





MISSION

We empower all people to make a permanent impact and leave a lasting legacy in our region.

VISION

We envision an inclusive and engaged culture of philanthropy that grows an abundance of resources, achieving perpetual impact in a thriving region.

Platinum Transparency **2023**

Candid.

The Community Foundation for the Alleghenies maintains the highest rank for transparency through GuideStar by Candid, a nationally established source of information about U.S. charities and nonprofit organizations.

OUR TEAM

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The Community Foundation for the Alleghenies

We are optimists at the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies. This is because we work with donors and local organizations who are making our community better. We see it happening all the time.

Partnering with our donors, we have supported new trail sections, blight removal, farmers markets, solar panel installations, building façade improvements, murals across the entire region, and expanded continuing education.

There is even more. We are entering the implementation phase of our ambitious early childhood collaboration in Somerset and Cambria counties. Our Bedford County Changemakers campaign made its first grants this past year and is growing. And we are in the first year of partnering with the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts in support of arts organizations and art-based entrepreneurs across the region.

All this progress isn't just an accident. We know that this kind of grantmaking works. It creates change, fosters community engagement, raises our quality of life for all, and, yes, it garners further philanthropy that collectively is a bright light on where our region is going.

This past year we distributed a record \$17 million on behalf of our donors. Nearly 60 percent of those funds directly impacted our community here and the balance was distributed more widely beyond our region. Even with this record-breaking distribution, we grew to \$124 million in total assets. We had a record \$37 million in gifts, which were used to establish permanent endowments for early childhood, community and economic development, scholarships, and more.

We completed an ambitious strategic plan that you will find on our website. We grew our staff to manage this growth and prepare for even more growth in the future. Finally, we are ever aware that our region and many of its people have challenges. You can be an optimist and still acknowledge that. But you can nevertheless work toward a thriving, bright future for our community, and we invite you to join us in making that happen.

Mike Kane
President and Executive Director



Mark Pasquerilla Board Chair

THANK YOU

We have always thought that the Community Foundation should be a reflection of our community. With this in mind, we would like to thank the many volunteers who play a big role in making the Foundation—and even our broader community—what it is. There are over 130 volunteers who serve on various board, grant, and scholarship committees. The Community Foundation simply would not be able to function in the manner it does without them. Thank you for your efforts. Your input and dedication help shape who we are as an organization. We also appreciate Mark Thomas in Bedford and the Somerset County Commissioners for providing us office space in those counties, and AmeriServ Financial for hosting us at our Johnstown office.

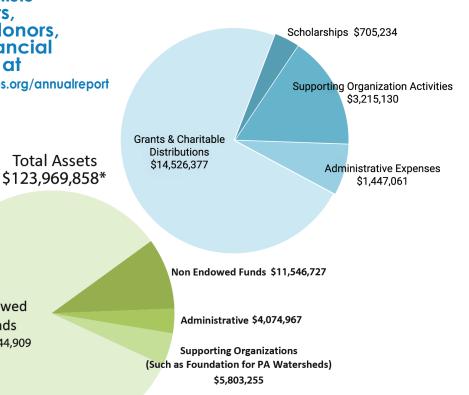
See full lists of grants, funds, donors, and financial activity at cfalleghenies.org/annualreport

Endowed

Funds \$102,544,909

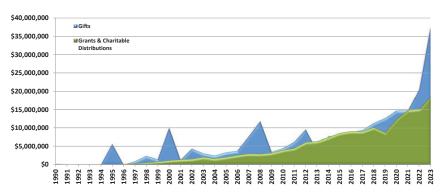
Total Assets

Grants & Charitable Distributions, Scholarships & Expenses \$19,893,802*



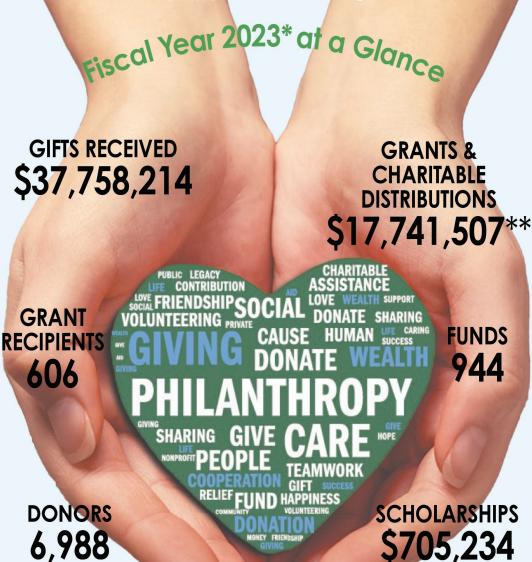
*Unaudited

33 Year Gifts, Grants & Charitable Distribution History



DID YOU KNOW?

The Community Foundation's Memorial Fund was established to help community members honor the legacy of loved ones in a meaningful and permanent way. Donations support unrestricted grantmaking as determined by the Foundation's Distribution Committee, through the Fund for the Future. This special fund is endowed, so any contribution made on behalf of a loved one will be there to support local causes forever. Our Memorial Scholarship Fund provides a similar service, with contributions directed to support pathways to higher education for local students. Find out more at cfalleghenies.org/unlimited-love.



6,988

TOTAL **ASSETS** \$123,969,858*

^{*}Unaudited

^{**}Including supporting organizations



Community Impact and Early Childhood Education

This year, the Community Foundation aratefully accepted our largest aift since inception, 33 years ago. The \$14.5 million gift from an anonymous foundation is the culmination of more than four years of work by Community Foundation staff. We specifically identified two priority areas, community/ economic development and early childhood care and education, as essential to the future of Cambria and Somerset counties. We then did the research and work to show how we could effect positive change in our community, now and for future generations, if we were able to establish a permanently endowed fund for each of these areas. Throughout a threeyear pilot program developed to test our proposal, we worked with local funding partners, area experts, and key nonprofits in the fields to build strong

committees to guide the programming and grantmaking. It was only after this extensive process that we were chosen to receive \$14.5 million. We are thankful for this gift, but it's really also a testament to the work we do here every day at the Community Foundation.

The Early Childhood Education Fund and the Community Initiatives Fund are now permanent resources that will be able to support the changing needs of our community within these fields of interest, now and forever. We are honored to be the steward of these funds and excited to see what we are able to help accomplish in the years ahead. More exciting news about projects these funds have supported and upcoming grant opportunities will be available in the coming months.



Burkett's Watch Me Grow Early Learning Center in Everett, a nonprofit preschool, received a Fall 2022 grant for playground equipment.



Community Action Partnership of Cambria County preschool teacher Cindy Rumbaugh works with kids in the preschool classroom that will be changed into a sensory room with a grant from CFA.



Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art received a Fall 2022 grant for their Bedford Children's Discovery Gallery.



CFA provided a grant to the Johnstown Symphony Orchestra to host the first annual JSO on the Go Educational Ensembles Program. The EEP is an educational engagement initiative that seeks to foster musicality for students in participating school districts.

Access to Outdoor Recreation Builds Strong Communities



On a sunny day in late July 2023, dozens of people gathered at the Quemahoning Family Recreation Area for the dedication of the new Adaptive Kayak Launch. The Adaptive Kayak Launch allows mobility-challenged kayakers to enter and exit kayaks by themselves or with minimal assistance.

The project was inspired by Shelly Kerchner, an outdoor enthusiast, who wanted to kayak independently despite being paralyzed from the chest down.

"Having a disability is not the problem, lack of accessibility is the problem," said Kerchner, who founded the Open Waters for All project with a goal to raise \$60,000 to purchase the launcher. Dedicated fundraising efforts resulted in her achieving her goal. Funding included \$7,500 from the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies' Fall 2022 Grant Round.

"I'm so proud to be a part of a community that cares about people like me," said Kerchner, during her dedication remarks. "As an added plus, non-disabled people who find it challenging to get in and out of a kayak are encouraged to use the launcher. The launcher is there for everyone."

"Funding support for the Adaptive Kayak Launcher is another example of how the Community Foundation connects donors with meaningful projects," Foundation President Mike Kane said. "We work hard to understand what our donors envision, and we connect their interests with projects that are effective and bring our whole community together."

To learn more about our grantmaking, please visit cfalleghenies.org/our-grantmaking.







Somerset County Updates

Somerset County has once again shown its amazing support for the work of CFA, and our county has benefitted greatly because of the generosity of so many. As donor funds and current donations continue to grow, it allows us to provide grant support to local organizations that serve our children, seniors, veterans, firefighters, education, parks and recreation, conservation, economic development, arts, history, basic human needs, and more.

One of our newest partnership funds, Somerset
County Shop with a Cop, broke fundraising
records in its first year of fundraising
and provided well over 100 at-risk
youth with a Christmas shopping
experience they will never forget! It
was so satisfying to watch the children
connect with law enforcement in a
positive way while having fun and
creating lasting friendships.

As a county that always celebrates

our rich history and past, we were especially
pleased when several long-standing organizations
opened partnership funds with CFA this year. They
include Hooversville ECLA Trinity Lutheran Church,
which after many years made the difficult
decision to close its doors. Rather than seeing it as
a loss, they started a donor advised fund with CFA
to ensure that all of their residual funds would be
granted back out to the community in perpetuity.
What a wonderful legacy!

Two other long-standing and well-respected organizations, Berlin Community Grove Association and Somerset County Old Timers Baseball Association, are now partnering with us as well. Each joined CFA to benefit from our nonprofit status, fiscal oversight, and

administration support. We are proud to serve such iconic organizations who have stood the test of time and continue to serve their causes bigger and better each year. And, we are very pleased to have the Somerset United Church of Christ's Dolly Parton Imagination Library become a partner as well. CFA's work around early childhood development has soared in the past several years and this program serves Somerset County children on a monthly basis with free, high-quality books, delivered in the mail right to the child's home. Early childhood

reading is proven to improve cognitive skills and development while preparing children for academic success, increased parental bonding with parents, and better concentration and discipline. What an investment in our children's future this fund is for Somerset County!

Somerset County Director

Sadly, one of our charter advisory members, John Fiesta, passed away recently and we will miss him greatly. John was a true champion for CFA as he served proudly on the Somerset County Endowment Fund committee. John believed in our work and early on created the Fiesta Family Legacy Fund. Now John's commitment to the community will continue supporting the causes that were important to him and his family, in perpetuity. Thank you to all of our fundholders and donors, past and present, and to our dedicated volunteers who serve on our committees in Somerset County. We appreciate each of you!

Learn how you can join us in making change in Somerset County. Visit **cfalleghenies.org/ somerset-county**.













Bedford County Updates

Dina McGee

Bedford County

Director

Bedford County is full of rich history and traditions.
This past year, the Community Foundation became yet another part of keeping Bedford County traditions glive. The Bedford Fall Foliage Festival

traditions alive. The Bedford Fall Foliage Festival has been a staple of our community for almost 60 years. The festival committee uses the proceeds raised from the festival to provide scholarships to Bedford County students and to support various nonprofit projects in the county. This past spring, the committee made the decision to open two funds with the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies to assist them in this important work, a partnership fund

them in this important work, a partnership fund and a scholarship fund. They have entrusted us with helping their efforts and we appreciate the confidence that shows in the way we operate and support good work in Bedford County.

Bedford County Change Makers (BCCM) was created in August of 2021. BCCM is an initiative to increase awareness of the Community Foundation in the county and to encourage philanthropy at all levels. Anyone can become a Change Maker–all they have to do is commit to providing a recurring monthly donation of at least \$10 to the Bedford County Community Fund. The first year of this continual giving program was a success. The total amount of contributions received was \$7,352, which was divided equally between the Bedford County Community Fund and a special grant, determined by members of the Bedford County Change Makers. The first-ever grant of \$3,676

was awarded to the Bedford County Children and Youth Advisory Committee to purchase warm winter clothing for children within the foster care system. This program essentially doubled

the amount of grant funding available from the Bedford County Community Fund, which shows that even small donations can make a big impact in our community. For the 2022-23 program, First Commonwealth Bank provided a match challenge donation of \$2,500, and we are thankful for their commitment. To join the positivity and become a Change Maker

today, just visit our website at **cfalleghenies.org/ bedford-county**.











CFA Opened 66 New Funds in 2023

Academic Resilience Scholarship Fund

To provide scholarship support for students attending the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown who have encountered situations that have made it difficult to complete their education, but are now on a path to academic success.

Albert L. Zawalish Leadership Scholarship

To provide scholarship support for senior students at Bishop McCort Catholic High School who demonstrate a heart for giving.

Alex Bear Fund

To support families who have been impacted by a pregnancy loss by providing teddy bears that can be taken home from the hospital to comfort children as they deal with their grief.

Alfred M. Tranquillo Legacy Memorial Fund

To provide support for the maintenance of Miner's Memorial Park (including the Butterfly Garden), in Lilly, Pa.

Allegheny County Clean Air Now (ACCAN) Fund

To provide support for ACCAN to educate the public about the need for strict air standards, to give voice to the citizens of Allegheny County, and to hold polluters accountable for the damage done to the community.

Bedford Fall Foliage Festival Fund

To provide support for the Fall Foliage Festival and Bedford County community organizations.

Bedford Fall Foliage Festival Scholarship Fund

To provide annual scholarships to Bedford County students. The scholarships are given based on service to community, academic achievement and involvement in other activities.

Bedford Go Netters Fund

To provide support and to promote the sport of pickleball. Also to help create and maintain pickleball courts in Bedford County.

Bedford Symphony Fund

To provide support for the Bedford Symphony.

Berlin Community Grove Fund

To provide support for all aspects of the Berlin Community Grove, as directed by the Board of Directors.

Bernie McQuown Memorial Scholarship Fund

To provide scholarship support for a senior football player at Indiana Area High School Who has demonstrated a history of academic achievement and strong morals.

Cambria County Drug Coalition

To provide support for the Cambria County Drug Coalition, as directed by the Executive Board and Board of Directors.

Cambria County Shop With a Cop

To provide support for Cambria County Shop with a Cop, a program that provides children who were the victim of crime, witnessed or experienced trauma, or have dealt with other unfortunate circumstances the opportunity to go shopping with a police officer

Child Advocacy Center of Somerset County Fund

To provide financial support for the Somerset County Child Advocacy Center in their efforts to reduce trauma and provide services to victims of child sexual and physical abuse, and human trafficking.

Cody Lambert Memorial Fund To provide support for first

To provide support for first responders' access to mental health care.

COGO Fund

To provide support for the Center for Oil and Gas Organization, whose mission and charitable purpose is to be a strategic partner for frontline communities in liquified natural gas and interstate pipeline communities, and to engage in new federal agency, non-legislative advocacy. COGO creates an accountable, accessible throughline to key agency decision-makers, COGO is leveraging the power of human relationships and frontline voices to shift the processes, permits, and policies surrounding U.S. gas expansion approvals.

Concert for Conservation Fund

To sponsor musical events in order to raise funding to support conservation and recreation organizations in Cambria and Somerset counties.

Conemaugh Township Post Prom Fund

The purpose of the fund shall be to provide the benefit of the Post Prom event as directed by the school's advisors.

Conemaugh Valley Conservancy Sustaining Fund

To provide general, unrestricted support for the activities and expenses of the Conemaugh Valley Conservancy.

CONNECT Fund

To provide support for the Congress of Neighboring Communities (CONNECT), which convenes over 40 local governments that share challenges and geographic borders with the City of Pittsburgh and/or each other to facilitate and offer engagement, expertise, collaboration, and coaching capacity for major policy and programmatic innovation across many intersectional topic areas to effectively, equitably, and efficiently improve quality of life for all residents in our region.

Devon Casti Malloy Scholarship Fund

To provide an annual scholarship for graduating seniors at Forest Hills High School who are well-rounded students and have a history of strong participation in non-sport extracurricular activities and community involvement.

Donald L. Green Philanthropic Fund

To provide support for nonprofit organizations that focus on educational, cultural, or historical programming or community-based efforts.

Doris J. Leibfreid Scholarship Fund

To provide scholarship suppport for a female senior student at Westmont Hilltop High School who is a good student, a varsity athlete, and is entering a science-or health-related field.

East Hills Business Association Fund

To provide support for all efforts and activities of the East Hills Business Association, which promotes trade, commerce, and community betterment within the East Hills Business Area.

Elmer C. Laslo Memorial Scholarship Fund

To provide scholarship support for students pursuing a business-related field at a post-secondary educational institution. Eligible applicants must attend a high school located within the 1st Summit Bank market area.

Emma Thomson Political Science Scholarship Fund

To provide scholarship support for a Bishop McCort Catholic High School student who intends to study Political Science at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, Mt. Aloysius College, or St. Francis University.

EPIC (Entrepreneurs Promoting Inner City Change) Scholarship Fund

To provide scholarship support for local entrepreneurs so they can realize their dreams.

Firefighters Memorial Park Fund

To provide support for a lasting memorial to those who have passed away in the line of duty protecting the citizens of Johnstown.

Heart of a Champion Memorial Scholarship Fund

To provide support to a graduating senior from the North Star School District who has participated in the school's varsity wrestling program. The student does not have to be attending any further schooling after high school in order to qualify.

Herb McDowell Music Scholarship

To provide scholarship support for a deserving and qualified student from Somerset Area High School who participated in music and is continuing to do so in college (the student does not have to major in music or the arts).

Hooversville Trinity ELCA Charitable Legacy Fund

As we have been gifted by grace, we wish to continue our tradition of service to our community, at home, and wherever needs are found. Tinity Lutheran Church of Hooversville, PA, lives on through this legacy of sharing our gifts.

Indiana County Conservation District Fund

To provide support for targeted uses that align with the long-range mission of Indiana County Conservation District, including to support and grow their services capacity for beneficial community impact.

Isaac Kelly "Built Different" Memorial Scholarship Fund

To provide scholarship support for senior students at Homer-Center High School who have participated in varsity track and are pursuing post-secondary education, with preference given to students going into an arts-related field.



Jim Salony Santa Fund

To provide support for the Santa Fund program of Our Lady of the Alleghenies Conference of St. Vincent de Paul, located in Lilly. The fund will help needy families and be used to purchase an article of clothing and a toy for as many children as can be accommodated by the annual avoilable distribution amount.

John P. Murtha Center for Public Service Fund

To provide programming support for the John P. Murtha Center for Public Service and National Competitiveness, located on the campus of Pitt-Johnstown.

Judi Eckenrode Memorial Scholarship Fund

To provide scholarship support for senior students from Cambria Heights High School or Bishop Carroll Catholic High School who have a demonstrated history of volunteering with animals, especially those who are pursuing post-secondary education to become a veterinarian or a veterinarian technician.

Judi Pastva Memorial Scholarship Fund

To provide scholarship support for graduating senior students at Forest Hills High School who will be studying nursing or another medical field following graduation at a two-or four-year institution.

Keith Garman Memorial Culinary Scholarship Fund

To support scholarships for students from Greater Johnstown High School who are attending a post-secondary culinary education program.

Keith Garman Memorial Hockey Fund

To provide support for students at Greater Johnstown School District who have an interest in participating in the hockey program but are unable to afford necessary equipment.

Larry S. Mattes Memorial Fund To recognize and honor military veterans by providing financial

veterans by providing financial support to veterans in need.

Laurel Highlands Pickleball Association Fund - Grantsville, MD Area

To provide support for the creation, maintenance, and continued use of pickleball courts in Grantsville, MD.

Laurel Highlands Pickleball Association Fund - Windber Area

To provide support for the creation, maintenance, and continued use of pickleball courts in Windber.

Mark J. Sherbine Memorial Scholarship Fund

To provide scholarship support for senior students of Portage Area High School who have a history of participating in the National Honor Society, Scholastic Quiz, or band.

Michael and Mary Ann Kost Scholarship for Excellence Fund

Scholaship to excellence virula To provide annual scholarship support in the amount of \$1,000 each to one male student and one female student at Conemaugh Valley High School who have the second highest GPA ranking in the serior class.

Miles for Hope Fund

To provide support for emergency transportation services, in memory of Michael C. Vore, who passed away from esophageal cancer during his transit from the hospital to home. It is the family's wish that this fund be used to alleviate financial and logistical barriers for residents of the Greater Johnstown region by underwriting the cost of emergency and medical transportation services to patients in need.

Mobilify Southwestern Pennsylvania Fund

To provide support for the operations and programmatic activities of Mobilify Southwestern Pennsylvania.

Murtha Family Fund

To provide support for nonprofit organizations in Cambria County that focus on community development and revitalization efforts, tourism, and quality of life improvement projects.

Open Waters for All Fund

To raise funding for the installation of adaptive kayak (aunchers at recreation areas. This uniquely designed equipment will permit kayakers with physical limitations to safely and easily enter and exit their kayaks, allowing everyone in our community to have access.

Patricia V. Black Scholarship Fund

To provide scholarship support for senior students at Riverview High School in Allegheny County who have participated in the Key Club and have a strong history of volunteerism.

Pennsylvania Partnership For the Arts Fund

To provide support for encouragement, assistance, and development of the arts within a six-county region, including Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fayette, Somerset, and Westmoreland.

Richland Ram Leadership Scholarship Fund

To provide scholarship support for graduating senior football players at Richland High School who have demonstrated leadership on and off the field in the spirit of the Rams.

Ruth and Terry Saylor Fund

To provide support for three areas of interest specific to Somerset County, including food insecurity and homelessness, animal welfare, and the care and rehabilitation of victims of sex trafficking.

SoCo Farmers' Market Fund

To raise funds to support farmers' markets throughout Somerset County.

Somerset County Old-Timers Baseball Association Fund

To promote the growth, support, and advancement of all age levels of youth baseball programs in Somerset County by providing financial support as well as continue the legacy of baseball performance and excellence through Somerset County Old-timers Baseball Hall of Fame activities.

Somerset County Shop With a Cop

To provide support for Somerset County Shop with a Cop, a program that provides children who were the victim of crime, witnessed or experienced trauma, or have dealt with other unfortunate circumstances the opportunity to go shopping with a police officer from their area.

Somerset Lake Nature Park Trail Extension Fund

To provide support for Somerset Lake Nature Park, located around Somerset Lake, the first county-owned community park, known for its incredible birding views, greaf fishing, serene atmosphere, and newly built trail system.

Staff Sergeant Alvin P. Carey and Private John C. Ewing Medal of Honor Scholarship Fund

To provide scholarship support for senior students who attend Ligonier Valley High School, Greater Latrobe High School, or Mount Pleasant Area High School who either have made a commitment to serve in the military or have a family member who is serving or has honorably served in the military. This award was created to honor two local Medal of Honor winners. Sgt. Carey was a Ligonier graduate killed in action during World War II. Pvt. Ewing was born in the Ligonier Valley and honored for his bravery in action during the Civil War.

St. Paul's United Church of Christ Dolly Parton Imagination Library Fund

To provide funding and support for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program, as directed by the DPIL committee at the St. Paul United Church of Christ, Somerset, Pa.

Thelma C. Smith Scholarship Fund Provides a scholarship to River Valley students who are residents of

Burrell Township or Blairsville Borough who are pursuing education in the nursing field.

USS Pittsburgh Scholarship Fund

To provide scholarship support for crew members of U.S. Navy ships supported by the Pittsburgh Council of the Navy League of the United States, and their family members.

Verma Sports and Activities Fund

To provide support for after school sports and activities at the Westmont Hilltop Area School District for students with financial need as determined by the school district.

West Hills Fire Fund

To provide support for the West Hills Regional Fire Department, ensuring it has the resources to respond to fires and other emergencies in the West Hills area of Johnstown and neighboring communities.

Westmont Hilltop Community Service Scholarship Fund

To provide a scholarship award to junior or senior students at Westmont Hilltop Senior High School who have positively impacted the Cambria County community through community service.

Worship Night Fund

To provide worship events throughout the community that praise God with music.

Yellow Creek Fly Fishing Fund

To provide support for the maintenance of the bridge, parking area, and basic operating expenses and taxes for the Yellow Creek Coalition.

YWCA Karen Kleinosky Scholarship

To provide scholarship support for female students who have attended a high school located in Cambria or Somerset counties.



LEGACY SOCIETY 2023

You've worked hard and planned well – now it's time to consider what your legacy will be.

Our Legacy Society recognizes those thoughtful individuals who have chosen to include the Community Foundation in their estate plan. Some have created endowed funds in their own names or a family name; others have chosen to support an existing fund, like the Fund for the Future. Either way, members of this special group share a vision of helping to provide for the needs of our region not only now, but forever. If you'd like to do the same and have your philanthropy make an impact that lasts far beyond your lifetime, please reach out to Director of Donor Services Katrina Perkosky at 814-208-8411 or kperkosky@cfalleghenies.org. To learn more, visit our website at cfalleghenies.org/legacy-society.

Robert A. Allen*
Walter C. Allen, Jr.*
Anonymous (41)
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Lynn and Craig* Ashe
Ridley Banks*
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Beverly Berkebile
Susan Berkstresser*
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Anna Marie Weinzierl* Walter Wood* Jane Hauger Zeigler

* Deceased New for this year

PLAN 2023



When it comes to charitable giving, trust matters. The Community Foundation understands that the relationships individuals have with their professional advisors are important, so we work to enhance those connections. Through PLAN (our Philanthropic Leaders Advisory Network), we help to give wealth advisors creative solutions and an enhanced range of services they can provide to

advisors creative solutions and an enhanced range of services they can provide to their clients, all with a goal of building assets for our community. If you are looking for an accountant, attorney, financial advisor, or other professional—especially when it comes to your estate planning and charitable giving goals—consider contacting one of our PLAN members. To inquire about becoming a PLAN member, reach out to CFA Director of Donor Services Katrina Perkosky at kperkosky@cfalleghenies.org.



Katrina Perkosky Director of Donor Services

Lisa Bittner

Somerset Trust Company

Theresa (Terry) Bogovich Stife!

W. Jeffrey Carey

W. Jeffrey Carey & Associates

Dean Carpenter

Carpenter Financial Services

Joseph A. Carpenter

Carpenter Financial Services

Lindsay Carpenter Bennear

Carpenter Financial Services

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The Custer Private Wealth Management Group of Wells Farao Advisors

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