

# Foundation Focus



Forward thinking and fearlessly working together to promote the prosperity of all

June 2014



Guest Columnist:

Betty Knighton, President & CEO, WV Center for Civic Life

## What's Next, West Virginia?

### We Decide . . . Together

Throughout West Virginia, people are working to build strong communities with local economies that meet the needs of their residents. They are maximizing local assets as they deal with difficult challenges: changing job markets, shifts in demographics, and competition with a global economy.

While much work is underway in West Virginia, there have been few opportunities for ongoing discussions that connect what is happening—across sectors and points of view—and that welcome new people into the mix. Many West Virginians believe that the time is right for conversations that bring people together who don't normally talk and work together, conversations that will encourage fresh, innovative thinking to emerge.

**What's Next, West Virginia?** is a nonpartisan statewide initiative designed to do just that—to encourage community-based conversations about our state's future and to help communities set directions for building stronger local economies. It is being organized by a broad—and growing—coalition of state and local partners from non-profit, philanthropic, governmental, educational, and faith-based organizations, including The Greater Kanawha

Valley Foundation.

**What's Next, West Virginia?** is designed to be localized to the needs and opportunities of each community—whether that's a neighborhood, a town, a county, or a region. Whether the geographic focus of the discussion is small or large, participants will consider common questions: Where are we now? Where do we want to go? How will we get there?

While the conversations will be locally organized, statewide partners are ready to help in a variety of ways:

The West Virginia Center for Civic Life (WVCCL) will offer regional workshops and ongoing assistance for those who want to convene and facilitate local discussions. They will provide discussion guides for community members and support materials for local planning teams.

As communities come together to hold conversations and set directions, the West Virginia Community Development Hub will provide coaching and other assistance to help communities turn ideas into actions.

Along the way, West Virginia Public Broadcasting will share community stories so that West Virginians can find out what their neighbors are doing to create a more prosperous future.

We will also be sharing insights from West Virginia with others in Central Appalachia who are facing similar economic challenges and opportunities. We'll be learning together with others throughout the United States who are developing inclusive ways for people to engage in productive dialogue about issues that impact their communities.

A strong future for West Virginia will require new economic opportunities but also new ways of talking and working **together, new relationships, and new connections. It will require economic entrepreneurs, but it will also require civic entrepreneurs.**

We hope you'll be a part of this important conversation. Please contact us for more information, to share your ideas, and to help determine what's next for West Virginia.

[www.whatsnextwv.org](http://www.whatsnextwv.org) [facebook.com/whatsnextwv](https://www.facebook.com/whatsnextwv) [twitter.com/whatsnextwv](https://twitter.com/whatsnextwv) hashtag: #whatsnextwv

Or call the WV Center for Civic Life at 304-344-3430



**WHAT'S NEXT,**  
*West Virginia?*

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## President and CEO's Message

The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation has been a foundation in transition – transitioning from grants to investments. The Foundation is transitioning to a systems approach to community change using collective analysis and vision. Its aim is to be more focused and proactive with clarity about the impact it makes with the bottom line being better outcomes for families, children, and communities. The new vision, mission, and values below were adopted by the Board of Trustees at its June 18, 2014 meeting.

To arrive at its new direction the Board and Staff held two strategic thinking retreats, and sought input from its donors, advisory board, grantees, and community leaders. The process included reviewing data, analyzing issues and assets, discovering root causes, and determining the areas on which the Foundation could have the most effective impact. The process began in the winter of 2012 and culminated with the Board adoption of the new vision, mission, and values on June 18, 2014.

The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation's work will still concentrate on creating the seven forms of community wealth – intellectual, individual, social, natural, built, political, and financial. The seven forms of wealth are the cornerstones of a community that provide prosperity for all.

Through the strategic thinking process the Foundation was able to identify four root causes that impair our

our community's ability to provide that prosperity for all. These root causes are: lack of cohesion and trust within the community; lack of effective leadership at all levels; poor health of the population; and, an

underperforming education system and ill-prepared students. Consequently, The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation has adopted three focused goals that reflect the preferred state of our community:

- \* We are a community where students, from early childhood to post-secondary, build the skills, knowledge, and credentials to become productive and successful.
- \* We are a community that supports the healthy choice.
- \* We are a community full of strong, innovative, and effective leaders who work to create shared visions, cross-cultural relationships, and the capacity to create positive change.



### Vision

**We envision a forward-thinking and closely connected community that fearlessly works together to promote the prosperity of all.**

### Mission

**TGKVF makes thoughtful and proactive investments that grow the multiple forms of wealth necessary for our community to thrive. These forms of wealth include the individual, intellectual, social, political, natural, built, and financial assets within our community.**

### Values

**Lead with integrity and respect for all.** We serve our community with integrity, compassion, respect and thoughtfulness.

**Act with a long-term perspective.** We take a long-term approach to our investments by creating lasting cycles of wealth for the entire community.

**Build on our community assets.** We build on the strengths of our community while fostering innovation and connections that improve the livelihoods of all people in our area.

**Seek excellence.** We seek excellence in ourselves and our organization, and support and encourage all of our partners to create optimal impact through their work.

**Advocate for inclusiveness.** We believe in transparency, acceptance, and the celebration of diversity.

**Promote collaboration.** We work to create genuine, honest, and mutually-supportive relationships with and among all of our stakeholders.

## Agency Spotlight



Over the last 20 years, Community Access, Inc. has implemented both small and large scale projects and has worked with a variety of agencies, including the WVDHHR, to provide a highly-successful, state-wide program for TANF recipients with multiple barriers to employment; the WV Developmental Disabilities Council; the local Division of Rehabilitation Services; the US Department of Labor; and the U.S. Department of Education Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services. In all of these projects, program goals were met or exceeded. For more information , please call (304) 545-1483.

## GRANTSTOINVESTMENTS

A FOUNDATION IN TRANSITION

### Distributions

#### 2nd Cycle Grants 2014 Health & Human Services

1. Alzheimer's Disease & Related Disorders Assoc. Inc., WV Chapter	\$8,000
2. American Heart Association	\$50,000
3. American Red Cross	\$35,000
4. Cabell Wayne Association of the Blind, Inc.	\$15,000
5. Children's Therapy Clinic, Inc.	\$35,000
6. Community Access, Inc.	\$14,300
7. Facing Hunger Food Bank	\$12,920
8. Kanawha Pastoral Counseling Center, Inc.	\$16,350
9. Midway Elementary School	\$20,000
10. Pretera for Mental Health Services, Inc.	\$10,750
11. The Foundation for Thomas Memorial & St. Francis Hospitals	\$15,000
12. TEAM for West Virginia Children	\$25,000
13. The Gabriel Project of West Virginia	\$26,000
14. Union Mission Ministries, Inc.	\$32,500
15. United Way of Central West Virginia	\$6,000
16. WV Healthy Kids and Families Coalition, Inc.	\$24,000
17. WVU Foundation, Inc.	\$76,380
18. WV Alliance for Sustainable Families	\$15,000
19. WV for Affordable Health Care	\$18,000

At its June meeting, The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation's Board of Trustees cemented its new strategic plan and our grantmaking model will soon undergo a significant change. Beginning January 1, 2015 the Foundation's new goals will focus on health, education, and leadership/education. Please visit our website at [www.tgkvf.org](http://www.tgkvf.org) in August of 2014 for more information regarding our upcoming grantmaking procedures. Once the dates have been determined, the Foundation will hold informational sessions and training opportunities to help its partners adapt to the new framework; as soon as the dates and locations of these meetings are established, we will communicate them to you. Ultimately, our new direction will offer the Foundation and its grantees the exciting opportunity to increase our collective impact on the communities we serve.

### TKGVF Outstanding Grantwriting Award

All of the grant requests the Foundation receives describe interesting projects that aim to improve the quality of life in our communities. Still, each cycle there is one grant proposal that stands apart from the rest for its mastery, compliance, and originality. In an effort to recognize those grant requests that meet and often surpass the Foundation's requirements, TGVF will award one grantwriter each cycle (three per year) with a TGVF Gift Card of \$100. The winning grantwriter may redeem the gift card at the Foundation as a contribution to the nonprofit organization of his/her choice.

The winning grant proposal will demonstrate that the writer has read the web-based grant application instructions carefully and, if needed, discussed any questions with TGVF staff well before the application's deadline. The winning request writer will also answer all questions clearly and completely, document the project budget and accompanying narrative plainly according to the budget format, and submit the application in a timely manner according to written guidelines.

TGVF's Outstanding Grantwriter Award goes to **Martha Minter, Community Access, Inc.**

Missed our Annual Report to the Community that was held on May 13, 2014?

No worries, you can see presentations by Thomas Watson, Becky Ceperley and the panel led by Betty Knighton on our youtube channel.

[Wwww.youtube.com](http://Wwww.youtube.com)

wealth  
created  
here.

GREATER KANAWHA VALLEY FOUNDATION

**Upcoming dates:**

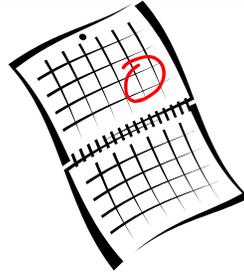
June 18 TGKVF Board of Trustees meeting

June 20-29 FestivALL 10th Anniversary

July 4 Independence Day; TGKVF is closed

Aug 1 3rd Cycle application deadline for Recreation & Land Use grants

Aug 1 Scholarship checks mailed to recipients

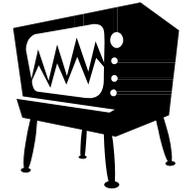


Sept 1 Labor Day; TGKVF is closed

Fridays 6:30-9:30pm, May 23-Aug. 29

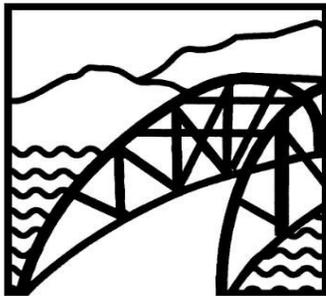
**Community Connections** is a cable television series hosted and produced by TGKVF staff. Guests include nonprofit and local leaders who promote their organizations, services, and upcoming events.

The show is broadcast on KCS-TV, channel 17 and shown twice daily for one week each month. In addition, the segments are uploaded to TGKVF's youtube channel and facebook page where they can be shared by others to their social media outlets.



**Three ways to keep in touch.**

TGKVF has embraced social media. "Like" our facebook page for daily news about TGKVF and other non profits. Subscribe to our youtube channel and see our latest video productions including monthly televised Community Connections interviews with non profit and local leaders. Follow us on twitter @TGKVF



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