Dear Friends:

As we begin the new fiscal year and highlight the needs of the many nonprofit organizations we have met over the past few months in this *Cause Connection*, I’m pleased to report that we have launched a new three-pronged approach to Foundation-directed, or “discretionary,” grants in the Lehigh Valley.

The new platform, piloted in fiscal year 2018-19, will feature the **Nonprofit Effectiveness Fund**, an investment in the future of the nonprofit sector by targeting support to strengthen governance, management, and operations of nonprofit organizations so they can prosper and be impactful for years to come. LVCF and other funders rely on healthy, resilient organizations for achieving progress in solving the Lehigh Valley’s most pressing issues. Yet, many nonprofits routinely face organizational challenges, from major staff transitions to capacity gaps. We recognize the need for funding to build more effective organizations and we have made it the centerpiece of our discretionary grantmaking in 2018-19.

Second, LVCF’s **Community Assistance Fund** will invest in the “now” by quickly responding to emergency needs and gaps in funding so nonprofits can continue their work today.

And third, as a follow-up to our 50th anniversary Spark grants, our **Igniting Change Fund** will take an issue-based approach that focuses on moving the needle in six specific areas of need, particularly with regards to access to services provided to vulnerable populations.

Through this pilot phase we’re going to learn a lot from our grantees and from our donors. We will take the best of what we learned to create an innovative approach to grantmaking that will help define the Community Foundation’s deep impact in the Lehigh Valley. For more information on LVCF’s community investments grants, visit our grants overview page on the website.

Regards,

Bernard J. Story  
President & CEO

---

**About Cause Connection**

LVCF is pleased to share information and resources on charitable giving, nonprofit organizations and community needs to philanthropists in the Lehigh Valley. In the pages that follow, you will see information on twenty-three charitable organizations with four programs highlighted as “In Focus” nonprofit organizations.

LVCF staff have visited or met with these and many other organizations in recent months. In creating this issue, we looked back to the beginning of 2018 to focus on organizations requesting support. We thank all the organizations for the time they’ve spent with us and, most of all, we thank them for their passion in doing the everyday, impactful work they do in the region.

**Contact Us**

The Community Foundation would like to meet with you, the people who care, to discuss how you can support these causes that matter. It is easy to make a gift from your donor-advised fund to any of these worthy organizations. Feel free to contact us to arrange a time to meet and discuss your philanthropic interest.

**In Focus Spotlight Organizations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Focus Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Third Street Alliance</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connect to Home</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estamos Listos (We are Ready)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturers Resource Center</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any Given Child</td>
<td>Bethlehem</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Connect to Home | Coordinated Entry System

Over the past 18 months, housing and homeless service providers in the Valley, members of the Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board (LVRHAB), have been engaged in a new effort to assess people who are experiencing homelessness and refer them to available shelter and housing solutions.

LVRHAB includes representatives from city/county governments, social service agencies, veterans’ support groups, faith-based and community organizations, homeless advocates, and representatives from legislators.

The coordinated entry system, known as Connect to Home, connects people to the right solution to end their housing crisis or homelessness as quickly and effectively as possible. It is important to note, however, that Coordinated Entry alone cannot address the lack of affordable housing or housing and shelter resources in any given community. Instead, this system is designed to ensure limited housing and resources are prioritized for the people who need them the most while generating more accurate data to make the case for appropriate levels of investment in the future.

The challenge we now face is identifying low-income and affordable housing options that are safe and appropriate for these households.

If you would like to donate to this coordinated effort, please donate to Third Street Alliance and mark the contribution as restricted for “Connect to Home.”

Alisa Baratta, Executive Director
Third Street Alliance for Women and Children

Connect to Home | Coordinated Entry System

The Allentown Public Library has launched a capital campaign “Improving the Climate for Learning” to raise $2.3 million to replace the HVAC system. Additionally, the Library is in need of a delivery van in order to join with other libraries to share resources as part of the Lehigh-Carbon Libraries Cooperative.

**Needs:** Delivery Van and Capital Campaign/HVAC System

**FOR MORE INFO**
Allentown Public Library
1210 Hamilton Street, Allentown, PA 18102
(610) 820-2400
www.allentownpl.org

In addition to supporting innovative programming within the District, the Foundation maintains a program that provides scholarships to college-bound seniors at William Allen and Dieruff high schools. It also awards annual summer camp scholarships and teacher innovation grants.

**Needs:** Support for Scholarship, Music, and Teacher Innovation Grants

**FOR MORE INFO**
Allentown School District Foundation
31 S. Penn Street, Allentown, PA 18102
(484) 765-4093
https://asdf.allentowns.org/

Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center creates a vibrant LGBT community in the Lehigh Valley through arts & culture programs, leading-edge health programs, daily youth programs, critical supportive services, and an informative Training Institute.

**Needs:** Support for Youth Programs, Previous Funding Ended in Spring 2018

**FOR MORE INFO**
Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community
522 W Maple Street, Allentown, PA 18101
(610) 347-9988
www.bradburysullivancenter.org

FOR MORE INFO
Third Street Alliance for Women and Children
41 North Third Street, Easton, PA 18042
(610) 258-6271
https://thirdstreetalliance.org/donate
Communities In Schools prevents dropouts by bringing coordinated, integrated student supports into public schools to meet the needs of at-risk students. Its site coordinators provide alternative education support services, implement student health initiatives, deliver career services, coordinate after-school and summer programs, and provide support services to young fathers.

**Needs:** Support for Moving Costs to New Facility

FOR MORE INFO  
Communities in Schools of the Lehigh Valley  
1501 Lehigh Street, #206, Allentown, PA 18103  
(484) 834-8830  
https://cislv.org

---

Community First Fund creates sustainable prosperity for low wealth communities and individuals by aligning capital, knowledge and advocacy to advance business ownership, housing and community development. They provide access to untraditional loans for capital commercial, impact lending, office development, and technical assistance to help ensure success.

**Needs:** Support for Lehigh Valley Economic Development Initiatives

FOR MORE INFO  
Community First Fund  
612 Hamilton St., Allentown, PA 18101  
(717) 205-6074  
https://communityfirstfund.org

---

Crime Victims Council of the Lehigh Valley, Inc. provides nonjudgmental support and services to victims of all violence, their families and significant others throughout Northampton and Lehigh counties. The Council offers free and confidential services to people directly affected by crime.

**Needs:** Support for Program Services

FOR MORE INFO  
Crime Victims Council of the Lehigh Valley, Inc.  
801 Hamilton St., #300, Allentown, PA 18101  
(610) 437-6610  
http://cvclv.org/

---

Estamos Listos (We Are Ready)  

When Hurricane Maria devastated the island of Puerto Rico in 2017, many islanders migrated to the Lehigh Valley. This diaspora created a sudden influx of people in need of housing, food, education, health care, and other services.

Lehigh Valley agencies responded by creating the Estamos Listos (We are Ready) Campaign in order to help residents of Puerto Rico displaced by the hurricane to relocate successfully in the Lehigh Valley. CACLV led the effort to hire three “relocation advocates” to help families navigate the social services in the Valley.

LVCF made a grant to the Hispanic Center of the Lehigh Valley in Bethlehem to support a position. Two other positions supported by other funders were hired to assist at Casa Guadalupe and the Hispanic American Organization in Allentown. The three agencies continue to meet to coordinate the need of families impacted by the hurricane.

**Needs:** Beds, Furniture, Lamps Microwaves, Pots & Pans, Utensils, Kitchen Supplies, Towels, Sheets/Blankets

---

IN FOCUS SPOTLIGHT

Donations are being accepted by:  
- Hispanic Center of the Lehigh Valley  
- Casa Guadalupe  
- Hispanic American Organization
The Diocese of Allentown will open the doors of Kolbe Academy in the fall of 2019. The school will provide an individualized academic program in a safe, compassionate Christ-centered school for high school students in recovery from substance addiction that works to promote lifelong recovery and success.

**Needs:** Program Support for Kolbe Academy

**FOR MORE INFO**
Diocese of Allentown- Kolbe Academy
1515 MLK Drive, Allentown, PA 18102
(610) 866-0581
http://kolbe-academy.com/

Easton Hunger Coalition is a nonprofit coalition made up of agencies, groups, and individuals against food insufficiency and its root causes in the Easton area. The Coalition works in advocacy and awareness building, community resource communications, access to food, and volunteer networking.

**Needs:** Funding for Staff and Capacity Building

**FOR MORE INFO**
Easton Hunger Coalition
403 Paxinos Road East
Easton, PA 18042
www.eastonhungercoalition.org/

Friends of Minsi Lake is a committee of dedicated people working together under Northampton County Junior Conservation School and with the community to improve fish habitat, fishing success and recreational opportunities and access for all at Minsi Lake in Northampton County.

**Needs:** Facilities Upgrades

**FOR MORE INFO**
Friends of Minsi Lake
P.O. Box 261, Bath, PA 18014
(610) 829-6404
https://ncjcs.org/foml/

For over 25 years, the Manufacturers Resource Center (MRC) has helped small and mid-sized manufacturers become more competitive, adopt lean and agile processes, strategically grow their companies and invest more effectively in their human capital.

MRC is a nonprofit organization partially funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce’s NIST-MEP program, as well as the Pennsylvania’s Dept. of Community and Economic Development. The MRC is dedicated to creating jobs and economic opportunity in Berks, Carbon, Lehigh, Northampton, and Schuylkill counties.

In 2013, MCR launched the “What’s So Cool About Manufacturing?” Student Video Contest to generate excitement that draws students to consider manufacturing career paths.

The contest gives 8th graders from over 25 school districts in Lehigh, Northampton, Carbon and Monroe counties the opportunity to connect directly with local manufacturers, document their experiences and present them in an educational and “cool” way through film media.

The teams of students and teacher coaches receive camera equipment, software, and guidance as they learn to script, record, and edit their video stories to change students’ perceptions about manufacturing careers.

**Needs:** Support for Program Costs

**FOR MORE INFO**
Manufacturers Resource Center
961 Marcon Blvd., Suite 200
Allentown, PA 18109
(610) 628-4640
www.whatssocool.org/contests/lehigh-valley/
The Greater Valley YMCA is a volunteer-led nonprofit organization committed to strengthening the community. With seven branches in the Valley, the Y concentrates in three areas: healthy living, youth development, and social responsibility, while upholding the Y’s traditional values of respect, responsibility, caring and honesty.

**Needs:** Financial Assistance Program for Child Care, Senior Fitness, & Swim Lessons

**FOR MORE INFO**
Greater Valley YMCA - Corporate Office
1524 W Linden St, Ste 209, Allentown, PA 18102
(610) 438-6065
http://www.gv-ymca.org/

---

For more than 100 years, members of Northampton County Historical and Genealogical Society have preserved the past, served the present, and shaped the future of Northampton County through research, scholarly publications, and growing and maintaining exceptional collections. They tell the story of American history made in Northampton County.

**Needs:** Museum Programs and Exhibitions

**FOR MORE INFO**
Northampton County Historical & Genealogical Society
342 Northampton Street, Easton, PA 18042
(610) 253-1222
https://www.sigalmuseum.org

---

Presbyterian Senior Living is a nonprofit providing retirement and senior care services. They operate Westminster Village in Allentown, Kirkland Village in Bethlehem, and The Easton Home. Their senior living services include independent living, personal care, memory support, end of life care, adult day services, and skilled nursing and rehabilitation.

**Needs:** Support for Facilities Improvements and Adult Day Services

**FOR MORE INFO**
Presbyterian Senior Living
1210 Hamilton Street, Allentown, PA 18102
(610) 820-2400
https://www.presbyterianseniorliving.org

---

ProJeCt of Easton’s mission is to build a better community by helping people help themselves. They prepare people to succeed in work, school, and life by providing them with support and instruction in the skills needed to break the cycle of poverty and achieve their goals.

**Needs:** Education and Emergency Support

**FOR MORE INFO**
ProJeCt of Easton, Inc.
320 Ferry Street, Easton, PA 18042
(610) 258-4361
http://www.projecteaston.org

---

Tails of Valor, Paws Of Honor is dedicated to providing rehabilitation through non-medicinal therapies with service canines to Veterans suffering from Post Traumatic Stress (PTS), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and physical disabilities. The program is designed to help both the rescued dogs and the veterans.

**Needs:** Support for Dog Training

**FOR MORE INFO**
Tails of Valor, Paws Of Honor
PO Box 127, Coopersburg, PA 18036
(267) 733-7294
http://www.tailsofvalor.org

---

Turning Point is a safe place where victims of abuse and their children can find refuge in Lehigh and Northampton counties. Reaching nearly 4,000 people a year, programs and services include: a 24-hour Helpline, safe house, counseling, support groups, court advocacy, community outreach, prevention education, and medical advocacy.

**Needs:** Support for Art and Music Therapy Program

**FOR MORE INFO**
Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley
444 E Susquehanna St, Allentown, PA 18103
(610) 797-0530
http://www.turningpointlv.org
In September 2017, The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts selected Bethlehem as the first community in Pennsylvania to become a part of Ensuring the Arts for Any Given Child.

The program goals are to ensure equitable access to the arts by providing every child a rich community-based arts experience each year from Kindergarten through Grade 8; expand how music, literary and visual arts are utilized while creating greater exposure to and use of theater, dance, and media arts resources; use the arts to support the social and emotional needs of students; and establish a professional learning program that supports arts integration into the core curriculum.

With Zoellner Arts Center at Lehigh University as the lead, dozens of community partners, including LVCF, are analyzing arts resources and developing a customized plan to grow arts education for kindergarten through eighth grade, and distribute the opportunities equitably throughout the Bethlehem Area School District.

**Needs:** Support for Coalition Building and Bethlehem Arts Programs

Learn more: [http://education.kennedy-center.org/education/anygivenchild/](http://education.kennedy-center.org/education/anygivenchild/)

---

**Via of the Lehigh Valley**

Via of the Lehigh Valley is a nonprofit human service agency that provides services for children and adults with developmental disabilities like autism, cerebral palsy, and Down syndrome. Serving the community since 1954, Via’s staff help individuals and families from birth through retirement.

**Needs:** Support for Children’s Services

FOR MORE INFO
Via of the Lehigh Valley
336 W. Spruce Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018
(610) 317-8000
https://www.vianet.org/

---

**Volunteers of America - Pennsylvania**

Through its human service programs including housing and healthcare, Volunteers of America supported and empowered America’s most vulnerable groups, including veterans, at-risk youth, the frail elderly, men and women returning from prison, homeless individuals and families, people with disabilities, and those recovering from addictions.

**Needs:** Support for Children’s Center Facilities Upgrades

FOR MORE INFO
Volunteers of America of Pennsylvania - Lehigh Valley
730 West Union Street, Allentown, PA 18101
(610) 432-8352
https://www.voa.org/offices/volunteers-of-america-of-pennsylvania

---

[Lehigh Valley Community Foundation](https://www.lvcfoundation.org)

The official registration and financial information of the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, (800) 732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.