

Contact: James Lloyd, Communications Officer
Tel: 717-236-5040
Email: jlloyd@tfec.org

TFEC Marks the Centennial of Community Foundation Movement in America

Harrisburg, PA, April 10, 2014 – One hundred years ago, the community foundation concept was born in Cleveland, Ohio, giving rise to a new philanthropy, a new way of participating in community, and a new vision for the future.

Today, **The Foundation for Enhancing Communities** (TFEC) is one of more than 700 community foundations across the United States that invite everyday people with a vision and a passion for community to create something together: For good. Forever. These organizations collectively manage more than \$48 billion in assets and make grants of approximately \$4.5 billion a year to improve life in their communities. This charitable model has spread beyond U.S. borders, with approximately 1,700 community foundations established worldwide.

“We are marking 2014 as the 100th anniversary of the community foundation movement at work in communities around the world,” said Janice Black, President and CEO of TFEC. “In 2015, TFEC celebrates our own 95th anniversary, commemorating the generations of donors and volunteers whose generosity continues to make life better in South Central Pa counties of Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lebanon, and Perry, and the Dillsburg Area,” concluded Black.

Over the last 94 years, TFEC has help fulfill the unmet needs in the community by collaborating with local community organizations and leaders. This year, TFEC has partnered with Harrisburg Young Professionals to offer a new initiative: Emerging Philanthropists Program (EPP). EPP seeks to engage Harrisburg's emerging business and community leaders with the great possibilities that lie within philanthropic endeavors in Harrisburg. EPP provides resources and educational opportunities for Harrisburg's developing leaders who wish to be actively engaged in giving back to their community.

TFEC continues the community foundation’s 100 year tradition of improving communities by remaining committed to meeting the current and future needs of the community. In order to address future needs of the community, TFEC is devoting time and energy to create positive changes to the annual discretionary grantmaking process conducted by one of six regional foundations, the Great Harrisburg Foundation (GHF). Throughout 2014, TFEC will be working with a grantmaking consultant to streamline and enhance GHF’s discretionary grantmaking process to increase the amount of each grant and in turn, help improve the effective limited grantmaking dollars. It is through our collaborative efforts with local community partners and our commitment to internal reflection and enhance that has helped TFEC adopt and grow over time to continually be a guiding charitable force in the community.

Community foundations translate collective giving into big impact

Cleveland lawyer and banker Frederick H. Geoff established the first community foundation in 1914. His vision was to pool the charitable resources of community members, people of all means, into a

single, great and permanent endowment for the benefit of all. Following Cleveland's lead, TFEC was founded in 1920 (as the Greater Harrisburg Foundation) by Donald McCormick. Since 1945, grants totaling \$69.3 million (adjusted for inflation) were awarded to nonprofit organizations that support programming in a wide variety of areas including: community development, arts and humanities, math and science, education, health disparities, and the environment. Discretionary funds, dollars granted to local nonprofit organizations by an advisory committee of local volunteers, are critical in helping address the needs of the community. In 2013, discretionary grants totaling \$476,026.98 were awarded by nine different grantmaking committees:

- Family and Children's Services Fund of Lebanon County, \$10,507.70
- Franklin County Foundation, \$40,973.20
- Greater Harrisburg Foundation, \$180,966.08
- The Kids Trust, \$29,003.00
- Marty Sacks Fund, \$8,000.00
- Mechanicsburg Area Foundation \$41,795.00
- Perry County Community Foundation, \$12,650.00
- Whitaker Fund for Math and Sciences, \$137,088.00
- Women's Fund, \$15,044.00.

These annual grants to local nonprofit organizations are helping provide the necessary funds to improve the lives and opportunities for individuals and families living in South Central PA.

Community foundations give everyone access to the power of endowment

Community foundations are designed to build endowment funds that benefit the community forever and help create personal legacies. Any gift made to an endowment fund administered by TFEC is invested and grown over time to increase the overall impact of those funds. Earnings from funds can be used to make grants that addressing community needs or reinvested to grow the future grantmaking potential of the fund. These gifts are a permanent source of community capital, providing positive effects for current and future community needs.

Facts about TFEC and its six Regional Foundations:

- Comprised of over 900 funds totaling \$72.8 million
- Projects
 - Currently manages 63 projects, a method for charitably inclined individuals and groups to function as nonprofits in the local community without the administrative responsibilities of their own nonprofit organization, totaling \$1,452,424
 - Projects provided grants, totaling \$269,594 in 2013 to various nonprofit organizations
- Grants Awarded in 2013
 - Donor Advised Funds, funds that allow donors to recommend grants to charitable projects or nonprofit organizations, awarded \$1.5 million
 - Restricted Funds, funds that provide ongoing, permanent support to one or more donor-selected agencies or programs, awarded \$570,174
- Scholarships in 2013
 - Currently administers 116 scholarship funds to help students achieve their dreams of higher education
 - 470 students were awarded over \$750,000 in scholarships
 - A record number of 87 students received \$145,000 in matched funds through the AES/PHEAA Partnership for Access to Higher Education (PATH) program

Community foundations are devoted to the people and places you love

TFEC is making history together through community by charitably inclined individuals, family and organizations. Community foundations across the country are helping people invest in the future of their communities both locally and internationally. Trillions of dollars are expected to transfer from one generation to the next during the next 50 years. The charitable opportunity during this transfer has the potential to improve the quality of life—in urban centers and small towns alike—through economic development, education, health, human services, environment, arts and culture. As place-based organizations that focus collective assets for community betterment, community foundations are helping people of all means give back and make a difference both locally and internationally.

Today, the current net worth of TFEC is \$72,759,531, an overall increase in assets of \$9.7 million from the previous year. During the coming decade, the World War II and the Baby Boom generations are expected to own and transfer private wealth from their generation to the next. This wealth may be held in real estate, securities, retirement accounts and other assets. The transfer of wealth will have a fundamental effect for communities locally, nation-wide and internationally.

Considering this transfer of wealth expected to take place and the potential for investment in endowed funds over the next 10 years, TFEC and the communities we serve, stand to gain an unprecedented amount of charitable giving and positive community improvement. Grants would be made available annually to improve the quality of life in the community and for future generations.

You can help make a positive change

Consider creating your own personal fund at TFEC to make sure the causes and organizations you care about will continue to remain financial viable for future generations. Any gift made to an existing or new fund or project at TFEC entitles you to a charitable tax deduction on your taxes. We work with donors to provide a personalized approach to your giving and receive the maximum allowed tax benefits. TFEC is your local community foundation providing donors a simple, powerful and highly personal approach to giving allowing your gifts to do good works within the local and international community, forever.

For more information about TFEC, please visit www.tfec.org.

###

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION FOR ENHANCING COMMUNITIES

The Foundation for Enhancing Communities (TFEC) is a community foundation which aims to stimulate philanthropy and enhance the quality of life in the community through accumulating, managing, and disbursing financial assets while serving as a catalyst and neutral convener to meet a wide range of community needs in the south central Pennsylvania counties of Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lebanon, and Perry, and also in the Dillsburg area. Regional foundations of TFEC include the Greater Harrisburg Foundation, the Franklin County Foundation, the Mechanicsburg Area Foundation, the Perry County Community Foundation, the Camp Hill Community Foundation, and the Dillsburg Area Foundation. For more information on TFEC, please visit www.tfec.org.