

THE PITTSBURGH
FOUNDATION
QUARTERLY
Winter 2020

4 BREWER FUEL FUND
*Heating bills covered
for families in need.*

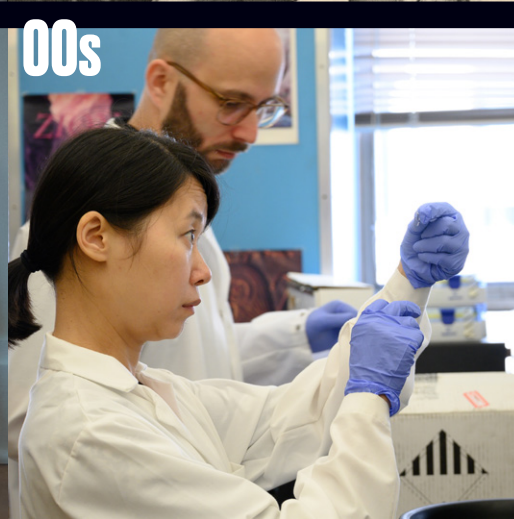
8 THE ROBERT L. VANN
SCHOLARSHIP FUND
*Black college graduates
build their own legacies.*

12 THE PEACEABLE
KINGDOM FUND
*Endangered birds saved,
parklands expanded.*

Forum



75 YEARS OF UNCOMMON GENEROSITY
FOR THE COMMON GOOD





75 YEARS OF UNCOMMON GENEROSITY
FOR THE COMMON GOOD

President's Message

ALL OF US ON THE BOARD AND STAFF of The Pittsburgh Foundation want you to consider this first Forum of 2020 as a birthday party announcement and a personal invitation to celebrate a phenomenal milestone.

As our new logo trumpets, the Foundation turns 75 this year—an amazing stretch for an organization that has always depended on the kindness of donors and the dedication of grantees to continue the mission of improving quality of life in southwestern Pennsylvania.

Ours is not the oldest community philanthropy in the country—that distinction belongs to the 106-year-old Cleveland Foundation. The Pittsburgh Foundation has made good use of its time and the hopes-and-dreams investments of thousands of residents.

We are proud to announce that by the end of this birthday year, more than \$1 billion will have been awarded to meet pressing needs and create new opportunities.

The tagline under our logo recognizes that collaboration—“75 years of uncommon generosity for the common good.” It celebrates the generations that have embraced the revolutionary concept of a community foundation. Living as we are in a time of discord and rising inequity, it is appropriate to note that this idea, which blossomed in mid-20th-century America, ended the practice of philanthropy as exclusive to the ultra-rich. People with modest incomes could become philanthropists with the power to improve lives and bring about social change.

Even some of the wealthiest Americans have been attracted to the community foundation model as a more cost-effective and mission-effective form of philanthropy than they could accomplish on their own. Those very factors figured into the establishment in 1946 of the first donor-designated fund at The Pittsburgh Foundation.

Prominent Pittsburgh attorney Charles A. Locke was, by age 70, wealthy enough to have had his name chiseled

on the door of his own foundation. Instead, he turned to community philanthropy to establish a small scholarship fund in memory of his mother.

Locke was a child living on Pittsburgh's North Side when his father, a successful stockbroker, died. The family struggled financially. Yet, his mother was determined to help her son go to the University of Pittsburgh, and, as an accomplished pianist, played at events to help cover tuition.

Locke never married and devoted himself to a decades-long law career. He attended the Pitt graduation ceremony marking the first award from his scholarship fund—\$100 to a student in financial need, achieving high academic standing and good character.

When he saw the joy that first award gave to the winner—the daughter of an income-poor Lutheran minister—and the reaction of her parents, “I was so happy I couldn't sleep,” he told a Pittsburgh Press reporter. Locke decided to retire from law and dedicate himself to philanthropy. “All my money in the bank wasn't bringing me the happiness I wanted,” he said in a Pittsburgh Post-Gazette profile. “Fate made me a wealthy attorney, but now I could follow my passion for deciding where money could go to be of the best use to the community.”

A few months later, Locke arranged for \$300,000—the equivalent of about \$4.3 million today—to be split between the memorial fund and a new one benefiting education, youth development and Pittsburgh's Episcopal Diocese. He was in demand as a public speaker recruiting donors. “Working through the community foundation, you can change the world at home,” he promised.

In the following pages, you'll learn about other fundholders who have paid forward Locke's uncommon generosity across generations, and I know you will be inspired by the series of innovations funded, crises averted and life basics provided to answer the needs of the day.



Charles Locke.
Image from
Post-Gazette
Tristate
Magazine.

These stories cover only a fraction of the contributions, but milestone birthdays also are about taking stock of unmet goals and developing plans to achieve them. High on our list is the persistent crisis of systemic poverty, and the lack of access to early education—a situation affecting 47% of eligible 3- to 4-year-olds in Allegheny County.

That's why it's so heartening to see, bookended with Mr. Locke and other early donors, a fresh contingent of Pittsburghers wanting to be directly involved in creating a community that offers the best opportunities for children to thrive.

Last year at Thanksgiving, a group of donor families from our affiliate, The Community Foundation of Westmoreland County, proved that inter-generational philanthropy can be deeply satisfying. Parents and their children worked together to set up giving plans for the holiday period. “Many of the children wanted grants to go to organizations that help children who don't have the advantages they do,” CFWC Executive Director Phil Koch told me.

And in Pittsburgh during the same period, BJ Leber and her husband, Jeff, opened a donor-advised fund as a legacy to their two sons. The plan is to involve them and their families in grantmaking.

The Lebers have a front-line understanding of why community philanthropy is important for future generations. BJ heads Adagio Health, an organization that provides health and wellness services mostly to women and their children who are uninsured or underinsured; Jeff is vice president of Rivers of Steel, which showcases the region's culture and history to deepen community partnerships and promote economic development.

While the family had long donated to local causes, “it seemed like the right time to formalize that support—put some structure to our legacy,” BJ told our Communications team. The incentive, she says, is “the thought of being part of a larger family of donors collectively having a bigger impact on the community. The Foundation is helping us find non-profits that are new to us. The sense of collaboration and the support network is exciting.”

I am certain that if Mr. Locke were with us celebrating 75 years of community philanthropy, he would consider these future-minded donors the best birthday present ever.


Lisa Schroeder
president & CEO

1940s



1945

The Pittsburgh Foundation is founded and Naval Officer C. Stanton Belfour is named as director and secretary. Before becoming a lieutenant commander in the Navy, Belfour was assistant extension director at the University of Pittsburgh.

The Pittsburgh Foundation makes **\$3,306** in grants its first year.

1948

The Foundation sent nurses to “the great cancer center” in New York Memorial Hospital with the goal that they return to Pittsburgh to teach other nurses about cancer care.

Assets reach **\$2.5 million.**

1949

The Foundation is rated ninth in resources among the 60 community foundations in the country by the New York Community Trust, which surveys foundations annually.



The Foundation donates four television sets to youth centers. According to a Pittsburgh Press article, for those who wanted to see televised events, “there were only two possibilities for teenagers of average means: Either go into taverns or find a friend with a set... And tavern life had its drawbacks for easily-impressed youngsters.”

For Pittsburgh and other industrial cities, the 1940s were fixed on winning World War II and then beginning the arduous process of recovery. Of the 1.2 million Pennsylvanians who went to war, 4,000 from Allegheny County did not return. In the mills and factories back home, men and women gave their all to help secure victory for the United States and its allies.

As the nation shifted to a peacetime economy, the values of self-sacrifice and devotion to community and country remained strong.

In Pittsburgh’s key work sectors, there was renewed optimism, and residents were moving to invest in the city’s future. Aims Coney, a Cleveland transplant who became vice president of the Union Trust Co., realized that his bank and many others in the region were struggling to manage gifts from their clients’ estates. He believed that Pittsburgh needed an institution like one created in Cleveland to address pressing needs through distribution of charitable funds.

The Pittsburgh Foundation was constructed from the blueprint of a charitable bank with deep roots in community life. It immediately began proving its value by stewarding charitable funds and bequests from the preceding decades.

One of these, the Brewer Fuel Fund, was already 87 years old when it was moved to the Foundation in 1946. It was the result of one man’s concern for the city’s poor during the frigid winter months.

Brewer Fuel Fund

A lasting legacy of warmth



← Pittsburgh Coal Co. barges stuck in ice floes on the Ohio River, 1950. Photograph by Paul Slantis courtesy Archives & Special Collections, University of Pittsburgh Library System and Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

BORN IN ENGLAND IN 1784, Charles Brewer made his way to the United States in his early 20s, settling first in Massachusetts. In 1814, at the age of 30, Brewer moved to Pittsburgh and started a dry goods business at the corner of Market Street and Fifth Avenue. As his business grew, he expanded his holdings, eventually owning an entire block of Fifth Avenue real estate along with shares of local railroad and industrial ventures.

Brewer’s philanthropy began one year before his death in 1860, when he established a fund to provide coal to “the destitute and worthy poor of Pittsburgh and vicinity.” Brewer bequeathed \$10,000 to The West Penn Hospital, which administered the fund until 1909. That year, Allegheny County’s Orphans’ Court appointed Commonwealth Trust Co. as the administrator of the fund, which by that time had grown to \$74,800, the equivalent of about \$2.1 million today. In 1946, Commonwealth Trust transferred the assets to The Pittsburgh Foundation.

Today, 161 years after it was first started, and 74 years after coming to the Foundation, the Fuel Fund, now worth \$360,000, is keeping true to its original purpose. In 2019, a total of \$13,298 was granted to three organizations that help individuals and families with their winter heating bills. There might not be buildings named for Brewer, and the North Side mansion he built in 1830 is long gone, but his legacy lives on as his fund continues to serve its purpose in perpetuity.

by **Deanna Garcia** | Communications officer

1950s

As seen through mainstream popular culture images, this decade was depicted as a time of prosperity, with an emphasis on family values and community harmony. Reality, however, was not so upbeat. Discrimination against minorities and women was endemic in American life; millions of Americans struggled in poverty, and there were few safety net programs for individuals and families in need. Since its inception in 1945, Foundation head Belfour continued to lead the community philanthropy in confronting these and other intractable problems as they manifested themselves in the city. The Foundation's donors and program staff began applying resources to organizations assisting those who were affected.



1954

The Pittsburgh Foundation helps establish WQED, the nation's first public television station, which went on to produce award-winning local programs, including Mister Rogers' Neighborhood.

1955

The Foundation celebrates its 10th anniversary with an announcement that it wants to double assets over the next decade, a goal it surpassed.

1956

The Foundation supports libraries and the first bookmobile.



1957-1958

The Pittsburgh Foundation dramatically increases its grantmaking by 131%, from about \$188,000 to about \$435,000. This is due, in part, to \$161,000 collected and distributed to the School District of Pittsburgh for the School for Handicapped Children and to \$804,000 in new gifts along with \$576,000 in new funds.

1959

The Fort Pitt Museum Fund is established with a grant from the Richard King Mellon Foundation. The fund's purpose is the promotion, study and acquisition of items of historical interest for public display at the site of Fort Pitt. The most recent grant, in 2019, was used for the purchase of an 18th-century British trade gun.

Pittsburgh and Allegheny Milk and Ice Association

Nurturing the Future

IN 1954, the Pittsburgh and Allegheny Milk and Ice Association Fund, a longstanding charitable fund dedicated to ensuring the health of babies, came to the Foundation.

The organization it supported was founded in 1901 to supply struggling families with milk and ice, so that infants might thrive. A 1907 Pittsburgh Post-Gazette story cited the "local bureau of health," which reported that nearly 50% of babies born the previous year died before reaching their first birthday. Often, the cause of those deaths was recorded as "impure and improper diet." The Milk and Ice Association stepped in to supply milk and educate families on proper preparation. "Mechanical ice boxes" didn't appear in the American market until 1915, and home refrigerators remained a luxury item until the 1940s.

In 1923, 417 local families were benefitting directly from the Milk and Ice Fund, and thousands more attended "mothers' meetings" held in public locations. These meetings educated new and prospective mothers on care of their babies.

↑ In the 1950s, as now, the Children's Home focused on infant adoption. Mark Place, now 65, was one of those infants. He was adopted in 1954 by Ruth Place, who died last year. Mark remains deeply involved with the Children's Home, volunteering his time and providing strategic guidance. Photo from Children's Home archives.



By 1954, infant mortality from malnutrition had dropped significantly, and the Milk and Ice Association turned to The Pittsburgh Foundation to direct its assets of \$13,000 to Allegheny County charitable agencies dedicated to the care of babies and children, and to children's physical health and welfare.

The most recent grants from the now \$1.7 million fund still honor that intent. In 2015, a \$45,433 grant went to establish the Three Rivers Mothers' Milk Bank, serving the neonatal intensive care units in southwestern Pennsylvania. The MAYA Organization, which offers prenatal education and support, trauma-informed counseling for women in the Allegheny County Jail, and adoption services, received a \$50,000 grant in 2018 to expand the prenatal parent program. That same year, Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC received \$24,098 to train lay health educators to deliver its "Baby Basics" curriculum.

by **Deanna Garcia**

1960s

The 1960s were tumultuous for Pittsburgh and the nation, as the Civil Rights movement began to catch fire. Though the City's Human Relations Commission officially ordered the desegregation of the public school system in 1968, housing and income disparities persist to this day. Black households in Pittsburgh then earned, on average, \$24,700 a year as compared to \$44,700 for white households. This gap continues today with Black households bringing in 48% less than their white counterparts. Meanwhile, the legacy of Robert L. Vann, one of the most influential newspaper owners in the country, was honored by his wife, Jesse, who established a Pittsburgh Foundation scholarship in his memory.

1960

The Foundation oversees 70 funds with a value of \$10.2 million. By 1969, the number of funds grows to 119 with a value of \$17.7 million.

The National Committee on Foundations and Trusts for Community Welfare, organized in 1949, becomes, with a \$50,000 grant from the Ford Foundation, the National Council on Community Foundations. The Pittsburgh Foundation is a charter member.

1961

The largest grant awarded this year is \$52,916 to Children's Hospital to fund the purchase of X-ray equipment.

1965

The Foundation celebrates its 20th anniversary and makes a grant of \$50,000 to the Pittsburgh Symphony Endowment Fund. The community foundation becomes the 10th largest in the country.

1965

Scholarship awards totaling \$83,209 are made to 57 colleges and universities and to the Negro Educational Emergency Drive.



Robert L. Vann Scholarship Fund

Making Headlines

ARMED ONLY WITH HOPE FOR THE FUTURE and a \$100 scholarship, Robert L. Vann came to Pittsburgh in 1903. He put himself through the University of Pittsburgh law school by working as a waiter on a Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Railroad dining car. When he graduated and passed the bar in 1909, he was one of only five Black attorneys in the city of Pittsburgh. In 1910, he was named counsel to the Pittsburgh Courier newspaper, running its legal affairs and writing opinion pieces. He was named editor later that year, and it was in that position that Vann found his calling.

Over the next 30 years, he built the Courier into the African American newspaper of record in the United States. Under his editorship, its circulation reached 250,000 a week, making it the largest of its type in the country. Vann became one of the most influential African American leaders in the nation at a time when Black voices were generally excluded from mainstream media coverage.

Never one to shy away from controversy, Vann took on the Pullman Co. in 1925 for discrimination against Black

workers and, in 1938, led a nationwide campaign for the establishment of Black military units. He successfully lobbied to add an amendment to the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940 that prohibited racial discrimination in military selection and training. When Black audiences were being ignored in the marketing of products and services, he established in 1939 Interstate United Newspapers, Inc. an advertising sales network to place ads in Black newspapers.

After Vann's death in 1940, his widow, Jesse Matthews Vann, took over and served until her retirement as publisher of the Courier until 1963. When she died in 1967, her estate left \$83,000 to The Pittsburgh Foundation to establish "scholarship aid for worthy and needy Negro students." To date, the Robert L. Vann Scholarship Fund has awarded about 330 scholarships totaling \$91,200. The fund now has \$236,000 in assets.

by **Mary Shelly** | Communications intern
and **Kitty Julian** | Communications director



Pittsburgh Courier
Newspaper Press
Operator, 1954.
Image by Teenie
Harris, CMOA
collection.



Meet Naomi Allen: a Vann Scholar

For 22-year-old actor, playwright and singer Naomi Allen, the Vann Scholarship is more than financial assistance. It could be her ticket to show business. Allen graduated in 2016 from Pittsburgh Barack Obama Academy of International Studies. She is now an acting major in her senior year at Point Park University's performing arts conservatory. It's a prestigious program and one of the few that offers a performing arts showcase, where students audition for top Broadway and Hollywood casting directors.

"If I didn't get the Vann Scholarship, I'm not sure I would have been able to afford to go to Point Park," says Allen, who will benefit from \$13,000 in scholarship awards from the fund by the time she graduates this spring.

"In December, I auditioned for three casting directors. Two of them cast all the shows on Broadway and the third casts for television and film. Auditioning for them and hearing them tell me I was amazing made it all worthwhile," she says.

Allen knows that these auditions have the potential to launch her career. "Receiving the Vann Scholarship has been a life-changing experience," she says.



Photo of Naomi Allen by Jason Cohn
for Pittsburgh Public Schools.

1970s

To Pittsburghers, the '70s are synonymous with winning: the Steelers' four Super Bowls, the Pirates' two World Series titles and the University of Pittsburgh football team's ninth national championship. And even as the area's heavy industry began to show signs of strain as light sheet steel production was moving to the Midwest, 300,000 people were still employed in manufacturing trades, and unemployment overall in 1974 was below 4%.

Before the '70s ended, a modest fund, established during the Foundation's first decade, would become its largest. The Henry C. and Belle Doyle McEldowney Fund — an \$11,000 gift dedicated in his memory by his daughters — would be supercharged by a \$7 million bequest in 1979. The unrestricted fund allowed the Foundation, led since 1970 by Alfred "Burr" Wishart, Jr., flexibility to support lifesaving programs and services as the region endured hardships and uncertainty following the collapse of the steel industry.

1975

The Pittsburgh Foundation celebrates its 30th anniversary.

“As we begin our second 30 years, we are committed to maintaining a flexible and dynamic approach to philanthropy, designed to keep pace with the changing needs of the Pittsburgh community.”

FOUNDATION DIRECTOR-SECRETARY
ALFRED W. "BURR" WISHART, JR.
MAY 18, 1976



A grant is given to the University of Pittsburgh School of Law for curriculum in juvenile justice.

\$1.8 million

Foundation giving reaches an all-time high of \$1.8 million, due in part to a \$490,638 grant from the Frick Fund to build a nature center in Frick Park.

1978

A substantial increase in arts funding occurred, totaling \$772,455, thanks in large part to two gifts from the Vira I. Heinz Fund. The largest grants from the Foundation went to the Pittsburgh Symphony Society (\$349,593) and the Carnegie Institute (\$308,383), now known as Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh.

Grants from discretionary funds in the field of children and youth outpace all other grantmaking.
Image from the Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children, originally printed in 1973 Pittsburgh Foundation Annual Report.



Henry C. and Belle Doyle McEldowney Fund

ANNABEL MATHEWS AND HESTER SMITH created the Henry C. and Belle Doyle McEldowney Fund in 1955 in honor of their late father, Henry, a businessman who began his career at Union Trust Co. as an assistant cashier and bookkeeper. He so impressed owner Andrew W. Mellon that in 1900, when he was just 32, McEldowney was named head of the firm. (The name of the fund would later be changed to honor both parents.) Union Trust was a predecessor of Mellon National Bank and, in 1909, McEldowney served as a director alongside Andrew Mellon; Mellon's brother, Richard; and local luminaries Henry Phipps and Henry C. Frick.

News stories reporting McEldowney's death in 1935 referred to him as "the highest salaried banker in America."

When McEldowney's daughters established the fund with an \$11,000 gift, they placed no restrictions on grantmaking, allowing Foundation staff to make grants where the needs were greatest. In the years that followed, the family would make year-end contributions of appreciated stock to the fund. But their defining donation would come after Smith's death in 1979, with a bequest of nearly \$7 million in personal assets and a Mellon Bank trust. Her bequest was the largest gift to the Foundation in its then-37-year history.

Today, the fund is valued at \$34.5 million, with grants addressing a wide range of issues, including arts organizations, housing for people with disabilities, United Way programs and mental health efforts through the Persad Center in Lawrenceville. The fund also supported the Foundation's Critical Needs Alert #LoveIsStronger campaign created in response to the 2018 mass shooting at Tree of Life synagogue in Squirrel Hill.

by **Christian Pelusi** | senior Communications officer

A distinguished banker's family's landmark bequest

1955
\$11,000
Initial investment by McEldowney's daughters.

1979
\$7 million
Largest gift at this point in the Foundation's history upon Hester Smith's death.

TODAY
\$34.5 million
Value of fund for unrestricted grantmaking.

1980s

1980

The Pittsburgh Community Food Bank is established. The Foundation and its donors have since contributed \$8 million to support its mission.

The decade brought years of economic devastation for the region. By 1982, about 150,000 steel mill workers had lost their jobs. Later in the decade, thousands of white-collar workers saw their careers evaporate as corporate mergers resulted in layoffs at Gulf Oil, Koppers and Westinghouse. Simultaneously, citing government regulation as the enemy of economic growth, the Reagan administration began a systematic rollback of environmental protections applying to manufacturing, mining, energy and chemical companies. Against this cultural and political backdrop, Eric C. Hulmer, Ph.D., a lifelong environmentalist, established The Peaceable Kingdom Fund for “the preservation of animals, both domestic and wild, and the environment in which they dwell.”

The Peaceable Kingdom Habitat Conservation Fund

IT IS AN APT NAME FOR A FUND created by a donor who loved outdoor adventure and nature, and who envisioned the world as a place where humans and animals would live in harmony. Born in Germany in 1915, Eric Hulmer emigrated as a boy to rural Harmony, Butler County, where his love for the natural world developed. That affinity was brutally interrupted by World War II. Hulmer served in Army Combat Intelligence under Gen. George S. Patton and was decorated by the King of Norway.

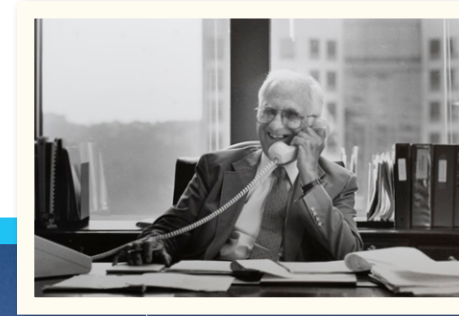
Trained at Yale and the University of Pittsburgh as an arts conservator, Hulmer valued preservation above all things. Since his death in 1988, his fund has made 61 grants totaling nearly \$1 million for species preservation, regional trails, state parks and animal welfare.

He was particularly passionate about environmental projects in Lake Arthur and Moraine State Park. A series of

grants in the early 1990s funded the purchase of 160 acres for Moraine State Park, expanding the parklands. Later grants funded the reintroduction of fledgling ospreys that thrived in the region's wetlands until their population was decimated by DDT exposure and habitat loss. Ospreys were removed from Pennsylvania's endangered species list in 2017. A grant in 2002 to the Moraine Preservation Fund tracked captive-bred barn owls reintroduced in western Pennsylvania with the goal of improving nesting sites and habitat protection. A 2015 grant funded a third of the costs of the installation of 100 chimney swift towers in nine Allegheny County parks.

Peaceable Kingdom is the Foundation's only fund dedicated both to animal welfare and to environmental conservation to preserve their natural habitats.

By **Kitty Julian**



1982

The Forbes Funds, a supporting organization of the Foundation, is established to provide emergency financial assistance to nonprofit organizations experiencing funding interruptions or short-term cash flow problems. Elmer J. Tropman was its founding director.

1987

The Mon Valley Initiative is formed when the Allegheny Conference of Community Development hires a community organizer to encourage reinvestment in the region.

The Foundations assets reach
\$105.8 million.

1988

Mayor Richard Caliguiri dies of amyloidosis. That year, a fund in his memory is established at the Foundation to search for a cure for the disease. Since 1993, \$1 from every Great Race registration has gone to the fund. In 2016, the Foundation and the Fund jointly endow an amyloidosis research chair at the University of Pittsburgh.

1990s

The decade marked the beginning of the region's long, arduous climb out of the economic devastation from the loss of the steel industry toward a more diversified economy dominated by "eds and meds" (university and medical research and technology). About 58,000 more people left the region than entered in the 1990s, with many leaving for employment in Sunbelt and West Coast cities such as Phoenix and Seattle.

Labor unrest spiked, with the city's newspapers and transit systems among industries affected. Despite, or perhaps because of, the instability as the region made painful shifts to a new economy, Pittsburgh Foundation donors continued to give at record levels. It was during this period that the Lois Tack Thompson Fund set a new benchmark for generosity.

1991

The Multicultural Arts Initiative is launched in collaboration with The Heinz Endowments to increase grants to African American artists and arts organizations representing diverse points of view. The MCAI has since evolved into the Advancing Black Arts in Pittsburgh funding stream.

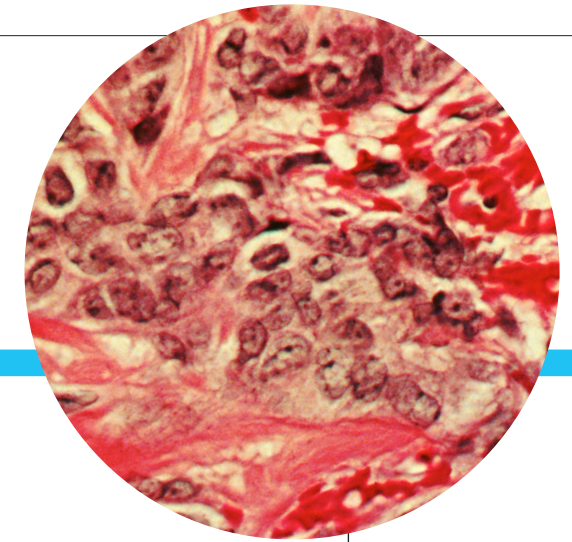
1993

After 45 years of sharing office space with the Howard Heinz Endowment and the Viral Heinz Endowment, the Foundation moves into its own offices at One PPG Place. It also establishes the Legacy Society to honor donors who include the Foundation in their wills.

1995

Growing from five funds in 1945 to about 500, the 50th anniversary is marked by a record \$10.5 million in grantmaking.

Total assets reach a record
\$312.6 million.



1997

The Foundation establishes its Medical Research Initiative to fight cancer, heart disease, arthritis and diabetes. In 2019, annual medical research grantmaking reaches about \$4.1 million.

Image of breast cancer cells by Dr. Cecil Fox, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health

Lois Tack Thompson

A visionary donor

LOIS TACK THOMPSON was a dignified, no-nonsense woman raised amid wealth and privilege in Sewickley as the heiress to an oil company president. She valued her privacy and adored animals. In 1984, she established a \$20,000 fund at The Pittsburgh Foundation to support programs benefiting children and adults with vision impairment.

After her death in 1991, \$15 million was transferred from her estate to the fund. It was the largest gift from an individual donor in The Foundation's history, and was transformational, significantly expanding the Foundation's grant-making potential to benefit people of all ages with disabilities and to organizations focused on animal welfare.

Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children had been awarded a small grant in 1990 for theatrical performances for children with visual impairment and other sensory disorders. The school received \$17,000 from the fund in 1992 for Camp Bark & Meow, which offered day programs during the summer that enabled children with visual disabilities to interact with a variety of pets.

In 1993, the fund awarded \$100,000 to the Mon Valley Educational Consortia to improve schools. In 1994, it awarded \$180,000 to support youth-employment initiatives, \$100,000 in capital for community redevelopment in East Liberty and \$150,000 to support Pittsburgh's Cultural District.

All the while, the fund continued to help improve life prospects for people with disabilities. A \$75,000 grant in 2016 to Life's Work of Western Pennsylvania helped to expand employment opportunities for young adults with disabilities, and \$50,000 to Pittsburgh Conservation Corps put hard-to-employ people to work in habitat restoration in the Pittsburgh region.

Today, the fund is vital to the Foundation's efforts to support community development. Among key grants are \$250,000 in seed funding for the Foundation's Social Justice Fund and \$84,500 to support efforts by the Southwestern Pennsylvania Environmental Health Project to expand citizen science in monitoring the health effects of fracking.

by **Kitty Julian**



→ Portrait of Lois Tack Thompson.
Artist unknown.

2000s

2001

William Truehart becomes the third president and CEO of the Foundation. He narrows the Foundation's areas of focus from 25 to five: educational excellence, support for families and children, economic development, reduction of health disparities among African Americans, and the arts.

2002

The Foundation, along with The Heinz Endowments and The Grable Foundation, pulls grants from the Pittsburgh Public Schools system citing poor school board leadership in the district, then forms a community-wide commission to advance reforms.

2004

The Pittsburgh Foundation, working with philanthropist and Republican Party leader, Elsie Hillman, leads a community-wide campaign to save city pools from being closed for lack of funding. The Save Our Summer campaign raises \$625,000 and keeps 16 of the city's 31 pools open to all for free.

2007

The Pittsburgh Promise is established. Now a supporting organization of the Foundation, the Promise has awarded scholarships to Pittsburgh Public Schools students to attend colleges, universities or trade programs in Pennsylvania. Its goal is to increase student enrollment and improve student achievement.

2006

The Fund for Excellence in Pittsburgh Public Schools is established. The fund, housed at the Foundation, combines resources from the Benedum Foundation, the Buhl Foundation, The Grable Foundation, The Heinz Endowments and the Jewish Healthcare Foundation to fund public school reform efforts.

The beginning of this decade marked the region's transition to high technology, education and medicine, thanks to researchers at the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University, and others in medicine and technology fields.

Through the decade, donors who made their fortunes in science and technology were making significant contributions to the Foundation. Topping the list was Charles E. Kaufman, whose fund continues to support fundamental research in chemistry, biology and physics at Pennsylvania universities with the goal of further understanding and bettering human life.

Charles E. Kaufman Foundation

Understanding through science

BORN IN 1913 in Clarion, Clarion County, Charles Kaufman lived there through high school. He left in 1931 after graduating and then attended the University of Cincinnati, earning a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering in 1936. He then moved to Pittsburgh where he earned a master's degree in chemistry from Carnegie Tech, now Carnegie Mellon University, in 1942.

Over the next 34 years, he had a successful career in basic science, working for the Hagan Corp., which later became the Calgon Corp. and then Merck and Co. After retiring in the early 1970s, he earned most of his substantial fortune through investments in the stock market and in several drug and science ventures.

A lifelong learner, Kaufman taught himself, at age 92, how to use a computer and began to navigate the internet. While browsing online, he learned about the Houston-based Robert A. Welch Foundation, which supports fundamental research in chemistry at higher educational institutions in Texas. Kaufman was inspired by that philanthropy and turned to The Pittsburgh Foundation in 2006 to establish the Charles E. Kaufman Foundation as a \$1.5 million supporting organization.

Kaufman's goal was to foster and encourage fundamental research in chemistry, biology and physics. He established a special award program to "promote a better and fairer world by supporting those that can make a difference with science." When he died in 2010 at the age of 97, there was an astounding \$50 million bequest to the Foundation. That gift remains the largest in the Foundation's history.

Speaking to the Chronicle of Philanthropy in 2010, Wendy Denton Heleen — Kaufman's lawyer, executor of his estate and Kaufman Foundation board member — said that his dream was that the fund would one day help someone win a Nobel Prize. The Chronicle story also recalled how, in 2008, when he presented the first award, which was for \$50,000, Kaufman said, "I can accomplish more through others than I ever could myself."

by **Deanna Garcia**

→ Huaiying Zhang, Ph.D., assistant professor in the department of biological sciences at Carnegie Mellon University, was awarded a Charles E. Kaufman New Investigator Award in 2019 for her "The Physics and Chemistry of Liquid Condensation in Live Cells." Photo from Carnegie Mellon University.

2010s

2012

The Center for Philanthropy is established at the Foundation to connect donors to experts in every aspect of philanthropy, from grantmaking and nonprofit management to personalized education sessions, to guidance on multi-generational giving.

2013

Assets reach \$1 billion. By 2018, those assets have grown to \$1.2 billion, making it the 15th largest community foundation in the nation.

2014

The Foundation adopts an organizing principle, 100 Percent Pittsburgh, dedicated to providing new opportunities for the 30% of Pittsburgh residents left out of the revitalized economy.

2015

The \$15 million Buttonwood Fund is established by Priscilla and Richard Hunt who want to experience the impact of their gifts during their lifetimes. It is the largest fund established at the Foundation by living donors.

2018

The Foundation announces a \$37 million bequest from the Raymond Suckling Fund. It is the second-largest gift in the Foundation's history. The fund will benefit the Sewickley Public Library, hospital system and anti-poverty efforts in the surrounding Rust Belt communities.

Under the leadership of Grant Oliphant beginning in 2008 and Maxwell King in 2014, the Foundation continued significant growth and also expanded its regional grantmaking. The Foundation moved beyond Allegheny County by collaborating with the 25-year-old Community Foundation of Westmoreland County on regional initiatives. The Westmoreland philanthropy was established by local leaders who recognized the power of The Pittsburgh Foundation's community philanthropy model to improve life prospects for residents. After many discussions and continued interaction, mutual admiration was formalized in 2015 as a merger. The result after five years: Both organizations are stronger, and southwestern Pennsylvania is benefiting from two engines of quality-of-life improvement.

The Community Foundation of Westmoreland County

Regional philanthropic power

WESTMORELAND COUNTY'S first community philanthropy is only 25 years old, but it was established in the mold of the oldest foundations of its type in the country. Its mission has been to enrich quality of life for all residents by helping individual donors fulfill their philanthropic goals and support nonprofit organizations and service agencies.

Its founding came about over several years, spurred by the death of Nicholas Cecchini in 1989 of a heart attack at age 40. Cecchini's sister, Mary, and her husband, Greensburg-based attorney Vincent Quatrini Jr., wanted to channel their grief into a charitable endowment in his memory, but quickly hit unexpected roadblocks.

With \$10,000, they had trouble finding a bank that would manage their fund. The existing Greensburg Foundation could have been a fit, but its service area — Greensburg only — was too constraining. After an inspirational conversation with staff at The Pittsburgh Foundation, Quatrini wondered why Westmoreland County couldn't have a community foundation of its own. He began a speaking tour with a range of groups to gain support. That effort led to a countywide feasibility study that determined areas of greatest need. With money from founding board members, area foundations and an anonymous donor, The Community Foundation of Westmoreland County became a reality in 1995. By the close of 2009, CFWC had become a significant force for life improvement in Westmoreland County, granting a total of \$1.14 million that year.

The following year, the Foundation and CFWC recognized the potential benefits of increased collaboration and began discussions about joint programs. Those led quickly to the proposal of a merger. With the legal agreement completed in 2015, CFWC gained access to the expertise and business processes of the exponentially larger Pittsburgh Foundation. And Pittsburgh was able to extend its mission beyond the city proper and Allegheny County to address issues such as economic development and systemic poverty from a regional perspective. Both foundations would also be able to offer their donors expertise and access to nonprofits in one another's communities. The two philanthropies have shared innovative programs. For example, CFWC's creation of the Visionaries young donor group inspired Pittsburgh to do likewise and establish a New Philanthropic Leaders program to introduce early career professionals to philanthropy.

Together, the two foundations manage about 230 individual donor funds that make grants to nonprofits in Westmoreland County. By the end of 2019, annual scholarship awards and grants to nonprofits based in the county reached \$3 million. The indirect impact is even greater: That figure doesn't include Allegheny County-based organizations that also serve Westmoreland County residents.

"It's a mutually beneficial relationship, where Westmoreland benefits from Pittsburgh's size and leadership, and Pittsburgh gains capacity to address issues at a regional level, which benefits neighbors and nonprofits outside of the urban core," says CFWC Executive Director Phil Koch. "The affiliation allows both organizations to extend their reach and have a bigger, more positive impact."

by **Deanna Garcia**

→ Adam Quatrini, Bruce Corna, Kelli Brisbane and Michael Reese take part in 2012 Visionaries event organized by The Community Foundation of Westmoreland County. The group was established in 2010 to engage emerging leaders in strengthening the community through philanthropy.



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1995

The Youth Employment Alliance, a collaboration of public, private and nonprofit organizations, prepared students for work. Malanna Henderson explored a legal career while working at the University of Pittsburgh Law Library.

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NEW FUNDS Oct. 4, 2019 – Dec. 31, 2019

Roy Wyss Fund
John Earley Rieck Fund
Meade Family Charitable Fund
Lutheran Fund of Shelocta PA
Economic Opportunity Scholarship in Trade and Apprenticeship
Western Pennsylvania Scholarship Fund for Higher Education
David A. Smith Family Fund
Fortress Fund
Dr. P. Alvin and Mary K. Zamba Fund #2
Terry Ranieri Memorial Fund
Wawrzynski II Family Fund
Russell and Mary Orme Charitable Fund
Mary Jane Mock Fund
David A. and Kathleen N. Lewis Family Fund
Wellington-Briggs Fund
Reed Adkins Fund
Waheguru's das Ghuman Fund
Annie Whittingham Forever Five Fund
Farfs Family Fund
Cosetti Family Fund
Cheng-Pan Family Fund

James and Molly Creenan Charitable Fund
Marylynne Pitz and Mark Weitzman Fund
Wiese Charitable Fund
M & S Fund
Live Like Eli Scholarship Fund
Valicenti Family Fund
John M. Lekse Scholarship Fund
Leber Family Fund
In the Sky Fund
Schell Games Giving Group Fund
Mr. and Mrs. Torrence M. Hunt Jr. Fund
John B. Jones Memorial Scholarship
Milena and Kamal Nigam Fund
Fong Charitable Fund
Porter Family Trust Fund #2
Parrish Family Fund
Lovell Healthcare Group Fund

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