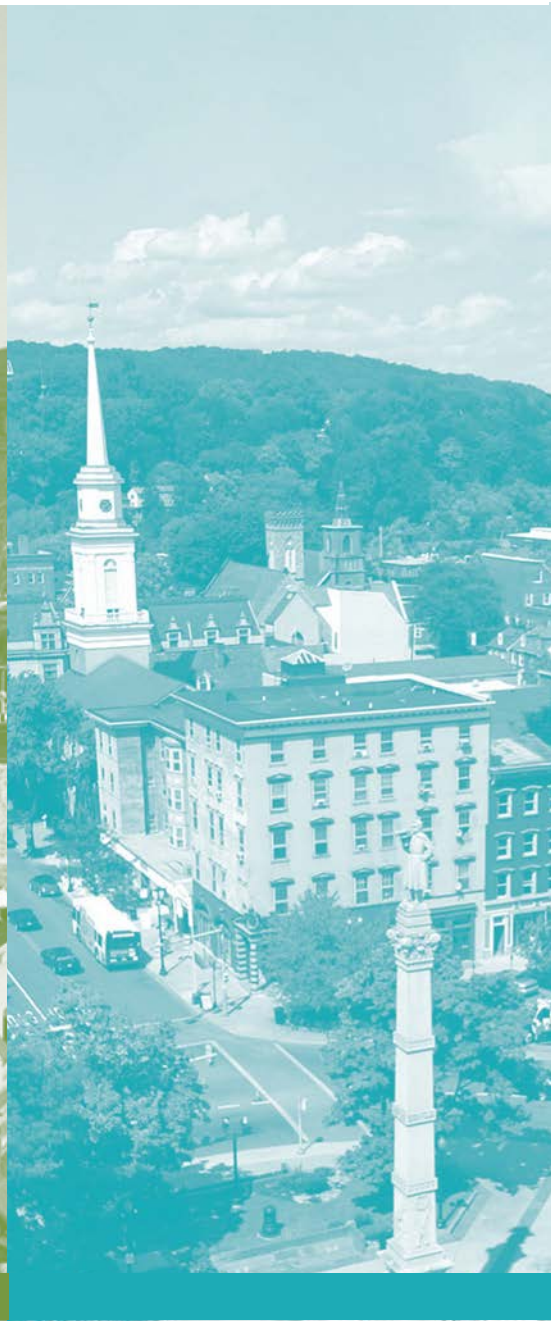


Lehigh Valley Community Foundation

2019-20 PHILANTHROPIC REPORT



Providing Community Leadership





CONNECT. GROW. FUND.



Providing Community Leadership

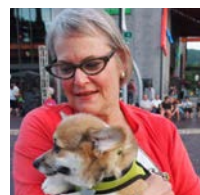
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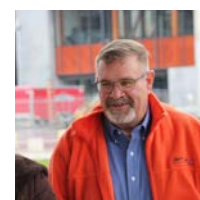
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Lehigh Valley Community Foundation

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www.lvcfoundation.org



Engage with LVCF on Social Media

LVCF Fast Facts 2019-20

Assets Reached

\$57
Million

Added 18 New Funds

258
Total Funds

Grants to the Community

\$6.7
Million

Gifts Totaling

\$5.9
Million

Issued

671
Grants

Supporting More Than

322
Nonprofits

Message from the Board Chair and President & CEO

January 2021

During the unprecedented challenges caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation demonstrated much needed leadership throughout the community. Staff and board members of LVCF served the community by increasing its grantmaking and human resources in support of a wide range of needs while continuing to sharpen its focus on improving the effectiveness of nonprofit organizations, responding to relief needs, and leading a region-wide campaign to have everyone counted in the U.S. census.

The Nonprofit Effectiveness Program continued to evolve into a community-leading effort aimed at nonprofit sustainability. Staff and community participants worked diligently to find best approaches to strengthening critically important nonprofit organizations. It is the ultimate goal of the Foundation, through the work of this Fund to strengthen the Lehigh Valley nonprofits so they can prosper and be impactful for years to come.

In March 2020, LVCF established the LVCF COVID-19 Response Fund to unite with individuals who have an interest in giving back to our local community during this time of crisis. The Fund supports a regional, coordinated effort to rapidly deploy resources to community-based, front line nonprofit organizations in the Lehigh Valley as well

as distribute grants directly to nonprofits. Through the generosity of our donors, we have raised over \$200,000 for pandemic response efforts and beyond. We now turn to recovery and reimagining the nonprofit sector in a post-COVID-19 environment. Finally, the Community Foundation staff and board provided critical community leadership in joining efforts aimed at ensuring accurate counts during the 2020 Census. LVCF joined a statewide group of community foundation leaders by partnering with local Complete Count Committees across the region. These efforts proved to be successful as both Northampton and Lehigh counties met their respective goals for Census counts.

At the end of 2020, we thanked two Governors who had a major role in the growth and impact of the Foundation. Meredith Retallia and Bonnie Coyle both generously served the Lehigh Valley and beyond by giving their time and talents to the efforts of the Board of Governors of LVCF. At the same time Monica Brooks, Tom Groves and Charlotte Hartmann-Hansen were welcomed in 2020.

Once again, we thank you for your continued support of philanthropy in our community. We are proud of the leadership role the Foundation is playing and we look forward to working with you in the future. This annual report takes a look back to Fiscal Year 2020.

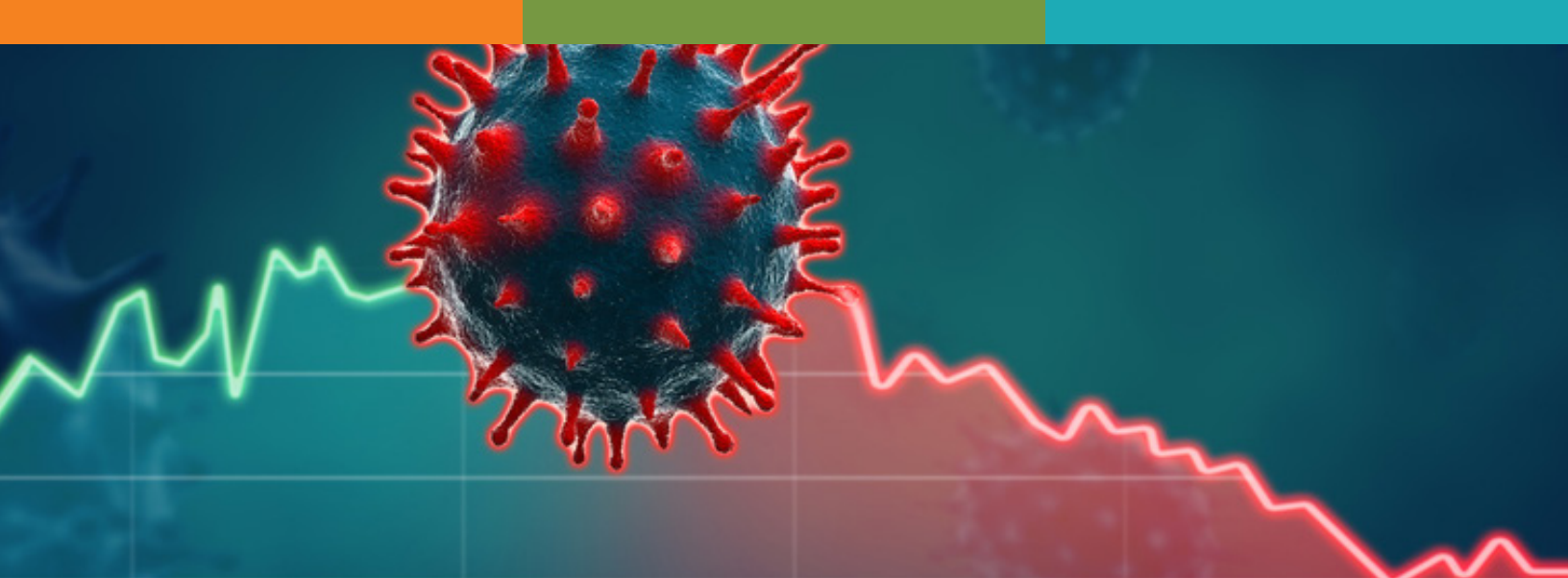


Tom Campbell
Chair, Board of Governors



Bernard J. Story
President & CEO





Providing Community Leadership Responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic

When the COVID-19 pandemic became a reality in March 2020, the Community Foundation's first thoughts focused on those across the world who were affected and to their families. Our next thoughts then turned to the question of what this pandemic and its impact will mean for our community.

LVCF worked hard to develop an appropriate response to this crisis as an employer; a funder; and a community leader and partner.

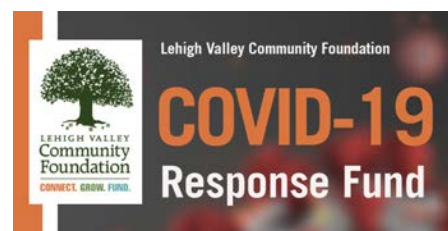
First and foremost, LVCF kept a pulse on evolving community/nonprofit needs as well as developments within the community foundation sector and government legislation. The entire team collected information in various ways, and this information continues to inform our communications to donors; our grantmaking strategies; and our overall role in response to this crisis. We took the following actions in the wake of this global pandemic.

"If history has shown us anything, our region is resilient. We will make it through this crisis. Many aspects of our previously 'normal' life may change, and we must now define that new normal—as individuals, as neighbors, as organizations, as philanthropists, and in any other role we play." - **Erika Riddle Petrozelli**, Lehigh Valley Community Foundation

Action 1 LVCF addressed current and future grants on our Foundation-directed grants platforms.

LVCF provided flexibility to grantees and released restrictions where possible and applicable. The Community Foundation recognized this is a critical time for resources and community needs are changing. To the extent allowed, LVCF aligned its grants strategies for this fiscal year and next to support the nonprofit sector in the best way possible in the wake of this crisis.

Action 2 The Community Foundation established the LVCF COVID-19 Response Fund for immediate needs in partnership with other Lehigh Valley funders and leaders.



LVCF established the LVCF COVID-19 Response Fund to unite with individuals who have an interest in giving back to our local community during this time of crisis. The Fund supported a regional, coordinated effort to rapidly deploy resources to community-based, front line nonprofit organizations in the Lehigh Valley. Donations to this fund, up to a total of \$75,000 were 100% matched. LVCF also established two additional funds to support nonprofit organizations during this time of crisis: LVCF established the Lehigh Valley Arts & Culture Relief

COVID-19 | COMMUNITY RESPONSE FUND

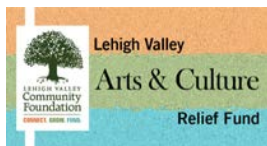
Greater Lehigh Valley

In April 2020, the Greater Lehigh Valley COVID-19 response fund, a regional partnership of funders distributed over \$320,000 to 43 nonprofits providing food, shelter, healthcare, income supports, and other essentials to our neighbors who live paycheck to paycheck, who are elderly, who have disabilities, or who are youth, among other vulnerable or marginalized populations in our community.

Guided by a community-led Strategic Response Team, pooled funds were used to respond to emerging needs and be implemented in phases. "The first phase focused on providing rapid and direct support to organizations that provide critical safety-net services in our community and those who serve populations disproportionately affected by COVID-19," explained Megan Briggs, Director of Community Investments at LVCF. More than half of the funding went to "small" organizations who cannot

always access other supports (e.g. federal stimulus), including grassroots organizations who are the trusted providers and messengers in deeply impacted neighborhoods. LVCF contributed \$50,000 to phase one of the collaborative effort.

In May 2020, the regional partnership of funders distributed \$120,000 to 18 Lehigh Valley nonprofits. While food and housing access and income supports remained a top priority, special consideration was given to organizations that focus on mental health or substance use, as well as organizations led by Black, Indigenous, or People of Color. In this round, grant amounts ranged from \$2,500 to \$15,000, with almost \$50,000 in total directed to organizations providing healthcare services such as mental health. The Community Foundation contributed \$30,000 to this phase.



Fund to help support arts and culture-oriented

institutions severely impacted by the COVID-19 crisis. During this very challenging time we understand that arts organizations and artists everywhere are suffering from loss of ticket revenue, redirected grants, and other significant revenue loss.



LVCF established the Upper Bucks COVID-19 Response Fund to unite with individuals, business, and other organizations who have an interest in giving back to their local community. The Fund deployed

resources to nonprofits providing assistance (safety net services) to Upper Bucks County residents.

Action 3 LVCF encouraged donors to continue to support the organizations and causes that are important to them, with unrestricted grants.

Over the past two years, LVCF has shifted Foundation-directed grant-making to be unrestricted or operations-focused grants to organizations doing really good, impactful work. To support our donor advisors who have adopted this approach, LVCF matched 50% of unrestricted grants from donor-advised funds through June 30, 2020.

Strategic Response Team

In 2020, immediately after the COVID-19 pandemic hit the Lehigh Valley, the Strategic Response Team (SRT) launched to provide a rapid, informed, and coordinated approach to assessing community need and quickly allocating dollars to the areas of greatest need. Soon afterwards, the SRT spun out a Fund Distribution Working Group and a Technical Assistance Working Group. Megan Briggs joined the Strategic Response Team, chairing the fund-distribution working group and co-chairing the technical assistance working group.

Technical Assistance Group

The Technical Assistance Group formed in order to ensure area non-profit organizations have the specialized resources, information, and support they need to continue operations and respond to rapidly changing community needs. The Technical Assistance Group has coordinated Lehigh Valley wide surveys, organized workshops, and distributed information during this critical time.

The Strategic Response Team and the working groups under the Team is a community collaboration consisting of representatives from funding organizations, local government, grassroots community organizations, health networks, community health and nonprofit organizations who bring their varied perspectives to the table to create the most effective impact. Lehigh Valley Community Foundation is proud to be represented on this important collaboration.



Providing Community Leadership Building Capacity Through Effectiveness

In 2018, the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation (LVCF) established the Nonprofit Effectiveness Pilot that targets support to strengthen governance, management, and operations of nonprofit organizations. The centerpiece of its discretionary grantmaking in 2018-19, LVCF funded ten nonprofits in the region to foster capacity building efforts.

In 2019-20, the Two Rivers Health & Wellness Foundation joined with LVCF and funded two additional organizations in Northampton County to participate in the initiative and expand funding for two others already part of the pilot program. "After an examination of the Nonprofit Effectiveness Pilot, we recognized the great potential of capacity building and its long-term impact on the nonprofit sector in Northampton County," said **Paul Brunswick**, President & CEO of Two Rivers Health & Wellness Foundation. "We are delighted to be able to direct a portion of our grant dollars to expand the program in our region."

"We were so pleased to partner with Two Rivers to grow this important initiative in Northampton County," said **Bernie Story**, President and CEO of the Community Foundation. "This is an example of the power of partnership. Two venerable funders are coming together to help support our nonprofits which often forgo investing in important capacity building in order to maintain or increase their service levels."

LVCF's 2019-2020 Nonprofit Effectiveness Program provided \$120,000 in grant funding for 12 organizations to implement a capacity building project, extending support for those initially funded the previous year and adding two additional projects. In the 2019-2020 year, LVCF also established a partnership with Two Rivers Health and Wellness Foundation, enabling existing grantees additional funding to support projects and TRHWF funding supported two new nonprofit effectiveness grantees to join the cohort. TRHWF contributed over \$40,000 in grants and program support to the initiative.

In addition to the grants distributed for capacity-building projects, the Nonprofit Effectiveness Program includes a Community of Practice that convenes all grantee partners for both relationship-building and skill-building among leaders at the organizations. Due to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic in the Lehigh Valley, the Community Foundation quickly pivoted the content of the Community of Practice in order to best fit the current needs of organizations during this crisis time. The Community of Practice sessions were planned in partnership with the Nonprofit Executive Leadership Institute, and there were a total of ten sessions held throughout the year.

“As a participant in the Nonprofit Effectiveness cohort our organization had the resources needed to develop (and now implement) a strategic plan which includes the framework of the six elements of successful nonprofits,” said **Julie Bailey**, Executive Director of the Bethlehem Area School District Foundation. “With your continued support, we had the resources available to learn more about data collection, data management and are in the beginning stages of learning more about reporting needs for better decision making.”



“This grant program continues to demonstrate the importance of investing in strengthening organizations, especially during crisis like the COVID-19 pandemic, so that they can be prepared to adapt to external circumstances and be in a strong position to continue to serve the needs of their communities,” **Megan Briggs**, LVCF Director of Community Investments explained.



A Case Study | YWCA Strategic Plan for Empowerment, Equity, and Social Justice

In 2018, the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation (LVCF) launched the Nonprofit Effectiveness Pilot, a program of its Foundation-directed grants platform, which is funded and supported by LVCF's fundholders. As part of the pilot, LVCF funded projects that focused on integrating Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) throughout their organizations.

The Allentown YWCA was one of the first organizations to receive a grant for their DEI work through this pilot. Their project was titled, YWCA Allentown's Strategic Plan for Empowerment, Equity, and Social Justice. The Allentown YWCA has incorporated anti-racist practices in their every day work. It stands as a real-life example of one approach to take in advancing DEI work within the nonprofit sector.

The YWCA Allentown is on a mission to eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all. “Our goal is an inclusive community where all women are empowered with tools and support for lifetime success and leadership,” said **Sarah Barrett**, Executive Director of YWCA Allentown. “With the racial justice calling we needed to critically examine all aspects of our operation to fully meet our mission and create a just and equitable environment.”

“By formalizing and naming our values-based approach to this work we were able to be agents of transformation, working intentionally to advance equity, justice and anti-racism,” Sarah explained. “We did this by acting with courage and leaning into the discomfort. With an understanding of societal inequities and how it impacts people's experiences and opportunities, we began cultivating mutual trust and resonance by listening to new ideas, valuing the unique perspectives of women and girls. It has begun to enabled us to shift the culture of YWCA Allentown thanks to support from the NPE pilot.”



Lehigh Valley Census 2020

Providing Community Leadership

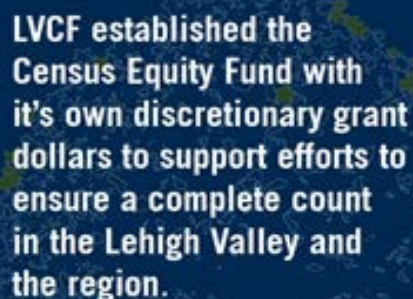
Census 2020 | Pursuing a Complete Count

While attending a 2019 statewide gathering of community foundation leaders in State College, **Bernie Story**, LVCF President and CEO, first heard of the concerns about census undercounting. He learned that Pennsylvania was at risk of losing congressional representation and federal funding due to the demographics of the state. It was a strong call to action from the philanthropic community because if communities are starved of federal resources, it would have a ripple effect through government, business, and civil society for at least the next 10 years and set back the goals of many of America's foundations, philanthropists and nonprofits for years to come. Community foundations and other funders would be hard-pressed to make up for the significant loss of resources due to undercounting and so we were called to action. As a result, LVCF allocated \$65,000 of its discretionary funds to the cause.

Power of Partnership

To start, LVCF partnered with the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission to co-chair a regional complete count committee (CCC). LVCF staff were actively involved on all five local CCCs, Northampton and Lehigh counties, Allentown, Bethlehem, and Easton. Through this committee work, LVCF partnered with the region's nonprofit, business, and government stakeholders,

and helped fund a regional effort supported by our five strategy plan (see graphic next page). In addition, LVCF worked contractually with the City of Allentown and Faces International to implement a plan to target hard-to-count areas in the community. LVCF partnered with Hispanic Center Lehigh Valley to hold the 2019 "Health Equity Summit: Census 2020" that was attended by over 100 representatives from nonprofit organizations, governmental agencies, and others.



LVCF established the Census Equity Fund with its own discretionary grant dollars to support efforts to ensure a complete count in the Lehigh Valley and the region.

Lehigh Valley
Census 2020

Census 2020 and its impact on Pennsylvania and Lehigh Valley was the topic of the fall 2019 meeting of LVCF's Board of Associates. Both events featured a talk by Norman Bristol Colón, Executive Director, Governor's Census 2020 Complete Count Commission; Pa. Dept. of Community & Economic Development. These events mobilized local leaders to engage with Census 2020.

Impact of COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic hit Pennsylvania right as many of the Foundation's direct outreach and engagement funded activities were about to commence, including 17 community census hubs in Allentown, numerous community awareness events, and other face-to-face outreach across the Valley. Seeing the need to shift strategies, LVCF developed a [Digital Toolkit](#) and reached out to its grantees and other community partners and asked to them pivot to digital strategies, using social media networks, websites, and email outreach to their constituencies to encourage census participation. Many did well amplifying census messaging that completing the census is easy, safe, confidential—and important.



State Grant Boosts Pivot

LVCF, in partnership with Lehigh and Northampton counties, received a \$25,000 grant from Pennsylvania's Dept. of Community and Economic Development that enabled it to expand upon our regional approach. The grant helped LVCF boost the Spanish language radio ad campaigns, LANta bus PSAs (below), and social media campaigns. The grant supported a promotional video through Viamedia that ran for six weeks on television, streaming

services, and as a pre-roll video on news and network websites when accessed in the Lehigh Valley. See the video here: <https://youtu.be/myW2Z8CHTgA>. It generated over 250,000 views and hundreds of clicks to my2020census.gov.

LVCF worked with Faces International to do phone banking using Allentown's census ambassadors to call households in the hard-to-count zip codes. LVCF sent thousands of text and

voice messages asking people to complete the census (pictured below is **Sheila Alvarado**, Census Ambassador, City of Allentown).



CENSUS 2020 IS HERE. BE COUNTED TODAY.

Your Census Count provides funding the Valley for:

- ✓ School Programming
- ✓ Public Transportation
- ✓ Roads
- ✓ Clean Drinking Water
- ✓ Political Representation
- ✓ Jobs Closer to Home
- ✓ Housing
- ✓ Health Care Services

You can complete the Census by visiting 2020census.gov today!

Lehigh Valley
Census 2020



Lehigh Valley Census 2020

LVCf Grantees

Through the Census Equity Fund, LVCf funded four trusted nonprofit organizations, that are located in and serving the traditional hard-to-count areas to engage the community in completing the census. LVCf's **Megan Briggs** conducted Community of Practice training for the grantees. The impact of COVID-19 just as the census completion period was getting underway in March 2020 (Census Day April 1) had forced our partners to forgo the many promotional events, face-to-face engagement, and community outreach. Instead we asked them to pivot to a digital approach using social media, email and other means. Fortunately some of the funded activities got started before COVID-19 struck.



Hispanic Center of Lehigh Valley, located in south Bethlehem, helps low-income community members connect to social services, employment, English language and computer skills, healthy foods, affordable housing, and other resources. In addition to holding the Health Equity Summit with LVCf on the Census, HCLV was able to increase awareness and build engagement among the Hispanic population by conducting street outreach working with college networks in February and March before COVID-19 hit the area. HCLV was able to distribute signage and materials to dozens of businesses on Bethlehem's south side. In March, COVID-19 forced a pivot from street outreach to phone banking, assisting clients with completing the census over the phone, and through socially-distanced outdoor engagement in the south Bethlehem community.



ProJeCt of Easton

conducts literacy, adult and family education (ESL classes), and workforce training programs with wraparound services. They engaged low-income clients, many of whom are limited English-speaking adults, families and seniors about the 2020 Census. ProJeCt distributed census materials and offered linguistic and technological support, through their programs and to 3,500 Food Pantry clients, helping to reach low-income families. Due to COVID-19 they were not able to provide computer labs for people to complete the census in-house; however, they did distribute materials and messaging digitally through email and social media.



Make the Road Pennsylvania,

dedicated to organizing the working class in Latino communities and building power for justice, shifted their plans to a virtual and digital strategy early on. They provided a "virtual kiosk and walkthrough" assistance for everyone in their membership. They used their networks to send communications and utilized phone banking to make thousands of calls throughout the region. They have sent out digital postcards to 34,000 in June via personal messenger about the canvassing efforts and why the census is important—in both English and Spanish.



Promise Neighborhoods of the Lehigh Valley (PNLV),

a community organizing agency used connectors and outreach with neighbors, and local businesses to increase awareness of the census. While COVID-19 has affected their planned community events, pop-up booths and other initiatives to engage the community, their street team distributed flyers and other materials safely in hard-to-count neighborhoods. They used their participation in marches and rallies in Allentown to emphasize the importance of census. PNLV worked with rally leaders to make sure they are promoting the census to their following as part of their overall messaging. They supported their grass-roots approach with social media and other culturally-appropriate marketing content.

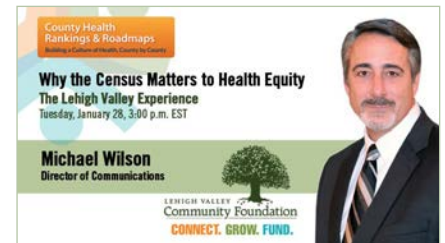




LVCF Making News | Census 2020

LVCF staff members **Megan Briggs, Erika Riddle Petrozelli, and Michael Wilson** helped raise awareness of the census through the media, appearing on numerous television and radio shows, publishing an op-ed in *The Morning Call*, a thought piece in *Network Magazine*, and contributing to many feature newspaper articles and television news stories during 2019-20.

Michael Wilson presented a national webinar for Town and County Health (Robert Wood Johnson Funded initiative) on Lehigh Valley strategies for Census 2020 to 950 people nationwide.



Census 2020 | Lehigh Valley Outcome

The Lehigh Valley did well responding to the 2020 Census, especially considering the ongoing downward trend in census response over the past three decades, the impact of COVID-19, and the growing distrust of government. While the response rates fell short of ambitious goals in the Lehigh Valley, the region ranks well in comparison to other similar areas in the state and country. Combining Lehigh and Northampton counties, the Valley ranked in the top 5% of counties in the country for response rate. In Pa., both topped 75% joining only 8 other counties (out of 67) in the state to do so.

The final numbers will change upward as the census numbers are finalized in 2021. While our Allentown number (64.9) fell short, when we look at Reading (54.9), Harrisburg (49), Scranton (60.4), York (53.9) and other similar cities in Pennsylvania, we did well in comparison. One thing remained true, those hard-to-count areas in 2010 became even harder to count in 2020. Below is a chart to assess how the Valley fared. Since it's a national, state, county and city-wide competition to get the most complete count, rank is important when funds get distributed.

U.S. Census 2020 - Preliminary Results | Pennsylvania & Lehigh Valley

As of 10/27/2020	2020 Response	2010 Response	Up/Down				
				National Rank 2020	Percentile		
United States	67	66.5	up				
Pennsylvania	69.6	70.2	Down	16 out of 50	32	Penn. Rank 2020	Percentile
Lehigh	76.2	75.6	Up	178 out of 3,215	5.5	8 out of 67	12
Northampton	77	76.5	Up	143 out of 3,215	4.4	5 out of 67	7.4
Allentown	64.9	68.3	Down	8,660 out of 19,198	44.7	594 out of 1,010	58.8
Bethlehem	71.2	74.5	Down	5,290 out of 19,198	27.5	359 out of 1,010	35.5
Easton	62.6	66.1	Down	9,824 out of 19,198	51	659 out of 1,010	65





Providing Community Leadership Striving for a More Just Society | DEI

The country is reeling from two horrible diseases: a worldwide viral pandemic that is ravaging our community, and a national disorder of racism that tears at the very fabric of our souls. Systemic racism continues to contribute to the growing inequities in our communities. We are suffering in our hearts for Black lives lost, for Black lives disregarded, and for Black lives without opportunity.

Lehigh Valley Community Foundation stands united with those calling for racial justice and access to the same freedoms for all people, and we recognize that change begins within. The staff have taken these past few months to pause, to listen, to reflect, and to begin taking action.

First, LVCF's Board of Governors has committed to continuing the organization's diversity, equity, and inclusion journey, including the adoption of a set of guiding principles. Second, we have re-affirmed our support of nonprofits that are on their own diversity, equity, and inclusion journeys

by continuing to include DEI in our nonprofit effectiveness grant platform. Third, we formalized our support of the United Way's Fund for Racial Justice & Equity to partner with our community to continue efforts to seek solutions to systemic racism. We have been exploring our role in community



conversations on race, and we have begun hosting important entry points to this discussion.

Most importantly, as a funder and a steward of philanthropy, we recognize that we are in a position of power and privilege.

We must do more heavy lifting to shift dynamics and achieve change. We have begun to ask ourselves: What barriers might be within our processes that need to be broken down to better partner with more diverse organizations, more leaders of color, and our communities of color? How do we formally apply an equity lens to all that we do? How do we use our voice as a community leader to amplify those who need to be heard? These are hard questions to answer, but we commit to having the critical conversations and reflections that are needed to make change within and throughout.

When partnering with organizations, we value those with a culture of learning and continuous improvement. We hold ourselves to this same standard as we seek wisdom from others, while taking responsibility for educating ourselves and our stakeholders.

We will continue to share developments with you as we take action as a learning organization, growing and evolving during these challenging times.

We must stand together, plan for our shared future, and strive to improve the quality of life for all.

-In Solidarity, the LVCF Staff

RACIAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY

RACIAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY

RACIAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY

With financial support from PPL Foundation, and in partnership with Lehigh Valley Community Foundation, United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley (UWGLV) established the Fund for Racial Justice and Equity to rapidly direct financial support to anti-racism initiatives in Lehigh, Northampton and Carbon counties. The Fund invests in community-led solutions that generate reconciliation, cultural competence, humility and courageous conversations. The Fund supports initiatives including:

- Capacity-building
- Advocacy
- Community engagement/leadership
- Cultural preservation

LVCF's **Megan Briggs**, Director of Community Investments, is participating in a coalition that lead decision-making over the allocation of this fund and priorities for the work ahead. "We are pleased to work in partnership to address racial justice and equity in our community," said **Erika Riddle Petrozelli**, Vice President for Philanthropy, LVCF. "This pivotal moment provides an opportunity for our organizations to more closely align our equity-centered priorities, focus the impact of the COVID-19 Response Fund, and direct community investments to create a powerful shift in momentum for real change."

As the recent attention has focused on the importance of Racial Equity, LVCF held **Heart to Heart: A Dialogue on Race and Diversity**, a professionally facilitated virtual conversation by InterACTION Consulting Group. LVCF offered the virtual program over two

days during June 2020, in response to widespread interest of non-profit leaders to begin or continue work to center their organization's mission on equity. The well-attended program provided a safe and welcoming virtual space in which candid and heartfelt conversations about racial issues in America occurred. Participants had opportunities to practice diversity-related communication skills needed as individuals and organizations weather the "Imperfect Storm of 2020" and create a more inclusive, diversity competence and equitable world. The sessions were facilitated by InterACTION Consulting Group members, **Marie Amey-Taylor, Ed.D.**, and **Sarah Halley**.



LVCF's Board of Associates Fall Meeting Focused on Census 2020's Impact on Pennsylvania



Census 2020 and its impact on Pennsylvania and the Lehigh Valley was the topic of the fall 2019 meeting of the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation (LVCF) Board of Associates held on Tuesday, October 29, 2019. Two distinguished speakers spoke on the importance for Census for Pennsylvanians and how the philanthropic community can help in the effort to ensure a complete count. Over 100 members of the Community Foundation's Board of Associates and invited guests attended the program titled, **Census 2020: It's All About Our Commonwealth.**

Michael Stershic, Chair of the Board of Associates, welcomed the crowd and shared the Community Foundation's new video, Connect, Grow, and Fund Your Charitable Legacy. "The Board of Associates is a voice for LVCF in the community," Stershic noted. "You are an important part of our work because you are our ambassadors. The Census is an important issue in our region in so many ways. If you are volunteering in the community, serving on a nonprofit board, working in a business setting – you will be impacted by the Census – and we welcome your awareness, your partnership, and your contributions to our region's complete count efforts."



Bernie Story, President and CEO of the Community Foundation, presented an overview of the work of the Community Foundation around the census. "We have launched a regional initiative, Civic Engagement: Census 2020. We have become deeply involved in local Complete Count Committees; have engaged with state efforts to promote the count; and have collaborated with our community foundation peers to learn leading practices for philanthropic involvement in the census," Story explained. "To help accomplish our work, we have established the Census Equity Fund of the Lehigh Valley as a source of philanthropic dollars allocated to the initiative."



Norman Bristol Colón, Executive Director, Governor's Census 2020 Complete Count Commission; PA Department of Community & Economic Development; PA Latino Convention addressed the census from a historical perspective while explaining what's at stake in Pa. and the Lehigh Valley, and state-level initiatives being undertaken to ensure a complete count.





Bristol Colón outlined the action the state is taking to address the Census. He emphasized the importance for all residents – young, old, urban, suburban, rural, citizen, resident, and immigrants need to be counted. “Federal money that goes to critical infrastructure, roads and bridges, Medicare, education, senior citizens’ programs, human services support, and rural development is threatened if we have an undercount,” he said. “In Pennsylvania, “approximately \$2,093 per individual not counted could be lost annually for ten years.”

According to the GW Institute of Public Policy, the fiscal costs of a census undercount to Pennsylvania is a strong blow to the state’s fiscal stability,” Bristol Colon continued. “In 2015, the projected fiscal loss in Federal Medical Assistance Percentage-guided programs (FMAP) per person missed in 2010 census in

Pennsylvania was \$1,746. The projected FY2015 loss in FMAP-based program funds due to additional 1% undercount in 2010 Census for Pa. was \$221,762,564.”



Fred Brown, President & CEO, The Forbes Funds addressed what philanthropy can do to support a complete count and civic engagement generally, and how to mobilize community around this issue. Using Pittsburgh and the work of The Forbes

Fund as his lens, Brown identified the top five barriers to participation in the census include: (1) concerns about data privacy and confidentiality; (2) fear of repercussion; (3) distrust in all levels of government; (4) a lack of efficacy; and (5) belief that the census does not personally benefit people.

A Virtual Meeting

Philanthropy's Response to COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic required that the spring 2020 Board of Associates meeting be held virtually. **Philanthropy's Response to COVID-19 | A Virtual Meeting** was presented via WebEx at the meeting on May 6. **Megan Briggs**, LVCF Director of Community Investments, and **Erin Connelly**, Senior Director, Impact, United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley presented on the immediate impact of the COVID-19 crisis on the nonprofits and the people they serve.



Erin Connelly

Senior Director, Impact
United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley



The presentation focused on how the Lehigh Valley philanthropic community is partnering to bring a coordinated response to the crisis.

- COVID-19 crisis is detrimental to the nonprofit sector, but we are seeing innovation, passion, commitment and strength; even as organizations face insurmountable barriers.
- A coordinated response that is cross-sector is required. Private philanthropy has a specific role to play in ensuring sustainability.
- There are ways you as an individual and/or a community leader can plug into ongoing efforts.



Megan Briggs

Director of Community Investments
Lehigh Valley Community Foundation



LVCF Celebrated 2019 National Philanthropy Day at AFP's Annual Awards Program

Bernie Story, LVCF President and CEO, served as master of ceremonies for the Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) 2019 National Philanthropy Day Awards Breakfast for the fifth and final time. The programs, attended by more than 500 people, honored many of the area's most accomplished fundraisers, volunteers, and donors. The Community Foundation was the lead sponsor of the event that celebrates philanthropy by honoring those making an impact on the quality of life in the region through fundraising and charitable giving.

The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to **Ross and Wendy Born** who were nominated by the AFP Board of Directors. **Bill and Denise Spence** were named Outstanding Philanthropists. They were nominated by United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley.



The Outstanding Foundation award went to **The Century Fund**, nominated by Greater Valley YMCA.

The Community Foundation honored long-time Board of Governors member **Matthew R. Sorrentino, Esq.**, Senior Vice President and Chief Legal Officer, Lehigh Valley Health Network.

"Matt Sorrentino has supported the work of the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation since 2011 when he first joined the Board of Governors," noted **Bernie Story**. "He is currently the Board Secretary and chairs the Legal Affairs Committee, which also places him on the Board's Executive Committee. He has provided sound guidance on various business matters and was instrumental to drafting updated Foundation by-laws that govern all aspects of our work. In addition, Matt participated in the Foundation's 50th anniversary grantmaking initiative."

Matt Sorrentino is an advisor to a family foundation fund at the Community Foundation. He is a committed and engaged Board member with a strong voice on key issues. "Because of his commitments to the Foundation and the Lehigh Valley community, LVCF is thrilled to be honoring Matt at National Philanthropy Day," Story concluded.



Ronnie and Matt Sorrentino

LVCF Sponsors AFP Workshop Featuring Simone Joyaux

The Community Foundation sponsored Unraveling Philanthropy with **Simone Joyaux** held by the Association of Fundraising Professionals Eastern PA Chapter, in partnership with the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley. LVCF staff participated in the two-part workshop at the Historic Hotel Bethlehem in September 2019.



Nationally renowned for nonprofit and NGO strategic counsel in fund raising and board development, **Simone Joyaux** captivated and educated the audience during the morning workshop, **“Creating Your Next Fund Development Plan,”** Simone offered instruction building capacity through fund development plans that will help raise more money. During the evening, she presented, **“Changing Your Organization to Produce Greater Impact!”** Her inspirational talk engaged and challenged attendees to build philanthropy efforts that are strategic, more powerful and most importantly—successful.

Estate Planning Council

Advising Clients Tough Times the Focus of Program

In celebration of Estate Planning Awareness Week 2019, the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation sponsored the Estate Planning Council of the Lehigh Valley’s program led by **Ken Florian**, President, Corgenius. The program, **“Advising Clients Through the Toughest Times of Life”** was held on October 24, 2019 at Homewood Suites by Hilton in Center Valley, Pa.



“When clients cope with death, divorce, retirement, empty nest, or other life transitions, what you say and do in the office has more influence on your client relationship than your financial savvy ever did,” said **Ken Florian**.



Estate Planning Council

Life Settlements and New Tax Law Examined

The Community Foundation sponsored the Estate Planning Council of the Lehigh Valley’s seminar **“Life Settlements”** presented by **Jack Elder**, Vice President of Account Services at Coventry, held on February 20, 2020, at Lehigh Country Club. Elder was followed by **Lois Gabin-**

Legato, Philadelphia Foundation, who presented **“Charitable Giving Strategies Under ‘New’ Tax Law”** along with colleague **Doug Nannene**. LVCF’s **Erika Riddle Petrozelli** welcomed the crowd of 75 professional advisors, estate planners, accountants and attorneys.





Nonprofit Visits Open Doors and Provide Insight for Donors

During 2019-20, the Community Foundation invited fundholders, donors, and others to join the staff as they visited a nonprofit organization in the Lehigh Valley to meet with the organization's leaders, take a tour, and learn more about their mission, successes and challenges.

Valley Youth House

In February 2020, the Foundation visited the Valley Youth House to take a tour and learn about their support services to help young people and their families. Valley Youth House is a key component of the community's safety net for children and youth. The group visited the Lehigh Valley Shelter in Bethlehem that provides for the safety needs of runaway and homeless youth and their families annually through evidence-informed practices.

Valley Youth House's **Ken Klein**, Vice President, Northeast Pennsylvania Housing & Emergency Services, **Michele Albright**, Associate Director and **Christina Schoemaker**, Senior Vice President, Development, Grants & Marketing explained how Valley Youth House does more than just provide a home for Pennsylvania's vulnerable, abused, and homeless youth. They partner with thousands of individuals each year to build a solid foundation for young people and their families. With dedicated street outreach, housing, counseling, skills training, health, prevention, and intervention services, they empower resilient young people in establishing promising futures.



ProJeCt of Easton

During September 2019, Community Foundation staff stopped at ProJeCt of Easton to take a tour and learn about their system of education support services to help clients break the cycle of poverty. LVCF's **Michael Wilson** and **Megan Briggs** were joined by fundholder and former LVCF governor **Marshall Wolff** of Kessler, Wolff and Miller Insurance, to visit ProJeCt of Easton's Fowler Literacy Center. Program Director **Antoinette Cavaliere** led the group on a tour of the facility and everyone spoke with CEO **Janice Komisor**. LVCF presented Project of Easton with \$10,000 grant from the Census Equity Fund to increase the count in Easton.



The Civic Theatre

During August 2019, the Community Foundation brought a group to visit the Civic Theatre in Allentown to take a tour of the facility that was undergoing renovations and learn more about their theatre, cinema, and educational programs. Board members **Sharon and Barry Glassman** took the group on a tour of the facilities where the guests got a behind the scenes tour and learned about the capital campaign in support of the renovations and the important programs the theatre provides for students. The Nineteenth Street Theatre building is home of Civic Theatre of Allentown, an historic Theatre production company that produces live theater, runs educational programs, and screens art films.



Northeast Community Center

During July 2019, the Community Foundation staff made a visit to the Northeast Community Center (NCC) in Bethlehem to hear about their work in the Marvine-Pembroke neighborhood, including the food pantry and kids summer camp. **Paula Johnson**, Executive Director, and **Grace Young**, Marketing and Development Coordinator, gave the LVCF contingent a tour of the facility and explained the Center's services. **Stephen Bajan**, Chief Executive Officer at Saucon Mutual Insurance Co., and NCC Board member and donor **Barry Kessler** joined LVCF's **Erika Riddle Petrozelli** and **Megan Briggs** on the tour that culminated with check presentation.



State Grant Adds to the Lehigh Valley Homeless Veterans Fund

The Lehigh Valley Homeless Veterans Fund at LVCF received \$200,000 in grant funding that was announced during a press conference by Pa. Senate Appropriations Chairman **Pat Browne** (16th District), which is the largest state commitment specifically targeted towards assisting homeless veterans in the Lehigh Valley.

The yearly Point-In-Time count in 2019 – an annual one-day effort held each January to identify the homeless throughout a community – identified 38 homeless veterans in the Lehigh Valley. The number has held fairly steady since 2013 when veterans became a subcategory of the Point-In-Time count. “When our country called upon them, these men and women committed themselves to service in our armed forces,” **Senator Browne** said. “Now, it is our turn to answer their call and provide assistance when they need it most. The Lehigh Valley Homeless Veteran Fund will help to ensure that pathways to sustainable housing, job placement and mental health services are available to the area’s homeless veteran population.”

Changes to federal funding in 2017 resulted in a significant reduction of dedicated resources to address homeless veterans in the Lehigh Valley. As a result, many community partners ceased their services and outreach programs to that population. The Lehigh Valley Homeless Veteran Fund at LVCF was created to alleviate the funding gap. The fund is designed to provide funding assistance to existing agencies on a competitive award basis and is administered by the Lehigh Valley



Community Foundation. The fund is designed to support existing programs or support new initiatives that ensure that “No Veteran is Left Behind.”

“It’s been a struggle over the past several years to find funding to overcome the federal cuts,” **Thomas Applebach**, Director of the Lehigh County Office of Veterans Affairs, said. “This money will help our partner agencies sustain their programs to house our homeless Vets and maybe even help to fund new and innovative programs. In partnering with Community Foundation, we want everyone to understand that this is a Lehigh Valley-wide community effort that will require the financial support of everyone to sustain and grow.

The fund will be overseen by a five-member committee who will evaluate applications and recommend grant awards. The fund is managed by the Foundation, which will disburse the grants as well as support fundraising efforts. In addition to Applebach, the committee members are; **Michael Wilson**, LVCF; **Alisa Baratta**, Third Street Alliance; **Mary Tirrell**, Lehigh Valley Health Network; and **Rocco Zegalia**, Netizen Corporation.





Pinebrook Family Answers Honors LVCF with Friend of the Family Award

Lehigh Valley Community Foundation was honored by Pinebrook Family Answers during its annual Rhythm & Wine event, an evening of music, entertainment and celebration that was held on Thursday, October 24, 2019 at the Barrister's Club in Allentown.

The Foundation was presented with The Friend of the Family Award for the impact they have had not only on Pinebrook but on the community. "The Lehigh Valley Community Foundation has been a great friend and supporter of Pinebrook Family Answers for many years," said **William B. Vogler, Ph.D.**, President and CEO of Pinebrook Family Answers. "Through its

Synergy Fund, the Community Foundation has been instrumental helping our organization collaborate with other organizations, grow, and improve efficiencies along the way."

LVCF President and CEO **Bernie Story** accepted the award on behalf of the Community Foundation. "It has been our pleasure working with Pinebrook Family Answers. They are a great organization with strong leadership pursuing a noble mission of transforming lives across generations by nurturing healthy children and strong families, supporting seniors, empowering individuals."

The Community Foundation produced a video in 2019-20 in conjunction with DigitalFeast to share the value we bring to the community. Featured in the video are **Thomas Donley**, The Donley Foundation; **Denise Blew**, former LVCF Board member and fundholder; **Laurie Siebert**, Senior Vice President with Valley National Financial Advisors; and LVCF Board member and Easton City Administrator **Luis Campos**. View the video on youtube at: https://youtu.be/f_hCx2RoaWI



Thank you to Departing Members of the Board of Governors

The Community Foundation said thank you and farewell to five long-standing members of the Board of Governors at a recent meeting. The members completing their terms of service at the end of 2019 were **Denise Blew**, **W. Beall Fowler**, **James Margolis**, **Matt Sorrentino, Esq.**, and **Mike Stershic**. Board of Governors Vice Chair **Bonnie S. Coyle, M.D., M.S.**, and **Bernie Story**, President and CEO, presented the departing members with citations during the November 2019 board meeting held at DeSales University.



Denise Blew served two periods as a member of the Board of Governors. She first served a seven-year period from 2003-2009 and a second three-term period from 2011-2019. "Serving 13 years as a member of the Executive Committee, Denise's unwavering commitment and contributions to the Community Foundation will forever be linked to its growth, impact, and success," said **Bernie Story**, President and CEO of LVCF. "She served as Vice Chair of the Board from 2011-2012 and Chair of the Board from 2013-2014."



W. Beall Fowler served three terms as a member of the Board of Governors from 2011-2019. "Beall's understanding of the community's needs was invaluable, providing leadership as a member of the Grants Committee in 2011-2012 and later as Chair of the Discretionary Grants Committee from 2014-2016," said Story. "His personal generosity and commitment to the Foundation's growth have been exemplary and have helped to significantly increase the Foundation's charitable assets and its ability to serve in perpetuity."



Jim Margolis served three terms as a member of the Board of Governors from 2011-2019. During his entire tenure, Jim has helped guide grantmaking, serving on the Discretionary Grants Committee from 2011-2016, and later on the Community Investments Committee from 2017 to 2019. "Jim's insights and wisdom have been invaluable to Foundation's effectiveness in grant making, helping solidify the Foundation's status as trusted funder—addressing the essential needs of the Lehigh Valley," Story noted.



Matt Sorrentino, Esq., served three terms as a member of the Board of Governors from 2011 to 2019. "During his entire tenure, he was a member of the Legal Affairs Committee, serving as chair for six years," Story said. "He guided the Community Foundation providing wise counsel. He served on the Board Affairs Committee for five years, and helped shape the Foundation's by-laws as chair of that committee from 2012-2014." Additionally, Matt served on the Development Committee from 2011-2015, the Executive Committee from 2014-2019, and as Board of Governors Secretary for the past five years.



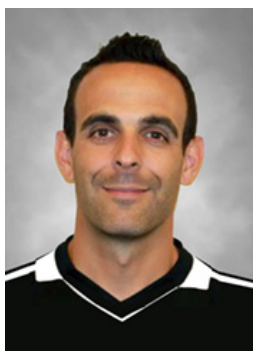
Mike Stershic served three terms as a member of the Board of Governors from 2011-2019. "He served as Vice Chair in 2013-2014 and then as Chair from 2015-2016, providing leadership to the organization during a time of growth, and increased capacity," Story noted. "He was instrumental in the planning and implementation of the 50th anniversary activities. He helped shape the leadership of LVCF as Chair of the Board Affairs committee from 2012-2017." Mike helped guide LVCF as a member of the Executive Committee from 2012-2019. He served as Vice Chair of the Marketing Committee from 2011-2014 and was a committee member until 2016. He served on the Finance Committee for three years.

New Board Members

Margaretha (Mar) Haeussler, Director, Transfer Pricing for Novartis United States, serves on the Finance Committee. She has over twenty-five years of transfer pricing experience working with a variety of multinational clients across a wide range of industries with particular emphasis on the life sciences, consumer products, and automotive component industries.



Greg Ramos, Executive Director of Lehigh Valley United FC, serves on the Community Investments Committee. He co-founded Lehigh Valley United FC, a soccer club with his father, Lou Ramos, in 2006. He is co-owner of Sherman Street Soccer LLC; and is Vice President of Lehigh Valley Youth Soccer League, and a committee member of Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer Association.



Sybil F. Stershic, President of Quality Service Marketing, serves on the Foundation's Community Relations Committee. She founded Quality Service Marketing in 1988 to help businesses and nonprofits foster workplace engagement through custom facilitation and training. She is the author of several books and the long-running Quality Service Marketing blog.



R. Nicholas Nanovic, partner at Gross McGinley, LLP, joined the Board of Governors and serves on the Foundation's Community Relations Committee. Nanovic leads Gross McGinley's Wills, Trusts & Estates Group. He is an Accredited Estate Planner® by the National Association of Estate Planners & Councils and has extensive background in estate planning, trusts, estate administration, taxation, and business.



In the Media



The Community Foundation continued generating significant visibility in the regional media during 2019. Coverage reflected the Foundation's media strategy to promote the organization's role as a leading funder of nonprofits in the Lehigh Valley, demonstrate its community knowledge and involvement, and establish staff as thought leaders in charitable giving.

The Community Foundation was included in more than 40 stories in the news print, magazine, radio and television media. Most notably was the coverage of the Community Foundation's leadership in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Census 2020 (see page 13 for more), and the establishment of the Lehigh Valley Veterans Homeless Fund that received a \$200,000 state grant (see page 22 for more).

The local media has provided excellent coverage of the Community Foundation's contribution to helping nonprofit organizations cope with the impact on COVID-19. There were multiple stories on the development of the response funds and grantmaking that helped support Valley nonprofits providing front-line services. The Foundation contributed to stories in *The Morning Call* and on lehighvalleylive.com (*The Express-Times*). **Erika Riddle Petrozelli** and **Megan Briggs** contributed to stories on WFMZ 69-News.

LVCf efforts generated a feature story in *The Morning Call* on the survey of nonprofits that revealed the dramatic impact and need for support. The Foundation's Upper Bucks COVID-19 Response Fund made news in Bucks County. Other LVCf grantmaking such as the Multi-Year Community Partnership grants and other arts related grants also received some ink from the local papers.

Charitable Funds

Agency Funds | *Focusing on the Nonprofit Mission*

Establishing an agency fund allows a nonprofit to focus on its mission while benefiting from the operational efficiencies, oversight and visibility that LVCF offers.

- Agency Endowment Fund of New Bethany Ministries
- Allentown Band, Inc. Endowment Fund
- Bach Choir of Bethlehem Fund
- Charles & Louise Hoffman Fund for the Bach Choir of Bethlehem
- Bethlehem AAUW Fund
- Boys & Girls Club of Bethlehem Restricted Endowment #2 Fund
- Bucks County Free Library Endowment Fund
- Burnside Plantation Fund
- Center for Vision Loss Endowment Fund
- Congregation Keneseth Israel Quasi-Endowment Fund
- David Rabaut United Way Fund For Neighborhoods
- Endowment Fund of Meals on Wheels of the Greater Lehigh Valley
- Endowment Fund to Further the Mission of Valley Youth House
- Hunter Meckes Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Junior League of the Lehigh Valley Agency Endowment Fund
- KI Is Our Home Campaign Fund
- Latino Leadership Alliance Scholarship Fund
- Lehigh Valley Child Care Endowment Fund
- New Bethany Ministries Endowment-Robinson Fund
- ShareCare Fund
- United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley Endowment Fund
- United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley-Thun Endowment Fund
- Victory House of Lehigh Valley Endowment Fund
- WDIY Endowment Fund
- WDIY Public Radio Fund



Allentown Band 2019 at Symphony Hall

Allentown Band, Inc. Endowment Fund



Allentown Band Established in 2019, the Allentown Band, Inc. Endowment Fund will help to sustain the Band's future contributions to the cultural fabric of the Lehigh Valley for generations to come.

A prominent feature of 19th-century musical Americana is the concert band, and the Allentown Band has for almost 200 years, kept that tradition alive. Drawn from within a fifty-mile radius of eastern Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley, the band's musicians, as different as their backgrounds may be, share one common goal: to create and preserve concert band music at a level of excellence rarely heard from a community band.

The Allentown Band's ongoing mission is to preserve and advance the heritage of concert band music by providing quality, inspiring performances, and education in partnership with the community and beyond.

www.allentownband.com
[Learn more...](#)

Area-of-Interest Funds | *Choosing a Cause*

An area-of-interest fund supports programs & initiatives that tackle issues of the donors' choosing such as the environment, camperships, no-kill animal shelters, etc.

Community Area-of-Interest Funds

- Frances L. Barnard Fund for Children
- Barbara & Maxwell Davison Fund for Alzheimer's Care
- Edward & Inez Donley Fund
- Fund to Fight Substance Use Disorder
- Richard E. Gasser Fund
- Margaret Haas Rotunno Memorial Fund for Local No Kill Shelters
- Barry M. Kessler Endowment Fund for Basic Human Needs
- Lehigh Valley Leader in Me Fund
- Lehigh Valley Coalition for Kids Fund
- Erwin J. & Gertrude K. Neusch Fund
- Lehigh River Fund
- Outdoor Recreation Fund for Youth
- Robert D. & Gwendolyn-Jane Romeril Campership Fund
- William C. Rybak Fund for People with Disabilities

- Leonard A. Wenzel Memorial Fund for South Bethlehem
- Gene & Joan Witiak Fund

Donor-defined Area-of-Interest

- Any Given Child Bethlehem Fund
- City of Bethlehem Celebration Fund
- Downtown Allentown Community Development Initiative Fund
- Every 15 Minutes Fund
- First Commonwealth *WE Thrive LV* Foundation Fund
- Galaxy Fund
- Lehigh County Medical Society Education Fund
- Lehigh Valley Homeless Veteran Fund
- Lehigh Valley Synergy Fund
- Northampton County Bar Association Charitable Fund
- PPL Operation HELP Fund
- Saucon Sanctuary Fund

AREA-OF-INTEREST FUND SPOTLIGHT

The Galaxy Fund

The Galaxy Fund at the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation provides grants primarily, but not exclusively, to the Allentown School District ("ASD") to support: 1) First and foremost, the maintenance, sustainability, programming, and other similar expenses of the Allentown Learning Dome, currently located at Louis E. Dieruff High School; and 2) other STEM projects in the Allentown School District as the opportunities are presented. The fund received a \$50,000 grant from the PPL Foundation in 2019-20. [Learn more...](#)



Charitable Funds

Designated Funds | *Defining Your Giving*

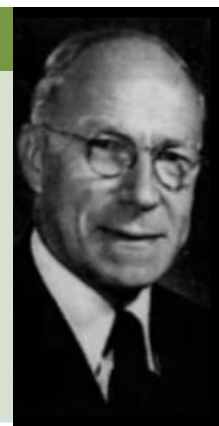
Donors name specific nonprofits to receive grants, and LVCF will make those grants over time. It is the most common way to preserve an individual's charitable legacy.

- William B. & Elizabeth Behr Agocs Geophysical Research Fund
- American Red Cross-Lehigh Valley Chapter Fund
- Clayton W. & Helen H. Bernhardt/V.J. Pazzetti, Jr. Fund
- Dr. Charles L. Best Fund
- Bethlehem & Morning Star Rotary Clubs Scholarship Fund in Remembrance of Stephen P. Godbolt
- Benjamin C. Boylston-Kemerer Museum Fund
- Benjamin C. & Eleanor A. Boylston Fund for the Lehigh Valley Chapter, American Red Cross
- H. Bridges & Lucile P. Boylston Fund for First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem, PA
- Boys & Girls Club of Bethlehem Restricted Endowment #1 Fund
- Camp Compass Fund
- Patrick J. & Christine Connell Fund
- Marjorie S. & Joseph E. Correll Fund
- John L. Daniel & Carol Holben-Daniel Designated Fund
- Leonard R. Dimmick Fund for Burnside Plantation
- Equi-librium Therapeutic Horsemanship Fund
- Fowler Family Fund
- Joseph R. Gagnier Memorial Fund
- Marion Brown Grace Memorial Fund
- Janice & Paul Gross Fund
- Tore & Charlotte Hartmann-Hansen Fund for the Bethlehem Morning Star Rotary Charitable Organization
- Luther J. Hottle Fund
- Nancy S. & Charles E. Keenan Endowment Fund
- Kenneth & Elizabeth Kressler Fund
- Deborah A. Libricz Memorial Fund
- Magee Family Fund
- Charles & Ruth Marcon United Way Fund
- Mary & Jack McNairy Fund
- Dr. Russell E. Morgan, Sr. Fund
- Peter Pagotto, Elizabeth A. Pagotto, and Family Fund
- Delphine Quinn Perpetual Fund
- Raymond-Cryder Designated Fund
- Albert M. Reed Fund
- Safe Start Fund
- Salesian Center Fund
- Arthur E. Schaeffer Trust Fund
- Shoemaker-Bond Home Association, Inc. Fund
- Theatre Organ Arts Fund
- Thun Fund
- George T. Walker Charitable Fund
- Warren W. York Fund To Benefit The United Way of The Greater Lehigh Valley

DONOR DESIGNATED FUND SPOTLIGHT

Albert M. Reed Fund

This designated fund was established in 2001 to memorialize Albert M. Reed, a retired senior executive at Bethlehem Steel Corporation. The Albert M. Reed Fund at the Community Foundation represents a legacy for Mr. Reed providing funding in perpetuity for the organizations he designed. Receiving grants were Allentown Rescue Mission, American Red Cross Lehigh Valley-Bucks, Catholic Charities, Historic Bethlehem Partnership Inc., New Bethany Ministries; Salvation Army of Greater Philadelphia; Second Harvest Food Bank of the Lehigh Valley & Northeastern, PA; and United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley. [Lean more...](#)

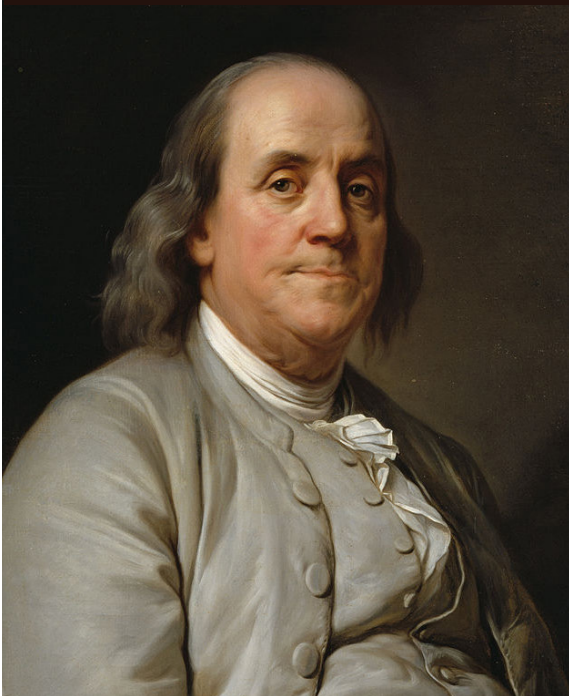


Community Partnership Funds | *Meeting the Region's Changing Needs*

Community Partnership Funds support the Foundation's discretionary grantmaking to address the needs in the Lehigh Valley.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP FUND SPOTLIGHT

Ben Franklin Trust Fund



In 1789, Benjamin Franklin wrote his last will and testament. In that will, he directed that the sum of 2000 pounds sterling be set aside for a period of 200 years, allowing the principal to grow, untouched, over two centuries. At the end of that period, a percentage of his bequest was to be used to benefit the cities of Boston and Philadelphia, the adopted hometown that he loved, and the remaining percentage was to be used to benefit the residents of Pennsylvania.

In 1992, the Pennsylvania State Legislature determined that the latter intention of Franklin's bequest could best be met if the assets-by then totaling more than \$2 million-were distributed among Pennsylvania's community foundations, creating Ben Franklin Funds from which grants could be made in perpetuity. [Learn more...](#)

- 250th Book Fund
- E. Spencer & Nellie C. Addison Fund
- Margaret Ann Bachert Fund
- Randy H. & Ramona A. Bruch Fund
- Community Partnership Fund
- John L. Daniel & Carol Holben-Daniel Fund
- Lucille F. Driver Fund
- Donald & Alice Farquharson Fund
- Ben Franklin Trust Fund
- Eugene G. Grace, Jr. Fund
- Greene Family Fund
- Deborah S. Haight Fund
- Betsy & Jack Jordan Fund
- Lehigh Valley Arts & Culture Relief Fund
- Lehigh Valley Census Equity Fund
- Lehigh Valley Helping Hand Fund
- LVCF COVID-19 Response Fund
- Martina M. Malone Fund
- Pine Fund In Memory of Mildred Beck Pine
- Anthony J. Ruggiero Fund
- Michael C. Schrader Fund
- Upper Bucks COVID-19 Response Fund

Charitable Funds

Donor-Advised Funds | *Remaining Deeply Involved in Your Giving*

A donor-advised fund permits donors to recommend grants from their fund and to vary those recommendations and change their charitable priorities as they wish. LVCF offers personalized service and deep community knowledge – a true partner in philanthropy.

- Anonymous
- Michael & Lynn Abgott Fund
- Alan & Marsha Abraham Fund
- AEP Fund
- Arbor Insurance Group Community Fund
- Arbor Insurance Group Foundation Fund
- Avalon Fund
- Stephen & Janis Bajan Charitable Fund
- Barnette Fund
- Walter & Alma Bastian Fund
- Bethlehem Rotary Club Fund
- Eric B. & Denise M. Blew Fund
- Brown Family Care Fund
- Borda Family Fund
- Geoff & Wenda Boyer Fund
- Building Fund
- Burdette Family Fund
- Calabrese-Collina Wedding Celebration Fund
- Patty & Ian Carlis Fund
- Mike Caruso Foundation Fund
- Mike Caruso Fund
- Cinquino Community Fund
- Client 1st Foundation Fund
- Karen & Peter Cooper Fund
- Grace Kathryn & Jeffrey P. Feather Fund
- Sylvia Fenstermacher Lawler Foundation for the Arts Fund
- John & Trisha Fistner Giving Fund
- Fleming Foundation Fund
- Jack & Ann Follett-Terres Fund For Compassionate Care
- W. Beall & Marlene O. Fowler Fund
- Fred Fund
- Stephen & Joyce Gehringer Charitable Family Fund

DONOR-ADVISED FUND SPOTLIGHT

The Avalon Fund

The Avalon Fund is a donor-advised fund that was recently established at the Community Foundation through the generosity of Carol Koenig. Grants from the fund are directed by the donor to support causes that matter most to her. Carol is a member of the Board of Directors for the Friends of Levitt Pavilion SteelStacks, where she serves as Chair of the Fundraising Committee. She supports Levitt through her fund and also directs grants to the Allentown Art Museum, ArtsQuest, Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts, and Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Network.

[Learn more...](#)





Donor-advised funds remain a popular vehicle for charitable giving—seven new DAFs were added in 2019-20.

- Grifo Family Fund
- Janice & Paul Gross Fund
- Dolly Haltzman Foundation for the Arts Fund
- Thomas Hartzell & Jean Larkin Fund
- Heydt Family Fund
- Ray & Donna Holton Charitable Fund
- Keystone Savings Foundation Fund
- Joan A. Kraft & R. Wayne Kraft Memorial Fund
- Kraft Hillman Family Fund
- William & Carol Kreitz Fund
- Kressler, Wolff & Miller Fund
- Lehigh County Lawyers' Charitable Fund
- Robert H. & Jean C. Littner Fund
- Lyons-Shields Fund
- L. Charles & Ruth H. Marcon Fund
- MAK Fund
- John F. & Jane H. Malloy Fund
- Dr. Richard D. Martin Memorial Fund
- Morton Brown Family Wealth Fund
- Damian C. Mele Memorial Fund
- McNairy Fund
- Olexa Family Foundation Fund
- Ronald R. Perin Fund
- Angela René Pessina Foundation Fund
- Matthew & Erika Petrozelli Fund
- Pharo Family Fund
- Jack Pressmann Memorial Fund
- Prometheus Fund
- Andrew Rabbat Memorial Music Scholarship Fund
- Lynn Ratzell Fund
- Raymond-Cryder Donor Advised Fund
- J.B. & Kathleen Reilly Fund
- John Reilly Fund
- Tricia Reilly Fund
- Reilly-Taykowski Family Fund
- Tom & Jo Anne Riddle Fund for a Greater Lehigh Valley
- Bonnie & Joel Ronco Fund
- Saucon Insurance Company Foundation Fund
- Anthony Severo Memorial Grow-A-Fund
- Charles & Margaret Shackelford Fund
- Justin Sheftel Memorial Fund
- St. Luke's Hospital Medical Staff Fund
- Star Foundation Fund
- Stershic Family Fund
- Glenn M. Taggart Memorial Fund
- Torrey Family Fund
- Donald H. & Mary R. Trautlein Fund
- Charles M Tuskes Fund
- Two Tunics Fund
- Charles Versaggi Futures Fund
- John & Chrissie Wagner Fund
- Jack & Jean D. Wilson Fund
- Wombat Fund
- Betty & Scotty Wood Memorial Fund
- Ilene & Robert Wood Striving To Make A Difference Fund
- Stella C. Yee Memorial Fund
- Yeoman Family Fund
- James & Naomi Yergey Fund
- Ryan J. Zawada Memorial Fund

Charitable Funds

Geographic Affiliate Fund | *Serving Surrounding Areas*

- Upper Bucks Community Fund

Grow-A-Fund | *Grow it and Become Permanent*

- Dr. Charles L. Best Fund
- Calabrese-Collina Wedding Celebration Fund
- Andrew Rabbat Memorial Music Scholarship Fund
- Anthony Severo Memorial Grow-A-Fund

Scholarship & Award Funds | *Further Education*

These funds allow donors to invest in the future by helping deserving students pursue higher education.

- Elizabeth Behr Agocs Scholarship Fund
- Ann C. Bernard Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Bethlehem Educational Scholastic Trust (B.E.S.T.) Fund
- Debra “Frau” Brown Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Reverend Douglas Caldwell Fund for Nursing Excellence
- Saul H. & JoAnne F. Coplan Scholarship Fund
- Beall Fowler Scholarship Fund for Northampton Community College
- Truman L. Frey, Jr. Scholarship Fund
- Frederick W. Hahn Scholarship Fund
- Hanover Township Memorial Golf Tournament Scholarship Fund
- Carol (Rodgers) Jaffe & Donald Jaffe Scholarship Fund
- Stephanie Olexa & Seth Weber Scholarship Fund
- Miss Pennsylvania Scholarship Fund
- Dr. Joseph A. Perna & Hilda Ramos Perna Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Sue Ratzell Scholarship Fund for Nursing
- Frances Sadler Award Fund
- Arthur E. & Myrl G. Schaeffer Scholarship Fund
- Anthony Severo Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Justin Sheftel Scholarship Fund
- William & Jamie Soukup Reid Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Catherine Hilaire Thompson Nursing Scholarship Fund
- Tuskes Family Scholarship Fund
- Edwin F. Van Billiard Scholarship Fund
- Betty Williams Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Wilson High School 2006 Football Champions Scholarship Fund
- Woman’s Club of Bethlehem Fund

Unrestricted Funds | *A Community Endowment*

The flexibility of unrestricted giving enables the Community Foundation to respond to the community’s most pressing needs.

- Adams Final Fund
- Rolland L. Adams Fund
- Rolland L. & Pauline H. Adams Fund
- Aaron Burr Baldree Fund
- Madeline S. & Frank R. Barnako Fund
- Clayton W. & Helen H. Bernhardt Fund
- Buckley Family Fund
- Dorothy & Joseph Conroy Fund
- Helen Adams DeRiemer Fund
- Globe Times/WGPA Charities Fund
- Carol Dean Henn Community Fund
- Kutteroff Family Fund
- Frank L. Marcon Fund
- Horace R. Miller Fund
- Operating Endowment Fund
- Perna Family Fund
- Katharine March & Stanley J. Thomas Memorial Fund

New Charitable Funds

Agency Fund

- Allentown Band, Inc. Endowment Fund

Area-of-Interest Funds

- Any Given Child Bethlehem Fund
- Edward & Inez Donley Fund
- Galaxy Fund
- Fund to Fight Substance Use Disorder
- Lehigh Valley Homeless Veteran Fund

Donor Advised Funds

- Avalon Fund
- Brown Family Care Fund
- Damian C. Mele Memorial Fund
- John & Trisha Fistner Giving Fund
- Fred Fund
- Charles & Margaret Shackelford Fund
- Yeoman Family Fund

Community Partnership Funds

- Lehigh Valley Arts & Culture Relief Fund
- Lehigh Valley Census Equity Fund
- LVCF COVID-19 Response Fund
- Upper Bucks COVID-19 Response Fund

Scholarship Fund

- Frances Sadler Award Fund

WELCOME

NEW FUNDS

18

FY 2019-20



Profile in Philanthropy | Cindy and Chuck Yeoman

After marrying many years ago, Cindy and Chuck Yeoman began a slow migration north from Bucks County, through Springtown, until they relocated to the Lehigh Valley 23 years ago—living in Williams Township. Now retired, the duo have been active in the community, serving on boards, volunteering on committees, and helping support those organizations near and dear to their hearts through the Yeoman Family Fund.

Both Cindy and Chuck have enjoyed long careers that have enabled them to be philanthropically minded in their retirement years. Cindy worked as a manufacturer's representative in the cabinet/furniture industry for her family's business M&M Sales. The company relocated to Easton when the Yeomans moved to the Valley. Over the years, Cindy has served as the company's controller, office manager, and later part-owner until she retired in 2011 to spend more time with her boys.

After attending technical school, Chuck's career path led him to Campbell Supply Company, a heavy-duty vehicle dealership representing Daimler Trucks of North America that specialized in firefighting and rescue vehicles. Eventually he became a partner and helped grow the company to over 300 people and five locations in three states. He retired as the VP/COO after 34 years.

"We have not always been in a position to give back to the community financially," Chuck explained. "When we started our family, we were helped by our family, friends and the community during some difficult times. We have never forgotten that."

"Together we worked very hard in our respective careers and have raised a family and put both our boys through college. Now we are able to give back. It is rewarding to see our contributions used to help the young and future artists," Chuck explained.

When the time came to help organizations through their charitable giving in the Lehigh Valley, they visited the Community Foundation. Chuck noted that, "We decided on a fund at the Community Foundation because we plan on supporting local organizations and felt it best to deal with an organization that is place-based in the Lehigh Valley."

“We have always looked up to the folks that were able to give back to the community and when we were able to it seemed like we had a responsibility to do so.”

- Chuck Yeoman

The Yeomans have a special relationship with Levitt Pavilion at SteelStacks where Chuck serves on the Board of Directors as a community volunteer. “We love being involved in the Levitt because of the free music programs they do for the community. It is so great to see the lawn filled with folks just relaxing and enjoying the music,” Cindy and Chuck explained. “Our time volunteering is very rewarding and many of the organizations we are involved with would not be able to get much accomplished without the many volunteers.”

“The Boy Scouts are a program that I am passionate about and that I get great gratification watching our young people have the opportunity to learn and to give leadership in a controlled and safe environment. Both of our boys are Eagle Scouts and they both use the lessons and values they learned in scouting in their everyday lives. I will continue to volunteer in the scouting community as long as I can,” Chuck continued.

When they aren’t out supporting philanthropic causes, Cindy creates jewelry designs working with various metals. She is a member of J.E.E.P. Club and gets involved in rallies, fundraisers and shows. Chuck enjoys driving his Corvettes whenever the weather is right, attending car shows and working with his son on project vehicles. He’s also an avid hunter and fisherman.

Two of the things they love the most are traveling and music... and more specifically, traveling to see live music.



The Yeoman’s gift to the Levitt Pavilion at SteelStacks helped Artsquest renovate the green rooms behind the stage that are used by the performers before and after shows. Their fund help support the following in recent years:

- Boy Scouts of America - Minsi Trails Council
- Friends of Levitt Pavilion at SteelStacks
- LVCF COVID-19 Relief Fund
- Pocono Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center
- Valley Youth House
- Wounded Warriors Project

Gifts at a Glance | 2019-20



TOTAL GIFTS
\$5.9 Million



POPULAR GIFTS
Cash



LARGEST GIFT
\$2 Million

Sponsors & Partners

- Bee, Bergvall & Co.
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- Saucon Insurance Company
- Valley National Financial Advisors

In-Kind Gifts

- DeSales University
- Google LLC

Our Promise to Donors and Fundholders

The Lehigh Valley Community Foundation has a promise for you.

We **CONNECT** you to community needs by providing a highly personalized and effective approach to philanthropy.

We **GROW** a stronger community by helping you fulfill your charitable vision and grow a charitable legacy.

We **FUND** nonprofits and partner in the community to improve the quality of life in our region as a trusted and respected grant maker.



LEHIGH VALLEY
**Community
Foundation**

CONNECT. GROW. FUND.

Rolland L. Adams Society



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Includes donors who have cumulatively donated in excess of \$500,000 to a permanent fund or an active temporary fund

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- Saucon Insurance Company
- Charles & Margaret Shackelford
- George T. Walker*

***Denotes deceased members
who are now 'ad astra'...
Among the stars.**

Rolland L. Adams Society

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- Roswell Dean Pine*
 & Louise Moore Pine*
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"KI is our Home" Campaign
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Daniel
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- Pamela Shields & David Lyons
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- Charles & Ruth Marcon
- Morton Brown Family Wealth
- R. Nicholas Nanovic & Beth Nanovic
- Northampton County Bar
Association
- Ann E. Padjen
- Tyler & Jenna Papaz
- pARTners GLV (Any Given Child
Bethlehem)
- Erika & Matthew Petrozelli
- PPL Corporation, Inc.
- Jack Pressmann Memorial
Scholarship Fund
- Sean Pressmann
- Lynn Ratzell
- J.B. & Kathleen Reilly
- John G. Reilly
- Margaret A. Reilly &
Josh Taykowski
- Tricia B. Reilly
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- John D. Wilson
- Paula Wilson
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- Cindy & Chuck Yeoman
- James & Naomi Yergey
- Zawada Family

Rolland L. Adams Society

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Includes donors who have given at least \$1,000 to the Foundation for unrestricted use in the current fiscal reporting year

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- Sandra L. Bodnyk
- Helen & Geoff Borda
- Carla & Thomas Campbell
- Trisha & Gary Higgins
- Donna & Ray Holton
- Jennifer Mann
- Charles & Ruth Marcon
- Mary & Jack McNairy
- Anne & James Reid
- Bernard & Margaret Story
- Kay & Marshall Wolff
- Stacy & Kerry Wrobel



THANK YOU

All gifts to the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation have an important impact on the Lehigh Valley community. The generosity of individuals and organizations enables the Foundation to continue with its mission to improve the quality of life within the Lehigh Valley. Support is critical to the mission of the Foundation and the health of the Lehigh Valley community.



Legacy Society

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- Dr. Leonard A. Wenzel*
- Robert C. Wood*
- Mary Youtz



The Legacy Society recognizes and honors these donors who have made deferred gifts through their will or other planned gifts through the Community Foundation. We are grateful for their generosity and philanthropic vision and are pleased to honor and recognize them.

If you have included the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation in your will or other planned gifts and wish it to be recognized in the Legacy Society, please contact Erika Riddle Petrozelli at (610) 351-5353 or email erika@lvcfoundation.org.

*Denotes deceased members who are now 'ad astra'...among the stars.



Supporting Nonprofits in the Lehigh Valley and Beyond...



Individual grants
671



of Nonprofits
322



Grants in Millions
\$6.7

Top 6
Areas
Funded

- Human Services
- Health Care
- Environment
- Community Development
- Arts & Culture
- Education

Community Investments Committee



The Community Investments Committee sets policy, reviews applications, and applies community knowledge to maximize the impact of LVCF’s discretionary grantmaking.

Philanthropic Partnership Grants

Through individual donor-defined funds, LVCF makes grants to meet a wide range of needs. Donor-defined funds include donor-advised funds, designated funds, scholarship funds, award funds, and certain area-of-interest funds. Refer to the full list of current funds of the Community Foundation [click here](#).

Community Investments Grants

The Community Investments Grants are the primary discretionary grant funds which LVCF's Board of Governors awards as grants to nonprofits on a competitive basis. The grant program in 2019-20 included the **Nonprofit Effectiveness Pilot (Year 2)**, **Community Assistance Fund**, and **Community Partnership Grants**. Discretionary grantmaking included Area-of-Interest fund supported grants from the **Substance Use Disorder Fund** and the **Upper Bucks Community Fund**. In the Spring 2020, the Community Foundation awarded a number of funds in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic (see pages 44-49).

Nonprofit Effectiveness Pilot | An investment in the future of the nonprofit sector by focusing funding on strengthening governance, management, and operations of Lehigh Valley organizations. This targeted support has enabled nonprofits to do their work better and enhance their impact.

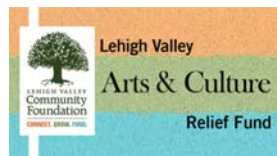


Community Partnership Grants | At its discretion, LVCF has made one-time Community Partnership grants and Community Partnership Multi-year Impact grants to support collaborative projects in Lehigh and Northampton counties. The application for new Community Partnership grants closed in 2018.

Community Assistance Fund | Many nonprofits experience unexpected costs that create barriers to achieving their mission-focused work. This fund provided responsive support readily available outside of a typical grant cycle so that nonprofits can continue their work today.

Substance Use Disorder Fund | With the support of an Area-of-Interest fundholder Barry Kessler, LVCF Community Foundation embarked on an effort to better understand the opioid epidemic in the Lehigh Valley with the goal of identifying funding gaps where private philanthropy can make an impact.

COVID-19 Response Funds | LVCF established three LVCF COVID-19 Response Funds to unite with individuals who have an interest in giving back to our local community during this time of crisis. The funds supported a regional, coordinated effort to rapidly deploy resources to community-based, front line nonprofit organizations and others in the Lehigh Valley and Upper Bucks county.



Other Grant Opportunities

In addition to Community Investments Grants, other grants included **Synergy Fund**, **Bastian Fund**, and the **Upper Bucks Foundation Fund**. [Learn more...](#)



Nonprofit Effectiveness Pilot Expanded in 2019-20

LVCF invested a total of \$100,000 in ten nonprofits in the region to foster capacity building efforts in year one of the Nonprofit Effectiveness Pilot. In 2019-20, LVCF announced that the ten organizations funded in Year One were renewed, each receiving \$10,000, as part of a continuing cohort in the second year of the pilot. In addition, the Volunteer Center of the Lehigh Valley and Humanitarian Social Innovations were selected to participate in 2020, each receiving \$10,000 grants.

Two Rivers Health & Wellness Foundation partnered with the Community Foundation to help expand the reach of the Nonprofit Effectiveness pilot by providing \$10,000 grants to four organizations serving Northampton County. Safe Harbor and Equi-librium each received \$10,000 grants to join the pilot. Two Rivers also provided \$10,000 grants to expand the



programs for two organizations currently in the pilot who are also supported by LVCF’s Nonprofit Effectiveness grants.

The Hispanic Center Lehigh Valley and the Easton Area Community Center each received a total of \$20,000 in grants, with half coming from Two Rivers Health & Wellness Foundation and the other half from LVCF. Through both foundations’ joint investments, there will be 14 organizations funded through these grants in 2020.

Organizations participating in Year Two of the Nonprofit effectiveness Program:

Bethlehem Area Education Foundation
Data Management Tool

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Lehigh Valley
Creating a Sustainable Business Model

Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center
Planned and Individual Giving Fundraising Plan Development and Implementation

Communities In Schools of the Lehigh Valley
Communities In Schools Intranet

Community Bike Works
SOS: Smarter Operations and Staffing – Year 2

Easton Area Community Center
Smart Operations- Staff Optimization and Development

Hispanic Center Lehigh Valley
HCLV Capacity Building - Manager of Operations

Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living
Development & Marketing Consulting Program

Third Street Alliance for Women & Children,
on behalf of the Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board - Board Capacity Building

Young Women’s Christian Association d/b/a YWCA Allentown
Strategic Plan for Empowerment, Equity, and Social Justice

New Programs Receiving Nonprofit Effectiveness grants in 2020:

Volunteer Center of the Lehigh Valley

Mining, Measuring & Managing Data to Increase Volunteer Engagement & Traffic

Humanitarian Social Innovations

Sustainable Growth for Maximum Community Impact

Organizations receiving a \$10,000 nonprofit effectiveness grants from Two Rivers Health & Wellness Foundation:

Easton Area Community Center

Smart Operations- Staff Optimization and Development

Equi-lilbrium

Ensuring Long-Term Success through Innovation and Growth

Hispanic Center Lehigh Valley

HCLV Capacity Building - Manager of Operations

Safe Harbor Easton

Board Development and Strategic Planning

Two Rivers Health & Wellness Foundation

The Two Rivers Health & Wellness Foundation brings people, organizations and resources together to improve the health and well-being of all people in Northampton County. They partner with nonprofit organizations, individuals, businesses, government leaders and other foundations to find solutions to critical health issues. Learn more at: <https://www.trhwhf.org/>



Making an Impact in the Lehigh Valley

In 2019-20, LVCF issued \$115,000 in Community Partnership Multi-Year Impact Grants to support programs at six area nonprofit organizations serving Lehigh and Northampton counties. Successful programs are funded for five consecutive years. The following organizations were renewed for funding:

Community Action Development Corporation

Strategic Marketing Support to Entrepreneurs Program (year five) - \$20,000

Lehigh Carbon Community College Foundation

SERF Emergency Fund for Veterans (year five) - \$10,000

Housing Association & Development Corporation

Youth Build Allentown (year four) \$20,000

VAST - Valley Against Sex Trafficking

Community Education and Prevention Program Development (year four) - \$10,000.

Greater Easton Development Corporation

Easton Community Garden Project (year four) - \$25,000

Lehigh Valley Health Network

Connections, a pilot intervention program addressing the current opioid epidemic (year three) - \$20,000

Greater Easton Development Corporation

Ambassadors Program (year three) - \$10,000

Also funded was the Lehigh Valley Synergy Fund of LVCF, now in its fifth year that was implemented in partnership with the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley. The fund supports non-profits engaging in various levels of collaboration - \$10,000.

COVID-19 | COMMUNITY RESPONSE FUND

Greater Lehigh Valley

COVID-19 Community Response Fund Issues More Than \$320,000 in Emergency Grants

The Community Foundation was an originating partner in the development of the Greater Lehigh Valley COVID-19 Community Response Fund that issued more than \$320,000 in emergency funding to 43 nonprofit agencies serving the residents of Lehigh, Northampton and Carbon counties.

The one-time, operational grants ranging from \$500 to \$20,000 were issued to strengthen safety-net services throughout a tri-county area. The initial phase of funding included services providing food access, services for unsheltered residents and those

at risk of homelessness, and support for those who are economically vulnerable to mitigate the effects of reduced hours or lost jobs. Award decisions were made by a Strategic Response Team made up of community leaders, including LVCF's **Megan Briggs**, that represent funding organizations, local government, grassroots community organizing groups, community health and other sectors.

More information about the Greater Lehigh Valley Community Response Fund is available at www.unitedwayglv.org/COVID-19.

COVID-19 Response Fund Grantees

- Benders Mennonite Food Bank
- Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center
- Care Net of Carbon County
- Casa Guadalupe Center
- Catholic Charities - Diocese of Allentown
- Center for Vision Loss
- Champion Center
- Children's Home of Easton
- Cohesion Network
- Easton Area Neighborhood Center
- Family Connection of Easton, Inc.
- Family Promise of Carbon County
- Domestic Violence Service Center
- Grace Community Church Panther Valley Food Pantry
- Greater Valley YMCA
- Hispanic Center Lehigh Valley
- Housing Association & Development Corp. Allentown
- Jewish Family Service of the Lehigh Valley
- Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living
- Meals on Wheels of the Greater Lehigh Valley
- New Bethany Ministries
- Northeast Community Center
- Northern Lehigh Food Bank
- Pinebrook Family Answers
- ProJeCt of Easton
- Promise Neighborhoods of the Lehigh Valley
- Resurrected Community Development Corporation
- Ripple Community Inc.
- Safe Harbor Easton
- Shepherd House
- Slater Family Network Foundation, Inc.
- St. Peter's Community Resource Center
- Summit Hill Heritage Center
- The Lehigh Conference of Churches
- The Salvation Army of the Lehigh Valley
- Third Street Alliance, on behalf of Regional Homeless Advisory Board
- Turn to Us
- Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley
- Valley Youth House
- Via of the Lehigh Valley
- Victory House of Lehigh Valley
- Volunteer Center of the Lehigh Valley
- West End Food Pantry
- Two additional grants of \$10,000 each were approved to support community mobilization and leadership efforts in the region.

The Community Foundation Thanks the Following for their Support of the COVID-19 Response Fund

- Caroline Accurso
- Anonymous Donors
- Arbor Insurance Group Foundation Fund
- Walter & Alma Bastian Fund
- Eric B. & Denise M. Blew Fund
- Elizabeth Brown
- Michael Brown
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- Adrienne Kenny
- Barry M. Kessler
- Carol Koenig
- Cynthia A. Lambert Durham & Fred S. Durham III
- Jennifer Mann
- Nicholas Nanovic
- Northampton County Bar Association
- Pamela Palmer
- Tom & Jo Anne Riddle Fund for a Greater Lehigh Valley
- Saucon Insurance Company Foundation Fund
- Anna May Synder
- Stershic Family Fund
- Torry Family Fund
- John & Chrissie Wagner Fund
- Karen Wessner
- Yeoman Family Fund



Community Assistance Fund

The purpose of the Community Assistance Fund is to provide responsive support for nonprofit organizations in the Lehigh Valley that are experiencing unexpected needs or critical gaps in funding. Examples of appropriate requests are facilities emergencies or unexpected loss of a key funder. Or grants may support organizations general operating expenses through event sponsorship. The grant awards issued are in the range of \$500 to \$5,000.

This grant opportunity is available by invitation only for nonprofit organizations that provides services from a physical address located in Northampton or Lehigh counties.

LVCF issued Community Assistance Grants to the following during 2019-20:

Touchstone Theatre

Sponsorship for Festival Unbound

Valley Against Sex Trafficking

Sponsorship for Lehigh Valley Anti-Trafficking Awareness Week

Macungie Memorial Park Association

Hydrologic and hydraulic study of tributary to the Swabia Creek

State Theatre Center for the Arts, Inc.

2020 Freddy Awards - Gala Sponsorship

Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center

Project SILK of the Lehigh Valley

Community Bike Works

General support

LVCF COVID-19 Relief Fund

Transfer of FY20 balance to COVID-19 Relief



Tackling the Opioid Epidemic in the Lehigh Valley

At the request of an area-of-interest fundholder Barry Kessler in 2020, the Community Foundation embarked on an effort to better understand the opioid epidemic in the Lehigh Valley. The Foundation engaged county governments and nonprofits addressing the issue, with the goal of identifying funding gaps where private philanthropy can make an impact.

Substance Use Disorder Grants

At the conclusion of an exploratory process, the Foundation determined the focus for the grants would be to support substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery services, in three specific areas:

- Providing support services that focus on integration into a healthy lifestyle for individuals affected by substance use disorder

- Delivering clinical services, support services, and/or education to families and support networks of the individual affected by substance use disorder.
- Providing culturally appropriate substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and/or recovery services for ethnic or racial minority populations.

2020 Grant Process

In February 2020, LVCF invited fourteen organizations to apply for multi-year grants. The Foundation sought to support areas that are not typically funded by federal or commonwealth sources but that are in need of financial support. Grants were issued to nonprofits that are currently providing substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and/or recovery services.

The Foundation formed a Substance Use Disorder committee to discuss the issues and review the grant applications. The committee included a number of area experts in addition to Board representatives and staff.

2020 Grant Awards

In the spring of 2020, LVCF issued three \$10,000 grants from the Substance Use Disorder Fund.

Bridge Beyond Addiction Project

(Humanitarian Social Innovations fiscal sponsor) - the project provides rent assistance for those entering sober living centers

Recovery Revolution, Inc. - 'On the Road' to Revolution project provides transportation with a CRS to treatment

Speak Up for Ben, Inc. - Expansion of Family Counseling Capabilities project that supports a licensed therapist to offer more family counseling

LVCF Fund Supports Nonprofits in Upper Bucks County



In 2019-20, the Upper Bucks Community Fund issued \$33,800 in grants to area nonprofit organizations. The Fund consists primarily of two area-of-interest funds. The Richard E. Gasser Fund and Erwin J. and Gertrude K. Neusch Fund are for organizations and programs primarily serving the Palisades, Pennridge and Quakertown School Districts in the Upper Bucks area.

These grants were made at the recommendation of the advisory committee for the Upper Bucks Community Fund, a geographic affiliate of the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation.

The Upper Bucks Community Fund of the Lehigh Valley is a great way for philanthropically-minded people to give back to their community. The fund is directed by the Upper Bucks Advisory Board which is composed of local community leaders focused on growing local giving, issuing grants to local nonprofit organizations, and organizing resources to meet local needs in Upper Bucks.

The following organizations received grants from the fund in spring of 2020:

Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Comm. Ctr.
LGBT Cultural Competency Trainings for Parents and Educators of LGBT Youth in Upper Bucks County

Heritage Conservancy
1798 Glass Tax Map of Springfield Township

Heritage Conservancy
Final book printing costs

Lenape Chamber Ensemble
Concert for Children ages 4 - 12 by the Lenape Chamber Ensemble

National Inventors Hall of Fame, Inc.
Camp Invention STEM, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship Programs in Upper Bucks County

Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival
FreeWill

Phoebe Richland Health Care Center
Arts Adventures Program

Quakertown Alive!
20th Annual Arts Alive! Fine Arts Festival

Quakertown Band
Purchase of a new energy efficient heating system for the Quakertown Band's rehearsal hall

Riegelsville Public Library
Art for Kids in the Summer Camp

Quakertown Community Center
The Drop at the Quakertown Community Center

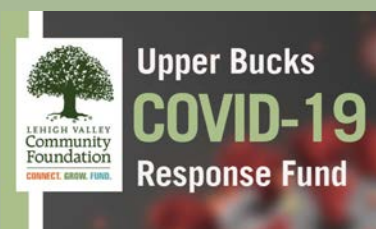
Valley Choral Society
Bringing the Faure Requiem with an Orchestra to an Underserved Region

Upper Bucks COVID-19 Response Fund

In response to community needs as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic, LVCF established the Upper Bucks COVID-19 Response Fund that included a \$10,000 advance from the FY 21 Neusch Fund to support nonprofits during the pandemic. LVCF awarded \$12,800 to nonprofits providing food assistance (safety net services) to Upper Bucks County residents.

The following organizations received grants from the Upper Bucks COVID-19 Response Fund:

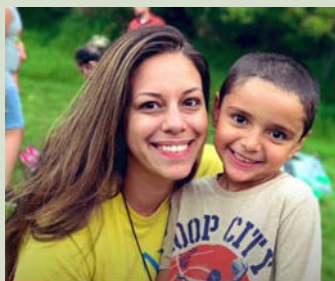
- Palisades Community Foundation
- YMCA of Bucks County
- St. Luke's Upper Bucks Campus
- Children's Developmental Program
- FEAST Pantry
- AHUB/Outreach Care
- Bucks County Opportunity Council



BEST Awards 2019-20

The Bethlehem Educational Scholastic Trust (B.E.S.T.) Awards recognize excellence in teaching by educators who work in the Bethlehem Area School District (BASD). In 2019-20, the Community Foundation handed the award selection to the Bethlehem Area School District Foundation. [Learn more...](#)

The Seymour and Sophie Haber Award for Excellence in Teaching at the Elementary Level



Aja Olivares
Donegan
Elementary
School

The Bernie Cohen Award for Excellence in Teaching at the Middle School Level



Megan Stocker
East Hills
Middle School

The Anthony Ruggiero Award for Excellence in Teaching at the High School Level



Jennifer Curti
Liberty High School

Scholarships 2019-20

The majority of the Foundation's scholarships are administered through high schools, colleges and local organizations. Grants issued are payable to the schools or colleges/universities. The Foundation does not directly accept any applications for these scholarships.

Scholarships for high school graduates pursuing a post-secondary education are:

Bethlehem Area School District

Debra 'Frau' Brown Memorial Scholarship
Truman L. Frey, Jr. Scholarship
Betty Williams Memorial Scholarship

Bethlehem Area School District or Bethlehem Catholic High School

Senior Woman's Club of Bethlehem Scholarship

Bethlehem Catholic High School

Catherine Hilaire Thompson Nursing Scholarship

Boys and Girls Club of Bethlehem

Edwin F. Van Billiard Scholarship

Fleetwood Area High School

Arthur E. & Myrl G. Schaeffer Scholarship

Hanover Township Memorial Golf Tournament Scholarship

Northern Lehigh High School

Ann C. Bernard Memorial Scholarship

Notre Dame High School

Tuskes Family Scholarships

Scholarships and Awards



Parkland High School

Frederick W. Hahn Memorial Scholarship
Anthony Severo Memorial Scholarship
Justin Sheftel Scholarship

Phillipsburg High School

William & Jamie Soukup Reid Memorial Scholarship

Wilson High School

Wilson High School 2006 Football Champions Scholarship

William Allen High School

Saul H. & JoAnne F. Coplan Scholarship
Justin Sheftel Scholarship

Scholarships for students attending the following post-secondary institutions are:

Case Western Reserve University

Dr. Joseph Perna & Hilda Perna Memorial Scholarship

DeSales University, Department of Nursing & Health

Sue Ratzell Scholarship for Nursing

The Juilliard School

Raymond-Cryder Scholarship

Moravian College & St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing

Reverend Douglas Caldwell Nursing Scholarship

Northampton Community College

Beall Fowler Northampton Promise Scholarship

Simmons College, School of Nursing & Health Sciences

Carol (Rodgers) Jaffe & Donald Jaffe Scholarship

St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing

Elizabeth Behr Agocs Scholarship

West Chester University

Raymond-Cryder Scholarship

Stephanie Olexa and Seth Weber Scholarships

The Lehigh Valley Community Foundation administers an application process for two annual scholarships for high school seniors attending public, private or charter high schools in Lehigh, Northampton and Bucks counties.

Stephanie Olexa and Seth Weber Scholarship for Criminal Justice

Awarded to a high school senior who will be majoring in criminal justice or law enforcement at an accredited institution for post-secondary education.

The Stephanie Olexa and Seth Weber Scholarship for the Life Sciences

Awarded to a high school senior who will be majoring in the life sciences at an accredited institution for post-secondary education. [Learn more...](#)

The Stephanie Olexa and Seth Weber Scholarship for Criminal Justice

The Stephanie Olexa and Seth Weber Scholarship for the Life Sciences



LVCF Board of Governors 2019-20

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Erika Riddle Petrozelli, CPA
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Carrie Krug Nedick
Donor Services and Program Associate



Ashton Galasso
Assistant Director of Operations



Linda Schmoyer
Executive Administrative Assistant



Janis Strohl
Accounting and Operations Assistant



History

Established in 1967 as the Bethlehem Area Foundation, the Foundation was regionalized and re-named in 1992 in order to serve the entire Lehigh Valley. What was preserved in this transition is the true community spirit of the Community Foundation. The Bethlehem Area Foundation was begun as part of the City's 225th anniversary celebration. Funds remaining from that celebration were used to create a permanent community endowment, the Bethlehem Area Foundation. Those funds were contributed by schoolchildren, steelworkers, retailers, college professors, homemakers, and business leaders. It was a true community beginning for a community foundation, and that community spirit is at the heart of the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation. Today, the Foundation manages more than 258 charitable funds representing \$57 million in assets.

Mission

The Lehigh Valley Community Foundation promotes philanthropy in order to improve the quality of life in our region, encourage collaboration among area philanthropists, and to serve as a source of information and expertise regarding charitable giving.

Vision

The Lehigh Valley Community Foundation will be a major force in the development of philanthropy in our region. The Foundation will promote and encourage collaboration among area philanthropists, and will be a source of information and expertise regarding charitable giving. The Foundation will be recognized and respected for its trustworthiness, its permanence, and the quality of its Board of Governors.

Lehigh Valley Community Foundation

840 W. Hamilton Street, Suite 310, Allentown, PA 18101

Phone: (610) 351-5353 Fax: (610) 351-9353

Visit us online

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.