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*"Truly I tell you, whatever
you did for one of the least of
these my brothers and sisters
of mine, you did for me."*

— The Gospel of Matthew 25:40

A Message from the President and CEO



David T. Dombrowiak

Dear Neighbors and Friends,

Summer has arrived and we welcome the sun's heat as it awakens gardens and draws us outside to bask in the promise of longer, warmer days.

Over the past year, Community West Foundation received \$3.5 million in donations, and I am continually inspired by the spirit of generosity and engagement within our community.

We shared \$5.8 million in grants with our local service providers to help those in desperate need in our community. Our grants focus on food, clothing, shelter and medicine for those most in need. Donor Advised Fund holders provided \$1.1 million to benefit

140 charities. They are true advocates for our foundation and the needs of our community.

We are pleased to announce our partnership with *The Generation Foundation* which will allow us to work on economic development opportunities. The benefits of our combined ideas and efforts will bring new momentum and capital to help marginalized people find employment.

Homelessness is a major problem and we continue to make grants that support nonprofits working on this critical and complex issue. We learned from the homeless that they were in desperate need of socks, so we started our SocksPLUSSM program to provide Socks, PLUS gloves, hats, scarves, shoes, and boots during the cold, damp months. The summer heat and hot weather poses continuing hardships for homeless people who need water, insect repellent, sun screen, back packs, tents, and sleeping bags. The response to our ongoing campaign has been wonderful with many people coming forward to help the homeless. We need help and contributions from companies, organizations, schools, churches and you. Join our efforts because we care about bringing our greatest gifts to meet the community's greatest needs. Visit our website to see how you can help SocksPLUSSM.

It's a fact that people helping other people are the happiest. Just ask Dr. Stephen Post, our guest speaker at our annual corporation meeting on September 9th. His message, *It's Good 2 B Good*, will knock your socks off!

Mike Busta, donor extraordinaire, has opened his seventh Charitable Gift Annuity at Community West Foundation! He is profiled in our newsletter and tells us a little bit about his charitable impulse and amazing motivation.

Our fundraising events continue to be very successful in support of our community's good health. It was great seeing so many happy and familiar faces at our two recent golf outings, the Triumph Fore the Cure and Drive for Life Tournaments, both to support the Moll Cancer Center. The bikers were back to deliver toys to the kids in Pediatrics at Fairview Hospital, bringing smiles and much cheer. More great gatherings are planned throughout the year, so be sure to join the fun.

Thank you for Illuminating Hope and may all of our lives continue to reflect the brightness of His grace.

Sincerely,



David T. Dombrowiak

A Philanthropic Partnership

The Community West Foundation announces a new collaboration with The Generation Foundation to create employment opportunities for the disadvantaged by investing in local entrepreneurial efforts.

The Generation Foundation, founded by Peter K. Ranney in 1997, is known for supporting economic growth in our region by investing in start-up organizations, helping to revitalize the Northeast Ohio economy and improve the quality of life for our citizens.

The Generation Foundation has provided \$1.9 million in grants to early-stage nonprofit economic development organizations in life sciences, emerging technologies, innovative and advanced manufacturing, technology transfer, environmental remediation, and sustainability in the use of energy and water resources. These are start-up organizations that would find it difficult to get other funding. The Generation Foundation has worked with other donors so that grants to organizations initially funded by The Generation Foundation are leveraged by an additional \$44 million from other donors.

“The Generation Foundation finds it inspiring to collaborate with the Community West Foundation in its desire to branch out into the important economic development needs in Northeast Ohio,” said Peter K. Ranney, the Foundation’s Founder and President. “We look forward to other organizations and individuals participating with their expertise and



Community West Foundation President and CEO David T. Dombrowiak and Generation Foundation President and Founder Peter K. Ranney talk to residents at Fulton House. The agency is supported by Community West Foundation and provides services like workforce training for residential homeless veterans and helps them find local employment.

financial backing to make ongoing substantial improvements in our communities.”

The Community West Foundation focuses on issues of human dignity in providing funding for food, clothing, and shelter for those most in need. The strategic plan of the Foundation is inspired by the Biblical passage from the Gospel of Matthew, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’ Community West provided \$5.8 million in grants for basic needs in 2014. Community West Foundation’s initial grant of \$150,000 to the Generation Foundation will serve as a beginning to the economic development fund.

Community West Foundation will continue to provide grant support for basic needs, and will add a new

economic development dimension to its grant making through this collaborative.

“The partnership will increase local innovation and has extraordinary potential to help our most vulnerable citizens overcome barriers to achieve employment,” said David T. Dombrowiak, Community West Foundation President and CEO. “By working together we can help those experiencing joblessness find a pathway out of poverty through employment opportunities, helping to strengthen our communities and Illuminate Hope for people in need.”

The collaborative work of Community West Foundation and The Generation Foundation will seek to provide an economic spark needed for innovative future growth in our communities.

“The Generation Foundation finds it inspiring to collaborate with the Community West Foundation in its desire to branch out into the important economic development needs in Northeast Ohio. We look forward to other organizations and individuals participating with their expertise and financial backing to make ongoing substantial improvements in our communities.”

Socks *PLUS*SM

“When neighbors help neighbors, and even when strangers help strangers, both those who help and those who are helped are transformed. When that which was their problem becomes our problem, there is a new connectedness and new forms of community are possible.”

– Ambassador James Joseph

Hope Happens Here!

The issue of homelessness is heartbreaking and is not something that is easy to ignore. When we learned that socks are the most needed item requested by our homeless, we knew we had to do something to show our support, so we started our SocksPLUSSM initiative.

Providing this assistance requires a community-wide team effort. And we need the participation of many businesses, organizations, schools and YOU!

Our SocksPLUSSM initiative is a campaign in response to the significant increase in homelessness among our citizens. Join our efforts to offer fresh new socks and other needed items to those struggling to find a home.

Community West Foundation has consistently devoted grant resources to the dedicated community based agencies helping to house and advocate for the homeless. They include Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry, Providence House, Front Steps, Joseph's Home, The Metanoia Project, Family Promise of Greater Cleveland, Cleveland Mediation Center/ Homeless Prevention, and the City Mission.

We also work closely with The Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless (NEOCH), a primary resource for homeless advocacy. NEOCH coordinates the collections and distributions of items to local homelessness charities. We know the importance of such collaborative work in providing for

the plight of the vulnerable who find themselves homeless, and we need your help.

A gift of just \$10.00 will help us purchase 10 pairs of socks. A larger donation will provide socks, PLUS other items needed by our homeless neighbors. It's easy to take action and help your neighbors in need by making a donation through PayPal on our website <http://www.communitywestfoundation.org/events/socksplus>.

Through our SocksPLUSSM Initiative we can all respond with compassion to those most in need among us. Momentum is building. Hope is rising.

Share your concern for the homeless by making a gift to SocksPLUSSM. A donation as little as ...

\$10 can supply 10 pairs of **socks**.

\$30 can supply 10 pairs of SocksPLUS **gloves and a hat**.

\$40 can supply 10 pairs of SocksPLUS gloves, a hat and **shoes**.

\$60 can supply 10 pairs of SocksPLUS gloves, a hat, shoes, and **heavy-duty boots**.

\$100 can supply 10 pairs of SocksPLUS gloves, a hat, shoes & heavy-duty boots in a **backpack**.

Great Philanthropy in Our Community



Celebrating Great Generosity - Dottie Palazzo, Clague Playhouse Vice President, Mike Busta, Richie Lynch, Clague Playhouse President, and Dan Roth, Community West Foundation Chief Financial Officer.

There are very few actions that are as powerful as the genuine act of giving, and Milan “Mike” Busta is a wonderful example of a person who practices the act of giving.

For Mike, a Charitable Gift Annuity is a favorite way to donate to charities and he has established twenty-two annuities...and counting! We are so pleased that seven of those gift annuities are channeled through Community West Foundation.

Setting up a gift annuity is easy and it provides a donor with a fixed and guaranteed income for life. The amount of the payment depends on the contribution and the age of the donor at the time it was made. Also, a donor is entitled to an income tax deduction

the year the gift is made.

The annuities provide Mike with an income stream and eventually will support the organizations he cares about most. “After my lifetime, the charities I designate will receive the gift,” says Mike. “More valuable than the financial advantages is the satisfaction of helping many local charitable organizations.”

“Trust is a word I associate with the Community West Foundation,” says Mike. “They have a wonderful Board, excellent staff and outstanding leadership. I feel very comfortable working with the Foundation, and the annuity payments are backed by their assets.”

“We appreciate the trust Mike has

placed in us,” says David T. Dombrowiak, President and CEO, Community West Foundation. “In our work, we celebrate philanthropy every day, and Mike Busta is a wonderful example of the giving spirit of our donors.”

Mike makes a real effort to be involved in the community and is very generous with his time and resources. He supports a wide range of civic, health, education, arts and cultural organizations. His latest gift annuity will benefit the Clague Playhouse, a nonprofit organization that has been providing live theater productions for our local community for more than 86 years.

Mike Busta is a member of the Foundation’s Legacy Society and was the recipient of the 2014 Art of Caring Award, which annually recognizes outstanding philanthropy leaders in our community.

Charitable Gift Annuities are a great tool to use to strengthen the organizations you care about. An annuity provides you with a steady stream of income – plus tax advantages based on your age and contribution. This is a gift that pays you for your philanthropy. Leaving a legacy is easy to do and we can help you achieve your charitable goals, too!

Community West Foundation’s Annual Meeting

You’re invited to attend Community West Foundation’s Annual Meeting featuring Dr. Stephen Post, the best-selling author of “Why Good Things Happen to Good People: How to Live a Longer, Happier, Healthier Life by the Simple Act of Giving.”

Wednesday, September 9, 2015, 3:00pm

West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church, 20401 Hilliard Boulevard, Rocky River, OH

Online reservations:

<http://www.communitywestfoundation.org/events/annual-meeting>

Or call 216-476-7060. Space is Limited.



Community West Foundation Announces Quarterly Grants

Community West Foundation awarded nearly a half million dollars in grants to thirteen nonprofit organizations that impact the health and well being of our community.

The recipients of the Foundation's most recent grant awards represent a commitment to both new and continuing initiatives and include: NAMI Greater Cleveland, North Coast Health, Life Act, Nueva Luz Urban Resource Center, Lorain County Free Clinic, The City Mission, May Dugan Center, Domestic Violence & Child Advocacy Center, Avon/Avon Lake Community Resource Center, Boys & Girls Clubs of Lorain County, Building Hope in the City, Asian Services in Action, and Senior Transportation Connection.

We are particularly excited by the grants to our two newest partners, The Lorain County Free Clinic and Senior Transportation Connection, and their work.

The Lorain County Free Clinic Meets the Needs of the Community

A longtime philosophy of the Lorain County Free Clinic, like many free clinics, believes in giving people a "hand up, not a hand out." Free health clinics have long been places people turn to when they don't have health care insurance or money to pay for care.

In 1986, The Lorain County Free Clinic began in the basement of Christ Lutheran Church in response to the growing needs of the uninsured who had nowhere else to turn. Today, the clinic is still located in the same space and delivers the very best in medical care, thanks to the help and support of their Board, staff and volunteers.

Along the way, the clinic has significantly expanded the number of patients they see, and this year more than 2,000 patients will visit the Free Clinic. Area hospitals and medical professionals, including Elyria Memorial Hospital President and CEO, Dr. Donald S. Sheldon, generously

donate time and services. Last year alone, the medical community in Lorain County donated \$3.3 million in charitable medical services.

Some of our Community West Foundation trustees had the unique opportunity to observe the clinic in action at a site visit. They were so impressed by the professional attention that patients received and the organization's philosophy, that Community West provided a \$40,000 grant, \$5,000 more than was requested, for their Medical Services Program, assuring patients in need receive the invaluable gift of health.

The Lorain County Free Clinic relies on contributions from the community for operating support. You can help by making a donation so the clinic can continue to help those in medical need who have no other access to affordable health care. For every dollar they receive, \$8 in care is generated.



The Lorain County Free Clinic Executive Director, Paul Baumgartner, with staff members Kathleen Janda and Courtney McGurer, lead other committed care providers and volunteers in making a positive impact on the health of Lorain County.

"We are truly grateful for this support from the Community West Foundation. It will help us immensely, as we continue our mission to provide health care to the medically under served in Lorain County."

– Paul Baumgartner, Executive Director

Enhancing the Lives of Senior and Disabled Residents



Senior Transportation Connection has earned a reputation as a reliable, efficient and affordable source of transportation to seniors and adults with disabilities.

We are always interested in programs that specialize in meeting the transportation needs of our senior citizens and persons with disabilities. One that stands out in helping seniors with needed transportation is the Senior Transportation Connection.

Since 2005, Senior Transportation Connection has been serving individuals who have mobility challenges due to age, lack of access,

disability, frailty, or inability to drive. This program is heavily used and currently serves nearly 20,000 people throughout Cuyahoga County. The program provides passengers transportation to a variety of essential services, especially medical appointments, as well as grocery shopping, errands and other needs, and riders are responsible for a small fare, if they can afford it. This service

really does help people maintain independent living, self-sufficiency and community connectivity.

Community West Foundation has always been committed to improving the lives of our valued seniors and people with special needs and has provided \$25,000 to support this reputable program.

"We are thankful that Community West Foundation recognizes how important reliable, quality transportation is to older adults in our community. The Foundation's funds will help support access to services that allow seniors to manage their health and remain independent."

— Janice Dzigiel, Executive Director
Senior Transportation Connection

We Welcome Our Refugees

On June 20th the Beck Center was transformed into a true reflection of the melting pot that is America as hundreds of neighbors with a wide variety of ethnic heritages gathered together to celebrate World Refugee Day. The event was hosted by the Refugee Services Collaborative of Greater Cleveland and featured food, music, and dress from around the world.

The Collaborative, which is comprised of 14 area agencies including The Refugee Response, Asian Services in Action, Building Hope in the City, and Catholic Charities Office of Migration Services, used this event to premiere five short documentary films that captured not only the refugees adjusting to their new life in this

country, but also highlighted the many treasures that the refugees bring to our community.

Community West Foundation gave the Collaborative a grant to make these films, which is the anchor of their refugee awareness campaign.

Community West Foundation was thanked for its commitment to the refugee community, and received a special acknowledgement from Cleveland Councilman Joe Cimperman,



The Beck Center was filled with people celebrating World Refugee Day and especially our own refugee community.

who said that when other funders may say something can't be done, Community West always comes through to make it happen. We extend a hearty welcome to the newest members of our community!

Go to <http://rscleveland.org> to learn more about these wonderful films sponsored by Community West Foundation.

We are off to a great start this summer and our Special Events generate a lot of community support.

Nearly 500 bikers were back for the 20th Annual Harley-Davidson Toy Run in support of Fairview Hospital's Pediatric Unit. The day was filled with smiles and laughter, and \$6,800 was raised along with hundreds of toys and stuffed animals. Thank you to everyone who participated for your continued support in helping our local kids. Special thanks to Mike Stevens and Lake Erie Harley-Davidson for being our great partner!



Dr. Neil Smith, President, Fairview Hospital and Mike Stevens, Owner, Lake Erie Harley-Davidson celebrate Toy Run generosity.



We enjoyed the help from some of our young volunteers!



We had lots of toys for the kids donated by generous riders!

Two incredible days of golf!

The 22nd Annual Triumph Fore the Cure Golf Outing took place on Monday, June 22nd at Westwood Country Club. We hosted 88 golfers and raised nearly \$20,000 for the Breast Health Center at Fairview Hospital. Our wonderful community of volunteers and benefactors continue to make this event a great success. Thank you to the golfers, the committee who worked so hard, all of our awesome sponsors – especially the overwhelming support of RPM International, Inc. for many years!

This year's 14th Annual Drive for Life Golf Scramble was well attended by 100 golfers on July 13th at Westwood Country Club. Thanks to the generosity of many, over \$20,000 was raised for the Moll Cancer Center Fund to provide financial assistance for patients being treated at the Fairview Hospital Moll Cancer Center. We appreciate everyone who helped make this tournament successful, from our golf teams to our generous sponsors, donors and volunteers.



Donna Smith, Eileen Garven, Bonnie O'Bryan, and Karen McHugh were voted the "Most Fun" Team!

Diane Kraft, Bridget Rini, Dr. Cindy Deyling, and Michelle Grubb were the Tournament Winners!

Having a great time at the outing were Community West Foundation President and CEO, David T. Dombrowiak, Foundation Chair, William Baker, and Trustees, Harry Zilli, Jr. and Robert Yaroma.



Celebrating Good Times and a Great Tournament Win: Nathan Hessler, David Hessler, Pat Mulloy, and Mike Romanello.



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Please write to us or contact us at 216-476-7060 if you do not wish to receive materials regarding opportunities, services, programs or developments.

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Help us save printing and postage costs, as well as paper, by registering to receive the newsletter online. Send an e-mail to linda.spencer@cwfc.org with your name, address and e-mail address.

Look for event information, photos, fundraising information, and ways to give online.

www.communitywestfoundation.org

216-476-7060

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