



The North East  
Community  
Foundation

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

# Dreams Do Come True





# A Letter

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Making dreams come true and making a difference in the lives of our neighbors has been the mission of the North East Community Foundation for 27 years.

In 2018, the Foundation was honored to share nearly \$172,000 with 77 non-profits and individuals.

- \$53,000 to education – supporting libraries and schools, providing college scholarships and summer experiences in the arts and nature
- \$30,000 to basic health & safety needs – firefighters and first responders, nursing and hospice care, food, clothing and other essentials

- \$25,000 to enriching our community – through organizations such as North East in Bloom, Downtown North East, North East Historical Society and the Lake Shore Railway Historical Society

None of these dreams could be possible without donors like you. It's through the generosity of those who made gifts in 2018 – and those whose legacy of giving continues year after year – that we can succeed.

And we've only just begun.

This summer, the Foundation will help bring the Erie Philharmonic to Gibson Park for a series of concerts and light up the sky with fireworks on the 4th of July.

With the launch of our new North East Community Foundation Facebook page and updated website (to go live later this summer), the Foundation will regularly share the good news of funds at work in our community.

Our volunteer board of directors is excited to bring new opportunities for growth, enrichment and advancement to North East and honored to partner with donors like you to make dreams come true.

Sincerely,  
Billy Lewis,  
*Chairman*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

William Lewis, *Chairman*  
Vernon Frye, *Vice Chairman*  
Robert Jeffery, *Treasurer*  
Dan Adamus  
David Bradford  
Joseph Cancilla  
Sonia Fails  
Jim Gorzynski

Kirk Hill  
David Meehl  
Chris Miller  
Deborah Phillips  
Jennifer Smith  
Barbara Zorzie

### STAFF

Melissa Fisher,  
*Executive Assistant*

### START A NEW FUND

The North East Community Foundation makes it easy for you to start your own fund. A suggested minimum for opening a fund is \$10,000, but you can establish a fund in any amount. A representative is available to meet with you and/or your financial advisor to discuss the establishment of a fund or any other aspect of your charitable gift planning. Please call Melissa Fisher at (814) 725-7107.

# NECF GRANTS

The North East Community Foundation was honored to fund \$171,270.51 in grants during 2018

## CHARLES BARTON SCHOLARSHIP FUND

University of Maryland.....	\$500.00
<b>Total Distribution .....</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>

## DOROTHY BERTGES-THORNTON ENDOWMENT

Crescent Hose Co.....	\$604.50
First Baptist Church of North East.....	\$1,209.00
Fuller Hose Company.....	\$604.50
North East Food Pantry.....	\$1,209.00
North East School District.....	\$1,209.00
United Neighborhood Facilities	
Health Care Co.....	\$1,209.00
<b>Total Distribution .....</b>	<b>\$6,045.00</b>

## JARED MATTHEW BIFULCO SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Hunt of a Lifetime.....	\$346.43
<b>Total Distribution .....</b>	<b>\$346.43</b>

## CHARLES & ELINOR BURKHARD FUND

McCord Memorial Library.....	\$500.00
<b>Total Distribution .....</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>

## CURRIE FAMILY FUND

Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross.....	\$1,330.00
McCord Memorial Library.....	\$666.50
<b>Total Distribution .....</b>	<b>\$2,666.00</b>

## ROBERT WHITNEY ERIE COUNTY FARM BUREAU AGRICULTURAL SCHOLARSHIP

Gannon University.....	\$500.00
West Virginia University.....	\$500.00
<b>Total Distribution .....</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTH EAST, KNEPP ENDOWMENT

General Funds.....	\$803.00
<b>Total Distribution .....</b>	<b>\$803.00</b>

## NANCY ANDERSON GE CHAIRMAN'S AWARD ENDOWMENT

Community Nursing Services of North East.....	\$764.50
North East School Scholarship Fund.....	\$764.50
<b>Total Distribution .....</b>	<b>\$1,529.00</b>

## GERALDINE SMITH FUND

Community Nursing Services of North East.....	\$2,714.40
Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross.....	\$2,714.40
McCord Memorial Library.....	\$2,714.40
Mercyhurst North East.....	\$2,714.40
North East Historical Society.....	\$2,714.40
<b>Total Distribution .....</b>	<b>\$17,626.00</b>

## RALPH L. HARTLEY FUND

Boy Scout Troop # 82.....	\$2,800.00
Crescent Hose Co.....	\$4,373.20
Cub Scout Pack #82.....	\$2,800.00
Cub Scout Pack #57.....	\$959.80
Fuller Hose Company.....	\$2,186.60
McCord Memorial Library.....	\$6,559.80
Penn State University.....	\$6,559.80
Penn State Erie, The Behrend College.....	\$6,559.80
<b>Total Distribution .....</b>	<b>\$32,799.00</b>

## MCCORD MEMORIAL LIBRARY FUND

General Funds.....	\$974.00
<b>Total Distribution .....</b>	<b>\$974.00</b>

## JAMES R. MEEHL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

University of Pittsburgh.....	\$500.00
<b>Total Distribution .....</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>

## NORTH EAST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GENERAL FUND

4 N.I.N.E. Thrift Shop.....	\$14,146.99
Advance North East.....	\$948.99
Community Nursing Services of North East.....	\$346.00
Crescent Hose.....	\$750.00
Cub Scout Troop 57.....	\$840.20
Downtown North East, Inc.....	\$6,310.73
First Baptist Church of North East.....	\$3,382.42
First Presbyterian Church of North East.....	\$5,000.00
Lake Shore Railway Historical Society Inc.....	\$657.74
McCord Memorial Library.....	\$1,434.40
Mercyhurst North East.....	\$10,630.00
North East Arts Council.....	\$13,930.40
North East in Bloom.....	\$6,548.54
North East Education Foundation.....	\$162.92
North East Food Pantry.....	\$428.30
North East Historical Society.....	\$8,989.32
Orchard Beach Assembly.....	\$4,158.73
Park United Methodist Church.....	\$5,289.90
Pattie's Pink Warriors.....	\$500.00
Project Love, Inc.....	\$5,000.00
SOS 4 Kidz.....	\$1,500.00
United Way of Erie County.....	\$11,947.00
YMCA.....	\$500.00
<b>Total Distribution .....</b>	<b>\$98,902.58</b>

## PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FUNDS

General Funds.....	\$4,184.00
<b>Total Distribution .....</b>	<b>\$4,184.00</b>

## PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MISSIONS FUND

General Funds.....	\$1,621.00
<b>Total Distribution .....</b>	<b>\$1,621.00</b>

## PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PROGRAMS FUND

General Funds.....	\$1,416.00
<b>Total Distribution .....</b>	<b>\$1,416.00</b>

## PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

General Funds.....	\$2,650.00
<b>Total Distribution .....</b>	<b>\$2,650.00</b>

## LENORA JANE PERDUE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Clark Summit University.....	\$400.00
<b>Total Distribution .....</b>	<b>\$400.00</b>

## WALCZAK FAMILY FUND

St. Gregory School.....	\$2,332.00
<b>Total Distribution .....</b>	<b>\$2,332.00</b>



North East Arts Council



Crescent & Fuller Hose Co.



Boy & Girl Scout Troops

# NECF DONOR FUNDS

Through December 2018

Advance North East Fund.....	\$9,729.25
Archer Fund.....	\$2,345,205.19
Barton Fund.....	\$12,490.40
Bertges-Thornton Fund.....	\$147,833.73
Bifulco Scholarship Fund.....	\$0.00
Burkhard Fund.....	\$24,223.83
Campbell Fund.....	\$6,521.21
Community Nurses Fund.....	\$28,349.06
Currie Fund.....	\$65,814.06
1st Presbyterian Fund.....	\$20,984.88
Vernon & Sara Frye Fund.....	\$11,648.29
Anderson GE Chairman's Fund.....	\$37,696.51
Gorzynski Scholarship.....	\$13,360.92
George & Alice	
Gourgoutis Fund.....	\$18,505.00
Gerri Smith Fund.....	\$522,316.36

Hartley Fund.....	\$783,764.87
Holl Fund.....	\$6,376.55
Lake Shore Railway	
Historical Society.....	\$57,392.59
Lewis Family Fund.....	\$93,704.94
McCord Memorial Library.....	\$24,264.55
Meehl Memorial Scholarship.....	\$16,014.23
Miller Family Fund.....	\$28,760.11
NE Community Chest	
(Campaign Fund).....	\$5,000.37
NE Community Chest	
(Endowment Fund).....	\$45,847.46
NE Food Pantry.....	\$44,277.94
4 NINE Fund.....	\$18,708.14
NECF (General Fund).....	\$26,429.86
NECF (Board of Directors Fund).....	\$32,913.38

NECF (Endowment Fund).....	\$171,200.76
Park UMC BSA Troop 57.....	\$21,881.73
Park UMC General Fund.....	\$187,517.25
Park UMC Missions Fund.....	\$62,597.85
Park UMC Music Fund.....	\$45,268.72
Park UMC Programs Fund.....	\$56,360.43
Park UMC Scholarship Fund.....	\$96,122.75
Lenora Jane Perdue	
Scholarship.....	\$9,840.55
Robert Whitney ECFB	
AG Scholarship.....	\$15,064.31
Special NE Trust Fund.....	\$1,805,236.48
Walczak Family Fund.....	\$56,412.90
Albert Walz CGA.....	\$17,262.92
Beverly Walz CGA.....	\$15,715.78
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$7,008,616.11</b>





## 2018 LAKE & SMITH AWARD WINNER: LAKE SHORE RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Did you know the Erie & North East was the first railroad in Erie County and in its heyday North East was the second largest rail shipping community in Northwestern Pennsylvania?

More than 100 years have passed, but thanks to the Lake Shore Railway Historical Society, North East remains a hub of activity, attracting more than 10,000 visitors annually for the last decade.

The organization, which oversees the 2.5-acre property along Wall Street, is entirely run by volunteers.

It all began in the 1960s with foresight from local enthusiasts who saw the value in preserving history when the railroad wanted to demolish the property and its structures.

Members in the 1970s and 80s put up their own homes as collateral to purchase the property.

Then the collecting began – with a focus on preserving rolling, stationary and other pieces with significance to history, culture and economy of North East, Erie and the NWPA region.

Recently, the museum has focused on building its collection of locomotives built at GE –

also known as the locomotives our fathers and grandfathers built.

It's a labor of love for volunteers who are solely responsible for the funding and operation of the Lake Shore Railway Museum which includes a museum housed in the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad Depot, the Erie & North East Railroad Depot aka freight house, 37 pieces of rolling stock, two crossing shacks from 19th Street in Erie, and a crossing tower from Loomis Street.

This is a group that looks both ways, with a respect for the past and a vision for the future. The organization plans to further develop the property, buildings and collection.

The Erie County Gaming and Revenue Authority (ECGRA) recently awarded the Borough of North East a \$250,000, multi-year grant for façade, streetscape and safety improvements to the Clinton/South Pearl and Wall Street neighborhood. This Mission Main Street grant will allow the Borough to provide some much needed safety measures in the area, study the existing traffic and parking issues, provide funding for façades in the area and beyond and allow the businesses within the area to grow and prosper in conjunction with the Downtown community. *All aboard!*

### OUR DONORS

*A big thank you to the following people and organizations who made contributions and/or established new funds during 2018.*

Advance North East  
Anonymous  
James Baur  
David Bradford  
Susan & Jim Butler  
Michele Campbell  
Kathy & Dennis Cantoni  
Emma Sue Cherico  
Judy & Richard Corbin  
The Cork 1794  
William D. Elkin  
Funeral Home  
Sonia & Clay Fails  
Judy Farnum  
Linda & Pat Federicki  
Melissa & Roy Fisher  
Sara & Vernon Frye  
GE Foundation

GE United Way Campaign  
Emily Gensheimer  
Nancy Goodman  
Gorzynski, Uglow & Farrell, PC  
Greenman - Pedersen, Inc.  
Sue Hammond  
Danielle & Corey Hansen  
Natalie Heberlein  
Wendy & Trevor Heberlein  
Orris C. & B. Dewey  
Hirtzel Memorial  
Foundation  
David Howard  
Kathy & Robert Jeffery  
Kathleen Johnson  
Robert Johnson  
Knox McLaughlin Gornall  
& Sennett

Pat & Bruce Long  
Colleen & August E. Maas  
Charlotte Manison  
Anna & Hugh McCartney  
Tom McClure  
David W. Meehl  
Christopher R. Miller  
Melissa Miller  
Sue & Don Moore  
Joellen Nelson  
North East Chamber  
of Commerce  
Ellen Otto  
Park United Methodist Church  
Deborah Phillips & Jack Russell  
Bobbi Randall  
Carol J. Reese  
Regal Service

Roberts Warehousing Inc.  
Brittany Rusnak  
Sheri & Ray Rusnak  
Sanders Brothers Inc.  
Tim & Cindi Sebolt  
Jody & Rich Timer  
Renee Triana  
Jennifer Tuttle  
United Way of Allegheny County  
United Way of Erie County  
James Wakeman  
Bev & Al Walz  
Robin & Tim Ward  
Pamela & Donn Whitmore  
Robin & Tom Wilkinson  
Andrew Wojcicki  
Carol Wood  
Jeanne & Daniel C. Young