

November 11, 2008
Media Release for the Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers
Contact: Marilyn Bok, Board Chair, 570-888-4759
For Immediate Release

Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers Celebrates Giving During Community Foundation Week, November 12–18, 2008

More Than \$3.8 Billion in Grants Paid Out by U.S. Community Foundations in 2007

The Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers (CFTT) will join more than 770 community foundations across the United States in celebrating charitable giving during Community Foundation Week, November 12–18. Community foundations gave approximately \$3.8 billion last year to help fund programs impacting health care, the arts, the environment, education, disaster relief and a host of other issues.

The CFTT has continued to be one of the fastest growing community foundation in Pennsylvania. It presently manages twenty-five funds and gave out approximately \$8,200 in grants in 2007. There were 167 local donors who made all this good work possible.

“Community foundations are at the heart of our cities and towns. We know the needs of our region and we are working to accomplish our mission to improve the quality of life, both present and future, in the region served by the foundation” said Marilyn Bok, Board Chair. “We are here to help donors fulfill their charitable wishes and to provide them with excellent service.”

Community foundations are one of the fastest-growing forms of philanthropy in the United States, with total assets of more than \$53 billion. Every state in the U.S. is home to at least one community foundation. Although community foundations make up only 1 percent of all U.S. grantmaking foundations, they account for more than 9 percent of all foundation giving. While the community and clients each foundation serves vary greatly, every community foundation shares in the commitment of improving the lives of others.

“Community foundations are catalysts for positive change within both rural and urban areas,” said Steve Gunderson, president and CEO of the Council on Foundations. “Donors of all income levels and from all geographic regions are finding community foundations to be an ideal way for them to easily give back to their community in a meaningful way.”

Across the nation, community foundations help create stronger hometowns where families want to establish roots, with recreational parks, social service programs and scholarship opportunities for promising local students.

Community Foundation Week began in 1989 with a proclamation from former president George H.W. Bush and a congressional briefing on community foundation activities. The observance has made donors seeking to maximize their philanthropic dollars aware of community foundations’ charitable activities and services. For more information on The Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers (CFTT), please call 570-88-4759 or visit www.twintierscf.org

###