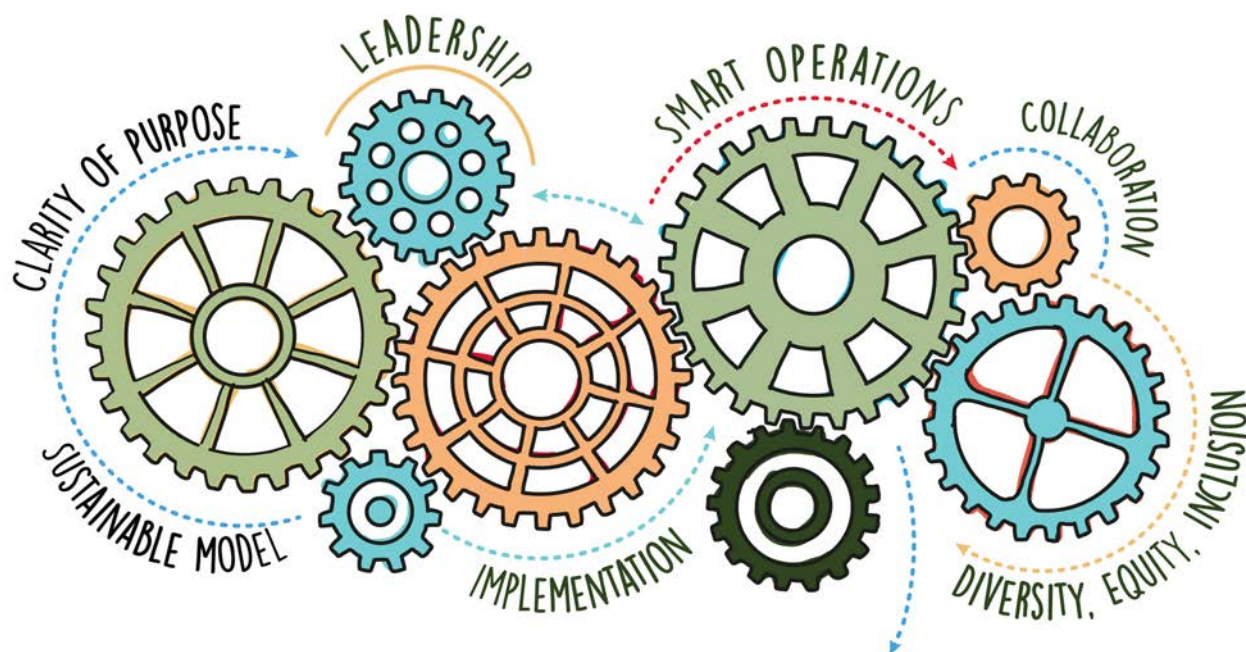


2018-19



Annual Report

Building Organizational Capacity



NONPROFIT EFFECTIVENESS



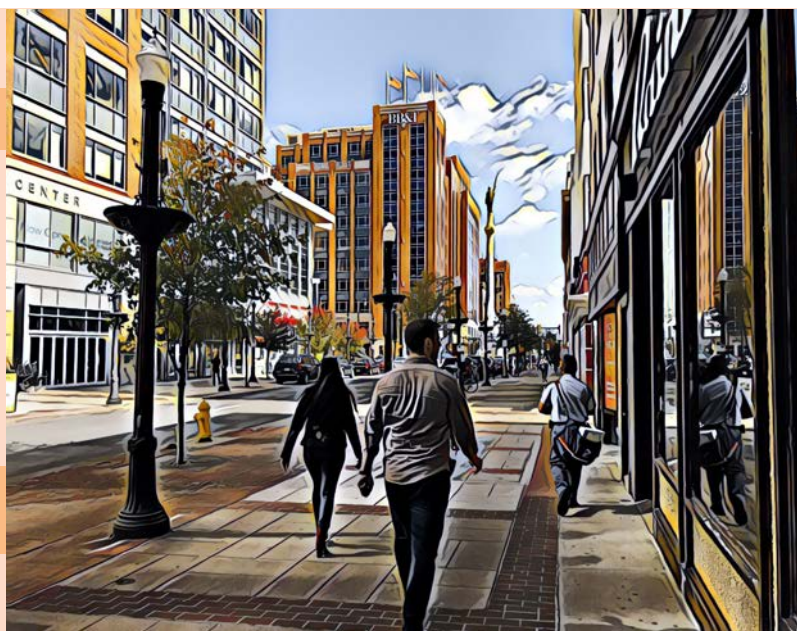
LVCF Fast Facts 2018-19

Assets Reached

\$58
Million

Added 14 New Funds

244
Total Funds



Grants to the Community

\$6.8
Million

Received Gifts

\$3.6
Million

Issued

667
Grants

Supporting

328
Nonprofits





Building Organizational Capacity

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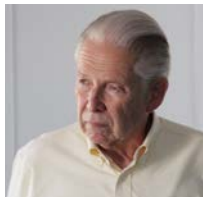
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Confirmed in Compliance with
National Standards for U.S.
Community Foundations



Message from the Board Chair and President & CEO

January 2020

The staff and board of the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation were honored to serve the Lehigh Valley community during fiscal year 2019. Our impact continues to grow, marked by significant increases in the number of charitable funds established at the Foundation and the tremendous growth in total grantmaking from all funds of the Foundation. In addition, our foundation-directed grantmaking efforts were strategically aimed at several critical community needs: improving the effectiveness of the nonprofit sector, and providing a larger pool of resources to meet unanticipated community needs.

The community foundation began an important initiative aimed directly at improving the effectiveness of nonprofit organizations across the Lehigh Valley by establishing the Nonprofit Effectiveness Fund. LVCF targeted both financial and staff support to strengthen governance, management, and operations of nonprofit organizations so they can prosper and be impactful for years to come. Working with ten nonprofit organizations using a comprehensive approach to gauge and improve effectiveness, the Foundation provided financial and intellectual support for those selected to participate in the pilot program. Third party consultants were engaged to provide expertise in key areas of effectiveness and the Foundation hosted several Community of Practice events and focus group discussions.

In addition to the Nonprofit Effectiveness work, LVCF increased the resources available for nonprofit organizations which experience unanticipated

shortfalls. By expanding its Community Assistance Fund, the Foundation is able to provide an important resource that can address emergency and other opportunities which arise outside of traditional grantmaking cycles. Organizations which serve the community during times of crisis, such as hurricanes and earthquakes, benefit especially from the Community Assistance Fund.

Finally, LVCF spearheaded an important census awareness initiative aimed at ensuring accurate counts during the 2020 Census. LVCF has joined a statewide group of community foundation leaders and will be providing grants to several nonprofit organizations and partnering with the Complete Count Committees in both Lehigh and Northampton counties, and Allentown, Bethlehem and Easton. It is our hope that these efforts will reduce the loss of federal funds which provide critical resources for community needs.

At the end of 2019, we thanked five Governors who had a major role in the growth and impact of the Foundation. **Denise Blew, Beall Fowler, Jim Margolis, Matt Sorrentino**, and **Mike Stershic** all had a major impact on the work of the Foundation during their terms on the board of governors. At the same time, **Anne Reid, Kerry Wrobel** were added to the board in 2019, and **Marguerite Haeussler, Sybil Stershic** and **Greg Ramos** were welcomed in 2020.

Once again, we thank you—our donors, professional advisors, and friends of the Foundation—for your continued support of philanthropy in our community. We look forward to working with you in the future.



Tom Campbell
Chair, Board of Governors



Bernard J. Story
President & CEO

Community Foundation Honored by Bar Association of Lehigh County

The Bar Association of Lehigh County (BALC) honored the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation with its 2019 “Liberty Bell Award” at the 2019 Law Day Luncheon.

Each year, BALC honors a leader in the community for contributing to the promotion of freedom under the law. LVCF was selected by the Law Day Committee of the Bar Association of Lehigh County.

“The Community Foundation was selected because it works hard every day to meet its mission,” said **Ray Bridgeman**, executive director, Bar Association of Lehigh County.

“LVCF promotes philanthropy in order to improve the quality of life in our region, to encourage collaboration among area philanthropists, and to serve as a source of information and expertise regarding charitable giving.” The Lehigh County Lawyers’ Charitable Fund that was established by the Bar Association of Lehigh County in 2007. “By alleviating the administrative burden, the Community Foundation allows our organization to concentrate on raising funds and making gifts for maximum impact,” Bridgeman explained.



“Congratulations to LVCF for being our 2019 BALC Liberty Bell Award Recipient.”

Erika Riddle Petrozelli Named to “Forty under 40”

Lehigh Valley Business, a leading area publication, named Lehigh Valley Community Foundation’s **Erika Riddle Petrozelli**, associate vice president for philanthropy, as one of the 40 young professionals from the greater Lehigh Valley selected as a 2019 “Forty Under 40” honoree.

“We are so proud that Erika was selected for this honor,” noted **Bernie Story**, president and CEO of LVCF. “It is a well-deserved recognition for her leadership and the work that she does to improve the lives of people in the Valley through community involvement.”



Erika Riddle Petrozelli a Rider-Pool Collective Impact Fellow

Erika Riddle Petrozelli, associate vice president for philanthropy at the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation, was selected for the 2018-19 Rider-Pool Foundation’s Collective Impact Fellowship program. The foundation created the Collective Impact Fellowship Program in 2014 to address and improve complex quality of life challenges in neighborhoods surrounding Allentown’s downtown Neighborhood Improvement Zone by training and supporting current and emerging community leaders.

The Financial Health of Nonprofits Examined at Board of Associates Meeting



A 2018 report on the financial health of U.S. nonprofits sheds light on the challenges:

- 7-8% are technically insolvent with liabilities exceeding assets
- 30% face potential liquidity issues
- 30% have lost money over the last three years
- 50% have less than one month of operating reserves

The fall 2018 Board of Associates meeting featured a talk by **Nadya K. Shmavonian**, director of the Nonprofit Repositioning Fund, and a partner at SeaChange Capital Partners. She presented data from the report, *The Financial Health of the U.S. Nonprofit Sector*, and detailed approaches that investors can take to address these challenges. More than 100 members of the Board of Associates attended the program.

“Whether a nonprofit is focused on alleviating poverty or raising the bar for artistic or scientific excellence, the value these organizations share is their commitment to elevate social good above the pursuit of profits,” Shmavonian noted. “Nonprofits matter to their communities, and we need to focus on supporting these organizations to maximize their impact at a time of rapid change and social turbulence.”

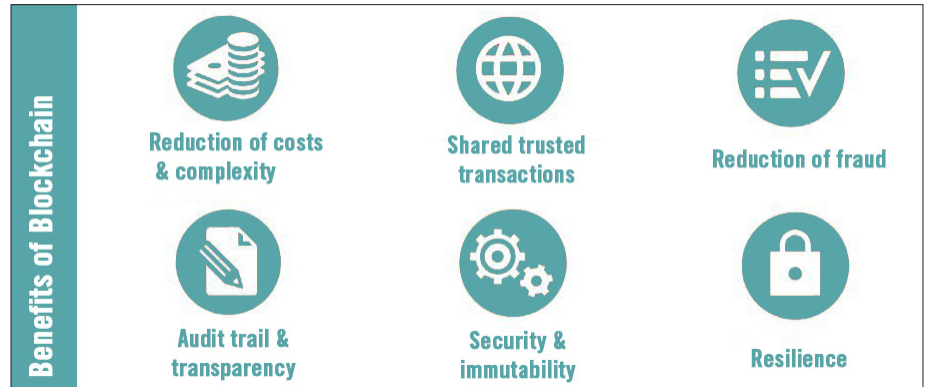


During her visit to the Lehigh Valley, Nadya K. Shmavonian also met with staff and others to discuss strategies for guiding the Lehigh Valley Synergy Fund, a joint effort by the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation and the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley.

Focus on Blockchain Technology and its Social Impact at Spring 2019 Meeting

The Community Foundation held its spring 2019 Board of Associates (BOA) meeting in April featuring a talk titled Beyond Bitcoin: Blockchain Technology and Social Impact.

Michael Stershic, chair, LVCF Board of Associates, welcomed the more than 100 members who were in attendance. He was followed by update from **Bernie Story**, president & CEO of LVCF, who welcomed **Jennifer Hanania** from PricewaterhouseCoopers, and **Andrew Ward, Ph.D.** from Lehigh University to the stage. Hanania and Ward's presentations explained how blockchain, originally developed for



digital currencies such as Bitcoin, has evolved into something greater, with potential uses that can greatly impact society and everyday life. The talk explored this new technology, its relationship to digital

currencies, and why it matters to society and philanthropy. After the formal presentations, former LVCF Board member **Bob Gadomski** joined the duo to moderate a robust Q&A with the BOA members.



The Board of Associates is a non-incorporated association of individuals, that meets twice annually to discuss issues important to the Community Foundation and the Lehigh Valley.

LVCF Celebrated 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) 2018 National Philanthropy Day Awards Breakfast. Attended by more than 500 people, the event honored many of the area's most accomplished fundraisers, volunteers, and donors. The Lehigh Valley 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 National Philanthropy Day Breakfast honored **Curtis "Hank" and Joanne Barnette**, philanthropic and volunteer leaders in the Lehigh Valley, West Virginia, Connecticut, and elsewhere, with the chapter's Lifetime Achievement Award for their decades of profound, inspiring, and sustained impact. Both are former members of the Community Foundation's Board of Governors.



In addition, LVCF honored Board of Governors member **Denise M. Blew**, who has been an advocate for the Community Foundation since 2003 when she began serving fifteen years, including three as Foundation's Board Chair and nine years leading the Finance Committee. Blew helped successfully steer the Foundation through the wake of the 2008 financial crisis. She oversaw a transition to a new investment manager, and she was a reliable steward of the Foundation's growing endowment assets.

"We cannot thank Denise enough for sharing her wealth of knowledge and for her prudent oversight of the Foundation's assets," noted Bernie Story.

"Denise is a fundholder of the Foundation and a member of our Philanthropist's Club and President's Club of the Adams Society. Because of her long-term, substantial commitments to the Foundation and the Lehigh Valley community, LVCF is thrilled to be honoring Denise at AFP's National Philanthropy Day."



Community Foundation Partners with AFP to Present the Lehigh Valley Philanthropy Institute

The Lehigh Valley Community Foundation partnered with The Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Lehigh Valley Chapter to present the 2019 Lehigh Valley Philanthropy Institute. LVCF sponsored the Morning Keynote Session titled The Rise of Women as Family Philanthropic Leaders presented by **Amy Castoro**, president & CEO, The Williams Group, and **Kathleen Loehr**, senior philanthropic family coach, The Williams Group.

The day-long program was attended by over 150 development professionals along with the Community Foundation guests on May 15 at DeSales University.

The Afternoon Keynote, Society in Crisis: How Philanthropy Can Change Narratives and Bridge Divides, was presented by **Elizabeth Zeigler**, president & CEO, Graham-Pelton.

LVCF's Associate Vice President for Philanthropy **Erika Riddle Petrozelli** introduced the duo who shared their understanding of the distinct ways women give, which often includes the desire to engage the next generation in giving. They explained that women are more frequently in the philanthropic driver seat, given the increased money being earned and inherited, and their influence in the household giving.



Focus on Census 2020 | Ensuring a Complete Count in the Lehigh Valley

In February of 2019, while attending a statewide gathering of community foundation leaders in State College, **Bernie Story**, the Community Foundation's president and CEO, first heard of the concerns about census undercounting.

It became clear that Pennsylvania is at risk for undercounting due to the demographics of the state. It's also an issue that can be impacted through local and regional efforts.

That's why community foundations have a key role to play in ensuring a complete and accurate count. We are by nature a place-based institution, so our staff know how to focus resources and work at a local level for the common good.

It was a strong call to action from the philanthropic community because we know that if communities are starved of federal resources, it will 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 will be hard-pressed to make up for the significant loss of resources due to undercounting and so we were called to action.



Why the Census 2020 is Important to our Region

Allocation of Federal Resources: Data from the Census 2020 will affect the annual allocation of over \$800 billion in federal funds for 300 federal programs which include infrastructure, education, healthcare, and emergency services. Programs in the Lehigh Valley that rely on census data for the allocation include \$10 million for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and \$6.7 million in Community Development Block Grants each year. An undercount in the Lehigh Valley puts these and numerous other federal programs at risk for underfunding.

Determination of Congressional Representation: Census data determines the number of seats each state has in the House of Representatives as well as redistricting at the state and local levels. Current census predictions show Pennsylvania losing one congressional seat after the 2020 census, reducing our state's voice.

Undercounting = increased the demands on nonprofits and the philanthropic community

Pennsylvania could lose an average of
\$2,093
per year in federal funds for each person not counted—for
10 years

United States®
**Census
2020**



So we believe census support today will have a high return on investment. The census is a zero-sum game. It's not that the Lehigh Valley counts less people so the federal budget decreases accordingly. No, the money just goes elsewhere, to another region, to another state.

Early in 2019, staff began to do additional research and initiate conversations around the region

regarding the efforts taking place for the Census here in the Lehigh Valley. As a result, we launched Civic Engagement: Census 2020. We learned from our peers and national leaders that a successful census effort involves five actions: Train; Fund; Champion; Partner; Promote. To start, LVCF partnered with the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission to co-chair a regional complete count committee (CCC). In addition, staff are represented

on five local committees, Northampton and Lehigh counties, Allentown, Bethlehem, and Easton. Through these committees LVCF is partnering with the region's nonprofit, business, and government stakeholders to address Census 2020. 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.

Community Outreach | Grantmaking 2018-19

LVCF's **Bernie Story** and director of community investments **Megan Briggs** took the show on the road and visited the Bethlehem Morning Star Rotary in November 2018 to present the Community Foundation's grantmaking platform for 2018-19. After Bernie discussed LVCF's evolution of grantmaking in recent years, Megan presented the research that led to the Community Foundation's development of the Nonprofit Effectiveness Pilot. She also explained how the Igniting Change Fund, the Community Assistance Fund, and the Synergy Fund of the Lehigh Valley are all components of LVCF grantmaking for the year.





The Upper Bucks Community Fund Supporting Area Nonprofits Through Grantmaking

The Upper Bucks Community Fund at LVCF 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.

The Upper Bucks Community Fund of the Lehigh Valley Community has awarded \$35,000 in grants to 14 nonprofit organizations serving the Upper Bucks County area. The Upper Bucks Community Fund is a geographic affiliate of LVCF.

The Upper Bucks Community Fund Advisory Group, composed of community leaders from Upper Bucks, has been an important philanthropic arm of the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation that assists in directing resources from two area-of-interest funds at LVCF, the Erwin J. & Gertrude K. Neusch Fund, and the Richard E. Gasser Fund.

“The Upper Bucks Community Fund Advisory Group carefully considered each application in accordance to the fund’s priorities,” said **Megan Briggs**, director of community investments at the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation. “After a very thorough discussion about all of the excellent applications, the Advisory Group worked together to recommend the final grant awards. Each member contributed their own depth of knowledge about the Upper Bucks region to award projects and programs that will increase the quality of life for Upper Bucks residents. We are looking forward to seeing the impact of these grants on the region.”

Networking and Information Forum Focuses on Upper Bucks Community

The Lehigh Valley Community Foundation held a special networking and information forum to share information about organizations working to improve the quality of life in Upper Bucks County. “Improving the Quality of Life in Upper Bucks County” was held on May 9, 2019, at the Bucks County Free Library—Quakertown Branch.

The event provides an opportunity for invited guests to network with community leaders and learn about the activities of the Upper Bucks Community Fund and its parent organization, the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation. Guests met with the Fund’s advisory board and celebrated with area nonprofits receiving grants from the Fund.

The program began with a welcome and update on the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation by **Bernie Story**, president & CEO, LVCF. **Doug Hutchinson**, chair of the UBCF Advisory Board, discussed the mission and funds that are benefiting nonprofits in Upper Bucks. Special guest **Jeffrey Marshall**, president of Heritage Conservancy, provided insight into his organization’s work to serve and protect the natural and historic heritage in Bucks County.

The event served to celebrate with the Upper Bucks Nonprofit organizations which recently received grants from the Upper Bucks Community Fund.

ERWIN J. & GERTRUDE K. NEUSCH FUND GRANTS 2019

- Riegelsville Public Library
- Quakertown Alive!
- Upper Bucks County Technical School
- Pipersville Free Library
- Phoebe Ministries
- Lenape Chamber Ensemble
- Heritage Conservancy
- Upper Bucks YMCA
- Valley Choral Society
- Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival
- Bucks County Opportunity Council
- River Valley Waldorf School
- Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center

RICHARD E. GASSER FUND GRANT 2019

- National Inventors Hall of Fame, Inc.



Estate Planning Council Program Examines Extending Family Philanthropy

In celebration of Estate Planning Awareness Week, the Community Foundation co-hosted the Estate Planning Council of the Lehigh Valley program led by **Amy Castoro**, President & CEO, The Williams Group, entitled “Will Your Client’s Wealth Unify or Divide Their Family?” The talk, sponsored in part by the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation, was held on October 25, 2018, at the Northampton Country Club.

Castoro explained the case that trusted advisors can build deeper relationships with their clients and prospects, access and engage the next generation to improve retention, and ensure family unity during wealth transition. “Advisors can gain more insight into how to interact with their clients to reduce the impact of wealth

and wealth transfer on their families,” Castoro explained. “Advisors also explore the additional satisfaction—beyond asset growth and retention—that comes from actively engaging the inheriting generation to become productive contributors to family unity, wellbeing and legacy.”

The talk also explored core drivers behind the 70 percent failure rate in estate transfers and what happens in families when trust and communication break down, and how to create alignment regarding the estate plans and family governance. Castoro will explain best practices for engaging the whole family and actions and tools to engage and connect in a more meaningful way with the next generation of clients.



Meals on Wheels of Lehigh and Northampton Counties Merge with Help of Synergy Fund

Meals on Wheels of the Greater Lehigh Valley held a press conference on September 28, 2018 to announce the merger of the Lehigh County and Northampton County Meals on Wheels.

The merger, which became official on August 22, 2018, is the culmination of more than two years of planning and three phases for discussion and implementation. In the fall of 2016, the Boards from both Meals on Wheels organizations began meeting to explore the possibility of a merger. A synergy grant from the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation

and the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley fueled this process, and a consultant from the Catalyst Center for Nonprofit Management was brought on to help facilitate merger discussions.

“They were able to focus on exploring many difficult operational issues thanks to the financial support of the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation’s Synergy Fund and partnership with the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley,” said Vicki Coyle, CEO, Meals on Wheels of the Greater Lehigh Valley.

New Board Members



Anne M. Reid, CPA, joined the LVCF Board of Governors in January 2019. Reid is the former associate vice president for finance at Moravian College in Bethlehem, Pa. She will serve on the Community Foundation's Finance and Audit Committees.

Kerry A. Wrobel joined the LVCF Board of Governors in January 2019. Wrobel is president of Lehigh Valley Industrial Park Inc. (LVIP), a private non-profit economic development corporation. He will serve on LVCF's Community Investments Committee and Finance Committee.



Thank You Departing Members

At the November 2018 Board meeting, the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation said thank you and farewell to two long-standing members of the Board of Governors who completed their terms of service at the end of 2018. We said farewell to (l.) **Cynthia Lambert Durham** and (r.) **William Murphy, Esq.**



The Community Foundation continued generating significant visibility in the regional media during 2018-19. 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 30 stories in the news print, magazine, radio and television media. During the summer of 2018, the Foundation continued to receive coverage of the 50th Anniversary Year's Reflections Paper that looked at ongoing needs in the region. **Bernie Story** and **Chris Borick** appeared on a one-hour program, Lehigh Valley Discourse on WDIY FM 88.1, and a half-hour community affairs program that aired on WAEB, WZZO, B104, and 1320 ESPN Deportes.

Among the stories on LVCF grantmaking were *The Morning Call's* stories on Nonprofit Effectiveness Grants, Community Partnership Multi-year Impact Grants, and the grants from BB&T Economic Growth Fund at LVCF. The Upper Bucks Community Fund received coverage from *The Doylestown Intelligencer* and other Upper Bucks County publications.

Community Foundation staff served as thought leaders around the issue of tax reform. **Erika Riddle Petrozelli** provided expert commentary in *The Morning Call* story on the new tax law's effect on charitable giving. She also appeared on a segment on WMZ-Channel 69 about the same topic. In addition, *Network Magazine* published a feature by Erika titled *Ms. Generous and Donor-Advised Funds in the Age of Tax Reform*, in their Fall 2018 issue.

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
- Bach Choir of Bethlehem Fund
- 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
- Charles & Louise Hoffman Fund for the Bach Choir of Bethlehem
- David Rabaut United Way Fund For Neighborhoods
- Endowment Fund of Meals 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 the Lehigh Valley Endowment Fund
- WDIY Endowment Fund
- WDIY Public Radio Fund

BUCKS COUNTY
FREE LIBRARY ESTABLISHED 1956

Bucks County Free Library Endowment Fund



The Bucks County Free Library Endowment Fund is an agency fund that benefits the seven-branch county library system with locations in Bensalem, Doylestown, Langhorne, Levittown, Perkasie, Quakertown, and Yardley-Makefield. The county library system was founded in 1956 by a resolution of the Bucks County Commissioners. The library is governed by a 7-member board appointed by the County Commissioners.

As a County library system, the Bucks County Free Library solely purchases and maintains an extensive collection of downloadable and streaming materials for all Bucks County residents to access. As a designated Pennsylvania public library district and system, the Bucks County Free Library collaborates on county wide projects, shares a public catalog, and provides support services to 11 additional public libraries in Bucks County. [Learn more...](#)

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

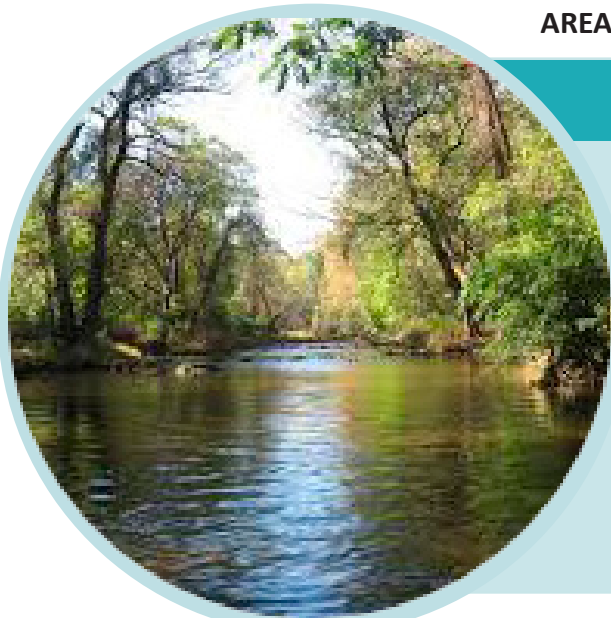
An area-of-interest fund supports programs & initiatives that tackle issues of the donors' choosing such as the environment, camperships, no-kill animal shelters, etc.

- Barbara & Maxwell Davison Fund for Alzheimer's Care
- Barry M. Kessler Endowment Fund for Basic Human Needs
- Barry M. Kessler Fund
- City of Bethlehem Celebration Fund
- Downtown Allentown Community Development Initiative Fund
- Erwin J. & Gertrude K. Neusch Fund
- Every 15 Minutes Fund
- First Commonwealth *WE Thrive LV* Foundation Fund
- Gene & Joan Witiak Fund
- Lehigh County Medical Society Education Fund
- Lehigh River Fund
- Lehigh Valley Coalition for Kids Fund
- Lehigh Valley Leader in Me Fund
- Lehigh Valley Synergy Fund
- Leonard A. Wenzel Memorial Fund for South Bethlehem
- Margaret Haas Rotunno Memorial Fund for Local No Kill Shelters
- Northampton County Bar Association Charitable Fund
- Outdoor Recreation Fund for Youth
- PPL Operation HELP Fund
- Richard E. Gasser Fund
- Robert D. & Gwendolyn-Jane Romeril Campership Fund
- Saucon Sanctuary Fund
- William C. Rybak Fund for People with Disabilities
- Leonard A. Wenzel Memorial Fund for South Bethlehem
- Gene & Joan Witiak Fund

AREA-OF-INTEREST FUND SPOTLIGHT

Saucon Sanctuary Fund

The Saucon Sanctuary Fund supports the national Audubon program dedicated to maintaining the biological quality of Saucon Creek, its watershed, plant and animal life and other natural resources. Gifts to the Fund support annual upgrade and maintenance needs of Saucon Creek such as stream bank preservation, water testing, and tree planting. The Fund helps to provide education and awareness of Saucon Creek's environmental significance, benefits, and value to the community. [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
- H. Bridges & Lucile P. Boylston Fund for First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem, PA
- Benjamin C. Boylston-Kemerer Museum Fund
- Benjamin C. & Eleanor A. Boylston Fund for the Lehigh Valley Chapter, American Red Cross
- 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
- Fowler Family Fund
- Joseph R. Gagnier Memorial Fund
- Bethlehem & Morning Star Rotary Clubs
- Scholarship Fund in Remembrance of Stephen P. Godbolt
- Marion Brown Grace Memorial Fund
- Equi-librium Therapeutic Horsemanship 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
- Barry M. Kessler Charitable 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
- Jack & Jean D. Wilson Fund for Cedar Crest College
- Warren W. York Fund To Benefit The United Way of The Greater Lehigh Valley

DONOR DESIGNATED FUND SPOTLIGHT

The Tore & Charlotte Hartmann-Hansen Fund for the Bethlehem Morning Star Rotary Charitable Organization

Established in 2018, The Tore & Charlotte Hartmann-Hansen Fund for the Bethlehem Morning Star Rotary Charitable Organization provides grants to the Rotary to augment the Rotary's annual Charlotte & Tore Hartmann-Hansen Community Award. [Learn more...](#)



Rotary
Bethlehem Morning Star
Charlotte & Tore Hartmann-Hansen
Community Grant

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.



- 250th Book Fund
- E. Spencer & Nellie C. Addison Fund
- Margaret Ann Bachert Fund
- Frances L. Barnard Fund for Children
- Randy H. & Ramona A. Bruch Fund
- Community Fund for Arts, Culture & Heritage
- Community Fund for Education
- Community Fund for Environment & Science
- Community Fund for Health Care
- Community Fund for Human Services
- Community Fund for Neighborhood Development
- 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 Helping Hand Fund
- Martina M. Malone Fund
- Pine Fund In Memory of Mildred Beck Pine
- Anthony J. Ruggiero Fund
- Michael C. Schrader 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.

- Michael & Lynn Abgott Fund
- Alan & Marsha Abraham Fund
- Anonymous Fund
- AEP Fund
- Arbor Insurance Group Foundation Fund
- Arbor Insurance Group Community Fund
- Stephen & Janis Bajan Charitable Fund
- Barnette Fund
- Walter & Alma Bastian Fund
- Bethlehem Rotary Club Fund
- Eric B. & Denise M. Blew Fund
- Borda Family Fund
- Geoff & Wenda Boyer Fund
- Building Fund
- Burdette Family 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
- Fleming Foundation Fund
- W. Beall & Marlene O. Fowler Fund
- Stephen & Joyce Gehringer Charitable Family Fund
- Grifo Family Fund
- Janice & Paul Gross Fund
- Dolly Haltzman Foundation for the Arts Fund

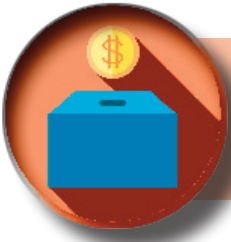
DONOR-ADVISED FUND SPOTLIGHT

The Stershic Family Fund

Established in 2012, this Fund provides grants as recommended by the donor advisor and approved by the LVCF Board. Mike Stershic (retired) is the former executive director of Discover Lehigh Valley, and former member of the Board of Governors of the Foundation who served as Chair from 2014 to 2016. Sybil F. Stershic, president of Quality Service Marketing, joined the LVCF Board of Governors in 2020 and serves on the Foundation's Community Relations Committee.

[Learn more...](#)





Donor-advised funds remain a popular vehicle for charitable giving—seven new DAFs were added in 2018-19

- Thomas Hartzell & Jean Larkin Fund
- Heydt Family Fund
- Ray & Donna Holton Charitable Fund
- Keystone Savings Foundation Fund
- Kraft Hillman Family Fund
- Joan A. Kraft & R. Wayne Kraft Memorial Fund
- William & Carol Kreitz Fund
- Kressler, Wolff & Miller Fund
- Sylvia Fenstermacher Lawler Foundation for the Arts Fund
- Lehigh County Lawyers' Charitable Fund
- Robert H. & Jean C. Littner Fund
- Lyons-Shields Fund
- MAK Fund
- John F. & Jane H. Malloy Fund
- L. Charles & Ruth H. Marcon Fund
- Dr. Richard D. Martin Memorial Fund
- McNairy Fund
- Morton Brown Family Wealth 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
- Lynn Ratzell Fund
- Raymond-Cryder Donor Advised Fund
- John Reilly Fund
- Margaret Reilly Fund
- Tricia Reilly Fund
- J.B. & Kathleen Reilly Fund
- Tom & Jo Anne Riddle Fund for a Greater Lehigh Valley
- Bonnie & Joel Ronco Fund
- Saucon Insurance Company Foundation Fund
- Justin Sheftel Memorial Fund
- St. Luke's Hospital Medical Staff Fund
- Star Foundation Fund
- Stershic Family Fund
- Glenn M. Taggart Memorial Fund
- Jack & Ann Follett-Terres Fund For Compassionate Care
- Torrey Family Fund
- Donald H. & Mary R. Trautlein Fund
- Tuskes Fund
- Two Tunics Fund
- Charles Versaggi Futures Fund
- John & Chrissie Wagner Fund
- Jack & Jean D. Wilson Fund
- Wombat Fund
- Ilene & Robert Wood Striving To Make A Difference Fund
- Betty & Scotty Wood Memorial Fund
- Stella C. Yee Memorial 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
- Miss Pennsylvania Scholarship Fund
- Stephanie Olexa & Seth Weber Scholarship Fund
- Dr. Joseph A. Perna & Hilda Ramos Perna Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Sue Ratzell Scholarship Fund for Nursing
- William & Jamie Soukup Reid Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Arthur E. & Myrl G. Schaeffer Scholarship Fund
- Anthony Severo Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Justin Sheftel Scholarship Fund
- Catherine Hilaire Thompson Nursing Scholarship Fund
- Tuskes Family Scholarship Fund
- Edwin F. Van Billiard Scholarship Fund
- Betty Williams Memorial Scholarship Fund
- WHS 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.

- Rolland L. Adams Fund
- Adams Final Fund
- Bethlehem 225th Anniversary 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 Funds

- Victory House of the Lehigh Valley Endowment Fund
- Bucks County Free Library Endowment Fund
- WDIY Public Radio Fund

Area-of-Interest Funds

- Barry M. Kessler Endowment Fund for Basic Human Needs

Designated Funds

- Tore & Charlotte Hartmann-Hansen Fund for the Bethlehem Morning Star Rotary Charitable Organization

Donor-Advised Funds

- Michael & Lynn Abgott Fund
- AEP Fund
- Stephen & Janis Bajan Charitable Fund
- Cinquino Community Fund
- Morton Brown Family Wealth Fund
- Lynn Ratzell Fund
- Fleming Foundation Fund

Scholarship Funds

- Hanover Township Memorial Golf Tournament Scholarship Fund

WELCOME

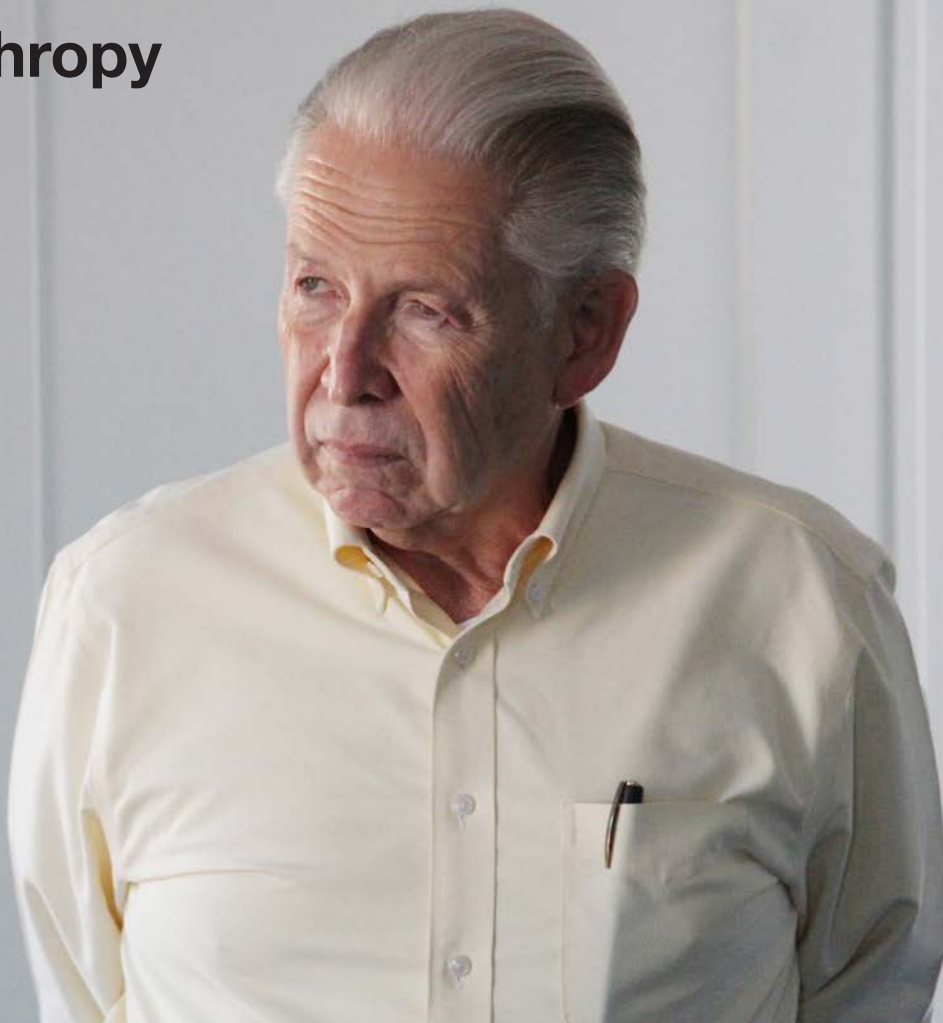
NEW FUNDS

14

FY 2018-19

Profile in Philanthropy

After giving through designated funds at LVCF for several years, Barry Kessler expressed an interest in learning about new organizations and particular needs in the Lehigh Valley while remaining involved in the grantmaking process. The Community Foundation had a solution.



Barry M. Kessler, a native of the Lehigh Valley, is a man who cares deeply about serving others in both his professional and philanthropic life.

In 1964, Barry received his degree in chemistry from St. Lawrence University. He spent only 10 years of his career working for high-profile chemical companies before he started his own company, Kessler Chemical Inc., located in Bethlehem. During the early 1970s, it was a particularly difficult time to start a profitable chemical business because of the oil embargo by OPEC countries; however, the company focused on two important elements to overcome this hardship – a commitment to exceptional customer service and identification of strategic markets. His grit and entrepreneurial abilities had allowed Kessler Chemical to grow into a respected supplier of various chemical products. To this day, Kessler Chemical is always seeking new ways to be of service to their customers through innovation and communication.

When Barry realized that life had treated him well and given him opportunities that he never expected to have, he felt compelled to do for the less fortunate. He lives by the term *noblesse oblige*, which means “the inferred responsibility of privileged people to act with generosity and nobility toward those less privileged.”

Before Barry became a donor, he was a very active volunteer. He was referred to the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation by his financial adviser, who noticed that Barry was growing increasingly interested in doing more for the organizations he served. His first designated fund with the Community Foundation was earmarked to go to the seven charities that he was personally involved with as a volunteer.

Since his affiliation with the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation, Barry became more proactive in learning about the needs of the community. After reading Dr. Christopher Borick’s *Reflections* paper, it struck him that there was a great need among people who have no food or shelter, or have limited access.

“There is a feeling that you get when you give, particularly to the local community, which is unsurpassed in terms of happiness, joy and satisfaction.”

- Barry M. Kessler

LVCF helped Barry establish an area of interest fund to support this cause, while providing him the opportunity to participate in the application review process. Utilizing the Foundation’s network and knowledge of the nonprofits in the region that address food and housing issues, LVCF sourced high quality grant applications from a diverse set of organizations serving various aspects of the issue.

In April 2019, the Barry M. Kessler Fund at the Community Foundation announced \$50,000 in grants to ten nonprofits in the Lehigh Valley that provide food and housing services to vulnerable populations. The LVCF team, Mr. Kessler, and other interested fundholders had an opportunity to visit some of these nonprofits to see the grant dollars put to work. Mr. Kessler said, “It was very rewarding to me—to have that connection—between the opportunity to give and the opportunity to see where my giving is benefiting people in the Lehigh Valley.”



Ten nonprofits providing food and housing received grants from the Barry M. Kessler Fund at LVCF:

- Third Street Alliance for Women & Children
- Ripple Community Inc.
- Safe Harbor Easton
- New Bethany Ministries
- Lehigh Conference of Churches
- The Children’s Home of Easton
- Meals on Wheels of the Greater Lehigh Valley
- Northeast Ministry
- Greater Valley YMCA
- Nurture Nature Center



Gifts at a Glance | 2018-19



TOTAL GIFTS
\$3.6 Million



LARGEST GIFT
\$1 Million



POPULAR GIFTS
Appreciated Securities

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.



Sponsors & Partners

- Agili
- Mason Investment Advisory Services, Inc.

In-Kind Gifts

- DeSales University
- Google LLC

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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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- Lehigh Valley Helping Hand Foundation
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- Pharo Family Foundation
- Louise Moore Pine*
- Delphine S. Quinn*
- Raymond-Cryder Foundation
- Erma L. Reed*
- J.B. & Kathleen Reilly
- 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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Includes donors who have established or directed the establishment of permanent funds

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- Bethlehem Educational Scholastic Trust
- Bethlehem Rotary Foundation
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- Charlotte & Tore* Hartmann-Hansen
- Louise* & Charles* Hoffman
- Luther J. Hottle, Jr.
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- Betsy & Jack Jordan
- Nancy S.* & Charles E.* Keenan
- Barry M. Kessler
- Elizabeth Kressler*
- Kressler, Wolff & Miller, Inc.
- Karen & Fred Kutteroff
- Anne M. & Bruce J. Lawrence
- Lehigh River Foundation
- Lehigh Valley Coalition for Kids
- Lehigh Valley Helping Hand Foundation
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- Pharo Family Foundation
- Roswell Dean Pine* & Louise Moore Pine*
- Delphine S. Quinn*
- Lynn Ratzell
- Raymond-Cryder Foundation
- Erma L. Reed*
- Anne & James Reid
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- Anthony J. Ruggiero*
- William C. Rybak, Esq.*
- Saucon Insurance Company
- Arthur E.* & Myrl G.* Schaeffer
- Larry & Jean Severo
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- George T. Walker*
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- Nicole & Kenneth Yee
- Raymond C. Yee
- Susan Yee
- Warren W. York Trust
- Mary & Edwin Youtz

The Rolland L. Adams Society is the Foundation's leadership giving society that was established to recognize and honor the generosity of our donors.

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Includes donors who have established or directed the establishment of temporary funds

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- Bar Association of Lehigh County
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- Donors to the Congregation
Keneseth Israel "KI is our
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- Mark S. Haltzman, Esq.
- Hanover Township Memorial Golf
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- Steven Kraft & Margot Hillman
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- Northampton County Bar Association
- Ann E. Padjen
- 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
- Tricia B. Reilly
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- Sand Springs Country Club, inc.
- Saucon Sanctuary Committee
- Charles & Margaret Shackelford
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- St. Luke's University Hospital
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- Sybil & Michael Stershic
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- Charles Tuskes
- Michael Tuskes
- Charles Versaggi, Jr.
- John & Chrissie Wagner
- John D. Wilson
- Paula Wilson
- Ilene & Robert* Wood
- Susan Yee
- Cindy & Chuck Yeoman
- James & Naomi Yergey
- Zawada Family

Rolland L. Adams Society

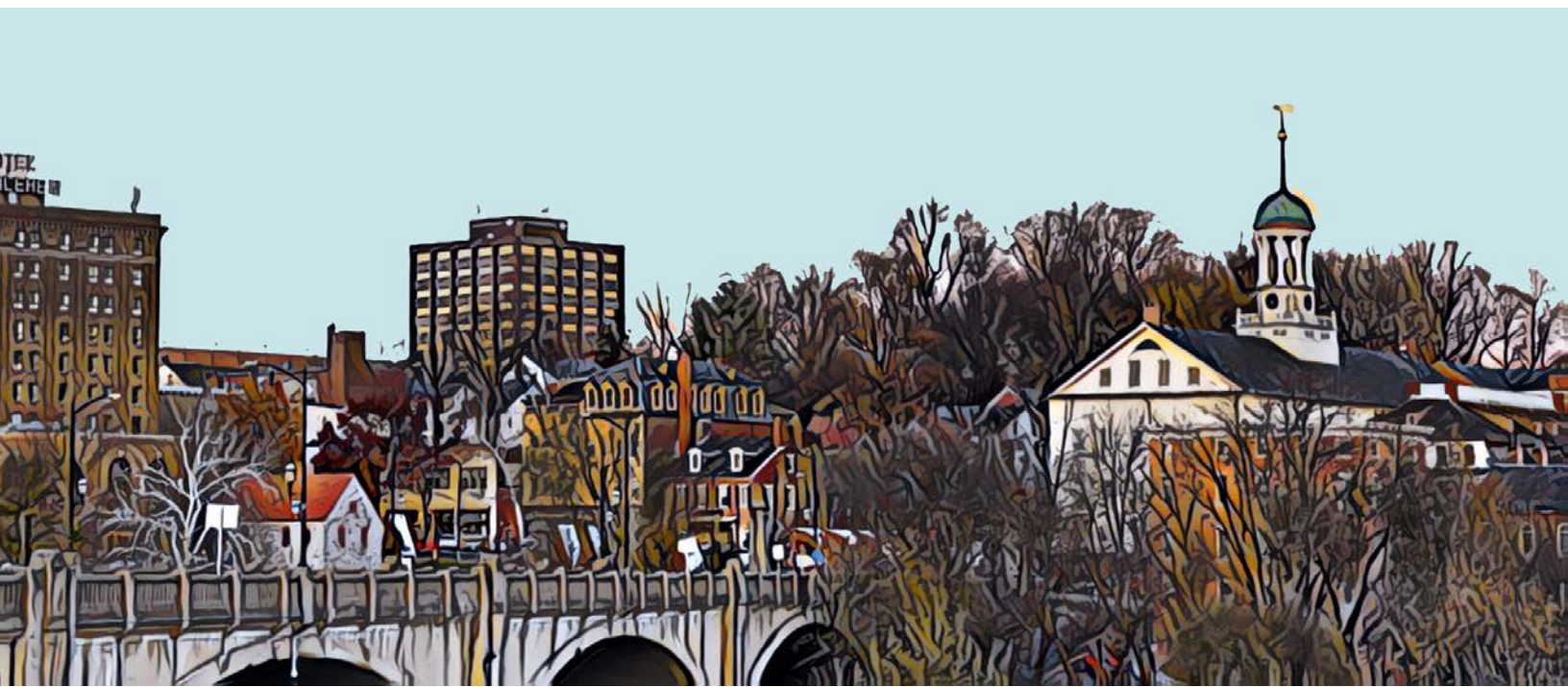
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Includes donors who have given at least \$1,000 to the Foundation for unrestricted use in the current fiscal reporting year

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- Fitzpatrick Lentz & Bubba, P.C.
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- Trisha & Gary Higgins
- Donna & Ray Holton
- Charles & Ruth Marcon
- Meredith & James Margolis
- Mary & Jack McNairy
- Anne & James Reid
- The Rider-Pool Foundation
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- Melinda & Christopher Stumpf
- Kay & Marshall Wolff

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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- Anonymous Donors
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- Madeline S. Barnako*
- Frances L. Barnard*
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- 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.



Grantmaking 2018-19

Supporting Nonprofits in the Lehigh Valley and Beyond...



676
individual
grants



to **328**
organizations



\$6.8
million in
grants

Top 6 Areas Funded

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



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. Implemented in the spring of 2018, new competitive grants included the **Nonprofit Effectiveness Pilot**, **Igniting Change Fund**, and **Community Assistance Fund**.

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.



Igniting Change Fund | A follow-up to the 50th anniversary Be the Spark! Campaign, and the findings in the Reflections Paper, the fund is LVCF's issue-based approach that supported organizations that provide access to services for vulnerable populations in six areas: Mental & Behavioral Health, Cultural Enrichment, Food & Housing Access, Environment & Sustainability, Human Trafficking, and Veterans Affairs.



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.

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. See pages 38-19 for stories on programs that were funded in 2018-19.

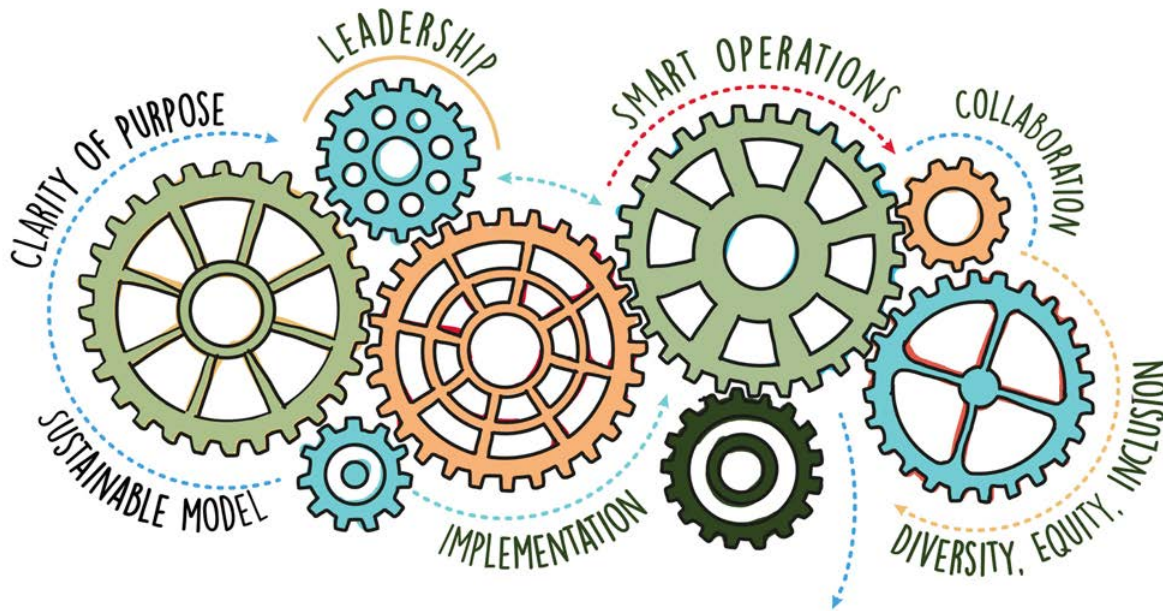
Other Grant Opportunities

In addition to Community Investments Grants, other grants included **Synergy Fund**, **Bastian Fund**, and the **Upper Bucks Community Fund**.

[Learn more...](#)



Community Investments Grants 2018-19



NONPROFIT EFFECTIVENESS

In 2019, Lehigh Valley Community Foundation launched a new grant opportunity for nonprofit organizations serving Lehigh and Northampton counties—the Nonprofit Effectiveness Pilot. The grant program provided targeted support to strengthen governance, management, and operations of Lehigh Valley nonprofit organizations. Nonprofit effectiveness is the ability of an organization to function efficiently, cope adequately, and grow from within, as well as the ability of an organization to anticipate, prepare for, and respond to changes in the environment in order to survive and prosper.

The pilot program is part of LVCF's three-pronged approach to Foundation-directed, or "discretionary," grants in the Lehigh Valley. "The Nonprofit Effectiveness Pilot is an investment in the future of the nonprofit sector by targeting support to strengthen governance, management, and operations of nonprofit organizations so they can prosper and be impactful for years to come," said **Bernie Story**, president and CEO of the Community Foundation. "LVCF and other funders rely on healthy, resilient organizations for achieving progress in solving the Lehigh Valley's most pressing issues."

"Many nonprofits routinely face organizational challenges, from major staff transitions to capacity gaps," explained **Megan Briggs**, director of community

investments at LVCF. "We recognized the need for funding to build more effective organizations and we have made it the centerpiece of our discretionary grantmaking in 2018-19."

"Often nonprofits are forced to forgo investing in important capacity building in order to maintain or increase service levels. Through this fund, we are seeking to fill in the gap and provide funding for initiatives that make the organizations stronger moving forward," noted Briggs.



“Support for nonprofit effectiveness and infrastructure helps all of our clients and all of our programs, not just one,” said **Dr. William Vogler**, CEO of Pinebrook Family Answers. “Lehigh Valley families need us now more than ever, so grants that help nonprofits like us be more effective and efficient will enable us to serve more people—and serve them better.”

LVCF has been working with these ten organizations during this first year of the pilot program, in conjunction with our consultants, **Liz Vibber** and **Cindy Bergvall** from the Catalyst Center for Nonprofit Management at Bee, Bergvall & Co., to determine how we can best partner with nonprofits to increase effectiveness,” Briggs continued.



“We recognize the need for ongoing targeted investment in capacity building efforts and importance of our Community of Practice sessions where grantees come together to discuss challenges, explore solution, and receive advice from others and gain valuable insight from our consultants.” Briggs concluded.



LVCF awarded \$10,000 grants to ten nonprofits as part of the Nonprofit Effectiveness Pilot program 2018-19.

Bethlehem Area Education Foundation
Five Year Strategic Plan (2020-2025)

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Lehigh Valley
Minority Recruitment Initiative

Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center
Sabbatical Preparedness and Implementation Grant

Communities In Schools of the Lehigh Valley
Communities In Schools Intranet

Community Bike Works
SOS: Smarter Operations and Staffing
at Community Bike Works

Easton Area Community Center
EACC - Smart Operations- Staff Optimization
and Development

Hispanic Center Lehigh Valley
HCLV Staff Development and Program Assessment to
Advance Effective Case Management Services Delivery

Third Street Alliance for Women & Children
on behalf of the Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless
Advisory Board - Strengthening Our Strategic
Collaboration

Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living
(LVCIL) - LVCIL Consulting Program

Young Women's Christian Association
d/b/a YWCA Allentown - Cultural Competency
and Racial Justice Training

Community Investments Grants 2018-19



Lehigh Valley Community Foundation issued \$75,000 in grants from its 2018-19 Igniting Change Fund to provide additional resources to expand on the important work the Foundation began during its 50th Anniversary year of Spark grantmaking in 2017.

Following LVCF's Be the Spark! Campaign, **Dr. Christopher Borick** of Muhlenberg College's Institute of Public Opinion authored the Lötter Reflections Paper, which identified the key issues and needs affecting the Lehigh Valley within the six areas of focus of the Be the Spark! Campaign. The findings helped inform the Foundation's grantmaking from the Igniting Change Fund.

"For the Igniting Change Fund, we focused our efforts on supporting organizations that use a comprehensive approach in the delivery of services for vulnerable populations," said **Megan Briggs**, LVCF's director of community investments. "These grant awards support general operating costs which enables organizations to utilize the funding to most effectively pursue their missions without adding an administrative burden."

LVCF's Igniting Change Fund grants included:

Cultural Enrichment

- Baum School of Art - \$5,000
- Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center - \$10,000
- Repertory Dance Theatre - \$5,000

Environment

- Community Bike Works - \$5,000
- Lehigh Gap Nature Center - \$5,000
- Greater Easton Development Partnership - \$5,000

Food & Housing Access

- Nurture Nature Center - \$5,000

Human Trafficking

- Truth for Women, Inc. - \$5,000

Mental & Behavioral Health

- Pinebrook Family Answers - \$5,000
- KidsPeace, Schnecksville - \$5,000
- Treatment Trends, Inc. - \$5,000
- NAMI Lehigh Valley - \$5,000

Veterans Affairs

- Lehigh Valley Military Affairs Council - \$5,000
- Victory House of Lehigh Valley - \$5,000

Community Investments Grants 2018-19



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. 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. To be considered for an invitation to apply, organizations must first meet with a staff member of the Community Foundation.

LVC issued Community Assistance Grants to the following during 2018-19:

Hispanic Center Lehigh Valley

Water Damage, Replace Electrical Panel, Sewer Blockage/Backup, Senior Center Roof

Flint Hill Farm Educational Center

Support for unexpected hay/veterinarian payments

Central Moravian Church

Alternative spring break trip for volunteer projects in Jamaica

The Sanctuary at Haafsville

Subsidize the neuter/spay of dogs and cats in Allentown to lessen the impact of unwanted litters

Touchstone Theatre

Support for replacing two HVAC units

Touchstone Theatre

Camp scholarships for young people

Promise Neighborhoods of the Lehigh Valley

Rent support for budgeted cost due to co-tenant's vacating facility

Civic Theatre of Allentown

Unexpected roofing expenses and repairs to office area

Northeast Ministry

Support for Summer Camp program to supplement funding reduction

New Bethany Ministries - LV RHAB

Funding to support staffing for housing committee work



When Promise Neighborhoods Lehigh Valley was in danger of losing their office space after a co-tenant unexpectedly moved, LVC provided a grant from the Community Assistance Fund to help the organization stay in their Hamilton Street location.



Multi-Year Community Partnership Grants 2018-19 IMPACT

State Theatre Center for the Arts | Focus on the Freddys

Five years ago, LVCF made a commitment to the State Theatre Center for the Arts for what is arguably the singular program in the Lehigh Valley that touches the lives of so many young performance artists and their families—The Freddys. A multi-year Community Partnership Impact Grant has supported the Freddys for the past five years, and we are glad we did.

We asked **Shelley Brown**, president & CEO of the State Theatre to describe the impact of the Freddys on the lives of young people. The following is what she told us.

The Freddy program means so much to our whole community, but especially the kids that participate. Before the Freddys, there was no official recognition of high-school musical theatre participation and the teamwork that it entails. You could visit a school and see a trophy case full of academic, sports, and band trophies but nothing for theatre. That empty space was our original motivation for starting the program—now it has grown into so much more.

Thanks to the television exposure provided by WFMZ Channel 69, the whole community has benefited from seeing so many performances live on-air. This has increased the attendance at all of the high school plays in the region, and supported the fundraising efforts of the schools.

Schools and individual students have received scholarships and awards totaling well over \$1.5 million through the program. And, so far, eight area students have been awarded full, four-year scholarships to college (thank you West Virginia University) each valued at \$94,000.



LVCF president and CEO Bernie Story (l.) has been a Freddy's presenter for the past 5 years.

Those awards have changed lives for our participants and their families forever. But, even more than that, the community that has been created by the participation of the theatre students is astounding. The support that the kids receive from each other—the recognition of excellence peer to peer—is an amazing thing to watch. It changes lives. We see it.

The State Theatre has benefited from the five-year commitment of the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation through the community partnership grant. We are dedicated to the program and the fact that we could count on the grant enabled us to focus firmly on the student experience. We know that the students are counting on us to provide this amazing creative outlet for them, and knowing that regular funding was secure for five seasons, with the expectation of excellence, was a blessing.

One of my favorite aspects of the Freddy program is how the program ultimately affects us all. Yes, it is an



arts program. It is creative. It is that creativity, that ability to imagine more than the obvious, that colors a community. Some of our participants will go on to a career in theatre or the arts. Most will not. What they will do is be the next generation to make decisions in the Lehigh Valley, to run businesses, to take care of people—and being healthy, happy people matters. To have experienced the joy of teamwork and camaraderie can only benefit us all.

There is no greater resource to the Lehigh Valley than our children. They are our hope for the future. Anything we can do to support and inspire them and help shape how they view the world is not only the right thing to do, but also is in our own self-interest. Getting along with others, working as a team, is the most important way to get things done. We need that more than ever.



Multi-Year Impact Grants

Foundation-directed grants issued for multi-year collaborative projects targeted to address specific community issues in Lehigh and Northampton counties

LVCF awarded \$125,000 in renewed funding to nine existing programs multi-year grant programs in 2018-19. All multi-year grants are subject to review prior to renewal.

The following organizations were renewed for funding:

- **Community Action Development Corporation**
Strategic Marketing Support to Entrepreneurs program
(year four) \$20,000
- **Da Vinci Science Center**
STEM Mentorship program
(year five) \$20,000
- **The Greater Easton Development Corporation**
Easton Ambassadors program
(Year two) \$10,000
- **Housing Association and Development Corporation**
Youth Build Allentown
(year three) \$20,000
- **Lehigh Carbon Community College Foundation**
V-SERF Emergency Fund for Veterans
(year four) \$10,000
- **Lehigh Valley Health Network**
Connections, a pilot opioid intervention program
(Year two) \$20,000
- **Lehigh Valley Synergy Fund of LVCF**
In Partnership with the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley
(year five) \$10,000
- **State Theatre of Easton**
The FREDDY© Awards
(year five) \$10,000
- **VAST - Valley Against Sex Trafficking**
Community Education and Prevention Program
(year three) - \$10,000

BEST Awards

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).

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



Colleen Donegan
Reading Specialist at
William Penn Elementary
School

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



Amy Putlock
General Music/Choral Director at
Broughal Middle School

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



Karen Lynn
ESOL Teacher at Freedom High
School

[Learn more about
the B.E.S.T. Award](#)

Scholarships 2018-19

The majority of the Foundation's scholarships are administered through high schools, colleges and local organizations, and 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

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...](#)

 <small>Students from any public, private or charter school or community college in Lehigh, Northampton or Bucks County are eligible to apply for the scholarships.</small>	The Stephanie Olexa and Seth Weber Scholarship for Criminal Justice	The Stephanie Olexa and Seth Weber Scholarship for the Life Sciences
	2019  <small>Stephanie Olexa</small>	 <small>Seth Weber</small>

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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 248 charitable funds representing \$58 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

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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.

Confirmed in Compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations



Excellence. Accountability. Impact.™