The work had been done. The charitable fund was set up. But Doug Andrews felt a change was needed and he called upon the Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln (formerly the Sangamon County Community Foundation).

The Foundation heeded the call and a partnership was formed as Andrews recently established the Andrews Family Fund through the Community Foundation to replace a fund he had created through national commercial gift fund.

“We feel far more comfortable doing business with (the Community Foundation Executive Director) John (Stremsterfer) and the Community Foundation” Andrews said. “I’m very happy with the organization we’re dealing with now. We couldn’t be more pleased with the work they’ve done for us.”

The Fund was established primarily as a way to provide support for **Brother James Court**, a residential facility for developmentally disabled adult males. The Court is located in Sangamon County and was founded by the Franciscan Brothers of the Holy Cross. The facility serves more than 90 residents, including Andrews’ son James who has lived there for more than 20 years.

“We greatly admire the work Brother James Court does,” Doug Andrews said. “They have continually been wonderful for our son. It was time for us to do what we could for them.”

The Fund was created as a donor-advised fund with Andrews and his other two sons, Joel and Eric, serving in that role. A donor-advised fund allows those contributing to the fund to determine who will benefit from the money.

“Our purpose is to benefit the Court as a family to the extent that we can,” Andrews said.

Though Brother James Court is the charitable organization nearest to the Andrews family’s heart, creating the fund through the Community Foundation does allow the family to approve money easily for other organizations in the community as well. Doug Andrews liked the idea of their local Community Foundation being the stewards of the Andrews Family Fund. Over time, as the community changes so too can the direction of their fund.

“Fidelity is a Boston-based big corporation,” Andrews said. “I felt I was a small fish to them. The Community Foundation and I have a pretty close relationship.”

Andrews became interested in the Community Foundation’s work through contacts and reading about the organization’s past charitable efforts.