2018 Report to the Community

We serve the Heart of Western Pennsylvania.

Armstrong County Community Foundation
Dear Friends,

The Armstrong County Community Foundation celebrated its twentieth anniversary with a festive evening at the Lenape Heights Golf Resort. Over one-hundred thirty attendees enjoyed a dinner of filet mignon and salmon and had the opportunity to win one or more of over fifty prizes. Dinner and prizes over, the highlight of the evening was the awarding of $20,000 in grants to ten eligible non-profit organizations.

It was a busy year for the foundation’s executive director, president and board members who were, as always, working on a number of projects and campaigns.

• They brought back the Day of Giving to the Community Foundation; and, on May 10, 2018, spearheaded the raising of over $330,000.
• They awarded $69,250 in scholarship money to area students.
• They provided board training by the Pennsylvania Association of Non-Profit Organizations. For any interested non-profit wishing to participate.
• They educated area businesses and clubs on the mission and operations of the Foundation.

The ACCF is blessed to have a board that is hard working, hands on and committed to improving and sustaining the community which they serve.

Our directors, in closing the outstanding anniversary year of 2018, voted to go back to our roots and officially return to the name Armstrong County Community Foundation. Though we have grown and support a multitude of non-profits, some located well beyond Armstrong County and even outside of western Pennsylvania, we remain immensely proud of our roots here in Armstrong county. Our base is here and many of our non-profits are here.

How exciting that we here in Armstrong county are able to reach our hand out to our neighbors just down the road – and also to our neighbors farther off – who share with us the goal of people helping each other to make a better world for one and all!

We are deeply grateful to those of you who support the Community Foundation. Together, we can continue to strive to make a valuable impact on all of the communities we serve! Always remember that your willingness to give to this foundation engenders and sustains our ability to be good neighbors who can make good things happen.

Jodi E. Beers
Executive Director

Autumn Vorpe-Seyler
Board President
G

tting to know our funders is one of the most rewarding parts of our job here at the Foundation. We have the privilege of meeting and working with all levels of Funders, but what they all have in common is their kindness and desire to be charitable in our community. I recently had the wonderful opportunity to sit down with one such individual.

William (Bill) Toy was born on April 1, 1929. As a young teenager, Bill worked for a local dry cleaner doing clean-up work. The owner took a liking to Bill and began to show him the ropes of the business. Bill worked there until he graduated from Kittanning High School in 1950 at which time he went on to graduate from the Institute of Dry Cleaners and opened the Spic and Span Dry Cleaners plant in Ford City on November 7, 1950. His future father-in-law at the time assisted him with acquiring the funds to start the business and in 1951 Bill tied the knot and married his wife Dorothy.

Dry Cleaning was in high demand at that time, so despite the fact that there were 18 different outlets for Dry Cleaning services in the Kittanning/Ford City area, Bill had great success and went on to open a second store in Kittanning in 1951. Since then, he has seen many changes to the business. Due to his keen business sense and work ethic he has been able to diversify his businesses and continue operating his stores for nearly 70 years, currently employing 25 local individuals. He still works every day starting at 3:30 am!

“With the ever changing needs of the world, dry cleaning is not needed as in years past,” Bill said. The cost to create draperies has skyrocketed so now he creates more blinds than draperies. In 1984, Spic and Span expanded into the linen business and now services many of the catering businesses in the Pittsburgh area.

As an avid sailor who enjoys sailing the Chesapeake Bay in his free time, Bill found a way to bring this passion into the business. In 1985 he opened Sail Care in Ford City. There are 100,000 sails in use today that have been given new life with sail cleaning and re-resining, sail repair and modification, and custom graphics by Sail Care.

Bill feels grateful to our community for the support he has received throughout the years and wanted a way to give back. On August 9th, 2012, Bill created the William H. and Dorothy S. Toy General Charitable Fund, a Donor Advised Fund. This Endowment Fund supports the nonprofit community by making grants to Armstrong County nonprofits every year and will continue to do so for many years to come! To date, the William H. and Dorothy S. Toy General Charitable Fund has awarded over $30,000.00 in grants!
Our Children are the Future!

At the Community Foundation, we are honored to award scholarships to high school seniors as well as adult students. As evident, read how these scholarships have helped the children of our communities!

Melanie (Woytowish) Symoniak

“The 4-year scholarship that I received helped greatly by reducing the total amount of student loan debt that I accrued during college! It also allowed me (and my parents) to worry less about money and focus on my classes. I am thankful for the scholarship every month when I pay my student loan payment; I was able to budget for a 10-year repayment plan so I only have a little less than 3 years to go. My education included 6 years at the University of Pittsburgh, 4 of which were spent in the School of Pharmacy. I graduated summa cum laude with my Doctorate of Pharmacy degree in 2010. I currently am a faculty member at a School of Pharmacy in upstate New York where I get to work as a clinical pharmacist at one of the area hospitals and teach future pharmacists and physicians how to care for patients.”

Justin Mohney

“Receiving the scholarship helped my family and I to finance my undergraduate education at Carnegie Mellon University. I graduated from Carnegie Mellon in 2009 with a Bachelors of Science in Business Administration and developed a passion for education during my time as a student there. After graduating, I decided to pursue work in the field of higher education and took a job with the Office of Admission at Carnegie Mellon and later continued my education at Drexel University where I received a Masters of Science in Higher Education. I currently serve as an Associate Director of Admission at the university. This is a position that has afforded me the opportunity to further the mission of providing access to higher education both through my professional work for the university and through service to regional and national non-profits like the Pennsylvania Association for College Admission Counseling and the National Association for College Admission Counseling. The support of the Foundation helped me to achieve my educational goals, and I hope that my professional and service work today will provide similar support to others as they seek to pursue higher education.”

The Dr. John Garrott Memorial Scholarship by Marian Garrott

The Dr. John Garrott Memorial Scholarship was established in 2007 by the Cowansville Area Health Center Board of Directors. It was set up in honor and memory of him. He knew about the scholarship before he passed. John had worked at Cowansville for a number of years as a Board Certified Family Practice “Doc”. He was genuinely touched knowing that all the hard work and devotion shown to his patients really did matter.

John was a staunch advocate on the importance of education, always encouraging others. Kelly Scholl, a Cowansville Board member came to the house to inform us about his scholarship. She had worked at Cowansville with John as a Medical Assistant. John had delivered her three “kiddos”. John being John saw promise in Kelly and encouraged her to pursue her dream of becoming a Registered Nurse. While raising her family, she enrolled at West Penn Hospital’s School of Nursing. She achieved her “RN”, began working at Armstrong County Memorial Hospital on their Obstetrical/Gynecological Unit and once again, working with John.

John’s scholarships are awarded to high school students, college students, and medical students pursuing a career in nursing or the medical field. One recent recipient, Kate Gass, receiving in 2015-2016 is an ICU Nurse working at ACMH. John delivered her and had worked with her mom at Cowansville. The scholarship helped her to return to school to receive her Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing.

It has been an honor and privilege to be able to participate in John’s scholarship selection process through the years. ACCF’s Board Member Chris Moss, heads the scholarship selection committee. She and her hard
working selection committee deserve much gratitude and credit. They review all of the numerous applicants who are hoping to receive a scholarship from “the Community Foundation.”

In closing, Noell Lemmons, a past recipient and truly outstanding student who continues to pursue her dream of becoming a Pediatric Oncologist will share her own personal story below.

Noelle Lemons  
M.D. Candidate  
Academic Council Member, Class of 2021  
West Virginia University School of Medicine  

“My name is Noelle Lemons and I am a second year medical student at the West Virginia University School of Medicine in Morgantown, WV. The awards that I have received from the Community Foundation have helped me tremendously while I pursued my undergraduate degree at Allegheny College and continue to impact me during my time in medical school. In particular, the Dr. John Garrott Memorial scholarship has helped to alleviate the financial burden of my education, allowing me to focus on my dream of becoming a physician. As a second year medical student, I am focusing my attention on preparing for the first step of my licensing boards, which I will complete in June 2019. I am very excited to begin the next phase of my medical education in July, where I will complete my clinical rotations at Ruby Memorial Hospital. My ultimate goal following medical school is to match into a pediatrics residency program and pursue a career as a pediatrician. I am very grateful for the Community Foundation’s support throughout my journey to become a pediatrician.”
Annual Dinner

During our Annual Dinner, $20,000 in grants was awarded from the Founders Fund.

In early summer, requests for grant submissions are advertised to all of the area nonprofits as well as advertised in the local newspapers and on social media. An independent committee reviews, scores and then discusses all of the submissions. These winners are then approved by the Foundation’s Board of Directors.

**Hose Company #6** was the top winner in the General Grant Category receiving $4,000 to provide additional funding for the boat motor on a water rescue craft.

**Ramps of Hope** - $2,500 to change the lives of people in need by building handicapped access ramps at their homes.

**Fort Armstrong Folk Festival** - $2,500 to purchase a stage for their North Stage entertainment area.

**Hose Hook & Ladder Co. #1** - $2,000 to replace aging equipment – Task Force Tip Vortex nozzles & Straight Tips.

**Don’t Stop Dreamin** (In the Moment) - $2,000 to fund an art therapy project for residents/patients living with dementia and Alzheimer’s in the Quality Life Services’ continuum of care.

**Evangelical Lutheran School** was the top winner in the Children’s Grant Category and received $2,000 to provide help to families who need assistance with early education as well as to help families that may develop a need throughout the school year.

**Grace Christian School** $1,000 to provide funding for an Ozobot Evo Classroom Kit to teach coding, STEM, art, history and subjects beyond STEM.

**Biblical Life Institute (BLI)** $1,000 to provide scholarships for participation in “Hoop Dreams”, a summer basketball program for youth from 5th – 12th grade.

**Blessings in a Backpack** $1,000 to provide food for elementary school children who have little or no food to eat on weekends during the school year.

Claire and Jamie Osborne along with the children participating in the evening’s Kids Zone presented the winner of the Children’s grant.
Thank you to our 2018 Annual Dinner Sponsors!

**Benevolent Benefactor**
NexTier Bank

**Selfless Sponsors**
Edward Jones
Tom & Sandy Bradigan

**Dedicated Donors**
Mechling & Heller Attorneys at Law
Armstrong County Building and Loan Association
Good Tire Service
Ken & Judy Keppel
Shellhammer Atwood & Associates

**Basket Sponsors**
Lynn Sibley
Armstrong Eye Care Associates, PA
Amcom
ESS NexTier Insurance Group

**Additional Donors**
Hallman Agency
James & Lynn Ramage
Dr. & Mrs. Wesley Minteer, Jr.
Gary & Janet Pettengill
Kay Owen
Spic & Span Cleaners
WWD, Inc.
Express Printing & Graphics

Claire and Jamie Osborne along with the children participating in the evening’s Kids Zone presented the winner of the Children’s grant.

Worthington Evangelical Lutheran Church accepting their grant winnings.

Grace Christian School accepting their grant award.
Thanks to the Alvin E. Kuntz, Jr. Charitable and Barry P. Kuntz Memorial Fund

The Kittanning Library used this grant to pay for a performance by Princess Elsa for their Summer Reading Program. It attracted more children to the program with their parents and caregivers, and as a result more children signed up for the Summer Program and were encouraged to use the library throughout the year.

Thanks to the William and Dorothy Toy Charitable Fund funding was provided for:

- a living historian, Ken Serfass as General Grant to come to the library for a presentation;
- purchased new drums for Music Time for Tots;
- purchased headphones for patrons to use on the public computers;
- installed sliding drawers to hold the DVDs which increased storage space and eased strain on staff; and
- purchased new books for children’s collection.
Armstrong Day of Giving

On May 10th, 2018 the Community Foundation hosted the 8th Annual Day of Giving in partnership with NexTier Bank and the Richard G. Snyder YMCA! The Day of Giving has had its peaks and valleys but our nonprofits continue to make a difference! On the Day of Giving, many of the nonprofit organizations hold events at their offices making it a day of comradery and fun for their donors!

100% of all money raised goes directly to the participating nonprofit organizations. The Community Foundation provides all of the organization, training and publicity at no cost to the nonprofits fulfilling our mission to provide leadership and partnerships.

On this one day, all of our participating nonprofits work together to raise funds that benefits the entire community!

Volunteers entering checks as they come in!

The post office box was full with checks for the Day of Giving!

NexTier employees patiently waiting for checks to come in!

THANK YOU TO THE 2018 MATCH (BONUS) PARTNERS!

Richard G. and Barbara A. Snyder
General Charitable Fund
NexTier
Frank & Mary Baker
Tom & Sandy Bradigan
Kris & Jack Steiner
Mike McElhaney
2 Krew Security & Surveillance
Armstrong Center for Community Learning
Arts on the Allegheny
Biblical Life Institute
Erie to Pittsburgh Trail Alliance
Evangel Heights
Evangelical Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church Nursery School
Ford City Renaissance Community Partnership
Friends of the Kittanning Public Library
Grace Christian School
HAVIN
Karen Waugaman
Life Choices
Lifesteps
Livengood Inc.
Orphans of the Storm
Parker Personal Care
Reagan's Journey
Richard G. Snyder YMCA Campus
Shellhammer Atwood Agency
St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, Adrian
Susan Crooks
The Blind Association
The Salvation Army-Kittanning
William E. Hughes, Jr.
Worthington West Franklin Community Library
Central Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Lance & Christine Whiteman
Christine & Arnold Moss
McCall Scanlon & Tice, LLC
Mechling & Heller Attorneys At Law
Kalamazoo Heating & Cooling LLC
Armstrong Eye Care Associates
Dina Blake
Kittanning Veterinary Hospital
Larry & Jodi Beers
Carl & Tracy Peters
The Community Foundation offers scholarships through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program.

Since 2001, the Community Foundation has been providing scholarships to students totaling over $3.8 m for Pre-K and K-12 families in Armstrong and Butler Counties.

Thanks to the generosity of local companies who participate in the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program, the Community Foundation has been providing scholarships to local families who live or work in Armstrong and Butler counties. These scholarships provide assistance for their children to attend private schools of their choice. Parents choose to send their children to private or faith-based schools for a variety of reasons, and this scholarship program allows those parents who could not otherwise afford the tuition to make the decision that’s best for their families.

How do children qualify?
To qualify for the K-12 scholarship, the parents of the student must either reside in or be employed by a company located in Armstrong or Butler Counties.

To qualify for the Pre-K scholarship, the parents of the student must reside or work in Armstrong County only. An eligible student is a school age student (Pre-Kindergarten through grade 12) who is a resident of Pennsylvania, enrolled in a school in this Commonwealth, and a member of a household with an annual household income of not more than $85,000, except that an additional income allowance of $15,608 is permitted for the student and for each other dependent (as defined by the IRS) living within the same household.

What is the Educational Improvement Tax Credit?
The EITC Program is funded by contributions from participating businesses. Eligible businesses are those that pay any of the following taxes in Pennsylvania: Personal Income Tax, Capital Stock/Foreign Franchise Tax, Corporate Net Income Tax, Bank Shares Tax, Title Insurance & Trust Company Shares Tax, Insurance Premium Tax (excluding surplus lines, unauthorized, domestic/foreign marine), Mutual Thrift Tax, Malt Beverage Tax or Retaliatory Fees under section 212 of the Insurance Company Law of 1921.

We thank our 2019-2020 school year sponsors: Allegheny Mineral, Elderton State Bank, KeyBank, NexTier, Northwest Bank, Waste Management, and UPMC Health Plan. If you are a business and are interested in the EITC program, visit the DCED website at www.dced.pa.gov/eitc or contact the Community Foundation at 724.548.5897 or visit the Community Foundation website at www.servingtheheart.org.
Financial Information

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Financial information available on our website here: http://www.servingtheheart.org/about/financial-information/
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FUNDS
• Founders Fund
• Nancy Brody Fund for Children
• Ben Franklin Trust
• Give365 Fund
• Harvey Heilman Endowment Fund
• Ralph & Susan Knepshield Fund for Children & Youth Fund
• John Rohrer Fund

ORGANIZATIONAL FUNDS
• Armstrong Community Theater Fund
• Armstrong County Historical Museum & Genealogical Society Endowment Fund
• Baker Habitat for Humanity Fund
• Ford City Public Library Endowment Fund
• Friends of the Kittanning Public Library Endowment Fund
• Grace Brethren Church Endowment Fund
• Parker Personal Care Endowment Fund
• Pittsburgh Geological Society Endowment Fund
• Redbank Valley Community Center Endowment Fund
• Richard G. Snyder YMCA Campus Emergency Fund
• Richard G. Snyder YMCA Campus Fund

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS
• Armstrong Concert Band
• Armstrong County Bar Association
• Armstrong County Building & Loan Association Charitable
• Armstrong County Technical School
• Evelyn Benton Nursing
• Dr. Samuel R. & Twila Black Medical Arts
• Bruno-Higgenson Trust
• Brett Charmello Memorial
• Burrell Township
• Dannette “Lifty” Cockroft Charitable
• Robert A. & Geneva K. Deveney Engineering
• Marjorie Dodson Memorial Scholarship
• Susan Falsetti-Burdett Memorial Scholarship Fund for Music
• Dr. John Garrott Memorial
• Geophysical Society of Pittsburgh
• James K. Greenbaum
• Nathan Keibler Think B4 U Act
• Klingensmith Scholarship Fund
• Richard and Mary Krauland
• Zane McMillen Memorial
• Gretchen Moss Memorial
• Joseph A. Nickleach Memorial
• Kay Detrick Owen
• Ruth E. Owen
• Michael Petroncheck Musical
• Shawna Petrosky Memorial
• Quality Life Services Healthcare Career
• Richard G. Snyder Family
• Joan Tatsak Memorial
• Dr. Clifford Vogan Medical

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS
• Gordon Ariadne Fund
• Armstrong Trust for Historic Preservation Fund
• Baker Family Charitable Fund
• William E. Blose Family Memorial Fund
• Raymond A. Boarts Fund
• Paul & Sharon Bradigan Fund
• James A. Frederick Fund
• Kittanning Rotary Club Fund
• Lee & Myrtle McKelvey Willing Workers Trust for Spiritual & Church Enhancement Fund
• Mervis Family Fund
• Asa Miller Foundation Fund
• Brian & Cheryl Morris Fund
• Jamie & Mindy Owen Fund
• Kay & Stephen Owen Fund
• Frank, Kristen, and Evan Samosky Fund
• Seifert Family Fund
• Seyler General Charitable Fund
• John Shoop Fund
• Mission Fund in Memory of Chuck & Pearl Snyder
• Richard G. Snyder Endowment for the Arts
• Richard G. & Barbara A. Snyder General Charitable Fund
• Ed & Kay Steiner Memorial Fund
• Buck Stitt Memorial Bible Fund
• Kenneth R. Tack, Jr. & B. Maxine Tack Mission Fund
• William H. and Dorothy S. Toy General Charitable Fund

DESIGNATED FUNDS
• Charles A. & Margaret I. Bonner Memorial Recreation & Parks Fund
• Patricia J. Campbell Memorial Fund
• Catherine Helen Cogley & Catherine Hutchison Charity Fund
• Willanna Millen DiCiero & William A. DiCiero Designated Fund
• Elderton/Plumcreek History Fund
• Furniture World East Education Fund
• The Leo & Mildred Gispanski Family Fund
• George M. & Mary P. Hutchison Charity Fund
• Alvin E. Kuntz Jr. Charitable & Barry P. Kuntz Memorial Fund
• Cheri Roberts Memorial Fund
• Dorothy A. Winslow Fund