
*The Washington County
Community Foundation
fosters philanthropy by
offering charitable gifting
opportunities to donors on an
individualized basis and at
reasonable fees.*

*Our purposes include
helping donors accomplish
their charitable goals by
professionally managing
funds entrusted to us
for today and for the future.*



Washington
County Community Foundation, Inc.

331 South Main Street
Washington, PA 15301
724-222-6330

info@wccf.net
www.wccf.net

*Bringing good people
and good causes
together*

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*“The true meaning of life
is to plant trees,
under whose shade
you do not expect to sit.”
- Nelson Henderson*

What is the Washington County Community Foundation?

The Washington County Community Foundation (WCCF) was initiated by community leaders to encourage charitable giving. Its mission is to improve the quality of life in Washington County by making it possible for donors to receive philanthropic advantages otherwise available only to the wealthiest contributors. The Foundation does not operate programs.

A unique institution in the area, WCCF makes charitable giving easier, more satisfying and more effective. The Foundation is a tax-exempt, 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation organized under the laws of Pennsylvania. It is audited annually by an independent certified public accounting firm and registers annually with the Pennsylvania Charities Bureau. The WCCF is a member of The Council on Foundations, and has subscribed to that organization's National Standards for Community Foundations. The WCCF is governed by a Board of Trustees comprised of local volunteers, each of whom has a long history of involvement in community and civic affairs.

WCCF fosters philanthropy by offering charitable gifting opportunities to donors on an individualized basis and at reasonable fees. Having received its first permanent fund in 1995, the Foundation grew to \$1 million by 2001 and to \$2 million by 2004. The Foundation received its 100th permanent fund in 2005.

From where do funds come?

The Foundation will accept gifts from both individual or institutional donors, such as service organizations, corporations, churches, or other foundations. WCCF may accept virtually any kind of gift, including cash, securities, and real or tangible property. WCCF can be used by the donor to create a fund for as little as \$5,000, although different types of funds require different minimums. It is also an excellent vehicle for more sophisticated types of charitable giving, such as charitable remainder trusts or charitable lead trusts. Testamentary bequests and life insurance policies are two devices commonly used to fund a contribution to WCCF.



What types of funds does the WCCF offer?

When creating a fund at the WCCF, donor have many options through the permanent and temporary vehicles available.

- | <u>Permanent</u> | <u>Temporary</u> |
|---|----------------------------------|
| • Discretionary
(Unrestricted) | • Charitable Gift Account |
| • Designated
- Field of Interest
- Geographic
- Scholarship
- Agency Endowment | • Project or Pass Through |
| • Donor Advised | |

How are the grants distributed?

Earnings from permanent funds are distributed as directed by the donor or the Board of Trustees in the areas of the arts, education, environment, health, human needs and religion.

All Foundation decisions are made in strict compliance with established written administrative policies and operating procedures. Each donor and the WCCF enter into a written agreement setting forth the relationship between the parties.

Discretionary Funds support the changing and emerging needs of the community. The annual distribution decision is entrusted to the Board of Trustees. *Designated Funds* support a specific non-profit agency, cause, geographic area, or educational scholarship. This designation is made at the time the fund is created and distribution decision adheres to the terms of the contract. *Donor Advised Funds* enable donors to maintain the ability to recommend annually the charitable causes or qualified charities they wish to benefit from the fund.

What fees are charged?

There is no fee to create a new fund. Once the fund is created, there is an annual administrative fee charged to each fund. The fee is a percentage of the fair market value of the fund as of December 31, averaged over a three year period. Currently, the administrative fee for permanent funds ranges from 1% to 2%.