

Community West Foundation Receives Prestigious Leadership Award



Celebrating Community West Foundation's Leadership Award were Trustees (from left) Rocky River Mayor Pamela Bobst, William Oatey, President & CEO David T. Dombrowiak and his wife, Mary Ann, Rev. David Buegler, Dr. James Magisano, Dr. Ted Castele, Charles A. Rini, Sr., William Baker, Fred DeGrandis, and event emcee Larry Morrow.

The Community West Foundation has received the 2010 Foundation Leadership Award, the highest recognition given by the Association of Fundraising Professionals Greater Cleveland Chapter. The award ceremony was held at LaCentre on November 5th in celebration of National Philanthropy Day.

Nominated by Malachi House and Youth Challenge, Community West Foundation was recognized for their entrepreneurial spirit of partnership, collaboration, and innovative approach to philanthropy. David T. Dombrowiak, President and CEO of Community West Foundation said, "We are thrilled to be recognized for our efforts. It is an honor to join a list of past recipients that represents so many of our area's respected organizations and philanthropists."

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Foundation Leadership

“There are people in the world so hungry, that God cannot appear to them except in the form of bread.”

Mahatma Gandhi



David T. Dombrowiak, President and CEO, Community West Foundation, graciously accepted the 2010 Foundation Leadership Award from Carol Carbery, CFRE, President, AFP Greater Cleveland Chapter.

In accepting the award, Mr. Dombrowiak praised the hard work of the staff and the Board of the Community West Foundation, who make extraordinary contributions to our success. He noted the active and vibrant Board that has so willingly shared their gifts of Time, Talent and Treasure.

“Our Board is very generous with their Time,” said Dombrowiak. “They make an effort to visit our area’s nonprofits to learn about their work personally, conduct site visits, attend committee and Board meetings, and represent the Foundation at fundraising events. They are leaders in every sense of the word, and exemplify philanthropy at its best! The Board’s generous spirit of giving

through the establishment of The Millennium Fund, pledging over \$3 million, shows their support of the Foundation and the community now and into the future.”

Community West Foundation is well-known for its innovation and created the Invest West Program, offering donors creative and collaborative ways to promote philanthropy and encourage the spirit of giving. The Board is passionate about helping local charities, and through the Colleagues Program, they invest time, offer their skill, and share their knowledge to help agencies with Planned Giving and provide a Planned Giving Officer to help them with a potential donor.

“We know that the amount of resources and support needed in our communities is immense,” said Dombrowiak. “Community West is responsive to the needs of non-profit organizations, and our funding will continue to help shelter the homeless, heal the sick, and feed the hungry.”

Dombrowiak concluded his remarks by quoting Mahatma Gandhi: “There are people in the world so hungry, that God cannot appear to them except in the form of bread.”

“Let us as fundraisers and philanthropists be strengthened in our efforts to share Our Bread, in Communion with those who have not. So that by our work God will be made visible to them. God Bless you in your work.”

Other winners of this year’s AFP awards included Third Federal Savings & Loan for Corporate Leadership, Deborah Ratner for Outstanding Philanthropist, William D. Ginn for Outstanding Fundraising Volunteer, and Shannon F. Visconti, Youth in Philanthropy Leader.

Illuminating Hope

*Let your light shine
before men, that
they may see your
good works...*

Matthew 5:16



A Leader by Example

A strong believer in giving back to the community, Milan “Mike” G. Busta is well known for his great generosity. To date, Mr. Busta has established fifteen Charitable Gift Annuities and likes what they have to offer.

“A Charitable Gift Annuity is a wonderful option to benefit charities of my choice, while giving me a tax deduction and the certainty of a fixed income at a set rate of return, which will continue for the rest of my life. But more valuable than the financial advantages is the satisfaction of knowing that I am helping charities that I care about,” Mr. Busta said with a smile.

A Rotarian since 1964, in various cities, Mr. Busta’s distinguished service includes Past President of the Lakewood/Rocky River Rotary and the Rotary Foundation.

His latest annuity invested at Community West Foundation named the Lakewood/Rocky River Rotary Foundation as its beneficiary. “I greatly admire the work being done by Rotarians,” said Mr. Busta. “The Rotary’s motto of ‘Service Above Self’ tells the whole story. I still enjoy being active with the Rotary, attending meetings and encouraging the younger members to serve.”

“I think Community West Foundation’s excellent service to donors represents their dedication to promoting philanthropy in our community. I encourage others to open a Charitable Gift Annuity with them.”

It’s clear that Mr. Busta’s love for and commitment to the community make him a true leader!

If you have questions on Charitable Gift Annuities, or need assistance in establishing one, please contact Community West Foundation at 216-476-7060.



Tom English, Treasurer of the Lakewood/Rocky River Rotary, receives the gift annuity news from Milan “Mike” G. Busta.

Fairview Hospital Receives Generous Bequest

A fondness for Fairview Hospital, a desire to help nursing programs and services, a dedication to the health and well being of others – for these reasons Donna J. Ballantyne chose to leave a bequest gift in the amount of \$63,791.26 to Fairview Hospital.

The bequest was made through the Community West Foundation, and Donna was a member of the Foundation's Legacy Society, which recognizes the hospital's and foundation's most generous contributors. "This is a wonderful example of how a donor's planned gift can make a tremendous impact and benefit others," said Dr. Ted Castele, Chair Emeritus of the Foundation Board. "Donna's gift will fund resources for the nursing professionals at Fairview Hospital for many years to come."

Donna's charitable gift is especially meaningful to Fairview Hospital where she retired from a career devoted to the hospital. She served as Director of Nursing and Vice President of Patient Services. Donna was a leader, compassionate caregiver, and a significant contributor to the nursing profession.

To learn more about charitable giving opportunities at the Community West Foundation contact the Foundation at 216-476-7060 or visit Communitywestfoundation.org.



Andrew C. Putka, cherished best friend of Donna J. Ballantyne, presents Dr. Ted Castele with a check to benefit nursing at Fairview Hospital.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.



Beulah Todd

A Special Friend Remembered

The recent passing of Beulah Todd, the Community West Foundation's Controller, has left a void in the community and ache in the hearts of the Foundation staff.

Beulah started at Community West Foundation in 1999, first as the accountant and ultimately as the Controller for the organization. She was greatly admired and respected for her professionalism, knowledge, and abilities.

Our memories of Beulah are as beautiful as her golden smile and incredible spirit. Beulah was a warm and caring person, with a wonderful sense of humor and engaging personality. She touched the hearts of many and was a great colleague and friend. She will be missed by all of her immediate as well as her extended family. Her legacy lives on in the many lives she touched.

The Caring Continues

A Special Celebration for Cancer Patients



Deb Henry and Sue Dunson, Vice President, Oncology Services, Cancer Center Moll Pavilion, had a great night at the races!



Walter Hagen and wife, Mary Jean, who wore her lucky Churchill Downs hat.



Cancer Center Moll Pavilion social workers, Peggy Filippi, Nancy Gibson, Debbie Adams, and Gwen Paull look very fashionable.

It was a Great Night At the Races!

This year's annual Caring Continues event was a thrilling "Night at the Races." In true Kentucky Derby style, women wore stylish hats, and even Mint Juleps were served. Nearly 200 guests wagered on video horse races and cheered the night away to show their support for patients and families impacted by cancer.

The event benefitted The Caring Continues Fund, which was created several years ago as a way to reach out to assist patients facing financial hardships as a result of their cancer diagnosis. Dr. Kevin Kerwin noted that since the fund was launched, tens of thousands of dollars have been donated to help patients each year cover expenses such as rent, groceries, utility bills, prescription medications, gas, and more.

For the holiday season, the fund has provided grocery store gift cards to help patients brighten their Christmas celebrations. In addition, toys have been provided for the children of patients of some especially needy families who would otherwise have gone without gifts.

Everyone had a fabulous time at the event, and we are delighted to announce that close to \$18,000 was raised. We are extremely grateful that the event was so well supported by sponsors, donors, and friends!



Dr. Kevin Kerwin, Cleveland Clinic Cancer Center, Fairview Hospital Moll Pavilion and his wife, Tara.



David and Lani Cleary with KC Cimo (center) enjoyed the evening to benefit a great cause.

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