

CENTRAL SUSQUEHANNA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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PRESS RELEASE



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RECOGNIZING THE IMPACT OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS NOVEMBER 12–18, 2018

*Central Susquehanna Community Foundation Participates in National Effort
to Highlight Local Impact of Philanthropy*

Berwick – During the week of November 12-18, 2018, Central Susquehanna Community Foundation will join more than 795 community foundations across America celebrating *Community Foundation Week*. For 29 years, the effort has raised awareness about the increasingly important role of these philanthropic organizations in fostering local collaboration and innovation to address civic and economic challenges.

During the week, Central Susquehanna Community Foundation will host a Business After Hours on November 14 with the Columbia Montour Chamber of Commerce. Register through the Chamber to help celebrate Community Foundation Week, meet or reconnect with CSCF Staff, learn about the Foundation's ongoing initiatives and programs, and how we enhance the quality of life in the Central Susquehanna Valley. By attending you can also help a local nonprofit - one winner will have the opportunity to have a \$250 donation made to the local nonprofit of his/her choice. There will be food from Lucy's Kitchen & Catering, beer from Berwick Brewing, as well as local wine from Freas Farm. Overflow parking is available along Orange St. and Washington St. Registrations are required through the Columbia Montour Chamber of Commerce, visit columbiamontourchamber.com or call 570-784-2522.

“We have seen the impact that community foundations across the country can have on the lives of those in their regions,” said Holly Morrison, President and CEO. “As we also celebrate our 20th anniversary this year, we are more determined than ever to bring our community partners together to find innovative and effective solutions for some of our most challenging social problems and advance the most promising of opportunities to benefit our residents.”

Community foundations are independent, public entities that steward philanthropic resources from institutional and individual donors to local nonprofits that are the heart of strong, vibrant communities. As a community leader, it is our responsibility to evaluate all aspects of community well-being. The flexibility of unrestricted gifts lets us respond to the community's most pressing needs today and tomorrow. To meet this goal, we hosted our first regional Impact Symposium on June 6, 2018, at Bucknell University. More than 120 representatives from nonprofit organizations serving Columbia, Lower-Luzerne, Montour, Northumberland, Union and Snyder Counties, participated. The Symposium brought together our regional nonprofit partners from 5 ½ counties to identify and evaluate unmet needs, network, learn and collaborate. The Symposium concluded with an exciting announcement about the Regional Impact Fund's first competitive grant round. Under the oversight of the regional CSCF Board of Directors, 45 grant requests were reviewed based on the needs assessment report containing information and data gathered at the Symposium. The Foundation presented 11 grant awards totaling

\$50,000 at an October breakfast.

Community Foundation Week, created in 1989 by former president George H.W. Bush, recognizes the work of community foundations throughout America and their collaborative approach to working with the public, private, and nonprofit sectors to address community problems.

Community foundations represent one of the fastest-growing forms of philanthropy. Every state in the United States is home to at least one community foundation—large and small, urban and rural—working to advance solutions on a wide range of social issues. Central Susquehanna Community Foundation is a regional philanthropic organization investing over 200 endowment funds to benefit the communities and residents of Columbia, Lower-Luzerne, Montour, Northumberland, Union, and Snyder Counties in Central and Northeastern Pennsylvania. Together with our Foundation affiliates, partners and donors across the region, we provide more than \$2.7 million in grants and scholarships each year to help meet the charitable needs of our region. The Berwick Health and Wellness Fund is the largest endowment administered by the Foundation, awarding more than \$1.1 million annually in grants and scholarships to impact lives of those living in the Greater Berwick Area. The Foundation's affiliates include the Bloomsburg Area Community Foundation, Danville Area Community Foundation, Selinsgrove Area Community Foundation and Sunbury Area Community Foundation. For more information, visit www.cssgiving.org, or call 1.570.752.3930.

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