



Community Giving  
FOUNDATION™

A STORYBOOK OF COMMUNITY GIVING ♥ 2020



## INTRODUCING THE COMMUNITY GIVING FOUNDATION

In 2019, the Foundation's Board of Directors and Staff embarked on a journey to better tell our story. As we considered the philanthropic spirit of our community and the impact we have through the collective work of so many affiliate and community partners, a new strategic plan was born. In the process, several images and words began to stand out as descriptors of the Foundation and its goal—to help people create funds that change lives, both now and for years to come.

We re-focused on effectively representing all our stakeholders and the work that we do through the generosity of donors like you. A special committee of board and staff members led a re-branding initiative to unify the many moving parts that make up the Foundation's philanthropic work. We are thrilled to introduce you to our new brand through the stories in this book, as we formally change our name to Community Giving Foundation.

*"Community Giving Foundation represents the same personal and professional services our area communities have come to rely on for the last twenty years. This new brand communicates everything we stand for and reinforces our leadership position and dedication to supporting area nonprofits through the giving spirit of donors and fundholders in our community."*

**M. Holly Morrison, D.Ed.**

*Community Giving Foundation President/CEO*



## NEW LOOK. SAME PHILANTHROPIC COMMITMENT.

Each word and symbol within the new brand has been carefully designed to embody our philanthropic commitment to our region and represent who we are to all of our stakeholders.

1. **Community** indicates our essential role in serving communities in our 5 ½ county service area, as well as the community of generous donors and fundholders that partner in this work.
2. **Giving** reflects our emphasis on meeting donors' charitable intentions to support these communities, which in turn provides vital resources and support for area nonprofits.
3. **Foundation** identifies our position of providing a trusted and solid base for community philanthropy in our region.
4. **The Tree** in our logo suggests strength and growth, while the gentle arch indicates umbrella support for our communities.

The following stories reflect a legacy of local philanthropy, made possible through the generosity of people right here in the communities we call home. With your help, we continue to inspire and write new stories of community giving.



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*For Good. For Ever.*



## MARIAN ELEANOR WEIKEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

As a way to celebrate and honor the legacy of Marian Eleanor Weikel—an energetic, determined, generous, and compassionate wife, mother, and friend—the Weikel family created an endowed scholarship fund to provide a 4-year, full-ride scholarship to a deserving Shamokin Area High School graduating senior. The fund's first scholarship was awarded in 2019 to Jayla Klase, who is attending Shippensburg University with a dual major in Early Childhood and Special Education.

*"Thank you for presenting me with the most incredible and life-changing gift in the world. I have officially completed my first year of college and despite changes due to COVID-19, I finished on the Dean's List. This scholarship has granted me the ability to focus completely on my studies. Without your absolute generosity, I'm not sure where I would be, and for that I am eternally grateful."*

**Jayla Klase**  
Scholarship Recipient



## EMPOWERING, CONNECTING, AND INSPIRING LOCAL WOMEN

The Women's Giving Circle offers outreach and education initiatives each year to empower, connect, and inspire local women and girls as part of its mission. This year's February luncheon welcomed speakers that encouraged the use of space to lessen anxiety, reminded that not every battle is worth the fight, and celebrated how the stories of our lives continue with each new chapter.

*"It's magical when we bring women together to share their stories and talents with each other. It happens every time we hold an Outreach & Education event for the Women's Giving Circle. While the events always come to a close, the life-lessons and experiences of these amazing women stay with us."*

**Linda Brown**  
Women's Giving Circle Steering Committee Member





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## NURTURING TEEN MENTAL HEALTH THROUGH MENTORSHIP

Through a Berwick Health and Wellness Fund grant, the Berwick Teen Center’s “Mindfulness” Well-Being Maintenance Project focuses on nurturing the mental health needs of youth living in poverty in Columbia County. The initiative—part of a cross-age mentorship program—aims to reduce stress, improve sleep, and demonstrate positive changes in the teens’ social, emotional, and intellectual well-being.

*“The mental health of our youth is the Teen Center’s highest priority. Through this significant grant funding, we have already witnessed numerous positive changes through cross-age mentorship. We look forward to the connectedness our new program will bring to our teens’ attitudes towards their peers, families, and communities.”*

*Teresa Peters  
Teen Center Director*



## CREATING A LEGACY: KATHRYN IRWIN LENTZ

Kathy grew up in the Central Susquehanna Valley guided by a loving family and surrounded by community support and a wealth of opportunities. In appreciation for the bridges that were built for her throughout her life and the chances to build her own, Kathy joined Selinsgrove’s Legacy Society to ensure that bridges of opportunity will continue to grow in her community for years to come.

*“As an educator in the community of Selinsgrove, I’ve had the opportunity to work with many students and their families over the years and to nurture life-long friendships with many of them. I’ll always be grateful for the memories we’ve shared. Joining the Legacy Society is my way of saying thank you to so many for enriching my life.”*

*Kathy Irwin Lentz  
Community Giving Foundation: Selinsgrove Fundholder and Board Member*



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**Selinsgrove**





## COMING TOGETHER TO SUPPORT RECOVERY

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit our region, the Community Giving Foundation was prepared to continue partnering with local organizations to promote sustainability and recovery through the Disaster Relief Fund. As a community leader and trusted resource, we quickly established a special advisory committee to facilitate grantmaking at a critical time. Two Disaster Relief Fund grant rounds were held to meet immediate needs in the community and consider long-term effects of the pandemic for area nonprofits. With an established process in place to support disaster relief grantmaking, the Foundation also collaborated with the Columbia and Montour County Commissioners to administer applications for local nonprofits and small businesses via the COVID-19 County Relief Block Grant.

Through all of these efforts, the Foundation facilitated the distribution of over \$3.5 million for relief across our region.

*"Thank you to the countless individuals, families, and organizations that make the Central Susquehanna region a strong and resilient community. We have achieved a greater impact through your partnership."*

**M. Holly Morrison, D.Ed.**  
*Community Giving Foundation President/CEO*

## A GREATER COMMUNITY IMPACT

Over the last few months, the Community Giving Foundation has continued to strengthen our relationships with nonprofits across the region. Funding from individual donors, Foundation funds, and businesses helped the Foundation award grants to over 75 local nonprofits to meet requests including: essential items (personal care, cleaning supplies, medical supplies, nonperishable foods), meal prep and distribution, equipment maintenance, financial assistance and crisis services, educational programs, and human resource needs. Through these grants, recipients were able to provide continued services to clients at a critical time.

*"Our deepest appreciation goes out to the donors who made these funds available. To see the relief in a client's eyes knowing we were able to help is so incredibly rewarding. Thank you."*

**Carin Wharton**  
*Good Samaritan Mission  
Executive Director*





## ENGAGING STUDENTS IN PHILANTHROPIC GIVING

The Youth in Philanthropy program engages high school students in community giving through education and team building activities. Students learn the meaning of philanthropy and the role of the community foundation, participate in awarding local grants, and teach younger grades the importance of giving. During the 2019-2020 school year, a record 11 school districts participated in the program.

*"I joined Youth in Philanthropy because I wanted to learn more about making a difference in my community. I love helping others and being part of positive change. This program has inspired me to give back—anyone can make a difference!"*

*Youth in Philanthropy Student*



## THE BRADY AND TRUMP FAMILY COMMEMORATIVE FUND

Bonnie Trump was moved by the giving spirit of a fundholder who shared her story at a Foundation event last year and began to reflect on her own family's legacy. Ten generations of the Brady and Trump families have called the Danville area home, and Bonnie credits the community and its people for providing boundless opportunities to grow and thrive. As a member of Danville's Board, Bonnie knew the difference grants from these funds can make for local organizations and the people they serve.

*"I wanted to say thank you [to my community] in a significant way. Through the Foundation's efforts, I have come to realize that the greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members. Jim and I are proud to belong to the Danville community, and we hope to leave a legacy of appreciation and gratitude through this fund."*

*Bonnie Trump*

*Community Giving Foundation: Danville Fundholder and Board Member*





## KEEPING BLOOMSBURG RESIDENTS WARM

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Through a grant by the Hartman / Robbins / Stroup Fund, AGAPE is keeping neighbors warm through a special heating assistance program. Many residents in the community rely on heating oil to warm older homes during the winter months. AGAPE's program supplements LiHeap and other heating assistance through a vetting process and has been vital for many families as the costs of living continue to rise. The initiative aims to improve the quality of life for residents in the Bloomsburg community by offering opportunities for additional aid.

*"Heat is a basic need and essential to healthy living in the winter months. Through this funding from the Community Giving Foundation: Bloomsburg, our heating program will be able to help even more clients who depend on us. We are grateful for the financial assistance."*

*Eileen Chapman  
AGAPE Executive Director*



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR NONPROFIT STAFF

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Designed in collaboration with the Berwick and Columbia/Montour United Ways, the Nonprofit Leadership Series provides free professional development opportunities to nonprofit leaders serving Columbia and Montour Counties. A variety of sessions are offered throughout the year, and cover topics like marketing, fundraising, grant writing, leadership, and stress management.

*"I am so thankful for these sessions. I love that they are free—that means a lot in the nonprofit world! All of the sessions I've attended have helped me learn new strategies to keep me on top of my game, and everyone who has presented on the topics are always friendly and helpful."*

*Samantha Scoblink  
Beyond Violence, Inc. Marketing Development Coordinator*





## INSTILLING DIGNITY THROUGH HOUSEHOLD GOODS

DIG, a new nonprofit organization, was established to promote the overall health and well-being of local low-income residents by meeting furniture needs. Through a Community Giving Foundation: Sunbury grant, DIG's Good Night's Sleep Fund will purchase new mattresses, box springs, bed frames, and pillows for clients—eliminating unwanted risks of infestations and other bacteria that comes from sharing used mattresses. DIG hopes this new initiative will help families receive the dignity and restoration that comes from a healthy, good night of sleep.

*“As a new nonprofit in the area, we are blown away by the number of requests we’ve been receiving for furniture assistance. Support from members of our community, like Community Giving Foundation: Sunbury, means that we will be able to continue to provide this much needed resource to our most vulnerable families. Thank you—from the bottom of our hearts—for helping us instill dignity through household goods.”*

**Emily Mrusko**  
DIG Founder



## PROVIDING MEDICAL CARE TO THOSE IN NEED

The Columbia County Volunteers in Medicine Clinic aims to improve the health of the medically underserved population in its community by offering free healthcare to the uninsured. A proud member of the Volunteers in Medicine Alliance, the Clinic provides many services free of charge, including primary and preventative care, screenings, and community education. With sights set on long-term sustainability, the Clinic established agency endowment and non-endowed funds with the Foundation in 2019.

*“We all hope that some day clinics like ours are no longer needed, but until then we plan to be here to meet the medical needs of our community. The Clinic is very fortunate to have an ongoing relationship with a Foundation that believes in our work and helps us continue to carry out our mission in perpetuity.”*

**Dr. Bipin Chopra, MD, MBA**  
CCVIM Clinic Executive Director







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## TELL YOUR COMMUNITY GIVING STORY

Community Giving Foundation remains committed to local philanthropy. We help many families, individuals, and organizations create a lasting tribute that reflects an ongoing commitment to their community and values. Each generous heart and legacy of giving combine to create the story of our Foundation. We are so grateful to everyone who has partnered with us, and we look forward to growing our story of community giving for years to come.

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