



NEWS RELEASE

York County Community Foundation Celebrates 30 Years with Legacy Gifts to Grow Grantmaking in Future

Longtime Board Members Announce Plans to Leave Legacy Gifts to Benefit Local Nonprofits

In honor of the York County Community Foundation's 30th anniversary, longtime board members Bernie Ackerman and Jim Hardin announced their intent to include the Foundation in their estate plans – and they hope others will follow. With their legacy gifts, Ackerman and Hardin will help to grow the endowed funds, which will increase the funds available to the board to award in annual grants.

In its 30-year history, the York County Community Foundation has awarded more than \$500,000 to more than 80 organizations benefitting residents of York County. The past two years have seen record grantmaking, with the board awarding more than \$100,000 to support local nonprofits.

This increase in grantmaking is thanks to the growth of the York County board's endowed funds, due to generous gifts and investment growth, as well as a new match opportunity with Foundation For The Carolinas, known as Give, Grant, Grow York County. But despite this growth, each year, the request for grant support exceeds the funds the York board has to award. Ackerman and Hardin hope that legacy gifts, including their own, can increase the size of the endowment and impact the board's grantmaking reach.

"I can think of no better way to celebrate three decades of great work by the York County Community Foundation than by making a gift to ensure greater grantmaking in the decades to come," Ackerman said.

Hardin added: "For us, this is an opportunity to give back to the York County community that has done so much for us, whether you are born and raised here, built a business here, or raised your family here."

Each year, the York County Community Foundation's board of trustees oversees a competitive grant cycle. This year, grants totaled \$52,000 and benefitted 16 local nonprofits, including Boys & Girls Clubs of York County, Early Learning Partnership of York County and the York County Disabilities Foundation.

"Bernie and Jim's charitable contributions will make a meaningful impact on our region for years to come," said Alice Davis, York County Community Foundation board chair. "As a board, we know that the only way to increase our annual grants is to grow our endowment, and we are grateful for the generosity of Bernie and Jim and hope others will consider a gift to help grow our grantmaking impact."

Eligible organizations, which include 501(c)(3) nonprofits benefitting residents of York County, are invited to submit an application for the board's consideration. The next grant cycle will open in early 2019. For information on making your own legacy gift or for questions about the York County Community Foundation, please contact Kindl Detar at 704.973.4581 or kdetar@fftc.org.

About the York County Community Foundation

Established in 1988 as a permanent endowment, the York County Community Foundation benefits a wide range of charitable purposes in York County. As an affiliate of Charlotte-based Foundation For The Carolinas, the York County Community Foundation inspires philanthropy, increases charitable giving and strengthens the community. For more information please visit www.yorkcounty-cf.org.

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