Research Interests:

- History of philanthropy
- Scientific philanthropy
- Charity organization societies
- Social welfare policy.

Research Methodologies:

- Historical methodology

Tentative Dissertation Title:  “Organized Charity, Poor Relief, and the Three Sectors in Indianapolis:  1879-1922”

Primary Advisor: Dr. Dwight Burlingame

Research Statement:

My research examines how antebellum religious reform evolved into scientific secular philanthropy in late nineteenth-century Indianapolis, Indiana. I am interested in the intersection of philanthropy, business, and government as well as how charitable volunteers, philanthropic professionals, donors, and clients aligned along gender lines. I am also examining ways in which of education, accreditation, and payment of charity workers may have influenced the theory and practice of poor relief in the city.

Personal Info:

I am a retired insurance company executive. I came to the Center to gain a deeper understanding of philanthropy and enhance my volunteer work in the Indianapolis arts community. Today I teach in the Philanthropic Studies BA program and am interested in many aspects of the history of American philanthropy and social welfare policy.