POWER OF 32: A REGIONAL APPROACH TO PROSPERITY

Vision to Action

CLAUDE WORTHINGTON BENEDUM FOUNDATION

2012 Annual Report
About the Foundation

The Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation is an independent foundation established in 1944 by Michael and Sarah Benedum, natives respectively of Bridgeport and Blacksville, West Virginia. The Foundation’s assets at year-end 2012 were just over $348,280,000. Since its inception in 1944, the Foundation has made nearly 7,800 grants totaling over $410,000,000.
When I started at the Benedum Foundation in 1999, we engaged two consultants—one from WVU and one from CMU—to create an economic development plan based upon complementary assets in southwestern Pennsylvania and northern West Virginia. After a few weeks, they called me and suggested that they be fired!

They explained that people they talked to in West Virginia feared that if they cooperated with southwestern Pennsylvania, “everything would run to Oakland,” the home of Pitt and Carnegie Mellon. People in Pennsylvania, they told me, simply did not think that there were assets to work with in West Virginia.

This lack of interest in regional cooperation reflected more than just anxiety or a lack of knowledge; the economic region with Pittsburgh at its center has long had an abundance of local government. To be sure, there have been critical Pittsburgh initiatives where regional cooperation made it politically possible to get necessary support in Harrisburg. But, cooperation across state lines was indeed a pipe dream, given the aversion to cooperation even among neighboring communities. Municipalities, authorities and local school boards all guarded their autonomy jealously, and economic development often took the form of beggaring thy neighbor. I used to pass each day on my way to work a billboard asking “Why Not Move Your Business to Westmoreland County?”—that is, across the county line.

In 15 years, the situation has changed dramatically—not by consolidating governmental units, but through recognition that many issues indeed are regional, and best addressed by regional collaboration. A recent comment by Pennsylvania Secretary of Commerce and Economic Development Alan Walker crystallized the evolution: “We in Pennsylvania want to take a regional approach,” he told reporters, in a discussion of a proposed petrochemicals complex.

That “cracker” project, proposed by Royal Dutch Shell, and other similar projects that Walker referenced are the key to adding value to the region’s natural gas through manufacturing in the region. And without a doubt, the sudden onset of the opportunities and challenges associated with shale gas, which this entire region shares, was a major factor in the shift in attitudes. Another game-changer has been the budget crisis at every level of government, which has made its agencies more open to cooperative, cost-effective approaches.

Growing receptivity to regional thinking reflects a national trend. Metropolitan regions are becoming the driving forces in our national economy. As political dysfunction in federal and state governments creates a vacuum of economic leadership, metro regions need new models for envisioning and financing economic development.
Power of 32 region

Comprising the adjacent counties of eastern Ohio, northern West Virginia, southwestern Pennsylvania, and western Maryland, the Power of 32 region is defined by shared topography, culture, and its black-and-gold pro sports teams.
In the global economy, the metropolitan region is the competitive unit, and this region has very competitive assets. The reality, of course, is that our economic region has always had much in common: coal, steel, glass, culture, rivers, topography, the Steelers, and, it is safe to say once again, the Pirates.

To the list of strengths that were broadly understood 15 years ago — research universities, health systems, specialty manufacturing, and so on — it has become clear that the region has two truly differentiating assets: shale gas and water. Both are abundant, yet fragile.

Shale gas is a fragile opportunity because the extent of environmental harm is as yet uncertain. Equally important, true prosperity from the gas will result to the extent that value is added here. If we mostly drill it and pipe it somewhere else, we will be repeating the coal experience of much of Appalachia. In that case, prosperity that could have been retained ultimately went elsewhere, while the environmental and health consequences remained.

Similarly, we sometimes take water for granted. But as drier parts of the country cope with shortages, we will increasingly recognize rivers and rainfall as a significant competitive advantage. The challenge for the region is to not only learn to conserve and protect this resource, but to also recognize that innovation regarding water can itself create significant economic opportunity.

More than a decade after our first attempt, the Benedum Foundation again encouraged a thoughtful discussion of regional goals. The timing of the Power of 32 visioning effort was fortuitous, because it occurred as these other factors were beginning to influence regional attitudes.

Power of 32 has provided an opportunity to think creatively about regional challenges and opportunities, to identify those in which collaboration provides a better chance for success, and to create a platform for commitment to that success.

Power of 32 was never meant to be an end in itself. From inception, the intent was to identify projects to be implemented by existing entities or groups committed to their success.

The implementation work of P32 is ongoing and, in substance, never meant to end. The primary objective has been a change in attitude: Where regional collaboration makes best sense, it will become a habit. As you will read in the following pages, this transformation is well underway.

William P. Getty, President
“Roads and rivers, power lines and pollution; all ignore the lines arbitrarily drawn on maps centuries ago. It is our mental map of who we are that will have the most to do with who we become.”

Christopher Briem, University of Pittsburgh
Erasing the Lines

Can four different states, 4.1 million people, and 32 counties think with one brain? A decade ago, it didn’t seem possible. Despite a wealth of shared assets in energy, air, water, transportation, and talent, the coinciding borders of West Virginia, Ohio, Maryland, and Pennsylvania often seemed like brick walls.

The walls began to crumble in 2010, when communities began to compare notes on their common concerns. The Benedum Foundation helped to underwrite the effort to engage citizens across the region to identify common goals that exceeded government reach. The result was dubbed the Power of 32, and, over the next 18 months, it translated a vision into action.

There were significant challenges, to be sure. The Great Recession shrank public resources for education, infrastructure, and economic development. A legacy of industrial pollution saddled the region with brownfields and poor air quality. But there were surprising opportunities as well.

In 2007, drilling in the Marcellus Shale opened one of the largest energy finds in the world. If responsibly developed, the vast supply of natural gas underlying the area offered an economic lifeline. At the same time, the Internet revolutionized regional as well as international communications, creating a platform to share ideas and data in real time.

In some respects, local regional cooperation borrowed a page from other U.S. metropolitan areas. State lines and shorelines no longer contain cities like New York, Washington, or even Pittsburgh.

But while the Power of 32 area includes major city centers, most of its 17,000 square miles are distinctly rural. One size or solution could not work at every scale on every issue. That meant leadership had to be distributed across a broad group of organizations and individuals, armed with sophisticated technological tools and a flexible case-by-case approach.

The gears engaged. By the end of 2013, progress had already emerged on a half-dozen goals, with surprising alliances and cross-connections. Rural communities realized that a recreational trail network could grow all of their economies. Water conservationists saw the potential for new water technology start-ups. Fast-growing manufacturers and energy firms talked to colleges about workforce development, and colleges shared their high-tech expertise with K–12 teachers and their students.

Each effort has its own unique scale and story. Taken together they suggest that regionalism confers benefits unseen only a few years ago. The Power of 32 has proved itself to be more than a slogan: it was a spark that kindled ideas for innovation and created a framework for ongoing collaboration.
During a series of 156 community conversations in each of the Power of 32 counties in western Maryland, eastern Ohio, southwestern Pennsylvania, and northern West Virginia, participants contributed their perspectives on the strengths, challenges, and future of the region.

“In a way, P32 as a visioning process gave an identity to the region,” reflects Rick Stafford, a Carnegie Mellon University professor who has been involved with the Power of 32 since its inception.

From more than 15,000 comments, over 18 months, a general consensus emerged: A region with a shared industrial heritage could become an effective player in the global economy, with a high quality of life. Six issues teams—Economy, Education, Environment, Government, People & Community, and Transportation & Infrastructure—worked to put individual comments in the context of deep and meaningful goals.

At the end of 18 months, the process identified 14 projects. Each met three criteria: to address a challenge common across the entire region; to provide a strategy for implementation that amplified progress beyond a state-by-state approach; and to have an entity or group committed to leading each initiative.
Economy
Jim Clements, West Virginia University
Vince Sands, BNY Mellon
Create a regional early stage fund of funds.
Create better sites for business growth in the region.

Education
Gregg Behr, Grable Foundation
Kathy D’Antoni, West Virginia Department of Education
Nick Deluilio, CONSOL Energy
James Denova, Benedum Foundation
Create a regional STEAM network.
Match career education programs to jobs.

Environment
Greg Babe, Liquid X Printed Metal
Anne Barth, TechConnectWV
Richard Taylor, ImbuTec
Promote sustainable use and conservation of the region’s water.
Implement a regional air quality improvement strategy.
Create a shale initiative.

Government
Steve Craig, Lawrence County Commission
James C. Hunt, past mayor, Clarksburg, WV
Laura Ellsworth, Jones Day
Encourage cooperation among regional federal elected officials, initially to continue support for the National Energy Technology Lab.
Develop an online learning site where elected officials can share best practices.

People & Community
Melanie Harrington, Vibrant Pittsburgh
Jon Turack, Penn State Cooperative Extension, SmartGrowth Partnerships
Susie Nelson, Community Foundation for the Ohio Valley
Create a strategic plan to develop an integrated trail system incorporating economic development.

Transportation & Infrastructure
Al Biehler, former secretary, PennDOT
Colleen Peterson, Greater Cumberland Commission
Rick Stafford, Carnegie Mellon University
Maximize use of alternative fuels.
Increase commerce through improved freight transportation.
Create a real-time traveler information system.
Maximize success at competing for funding.
Every Wednesday afternoon, a group of educators gathers, greeting each other from the screens of their laptop monitors. Today’s discussion centers on creative classroom applications for robotics, and, like its subject matter, it’s conducted digitally. The West Virginia education professors and Carnegie Mellon University researchers meet in a Google hangout that bridges the 200-mile divide between the staffers at CMU’s CREATE (Community Robotics, Education and Technology Empowerment) Lab and the curriculum specialists at the June Harless Center for Rural Educational Research and Development at Huntington’s Marshall University.

When the first bulky desktop computers entered classrooms a generation ago, technology was a subject in itself. Now the advent of cloud computing, gaming, smartphones, GigaPan, and crowd-sourced data collection has turned technology into a tool with applications for every student in every aspect of the curriculum. As a result, STEM learning (science, technology, engineering, and math) has evolved into STEAM, adding the arts and creativity to the acronym. And online learning has broadened the concept of enrichment far beyond once-a-year field trips.

While the attitude shift affects learners from pre-schoolers to adults, it may have its most profound effect on rural students. “For CREATE, the region is the lab. We are trying to use technology to communicate in every discipline, so that students incorporate it into something they are making that is meaningful or useful,” explains Illah Nourbakhsh, director of the CMU Lab. In rural Wayne County, West Virginia, that means a fifth-grade social studies teacher asks students what Africa looks like—and then invites them to explore a GigaPan image of Capetown. The vast, billion-pixel photo—a technology developed by CMU with Google and NASA—allows them to explore the South African city in minute detail. (The Benedum Foundation has supported a project to provide GigaPan equipment and Harless training to 792 teachers in southern West Virginia schools.) A third-grade science teacher in Cabell County can discuss animals and habitats by assigning an animal to student groups. When they create a robotic version through a program called Arts & Bots, and deliver a presentation on what they’ve learned, the unit blends science, speaking and learning, and technology.

Young digital natives easily adapt to new technologies in and out of the classroom. Experienced
teachers need more guidance. “It’s not enough to provide new learning technology to students,” says Lou Karas. “We have to provide opportunities to faculty as well.” She directs the West Liberty University satellite for the CREATE Lab in Wheeling, where graduate students, pre-service teachers, and classroom students collaborate on developing and testing curricula. West Virginia University and Carlow University in Pittsburgh will join the satellite network this year, sharing resources and building on each other’s strengths. CMU’s Nourbakhsh says that encouraging major universities to “meaningfully” connect with local communities through a network is important. CREATE recently received a three-year, $1.45 million grant from the National Science Foundation for a creative STEM robotics program that will reach 2,700 middle-schoolers in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, and Mingo County, West Virginia. Pre-service teachers will further extend the network in southern West Virginia and the northern Panhandle.

“We’re replacing the old model of testing educational curricula and technology at the campus school, or in one or two classrooms,” says CMU’s Nourbakhsh. “Innovation usually happens far afield from schooling—it’s unusual to put them together. We’re reaching communities who have previously not been able to use technologies. In rural West Virginia and Pennsylvania, you have a diversity of students, with economic gaps and background interests, or who don’t have access to technologies. We want to show them possibilities.”

CMU is also at the heart of a new regional innovation cluster centered on young learners and creativity. The Kids+Creativity Network, supported by philanthropies including the Grable and Benedum Foundations, is a network of teachers, gamers, roboticists, artists, designers, and child development experts who have been working together since 2007. Their efforts combine informal education, entertainment technology, and hands-on experimentation, and recently received a $500,000 vote of confidence from the MacArthur Foundation.

The grant makes the region the third in the nation to receive MacArthur’s support for connected learning. In this new model, museums, libraries, afterschool programs, community centers, schools, online communities, and other learning spaces work together to allow young people to move seamlessly among formal and informal learning experiences. MacArthur’s program, targeting tweens and teens, is dubbed the Hive, like its predecessors in New York and Chicago.

Meanwhile, other Kids+Creativity projects target much younger learners. But all age groups learn by deconstructing problems, thinking flexibly, and working with others. Education experts call those 21st-century skills; children who encounter the concepts in bright, exciting spaces like the Pittsburgh Children’s Museum’s MAKESHOP® call it play.
The museum’s recent informal learning projects have included a region-wide challenge to help craft “Rookie of the Gear,” a kid-designed mechanical pitching arm that debuted at a Pittsburgh Pirates game in September, as well as an experiment in electrical conductivity that swapped a computer keyboard for objects like wrenches and cookies. The Allegheny County Intermediate Unit and West Liberty University have joined with the museum to establish satellite versions of MAKESHOP® in community centers, libraries, and school classrooms across the region. This year, the network, operating under the umbrella of Pittsburgh’s Sprout Fund, gave its first West Virginia grant to the MITCH collection, a Martins Ferry arts group. Its Insta-tangram Project combined community printmaking with tangrams, a popular geometric puzzle.

Early evidence suggests that collaborating through digital technology is motivating young local learners. In Allegheny County, the Elizabeth Forward School District credits the establishment of its YOUmedia Lab with a surge in student performance. Based on the model of Chicago’s Washington Library, it is the first school-based digital library in the country, offering books, laptops, tablets, media creation tools and software, and a recording studio. In concert with an entertainment technology center teaching video gaming, the new offerings have eliminated the high school’s dropout problem and boosted math and reading scores on state assessments. The Allegheny County Library Association has engaged more than 2,500 young readers in Questyinz, a summer literacy program that combines digital research and reading. On average, users logged over 900 minutes of vacation reading time in the program.

“The region is our lab. We are trying to use technology to communicate in every discipline, so that students incorporate it into something they are making that is meaningful or useful.”

Illah Nourbakhsh, CREATE Lab, Carnegie Mellon University
“A region-wide approach to training makes perfect sense for us. Our hiring area is the P32 region.”

Nick Deluliss, CONSOL Energy
The vast 73,500-square-foot home of the new Advanced Technology Center of Westmoreland County Community College, 35 miles southeast of Pittsburgh, has been ground zero for four chapters of manufacturing history, a testament to the region’s legacy of tenacity and renewal.

Planned in 1968 by Chrysler to manufacture vehicles, the property at the Westmoreland Industrial Development Corporation site became the first U.S. location for a foreign-owned auto factory in 1978, when Volkswagen of America took it over. When sales and production faltered, SONY followed, replacing cars with large-screen television assembly. But when the region’s Marcellus Shale business boomed in the mid-2000s, the site found a purpose that married local talent to a local natural asset.

At the Advanced Technology Center, students will train for new careers in fields that didn’t exist a decade ago. WCCC is one of four regional hubs for a successful workforce training effort supported by local corporations and academic institutions in one of those new fields: regional energy development.

In its first phase of federal funding, ShaleNET worked with 20 recognized training providers in four states to train more than 3,000 people for positions in natural gas drilling; today, more than 1,650 of those trained are employed in the industry. In its second round of funding, ShaleNET US deploys $15 million to create a series of “stackable” credentials for workers not only in energy technologies, but also mechatronics, integrated systems technology, and additive manufacturing. Workers learning skills will also earn academic credits toward associate’s and bachelor’s degrees.

Efficient training that links a sequence of short learning modules has long been sought by industries throughout the region. Energy companies are seeking not only to put workers in the field as quickly as possible; they also want workers who can add skills during a long career with their companies. “A region-wide approach to training makes perfect sense for us,” says Nick DeIuliis, president of CONSOL Energy, a co-chair of the P32 education task force. “Our hiring area is the P32 region.”

The lifelong learning model will be a 21st-century reality, says Laura Fisher of the Allegheny Conference on Community Development, which heads the ShaleNET project. The economic development group headquartered in Pittsburgh includes the region’s largest manufacturers.
“The knowledge economy has changed the nature of work,” she explains. “When you worked in manufacturing or steel in the last century, you very well might have been doing the same repetitive steps for 30 years. Now, with the march of technology into the workplace, in a year or two, systems become outdated. That’s transformed the skill sets needed.”

Additive manufacturing is among the industries demanding new skills. The nascent technology also known as 3-D printing has taken root in the region in start-up companies. America Makes, headquartered in Youngstown, Ohio, is now directing a massive regional effort, stretching from Cleveland to Pittsburgh to Morgantown; the $30 million TechBelt Initiative will bridge the gap between basic research and product development for additive manufacturing. Its twofold purpose: to provide shared assets to help manufacturers access cutting-edge capabilities and equipment, and to train workers in advanced additive manufacturing skills. The ShaleNET structure provides the scaffolding for additive manufacturing training, as well as applications in other high-tech local fields.

Fisher says the vast opportunities of Marcellus development have pushed educators and industry to find common ground. “Previously, companies had the luxury of not having to invest in training. The talent pool met their needs. Recently, there’s been a disconnect between education and workforce policy that we need to address.”

Pat Gerity, vice president for continuing education, workforce, and community development at Westmoreland County Community College, says the ShaleNET model does just that. “Businesses are actively contributing recommendations on the training their workforce needs. That’s different. And for new workers, there’s a quick turnaround — they earn 16 credits in 16 weeks.” As workers add skills and credits, they move up the career and educational ladders simultaneously. Workers qualify for student financial aid, and companies often provide full tuition reimbursement for higher-level training.

Involving economic development agencies has been a key to the regional effort, says Gerity. Led by the Energy Alliance of Greater Pittsburgh (a partnership between the Allegheny Conference and Innovation Works, a regional tech-based economic developer), ShaleNET connects workers to the firms that need them. A sophisticated online portal offers realistic job previews for five in-demand positions in the oil and gas industry; colleges offer certification programs in those fields. The site also links directly to company job openings. In addition to WCCC, participants include Stark State College in Canton, Ohio; Pennsylvania College of Technology in Williamsport, Pa.; and Navarro College in Corsicana, Texas. Each of the four sites includes lab space, a complete well site trainer, and current model equipment.

The potential of 3-D printing and additive manufacturing technologies captured the public’s curiosity at a recent museum exhibit at Youngstown State University.
Over the border in West Virginia, Pierpont Community and Technical College and Northern West Virginia Community College have partnered with ShaleNET on short-term skill development programs. The West Virginia programs have received strong support from corporations and economic development groups. Chesapeake Energy underwrote faculty costs and a drill site simulator, and the Dominion Foundation has contributed a total of $50,000 for training equipment.

“Our local industrial development corporation has donated 20 acres for an outdoor lab. And companies know our track record,” says Paul Schreffler, vice president for workforce development at Pierpont. “We have trained 500 students in short courses. Now we’ve begun a full associate’s degree in petroleum technology. The industry is telling us that to hold long-term, high-paying jobs, workers will really need further skills.”

Refilling a pipeline of trained technical workers takes time and agility. Union apprentice programs, like that of the International Union of Operating Engineers, are joining the effort. InventorCloud, a regional program in eastern Ohio, is training high schoolers in computer-aided design and prototyping, employing 3-D printing techniques applicable to the America Makes pilot. And several West Virginia high schools are providing introductions to energy training for high school vo-tech students.

The emergence of a model that keeps pace with changing technologies and gives workers a wide career path has gained the backing of corporate ShaleNET supporters, including Shell, Chevron, Marathon, Anadarko, Chesapeake, and XTO Energy. Those petrochemical giants are leading the expansion of Marcellus-related businesses, spawning other local opportunities in chemicals, and upstream and midstream manufacturing. The cracker plant proposed by Shell Corporation for the region is a harbinger of the growth of a sophisticated labor force.

Sustainable workforce development is a regional achievement with national applications.

“Prepping sites has clear regional benefit. The fund will be a supplement that will have positive impact.”

Dennis Yablonsky, Allegheny Conference
Throughout the Power of 32 visioning process, businesses across the region reached an early consensus on two key levers for economic growth: site development and early stage capital. The Allegheny Conference has endorsed both goals, leading fundraising efforts for both investments.

Conference CEO Dennis Yablonsky says the Power of 32 process confirmed a long-standing need for a local fund-of-funds to grow and keep new firms in the region. “It was the P32 impetus on one hand,” he notes, “and the timing is important. Local incubators are spinning off firms, but without venture capital—which is at a historic low right now—the region won’t be able to keep these companies. We are reaching out to the regional investors of the Conference, the foundation community, and other corporations in the region. Our elevator pitch is to continue the flow of companies with high growth potential to our area. These are investments, not charitable donations. They will get a rate of return.” Fort Washington Capital has been chosen to manage the fund, with a target total of $25 to $100 million.

Site development has traditionally been viewed as the purview of states and counties that gain tax revenue from attracting new employers. A new effort to develop high-quality business sites across the region, also led by the Allegheny Conference, seeks to provide capital to supplement funds from the government and private sector to make projects possible. Yablonsky says that’s needed.

“Prepping sites has clear regional benefit. The fund will be a supplement that will have positive impact.”
In 2013, state transportation officials from Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, and Ohio agreed to an unusual collaboration. They will cooperate with Traffic21, a research initiative of Carnegie Mellon University, in a regional effort to plan a real-time traveler information system. Compiling digital data from a variety of sources, the system draws on and complements each state’s 511 traffic information system, and could help alleviate the “pinch points”—tunnels, interstate highway connections, and even river barge traffic—in the system.

An efficient transportation system is key to a thriving region, particularly as the expansion of the Panama Canal impacts the world economy. Freight traffic within the U.S. borders will double by 2020. During that same period of time, foreign trade is expected to increase by 187 percent, while containerized cargo will experience an explosive 350 percent increase. The domestic and international freight capacity of P32’s ports, waterways, transfer facilities, and highway and rail connectors must meet the increased demand.

The National Gateway, a state-of-the-art rail freight corridor that passes through the region, provides an example of the public–private cooperation required to improve the overall system. The $850 million project on CSX rail lines has received corporate support from major shippers, as well as federal and state funding, and is now reaching completion.

“Although it has been organized on a state basis thus far, the feds recognize traveler information is a multi-state proposition,” notes Rick Stafford, director of Traffic21. With dozens of transportation agencies across the four-state region, coordination is key. Pennsylvania is conducting a statewide freight study, while Ohio, West Virginia, and Maryland have recently completed theirs.

An abundance of navigable waterways gives the region the opportunity to increase commerce while shifting rail and truck traffic to rivers.
“Water transportation is more economical and less environmentally harmful,” says Ken Zapinski, who directs energy and infrastructure projects for the Allegheny Conference, which is leading the freight transportation initiative. “The more we can divert traffic through the region to water or rail, that has the added benefit of reducing both congestion and road damage. But we must make sure that we are also increasing multimodal demand, as well as facilities.” Diesel-powered barges also emit pollution through river valleys. The Benedum and R. K. Mellon Foundations have made grants to the Port of Pittsburgh for a pilot project to convert barges to natural gas power to address the issue.

In addition to lock and dam repair, a crucial infrastructure need, waterway improvement includes wireless technology. The Port of Pittsburgh’s new wireless waterways program offers connectivity to barges traveling rivers in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia. The $1.3 million Wi-Fi project to be completed this fall combines two new technologies: AIS (the Automatic Identification System) and wireless broadband.

“Although it has been organized on a state basis thus far, the feds recognize traveler information is a multi-state proposition.”

Rick Stafford, Carnegie Mellon University

Meanwhile, CMU’s Traffic21 will lead further investigation on how real-time technologies can be applied to public transit, street traffic, and more. The CMU project also examines how GPS systems and other transformative technologies can be applied across a range of issues, from access and routing to autonomous vehicles. The region is already the lab for testing solutions like robotic traffic signals, which communicate street traffic volume along busy corridors.

Preliminary results for real-time systems in other regions indicate that they can be cost-effective in moving freight by routing traffic around construction and accidents. Connecting state 511 systems, which also offer real-time information, would also allow drivers of passenger vehicles to plan regional trips.
“The economic development argument gets agencies working together. This is not just for the benefit of people in spandex.”

Davitt Woodwell, Pennsylvania Environmental Council
Weed-infested and abandoned, the freight rail lines that stitched together the region’s industrial towns were once shorthand for collapse and despair. Then local volunteers stepped forward to convert the right-of-ways into recreational trails. When life handed them lemons, small rural communities made Gatorade.

The public–private partnerships gradually knit a network that now comprises hundreds of miles of recreational trails. And in March 2013, trail advocates from four states met to propose building a high-tech connection: a detailed online mapping system that planners throughout the four-state region could use to coordinate trail construction.

Because they require complex negotiations between corporate property owners, local municipalities, regional trail councils, and state and federal funders, trails often exist in dotted-line form for decades. The 2013 meeting aimed to jump-start coordinated planning for a trail network embracing the Power of 32 region. Organizers convened engineering companies, national park services, planning and transportation authorities, and an important new player: economic development agencies. Keynote speaker Earl Gohl of the Appalachian Regional Commission reminded the group that, as trails emerge and link with other existing paths, towns along the way benefit.

The example of the Great Allegheny Passage, a seamless 150-mile route from downtown Pittsburgh to Cumberland, was top of mind for his audience. With connections to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal towpath to Washington, D.C., and the 46-mile Montour Trail through Pittsburgh’s southern suburbs, the Passage is a national example of a regional asset that continues to grow in value.

Like most recreational trails, the Passage opened in piecemeal fashion, finally connecting 34 municipalities by 2013. The task of reclaiming abandoned and connecting rail right-of-ways took 30 years, but the results of the public–private partnership prove its worth. Not only does the Passage host nearly 800,000 visits annually, but users have also generated $40 million in direct spending and spurred 54 new and expanded businesses.

“Towns are service centers for trails,” explains David Kahley of The Progress Fund. The nonprofit lender supports businesses throughout the Power of 32 region, and developed the Trail Town Program in southwestern Pennsylvania in the early 2000s with start-up funding from the Benedum Foundation. By 2009, the program had crossed into Maryland, bringing in a total of nine rural communities.

The success of the Trail Town model has grown in tandem with regional trail mileage. That’s spurred the drive to connect short trails into an even larger regional network. A prime example is the Sheepskin Trail, the first Pennsylvania link to West Virginia’s...
popular Mon River Trail. Two short sections of the proposed 34-mile trail are now under construction; the one-mile stretch underway at Point Marion will cross into West Virginia.

Trail organizers on both sides of the border see the potential. The Sheepskin Trail will carry visitors to the 48-mile Mon River Trail that runs through Morgantown; a future connection will link to the Cheat River Trail, circling the popular resort area. And, according to Donna Holdorf, the trail will spotlight historic sites in the Pennsylvania counties along the state line.

“The Sheepskin Trail will cross the National Road (Route 40) in Uniontown,” says the executive director of the National Road Heritage Corridor, which directs the project. “We have the cultural heritage along the trail, like our beehive coke ovens, and know the value of preserving it. And we are focused on healthy communities, which the trail will certainly benefit.”

With the health and economic benefits of trails firmly established, it’s no surprise that widening their regional network emerged as a priority in Power of 32 discussions. In fact, trail advocates are looking at a plan that broadens the effort to 51 counties. Davitt Woodwell, vice president of the Pennsylvania Environmental Council, has worked with leaders from other states on the issue. He ticks off some of the possibilities.

“You’ve got a few sections between Johnstown and Pittsburgh. From Cincinnati to Cleveland, a high percentage of trail is complete. From Ohio to Erie, there are connections, with the possibility to link to the Erie Canal, Albany, and Buffalo.” Woodwell notes that hiking and water paths, as well as greenways—dedicated recreation spaces that span a number of communities—are part of the discussion.

When advocates, including the Environmental Council and the Progress Fund, met in March, they discussed an important first step in creating that system: a good map.

“As trail projects proliferated, I could not keep track of each one’s location and status,” recalls Kahley. “It turns out no one had ever mapped the whole network over the P32 range. And when we drew the first lines [at a P32 conference in 2011], it was amazing: A rough interstate system sprang off the map! There was a moment of awareness. If we start planning by coupling the discussion of where trails go with how
towns could be connected, we can move faster. But first, we need a map.”

The Progress Fund and the Pennsylvania Environmental Council directed creation of a comprehensive geographic information system (GIS), an online map with multiple layers of data.

“This is unique,” enthuses Kahley. “It’s a tool to bring trail planners together to do their own local planning. With layers of access, some people will be viewers, others masters of data. It reinforces that they’re part of a whole and how to connect with others.”

Cloud-based computing gives the mapping tool unique power and flexibility. “We have layers of data on topography, roads, and flood plains, and aerial information from the U.S. Geological Survey. We can zoom in and out to change scale,” explains Woodwell. “If I am a user and want to start a business, I can query the data through Google or Bing to find what services could work near trailheads.”

Organizers met this fall to vet the GIS system and formalize an implementation strategy to put trails in place by 2033. The group will meet quarterly and will advocate for planning and construction monies.

“The Great Allegheny Passage shows it can be done. Everyone agrees on that. We can’t lose the momentum,” says Woodwell. “The fascinating thing from the trail summit discussion was not just the vision—it was the how-to’s. The economic development argument gets agencies working together. This is not just for the benefit of people in spandex.”
PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT
Encouraging the Water Economy

At nearly 1,000 miles long, the Ohio River and its tributaries provide natural beauty for recreation, a unique aquatic habitat, and drinking water for ten percent of the U.S. population. The P32 region is also home to the two busiest inland ports in the country: Huntington and Pittsburgh.

Clean, abundant water is a critical regional asset. Promoting sustainable use and conservation of the regional supply was identified by Power of 32 participants as an important part of environmental protection in the region.

The Ohio River Headwaters Resource Committee is working with Carnegie Mellon University to assess regional resources for the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission. “We know we’re water-rich,” says project leader Deb Lange of the 27,000-square-mile headwaters region. “We don’t know how rich, but new stresses like climate change, increased population, and industry will pose challenges for water usage. We’re attempting to quantify how much water is really available.”

As other U.S. watersheds run dry, those regions may propose turning to the Ohio to augment their supplies. Benchmarking the regional water supply will help governmental leaders evaluate demands for water withdrawals both inside and outside the basin.

A related project analyzes the regional business opportunities for water conservation and water-related technology. Over the past two years, studies have revealed a natural cluster of water-related companies with significant local clout: nearly 2,500 engineering, technical, and testing firms; more than 400 that manufacture measurement and monitoring equipment; more than 170 firms specializing in water supply and treatment; and 20 water transportation firms. Those companies are poised to take advantage of significant global market opportunities:

With 15 large regional firms signing on as supporting board members, the Water Economy Network aims to capture a share of that market. WEN provides public and private sector members with greater efficiency and scale to identify opportunities and address water-related technology challenges through new innovation.

Small companies with niche products will get support to pilot new technologies through WEN’s Innovate H2O Fund. Sam Johnson, WEN board chair and CONSOL Energy’s director of water asset development, says the fund has an initial fundraising target of $200,000.

“There are numerous technology companies that need, say, a $25,000 foothold to get their business running,” he explains. “We are helping young, entrepreneurial firms that have legitimate contributions, giving them a leg up. WEN will help market Innovate H2O, and corporations will have a strategic role to play in developing new ideas.”

The region’s expertise can also be marketed to other parts of the world. Delegates from Middle East nations attended Energy and Water 2013, sponsored by the American Middle East Institute of Pittsburgh, in October 2013. The conference explored innovations in upstream, midstream, and downstream energy production, with water as a critical resource.
Connecting Agendas and Gaining Momentum

From its inception in 2010, every part of the Power of 32 initiative was designed to build relationships and create a culture of collaboration within the region. The Implementation Committee has relied on those relationships to sustain projects and discover additional opportunities. Now housed at the Pittsburgh Foundation, P32 oversees a group of “champion” organizations to lead its initiatives.

Since announcing their goals in the fall of 2011, those champions have found common ground among a number of projects. Now, they are connecting the dots.

The Transportation & Infrastructure committee knew that a real-time travel information system was of equal value to commuters and freight haulers. It has also proved possible to employ the model in the regional trail network to allow users to plan and execute recreational trips.

Clean air and clean water are natural partners. But the region still suffers from troubling levels of fine particulate air pollution, which affects disease levels for asthma, heart disease, and lung cancer. Under the leadership of The Heinz Endowments, the region has begun to develop a strategy for improving air quality, a P32 priority. The Breathe Project connects work on air quality programs with public education about human health risks. To date, the coalition has attracted nearly 100 corporations, universities, and other institutional partners.

Air quality depends on controlling not just land-based pollution, but also that generated on rivers. A pilot project to retrofit diesel-powered barges on regional rivers, underway through the Port of Pittsburgh, has the potential to reduce carcinogens and particulates in river valleys.

Regional efforts have encompassed both the environmental and economic impacts of shale gas. The Center for Sustainable Shale Development, a new, nationally-unique nonprofit, has hammered out stringent standards for environmental protection at drilling sites and other operations, safe workplaces, and corporate transparency. Many of the region’s largest energy players, including CONSOL, Chevron, EQT, and Shell, have committed to the CSSD principles.
Meanwhile, local leaders are discussing how the region’s energy economy can leverage downstream shale products, such as chemicals and plastics. That effort connects in turn to the formation of an advocacy group for energy research. The National Energy Technology Lab, a U.S. Department of Energy effort, has facilities in both Morgantown and Pittsburgh. The Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce has spearheaded work to sustain NETL’s federal funding.

Water quality issues have underscored the work of the Ohio River Headwaters Committee and the Water Economy Network. Meanwhile, a new definition of assets—both recreational and natural—underlies parallel efforts to revive aging communities.

The Pennsylvania Environmental Council’s River Town project, established in 2011 and supported by the Benedum Foundation, helps small towns along the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers to deploy their scenic shorelines as assets for revitalization and economic development. In 2013, the first three West Virginia communities—Morgantown, Star City, and Granville—joined a dozen Pennsylvania towns in the program. Using connections along the river to leverage energy and recreational projects, River Town complements the work of the Trail Town Program.

Seizing all those regional opportunities requires planning and money. Early on, participants realized that winning the competition for public and philanthropic funds was a necessary strategy for supporting projects. Thus was born the P32 Capture Team, which identifies and responds to funding opportunities.

Armed with strategic information from universities and other institutions, the members of the group have begun to identify funding prospects that encourage regional applications. The Capture Team’s inaugural project gathered three regional partners—Catalyst Connection, the Three Rivers Workforce Investment Board, and the West Virginia Manufacturing Extension Partnership—for the Make It In America Challenge, a $4 million federal manufacturing grant to support “reshoring” of manufacturing from overseas to the region. The team is preparing applications for other manufacturing and water-related funds.

Members contribute to a web-based system to share opportunities. The coordinated effort puts the region on a national and international playing field, leveraging all possible resources for growth.

“The primary objective of P32 has been a change in attitude. Where regional collaboration makes the best sense, it will become a habit.”

Pat Getty, Benedum Foundation
MISSION
To encourage human development in West Virginia and Southwestern Pennsylvania through strategically placed charitable resources.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES
The following principles guide the Foundation’s grants programs in those regions:

- We honor Michael and Sarah Benedum’s belief in “helping people help themselves,” and we seek opportunities to cultivate the creativity of people and communities.
- We nurture leadership within the communities we serve, and we participate in leadership when it adds value.
- We encourage planning, projects, and programs that cross geographic and political boundaries so that access to services and economic growth is maximized.
- We expect collaboration among the public, private, and nonprofit sectors in order to leverage the resources that each can bring to common concerns.
- We strive to advance innovative practices that demonstrate measurable and sustainable benefit.
- We seek projects that contribute to advancement in public policy.

THE FOUNDATION’S ROLE
In seeking to achieve our mission and acknowledging lessons learned in over 65 years of grantmaking, the Foundation has identified its role as follows:

“The Foundation largely takes on the agenda of the people we serve. Our business is to help people help themselves. This is not intended to suggest that the Foundation’s role is passive. To the contrary, we go out into the field and listen closely. We build strong and supportive relationships with grantees. We provide technical assistance. We broker ideas and institutions. We create partnerships. We undertake analyses of issues and problems, and we promote public awareness of them. We help to build broad consensus for change. We seek to empower people to develop their own capacity and the capacity of their institutions to succeed. We leverage not only funds but interest, involvement, and commitment.”

Excerpted from In the Company of Extraordinary People: A Special Report upon the Occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Benedum Foundation, 1994

GRANTS PROGRAMS
In keeping with the wishes of Michael and Sarah Benedum, the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation is a regional philanthropy focusing on West Virginia and Southwestern Pennsylvania. The Foundation generally invests two-thirds of its grant dollars in West Virginia and one-third in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

The Foundation serves the entire state of West Virginia. In Southwestern Pennsylvania, the service area includes Allegheny, Washington, Greene, and Fayette Counties. This four-county area is a natural connector between Pittsburgh and West Virginia and contains rural communities that may benefit from the Benedum Foundation’s experiences in West Virginia. However, the Foundation recognizes that economic regions do not follow political boundaries, and, therefore, the Foundation both encourages projects that cross state lines and supports economic and education initiatives that benefit the multi-state region centered on Pittsburgh.

The Foundation makes grants in two program areas that span both states: Education and Economic Development. In addition, the Foundation supports Community Development and Health & Human Services grants programs in West Virginia and, in Southwestern Pennsylvania, supports the major performing arts organizations within the Cultural District.

From time to time, the Foundation revises specific areas of interest within its grants programs, and grant seekers are encouraged to view the Foundation’s website for the most current descriptions.

EDUCATION
The Benedum Foundation seeks to promote successful learning through the formal education system. Academic achievement and preparation for the 21st-century workforce are the ultimate objectives of this program.

The Foundation places a high priority on teacher quality and the most advanced instructional tools. Because schools do not function in isolation, the Foundation also looks to the resources of community organizations, business, and higher education to reinforce the learning objectives of the classroom. In preparation for the rising demands of the workplace, the Foundation recognizes the need for all students to be prepared, without remediation, to pursue some form of post-secondary education.
Although the Foundation is interested in any significant opportunity to improve the education system, specific areas of interest include:

• Programs that improve teacher quality through professional development and innovative instructional strategies.
• Arts education, the integration of arts into other disciplines, and the partnership of community arts groups and higher education with the PreK–12 education system.
• Career education that aligns secondary and post-secondary programs to high-demand, high-wage occupations.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Innovation will be the cornerstone of the future success of the economy in West Virginia and Southwestern Pennsylvania. The Foundation supports economic development activities based upon the region’s strengths in research, technology, and advanced manufacturing. The Foundation’s agenda seeks to promote regional planning and cooperation, recognizing that with respect to any endeavor, “region” should mean whatever area is most appropriate to optimize the available opportunity, without reference to historic, geographic, or political boundaries. The expected outcomes of the Foundation’s Economic Development grants are the creation and growth of innovative, wealth-producing businesses and high-quality jobs.

In addition, many of the communities in the region served by the Foundation are rural and enjoy abundant natural assets that provide economic opportunities that complement centers of technology-based growth. The Foundation supports efforts to advance agriculture, outdoor recreation, artisanship, and heritage tourism. Specific areas of Foundation interest include:

• Promotion of entrepreneurship.
• Projects that promote technology-based economic development.
• Programs to promote the growth and accessibility of new capital for businesses in distressed communities and areas of high unemployment.

WEST VIRGINIA GRANTS PROGRAM
In addition to the areas of interest discussed above, in West Virginia the Foundation also makes grants in Health & Human Services and Community Development.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
West Virginia’s best future requires that all families have access to high-quality health care and human services, and to the resources that enable them to raise their children to be productive members of their communities.

Emphasis in this program area is placed on innovations in health care delivery systems, a strengthening of the public health infrastructure, and community-based health promotion, especially with regard to chronic disease prevention and patient care management. Collaborative efforts are encouraged that provide technical assistance, develop programs, document effectiveness, and improve public policy. Specific areas of interest include:

• Support for a healthier quality of life for West Virginians through access to affordable health care, preventive health services, state-level policy development, provision of a medical home, and the delivery of quality patient care.
• Ensuring a system of accessible and affordable health care for children, early intervention services that lead to school success, and the promotion of child-focused public policy designed to prepare children to grow, learn, and prosper.
• Public oral health education, implementation of preventive strategies and programs, connecting people to a dental home, and achievement of the goals of the state oral health plan.
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Improving capabilities of leaders, organizations, and interested citizens to address challenges and opportunities will help communities be more prosperous through their own efforts.

The Benedum Foundation promotes the economic well-being and quality of life of West Virginia communities. Specific areas of interest include:

- Activities that engage diverse groups of citizens in the life of the community.
- Helping communities organize, plan, and implement ambitious but achievable improvement strategies.
- Leadership development.
- Programs that improve the effectiveness and accountability of nonprofit and public organizations.
- Efforts to expand technology access, affordability, and utilization.
- Activities that provide decent, safe, and affordable housing through home construction, repair, and financing and homeowner education programs.

SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA GRANTS PROGRAM

In addition to the Education and Economic Development program areas described above, the Foundation believes that the arts play a significant role in economic development, and that Pittsburgh’s exceptional arts community, and the Pittsburgh Cultural District, provides a competitive advantage to the region’s economy. The Foundation supports the major performing organizations within the Cultural District, as well as specific projects that add value to the Cultural District, especially through cooperative ventures among resident organizations.

HOW TO APPLY FOR A GRANT

Before applying for a grant, applicants should carefully review the Foundation’s Mission and Guiding Principles, and our grants program descriptions. Seeking a grant from the Benedum Foundation is a highly competitive process. As you might expect, the Foundation receives more applications each year than we are able to fund, which means that even some proposals that fit within the description of the Foundation’s grants program may not be selected for funding.

RESTRICTIONS

The Foundation generally does not make grants in support of:

- Organizations located outside West Virginia or Southwestern Pennsylvania
- Individuals
- Organizations not exempt from taxation under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3)
- Student aid, fellowships, or travel
- Construction or equipment
- Endowment
- Ongoing operating expenses
- National organizations
- Biomedical research
- Religious organizations for religious purposes
- Individual elementary and secondary schools
- Annual appeals or membership drives
- Conferences, films, books, and audio-visual productions, unless an integral part of a Foundation-supported program

APPLICATION PROCESS—WHAT TO EXPECT

After reviewing the information listed above, submit your application using the Foundation’s online grant application process found on our website (www.benedum.org).

The Foundation does not have submission deadlines, and applications are accepted throughout the year. Once we receive your completed online application, an automated response will be sent to you acknowledging receipt. You should receive a response to your application within 60 days, at which time you will be notified if your project is not one the Foundation can consider, or if you should submit additional information.
2012 GRANTS
Although some of our grants have impact in both West Virginia and Southwestern Pennsylvania, for ease of reference, grants authorized in 2012 are listed below alphabetically by region of primary benefit.

Readers, especially grant seekers, should be aware that the emphasis of the Foundation’s grants program evolves over time and that grants as reported may not be indicative of the Foundation’s future program emphasis.

WEST VIRGINIA
EDUCATION
Beckley Area Foundation, Inc.
Beckley, WV
For a Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) education mini-grants program
$50,000

Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA
To employ Andy Warhol silkscreen techniques in a variety of courses and educational settings (over two years)
$267,000

Community Foundation for the Ohio Valley, Inc.
Wheeling, WV
For a Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) education mini-grants program
$50,000

Concord University Research and Development Corporation
Athens, WV
Development of an integrated geography and language arts program in partnership with National Geographic Society
$166,000

Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation
Martinsburg, WV
For a Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) education mini-grants program
$30,000

Jefferson County Board of Education
Charles Town, WV
To increase the Advanced Placement participation rates of low-income and underserved minority students in Jefferson and Berkeley Counties
$158,000

Lincoln County Board of Education
Hamlin, WV
Implementation of a model middle school counseling program designed to improve high school completion (over two years)
$240,000

Regional Education Service Agency 7
Clarksburg, WV
For an online mathematics tutorial
$100,000

Oglebay Institute
Wheeling, WV
To add filmmaking to the Institute’s school-based educational programs in partnership with Pittsburgh Filmmakers
$84,000

Parkersburg Area Community Foundation
Parkersburg, WV
For a Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) education mini-grants program
$50,000

Regional Education Service Agency 5
Parkersburg, WV
Promotion of arts integration into other subjects through interdisciplinary team teaching
$48,000

Regional Education Service Agency 6
Wheeling, WV
To pilot high school mathematics software aligned to state standards, in partnership with Carnegie Learning
$107,000

West Liberty University Foundation, Inc.
West Liberty, WV
Regional teaching-artist professional development program in partnership with Gateway to the Arts in Pittsburgh
$250,000

Creation of a network of professional development laboratory schools focusing on design and educational technologies (over two years)
$230,000

West Virginia Catholic Foundation, Inc.
Wheeling, WV
Development of an online mathematics tutorial
$80,000

West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education
Charleston, WV
College transition program for career and technical education students
$160,000

West Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Inc.
Charleston, WV
Arts integration project that uses musical theater to teach reading, math, social studies, and visual art
$75,000

Wheeling Jesuit University
Wheeling, WV
To introduce virtual science simulations to pre-service and in-service teachers in West Virginia and Southwestern Pennsylvania (over two years)
$172,000

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders Association
Charleston, WV
Development of a system to identify people with Alzheimer’s disease and other cognitive impairments in acute care settings
$30,000

Cabell-Huntington Health Department
Huntington, WV
For capacity building of the West Virginia Association of Local Health Departments
$125,000

Camcare Health Education and Research Institute, Inc.
dba CAMC Institute
Charleston, WV
Dissemination of the KEYS 4 HealthyKids community toolkit and to build a peer learning network in a ten-county area to reduce obesity and improve health outcomes for children
$25,000

Development of a patient survivorship and care navigation program at the David Lee Cancer Center
$150,000

The Center for Rural Health Development, Inc.
Hurricane, WV
To conduct board self-assessments and develop governance improvement plans in four nonprofit health care organizations
$70,000
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Grant Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christian Appalachian Project, Inc.</td>
<td>Lexington, KY</td>
<td>West Virginia Disaster Relief Volunteer Response to six counties crippled by Superstorm Sandy</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Area Health Education Center, Inc.</td>
<td>Martinsburg, WV</td>
<td>Promotion of the preventive health benefits of physical activity using a “medical home” conceptual framework</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Choice Services, Inc.</td>
<td>Charleston, WV</td>
<td>For the “Quiltline” project, to provide a help line for individuals struggling with prescription drug abuse</td>
<td>$140,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FMRS Health Systems, Inc.</td>
<td>Beckley, WV</td>
<td>For Turning Pointe, a new 16-bed residential program for pregnant/postpartum women with substance abuse and co-occurring mental health disorders, and to provide weekend services for family members</td>
<td>$29,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation</td>
<td>Charleston, WV</td>
<td>Kanawha Valley Council on Philanthropy Community Initiative to support projects that achieve outcomes in economic development, health, or a combination of both in the six-county Kanawha Valley region</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntington Area Food Bank, Inc.</td>
<td>Huntington, WV</td>
<td>To restock inventory depleted as a result of July 2012 storms in West Virginia</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kids in Distressed Situations, Inc.</td>
<td>New York, NY</td>
<td>In collaboration with Mountaineer Food Bank, to provide statewide distribution of new clothing, school supplies, books, and other items to needy children in West Virginia</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall University Research Corporation</td>
<td>Huntington, WV</td>
<td>Promotion of an adolescent healthy lifestyles self-management program through West Virginia School-Based Health Centers</td>
<td>$175,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creation of a standardized oral health education curriculum for home visitor programs serving children from birth through age five</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountaineer Food Bank, Inc.</td>
<td>Gassaway, WV</td>
<td>To restock inventory depleted as a result of July 2012 storms in West Virginia</td>
<td>$35,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partners in Health Network, Inc.</td>
<td>Charleston, WV</td>
<td>Telemedicine support project to improve health care services in ten rural West Virginia counties</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partnership of African American Churches</td>
<td>Institute, WV</td>
<td>Faith-based initiative supporting substance abuse recovery</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Emergency Trauma Institute, Inc.</td>
<td>Wheeling, WV</td>
<td>Development of an ethics curriculum for medical first responders in West Virginia (over two years)</td>
<td>$171,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team for West Virginia Children, Inc.</td>
<td>Huntington, WV</td>
<td>For a partnership with public agencies to develop and enhance key components of a state in-home family education system</td>
<td>$105,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia Child Abuse Network, Inc.</td>
<td>Charleston, WV</td>
<td>To improve response by medical professionals to cases of child abuse</td>
<td>$54,175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Inc.</td>
<td>Elkhart, WV</td>
<td>To enhance the knowledge, skills, and resources provided by West Virginia Birth to Three programs serving children with delays and families experiencing domestic violence (over two years)</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia Community Voices, Inc.</td>
<td>Charleston, WV</td>
<td>West Virginia Partnership for Elder Living to foster the ability of West Virginians to live in settings of their choice</td>
<td>$140,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia Perinatal Partnership Outreach education project to reduce obstetric emergencies</td>
<td>$69,000</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia Perinatal Partnership transition project to create a strategic planning process, to develop a five-year plan, and to initiate three additional perinatal projects</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treatment interventions for pregnant women and new mothers who abuse alcohol and/or drugs (payable over 18 months)</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia Development Office</td>
<td>Charleston, WV</td>
<td>Competitive mini-grants to West Virginia Main Street and ON TRAC communities to increase programming for community wellness</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information and Services</td>
<td>Fairmont, WV</td>
<td>Creation of a standardized in-state course for adult sexual assault nurse examiners</td>
<td>$135,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia Kids Count Fund, Inc.</td>
<td>Charleston, WV</td>
<td>Statewide campaign to educate key opinion leaders about the need for adequate state funding for a quality childcare system, including a quality rating and improvement system</td>
<td>$91,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia Mountain AIRS</td>
<td>Marmont, WV</td>
<td>Expansion of capacity and increase in public knowledge about the West Virginia 211 Network</td>
<td>$61,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
West Virginia University Foundation, Inc. 
Morgantown, WV
Training and Resources for Autism Insurance Navigation (TRAIN) program in West Virginia, to create statewide access to behavioral intervention for children with autistic disorders
$148,000

West Virginia University Eye Institute’s Appalachian Vision Outreach Program
$115,000
To support efforts by health professionals to train Wyoming County volunteers to become community leaders, adopt healthy lifestyles, and encourage other residents to participate in healthy lifestyles
$62,000

Training of health sciences students in a disease prevention model based on personal behavioral change, thereby enhancing their ability to effectively educate and influence patients
$75,000

West Virginians for Affordable Health Care
Charleston, WV
Education of the public on the Affordable Care Act (ACA), and preparation for enrollment in an insurance exchange
$170,000

West Virginia Healthy Kids Coalition, to educate and engage the public on social determinants of health for children and their families
$99,676

Wheeling Health Right, Inc.
Wheeling, WV
Improvement of patient outcomes and reduction of hospital charity care through a medical home model (over two years)
$100,000

West Virginia Grant Makers Association, Inc.
Morgantown, WV
Support for the initiation of the West Virginia Nonprofit Association
$100,000
Support for further efforts to engage corporate foundations and giving programs in strategic and enhanced grantmaking in West Virginia
$80,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Bartlett House, Inc.
Morgantown, WV
Support of capital campaign expenses related to the West Run permanent and transitional housing project
$45,000

Big Creek People In Action, Inc.
War, WV
Technology and training to assist individuals and businesses to function in a technologically advanced society
$50,000

Community Foundation for the Ohio Valley, Inc.
Wheeling, WV
To explore philanthropic opportunities presented by shale oil and gas production in the Northern Panhandle of West Virginia and surrounding areas
$30,000

CommunityWorks in West Virginia, Inc.
Charleston, WV
2012 summer internship program for graduate student internships within community development and housing organizations in West Virginia
$70,500

Friends of the OSM VISTA Team
Beckley, WV
Training program for volunteers of rural nonprofit organizations (over two years)
$100,000

Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation
Charleston, WV
Support for the Appalachia Funders Network, a group of public and private grantmakers that promote funding collaboration, regional strategies, and entrepreneurial development in the Central Appalachian Region
$5,000

Leadership West Virginia, Inc.
Charleston, WV
To engage Leadership WV alumni in continuing community leadership
$70,000

Marshall County Family Resource Network, Inc.
Moundsville, WV
To promote an efficient and viable nonprofit sector through organizational development, professional development, and networking opportunities
$98,000

Southern Appalachian Labor School Foundation, Incorporated
Kincaid, WV
Development of a strategic plan to achieve sustainability in community development
$100,000

Vision Shared, Inc.
Huntington, WV
Support for Generation West Virginia and regional affiliate groups with programs and services that attract and retain talented young adults (over two years)
$175,000

West Virginia Center for Civic Life, Inc.
Charleston, WV
To strengthen community development through civic engagement
$58,000

West Virginia Community Development Hub, Inc.
Fairmont, WV
To support the 2012–2013 work plan of the Hub, including matching funds for the USDA Rural Community Development Initiative
$250,000

West Virginia Development Office
Charleston, WV
Matching funds for the 2012–2013 West Virginia Flex-E-Grant community capacity building mini-grant program supported by the Appalachian Regional Commission
$85,000

West Virginia Grant Makers Association, Inc.
Morgantown, WV
Support for the initiative of the West Virginia Nonprofit Association
$100,000
Support for further efforts to engage corporate foundations and giving programs in strategic and enhanced grantmaking in West Virginia
$80,000
West Virginia University Foundation, Inc.  
Morgantown, WV  
West Virginia Redevelopment Collaborative model to introduce the successful project development approach to the Main Street West Virginia brownfield projects  
$94,000  
Implementation of the Brownfields, Abandoned, and Dilapidated (BAD) buildings to Bucks program to accelerate effective community demolition and redevelopment strategies  
$97,000  

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  

CADCO Foundation  
dba Charleston Area Alliance  
Charleston, WV  
Support for GROW, an entrepreneurial development program (over 18 months)  
$30,000  

Collaborative for the 21st Century Appalachia, Inc.  
Charleston, WV  
To increase markets for local food and develop common branding to assist in promotion of the local food and culinary tourism industries  
$123,000  

EdVenture Group, Inc.  
Morgantown, WV  
West Virginia Entrepreneurs in Action project, to assist K–12 teachers to incorporate entrepreneurship education into instruction (over two years)  
$123,000  

Natural Capital Investment Fund, Inc.  
Shepherdstown, WV  
To support a collaborative application to request federal funds to promote and accelerate job growth and small business formation via local food production clusters as part of the Rural Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge  
$7,933  
Support for the Agricultural Value-Chain Clusters in Rural West Virginia (over three years)  
$415,000  

New River Community and Technical College  
Beckley, WV  
Demonstration project to advance entrepreneurship education resulting in new business development and economic diversification in Southern West Virginia  
$50,000  

Randolph County Affordable Housing and Development Corporation  
Elkins, WV  
Downtown building redevelopment pilot project in Randolph, Barbour, and Tucker Counties (over two years)  
$186,100  

Rivers to Ridges Heritage Trail, Inc.  
Scott Depot, WV  
Strategic planning and program development related to heritage education and destination tourism  
$56,000  

Tucker Community Foundation  
Parsons, WV  
Expansion of production and sales of locally produced foods, and culinary tourism  
$75,000  

Vision Shared, Inc.  
Huntington, WV  
Lemonade Day Pilot Project, a youth entrepreneurship education program teaching children in five counties how to start, own, and operate their own business  
$67,000  
Support for the statewide nonpartisan, nonprofit, community and economic development organization  
$150,000  

West Liberty University Foundation, Inc.  
West Liberty, WV  
To pilot the implementation of the graduate entrepreneurship certification program to engage K–12 teachers in incorporating entrepreneurship education into existing coursework  
$65,000  

West Virginia Coalition for Technology-Based Economic Development, Inc.  
dba TechConnectWV  
Charleston, WV  
Implementation strategies of the chemicals and advanced materials platform of the WV Blueprint for Technology-Based Economic Development (over 18 months)  
$165,000  

West Virginia Department of Education  
Charleston, WV  
To train high school agriculture teachers in preparing the next generation of agricultural entrepreneurs  
$64,000  

West Virginia University Foundation, Inc.  
Morgantown, WV  
For the “EQuad” interdisciplinary major and related projects to support development of entrepreneurship in the energy and environmental sectors (over three years)  
$159,000  
Support for tourism by visitors to the Boy Scouts’ Summit Bechtel Reserve through experiences at college campuses  
$44,659  

SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA  

EDUCATION  

Allegheny County Library Association  
Pittsburgh, PA  
To test a web-based summer reading game for elementary students in Allegheny, Washington, Greene, and Fayette Counties  
$132,000  

Allegheny Intermediate Unit  
Homestead, PA  
Expansion of an arts integration program that teaches literary, dance, and problem-solving skills  
$110,000  

Bricolage  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Pilot of a student-designed theater production as a cross-curricular instructional strategy in partnership with Intermediate Unit 1 Center for Professional Development  
$75,000
Carnegie Mellon University  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Development of an evaluation protocol and teacher’s guide for Carnegie Mellon/ Marshall University CREATE Lab educational technology products  
$75,000

Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Development of an online, searchable directory of regional Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) programs  
$25,000

Catalyst Connection  
Pittsburgh, PA  
To link manufacturers and educators to align course offerings and certifications with industry requirements  
$50,000

Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Establishment of hands-on learning laboratories in museums, libraries, and classrooms in West Virginia and Southwestern Pennsylvania  
$150,000

Foundation for California University of Pennsylvania  
California, PA  
Advanced manufacturing program that engages industry experts to certify high school and college faculty and students (over two years)  
$178,000

Gettysburg Foundation  
Gettysburg, PA  
To engage West Virginia and Pennsylvania history teachers in the design of a shared Civil War curriculum  
$100,000

Grantmakers for Education  
Portland, OR  
Foundation briefing on creativity and technology in education  
$15,000

Intermediate Unit 1  
Coal Center, PA  
Creation of a comprehensive and integrated student data resource for customized professional development  
$88,500  
Collaborative career education project based at a public housing community center (over two years)  
$250,000

For dual-credit career education courses in energy, advanced manufacturing, information and communications, and bio-medical science, in partnership with Penn State University (over two years)  
$100,000

Leadership Pittsburgh, Inc.  
Pittsburgh, PA  
2013 TEDxPittsburgh retreat focusing on creativity, arts, and technology in learning  
$25,000

Pittsburgh Filmmakers/ Pittsburgh Center for the Arts  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Educational materials and activities related to the history and scientific achievements of the Allegheny Observatory, in partnership with Allegheny Intermediate Unit  
$15,000

Pittsburgh Gateways Corporation  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Development of technical education curricula for a consortium of community colleges and universities working in partnership with a group of energy companies  
$150,000

Propel Schools Foundation  
Pittsburgh, PA  
To test a successful charter school model in a Washington County public school, in partnership with Intermediate Unit 1’s Center for Professional Development  
$62,000

Sprout Fund  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Kids+Creativity, a regional consortium of educators, artists, and researchers committed to the integration of arts and technology in learning  
$150,000

Power of 32 Fund  
$10,000

The Women and Girls Foundation of Southwest Pennsylvania  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Engagement of high school females in public policy advocacy  
$100,000

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Allegheny Conference on Community Development  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Program support for the 2012 plan of work  
$220,000

August Wilson Center for African American Culture  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Operating funds  
$50,000

Carnegie Mellon University  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Headwaters Resource Committee project (over two years)  
$42,000  
Creative technologies industry cluster, in partnership with the Pittsburgh Technology Council (over three years)  
$250,000

Chatham University  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Technical assistance to women-owned businesses in partnership with a Community Development Financial Institution lender (over two years)  
$151,000

Children’s Institute of Pittsburgh  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Farm to Community initiatives, including the challenges and barriers communities overcame to develop successful programs  
$5,000

Cleveland Development Foundation  
Cleveland, OH  
TechBelt Initiative to accelerate the region’s ongoing economic transformation by identifying and facilitating technology-based collaborative partnerships  
$25,000
Friends of the Riverfront
Pittsburgh, PA
Addition of Allegheny River communities to the River Town Initiative currently underway on the Monongahela River
$100,000

Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council
Pittsburgh, PA
National conference on the arts and economic development followed by a series of workshops in rural communities
$50,000

Idea Foundry
Pittsburgh, PA
Power of 32 “capture team” project, a collaboration of universities and economic development entities with project management support seeking to more effectively compete for external funding to the region
$150,000

The Mon Valley Initiative
Homestead, PA
Main Street business development in Charleroi and West Newton based on outdoor recreation
$77,500

Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission
Cincinnati, OH
Three-year project to build ORSANCO’s water resources management capacity and to define an appropriate role for ORSANCO to facilitate the effective management of these resources
$60,000

Pennsylvania Environmental Council, Inc.
Pittsburgh, PA
Creation of an interstate map of trails to increase recreation tourism in the Power of 32 region
$15,000

Expansion of the River Town Program along the Monongahela River (over two years)
$200,000

Development of an interstate trail system and regional trail town economic development plan, a Power of 32 project
$46,000

Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Inc.
Pittsburgh, PA
Support for the 2012–2013 season
$75,000

The Pittsburgh Foundation
Pittsburgh, PA
Contribution to the 2012–2013 Pittsburgh Public Service Fund
$25,000

Pittsburgh Opera, Inc.
Pittsburgh, PA
Support for the 2012–2013 season
$75,000

Pittsburgh Public Theater Corporation
Pittsburgh, PA
Support for the 2012–2013 season
$75,000

Pittsburgh Symphony, Inc.
Pittsburgh, PA
Support for the 2012–2013 season
$100,000

The Pittsburgh Trust for Cultural Resources
Pittsburgh, PA
Support for the 2012–2013 season of the Pittsburgh Dance Council
$35,000

University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA
Analysis and publication of regional social and economic trends
$85,000

Port of Pittsburgh Commission
Pittsburgh, PA
Pittsburgh marine corridor natural gas conversion feasibility assessment to determine the viability of converting river towboats to LNG, a Power of 32 project
$98,750

The Progress Fund
Greensburg, PA
Trail Town Program, a regional economic development initiative based on outdoor recreation
$125,000

Renewable Manufacturing Gateway
Pittsburgh, PA
To stimulate growth in manufacturing related to renewable energy and clean technology
$150,000

RIDC Fund for Economic Growth
Pittsburgh, PA
To support the creation of the Power of 32 Site Fund
$50,000

Steel Industry Heritage, Inc.
a/k/a Rivers of Steel National Heritage
Homestead, PA
To grow the tourism industry in river and trail towns of Southwestern Pennsylvania (over two years)
$150,000

Sustainable Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA
To train business and municipal leaders in sustainability practices that improve performance and reduce costs
$124,000

Vibrant Pittsburgh
(P/The Regional Opportunity Center)
Pittsburgh, PA
Latino talent attraction initiative (over 18 months)
$100,000

OTHER
The Foundation Center
New York, NY
2012 program support
$9,000

The Grantmakers of Western Pennsylvania
Pittsburgh, PA
Operating and program support in 2012
$20,300

The Pittsburgh Trust for Cultural Resources
Pittsburgh, PA
To endow a performance fund at The Benedum Center, in memory of Paul R. Jenkins, past president and trustee of the Benedum Foundation
$100,000
2012 Financial Information

The Foundation’s fiscal year corresponds to the calendar year. At the end of 2012, the market value of the Foundation’s investments, including cash, was $343,549,325. Grants authorized during the year totaled $14,770,058. The Foundation makes multi-year commitments, with payments scheduled over as many as three years. At year-end 2012, outstanding grant commitments totaled $2,893,300.

The following indicates invested assets, and authorizations and payments of grants and program-related investments over the last five years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Investments Including Cash</th>
<th>Grants Authorized and Program-Related Investments*</th>
<th>Grant and Program-Related Investment Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>$288,825,313</td>
<td>$21,458,369</td>
<td>$18,862,619</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>$340,177,241</td>
<td>$9,642,700</td>
<td>$13,724,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>$364,946,789</td>
<td>$15,636,550</td>
<td>$15,222,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>$320,871,945</td>
<td>$15,102,393</td>
<td>$15,710,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$343,549,325</td>
<td>$14,770,058</td>
<td>$14,587,325</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*includes contingent grants

The Foundation maintains a diverse portfolio. The following table summarizes the cost and fair value of the Foundation’s investments as of December 31, 2012. In its audited financial statements and for the federal tax return, the Foundation reports investments at fair value:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2012</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Fair Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short-term investments</td>
<td>$424,948</td>
<td>$424,948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic</td>
<td>37,513,093</td>
<td>45,060,484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>43,947,448</td>
<td>59,980,461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tactical asset allocation</td>
<td>11,165,462</td>
<td>12,647,961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed income</td>
<td>30,852,930</td>
<td>33,812,830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hedge funds</td>
<td>64,681,823</td>
<td>71,437,115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real assets</td>
<td>39,960,089</td>
<td>43,509,124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private limited partnerships</td>
<td>67,323,054</td>
<td>68,586,707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>295,868,847</td>
<td>335,459,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program-related investments</td>
<td>4,667,405</td>
<td>4,667,405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>300,536,252</td>
<td>340,127,035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>3,422,290</td>
<td>3,422,290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>303,958,542</td>
<td>343,549,325</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Summarized Financial Information

ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December 31,</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>$ 340,127,035</td>
<td>$ 313,577,223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and equivalents</td>
<td>3,422,290</td>
<td>7,294,722</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued investment income and other assets</td>
<td>400,055</td>
<td>427,061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables from private limited partnerships</td>
<td>3,811,929</td>
<td>8,439,914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and equipment, net of depreciation</td>
<td>519,198</td>
<td>554,715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td>$ 348,280,507</td>
<td>$ 330,293,635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES AND UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants payable</td>
<td>$ 2,893,300</td>
<td>$ 2,649,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted net assets</td>
<td>345,387,207</td>
<td>327,644,135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities and unrestricted net assets</strong></td>
<td>$ 348,280,507</td>
<td>$ 330,293,635</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CHANGE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year ended December 31,</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>INCOME</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividends</td>
<td>$ 1,394,217</td>
<td>$ 2,291,642</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>1,707,647</td>
<td>1,698,394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net gain (loss) on investments</td>
<td>26,935,280</td>
<td>(24,476,027)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partnership income</td>
<td>6,111,787</td>
<td>4,518,731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total income (loss)</strong></td>
<td>$ 36,148,931</td>
<td>($15,967,260)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GRANTS AND EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants (net of refunds)</td>
<td>$ 14,267,024</td>
<td>$ 14,809,190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment management and custodial fees</td>
<td>2,169,847</td>
<td>2,455,819</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant administration</td>
<td>1,481,886</td>
<td>1,492,392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other administration</td>
<td>572,265</td>
<td>572,385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal excise tax (benefit)</td>
<td>(85,163)</td>
<td>341,754</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total grants and expenses</strong></td>
<td>$ 18,405,859</td>
<td>$ 19,671,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Increase (Decrease) in Unrestricted Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>$ 17,743,072</td>
<td>($35,638,800)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This information is summarized from the books and records of the Foundation. Copies of audited financial statements are available upon request.
Excerpts from the Fifth Codicil to the Last Will & Testament of Michael L. Benedum

The disposition of a not inconsiderable estate is never an easy assignment. It has been a thorny & laborious problem for me because, recognizing my frailty & inadequacy, I have not been able to lose sight of the awesome responsibility involved.

If I could have looked upon my material goods as personal property, belonging to me alone, my task would have been immeasurably lighter. But I have never regarded my possessions in that light. Providence gives no fee simple title to such possessions. As I have seen it, all of the elements of the earth belong to the Creator of all things, and He has, as a part of the Divine Purpose, distributed them unevenly among His children, holding each relatively accountable for their wise use and disposition.

I have always felt that I have been only a trustee for such material wealth as Providence has placed in my hands. This trusteeship has weighed heavily upon me. In carrying out this final responsibility of my stewardship, I have sought to utilize such wisdom and understanding of equity as the Creator has given me. No one with any regard for his responsibility to his God and his fellow man should do less. No one can do more.

As I have seen it, life is but a proving ground where Providence tests the character and mettle of those He places upon the earth. The whole course of mortal existence is a series of problems, sorrows & difficulties. If that existence be rightly conducted, it becomes a progress towards the fulfillment of human destiny. We must pass through darkness to reach the light.

Throughout my adult life, day by day & year by year, I have been instilled with the conviction that wealth cannot be measured in terms of money, stocks, bonds, broad acres or by ownership of mine and mill. These cannot bear testimony to the staple of real excellence of man or woman. Those who use a material yardstick to appraise their wealth and foolishly imagine themselves to be rich are objects of pity. In their ignorance and misanthropic isolation, they suffer from shrinkage of the soul.

All of us aspire to a higher and better life beyond this, but I feel that the individual who seeks to climb the ladder alone will never find the way to Paradise. Only those who sustain the faltering ones on the rungs above and extend a helping hand to the less fortunate on the rungs below, can approach the end with the strength of sublime faith and confidence.

During his lifetime in the oil and gas business, Michael Benedum amassed a fortune, ranking him in his day among the 100 wealthiest Americans. Michael Benedum operated his worldwide business from corporate headquarters in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Benedum established residence in Pittsburgh in 1907 and lived here for over 50 years. They named the Foundation in memory of their only child, Claude Worthington Benedum, who died in 1918 at age 20. In creating the Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Benedum expressed the wish that grant-making be focused in West Virginia and Pittsburgh, their native and adopted homes.
At the end of life each of us must face the great teacher that we call death. Stern, cold & irresistible, it walks the earth in dread mystery and lays its hands upon all. The wealth of empires cannot stay its approach. As I near my rendezvous with this common leveler of mankind, which takes prince and pauper alike to the democracy of the grave, I do so with resignation to the will of God, and with faith in His eternal justice.

Life has been sweet to me … sweet in the loved ones that have been mine, sweet in the friends who have surrounded me & rewarding in the opportunities that have come my way. I could not leave this earth with any degree of happiness and satisfaction if I felt that I had not tried to bring some of these joys to those less fortunate than I have been.

We know not where seed may sprout. In the poorest and most unregarded child who seems to be abandoned to ignorance and evil, there may slumber virtue, intellect and genius. It is our duty to sow and to nurture, leaving it to others to harvest the fruits of our efforts.

While I am conscious that my love for the land that gave me birth has been an influence in guiding the disposition of my estate, there are other practical reasons why I have favored my native state of West Virginia. It is not that I am unmindful or unappreciative of my adopted home of Pennsylvania, but rather that I have sought to appraise and balance the needs of each and the available potential for supplying those needs.

I cannot close my eyes to the realistic consideration that Pittsburgh and Pennsylvania abound in riches, having a citizenship in which men of great wealth are more common than rare. West Virginia is in a less fortunate position. There can be no question but that its needs are much greater than those of my adopted home. Consequently, in making specific provisions for West Virginia institutions, I have done so in good conscience, with a sense of equity & with recognition of a responsibility to distribute my estate in a way that will bring the greatest good to the greatest number. This decision was not made lightly or impetuously.

Conscious that in this Codicil to my Last Will & Testament, I am figuratively speaking from the grave, and that the great book of my account with the Creator has been closed beyond change or amendment, I submit my soul to His tender mercy, and my memory to the generosity & compassion of my fellow man.

Signed by Michael L. Benedum on the 15th day of June 1957
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Mary Hunt
Senior Program Officer
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