

“The ache for home lives in all of us...”

- Maya Angelou



2016 Annual Report



*The Mission of the
Community West
Foundation
is to advance the
health and well being
of our community.*

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Message from the President and CEO



DAVID T. DOMBROWIAK
President and CEO

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

"The ache for home lives in all of us," said poet Maya Angelou. The word "home" gathers a wide range of feelings and emotions: the image of a house where you are safe, a country where you were born, a city that you love. The quote captures the universal importance of having a place to call home. Our city's homeless men, women, children, and veterans have been forced onto the streets by a variety of circumstances. Some are homeless because of inner anguish, while others are homeless because they have been driven from their home or country. The majority are homeless because of circumstances beyond their control.

In our work we experience the plight of homeless men, women, and children, who have no sense of belonging, or a place to feel safe, cared for, protected and loved. Our work reflects the compassion we have for the most vulnerable, and we feel His Divine presence within our homeless, hungry, disabled and refugee neighbors.

My fondest memories of the past year are of so many people using their helping hands and hearts to assist our homeless neighbors through our Socks*PLUS* program. It's a privilege to partner with such wonderful friends that collaborated, contributed and collected to help those without a home in emergency circumstances. I am particularly proud of their great efforts to treat those in need with the respect and the dignity they deserve.

We celebrated record attendance at our annual meeting and were joined by many of our partner agencies, donors and friends. Our three guest speakers, Darren Hamm, former Executive Director at Refugee Response, Tom Mrosko, Director, Catholic Charities Office of Migration and Refugee Services, and Brian Upton, Executive Director of Building Hope in the City, are all very committed to making Cleveland a place of welcome for our refugees. Our community is blessed by the work of these wonderful partners who help to lift the spirits and the lay the foundation for a new life for our refugees who have been uprooted by conflict and conquest, traveling far from their homes and familiar things.

Let us never forget that home is life. Serving the 'least of these' gives me hope and encouragement as I see transformation in the lives of those we serve and support. Our work allows us to gain a new perspective on the struggle of others, and at the same time our efforts have brought new hope to people in need. It is hope that propels us into our community to make a difference and to open our eyes and our hearts to those too often forgotten. Poet Maya Angelou's words speak to our common humanity as we work with our refugee and homeless neighbors to provide the shelter of safe havens and rest.

In sincere appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David T. Dombrowiak". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David T. Dombrowiak

Message from the Chair of the Board



WILLIAM R. OATEY
Chair of the Board

Dear Friends of Community West Foundation,

As I reflect on my first year as Chair of the Board at Community West Foundation, it has been my honor to serve this organization that defines "Illuminating Hope" every day.

We carefully chose this year's annual report theme from the words of Maya Angelou, "**The ache for home lives in all of us,**" which reflects the visible role the Foundation has taken to support our neighbors without a place to call home. This theme has defined our past year, and providing a safe and secure home for our homeless and refugees neighbors is of great importance to us.

The Board and staff are guided by common values: faith, a love for our community, and a deep commitment to our neighbors in need. It is remarkable to reflect upon the grants made in 2016, and realize the tremendous impact they have had on our community. Our work provides us an excellent opportunity to communicate the message of love and compassion, and last year \$2,179,500 in grants provided shelter, food, clothing and medical care to those who have none or little. In addition, our donor advised fund holders shared \$1,038,000 in support to a vast array of charities.

We are very honored to be the charitable home to our donors, who contributed \$3,461,499 to Community West Foundation last year. Our Legacy Society Members have played a major role in the future of our community and we celebrated their generous philanthropy at our Legacy Society Dinner, where Aggie Hoskin received the 2016 Art of Caring Award for her inspiring work to help needy children in our community through the Jennifer Fund.

The Community West Foundation is leasing its office space from Youth Challenge, which serves the disabled youth of our community with a great variety of adapted sports and recreational activities. In addition to providing grant funding for those wonderful programs at Youth Challenge, we are now making an additional contribution by leasing our office space from them, a true partnership in the wise use of resources.

The commitment and dedication of our Board, our President, and his hard working staff, have long been among our many strengths. We are very proud that our President and CEO, David T. Dombrowiak, received the Man of the Year Award from the Beck Center for the Arts for his tremendous support of the Creative Arts Therapies Program, which brings the arts into the lives of individuals with physical, mental and developmental disabilities. David is a role model and friend to so many, and is admired for his compassion and concern for others and has had a profound influence on the community.

At Community West Foundation, we meet the most caring and generous people, and their spirit of generosity enriches everyone. Neighbors are taking care of one another through our Socks*PLUS* program, an initiative for the needs of our homeless brothers and sisters. May we all continue to be ambassadors of His Love, as we help to care for the homeless, the refugee, the poor, the sick, the disabled, and the stranger.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William R. Oatey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

William R. Oatey

In our new home and we're loving it!

We hosted an open house and Blessing of the Building in our new home at 800 Sharon Drive in Westlake and Board members, staff, donors and friends joined us for this celebratory and symbolic day. We encourage anyone who has not yet seen our new office to stop by - our home will always be open to our friends and neighbors.



Rev. David Buegler offered a special office blessing and prayer that all who enter the doors of this foundation will seek to illuminate Hope throughout our community.

Leading by example



Michael W. Fruchey

We are very grateful to welcome new Board Members Michael Fruchey and Victor Rauser and know that their generous time and array of talents will enhance our philanthropic efforts. They are everything you would want in new Board Members, knowledgeable, supportive and working to move the Foundation forward.



Victor P. Rauser

Community West Foundation 2016 Board of Directors

Mark E. Bacon
William W. Baker
Pamela E. Bobst
Rev. David Buegler
Fred M. DeGrandis
David T. Dombrowiak
Vicki B. Foster

Michael W. Fruchey
Christopher B.H. Harrington
David J. Hessler
Henry T. Jacques
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George D. Miller

Jeffrey C. Moritz
Patrick J. Mulloy
Rev. William Murphy
William R. Oatey
Joyesh Raj, M.D.
Victor P. Rauser
William J. Reidy

Steven M. Rini
Michael G. Romanello
Martin J. Uhle
Robert Warren, Jr.

Life Trustees

We are pleased to acknowledge our Life Trustees, who are superb ambassadors to the Foundation. Community West Foundation has benefitted from their years of service and we admire their commitment to the Foundation. We could not ask for better examples for the rest of us to follow.

Community West Foundation 2016 Life Trustees

Charles E. Allen
Barbara A. Amsdell
John C. Dannemiller
Walter A. Hagen
John W. Kemper, Sr.

James Magisano, M.D.
David Schultz, M.D.
Robert J. Yaroma
Harry A. Zilli, Jr.

Retiring Board Members James Magisano, M.D. and Robert J. Yaroma have devoted countless hours and valuable perspective in support of our mission. Dr. Magisano and Mr. Yaroma have been incredible assets to the Board, and we take great comfort in knowing that their great service continues as Life Trustees because we never want to let them go from the Foundation family.



James Magisano, M.D.



Robert J. Yaroma

Honoring Outstanding Philanthropy

We are grateful to the members of our Legacy Society who have expressed their commitment to Community West Foundation through a special form of financial support. These donors have chosen to include a planned gift or fund to build an even stronger community for the future.

As an expression of our appreciation, an annual dinner reception is held each year to celebrate the spirit of benevolence of our Legacy Society Members. During this evening, the Foundation also presents the prestigious Art of Caring Award honoring exceptional

generosity.

The Legacy Society has grown to include 125 members who demonstrate leadership, long term vision, and concern for future generations. We are inspired by these hometown legacy gifts that will leave a lasting impression on this place we call home.

Thank you to our Legacy Society Members who have supported the philanthropic work of the Community West Foundation in a strong and most enduring way. For a list of our Legacy Society Family, visit www.communitywestfoundation.org/legacy-society.



William Oatey and David Dombrowiak congratulate Aggie Hoskin, who exemplifies the true meaning of our motto, Illuminating Hope!

“What can you do to promote world peace? Go home and love your family.”

— Mother Teresa

A Charitable Legacy to Children Throughout our City



Aggie Hoskin was joined by family members Erin and Chris Hoskin, Doug Grose, and Liz and Tim Coughlin as she was honored with the Art of Caring Award.

Congratulations to our 2016 Art of Caring Award recipient, Aggie Hoskin, who has built quite a legacy for our community! Through the Jennifer Fund, a Donor Advised Fund at the Community West Foundation, Aggie Hoskin has created a way to provide lasting support to the causes she cares about the most – helping children!

For Aggie and her late husband, Tom, their passion for helping children stems from a personal experience when they lost their daughter, Jennifer Grose, to breast cancer in 2007. It was Jennifer’s love of children that was the motivation for establishing the Jennifer Fund at the Foundation. Through this fund, the family can celebrate Jennifer’s generous spirit and lifelong commitment to children.

The Jennifer Fund has given in excess of \$150,000 to serve children in need, a lasting tribute to Jennifer and a beautiful and compelling reminder of the Hoskins’ message of love, resiliency, and hope for children!

Whether providing support or opportunities for those less fortunate, particularly our youth, Aggie eagerly puts her talents and skills to good work, leaving a meaningful charitable legacy throughout our city. We recognize Aggie for her meaningful commitment to philanthropy and the strength she demonstrates in honoring the life of her daughter. She inspires us all as she spreads her light and love with others.

You can hear more about Aggie’s life of giving and service in our video tribute at <https://youtu.be/FTtmdfO-Xbo>

David Dombrowiak Named Man of the Year



Cindy Einhouse, Executive Director, Beck Center congratulates David Dombrowiak as a true champion of our community. David's generous spirit inspires all of us to do more for others.

The Beck Center for the Arts honored David T. Dombrowiak, President and CEO of Community West Foundation, with their 2016 Spotlight Honoree and Man of the Year Award. David is highly regarded for his commitment to serving those in need which has led him to become a tremendous advocate and supporter of the Creative Arts Therapies Program, bringing

the arts into the lives of individuals with physical, mental and developmental disabilities.

David is most admired for his tender heart for the suffering, and his compassion and concern for others has had a profound impact on the community. Congratulations David, we are all very proud of you and your great achievements!



It was a spectacular night at the Refugee Response gathering on the Farm to celebrate this wonderful organization. David T. Dombrowiak, Community West Foundation President and CEO, gave a powerful and inspiring speech, affirming that America is and will remain a welcoming country.

He quoted the inspiring words of Emma Lazarus, affixed to a plaque on the Statue of Liberty, which brought many to tears. "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me."

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Annual Meeting – From Refugee to Neighbor



Brian Upton, Executive Director of Building Hope in the City, Tom Mrosko, Director, Catholic Charities Office of Migration and Refugee Services, and Darren Hamm, former Executive Director at Refugee Response, are all very committed to making Cleveland a place of welcome for our refugees.

Community West Foundation's Annual Meeting was a well-attended gathering of nearly 300 people eager to hear about the Refugee to Neighbor theme receiving growing attention and public support.

William Oatey welcomed guests and recognized the Foundation's many highlights over the past year. He said, "In celebrating our work, we are really celebrating all of you. As donors, nonprofit partners, community leaders and

volunteers, you are helping to make significant and meaningful contributions to impact our community."

Our guest speakers included Brian Upton, Executive Director of Building Hope in the City; Tom Mrosko, Director, Catholic Charities Office of Migration and Refugee Services; and Darren Hamm, former Executive Director at Refugee Response; all well known for their commitment to ensure that our refugees are treated with the dignity and respect they deserve.

David Dombrowiak spoke about the importance of inclusivity, and said, "It is more important than ever to welcome refugees into our hearts and communities, not only because it is the right thing to do, but because it is the

loving, caring and compassionate thing to do." In that spirit, Mr. Dombrowiak thanked the guest speakers for their commitment to the refugee ministry and quoted poet Khalil Gibran, saying your 'work is love made visible.' "It is obvious you take great joy in welcoming our refugees in hospitality, justice, mercy and service. The work of your organizations in welcoming refugees and helping them begin a new life is a very tangible way of welcoming the stranger."

Two of the five films developed by the Refugee Services Collaborative were shown at the meeting, furthering our understanding of the refugee issues. Community West Foundation was a major sponsor of the film project.

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A New Beginning

After leaving their home countries and the only life they've known, the challenges are just beginning for refugees. Fortunately, a network of refugee support services in Cleveland is there to help them learn our language, find jobs, enroll their children in schools and begin the long journey to citizenship. Meet some of Cleveland's refugees and learn about what brought them here and how the community is helping them start a new life.



Cousins Thomas Kate and Lar Doh have embraced a new country and are very grateful for the way Refugee Response has invested in their lives. They are pictured with Patrick Kearns, Executive Director, Refugee Response, who is very proud they have a place to call home achieved through their hard work and determination.

Welcoming Our Newest Neighbors

“Community West Foundation’s commitment to the refugee community is undeniable, especially marked by their advocacy and generous actions of grant funding,” said Patrick Kearns, Executive Director at Refugee Response. “We continue to be inspired and encouraged by their outpouring of support.”

The hardest part of being a refugee is trying to regain the sense of home and hope. It’s hard to imagine leaving behind family, friends, neighbors and the home you love. Fortunately, Cleveland has been a wonderful home and has shown much support to our newest neighbors. The Refugee Response is just one part

of that equation, teaming up with other agencies in the Refugee Services Collaborative to provide job skills training, tutoring and other assistance.

Through our work at Community West Foundation we have the opportunity to understand more about the experiences of refugees and what they must endure before finding safety and security. We also recognize the many contributions refugees bring to our community.

Thomas Kate is a great example of what can be achieved. Thomas came to Cleveland as a refugee from Burma, driven from his home by political persecution. He arrived with limited knowledge

of English, worked hard and navigated our culture and community. One of Thomas’ greatest accomplishments has been saving enough money to buy a home for his family.

Thomas’ cousin, Lar Doh, is also here after living in a camp in Northern Thailand and like most refugees, his thoughts never stray far from the family he left behind. Often refugee families are separated when they leave their home, and that is what happened to Lar Doh. His mother has gone through several upheavals, first to a camp in Thailand and then on to Australia. Lar Doh is in the process of purchasing a home and is now preparing for the ar-

rival of his mom as she relocates to Cleveland - they will finally be reunited at last!

“Our refugee residents are having great success because of the good, compassionate hearts of local people and organizations such as Community West that care about refugee resettlement needs,” said Patrick Kearns. “They respond to our refugee crisis by caring for the least of our brothers and sisters. Through their work and actions, they are indeed following the call to love your neighbor as yourself.”

A Place of Hope



Eileen Wilson, Director of Refugee and Immigrant Ministries, warmly welcomes our newest neighbors.

It was a proud moment for Elba Abdulahi who earned her U.S. Citizenship thanks to the Hope Center where she attended citizenship classes.

There was a party to celebrate this success and people shared their wonderful ethnic foods, a gesture of home. Elba also celebrated the birth of her baby girl born two weeks before she took her citizenship test, definitely a lot of highlights for this family!

People that come to The Hope Center are accustomed to seeing Eileen Wilson, Director of Refugee and Immigrant Ministries, with a warm smile of friendship on her face. She is described as “The Glue” that really holds everything together at The Hope Center, and it’s easy to see why.

Unity fills the air at The Hope Center, an inviting and welcoming place to help refugees transition to American life. The refugees that come to The Center are eager to learn English, gain citizenship, socialize and share meals together and support each other in their new home.

“The Hope Center feels like an extended family with people from around the globe who have migrated from their home countries and they have incredible passion and enthusiasm with which they

tackle new challenges,” said Eileen Wilson. “The Center is overflowing with people from different cultures, ethnicities and backgrounds. At any time, we can have a dozen or more languages spoken in the building at a time. We have families from many countries in the Middle East, Africa, Southeast Asia and Europe. Cleveland sure has a lot to celebrate when it comes to culture.”

Brian Upton, Executive Director, Building Hope in the City, explained that, “The Hope Center opened its doors in 2015 and we were serving 20-25 refugees a day. People know that we’re here and they show up for class, or an appointment about their citizenship, and as of the beginning of 2017, we are seeing 150 people a day, which is a significant increase. We are surrounded by fantastic people who take time out of their hectic schedules to

tutor and volunteer here. This is a real learning community, building knowledge for better lives.”

“Site visits really help to bring our work to life,” added Brian Upton. “It’s impressive that Community West Foundation’s Board is always interested in visiting our site and hearing about our programs. I don’t know of any other Foundation that does that. They are hands on and they want to be hands on. It’s a very special and unique Board and it can’t be overstated how important Community West Foundation has been to our organization and the leadership they continually show to our community. It’s so abundantly obvious to me that Community West Foundation’s treasure and heart is to bless our city and its most vulnerable populations.”

Bill Oatey, Chair of the Community West Foundation Board, was praised for being a visionary employer. Oatey Company, a Cleveland based manufacturer that provides quality products for the plumbing industry, is devoted to promoting the abilities of refugees. Jobs made a big difference in the lives of refugees who are working hard for their futures and the futures of their families.

Welcoming the Stranger



Rubi Deng with Tessa Laubacher, a Sisters of Humility of Mercy volunteer who shares her time and offers tremendous support to help refugee families feel at home.

Catholic Charities Office of Migration and Refugee Services has a long history of answering the call to welcome the stranger. They are one of the frontline organizations in greater Cleveland that provide a safe and hopeful refuge for our new neighbors.

"Our efforts give individuals resources they really need to improve their lives," said Tom Mrosko, Director, Catholic Charities Office of Migration and Refugee Services. "It's the first place they come and our priority is to help them learn English, find a place to live, get a job, help their children connect with day care or schools, navigate social services, and so much more.

"In addition to the hard working staff, we really depend on our devoted volunteers who make important contributions to meet-

ing needs," said Mrosko. "Tessa Laubacher is one of our valued volunteers who help refugees adapt to their new surroundings. Tessa serves in the Sisters of Humility of Mercy Volunteer Program and provides outreach and advocacy for new refugees, including Rubi Deng."

Rubi Deng is a soft spoken Sudanese refugee making a new life here with her young son. Rubi fled a violent marriage before making her way to Cleveland. "I am very happy here and this is a place where I feel very welcomed. This is my new homeland," said Rubi.

The day we met with Rubi, she shared good news that she will be starting work soon on the Refugee Farm. It was also her son's first day settling into day care. We were most impressed that Rubi loves that people work hard

here and she wants to be one of those people that works hard. She is determined to give back and is well on her way to doing just that. Rubi is, "very grateful for the caring people from Catholic Charities who have accepted me like family. It's good to be in a new home where I feel welcomed and accepted."

There is an incredible display of compassion and service by Catholic Charities Office of Migration Services to the refugee community as they answer the biblical call to welcome the stranger among us.

*"If Light Is In
Your Heart You
Will Find Your
Way Home."*

— Jalaluddin Rumi

Sheltering the Homeless

For many people in our community, homelessness is very real, and the largest growing segment is families with children who do not have a place to call home.

This is the time to cultivate a heart for the needs of the poor and provide them with what is necessary to see them through tough times. The poor will always be with us, they are a gift from God to help us understand our role in caring for the least of our brothers and sisters.

We see the dedicated efforts of our community partners working to ensure our vulnerable neighbors receive special care and kindness. We feature some of the local organizations our homeless neighbors turn to in times of need for shelter, services and solutions. Their work has touched a chord in our hearts because everyone deserves a place they can call home.



Joan Maser, Executive Director, Family Promise, Ashley Arthur and Lisa Taylor, Case Manager, Family Promise. The love and support Ashley received from Family Promise has carried her through adversity.

“Not having a home for your child is the worst thing in the world,” said Ashley Arthur. “And now, thanks to Family Promise, my five-year old daughter and I have somewhere to call home.”

Ashley and her daughter stayed with Family Promise of Greater Cleveland, a shelter for homeless families, for two months, before transitioning to her own place, an experience that changed her life. The agency provides a safe, temporary

place for families to stay while they work with case managers to find permanent housing, employment and other important services to be independent and successful.

“The program has made me a different person. I didn’t have any help or support. I was on my own. The people at Family Promise were my family. They gave us a stable place and helped with everything. They teach you to be self-sufficient. They really open up their hearts and

want you to succeed. They gave me hope,” she added. “It’s something I will never forget, that there are people out there who will help you.”

Ashley worked with her Family Promise case managers and employment specialist, who helped her with everything. Lisa Taylor, her case manager in the community continues to help her today. Ashley notes, “You could tell that she really cared. The program’s structure really helped, too. They have rules that you have to abide by. They teach you how to be a good mother, how to keep a house, how to get a job, how to get a car,” said Ashley. “We now have a home of our own. We love it and we appreciate it more. Family Promise is definitely a big part of my success. At Family Promise you’re not alone, someone is willing to help you. They provided a lot of encouragement and support.”

Joan Maser, Executive Director of Family Promise said, “Ashley

is such a wonderful example of someone working hard. When you transition from shelter to the community, it all becomes your responsibility, and, with Lisa’s help, Ashley has been able to stay on track. But, it takes a lot of effort on Ashley’s part. We are all very proud of her progress. And, I’m also very proud of our staff because of their hands-on approach that really works with the families we serve. Sometimes you just need someone to sit down with you and start from square-one in a non-judgmental way. Motivated people like Ashley are inspiring to watch.” She went on to say, “All of us at Family Promise are so grateful for the wonderful support from the Community West Foundation. As a small non-profit, we would not be able to do the work we do, and help young people like Ashley find their way, without the commitment to those most in need that is the hallmark of Community West.”

Feeling at home



Tim Gleason, Executive Director, Community Service Alliance, James Johnson, Program Director, Community Service Alliance and Michael Gaines. The support and understanding Michael received at Community Service Alliance changed his life.

“We love all the guys here,” said James Johnson, Program Director at Community Service Alliance, “but there is nothing we love more than a success story. Michael Gaines is that success story.”

Michael had a good career as an Army medic stationed in Hawaii, but a number of personal problems and a battle with alcohol caused Michael's life to spiral out of control until he found himself at 2100 Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry's Men's Shelter.

“Community Service Alliance gave me my life back at a pace that allowed me to take the time I needed to work on many other issues in addition to substance abuse – including child support, financial issues, and emotional issues, too.

I was offered a place at Fulton House for Veterans where I lived for close to a year. It was comfortable and felt like home. Then I moved to Sandy's House and I knew it was

going to be the right place for me while I continued with my recovery.”

“The whole program is designed to help men transition out of homelessness that have baggage, and work with them individually and allow them, at their pace, to rebuild and realize their potential,” said James Johnson. “We would have many conversations, and our plan and God's plan is entirely different. To me, watching an individual with the desire to change and the willingness to do what it takes to achieve it, is courageous. You just get out of the way and watch the miracle happen.”

Michael said he received lots of encouragement and felt that the staff had a genuine interest in his well being and cared about him. “I've seen first-hand the difference the right support can make. This is the best place that I know in the city of Cleveland to give a guy a chance, to work at a gradual pace to get himself back together. While living here, I met some amazing people, and we were

all on different journeys with different experiences but together, we became our own sort of family and it became our home. I am an only child, so I look at these guys like older brothers. We always looked out for one another. This was family.”

Tim Gleason, Executive Director at Community Service Alliance said, “We provide housing. And, we have three houses. But when we look at it from the men's prospective, from the guys who live here, it's not a house, it's a home. When I think of home, I think of warmth, comfort, nurturing, safety and all those things that define a real home. The one word that Michael used was family when he spoke of his experience here. At all three of our houses, we have families that are living in a home. They care for one another, they support one another. Living at Procop House you have 21 other brothers, at Fulton House you have 12 other brothers, and at Sandy's House you have five other brothers. And, as Michael said,

they care for one another, they look out for one another, they help one another. At the end of the day, from my perspective, that's all that matters. That's what makes what we do so valuable.”

“Community West Foundation has been part of our success since our inception. We have benefited from your generosity and we couldn't do what we do without you. We couldn't be the home for guys like Michael without that support. So it's unbelievably generous and we are so grateful,” added Tim Gleason.

Michael now lives in his own place, and he says, “It's all thanks to the staff at Community Service Alliance for the belief that they put into people, like me, to rebuild our lives.” Michael now has a roof over his head and a place he can call home.



It was a joyful celebration for Courage to Change graduates Michael Schneider, Ebony Croom, Carl Cook (Program Director) and Mary Travers.

Changed Lives

The Metanoia Project has been helping shelter-resistant homeless men and women since it was established in 2008 using the principles of Dorothy Day's radical hospitality. Each year from November through April, the first floor of St. Malachi School is transformed into a hospitality center where men and women have the opportunity to eat, sleep safely in a warm space, and take advantage of the many services that The Metanoia Project offers its guests to help them put their lives back together.

One of the most important services offered is the opportunity to participate in The Courage to Change Program, facilitated by Metanoia Co-Founder and Program

Director, Carl Cook, who said, "We meet people exactly where they are at, and when they are ready, we walk with them to help them improve the quality of their lives as they focus on core issues and often, the development of new values." Carl Cook has a real passion for Metanoia and his heart lies in serving and giving back. He sees the changes in people take root every day as they regain their self-reliance. Carl has worked with hundreds of men and women who have participated in this program, many of whom now have been reunited with their families, have their own homes, and for many, steady employment.

Recent program graduates shared their thoughts on how

Metanoia has helped them. Mary and Ebony described themselves as loners, and both suffered from illness. Life improved for these single moms who were inspired by their children to help them through the hard work the program calls for. "There definitely is a spiritual foundation that runs throughout the program – and it helps you find yourself again." Ebony added, "The people in the program are like a family, and together we help each other with the pain we have in our lives, and help each other as we find a new faith, and hope." Graduate Michael Schneider added, "Having that strong base helps us to learn to deal with practical issues like finding permanent housing and a job. It saved my life."

"Metanoia" literally means a reversal in thinking, and The Metanoia Project does look differently at their guests as they attempt to develop personal relationships with them, and also helps their guests to look differently at themselves, too.

Megan Crow, Executive Director, states, "We are very proud of the work that we do here by helping people in an atmosphere of respect and acceptance. We all wish to thank Community West Foundation for their continued support and belief in the work that we do. Thanks to this wonderful partnership we are changing lives for a brighter future."

SocksPLUS Support

This past year has brought an amazing burst of energy and action for our SocksPLUS Program, and the enthusiasm generated continues to grow and spread throughout the community.

In partnership with Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless, the stars aligned for us on this project to collect socks, plus many of the other necessities that our homeless neighbors need most. The community has shown its support through unbelievable generosity and we are humbled by the contributions of socks, hats, gloves, scarves, shoes, boots, blankets, cash donations, ideas and much more. SocksPLUS is all about neighbors helping neighbors and turning compassion into action. The momentum for this project continues to grow thanks to our many neighbors, community partners, businesses, schools, faith based organizations and civic groups - a remarkable reaffirmation of the human spirit. Thank you all for a job well done!



Special Events

Community West Foundation holds many special events and benefits that offer opportunities to support programs and services at Fairview and Lutheran Hospitals.

From golf outings to galas, thousands participated in our special events over the past year and we are blessed with a community that cares and values the work we do at the Foundation. Our special events are always a great success because so many of you are there! We are very grateful for your participation and ongoing support, a sign that our efforts to care for the health and well being of our community are successful.



Oh, what a night for Jessica Sagert, the \$100,000 Straight from the Heart grand prize winner! Over 500 guests attended to raise \$182,000 in support of cardiovascular services.



It was a successful day for Triumph Tournament winners Beth Petit, Anthony Embrogno, Tammy Krumrei and Doug Krumrei. This day of team spirit and generosity raised \$12,500 to benefit the Breast Health Center at Fairview Hospital. RPM International, Inc. was the title sponsor and 21 teams played.



The mother-daughter duo, Katie Reidy and Debbie Norton, teamed up to co-chair the annual Gift of Life celebration. Several hundred guests attended the event that raised \$17,000 to provide sleep sacks for the 5,000 infants born at Fairview Hospital each year.



Dr. Neil Smith, President, Fairview Hospital and Mike Stevens, President, Lake Erie Harley-Davidson at the Christmas in July themed celebration. Special thanks to Lake Erie Harley-Davidson and the more than 500 motorcyclists that make this event a success every year.



This year's Drive for Life winners Fred DeGrandis, Roy Beres, Jerry Ribelli and Paul Veneri captured the glory. Over \$27,000 was raised to support the Caring Continues Fund that provides support to cancer patients receiving treatment at the Cancer Center at Fairview Hospital.

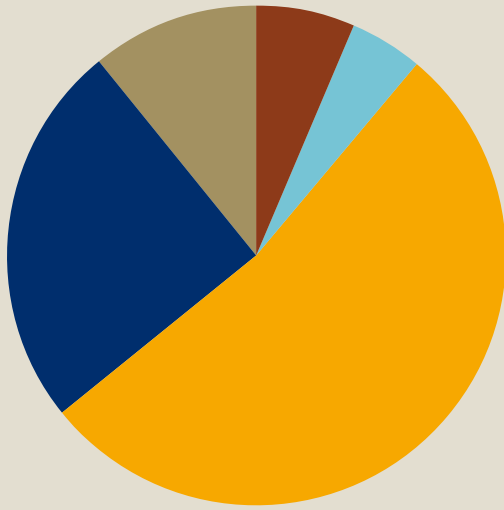


Social workers and event coordinators Traci Herbruck, Peggy Filippi, Nicole Herbst, Debbie Adams and Gwen Paul enjoyed the Caring Continues annual Night at the Races event. This Kentucky Derby themed benefit raised \$12,000 to help people facing hardships while undergoing treatment for cancer at the Fairview Moll Cancer Center.



Dr. Kim Stearns and Anne Paulus and Jeannine Malone and her husband, Dr. Donald Malone, Jr., President of Lutheran Hospital, were among the 200 guests who enjoyed a great evening of dinner, dancing and live and silent auction items at Lutheran Hospital's annual signature event that raised \$42,000.

Financial Highlights



- Annual Giving
- Education (Conferences, Seminars)
- Major Gifts/Planned Giving
- Special Events
- Trusts & Foundations

Annual Giving	\$229,563	6.63%
Education (Conferences, Seminars)	\$157,553	4.55%
Major Gifts/Planned Giving	\$1,843,721	53.26%
Special Events	\$856,971	24.76%
Trusts & Foundations	\$373,691	10.80%
	\$3,461,499	100.00%

Thank you!

From our Family to Yours

We praise the generosity of our extraordinary donors who positively and profoundly create a better and brighter future for our community. You set an example for others to follow and inspire us at Community West to do more and to do better with the community resources you have so generously entrusted in our care.

Maya Angelou's words, "The ache for home lives in all of us," touched upon the focus of our work over the past year. This quote reflects the ache that lives in all of us, especially our homeless neighbors and those on the refugee journey searching for love and safety of home.

We are so fortunate to live in a community where wonderful individuals and organizations embrace the idea of philanthropy. Thank you to everyone for helping to build a better future for this special place we call home!

It is with gratitude we recognize and list our 2016 donors on our website at www.communitywestfoundation.org/foundation-donors. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. If you find an error, please accept our sincere apologies and contact us so we may correct our records. Thank you.



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