COMMON GROUND

Strong Connections for the Region Centered on the Ohio River Valley
ON THE COVER Paddlers enjoy a summer afternoon on the Monongahela River at Fairmont, West Virginia.
In 1998, in the last Annual Report before his retirement from the Benedum Foundation, Paul Jenkins noted that a significant challenge for the future would be whether Benedum’s grants programs could transcend political boundaries. In those days, regional collaboration within the states we serve was far more unusual than typical, and collaboration across state lines was very rare.

The Foundation’s 2005 Annual Report examined the issue of regional cooperation. The collective conclusion of regional leaders interviewed for the story was cautiously optimistic; conversations were beginning around topics that would have been impossible just a few years before. The examples cited in that report underscored the reality that “regionalism” is best thought of not in terms of a single geographic location, but instead as any area in which the people and institutions share a problem—or an opportunity—that can be addressed most effectively through collaborative effort.

The change in this region since 2005 has been remarkable. Whereas regional collaboration was gaining traction by then, but still seen as unusual and difficult, it has become common. The Power of 32, a visioning and development project that covered the 32 counties in Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, and Maryland that are part of the Pittsburgh economic region, had both successes and failures, but demonstrated that when focused on a project that addresses a shared opportunity or challenge, people and entities are prepared to act together.

The most significant motivator for collaborative thinking, however, was not the Power of 32, but the emergence of shale gas, and the common opportunities and challenges that abundant resource creates across the entire region.

Competition across state lines, and between sub-regions within the states that are part of our region, will continue. So will the benefits that competition inspires. What has become common, however, is the sense that regional collaboration is often necessary to achieve scale—as it has been said, to “grow the pie so we can fight over bigger slices.” And with respect to social issues, such as education, opioid addiction, worker training, affordable housing, and neighborhood development, we see evidence every day that the people and the region we serve fully understand that sharing ideas and experiences, and working at the most appropriate scale to solve a given problem, are not curiosities, but critical to success.

Effective collaboration is the most dramatic and dynamic change the Benedum Foundation has seen within our region in the last 20 years. I leave it to my successor, Jennifer Giovannitti, to identify the major challenges and changes ahead, but thoughtful regional cooperation will be central to meaningful progress.

William P. Getty, President
Jennifer Giovannitti, a community development manager for the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond and nationally known policy expert on rural development strategies, has been named the next president of the Benedum Foundation. A Pennsylvania native who has worked extensively in West Virginia, she will succeed William P. “Pat” Getty in mid-October 2018.

Ms. Giovannitti, 48, currently leads strategic programs and community-based initiatives, most notably in community investment, human capital, and access to credit and capital, for the Fed’s Fifth District, which includes Virginia and West Virginia. She formed the West Virginia Loan Fund Collaborative in 2012 to better understand the impact of small business lending in underserved communities. Before 2011, she served as chief executive of the Randolph County Economic Development Authority and directed the West Virginia Wood Technology Center, an adult technical training site. From 1999 through 2003, she managed the successful redevelopment of the Elkins (West Virginia) Rail Yard, which preserved historic structures, reconstructed a historic bridge, and added tourism infrastructure and public amenities. The project was a model for rural communities redeveloping brownfield sites, quadrupling downtown property values within four years and stabilizing the city core.

Ms. Giovannitti obtained her MA in Community and Regional Planning from the University of British Columbia, and her BA in Planning and Urban Studies from the University of Pittsburgh in 1993. She is a member of the steering committees for West Virginia Forward, a statewide initiative to advance the state’s economy, and the Appalachian Funders Network. She is a graduate of LEAD Virginia (2017) and Leadership West Virginia (2005).

“Regional partnerships are becoming the norm. In most of my work through the Federal Reserve, I have seen the greatest success and sustainability coming from broad collaborations and inclusive strategies. With that perspective, it will be my absolute privilege to continue the Foundation’s mission to support innovative ideas and nurture communities.”

Jennifer Giovannitti, incoming president
A region begins with one person, one family, one community at a time. We look at the landscape, share the opportunities and challenges we see with our neighbors, and decide together how to move ahead. We find agreement on common ground.

Forward momentum takes energy. And patience. The Benedum Foundation is proud to support the people improving our region’s quality of life through their talent and hard work. They advance the common good of West Virginia, western Pennsylvania, and eastern Ohio.

It’s sometimes difficult to discern progress at ground level. But from above, it’s clear that good ideas are contagious. In this report, we look at four examples of powerful regional cooperation.

1 Energy and Advanced Manufacturing
Prosperity flows to where value is added to raw materials. The region’s universities are designing revolutionary products. Plastics are just the start.

2 Training the Future Workforce
As the region transitions from blue-collar industries, all workers are becoming knowledge workers. Corporations and community colleges are leading the charge, with agile programs that help both adult learners and schoolchildren prepare for new careers.

3 Regional Recreation
Rail-trails and riverfronts enhance communities. Long-distance trails and natural amenities also attract visitors to small towns, keeping them vibrant and healthy.

4 Strides Against Chronic Disease
New therapies bring hope to rural communities.
WE’RE ENERGIZING.

University research looks ahead of the shale curve.
The word is out. The Marcellus and Utica shale fields under our feet aren’t simply the largest known natural gas finds in the world: they represent the region’s largest economic opportunity since World War II.

The region’s natural gas liquids are unique: they produce high proportions of propane and ethane. Ethane can be converted into ethylene, a widely used petrochemical building block. That’s why major plastics manufacturers are investing in the region. Shell is building a $6 billion facility in Beaver County, Pennsylvania. An Asian partnership, PPT and Daelim Chemical, is eyeing a similar investment across the Ohio in Belmont County.

As part of the bow wave of activity, the region’s best minds are strategizing on how to support the industry with master plans for infrastructure and far-sighted research on the high-value materials that ethane could create.

In 2011, Shell Chemicals chose Pennsylvania, rather than West Virginia, as a site for its future cracker plant. But Brian Anderson, director of West Virginia University’s Energy Institute, realized that universities and non-profits throughout the region — from Case Western Reserve University in Ohio to Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh, as well as the Mid-Atlantic Technology, Research and Innovation Center and West Virginia University — could step up with major contributions.

“We’re trying to develop a robust manufacturing sector using the raw materials with which we are blessed in our region. Research at our universities will create innovations that add value to the raw materials, creating new products and new markets,” says Anderson.

Key to satisfying manufacturer demand is the reliable supply of natural gas and natural gas liquids. In 2016, WVU led a team of geologists from the state surveys of West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Ohio that mapped underground sites where natural gas liquids could be safely stored for delivery to manufacturers. The result drew the outline of the Appalachian Storage & Trading Hub. The natural gas liquids delivery network would link Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, and Kentucky, and could someday rival the Gulf Coast industrial corridor. Supported by infrastructure development such as the Appalachian Storage & Trading Hub, the region can see major investments in advanced natural gas power plants, chemical and polymer manufacturing, and high-end chemicals. A possible $1.9 billion loan guarantee from the U.S. Department of Energy brings the infrastructure project a huge step closer to reality.

Real progress has created real teamwork. The governors of Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia recently renewed their collaboration in the Tri-State Shale Coalition for a second three-year term. The effort calls for ongoing cooperation in marketing, workforce development, transportation and infrastructure, and research and innovation.

The three states overcame obvious obstacles to agreement, says Cory Dennison. Now president and C.E.O. of West Virginia: A Vision Shared, he observed early discussions as an aide to West Virginia governor Earl Ray Tomblin.

“There was real concern: will we lose business to our neighbor states?” he recalled of the early discussions. “But the recent activity proves it: all the states in the region are going to benefit. We’re maximizing our resource and adding value to it right here. What’s exciting for me is that not many states have been able to do this. We’re trailblazing.”

“Natural gas can be used in the automotive and aerospace industries, in creating and repairing infrastructure, and in renewable energy equipment, like wind blades. University research partnerships already yield lightweight applications in bridges and infrastructure, offering economic development teams in each state new possibilities.”

Dianne Anderson, former BP executive and former Case Western Reserve University Energy Institute Director
New low-cost discoveries like carbon fibers have already renewed 29 bridges throughout West Virginia. Non-corrosive, more durable, and cheaper than traditional methods, composites can be used worldwide to stabilize structures in earthquakes, hurricanes, and other natural disasters.
Researchers at the Constructed Facilities Center and the Center for the Integration of Composites into Infrastructure at WVU, directed by Dr. Hota GangaRao (at right), test how joints can be strengthened with composites. Structures commonly built with timber, steel or steel-reinforced concrete are candidates for the new technology.
WE’RE TRAINING TO EXCEL.

Big opportunities demand new workforce skills.
The Shell Chemical plant now rising on the Ohio River, one of two or three likely ethane crackers in the region, will create 600 jobs onsite. Overall, shale-related investment in Appalachia will translate into an estimated 100,000 permanent new jobs by 2025. Workers trained to monitor complex automated processes will be in demand. They will need post-secondary education that’s effective and convenient. For the next generation, fluency in STEAM skills (science, technology, arts, engineering and math) will be essential from kindergarten to career.

In May 2018, Shell announced the first job postings for the Pennsylvania cracker plant it will open in 2020: 40 full-time positions, likely paying $60,000 a year, in process technology. Community College of Beaver County, just two miles from the new plant in Monaca, foresaw that opportunity three years earlier.

“We started working before Shell made its final decision on the location,” says John Goberish, dean of workforce development and continuing education. “We began to talk locally with Shell, Nova BSF, and First Energy, asking them to vet our curriculum for an associate degree in process technology. It’s a platform that serves a variety of industries: petrochemicals, wastewater, paper, pulp, and pharmaceuticals. It’s deliberately flexible. Students are not limited to one field.”

In 2015, CCBC admitted its first class; to date, it has graduated 24 students. Shell has supported the program with a $1 million grant to build a pilot plant on campus with real world processes and operations and has provided partial scholarships to process technology students. The company’s executives visit frequently.

CCBC collaborated with four Ohio and West Virginia community colleges in the successful ShaleNET program, which standardized skills for entry-level positions in the gas drilling industry. Agreeing on a system of common credentials, the program let students stack coursework at participating schools, progressing from certifications to bachelor’s degrees.

“We need a continuum so people can learn throughout their careers,” explains Dan Schweitzer, director of the Oil and Gas and Environmental program at Stark State College in Canton, Ohio. “So we share a core curriculum and branch out. One college could concentrate in process technology. Another could offer mechatronics.”

Now 22 institutions of higher education in 27 counties in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia are drafting reciprocity agreements on coursework, payments, and specialties in a regional consortium called the Tristate Energy and Advanced Manufacturing (TEAM) Consortium. Chevron, the Benedum Foundation and Catalyst Connection, a Manufacturing Extension Partnership, support the effort, which includes 65 member organizations. “This is a great opportunity to share ideas and avoid duplication,” says Ed Mowrer, manager of Belmont College’s Energy Institute. As PTT Global Energy advances its plans for a $10 billion cracker plant 20 miles from its Ohio campus, Mowrer sees a clear path from the campus to new opportunities.

The TEAM Consortium projects that the eight educational institutions currently participating will graduate 2,400 students over the next six years.

“Planning Ahead
A veteran of the oil and gas industry, Jody Eldridge knows the boom-or-bust cycles of drilling in the region. “In 2016, a lot of rigs laid down. A lot of people lost their jobs. No one knew if we were going to be in business. Then I heard Michael Marr from Shell speak about its new cracker plant and training programs at CCBC [Community College of Beaver County],” she says. “It made so much sense to get training to move to downstream—the end product, rather than the raw material.”

Enrolling on a scholarship offered by Shell while working full-time, Eldridge, 54, earned her associate degree in process technology from CCBC in August 2018. She immediately accepted a position at Shell as a production operator beginning this fall.

NEXT PAGE Cranes bristle along the Ohio River at Monaca, Pa., where Shell is building a $6 billion ethane cracker facility.

“Our three-state region is one laborshed in which workers commute to training and work.”

Betsy McIntyre, director, Tristate Energy and Advanced Manufacturing Consortium (TEAM)
POWER Grants: A Powerful Workforce Development Tool

The Appalachian Regional Commission has jump-started job training efforts through the POWER initiative, awarding $94 million to help coal-impacted communities in 250 Appalachian counties diversify and grow their economies. These 114 investments are projected to create or retain almost 8,800 jobs, leverage an additional $210 million in investment, and prepare thousands of workers and students with globally competitive skills and opportunities in the region’s economy.

Fluent in Technology and Robotics, from Kindergarten Onward

Steel and coal’s decline in the region turned students away from technical training toward four-year college degrees. “Now we’re working to change the misperception that four-year schools are the only option. We’re aiming for transferable skills, at college or career tech,” says Lee Ann Wainwright, Chevron’s policy, government, and public affairs specialist. The corporation is leading the Appalachian Partnership Initiative (API), a long-term $20 million investment to prepare the next generation of skilled workers. The API emerged when Chevron approached the Benedum Foundation about cooperation in the tri-state area. Led by Chevron, the partnership now includes the Allegheny Conference on Community Development, Grable Foundation, Catalyst Connection, and RAND Corporation. The group coordinates funding and leverages other corporate involvement.

Working with K–12 schools in Southwestern Pennsylvania, Chevron has funded three Fab Labs, offering a suite of digital fabrication and rapid prototyping machines, including 3D printers. Chevron also supports Project Lead the Way, which integrates STEM learning in 96 schools across the tri-state area.

Universities in West Virginia and Southwestern Pennsylvania lead teachers and young learners to new technologies. Carnegie Mellon University’s CREATE Lab (an acronym for Community Robotics Education and Technology Empowerment) works with teacher training programs at four regional universities. The effort has engaged nearly 35,000 individuals and 700 organizations. Grad students from CMU’s Entertainment Technology Center apply video gaming techniques to engage learners in rural classrooms.

The model began when Illah Nourbakhsh, head of CREATE and now a Benedum Trustee, expressed interest in developing technologies to respond to educational challenges. The Benedum Foundation brokered the partnership with Marshall University, a teacher training service, to engage learners in isolated rural schools. The now-permanent partnership built on the complementary strengths of pedagogy at Harless and technology at CMU. Now the network has expanded to schools of education at West Liberty and Carlow Universities.
WE’RE CELEBRATING.

Our riverfronts and trails put out the welcome mat.
Beautiful natural assets sustain small towns throughout the Ohio Valley, letting residents exercise, relax, and enjoy their surroundings. Over the past decade, they have also discovered that creating riverfronts and recreational trails also builds prosperity.

The Progress Fund’s effort to create sustainable development through tourism was indeed trailblazing. The Trail Town Program has spread across the country. In its work in communities along the Great Allegheny Passage, a 150-mile stretch in Pennsylvania and Maryland, the Trail Town Program has documented $50 million in annual business revenues along the route. A sister effort, the River Town Program, is helping municipalities along the Monongahela River reclaim their waterfronts as assets. Towns like Monongahela, Pennsylvania, and Fairmont, West Virginia, are using creative placemaking to redefine their communities with new waterfront amenities for recreation, art, and music.

Small towns like Fairmont want to use natural resources responsibly to provide wider benefits to the community. “We need visitors to thrive,” explains John Provins, entertainment director of Marion County Parks and Recreation. “More people pass by on I-79 than live here. And attracting a few extra people in a town this small, you can see the impact.”

The West Bend and Tygart Rivers meet at Fairmont to form the Monongahela. It’s also where regional trail and riverfront development intersect.

Over the past 15 years, the city and Marion County pieced together sections of the North Bend Rail Trail. Now only two short sections on either side of riverfront Palatine Park remain to be built before the path becomes part of the Parkersburg to Pittsburgh Trail. When complete, the 180-mile trail, dubbed the P2P, will cross the Pennsylvania border to connect with the Great Allegheny Passage. Entrepreneur Cliff Jackson has purchased an old industrial property next to the park. He expects it will become a busy trailhead where recreational businesses can flourish.

Jointly managed by the Marion County Commission and its parks and recreation department, Palatine Park has been transformed with support from federal transportation grants and Fairmont’s Main Street program. A local hotel tax generates $100,000 a year for entertainment and a splash park for children. A farmers market is a popular addition. An art walk in the park was the vision of M.B.A. students at Fairmont State University, who drafted a creative placemaking plan and raised money for a juried artist competition. The first sculpture, by Morgantown’s Christian DeLeon, was dedicated in August 2018.

Provins says the River Town Program has provided valuable advice. When the city created kayak launches at the park, nearby towns did the same. Now a paddling trail links four launch points in the Opekiska Pool south of Morgantown. “We’re cooperating,” he says. “The big idea is more access.”

**A Lifelong Goal**

In 1977, John Provins, a senior at Fairview High School, joined a county committee to beautify Palatine Park in Fairmont, West Virginia. Forty years later, he’s still on the job, and his dream has come true. Marion County has resurrected a rundown riverfront site into a popular destination for the whole community, with a performance pavilion, spray park, farmers market, and boat launch. Provins, 59, plans and schedules events that attract fans of all ages. The park, he says, “has given us a place to gather and celebrate what we’ve got.”

**“The big idea is more access.”**

John Provins, Marion County Parks and Recreation entertainment director and president, Main Street Fairmont
To fund the beautification of Palatine Park, Marion County pieced together funding from several sources. The local share of the coal severance tax provided $3 million for park development, while a hotel tax generated $100,000 a year for entertainment programs.
Palatine Park draws crowds to free events. On featured summer weekends, more than 3,000 people converge for concerts that may feature swing dancing lessons, and Fourth of July fireworks are a festive tradition.

A local paddling club and the popularity of Paddlefest, a regional event, make Palatine Park a busy launch point for kayaks and paddleboards. A new business, SUP Palatine, has recently opened to offer rentals and lessons.
Adding Trails to Riverfronts: Building a Path Through 51 Counties

Riverfront beautification and trails go hand in hand: when the 180-mile Parkersburg to Pittsburgh Trail completes its link through Fairmont, both the town and the region will benefit. Abandoned rail lines abound in the region, but turning them into a recreational network requires intensive collaboration. Since 2011, iHEART Trails — the Industrial Heartland Trails Coalition — has worked in New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia to connect the dots. More than 100 trail organizations are planning and building shared-use trails. They are halfway to their 2033 goal of 1,500 networked miles.

Large trail networks make huge economic impacts, but it has been difficult for individual municipalities to realize them. Towns are prohibited from working across state lines. They lack the resources to make major land purchases from private owners. Too often, their jurisdiction ends at their own borders.

Since 2011, the Pennsylvania Environmental Council has helped solved those issues. “PEC, the Rails to Trails Conservancy, and the National Park Service help work across state lines,” explains Deb Frawley, PEC’s program coordinator for trails and recreation. “We troubleshoot. There are lots of pieces. Say an old rail line did cross state lines, but now, the property owner needs someone to be the buyer for the trail. We have a couple possibilities that meet their goals — for example, a land trust or another nonprofit conservation organization that can purchase a right of way.” Local trail planners have a valuable tool: free access to iHEART Trails’ online geographic information system that maps and categorizes potential trail parcels. “The economic development angle also motivates municipalities and counties,” says Frawley. “By supporting trails and even providing funding, they are realizing the economic benefits that connected trails provide.”
WE’RE HEALING.

Community programs lend a hand for health.
In rural Appalachia, where hospital access is limited, the region’s biggest killers are well known. Over the past five years, health care providers in rural West Virginia have pioneered effective treatments that address two of the region’s biggest causes of death: diabetes and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, or COPD. Clinic-based pulmonary rehabilitation and visits from community health workers have yielded strong, cost-effective results. Now West Virginia is inspiring colleagues in Kentucky, North Carolina, and elsewhere to adopt those approaches.

COPD survivor Grace Anne Dorney Koppel says her family’s foundation didn’t set out to be a rural funder. But research showed the prevalence of COPD in West Virginia is the nation’s highest, at 10.6 percent, with even greater rates in rural counties. That made its rural clinics a natural place to test pulmonary rehab. Led by Cabin Creek Health Systems, the Appalachian Pulmonary Health Project unites nine sites in West Virginia, Kentucky, and North Carolina. Funders include Benedum, the Dorney-Koppel Foundation, Jay and Sharon Rockefeller, the United Mine Workers, the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust, Charleston Medical Center, Sisters Health Foundation, and Big Sandy Health Care. Rehab programs also operate in New Orleans and Maryland.

Dr. Dan Doyle is medical director of the Breathing Center at the Cabin Creek Dawes site. “Grace Anne Dorney and Ted Koppel were the spark and the sustainers for our project,” Doyle says. “Based on their vision, we made improved access to pulmonary rehabilitation and quality-assured spirometry our main goals for the first four years. In 2018, we added two additional goals: primary prevention of COPD and chronic care management for persons with chronic lung diseases.” The partnership took advantage of Project ECHO (Expanded Community Health Outreach), which connects primary care providers to experts on the disease. Since 2015, participating professionals have conducted live online sessions on lung disease and rehabilitation along with individual case presentations, using a model created in New Mexico.

“ECHO was first proposed as telemedicine, for patient diagnosis,” explains Dorney-Koppel. “This is a different take, with expert presentations, questions on specific cases within practice areas, and opportunities to brainstorm with others. It’s a vital means of connecting people,” allowing them to participate in national and international videoconferences. West Virginia University is also using ECHO to connect other specialists in opioid addiction treatment, hepatitis, and psychiatry.

Now the Pulmonary Health Project is sharing data with the federal Health Resources and Services Administration that prove that clinic-based rehab is as effective as that conducted in hospitals. Both hospitals and primary care providers seek reimbursement rates for pulmonary rehab that equal those for cardiac rehab.

“We now have many hundreds of graduates who can manage their COPD — a real achievement for a disease with no cure.”

Grace Anne Dorney Koppel, president, COPD Foundation and Dorney-Koppel Foundation
Right: Jackson General’s Grace Anne Dorney Pulmonary Rehabilitation Center includes sophisticated equipment like spirometers, pulse oxygen monitors, and exercise machines. Patients gather twice a week during the 12-week sessions, then continue to exercise at the center to maintain their gains.

Left: Patient Joe Wyatt competes to blow the biggest bubble during a therapy session. “They have a blast, and they practice improving their airflow. It’s a fun competition,” says therapist Angel Anderson.

Next Page: Nurse and patient Connie Donohew manages her oxygen supply between cardio exercises.
Community Health Workers Pilot Adopted in Ohio and Kentucky

Proving that preventive care improves wellness for those with common chronic diseases and is immensely cost-effective, an innovative West Virginia model has been adopted in rural Ohio and Kentucky, with support from insurers.

Marshall University School of Medicine in Huntington, West Virginia, has received a $1.3 million POWER grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission to employ 26 community health workers who coordinate day-to-day care for high-risk patients with diabetes, heart failure, and COPD. Supervised and trained by registered nurses or other clinicians, the workers follow more than 300 patients across ten coal-impacted counties in southeastern Ohio, eastern Kentucky, and central West Virginia. Directed by Richard D. Crespo, Ph.D., professor and longtime researcher in the department of family and community health at Marshall’s Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, the project will leverage $780,000 over the life of the award. The Benedum Foundation, the Sisters Health Foundation, the Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation, and the Pallottine Foundation of Buckhannon support the project.
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 2017 were $380,000,000. Since its inception in 1944, the Foundation has made nearly 8,500 grants totaling more than $487,000,000.

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 grantmaking be focused in West Virginia and Pittsburgh, their native and adopted homes.

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 more than 70 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 provide 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.

If you are unsure as to the alignment of your project with our guidelines, or have not yet spoken with a Program Director, please email a brief summary of your project to info@benedum.org. A member of our program staff will be in touch within ten business days of your inquiry.

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.
Although some of our grants have impact in both West Virginia and Southwestern Pennsylvania, for ease of reference, grants authorized in 2017 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

**Carnegie Mellon University**
Pittsburgh, PA
For a tri-state peer learning and professional development network of schools hosting Entertainment Technology Center educational technologies and curricula
$125,000
For the design, testing, and installation of educational tools and laboratories in West Virginia schools
$200,000

**Green Building Alliance**
Pittsburgh, PA
For a cohort of West Virginia schools to join an educational network that advances the principles of sustainability, innovative curriculum development, and socially-responsible project-based learning
$92,500

**Heritage Farm Foundation**
Huntington, WV
For creation, in partnership with RESA 2, Marshall University’s Harless Center, and Carnegie Mellon University’s CREATE Lab, of-out-of-school learning projects and virtual field trips for middle school history classes (over two years)
$179,000

**Kanawha County Board of Education**
Charleston, WV
To develop a teacher-designed online learning program that can be shared by all West Virginia school districts
$100,000

**Manchester Craftsmen’s Guild**
Pittsburgh, PA
To integrate jazz into music, history, and language arts classes in West Virginia Schools using teaching artists and college music majors (over two years)
$175,000

**Marshall University Foundation Incorporated**
Huntington, WV
To create an early childhood applied research and teacher training center for southern West Virginia
$160,000

**Oglebay Institute**
Wheeling, WV
For residencies by teaching artists in Northern Panhandle West Virginia schools (over two years)
$186,000

**Pierpont Foundation Inc.**
Fairmont, WV
To pilot a program that would enable career and technical education students to enroll in community college courses during their senior year
$151,000

**Regional Education Service Agency 3 (RESA 3)**
Dunbar, WV
For a national model of individualized mathematics instruction for elementary school students
$157,000

**The Education Alliance — Business and Community for Public Schools, Inc.**
Charleston, WV
To develop a West Virginia Graduate Profile that exceeds current graduation requirements and includes college and career skills
$172,000
For a cohort of rural high school teachers to develop STEM courses that include classroom learning, fabrication lab projects, and online learning at home (over two years)
$169,000

**West Liberty University Foundation Inc.**
West Liberty, WV
For a science education program that combines outdoor learning labs with advanced educational technologies
$125,000

**West Virginia Department of Education and the Arts**
Charleston, WV
To increase the rigor of West Virginia’s Professional Development School teacher preparation programs
$70,000
For a conference on the Professional Development School model of teacher preparation
$10,000

### HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

**Active Southern West Virginia Inc.**
Beckley, WV
To improve health through social support and physical fitness programs
$40,500

**American Heart Association West Virginia**
Charleston, WV
To address the health behaviors that have the greatest impact on chronic disease through evidenced-based programs (over two years)
$150,000

**Cabell-Huntington Health Department**
Huntington, WV
For expansion of collaborative programs to support regional harm reduction services and drug recovery
$90,000

**Cabin Creek Health Center Inc.**
Dawes, WV
For sustaining and replicating rural pulmonary rehabilitation in West Virginia through the Grace Ann Dorney Pulmonary Rehabilitation Program
$36,000

**West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission**
Charleston, WV
For a planning effort to redesign the public higher education system, with a focus on program quality, cost effectiveness, and accessibility
$85,000

**West Virginia University Foundation, Inc.**
Morgantown, WV
To create a center for educational innovation that will oversee applied research, pilot programs, and policy summits (over three years)
$225,000

**Wheeling Country Day School**
Wheeling, WV
To create a center for multi-sensory learning as part of the West Liberty University professional development school network
$185,000

**WVMA Educational Fund, Inc.**
Charleston, WV
To promote career opportunities in manufacturing through business-school partnerships
$94,000
2017 GRANTS CONTINUED

CAMC Health Education and Research Institute, Inc. (dba CAMC Institute)
Charleston, WV
To promote evidenced-based policies and practices that improve nutrition and physical activity environments in childcare centers
$150,000

CASA for Children, Inc.
Moundsville, WV
To provide facilitator training in an evidenced-based curriculum for volunteers in the West Virginia Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Network
$12,000

Community Health Association
Ripley, WV
To create a Grace Anne Dorney Pulmonary Rehabilitation program at Jackson General Hospital to serve patients with lung diseases
$50,000

Facing Hunger Foodbank Inc.
Huntington, WV
To provide medically-indicated food to people in need in partnership with health care providers and professional dieticians
$100,000

Future of Nursing West Virginia
Charleston, WV
To analyze health care workforce data to develop strategic interventions to address nursing shortages, nursing education, and health promotion in West Virginia (over two years)
$178,000

Golden Girl Inc.
Ceredo, WV
To support young women in foster care in attaining post-secondary degrees, careers, and financial independence
$55,000

Hospice Care Corporation
Arthurdale, WV
For health care professionals’ continuing education to improve chronic pain care and reduce opioid overdoses and deaths
$5,000

Hospital Development Co.
Spencer, WV
To create a Grace Anne Dorney Pulmonary Rehabilitation program at Roane General Hospital
$30,000

K.I.D.S./Fashion Delivers, Inc. (dba Delivering Good)
New York, NY
To distribute new clothing, bedding, books, and other household necessities, donated by national retailers, to people in need throughout West Virginia
$40,000

Marshall University Research Corporation
Huntington, WV
To provide support to expand oral health programs and develop dental residency rotations in underserved areas of West Virginia
$80,000
In collaboration with the West Virginia Department of Education and the Bureau for Behavioral Health to provide services to school-based health centers across the state
$175,000
In conjunction with an Appalachian Regional Commission POWER grant, to develop sustainable employment for community health workers who serve high-risk diabetes patients (over two years)
$164,000
To strengthen the perinatal oral health network, develop aging population dental services, and support school-based dental services
$250,000
For prescribers and patients to be educated as to overuse of benzodiazepines by elders, and as to safe prescription practices
$150,000

Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department
Parkersburg, WV
For expansion of a program to provide dental services to low-income residents in the region (over two years)
$80,000

Mountaineer Food Bank, Inc.
Gassaway, WV
To provide special dietary food boxes to patients of free health clinics and Veterans Administration hospitals as prescribed by physicians
$123,375

Recovery Point of Huntington, Inc.
Huntington, WV
To support creation of a residential recovery program in Parkersburg for men who suffer from alcohol and/or drug addiction
$75,000

Save the Children Federation, Inc.
Fairfield, CT
To provide programs to reduce the negative impact of crisis situations on the emotional well-being of children and families in West Virginia
$75,000

Team for West Virginia Children, Inc.
Huntington, WV
To provide support to the Adverse Childhood Experiences Coalition of West Virginia to build resilience in children and families
$35,000
To enhance evidenced-based programs focused on improved child well-being
$100,000
To build the capacity of in-home family education programs to improve the health and well-being of young children and their families
$150,000

The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation
Charleston, WV
For support of collaborative grantmaking projects that have a health or economic impact on Charleston’s West Side
$50,000

West Virginia Health Improvement Institute Inc.
Bridgeport, WV
To support a coordinating entity to align health care insurers, providers and community-based organizations to achieve better quality care, lower health care costs, and better health outcomes
$100,000

West Virginia Health Right, Inc.
Charleston, WV
To provide mobile dental services to low-income West Virginia adults in underserved rural areas (over two years)
$145,000

West Virginia Healthy Kids and Families Coalition
Charleston, WV
To provide support to the Adverse Childhood Experiences Coalition of West Virginia to build resilience in children and families
$100,000

West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
Charleston, WV
For a primary care research and policy network focused on rural and underserved populations that fosters collaboration among providers and academic health centers
$100,000
**West Virginia Kids Count Fund, Inc.**
Charleston, WV
To support reorganization and continued operation
$75,000

**West Virginia Oral Health Coalition Inc.**
Charleston, WV
To launch a public education campaign to raise families’ knowledge of the negative impact of excess sugar, and of strategies to curb intake
$100,000

**West Virginia University Foundation, Inc.**
Morgantown, WV
To develop a platform for screening and treatment of glaucoma in high-risk individuals
$100,000
To educate families, health care providers, policymakers, and the general public about maintaining and strengthening children’s access to affordable, high-quality health care
$25,000
To support families in improving the quality of life for people living with dementia
$90,000
To identify West Virginians’ attitudes toward community palliative care as a basis for program creation
$55,000
To address nutritional disparities in West Virginia through county-level planning, projects and policies that promote healthy food access (over two years)
$152,300

**West Virginians for Affordable Health Care**
Charleston, WV
For promotion of consumer understanding of the value and uses of health insurance, and to support health system improvements
$170,000

**Community Connections Inc.**
Princeton, WV
To deliver an experiential training program on arts-based community revitalization strategies in ten communities
$115,000

**CommunityWorks in West Virginia Inc.**
Charleston, WV
To support development of community-based senior living concepts
$175,000

**Generation West Virginia**
Charleston, WV
To support and strengthen the statewide network of Generation West Virginia chapters
$127,000
To support the Impact West Virginia Fellowship Program to attract and retain young people in careers and community service opportunities throughout the state
$127,000

**MACED (Mountain Association for Community Economic Development)**
Berea, KY
To support the Appalachian Funders Network efforts to accelerate an equitable Appalachian transition
$20,000

**Philanthropy West Virginia, Inc.**
Morgantown, WV
To grow local philanthropy in five West Virginia counties
$35,000

**West Virginia Community Development Hub, Inc.**
Charleston, WV
To support development in West Virginia communities through local organizing, project development, coaching, technical assistance, and communications
$235,000

**West Virginia Nonprofit Association**
Lewisburg, WV
To enable the West Virginia Nonprofit Association to support the state’s nonprofit organizations through training, technical assistance, and policy development
$115,000

**West Virginia Public Broadcasting Foundation, Inc.**
Charleston, WV
To enable West Virginia Public Broadcasting to strengthen its organizational capacities to improve financial sustainability
$128,000

**West Virginia University Foundation, Inc.**
Morgantown, WV
To secure resources and create a new grant fund that will support removal of vacant and dilapidated structures
$100,000
To support a collaborative publishing and teaching enterprise connecting national and regional media with community organizations to expand the narrative of Central Appalachia
$97,000

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**Alderson Community Food Hub**
Alderson, WV
For improvement and replication of a working model of a small town community grocery store
$19,100

**Appalachian Headwaters Inc.**
Lewisburg, WV
To develop beekeeping enterprises to help unemployed and underemployed citizens earn sustainable incomes through apiculture, as a match to funding already awarded by the Appalachian Regional Commission
$125,000

**Berea College**
Berea, KY
For outreach and planning of the Grow Appalachia partnership for economic development opportunities related to non-timber forest products
$10,000

**Fayette County Commission**
Fayetteville, WV
For a feasibility study and business plan to capitalize on economic opportunity in the food and farm sector in southern West Virginia
$40,000

**Grow Ohio Valley, Inc.**
Wheeling, WV
To support growth in production capacity among local farmers and new farming ventures through increased marketing to consumers through mobile and permanent market locations
$140,000
Marshall University Research Corporation
Huntington, WV
To support the agricultural innovations program providing technical and commercialization assistance to entrepreneurs and food producers to expand efficiency and innovation in agriculture enterprises
$150,000

Natural Capital Investment Fund, Inc.
Shepherdstown, VA
For outreach and capital to support the growth of business in economically distressed areas of West Virginia
$250,000

Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Washington, DC
To continue development of the West Virginia portion of the Industrial Heartland Trails Coalition
$140,000

Rural Action Inc.
The Plains, OH
To support the 2017 Appalachian Conference on Social Enterprise in Huntington, West Virginia
$15,000

The Center for Rural Health Development, Inc.
Hurricane, WV
To provide an affordable source of capital financing and technical assistance services needed to strengthen West Virginia’s health care infrastructure in coal-impacted counties
$44,000

West Virginia Coalition for Technology-Based Economic Development, Inc. (dba TechConnectWV)
South Charleston, WV
For technical assistance and early-stage investment to create new employment through business formation and small company growth
$150,000
To strengthen the innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystem in the state
$150,000

West Virginia Community Development Hub, Inc.
Charleston, WV
To provide structured networking, technical assistance, training, and coaching to recipients of the federal POWER grant program
$75,000
To develop five high-performing farmers markets as hubs for aggregation and distribution of local foods to improve the business performance of food producers (over two years)
$150,000

West Virginia National Guard Foundation Inc.
Charleston, WV
To support a multi-faceted agriculture project to provide employment and entrepreneurial opportunities, especially to veterans (over two years)
$175,000

West Virginia Public Broadcasting Foundation, Inc.
Charleston, WV
For creation of five in-depth profiles of Appalachian innovators to be communicated to the public via multiple media forms, and directly to educators
$50,000

West Virginia University Foundation, Inc.
Morgantown, WV
To support evaluation of West Virginia’s current economic structure and development of proposed alternatives to assist transformation to a more vibrant economy
$150,000

SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

EDUCATION

Bricolage
Pittsburgh, PA
For student-designed theater productions that are integrated into language arts, social studies, science, technology, and art courses (over two years)
$275,000

Catalyst Connection
Pittsburgh, PA
To advance manufacturing education through industry partnerships
$200,000

CCBC Foundation
Monaca, PA
For a tri-state consortium of community colleges, workforce boards, and industry associations to prepare workers for energy and advanced manufacturing jobs
$150,000

Charlitters Valley School District
Pittsburgh, PA
For a tri-state consortium of schools offering national “Project Lead the Way” engineering and manufacturing programs
$185,000

Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA
For a team of consultants to design a state-of-the-art center for learning, research, and educator training
$250,000

Fayette County Career & Technical Institute
Uniontown, PA
For a Southern Regional Education Board college-preparatory career education program
$90,000

Fayette County Cultural Trust
Connellsville, PA
For a cross-curricular educational program that teams teaching artists with classroom teachers and engages students in public art projects (over two years)
$270,000

Intermediate Unit I
Coal Center, PA
To join a national program for improving Advanced Placement scores in math, science, and English (over three years) as a match to funding from ExxonMobil
$201,600

Pace School
Pittsburgh, PA
To launch a center of professional development in partnership with the Carnegie Mellon University CREATE Lab and West Liberty University, to advance best practices in special education
$182,000

The Grantmakers of Western Pennsylvania
Pittsburgh, PA
For a series of events to showcase exemplary educational programs in Southwestern Pennsylvania and West Virginia
$50,000

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

African American Cultural Center
Pittsburgh, PA
Operating support for the 2017–18 season of the August Wilson Center
$50,000

Allegheny Conference on Community Development
Pittsburgh, PA
To support a set of workforce, infrastructure, and business investment initiatives
$210,000
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Program Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allegheny County Parks Foundation</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>To support ecological assessments and action plans designed to preserve the assets of Allegheny County Parks, and connect parkland with trails outside the parks system</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catalyst Connection</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>To support Tri-State Shale Coalition initiatives to attract investment in workforce and infrastructure to enable economic growth throughout the Marcellus and Utica region</td>
<td>$42,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chatham University</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>For establishment of a consolidated center for business assistance services, a small business loan program, and access to local incubators</td>
<td>$164,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film Pittsburgh</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>To increase cultural tourism and support Pittsburgh’s creative industries through a coordinated series of film exhibitions</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania</td>
<td>Jenkintown, PA</td>
<td>To assist local government officials with the redevelopment of blighted properties</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania Environmental Council Inc.</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>For completion of a regional trail network to advance trail town economic development</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Inc.</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>Operating support for the 2017–18 season</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh Opera, Inc.</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>Operating support for the 2017–18 season</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh Public Theater Corporation</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>Operating support for the 2017–18 season</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh Symphony, Inc.</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>Operating support for the 2017–18 season</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ptc Techcelerate Inc</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>For a special fund to recruit national and international speakers to the 2018 CREATE Festival</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For business development services for entertainment technology firms and artist entrepreneurs</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverlife</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>To provide riverfront planning tools and technical assistance to river towns in Southwestern Pennsylvania and West Virginia</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable Pittsburgh</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>To advance sustainability policies and practices that help businesses and governments reduce costs and improve performance</td>
<td>$174,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Forbes Funds</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>To support the 2017 Greater Pittsburgh Nonprofit Summit</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Mon Valley Initiative</td>
<td>Homestead, PA</td>
<td>To open a community development branch office in Washington County to better serve communities in the Monongahela River Valley</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The National Road Heritage Corridor</td>
<td>Uniontown, PA</td>
<td>To support continued development of the River Town Program, an economic development initiative based on outdoor recreation</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Pittsburgh Trust for Cultural Resources</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>Operating support for the 2017–18 Pittsburgh Dance Council season</td>
<td>$35,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For support of the Paul R. Jenkins Performance Fund in honor of Dwight Keating’s retirement</td>
<td>$15,500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To support the 2017 Dollar Bank Three Rivers Arts Festival</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Pittsburgh</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>To support the work of the Institute of Politics’ issue-related policy committees (over three years)</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington &amp; Jefferson College</td>
<td>Washington, PA</td>
<td>To support creation of an assessment and plan for a regional energy ecosystem to promote economic development based on innovation</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia University Foundation, Inc.</td>
<td>Morgantown, WV</td>
<td>To develop leadership and planning regarding a Natural Gas Liquids storage and trading hub in the Marcellus and Utica shale region</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Foundation Center</td>
<td>New York, NY</td>
<td>For operating and program support for 2017</td>
<td>$17,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Grantmakers of Western Pennsylvania</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>For operating and program support for 2017 services to the nonprofit community</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philanthropy West Virginia, Inc.</td>
<td>Morgantown, WV</td>
<td>For operating and program support for 2017</td>
<td>$20,300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Foundation makes multi-year commitments, with payments scheduled over as many as three years. At year-end 2017, outstanding grant commitments totaled $1,624,125.

The following chart displays invested assets, and authorizations and payments of grants and program-related investments (PRI) over the last five years. For further information, including the most recently available audited financial statements and tax returns, visit the Foundation’s website, www.benedum.org.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Investments Including Cash</th>
<th>Grants and PRI Authorized</th>
<th>Grant and PRI Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$376,498,558</td>
<td>$16,301,750</td>
<td>$15,926,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$367,771,033</td>
<td>$16,975,500</td>
<td>$17,211,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$339,101,610</td>
<td>$15,438,850</td>
<td>$16,535,764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$346,430,828</td>
<td>$14,559,850</td>
<td>$14,109,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$375,017,547</td>
<td>$14,894,110</td>
<td>$15,189,754</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Program-Related Investments (PRI); includes contingent grants.
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.

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
TRUSTEES
Lloyd G. Jackson II, Chair
Hamlin, West Virginia

Gregory S. Babe
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Paul G. Benedum, Jr.
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

William P. Getty
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Thomas A. Heywood
Charleston, West Virginia

Parween S. Mascari
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