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Our 2016 Board of Directors

# A Message from the President and CEO



*David T. Dombrowiak*

“Behold, my friends, the spring is come; the earth has gladly received the embraces of the sun, and we shall soon see the results of their love!” These are the joyful words that come from a rich Native American tradition.

I am very proud of the people and organizations I am privileged to know and work with every day, because I see the results of their warm embracing love for our community.

We recently released our 2015 annual report and it is filled with great news worth sharing. In keeping with our Liberating the Spirit of Generosity theme, our report highlights the true spirit of philanthropy found in the leadership of our donor family who place their trust in our organization to fulfill philanthropic goals. You can

learn more about the Foundation’s remarkable year by visiting our website to view our annual report.

An exciting development at the Foundation is that we’re using our creativity to support Youth Challenge by leasing office space in their building, a contribution we are pleased to provide. In addition to our grant funding, the opportunity to support a nonprofit in this very innovative way will help build even more financial stability for Youth Challenge. They have broken ground and we will be posting photos and updates on our website as the construction continues. In addition to a ribbon cutting celebration and an open house planned later in the year, we invite you to please stop by and visit us, the door will always be open. We can’t wait to move into our new home this summer at 800 Sharon Drive, in Westlake.

So far this year, the Community West Foundation Board of Directors approved grants to twelve nonprofit organizations totaling \$601,000.00, and we’ve profiled a few organizations that serve our community within this newsletter. We know our impact is far reaching and we always take the time to visit our partner organizations to see the great results of our grant investments to meet evolving community needs.

It is wonderful to witness the level of commitment you have for our work, especially the support for our SocksPLUS Program, an important initiative that provides for those who lack basic necessities. Many people were motivated to draw on their own unique creativity to lessen the hardships for our homeless men, women and children; and we’ve included a few examples of this amazing generosity at work. Special thanks to Dr. Akram Boutros and the team from MetroHealth, the Lutheran Hospital Nursing Staff, and Girl Scout Troop 70421 for collecting thousands of socks!

In addition to our publications and website, the Foundation continues to promote generosity by sponsoring special events throughout the year. We hope you will register to attend these wonderful gatherings and join the fun in support of Fairview Hospital and Lutheran Hospital.

Let me close by expressing my gratitude to you, our donors and friends, for your unwavering support of our Foundation. Mother Teresa said, “It’s not how much we give but how much love we put into giving.” Like Mother Teresa, by sharing your love with others, you are Illuminating Hope and helping build an even brighter future for our community.

Sincerely,

David T. Dombrowiak

*“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

# Community West Foundation Announces Office Relocation

Collaboration. It's an important component of Community West Foundation's success as an organization. The Foundation has always been passionate about collaborating with our Colleague organizations and we are delighted to announce that we will be renting our new office space from Youth Challenge, one of the west side's well respected organizations that offers sports and recreation opportunities for children with physical disabilities.

"At Community West, we strive to be a philanthropic leader in our community by supporting nonprofits in

innovative and creative ways," says David T. Dombrowiak. "We will now be making an additional contribution by renting office space. The Foundation couldn't have asked for better partners in Youth Challenge and now, we couldn't have asked for a better neighbor!"

The decision to relocate our office comes at an ideal time for the Foundation, and it's exciting to see the growth and impact of our work as we look forward to the future. The new space, designed by The Krueger Group, is expected to be completed in July.

**CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS.** Ground is broken for the Community West Foundation's new headquarters!



*Nick Longa, Community West Foundation's Accountant and in addition, the Project Manager for our office construction, frequently visits our new site, and keeps us informed of the daily progress. We appreciate Nick's continued commitment! Thanks Nick!*



*Dan Roth, Community West Foundation's Chief Financial Officer, joins Mark Bacon, Community West Foundation Board Member, at the construction site. We appreciate the contributions of Mr. Bacon who attends weekly meetings with the building designer and staff to review office plans and progress. With an extensive background in construction, Mr. Bacon brings a broad perspective, experience, and expertise to the project.*

*"Community West Foundation is known for its practice of innovative ideas to achieve new and greater impact. Not only has Youth Challenge been a beneficiary of grant funding from the Foundation for many years, now, Community West Foundation will be renting office space from us and we are so grateful for their support of our mission in this additional way. Community West Foundation's funding priorities are a reflection of their generous legacy of giving. They truly care about the success of other nonprofits and they are an incredible gift to our community."*

*– Mary Sue Tanis  
Founder and Executive Director  
Youth Challenge*

# Latest Grants Address Needs

Twelve nonprofits are the beneficiaries of grants from the Community West Foundation, totaling \$601,000.00. We devote our resources to causes that matter, and our recent grant funding accurately reflects our compassion for and dedication to the community.

Grants provide local nonprofits with resources to further their missions and offer hope for our community's most vulnerable children and families.

It is impossible not to be touched by the great work of our nonprofit organizations that enrich the health, well being and future of our communities. We feature three of our exemplary grantees, The Refugee Response, Cleveland Mediation Center, and The Lantern for the first cycle of 2016.

## EMPOWERING REFUGEES

The Refugee Response was formed in 2009 to assist in bridging the gap between the existing resettlement agency services and the longer support needs of the Refugee community. The Refugee Response has proven to be extremely effective in developing unique program models tailored to the specific needs of different refugee communities.

Our grant of \$33,000 allows the agency to further develop and deepen its programming and help refugees move on to the next steps and realize their full potential as they continue their integration in our community.

The Refugee Response Executive Director David T. Hamm said, *"As The Refugee Response explores how to deepen the impacts of our programming, support from Community West acts as an important investment in a multi-faceted workforce curriculum, a "best-in-class" tool that will provide language and practical skills training to address the refugee community's specific needs and be delivered throughout the industry."*



Photos courtesy of Billy Delfs Photography.

*"David's shared vision in creating a welcoming and supportive environment for refugees throughout Northeast Ohio has not only benefitted our organization, but the community as a whole. The concerted investment on behalf of the Community West Foundation helps pave a path to self-sufficiency and success for the newest members of our region."*

– Darren T. Hamm  
Executive Director  
The Refugee Response

## BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

Cleveland Mediation Center has been a leader in our community since 1981 in conflict resolution and homeless prevention services. The Center's work has been so successful that they present their training throughout the country with what has become known as 'The Cleveland Model.' The Center has also developed some innovative projects to assist veterans. This particular grant in the amount of \$40,000 is for the Center's new Family and Youth Reunification Program. They are tackling the issue of those youths who are aging out of foster care and juvenile justice systems, twenty percent of whom will become homeless. Cleveland Mediation Center's program will attempt to reunite families and find new ways to prevent this particular group from remaining homeless.



*“Cleveland Mediation Center is deeply grateful to the Community West Foundation Board and staff for their continued support and dedication to ensuring programs such as our Family and Youth Reunification Program are available to those who are most in need in our community.”*

– Kathleen Jackson  
Executive Director  
Cleveland Mediation Center

## LIGHTING THE PATH OF RECOVERY

The Lantern is a fully self-supporting agency that provides free residential care for men who suffer from the disease of alcohol and drug addiction. The Lantern's treatment philosophy is based on a 12-step model and recognizes addictions as a potentially fatal disease. The Lantern accepts no government funding and focuses on private donations and program service revenues to support their operations. Our grant of \$28,000 will help The Lantern in providing the path of recovery to those in need.



*“Our community is facing an epidemic of addiction. Drug overdose deaths are now the number one cause of accidental death in America, at 44,000 per year. As you can see, addiction is powerful, and relentless, but resources to treat addiction are available. The Lantern is committed to providing our community with these resources by offering long-term care at absolutely no cost to our residents, and the generous support from The Community West Foundation plays a critical role in helping us achieve this mission.”*

– Tony Parker  
Executive Director  
The Lantern Center for Recovery

# Save these Dates. Oh What Fun We Will Have!

**JUNE 20, 2016**



## **TRIUMPH FORE THE CURE**

Join us for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Women's Golf Scramble, Monday, June 20, 2016 at the Westwood Country Club, Rocky River. Treat yourself to a day of golf with friends as we take a swing against breast cancer.

Presented by the Community West Foundation and the Triumph for the Cure Golf Committee,  
Debra Pratt, MD, FACS, Chairperson.

Proceeds to benefit the Breast Health Center of Fairview Hospital.

**JULY 11, 2016**



## **DRIVE FOR LIFE**

Join us for the 15th Annual Drive for Life Golf Benefit, Monday, July 11, 2016 at the Westwood Country Club, Rocky River.

Enjoy Lunch, a Shotgun start at 1:00pm and dinner following the tournament. All proceeds to benefit the Cancer Center, Moll Pavilion at Fairview Hospital.

**CHRISTMAS IN JULY**  
TIS THE SEASON FOR GIVING



**JULY 10, 2016**

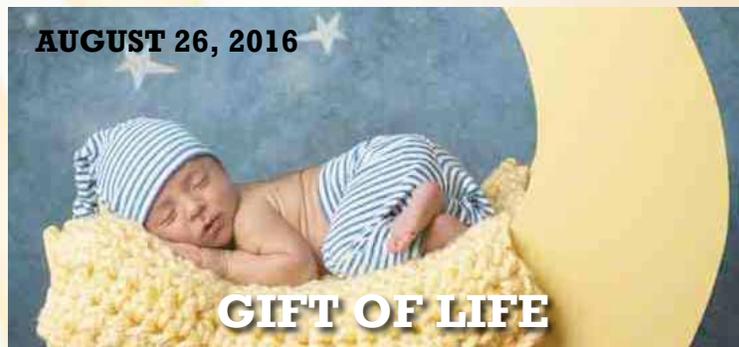
**TOY RUN**

The 21st Annual Fairview Hospital Toy Run, hosted by Lake Erie Harley-Davidson, takes place Sunday, July 10, 2016.

Preregister with cash by July 2<sup>nd</sup> at Lake Erie Harley-Davidson and receive a free T-Shirt.

Riders of all makes and models welcome.  
No rain date: this ride will take place rain or shine.

**AUGUST 26, 2016**



## **GIFT OF LIFE**

Celebrate our stars born at Fairview Hospital, Friday, August 26, 2016 at the Avon Oaks Country Club, 32300 Detroit Road, Avon.

Enjoy a casual summer evening of dinner, cocktails, and auctions. All proceeds benefit Mothers and Babies born at Fairview Hospital.

For more information on all these exciting events, go to our website at [communitywestfoundation.org](http://communitywestfoundation.org) or call 216-476-7390.

# One Goal and Many Partners Offer Great Support for SocksPLUS

The SocksPLUS Program has become one of the Foundation's most important initiatives to provide for those who lack basic necessities. Joining our efforts to help those in need are many "tribes." We are amazed by the level of support from so many people that go above and beyond in their support for this program. Hundreds of people have adopted SocksPLUS as their cause.

This initiative is a collaborative effort of the Community West Foundation and the Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless to provide Socks PLUS other items desperately needed by our homeless neighbors. We would like you to learn about some beautiful examples of what a community working together can accomplish.

## GIRL SCOUT TROOP 70421 JOIN FORCES FOR SOCKSPLUS

The latest success is from Westlake Girl Scout Troop 70421 who decided to support SocksPLUS when they learned that socks are the most requested item by the homeless. To promote awareness, the Girl Scouts held a 50s themed Sock Hop on March 18th at Dover Intermediate School. The 15-member troop had a great time as they planned, organized, promoted, and decorated for the Sock Hop party. The admission was just \$5 and, of course, a pair of socks! Overall, they collected over 220 pairs of socks!

In recognition of their community service and commitment to helping others, all the girls were presented

their Bronze Award, certificate, pin and badge at ceremonies held at the Parkside Administration Building on April 20th. It was a well-attended event recognizing these girls' accomplishments and we couldn't be more proud and impressed with Troop 70421! The girls were supported in their Bronze Award efforts by Jane Peer and Ashley Hotchkiss, Troop Leaders.

As our leaders of tomorrow, these Girl Scouts bring a tradition of caring and compassion with them into the future. Their heart for service is an inspiring thing!



At the Sock Hop!



Standing back row - Girl Scout Troop 70421: Troop Co-leader Jane Peer, Mirabella Zingales, Madeline Wacker, Stephanie Nivellini, Grace Bohan, Jessie Meno, Hannah Hartman, Linda Spencer, VP Admin, Communications and Marketing, Community West Foundation, Troop Co-leader Ashley Hotchkiss. Second row - Sarah Peer, Lucy Durbin, Grace LaVecchia, Lauren Hotchkiss, Katie Kretzinger. Front row/Seated - Tiana Nimyłowicz, Charlotte Yappel, Amara Brahmhatt, Aspen Neff.



Denise Toth, Outreach Worker, Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless, with the 220-plus pairs of socks collected at the Girl Scout Troop 70421 Sock Hop.

# Hospitals Support SocksPLUS!

## ANOTHER AMAZING DONATION THANKS TO METROHEALTH AND DRUG MART PARTNERSHIP

People do amazing things every day to support the homeless. Socks were collected in honor of MetroHealth President and CEO, Dr. Akram Boutros' birthday. Dr. Boutros is known for wearing colorful, fun socks, so this was a perfect tribute to him. He spoke about how happy they were to be involved in collecting these socks for the homeless in our community. The result was an ambulance full of socks – 6,000 pairs – to our SocksPLUS Campaign. Wow! Thanks to everyone who donated!



*Peter Schindler, Community West Foundation Senior Program Officer, and Brian Davis, Executive Director of NEOCH, went to receive items from MetroHealth and Drug Mart, who both coordinated events*



*Dr. Akram Boutros was very moved by the thousands of Socks collected in his honor.*

## LUTHERAN HOSPITAL NURSES CELEBRATE NURSES WEEK BY GIVING BACK

It's a fact that nurses are generous with their care, compassion, and charitable efforts in our community. This year, in celebration of National Nurses week, Lutheran Hospital Nurses took the opportunity to support others through the SocksPLUS Program. The nurses were inspired to help our homeless neighbors and planned a Sock Swap with a goal of collecting 1,000 pairs of socks.

As usual, the nurses responded in a big way and a

huge volume of socks were collected. The Sock Swap was a great success, and we are very grateful to the Lutheran Hospital nurses who came to the aid of our neighbors. The sock donations will be distributed to the Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless. Community West Foundation is proud of the efforts and accomplishments of the Lutheran Hospital Nurses, our community champions. Thank you!



*Thank you Lutheran Hospital nurses for your acts of kindness! Several members of the nursing staff include, Katrina Hartig, Barb Gill, Pat Hess, Sherri Stephens, Mary Sokolowski, Janet Schuster and Sandy Mapel.*



## GIVE THE GIFT OF HOPE THROUGH SOCKSPLUS

What an amazing response we have had to the SocksPLUS Program. Many factors have contributed to the success of this program thanks to the generosity of donors who range from individuals, schools, businesses, churches and others who want to help in their local community. This ongoing success shows that people are willing to invest and help the least of our brothers and sisters in need. What a remarkable affirmation of the human spirit!

Our summer heat and humidity can be just as deadly as freezing temperatures for people who can't find shelter. Please consider a monetary gift to SocksPLUS to help our homeless men, women, and children this summer. Financial support is the most direct way to help.

20545 Center Ridge Road, Suite 448  
Cleveland, Ohio 44116

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

[www.communitywestfoundation.org](http://www.communitywestfoundation.org)

**216-476-7060**

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