



# THE INSIDER

JULY 2022

THE NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION FOR ENHANCING COMMUNITIES

VOL. #05



## SCHOLARSHIP REFORM

On Friday July 8, Governor Tom Wolf signed into law HB1642, a sprawling public school system bill which includes a ban on scholarship displacement at public colleges and universities. This makes Pennsylvania the fourth state in the country to eliminate the practice of colleges and universities reducing a student's financial aid package when the student receives a private scholarship.

A statewide coalition of scholarship providers, including TFEC, initiated the call for elimination of scholarship displacement in 2018.

"This is wonderful news. As a community foundation, our duty is to carry out our donors' intent. When we award a scholarship to a student on behalf of a donor, and the university then reduces that student's financial aid package, that essentially eliminates the scholarship's benefit to the student, and defeats our donor's purpose in awarding the scholarship," said Janice Black

### FEATURED BOARD MEMBER

David Manbeck

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## PASSION IS FOR DOERS

Being a philanthropist isn't about the stocks you own, or don't own. It's not about where you come from. It's not about what you look like. It's about passion — that's it.

The final round of voting starts on August 8th. Visit [tfec.org/spark!](https://tfec.org/spark!) to help us choose the winner of a \$10,000 endowment fund.

See more on page 4



# INVESTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## MESSAGE FROM ROBERT E. CAPLAN - CHAIR

The last half-year has been very challenging for the stock market. During the first six months of 2022, the S&P 500 dropped 20.6%, marking its worst first-half performance since 1970. Meanwhile, during that same time frame, the Dow had its largest first-half drop since 1962. And let's not even talk about the Nasdaq, which had its largest percentage drop in its history. All told, the events of the past six months have many people worried, and understandably so. But while things might seem bleak right now, the reality is that investors really shouldn't panic.



Many investors have seen large losses in their portfolios since the start of the year. But one thing you should always remember is that until you sell off investments when they're down, what you're seeing is a loss on screen. That isn't to say that an on-screen loss isn't unsettling. But if you leave your portfolio alone, history has shown there's an excellent chance that in time, your investments will recover their value so you don't wind up losing any money at all.

While the current state of the stock market, and the impact it may have had on your portfolio shouldn't cause you to lose sleep at night, the reality is that there are things that TFEC does to protect our assets from taking an undue hit. And perhaps the most important one is our portfolio is well-diversified. We accomplish this by holding diverse index funds. These passively managed funds don't impose the hefty fees you'll often find with actively managed mutual funds. At the same time, they offer built-in diversification.

Looking at your portfolio balance right now might make you want to bang your head against the wall or curl up in a ball and stay there for days at a time. But as difficult as it may be to see such extreme losses in your portfolio, try to remember that as long as you don't go off liquidating investments, chances are, those losses will only be temporary.

In fact, if you have extra money on hand, now's actually a good time to buy the S&P 500 Index at a discounted price. We don't know when the stock market will pull out of its current slump, but history has proven that we should not make any rash decisions while stock values are down across the board. The current state of the market will pass and will prove to be a bad memory in the future, as we saw in other troubling markets.

Enjoy the remainder of your summer!

Bob

## INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

6/31/22 RETURNS ARE YTD & 1-2-3-5-10-15-18-20-26 ARE AS OF 12/31

Year	100% Equity	70% Equity & 30% Fixed	Year	100% Fixed	Year	100% ESG
	(Model E)	(Mode A)		(Model F)		(Model ESG)
6/31/22	-20.94%	-17.29%	6/31/21	-9.62%	6/31/21	-22.90%
1 YR.	23.60%	15.60%	1 YR.	-1.60%	1 YR.	22.90%
3 YRS.	22.10%	16.60%	3 YRS.	4.50%	2 YRS.*	20.50%
5 YRS.	15.10%	11.50%	5 YRS.	3.40%		
10 YRS.	14.40%	10.80%	10 YRS.	2.60%		
15 YRS.	9.00%	7.50%	15 YRS.	3.30%		
20 YRS.	9.30%	7.80%	18 YRS.*	3.40%		
26 YRS.*	9.60%	8.30%				* since inception

## INVESTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Robert E. Caplan, CFA, Chair  
*Community Volunteer*

Frederick D. Fischer  
*Fischer Financial Services, Inc.*

Richard D. Spiegelman  
*Community Volunteer*

Catherine Azeles, CFP  
*ConradSiegel*

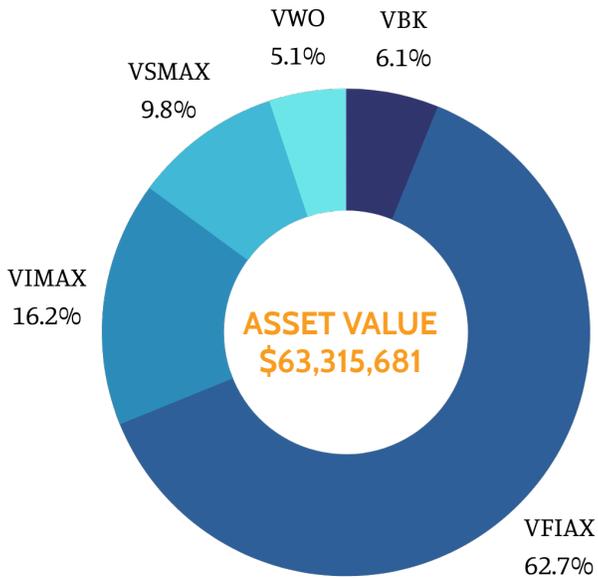
Samir S. Parikh  
*Morgan Stanley Wealth Advisers*

Jonathan Vipond, III, Esq.  
*Buchanan, Ingersoll & Rooney, P.C.*

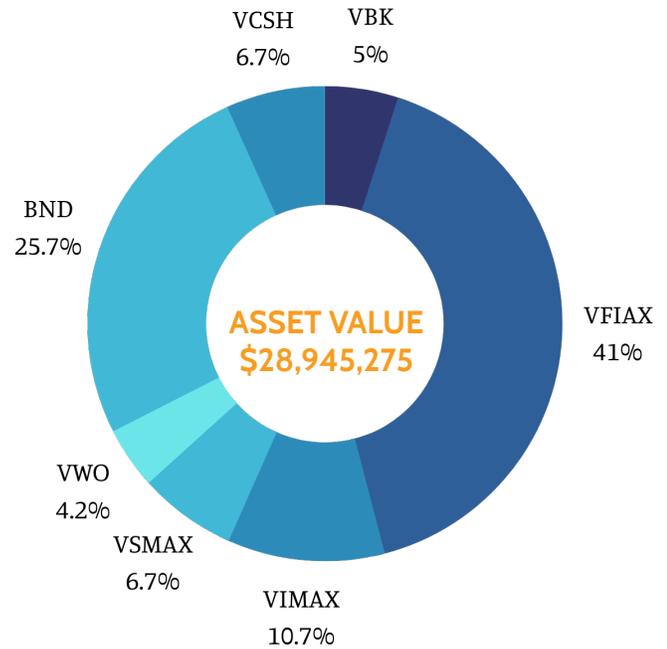
Conrad M. Siegel, FSA  
*ConradSiegel*

# INVESTMENT CONTINUED

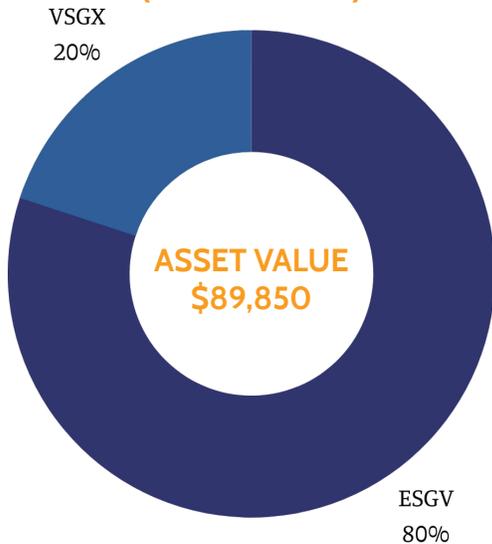
**100% EQUITY  
(MODEL E)**



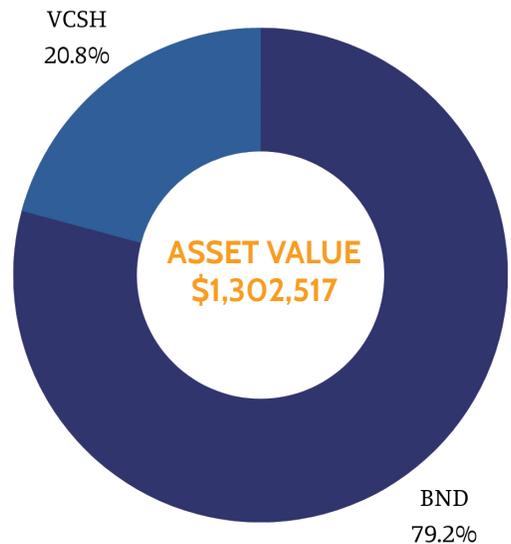
**70% EQUITY & 30% FIXED INCOME  
(MODEL A)**



**100% ESG  
(MODEL ESG)**



**100% FIXED INCOME  
(MODEL F)**



## FUND LEGEND

VANGUARD INDEX 500	VFIAX	VANGUARD SMALL-CAP GROWTH ETF	VBK
VANGUARD INDEX MID CAPITALIZATION	VIMAX	VANGUARD FTSE EMERGING MARKETS ETF	VWO
VANGUARD SMALL CAP INDEX	VSMAX	VANGUARD ESG U.S. STOCK ETF	ESGV
VANGUARD ESG INTERNATIONAL STOCK ETF	VSGX	VANGUARD TOTAL BOND MARKET FUND	BND
VANGUARD SHORT TERM CORPORATE BOND	VCSH		

\* RETURNS ARE AS OF 6/31/22

A woman's profile is shown in the foreground, looking to the right. Her hair is a vibrant purple. Overlaid on her hair are several grayscale images: a person in a white shirt and cap working with a net, a person in camouflage waders fishing in a stream, and a person in a white shirt and cap working with a net. The background is a dark, textured gray.

# PASSION IS FOR DOERS.

## HELP YOUR FAVORITE CAUSE WIN A \$10,000 FUND

From standing against climate change to standing with survivors of human trafficking — you told us what you're passionate about. Now, it's time to tell us which worthy cause should win the \$10,000 fund. Spark!, by The Foundation for Enhancing Communities, is now open for voting.

Vote for your favorite cause today at [TFEC.org/Spark](https://TFEC.org/Spark) and help change the world for the better.



BY TFEC



### CONTEST RULES

All residents of the United States, 21-years and older are eligible to submit and win. Entries must be submitted either online, at [tfec.org/spark](https://tfec.org/spark) or dropped off/mailed to the TFEC offices 200 N. 3rd Street, 8th Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17101. One entry per individual. Full contest rules available at [tfec.org/spark](https://tfec.org/spark)

# FEATURED BOARD MEMBER

## DAVID MANBECK



David J. Manbeck, CPA is a Principal with Boyer & Ritter LLC and serves as chair of the firm's Nonprofit Practice Group. David joined the TFEC Board of Directors and Finance Committee in 2020 and became chair of the Audit Committee in 2021 and assumed the role of assistant treasurer in January of 2022.

David was born in Pine Grove, Pennsylvania, a small town in Schuylkill County. He majored in accounting at Bloomsburg University and graduated in 1998 with a B.S. in Business Administration. He joined Boyer & Ritter in 2008.

In serving nonprofits for nearly all his 25-year professional career, David has seen firsthand the positive impact that nonprofit mission-based work brings to the community. "Helping nonprofits is not only my livelihood; as a father and community volunteer, I want it to be my legacy," he said.

"To be a small part of that process in helping to sustain nonprofit organizations is the best part of being on the Board from my perspective"

## WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT BEING INVOLVED WITH TFEC?

David says TFEC's work is important to him because of the support TFEC provides to achieving the missions of the region's nonprofits. He appreciates the time staff and management spend ensuring each potential donor's wishes are heard and then providing the guidance to set up the funds to match donor intent.

David's nonprofit expertise enriches TFEC's service to the community.

In his spare time, David enjoys bowling, exploring new places, golfing, and spending time with family and loved ones. Previously, he served on the Board of Directors for the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank. David is a member of the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA) where he currently serves on the Not-for-Profit Thought Leadership Committee. He is also a past member of the PICPA's Board of Directors as well as a Past President of the South-Central Chapter of the PICPA.

# REGIONAL UPDATES

## FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

TFEC's 100th Anniversary time capsule was interned in the Franklin County Visitor's Center outside vault on July 16, 2022. We would like to thank Janet Pollard, executive director of the visitor center, for her kind and generous assistance.

On October 6th the Franklin County Community Foundation will be awarding over \$70,000 to 17 nonprofit organizations serving Franklin County residents. Please see details below.



### FCCF Grantee Reception

**DATE:** Thursday, October 6, 2022  
**TIME:** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM  
**PLACE:** The Orchards  
**REGISTER AT:** [www.tfec.org/fccfgrant](http://www.tfec.org/fccfgrant)

JOIN  
US

## MECHANICSBURG AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Save the Date! On September 15, 2022, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Buhrig's Gathering Place on East Main Street in Mechanicsburg, PA, for the 2022 Annual Grantee Reception hosted by Mechanicsburg Area Community Foundation. Good people. Good purpose. Good food. Don't miss it!

The MACF Advisory Committee recently met and awarded \$74,140 to 10 organizations serving the Mechanicsburg Area.

Meet the grantees and learn about the good work they are doing.

JOIN  
US

### MACF Grantee Reception

**DATE:** Thursday, September 15, 2022  
**TIME:** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM  
**PLACE:** Buhrig's Gathering Place  
**REGISTER AT:** [www.tfec.org/macfgrant](http://www.tfec.org/macfgrant)

## PERRY COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Give where you live and help support the nonprofit organizations serving Perry County residents. Gifts made to PCCF help spread the love by growing the Perry County Community Fund.

This year \$58,750 was given to 15 Perry County nonprofits. Grants given through PCCF focus on arts & culture, community development, education, environment, and health & human services. Grant decisions are made by the volunteer advisory committee. Click here to learn more [www.tfec.org/pccf](http://www.tfec.org/pccf) and check out the 2022 Grantees.

# EARLY CHILDHOOD INITIATIVE

## TFEC PARTNERS WITH THE BASICS

	<b>Maximize Love, Manage Stress</b>
	<b>Talk, Sing, and Point</b>
	<b>Count, Group, and Compare</b>
	<b>Explore Through Movement and Play</b>
	<b>Read and Discuss Stories</b>

TFEC is proud to partner with The Basics, a Boston-based campaign aimed at assuring every child gets a great start in life. The Basics are five evidence-based parenting and caregiving principles that encompass what experts find is important for children from birth to age three. Every child from every background can benefit from routinely experiencing the Basics learning experiences, which include the list to the left.



In this issue we will highlight the first principle:  
Maximize Love, Manage Stress

Children thrive when their world feels loving, safe, and predictable. When you express your love and respond to their needs, you teach them that they can count on you. As they grow, feeling secure in their relationships gives them the confidence they need to explore, learn, and take on life's challenges.

Additionally, young children are affected by a parent's emotions; whether they are happy or upset. It is important to find practical strategies that help manage stress. Caring for yourself helps you care for your child.

How to use Maximize Love, Manage Stress with your child:

1. Practice deep belly breathing with your child. It is good to practice this skill before you need it in times of upset. Emphasize that deep breathing is good to do before bedtime and anytime we are feeling anxious or stressed. Simply pause and take a minute to breathe.
2. When eating dinner or putting your child to bed, talk about all the things you did that day. What did you like best about the day? What did you like least? Sharing feelings creates an atmosphere of trust.

Want to know more about the science behind The Basics Principles? [Visit the Early Education Resource Center](#) and also visit [www.thebasics.org](http://www.thebasics.org).

Coming soon!

The Jump Start into Kindergarten calendar provides 12 months of school readiness activities, recipes, The Basics principles, and resources for families in our five-county service footprint area.



**MEET THE  
EARLY EDUCATION  
TEAM**



**LESLIE FICK**  
EARLY EDUCATION  
SPECIALIST



**JEANNE PREDMORE**  
EARLY EDUCATION  
SPECIALIST

# EPP-HARRISBURG HOOPLA 2022



A round of applause goes out to all the people and teams who competed on June 4th to support local nonprofits. The 4th Annual Harrisburg Hoopla featured physical games, like tug-of-war, relay races, and volleyball as well as puzzle-type games like the Lockbox. Each team played on behalf of a local nonprofit organization and the top 3 teams received a portion of the day's proceeds to give to that nonprofit. A portion of the event's proceeds will also benefit the Emerging Philanthropist Fund at TFEC which provides annual grants to the community.

[Learn more here.](#)

## THE FUND FOR WOMEN & GIRLS

### Start Your Weekend Early!

Join us on Friday, October 21, 2022, from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm to bid on purses and join us as we celebrate our Women in Philanthropy Awards, welcome our new Dream Team members, and spread the mission of the Fund for Women & Girls.

### Women in Philanthropy Awards Nominations are OPEN.

Who is your giving hero? Nominate her to be recognized as a leader in philanthropy who supports the women and girls in our community.

[NOMINATE  
HERE](#)

## POWER OF THE PURSE

**DATE:** Friday, October 21, 2022  
**TIME:** 11:30am-2:00 pm  
**PLACE:** Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey Hotel

Visit the [tfec.org/pop](https://tfec.org/pop)  
for more details

MARK  
YOUR  
CALENDAR

## AGENCY FUNDS

TFEC will be hosting informational sessions specifically for agency fund holders. The sessions are designed just for you, discussing how TFEC can partner with you on strategies for growing your agency fund. Attendees will also receive a digital toolkit filled with resources. We are giving away two \$2,500 grants to current agency fund holder that attend the webinars. Topics will include: How to engage your team and board about your agency fund; How to promote your agency fund; How to grow your agency fund.

Session 4 - Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2022

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

[Click here to register](#)

# FOUR GRANTS OPEN

DEADLINE TO APPLY IS SEPTEMBER 1

Applications Open:  
June 1, 2022

Application Deadline:  
September 1, 2022

GRANT  
CYCLE 3

## Children's Home Foundation Fund: Round 2 of 2

The mission of the Children's Home Foundation Fund, a committee advised endowment fund of The Foundation for Enhancing Communities, is to provide aid to economically disadvantaged children in Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry counties. This fund was established as a result of the dissolution of a private foundation. In accordance with this mission, funding priority will be given in the following areas: human services, especially programs which address needs for food, clothing and shelter; education; cultural enrichment and the arts; funding is restricted to programs serving only disadvantaged children in Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry counties. Multi-year funding requests will be considered, but may be granted conditioned upon investment return, confirmation of matching funds identified by the Grantee, and/or the availability of foundation funds (in the years following the initial year of funding).

[Apply here.](#)

## The Fund for Women & Girls

The mission of The Fund for Women & Girls, a special initiative of The Foundation for Enhancing Communities, is to broaden the awareness of and response to issues affecting women and girls through the power of collective philanthropy. The Fund for Women & Girls believes that positive social change will come about only when barriers of class, economic status, educational background, ethnicity, educational background, faith traditions, gender identity, race, and sexual orientation are overcome. To further its mission, The Fund for Women & Girls utilizes four Funding Priorities which seek to support projects that advance the lives of girls and women by: providing opportunities to address basic needs or develop economic self-sufficiency; strengthening and/or providing health and safety programs for women and girls; Providing opportunities to invest in systems and sustainable change efforts in diversity, equity, and inclusion and promoting the education of women and girls. The Fund for Women & Girls will make grants to programs and initiatives that serve women and girls in the south central PA counties of Dauphin, Cumberland, Franklin, Lebanon, Perry, and the Dillsburg Area of York County. In addition, each Fund for Women & Girls grantee is invited to attend and provide remarks about its project during The Fund for Women & Girls Grantee Recognition Breakfast held annually in the Spring.

[Apply here.](#)

MEET THE  
COMMUNITY  
INVESTMENT TEAM



CAITLIN CLUCK  
PROGRAM OFFICER FOR  
COMMUNITY INVESTMENT



YAMIT FRIEDMAN  
COMMUNITY INVESTMENT  
ASSOCIATE

## Greater Harrisburg Community Foundation Benjamin Franklin Trust Fund

Benjamin Franklin once stated, “An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest” and today, Franklin’s legacy lives on at TFEC through the GHCF Benjamin Franklin Trust Fund. Fueled by funds directed by Franklin’s last will and testament in 1789 and distributed to community foundations throughout Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 2000, today the Benjamin Franklin Trust Fund is pleased to support our local communities through this unique grant opportunity. The GHCF Benjamin Franklin Trust Fund grant opportunity seeks to support programs and services that work to increase knowledge and/or quality of life or that inspire positive outcomes for individuals and families living in the service area of Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Juniata, Mifflin, Lebanon, and Perry Counties, and/or the Dillsburg area of York County. Eligible projects must serve individuals, groups, and/or locations within Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Juniata, Mifflin, Lebanon, and Perry Counties, and the Dillsburg area of York County. In honor of the period during which Franklin lived, the maximum grant is \$1,700.

[Apply Here.](#)

## Greater Harrisburg Community Foundation UPstream

The Greater Harrisburg Community Foundation (GHCF) UPstream grant opportunity seeks to improve our area communities by supporting existing or new “upstream” systems, interventions, programs, or projects that attempt to create positive social change by addressing a problem at its source rather than managing its “downstream” symptoms. This grant opportunity is open to singular or collective nonprofit organizations whose proposals will serve the GHCF service area of Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lebanon, and/or Perry Counties and the Dillsburg Area of York County. GHCF UPstream is available to organizations of all sizes, budgets, and reaches. The number of grant awards will be dependent upon the quantity of qualified applicants and funds sought with a maximum of \$10,000 per grantee.

In 2022 up to \$250,000 in grant funds will be available through GHCF UPstream. Applicants may seek support for any UPstream project, program, or intervention that best meets the needs of the population to be served. GHCF UPstream is additionally pleased to encourage applications that focus upon education, environment & parks, health & wellness, homelessness & hunger, mental health, seniors, and communities of focus. TFEC may introduce other “focus areas” as community needs present themselves and these will be supported by unrestricted or new area of interest funds within the GHCF umbrella.

[Apply Here.](#)

## Ongoing Opportunity

### Creative Entrepreneur Accelerator Program:

The Creative Entrepreneur Accelerator Program is designed to pair access to existing small business consulting services with the financial resources for creative entrepreneurs who aspire to start their own for-profit business or who operate an existing for-profit micro business. Grant amounts range from \$500 to \$2,000.

[Apply Here.](#)

**SUPPORT TFEC**

When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com),  
Amazon donates.

**amazon**smile

# 2020 GRANTEE SUCCESS STORIES

## A LOOK BACK ON THE IMPACT OF TFEC'S GRANTS

### Community Cares

Mechanicsburg Area Community Foundation 2020 Grantee Recipient of \$3,048

Total number of children served: 101



### Project and Community Need:

Cumberland Street Reach-Mechanicsburg addressed the community issue of homelessness in Mechanicsburg, PA during 2021 by providing support, services, and referrals to those who were at risk of or experiencing homelessness. The program is designed to engage, assess and combat common barriers for households that are at high risk of being evicted or are living on the streets, in encampments and in locations not intended for human habitation.

The program directly affected the homeless problem in Mechanicsburg by meeting at risk people right in their own community, ensuring it was accessible no matter how or where persons began seeking assistance. They provided for basic human needs, engaged with them, and provided case management and Coordinated Entry.

Assisting households with solutions to prevent and/or end homelessness while addressing root causes of homelessness (job insecurity, poverty, rental and utility assistance, referrals for medical and mental health services, etc.) is a priority for Cumberland Street Reach-Mechanicsburg.

### Success:

Cumberland Street Reach-Mechanicsburg had an influential and positive impact as it eased some of the barriers associated with homelessness. The program allowed us to collaborate with other local community organizations in their efforts to reach and serve the homeless population in their own local neighborhoods. Strong collaborations that compliment but do not duplicate services increase the chances for success for households facing housing insecurity.

One such partnership was with UPMC for their "Street Medicine" clinic. This team travels weekly with a street outreach team throughout the county (including Mechanicsburg), providing medical support to anyone who is actively homeless. This clinic helps to address immediate medical concerns and provides a streamlined process for obtaining access to prescriptions and other medical services more quickly than traditional systems. In addition, the UPMC mobile drug and alcohol unit comes to their Resource Center weekly to provide substance abuse support to anyone in the community in need of it.

### Nicodemus Center for Ceramic Studies

Palmer Family Foundation 2020 Grantee Recipient of \$2,950

Total number of adults served: 25



### Project and Community Need:

Nicodemus Center for Ceramic Studies creatively shares its mission of spreading the joy of pottery with all levels and abilities, and through purposefully meeting the community where it is. From children's classes to visiting seniors at senior centers to hosting youth from local Girl Scouts troops, NCCS creates opportunities to share its love of creating pottery with all ages and abilities. NCCS also operates two active working pottery studios with a guild membership of over 40 ceramic artists of all levels, and a beautiful gallery for members to professionally display and sell their creations. The Master Artisan Series speaks to a need from emerging and advanced potters to receive instruction by professional potters in specialized techniques. This series supports continued learning and exploration by potters, eager to expand their knowledge, skills, and the quality of their product. These are highly specialized classes taught by professional artisans not readily available in our geographic area. The classes would enrich the individual artist and support expanded economic opportunity for the artists, while adding prestige and legitimacy to our local artistic community.

### Success:

Success was the gain in knowledge from the students and the passing along of folk traditions to new practitioners.

# FISCAL SPONSORSHIP CORNER

## MAKING AN IMPACT ~ TOGETHER

TFEC provides numerous programs and services to the community. One of these services is our Fiscal Sponsor Program. Fiscal sponsorship gives TFEC the ability to extend its nonprofit status to Projects so they operate under TFEC's 501(c)(3), raise tax-deductible contributions and use those funds to achieve community impact. Currently, TFEC proudly supports 72 Projects that are making a measurable difference in people's lives. In 2021, these Projects raised \$2,676,014 for community programming that focuses on five different areas of focus: Community Development, Health & Human Services, Arts & Culture, Education and Environment.

To learn more and/or support TFEC's Community Projects visit [our website](#) or contact Debbie Garrison, Philanthropic Officer, at [projects@tfec.org](mailto:projects@tfec.org).

### Project Spotlight

#### Harrisburg Firefighters Special Operations Foundation

TFEC Project for 5 Years

All funds are used to outfit personnel or to purchase equipment for the team.

The purpose of our foundation is to pursue funding to assist with purchases for the Special Operations Teams of Harrisburg Bureau of Fire.

The main focus of our efforts has been the Harrisburg Bureau of Fire Dive 1.

This team assists Police and Fire Departments in a verity of calls. From finding evidence for criminal cases or recovering a loved one so family can have closure.

"We spent 18 months producing a beautiful portrait mural of 400 years of Lemoyne's history from a transportation lens and an event lens. Because we painted on a specialty cloth, we were able to "hang" the mural (like wallpaper) over a one week's time and celebrated with a community dedication and celebration in June of 2017."

Thousands of cars pass by our "Lemoyne Passage" mural every day and community pride is visible whenever the subject of the mural comes up.

### Project Spotlight

#### Heart of Lemoyne Mural Project

TFEC Project for 5 Years

Planned, designed and raised money for mural on exit ramp in Lemoyne

## Give with Cryptocurrency

Now it's even easier to donate to The Foundation for Enhancing Communities (TFEC). Donating cryptocurrency is a non-taxable event, meaning you do not owe capital gains tax on the appreciated amount and can deduct it from your taxes.

TFEC accepts more than 40 crypto coins.

[Give Crypto Today](#)

[www.tfec.org/givecrypto](http://www.tfec.org/givecrypto)

# MEET OUR NEW SCHOLARSHIP TEAM

## INTRODUCING LORI BREIGHNER AND MICHELLE RICHWINE

TFEC welcomed two new team members to the Scholarship Department in June: Lori Breighner, Program Officer for Educational Opportunities, and Michelle Richwine, Educational Opportunities Associate. They share more about their backgrounds and hopes for the future of the Scholarship Department below.

### Lori Breighner



#### Why were you interested in working at a Community Foundation?

I have a passion for public service and am especially excited about TFEC's mission to improve communities in Central Pennsylvania. My family has deep roots in the area, and I am invested in seeing people and programs here flourish. My entire career has been dedicated to working in higher education and nonprofits and I served two terms of service as an AmeriCorps member. This position at TFEC allows me to blend my desire to serve the local community with my passion for making educational opportunities possible to students from all backgrounds.

#### Can you share more about your specific experience administering scholarships?

In my most recent professional position as a Global Recruitment and Admissions Officer at Duke University, I was a liaison between students and Financial Aid leadership. My duties included educating students and their families on available aid and affordability options and serving on the Scholarship Appeals Committee. Previously, I gained additional valuable financial aid and scholarship experience in other positions as an Admissions Counselor and front-line Financial Aid Representative at various colleges and universities.

#### What is your vision for the future of TFEC's Scholarship department?

The TFEC Scholarship team is well-positioned to serve as a vital resource to both TFEC's generous scholarship fund-holders and the students who benefit from these awards. We have a strong team in place and TFEC's transition to Foundant software in the coming months will streamline administrative processes and allow our staff to make an even greater impact.

### Michelle Richwine



#### What drew you to this position at TFEC?

The people, and TFEC's mission to aid the community. I felt like TFEC would be a great transition from the public school system that would allow me to use my experience and knowledge to help students trying to further their education.

#### Why are you passionate about student scholarships?

Scholarships are crucial to many students seeking to further their educations, but do not have the financial resources. My personal experience has shown me how these funds can have an impact on students' educational careers. My daughters have benefited from these opportunities through organizations like the Brossman Foundation, the SPARKS Foundation and the Denver-Ephrata Rotary Club. We are so grateful for the generosity of our community.

#### How have your previous professional experiences prepared you for your new role as Educational Opportunities Associate?

I have worked for higher education (Franklin & Marshall College), the public school system (Cocalico School District) as well as community business organizations (Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and PFMA). These positions have exposed me to the many challenges and rewards of working with the public, students and families, and the community as a whole.

#### What are you most excited about for the upcoming scholarship season?

Since I am new to the Harrisburg area, I look forward to meeting with area school personnel, students and donors and building relationships with them.

# FEATURED SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

## SIERRA WEAVER



The York Rotary Charitable Endowment Fund provides financial support for the academic success York students seeking higher education. The fund is administered by TFEC through a management agreement with the York Rotary. Thanks to the generous support of Club members, York Rotary Scholarships have been established to reward the academic success, community service, and student determination of York residents attending college, university, trade, or technical school. The Smith Scholarship is for York students majoring in Agriculture.

This year's winner, Sierra Weaver, will use her award at Pennsylvania State University as an Agricultural Science major.

### **Why did you apply for this scholarship and what inspired your passion for agriculture?**

I have always known I've wanted to work with animals since I was a little girl, when I was riding my sassy little barrel pony and working on my family's horse farm. Throughout high school, I tried to take as many agricultural classes as possible because I thoroughly enjoy learning about the agricultural industry. After taking almost all the Ag. Classes I could, I confirmed my choice of pursuing a career in agricultural science.

"This scholarship, in addition to meaning a great deal to me, also helps pay for my upcoming tuition. By having less student debt, I expect myself to be able to engage more in my career and life. It is a true honor to receive such a great scholarship."

## WHAT HAS THIS SCHOLARSHIP MEANT TO YOU?

### **What are some other ways you express your passion for agriculture on campus?**

I was accepted into the Earth House Special Living Option my freshman year and I will reside at the Poultry Education Research Center this coming year. I have also joined various agricultural clubs, such as the Penn State Equine Research Team (PSERT), Block and Bridle, and Delta Theta Sigma so that I can broaden my horizon with other agricultural industries I am not as familiar with.

### **What do you envision for your future?**

I was so ecstatic when I got accepted to PSU as an animal science major. I knew this was the first step into starting my life and developing a career I love. I switched to the agricultural science major to get a broader education on the industry I am so passionate about. I am not sure exactly what career choice I want to take on yet, so I am keeping an open mind as I continue with this major. My expected graduation date is May, 2025, so I have some time to figure out my in-depth interests and skills within the field.

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