COMMUNITY. STEWARDSHIP. IMPACT.

2017 ANNUAL REPORT
2017 IMPACT

COMMUNITY, STEWARDSHIP, IMPACT.

These are the guiding principles on which the Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty operates. They color our daily work and create our vision for the future. You can see them on display in the pages of this report; from the Community Needs Assessment, to the Forever Fund Endowment Campaign; from a grant to help end bullying in our schools, to an impactful scholarship established in memory of a local hero. We are working to create a vibrant and thriving West Chester/Liberty by operating with a focus on community, a promise of good stewardship of your charitable dollars, and a mission to make an impact in the lives of our neighbors.

These principles are also driving our growth as an organization. Since our establishment in 1999, the Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty has grown alongside the communities we serve. We are proud that as of December 2017 75% of our nearly $15 million in assets are endowed. This means that we are not only growing to meet today’s needs, but we are building a sustainable source of funding to meet the needs of future generations. For a grass-roots organization, built dollar-by-dollar, this is a milestone accomplishment.

While these numbers and the financial information included in this report are a vital part of our work as an organization, it is the people behind the numbers that are at the heart of our mission. The partnerships we have formed with donors, nonprofits, businesses, and local government drive the work that we do. Thank you for your continued support! We look forward to what we will accomplish, together, in 2018.

IAN MURRAY
Board Chair

ERIN CLEMONS
President & CEO

MISSION
Transforming generosity into impact by encouraging, supporting, and facilitating philanthropy and creating a more vibrant community in West Chester & Liberty Townships.

VISION
COMMUNITY
We enhance the lives of our neighbors by building effective relationships and collaborations and connecting donors with evolving community needs.

STEWARDSHIP
We are thoughtful with investment of our community’s time, talent, and treasure. We operate with integrity, transparency, and accountability.

IMPACT
We are a dynamic and innovative force for meaningful impact in our community, facilitating positive and sustainable outcomes.

NATIONAL STANDARDS

In 2017 the Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty reapplied to be a National Standards certified community foundation. We first achieved this designation in 2007 and were reconfirmed in 2012. This public symbol signifies that the Foundation follows the rigorous National Standards developed for community foundations in the United States, and demonstrates our commitment to integrity and excellence.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ian Murray - Chair
Bill Schumacker - Vice Chair
Tom Zenge - Treasurer
Chris Xeil Lyons - Secretary
Dan Benhase
Jeanne Brauns
Dave Bruno
Tom Daskalakis
Nick Enger
Helen Fanz LeVay
Gail Jackson Miller
Tim Kelly
Dr. Chetna Mital
Ray Murray

STAFF

Erin Clemons
President & CEO
Nancy Fister
Vice President - Finance
Karen Williams
Vice President - Development & Donor Relations

Karen Gibbs
Director of Programs & Marketing
Kate Feldmann
Administrative Assistant

21 LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS
RECEIVED GRANTS FROM THE COMMUNITY GRANTS FUND

$4.7 MILLION
GRANTED OUT FROM UNRESTRICTED & DONOR FUNDS

$3.8 MILLION
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2017

$220,000
RAISED AT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION EVENTS

NEARLY $15 MILLION IN ASSETS

100% FINANCIAL COMMITMENT
FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS TOWARD THE FOREVER FUND ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN

10 NEW FUNDS ESTABLISHED

100% FINANCIAL COMMITMENT TOWARD THE FOREVER FUND ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN

40 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO LOCAL STUDENTS

$220,000 RAISED AT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION EVENTS

IN 2017 THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF WEST CHESTER/LIBERTY REAPPLIED TO BE A NATIONAL STANDARDS CERTIFIED COMMUNITY FOUNDATION.
Event raised $23,000 to launch LEAF in September.

Through small grant awards, guests at the Community Foundation’s 2017 Key Event raised $23,000 to launch LEAF in September. LEAF is built on the success of The Lakota Fund, established at the Community Foundation of West Chester and Liberty Townships.

Community Needs Assessment identified education as an area of opportunity for West Chester and Liberty Townships after the results of the assessment last year. LEAF is building a sustainable source of support for projects and programs at Lakota Local Schools today and for future generations.

By 6 program. Success By 6 is the driving force behind kindergarten readiness in our region, helping make high-quality early childhood programs and services available to all.

BECKHAM FAMILY FOUNDATION

The Beckham family business, Kingsgate Transportation, places a high value on community involvement. Many organizations -- Rotary Club of West Chester/Liberty, Reach Out Lakota, and One Way Farm, to name a few -- have benefited from their support. When the second generation took over in 2008, founder Tom Beckham had this piece of advice, “Make sure the taxes are paid, and if you have anything left, give back.” For owners Jeff, David, Julie, and Amy (Barnett) Beckham part of giving back meant establishing the Beckham Family Foundation at the Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty. The Foundation is proud to work alongside the Beckham family to ensure their charitable giving aligns with their family and company values so they can continue to make an impact in the community.

LAKOTA ENDOWMENT & ALUMNI FUND (LEAF)

The Lakota Endowment and Alumni Fund is building a sustainable source of support for projects and programs at Lakota Local Schools today and for future generations of students. Lakota Superintendent Matt Miller and his team worked with the Community Foundation to establish the fund last year after the results of the Community Needs Assessment identified education as an area of opportunity for West Chester and Liberty Townships.

LEAF is built on the success of The Lakota Fund, established at the Foundation in 2004 to bring innovative teaching tools and programming to the classroom through small grant awards. Guests at the Community Foundation’s 2017 Key Event raised $23,000 to launch LEAF in September.

The Foundation’s work in the community would not be possible without the support of our biggest advocates, our Forever Fund Donors. These families and businesses understand the positive impact their charitable dollars make in our community. By supporting the Forever Fund Campaign, they are securing a sustainable community foundation for future generations.

How can you help? Contact us to learn more about how your family or business pledge to the Forever Fund can make a difference in the community. 513.874.5450.

2001
Dick & Patti Alderson
The Benhase Family
Larry & Sandra Brueshaber
Ed & Ruth Carey
Charles & Barbara Chappell
Dick & Phyllis Clarke
Bob & Jo Hutsenpiller Family
Calvin & Judy Johnson
Otto & Gayle Keeton
George & Debra Lang

2002
Greg & Sue Amend
Red & Jo Deluse Family
Bob & Lew Ann Lawhorn
Tom & Barb Lutz
Joe & Sue Meyer
Jim Schmalz & Family
Maria Schruder
Mitchell Schruder
Larry & Mary Schumacher
John & Betsy Shaffner
The Todd Family

2003
Steve & Linda Binder
John & Deborah Boehner
Bill & Jennifer Marquet
Mary & Megan McConnell
Larry & Susan Morgan
Carl & Denise Renneker
Chris & Sandie Wunnenberg

2004
Mark & Karen Carnahan

2005
Jonathan & Heather Theders

2007
Red & Jo Deluse Family

2008
Betty Kromer & Susan Kromer Hunt Family
Cliff & Sig Ryan

2009
Robert & Donna Leslie
Fritz & Julie White

2010
Sam & Becky Harris
Bill & Lynne Schumacker
Greg & Diane Stamp
Craig & Cynthia Tate
Randy & Patty Terry
Nancy Terry
Ron & Kathy Wegmann
Tom & Judy Zenge

2011
James & Chris Cartledge
Marty Davis
Daryl & Tammy Demo
Myron & Tommie Rowland

2012
Dave & Jan Cook
Frederic & Julie Holzberger

2013
Joe Busam-Kelly Family Fund
Anil & Chetna Mital

2014
Dave Bruno & Margy Conditt
Don & Susan Crain
Bill & Jenny McClary
Phil & Anita Weeda

2015
Jeff & Juli Smith

2017
George & Janet Benhase
Jeff & Jeanne Brauns
Dave Bruno & Margy Conditt
Joe Busam-Kelly Family Fund
Tom & Dori Daskalakis
Nick & Kristin Enger
Helen Fanz LeVay & Joseph A. LeVay
Gail & Kent Miller
Anil & Chetna Mital
SpotOn Productions/
The Murray Family
Ray Murray
William & Lynne Schumacker
The Stubenrauch Family

2016
Bob & Jo Hutsenpiller Family

2017
Fritz & Julie White

CHARTER LEVEL ($100,000)
AK Steel Corporation
Alderson Properties
Astra Zeneca
BAE Systems
Huntington Bank
North Ridge Realty Group
OK Interiors Corporation
Pierre Foods

FOUNDER LEVEL ($60,000)
Larry & Sandy Brueshaber
First Financial Bank
Flynn & Company PSC, Inc.
Ford Development Corporation
GMZ, Inc.
Haglage Construction
Hutsenpiller Contractors, Inc
Klingers & Associates, Inc.
The Lang Agency
Mercedes Benz of West Chester
Planes Moving & Storage West Chester
Republic Wire, Inc.
RiskSOURCE Clark-Theders
Schumacher Dugan Construction
Shiver Security Systems
Skidmore Sales and Distributing Co, Inc.
Tri-County Heating & Cooling
United Group Services

LEADERSHIP LEVEL ($30,000)
Clarke Services
CTI Restaurants, Inc.

PARTNERSHIP LEVEL ($5,000+)
Cintas Corporation
First Title Agency, Inc.
Great Traditions Land & Development Co.
Jay Mar Cole, LLC
National City Bank
U.S. Bank
West Chester 75
That is how Master Sargent Corey Hood is remembered by his family and friends who established the Hoody Memorial Scholarship Fund at the Community Foundation in 2016. The Hoody Fund awarded its inaugural scholarship in 2017 to Lakota West High School graduate Jensen Quinn, who best exemplifies those qualities that Hood possessed during his lifetime. Quinn is currently attending the University of Alabama-Tuscaloosa. His post-college plans include serving his country in the U.S. Navy and attending BUD/S training to become a Navy SEAL. Quinn has been described as “an outstanding student, a talented and dedicated wrestler, and a natural leader both in and out of the school setting.”

Although he travelled extensively, Corey Hood loved his hometown of West Chester. Hood was a proud Lakota West graduate, class of 2001, who played football and wrestled for the school. Corey was a tough athlete both mentally and physically with a lot of heart and energy. After graduating, Hood enlisted in the Army and reported to boot camp just months before 9/11/2001. Hood served five tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan with the 82nd & 101st Airborne and the 25th Infantry Division, earning numerous awards, including two Bronze Stars. He was selected to The U.S. Army Golden Knights, the U.S. Army’s elite parachute team, in 2014.

“I feel extremely blessed to be surrounded by a community that believes in the value of education and the potential of today’s youth. Generous donations like yours provide students with amazing opportunities to learn and grow.”

— Justin Kelley

The Hoody Memorial Fund was created to raise funds to positively impact the community aligned in memoriam of Master Sergeant Corey Hood’s character and community impact.

“The Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty along with both Liberty & West Chester Townships have done an incredible job supporting the Hoody Memorial,” said Nick Enger, who established the fund in memory of his friend. “Our goal is to raise enough money in the fund so that the principal will yield enough in growth that we can continue to give scholarships away in Corey’s name to Lakota students indefinitely.”

A strong will, a desire to succeed, & a little bit of grit.
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF WEST CHESTER/LIBERTY FUNDS

Establishing a fund at the Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty is a simple process, customized to meet your charitable goals. Contact us to learn more: 513.874.5450.
In spring 2017 the Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty completed a comprehensive, data-driven Community Needs Assessment with Ignite Philanthropy. The 9-month long project included a Community Summit as well as interviews with representatives across a variety of sectors in the community. The report identified 3 key areas of focus where philanthropy can make a significant impact: education, transportation, and workforce development.

Over the next 5-10 years, we plan to build initiatives around the results of the needs assessment, create collaborative partnerships with local nonprofit organizations, government, and businesses, and direct our grant-making to fund programming in these primary areas.

**EDUCATION**

**THE ISSUE**
Lakota Schools are a vital anchor and attractor. K-3rd grade students who have not attained reading proficiency struggle to get on track. Concerns about declining enrollment and quality are rising, and the student achievement gap is widening. Community engagement in the schools is low among citizens who do not have children in the schools.

**THE OPPORTUNITY**
- Revitalize, rebuild & align the Lakota Fund at the Foundation to address the achievement gap and K-3 literacy
- Promote innovation in education and school-community partnerships.
- Reinforce Lakota Schools’ pivotal role, its challenges and successes.

**TRANSPORTATION**

**THE ISSUE**
While the community is accessible for car owners, sidewalks and buses are nonexistent in some neighborhoods. Groups disproportionately affected by limited options are the elderly, households with low incomes, and high school students. Some workers face obstacles commuting and youth face obstacles getting to and from extracurricular activities. There is great interest in biking and walking trails.

**THE OPPORTUNITY**
- Engage public-private partners to plan for initiatives, such as sidewalks & biking & hiking trails. Develop a fund to drive private support.
- Assist in accessing government and private grants by providing grant writing assistance.
- Develop programs and resources to provide micro-solutions to barriers faced by key groups of citizens.

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

**THE ISSUE**
The number of available jobs in the region is 25,000 and continues to grow. Critical workforce needs are manufacturing, hourly labor force, and management. Job seekers are hampered by a lack of transportation, technical skills, and personal barriers, especially among $12-$20 per hour earners.

**THE OPPORTUNITY**
- Convene and support partnerships among business leaders, education, and government sectors.
- Identify promising training program models and identify resources to fund gaps.
- Inventory specific needs of mid-sized & small employers and help then make connections.
- Problem solve against employment barriers – childcare, transportation, etc.

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**PHILANTHROPIST OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**BILL & JENNY MCCLOY**

“If our giving encourages or motivates one other person to give, then I think it is worth having our name out there,” says Bill McCloy. He and his wife, Jenny, were recognized by the Community Foundation as the 2017 Patricia F. Alderson Philanthropists of the Year. Like most people who give, Bill & Jenny were not seeking accolades for their philanthropy but simply wanted to make a difference, as Jenny explains: “We never use the word philanthropist, but we knew we had a responsibility to give back.”

By any measure, they have fulfilled that responsibility many times over. Jenny is a 20-year volunteer with organizations such as Melodic Connections, where she serves as Board President, and ReelAbilities Cincinnati as Festival Chair. Bill is Board Vice-President of the Ken Anderson Alliance, an organization acting to create opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities. He is a past Board Member at Down Syndrome Association of Cincinnati. The McCloys also support several local hospitals, parochial schools, and charitable organizations. Bill and Jenny are supporters of the Forever Fund Operating Endowment at the Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty, and hold a charitable fund at the Foundation, as well.

“We never use the word philanthropist, but we knew we had a responsibility to give back.”

The Patricia F. Alderson Philanthropist of the Year Award was established in 2015 in honor of the Community Foundation’s founder and Board Chair Emeritus, Patti Alderson. It is presented annually to a local philanthropist who has shown exceptional dedication to improving the community through time, talent, and treasure. When asked about the award that bears her name, Patti had this to say: “A Philanthropist doesn’t start out being a philanthropist. A philanthropist starts out by being somebody who cares about something. Bill and Jenny are remarkable individuals and together they’re a dynamo.”

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**FINANCIALS**

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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>$14,544,281</td>
<td>$14,754,258</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THE ID PROJECT

Dozens of junior high students crisscross the noisy gymnasium laughing and shouting to friends, some of which they have just met today. They are working through a team-building game before settling down for the next small-group discussion session with The ID Project. It’s a busy afternoon, but one that Lakota junior high teachers, staff, and parents hope will engage the students.

The ID Project focuses on building self-esteem, healthy peer interaction, and positive decision-making in an interactive format. Thanks to a matching grant from the Community Foundation to supplement funds raised by the Parent-Teacher groups at each junior high school, The ID Project has become an annual experience for Lakota 7th graders. More than 8,000 students will have participated in The ID Project by the end of the 2017-2018 school year.

“The reality is junior high students today are faced with a much different world than their parents, and often even older siblings, were,” said Kathy Strack, The ID Project coordinator for Lakota. “They live in an environment where social media is their reality. A rumor can spread to thousands instantly, bullying can be anonymous, widespread, and deeply harmful."

The goal of the program is for students to learn to interact with greater respect and understanding for their peers, and to meet the social and emotional challenges that face students as they enter their teen years.

The positive impact of The ID Project is already being felt in halls of Hopewell, Liberty, Ridge, and Plains Junior Schools. Teachers and staff work to weave the discussions and activities into daily school life to reinforce the lessons learned during The ID Project so that the program has a lasting positive impact for years to come.

...They live in an environment where social media is their reality. A rumor can spread to thousands instantly, bullying can be anonymous, widespread, and deeply harmful.

MIAMI 2 MIAMI

“Active transportation infrastructure such as multi-use paths and sidewalks has been shown to promote economic development, increase property values and options for citizen mobility, improve traffic safety, and promote public health, community well-being, and quality of life.” That is just one way Wade Johnston, Director of Tri-State Trails (an initiative of Green Umbrella), sells the Miami 2 Miami Connection. The benefits of his proposal are catching on and local communities and organizations are lending their support, including the Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty.

The Miami 2 Miami Connection (M2M) is the vision to connect the tri-state’s two longest multi-use trails, the Little Miami Scenic Trail and Great Miami River Trail. M2M plans to traverse through Butler and Warren Counties in Southwest Ohio, including 7 communities: Hamilton, Fairfield, Mason, Fairfield Township, West Chester Township, Liberty Township, and Deerfield Township. Upon its completion the trail will link schools, parks, commercial areas, and businesses throughout these communities.

Last year, the Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty awarded a $10,000 grant from the Community Grants Fund and the Brueshaber Family Fund in support of the Miami 2 Miami Connection.

“Transportation was identified as a top priority during our recent Community Needs Assessment,” said Erin Clemons, Foundation president & CEO. “We are proud to partner with Tri-State Trails on this exciting project and to be a part of the collaborative work that is happening in our region.”

The Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty awards grants to nonprofit organizations serving the residents of West Chester and Liberty Townships from our Community Grants Fund. These dollars support initiatives that improve the quality of life in our area and help create a vibrant community. In 2017, the Foundation’s Board of Directors awarded grants to 21 organizations:

**ABILITIES FIRST FOUNDATION**
Autism Learning Center Music Therapy Program

**AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION**
Camp Kehel

**ANDY & JORDAN DALTON FOUNDATION**
Pass It On Program

**ARTS COUNCIL OF WEST CHESTER/LIBERTY**
Community Summer Arts Series

**BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF BUTLER COUNTY**
Woodland Elementary After-School Mentoring

**BUTLER COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CENTER**
Discover STEM Conference

**CARING COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE**
Community Outreach Programming

**CITY GOSPEL MISSION**
Whiz Kids Tutoring & Mentoring

**EDGE TEEN CENTER**
Community Service Program

**FAITH ALLIANCE OF WEST CHESTER/LIBERTY**
Hunger & Education Programming

**FOCUS ON YOUTH**
Connect Project with EDGE Teen Center

**GREEN UMBRELLA**
Tri-State Trails Miami 2 Miami Connection

**HEARING, SPEECH, AND DEAF CENTER**
Audiology Charitable Services

**JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT**
Programming in Lakota Local Schools

**LAKOTA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS**
ID Anti-Bullying Project

**MELODIC CONNECTIONS**
Musical Books

**OHIO VALLEY VOICES**
Pediatric Audiology Outreach

**PEOPLE WORKING COOPERATIVELY**
Emergency Home Repair

**SHARED HARVEST FOOD BANK**
Weekly Food Bag Program

**TALBERT HOUSE**
Treatment for Sensory Needs & ASD Diagnosis

**WOMEN WALKING WEST**
Scholarship & Mentoring Program
SPONSORS

PARK NATIONAL BANK

BILL SCHUMACKER
Senior Vice President and Trust Officer
513.718.6053 | wschumacker@parknationalbank.com
www.parknationalbank.com

Bill Schumacker is Senior Vice President and Trust Officer for Park National Bank. Bill’s knowledge and 37 years of banking experience make him a valuable advisor when investing for your retirement or planning your estate. Bill has a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration & Finance from Butler University, and is a graduate of the American Banker’s Association National Trust School and National Graduate Trust School. Bill gives back to the community through service Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors at the Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty Township and as past Chair of the Administrative Board for St. Mark’s Methodist Church in Fairfield, where he remains very involved. A past president of the West Chester Rotary Club, Bill was honored to receive the Paul Harris Fellow and Patty Daughtery Service Awards.

FIRST FINANCIAL BANK

BARRY LAMPLEY
Market President
barry.lampley@bankatfirst.com
www.bankatfirst.com

For over 150 years, First Financial Bank has successfully combined the expertise and services of a larger bank with the care and perspective of a neighborhood community bank. First Financial has grown from its roots in nearby Hamilton, Ohio to become the second largest bank holding company headquartered in Greater Cincinnati with assets of $7 billion.

Although the bank continues to experience exciting growth, the mission of the bank remains the same. First Financial has and always will be a client-centered and relationship-focused bank that builds strong partnerships with its clients, local business and the community. First Financial proudly supports the Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty to help improve the quality of life in the region.

TOTAL WEALTH PLANNING

DAVE WILDER, JOEL MUSSER, ROB LEMMONS, ROB SIEGMANN AND JON ANDRE
513.984.6696 | info@twpteam.com
www.twpteam.com

Since 1989, Total Wealth Planning (formerly FMG) has provided objective guidance and solutions to clients helping them reach their lifetime goals. We utilize a comprehensive wealth planning approach tailored to multi-generational families, business owners and corporate executives. Many financial firms limit relationships to investment advice or commissioned product sales. However, our experienced team of professionals provides value with coordinated planning services such as: retirement and college plans, tax planning and projections, insurance analysis, and estate and philanthropic guidance. We serve client interests first and embrace the fiduciary standard. We’re honored to be an approved charitable fund investment manager and serve the donors and the mission of the Community Foundation.

CUNI, FERGUSON AND LEVAY CO., LPA

HELEN FANZ LEVAY
513.771.6768 | HLevay@cfl-law.com
www.cfl-law.com

Cuni, Ferguson and LeVay, Co., LPA is a boutique law firm conveniently located in Glendale / Woodlawn. The firm specializes in Corporate, Closely Held Corporations, Limited Liability Companies, and Partnerships; Real Estate; Community, Homeowner Association and Condominium Association Law; Planned Unit Development Law; Estate Planning; Probate and Ancillary Probate Administration; Probate Avoidance Planning; Family Wealth Preservation Planning; Gift Taxation Planning; Special Needs Trusts and Medicaid Planning; Estate and Trust Taxation; Fiduciary Law; Philanthropy; and, Charitable Giving. Partner, Helen Fanz LeVay, Esq., has nearly 30 years legal experience focusing on Estate Planning, Probate and Trust Administration, Estate and Trust taxation, Real Estate, Philanthropy and Charitable Giving.

FLYNN & COMPANY, INC. – CPA’S & BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

RICHARD T. FLYNN, CPA
President/CEO
513.530.9200 | rflynn@flynncocpa.com
www.flynncocpa.com

Flynn & Company has been serving Greater Cincinnati’s accounting and financial needs for over twenty two years. The firm specializes in providing professional services in the key business areas of accounting, audit, tax, and consulting to industry segments that include manufacturing, distribution, construction, privately owned businesses and non-profit organizations.

We are committed to helping our clients achieve financial success by providing innovative and practical solutions that are customized to meet their needs.

YOUR DREAM. YOUR GIFT. YOUR LEGACY.

The Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty works with these, and other, professional advisors to help you build a legacy tailored to meet your charitable giving goals and maximize both the impact of your gift and the financial benefit to you and your family. To learn more about leaving a charitable legacy, contact us at 513.874.5450.
THE KEY EVENT: WHISKEY & WINE
The 24th Annual Key Event, themed Whiskey & Wine, was celebrated on September 9th at the Holiday Inn Centre Park. The Community Foundation hosted 400 guests for a cocktail party, auction, dinner, and after party, and raised more than $113,000 to benefit the Foundation’s Community Grants Fund and ongoing operations. A team of professional chefs, led by Jag’s Chef Proprietor Michelle Brown and Skyline Chili’s Corporate Chef John Zenk, prepared a 5-star dining experience from appetizers to desert. A special thank you to the 2017 Key Event co-chairs Jeanne Brauns and Vicki Stipick for a successful event!

THE SHAMROCK SHUFFLE
The Shamrock Shuffle, a 5k/10k event and Community Block Party, hosts 5000 attendees each year at The Square @ Union Centre in West Chester. The 11th annual event raised nearly $90,000 to support the Community Foundation and many nonprofit organizations who register a team through the Shuffle Gives Back program. The Shamrock Shuffle has become a West Chester/Liberty tradition and a community-building event. Runners, families, school groups, businesses, charities, and local restaurants join to raise dollars for the causes they care about.

LEADERSHIP THROUGH PHILANTHROPY
The Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty hosted the first of an annual speaker series, Leadership Through Philanthropy, on June 8th. Heather Abbott, survivor of the 2013 Boston Marathon attack, headlined the evening as keynote speaker. The event also included the Patricia F. Alderson Philanthropist of the Year Award presented to local philanthropists Bill and Jenny McCloy, and the presentation of the Community Needs Assessment results. Leadership Through Philanthropy is a celebration of charitable giving in our community, intended to shine a spotlight on how philanthropy can make a positive impact.