IS it good to do a lot of important things, or is it good to do a few less important things that make more impact? I hope that you agree with me that the latter is the better option for our community foundation. To that end, we continue to focus on meeting short term critical goals for our non-profit community, while we look to the future with focused plans to strengthen the impact of philanthropy.

As I am sure you have heard by now, we together are raising the bar for philanthropy through our Foundation’s receipt of the very prestigious National Standards seal. That tells us that we are not only doing important things, but we are doing them right. We are continuing to grow our charitable base as we plan the 40 Under 40 event, with the end result of that being the expansion of our Young Philanthropist initiative. We have launched a new educational component for our agency partners with the goal of focusing many agencies on many needs, facilitating the expansion of philanthropy’s professional contacts and creating impact as a group.

We surely could not have accomplished any of these things without your contributions. We are your community foundation, and we sincerely appreciate your support.

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40 Under 40

Join us on Thursday, November 19, 2009 at the DeYor Performing Arts Center and Ford Family Recital Hall in downtown Youngstown for this year’s 40 Under 40 Awards. This exciting event begins at 6:00 pm with heavy hors d’oeuvres and cash bar; the awards begin at 7:30 pm. Tickets are $45 each and are available through the DeYor box office (330-744-0264). All proceeds from this event benefit the Young Philanthropist Fund, a component fund of the Community Foundation. The goal of the YPF is to involve the future leaders of our community in philanthropic endeavors through education, mentoring, and decision making. 40 Under 40 is a community effort to honor men and women age 40 and under who are making an impact in their chosen professions and have demonstrated a commitment to community involvement.

Each honoree is recognized at the awards ceremony, and five of the 40 will be distinguished for special accolades as the MVP Award winners. Both the 40 honorees and top 5 are selected by a cross section of community leaders chosen by the Community Foundation. Selection is based upon professional and service categories. For information on sponsorships please go to mvp2030.org.
The Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley recently received notification that we have met the nation’s highest philanthropic standards for operational quality, integrity and accountability. The notice comes from the Council on Foundations, a national professional association based in Washington, D.C. The Foundation, serving Mahoning and Trumbull Counties, is the only foundation in our area holding this prestigious designation.

“This is similar to the Good Housekeeping Seal for community foundations,” said Steve Gunderson, Council on Foundations president and chief executive officer. “It says that the Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley has demonstrated a commitment to operational quality, integrity and accountability.”

The National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations Program requires community foundations to document their policies for donor services, investments, grantmaking and administration. With over 200 community foundations already confirmed in compliance nationwide, the program is designed to provide quality assurance to donors, as well as to their legal and financial advisors. “This is critically important to our donors,” said Patricia Brozik, Foundation president. “When people make a charitable bequest, establish a fund or set up an annuity, they are putting their trust in us. They are counting on us to manage the investment wisely, honor their charitable wishes and, in some cases, provide lifetime income to a loved one. The National Standards confirmation says our house is in order.”

The Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley announced the appointment of Kevin Y.T. Chiu and Larry Richards to the Investment Committee at their Annual Meeting held in December. Mr. Kevin Y.T. Chiu, is Vice President for Elsass Financial Group, Inc. and Mr. Larry Richards, is an Attorney at Law with Lawrence H. Richards Co., LPA.

The Community Foundation has also added Mrs. Julie L. Scarsella as Director of Communications and Development. Julie has been working in non-profit development for the past 10 years, and holds a Master’s degree in Public Administration from Cleveland State University.

The Foundation would also like to introduce the two newest additions to the CFMV family. Susan and Sam Carsonie welcomed their son Paul Samuel in February of this year, while Julie and Michael Scarsella welcomed their son Coben Michael in April.
CFMV, Second Harvest, and WYSU Community Partnership

The Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley, Second Harvest Food Bank of the Mahoning Valley, and WYSU 88.5 FM are excited to announce a new Community Partnership.

A grant from the Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley will provide two dollars to the Second Harvest Food Bank, for every pledge of support WYSU-FM receives during its upcoming fall fund drive.

This two dollar per pledge donation means that Second Harvest Food Bank will distribute thirty dollars ($30) worth of food for every pledge of support made to WYSU-FM this fall. This partnership will provide food to those in need in Columbiana, Mahoning and Trumbull counties.

WYSU-FM’s 40th Anniversary Fall Fund Drive will take place later this fall, from October 16th through October 23rd.

The Community Foundation’s Agency Partners

Recently the Community Foundation engaged our Agency Partners, organizations who have endowments within the Foundation, in conversations about what the Foundation could do to assist them with continued growth. Many wonderful ideas were discussed at this first session, and we look forward to future meetings. One of the main issues discussed regarding endowments was educating the public on their importance. Endowment funds are a vital piece to any organizations long term funding plans. These funds provide a perpetual stream of income for the agencies for years to come.

While agencies know how beneficial these funds are, many donors report that it is incredibly fulfilling to give to something that will benefit future generations. Endowments are best described as a philanthropic tool that is forward-looking and sustainable. It is sustainable because it renews itself through smart investing and preservation of the principle. Setting up an endowment at the Foundation lessens the workload for our agencies since our staff manages all administrative activities. This allows our Agency Partners to focus on what really matters—their mission.

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National Philanthropy Day

National Philanthropy Day® (NPD) is a special day set aside on the fifteenth of November. The purpose of this day is to recognize the great contributions of philanthropy—and those people active in the philanthropic community—to the enrichment of our world. This year the Community Foundation is proud to have our friend and Board Member, Jeff Rossi, who is being honored as the 2009 Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser.

NPD provides an opportunity to reflect on the meaning of giving and all that it has made possible. First held in 1986, NPD celebrates the endless daily contributions individuals and organizations across the world make to countless causes and missions. Through NPD, participants are able to show appreciation for all that has been accomplished in the name of giving, as well as show that there is still more to do. This day is a reminder that the spirit of giving is alive and well. (*Portions taken from AFP: http://www.afpnet.org/Audiences/ChapterNewsDetail.frm?ItemNumber=2468)
Your Generous Contributions Help Us Grow

“The heart that gives...gathers”
-English Proverb

Donations are accepted by the Foundation at any time, in any amount. You may want to make a contribution in honor or in memory of someone special, or to celebrate an important occasion. Contributions can be made to existing funds (list is on our website) or for unrestricted support. Kindly return your check (payable to the Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley) and the form below to us. Contributions may also be made at our website www.cfmv.org. All contributions are tax deductible.

Please accept my contribution in the amount of: $_____________________

In honor, in memory, for occasion:
- For specific CFMV Fund:_____________________
- For Unrestricted Support:_____________________

Donor Name and Address:_____________________

Please send contribution acknowledgement to:_____________________

☐ I would like information on establishing a fund.

Please return this form to:
Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley
11 Central Square, Suite 1600
Youngstown, OH 44503-1512