



County Community Funds— A Plan for Unknown Unknowns

Whether it's a rainy day anticipated, or a sunny opportunity dawning, County Community Funds are built to tackle the unknowns. They provide perpetual grantmaking for critical needs. Our County Community Funds have features that make them popular, flexible, and robust.

First, they are not created by, named for, or limited to one donor. They pool donations of any amount from individual donors, large or small, as well as from organizations, and businesses interested in supporting your county. There is no high minimum investment required. Everyone can participate, making both the donor base and the pool of grant recipients potentially vast and diverse. The Community Fund is an endowment for the entire county.

Second, Community Funds are flexible for their stated purpose. One year they might be used to repair a flood damaged nonprofit. Another time they might flow to fill food pantry shortfalls or repair an animal shelter. The grants are always targeted to strengthen

the local community.

Third, Community Funds, like all funds, are administered, managed, and invested by Community Foundation professionals for a modest annual fee. County leaders are welcome to advise, but they need not be philanthropic or investment specialists. Over time, fund assets grow, generating cash for grants. They don't wither away, drained by hefty banking or trust management fees, inflation, or the neglect of future generations. Our investment returns over the last volatile decade have been a healthy 10.01 percent. (*See Foundation by the Numbers pages 2-4.*)

We look forward to working with our neighbors in Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna, and Wyoming Counties who are interested in learning about opportunities to grow their County Community Funds. In particular, we invite you to take advantage of our expertise in bringing state and federal tax credit resources to enrich your community.