

## **The Charles and Salome Reymann Foundation: Background & Cause**

Charles and Salome Reymann were immigrants from Alsace-Lorraine in the late 1800's, settling in Akron where they became key influencers in the booming rubber city. Skilled in the foundry trade, Charles co-founded the Atlantic Foundry, while Salome was instrumental in the creation of the Akron Mattress Company. The couple built a large home in Ellet, where they raised 16 children.

Established in 1967 by the descendants of Charles and Salome, the Reymann Foundation continues the good works of their founding parents through driving the mission forward: To improve the lives of individuals with disabilities in Northeast Ohio. A proud organization with humble beginnings, the Foundation works diligently to make a significant impact on others, and actively tends to their living legacy.

### **Board Members**

John M. Reymann, Chairman  
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Alice Luse, Retired VP Community Health, The American Heart Association  
Michael J. Reymann, Senior Vice President & Manager, US Bank  
Mark Waickman, VP Private Wealth Management, Robert W. Baird & Co.

### **Community Impact**

The Reymann Foundation has a great story to tell, and we continue to tell our story through action. For over 54 years we've been impacting communities in Northeast Ohio, and in recent times we highlight the following contributions:

- Partners with St. Vincent-St. Mary High School in the newly formed Transition-to-Work Program Sponsored by the Reymann Foundation. This critical program helps students with special needs to identify their areas of interest, provides a variety of work experiences to enable the student to learn and acquire relevant work skills, and builds networks for future post-graduate employment.
- Scholarships at the University of Akron for students pursuing careers in the field of special education. The Foundation boasts one of the largest endowments in the School of Education, and lends financial assistance to qualifying students toward their tuition.
- Scholarship at Our Lady of the Elms, focusing on students with financial need and learning disabilities.
- Group home maintenance, making independent living with dignity possible in a safe environment.
- Partners with Community Support Services' Art of Recovery. This special event features artwork created by individuals in need of recovery in some way, addressing mind, body & soul.
- Partners with Summit Stars of Ohio Athletic Club & The Brooke McMahan Memorial Swim Meet, held at the University of Akron. This event involves over 150 competing athletes with special needs, and 150 additional area high school athletes who provide one-on-one coaching.
- Support to the Faith & Light Ministries, offering retreats for the disabled and their families, and fostering a close spiritual network for those needing acceptance and camaraderie.
- Support to the Akron Rotary Camp, which provides summer day and night camping experiences for disabled persons, often times being the only viable location for a real vacation for an individual with special needs.

## Casino Night Fundraiser

In the past, we've held the annual Reymann Reverse Raffle as our main fundraising event; however COVID-19 forced us to rethink our in-person gatherings. As such, last year we launched a Year-End Campaign, which we plan to make an annual outreach initiative. This year as we resume social events, we will be introducing a Casino Night.

Casino Night is November 13<sup>th</sup> at Our Lady of the Elms, with doors opening at 6:00pm. The evening will offer games of chance, large auction items, heavy appetizers, limited bar and guaranteed fun. Communication to our database launched late August in our email newsletter, and registration via our website is underway. All are invited to attend, and we welcome event sponsorships as well. Please visit our website at [www.reymannfoundation.org](http://www.reymannfoundation.org) for more detail.

With Thanksgiving only weeks away, the evening will launch our annual campaign, which has lovingly been named Salome's Heart in honor of our Foundation's matriarch.

## Salome's Heart Campaign



Our second annual fundraising campaign will begin November 13<sup>th</sup>, covering the holiday season into early 2022. When we introduced this tactic last year, we exceeded our conservative goal, which gives us confidence for the same positive response this year. We've established a stretch goal of \$50k, inclusive of larger gifts and matching company funds.

The campaign will include witness stories, scholarship testimonies and impact statistics to the extent possible. We will utilize traditional mailings (letters, postcards) and our email database. We will also introduce a newly created page for online gifting to our cause, and implore our partners to communicate our message via their channels as well. However, our key challenge is the relatively small size of our database, although it is a very clean list of loyal patrons!

## "Ask" for Awareness & Leverage of Networks

As we continue to tell our story, we ask for your support in sharing information about our Foundation. As previously mentioned, we need to grow our reach, spread our message, and secure more interested supporters to our cause. As we become more successful in growing followers and awareness, our ability to fundraise will naturally increase.

We invite folks to visit [www.reymannfoundation.org](http://www.reymannfoundation.org), learn more about us and the impact we have made in our communities, and enroll in communications from us. We ask that you become advocates for our cause, leverage your business and social networks, help us to raise awareness, and to support our fundraising initiatives.

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### Our Mission

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

### Our Vision

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

### Our 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.