Moser family to honor their adopted son Dane, who was born with Cerebral Palsy and multiple disabilities. Dane's indomitable spirit inspired others to overcome adversities in life and to always bear hope...with a little help and encouragement. Although Dane passed away in 2009, he left an imprint on those around him. Today, The Dane Foundation works to address the unique needs of individuals with physical and developmental disabilities, while promoting awareness, acceptance, and understanding for all.



Congratulations to co-founders Patty Moser and Lowery Lockhart on receiving this recognition and award!



## Reymann Ambassador Program

The Charles and Salome Reymann Foundation introduced our Ambassador program a little over a year ago, and since then, this group of dynamos has proven to be an integral part of all that we do. From assisting in hosting Foundation events, spreading our message via sharing social media postings within their own networks, or even representing us in partnership activities, our Ambassadors are active advocates for our cause. We also consider them our 'bench' strength for talent as we look toward our future.

This year, Gene Fitch has agreed to assume the Lead Ambassador role for this group, and eagerly jumped in to help at our Friends & Family Celebration. As the Lead Ambassador, Gene works directly with our Development & Community Engagement Committee, organizing volunteer efforts among the Ambassador Group as needed. He's perfect for this position, as Gene has a long background in volunteerism, most notably with Ohio Special Olympics as the Swimming Sport Director, as well as the Hudson Local Coordinator. His passion for helping others in need tightly aligns with our mission, and we are extremely fortunate to have him on our team.



If you'd like to learn more about our Ambassador Group, email us at **Reymann.Foundation1967@gmail.com**, or visit our website at: **[www.reymannfoundation.org/ways-to-give/become-an-ambassador](http://www.reymannfoundation.org/ways-to-give/become-an-ambassador)**.



## Salome's Heart Appeal

The Reymann Foundation continues with the third year of our appeal that honors the heart and soul of our organization. Salome's Heart is aptly named for Salome Reymann, the woman whose legendary kindness inspired her descendants to establish The Charles and Salome Reymann Foundation. Salome lived her faith by treating others with love and compassion, wrapping her arms like apron ties around strangers, neighbors and especially family. Two of her grandchildren had special needs, and Salome, along with her husband Charles, were strong advocates for these grandchildren, as well as others with special needs in our community.

We encourage you to follow Salome's example. Look into your heart to continue her mission, and help the Reymann Foundation give hope to people with developmental disabilities, their families and caregivers, and the dedicated people who educate and support them. Give to our Salome's Heart Appeal, and let your heart be filled with love!



Visit our website at **[www.reymannfoundation.org](http://www.reymannfoundation.org)** to make your donation today.

## Over 56 Years of Making a Difference!

Over the past years, our annual appeal was launched in November during our Fall fundraising event. This year, we introduced our Salome's Heart Appeal in August at our Friends & Family Celebration, shortly after our Founder's Day in July. According to our corporation records, The Charles and Salome Reymann Foundation was established on July 7, 1967 in Akron, Ohio. Through the hard work of many friends and Reymann descendants, the Foundation has flourished for over 56 years!

We have a strong future with strong partners, and together even more exciting programs are being developed to assist individuals with disabilities. We remain grateful for our opportunities, for the many blessings on our journey to help others, and for supporters like you! If you haven't gotten involved yet, join us on our quest to make a difference in the lives of those who need us.

To contact a Foundation board member, email us at **[reymann.foundation1967@gmail.com](mailto:reymann.foundation1967@gmail.com)**.

## Reymann Family Directory

We are looking forward to updating the Reymann family directory for the upcoming year. Please submit any additions or updates to **[reymann.foundation1967@gmail.com](mailto:reymann.foundation1967@gmail.com)** or contact our secretary, Mary Michael Lawson at 864.764.5054.

FALL NEWSLETTER  
October 2023

Reymann  
THE CHARLES AND SALOME  
FOUNDATION

Reymann  
THE CHARLES AND SALOME  
FOUNDATION

PO Box 13441, Fairlawn, Ohio, 44334