The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation

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

Fall 2016

GKVF FOUNDATION FOCUS

OPIOD ABUSE CRISIS

Perception! Blame! Policy! More than an addiction!

Cynthia Persily, PhD, RN, FAAN
President and CEO of Highland Hospital Association, Highland Behavioral Health Services, Inc., Highland Hospital Foundation, Inc., and Highland Health Center, Inc.

We've all seen the headlines. West Virginia has the highest drug overdose death rate in the nation…Why the opioid epidemic is so bad in West Virginia… Acknowledging West Virginia's drug problem…Addicted State…these are just a few. In my organization, we treat people in the grip of addiction every day. Whether we are caring for adults in our hospital who have been self-treating their psychiatric diagnoses with illicit or prescription drugs, or children who have experienced the trauma inflicted through living in an environment where drug use is rampant, or we are caring for people who come to us for help withdrawing from alcohol or drugs, we are seeing every day the ravages of substance use disorder. It's not easy for our patients, it's not easy for their families, it's a struggle for our communities, and it's a stressor for our care providers. But the bottom line—there is hope.

Let's talk about Substance Abuse Disorder (SAD). Substance Abuse Disorder is a chronic brain disorder with a chance for recurrence. Like any other chronic disease, the impact of SAD is felt in many parts of an individual's life. Work or school might be impacted. Relationships may be affected. Routines may be altered because of the chronic disease. And, most importantly, care and attention is needed to control the chronic disease. Understanding addiction as a brain disease has significant implications for the public perception of addicts and their families, for addiction treatment practice, and for aspects of public policy.

What about perception? More and more we are hearing the discussion of addiction as a chronic disease. This shift in perception will help as we develop prevention and treatment programs and get away from the thinking that the person with SAD is to "blame" for their disease. The need to remove the stigma of addiction is never more important than today. Treatment services will only work if those who need them feel

Continued on page 2

comfortable seeking them out. So what about addiction treatment? More and more, treatment is evidence based. Addiction science has helped us understand more and more about this brain disorder, and helps us to target interventions and individualize approaches to addiction treatment. While we still have a shortage of some levels of treatment, we are improving in West Virginia. The 1 88-HELP4WV hotline, an initiative of the Governor's Substance Abuse Advisory Council, is a tangible effort to link people to services, and more and more people are reaching out to be linked to care. Reimbursement strategies are being analyzed by our government and private payers to facilitate access to care for those with Substance Abuse Disorder.

And finally, what about public policy? The good news is that people are finally talking about substance abuse. Forums around the state are bringing stakeholders like legislators, providers, police, community members, the religious community, and those who have suffered from Substance Use Disorders to talk about how they can deal with substance use disorder in their community. These discussions are informing policy, and policy changes are being developed to address the issue. While we don't always agree about how to help, the discussion is ongoing in every corner of our state. We will make progress in dealing with drug issues when we recognize that substance abuse disorder is a chronic disease and when our discussion and our actions are as complex and comprehensive as the problem. Our approaches need to deal with every aspect of the disease, from prevention, to appropriate prescribing, to controlling supply, to treatment, and community healing.

So, while the situation is dire, things are happening that make me hopeful that as a state we will overcome the problems of substance use. West Virginian's will once again roll up our sleeves and we will fight this disease. It's going to take all of us working together, recognizing substance use disorder as a chronic disease, finding the resources to have a multipronged approach, and the will to make a difference. We can change the headlines. Our future generations deserve no less.

Dr. Cynthia Persily is currently President and CEO of Highland Hospital Association, Highland Behavioral Health Services, Inc., Highland Hospital Foundation, Inc., and Highland Health Center, Inc. in Charleston, WV. Dr. Persily is charged with setting strategic direction, assuring financial viability, development of new business, and evaluation of programming for the organizations.

Dr. Persily is currently serving a gubernatorial appointment to the WV Center for Nursing Board of Directors, where she previously served as President of the Board. Dr. Persily was elected in 2014 to the Board of Trustees of the WV Hospital Association, where she also serves as a member of the Legislative Committee. In the community, Dr. Persily serves as a board of trustees member for Edgewood Summit, Inc.; as a member of the boards of directors of Partners in Health Network, and First Choice Services, Inc.; and as a member of steering committee of the Kanawha Coalition for Health Improvement. She currently serves as Immediate Past President of the WV Behavioral Health Providers Association. She has previously served as a member of a variety of community boards, including Kanawha Players and Mountaineer Montessori School, where she served a three year term as President.

An accomplished author and researcher, Dr. Persily served as Co-Director and subsequently Director of the HRSA Office of Rural Health Policy funded WV Rural Health Research Center. Her textbook, Team Leadership and Partnering in Nursing and Health Care, was published by Springer Publishing Company in June, 2013.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dr. Michelle Foster,
President and CEO

"Grantmakers across the United States and around the world increasingly recognize the value of supporting nonprofit capacity."

The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation launched its Grantee Training Institute on October 17, 2016 in Charleston. The primary aim of the Institute is to equip grantees with tools that will increase the likelihood of their success in program planning, funding acquisition, evaluation, and reporting. These tools will help to sustain their initiatives as long as they are needed. Institute topics include:

- Community Foundation 101
- Root Cause Issues and TGKVF Grantmaking Models & Priorities
- TGKVF Proposal Process
- Building, Managing, and Sustaining Collaboratives
- Understanding Community Wealth
- Applying and Assessing the Forms of Community Wealth
- Implementing TGKVF's Logic Model Framework
- The Power of a Good Story

Building the capacity of nonprofits is one of our top priorities. Grantmakers across the United States and around the world increasingly recognize the value of supporting nonprofit capacity. A 2014 survey from Grantmakers for Effective Organizations (GEO) found that 77 percent of staffed foundations in the United States provide some type of capacity-building support to nonprofits through investments in things such as leadership development, fundraising capacity, evaluation capacity, communications or technology. Additionally, 27 percent of respondents that support capacity building said they have increased this support in the past three years.

TGKVF subscribes to GEO's definition of capacity-building which is the funding and technical assistance necessary to help nonprofits increase specific capabilities to deliver stronger programs, take risks, build connections, innovate and iterate. Technical assistance is a term sometimes used interchangeably with capacity-building. It is the process by which organizations obtain the necessary knowledge, tools and other resources to develop, implement and assess targeted improvements in their work.

TGKVF staff and consulting partners lead the Institutes, which are scheduled for November 2016 in Kanawha and Boone Counties. Additional support will be provided throughout the year. We look forward to continuing these efforts in years to come as we make thoughtful and proactive investments that grow the multiple forms of wealth necessary for our community to thrive.

GRANTS UPDATE

Foundation Announces Third Quarter Grants

At its September 21, 2016 meeting, The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation (TGKVF) Board of Trustees approved the distribution of eighteen grants (18) totaling $864,570. Of that total, $614,570 will be disbursed over a one-year period and $250,000 will be disbursed over a five-year period.

TGKVF focuses its discretionary grantmaking on building community wealth and fostering collaboration. The recently funded partnership between the Appalachian Reading Center and The Bridge of Mission WV illustrates the collaboration the Foundation champions. The partnership, which began in 2015, targets students in kinship and foster care by providing high-quality tutoring and reading remediation services in Clay County Schools. Within six months, the program has yielded impressive results as students, grades K-8, receive one-on-one, intensive tutoring. For the first time, many students are able to really understand how letters and sounds work together to form words. One student reported, "I actually want to try to read out loud. I never wanted to read out loud before." Another student told her parent, "I don't dread school anymore because I know I'll be able to figure it out now." While the students' capabilities have increased, their attitudes toward learning and reading, and themselves, have also been transformed.

Keys 4 Healthy Kids- CAMC Health Education and Research $28,510 (Health)

Keys 4 Healthy Kids received a second year of funding to expand its KEY 2 a Healthy Start program, which provides edible gardens and outdoor natural learning environments for low-income child care centers in the Kanawha Valley. The program works to improve the nutrition and physical activity environment for children at child care centers. A total of ten child care centers (eight new and 2 returning) will receive services. Funding will support staffing and materials as well as construction of the gardens and natural learning environments.

"We are grateful to work with TGKVF in order to provide assistance in helping children have creative and more active play spaces. In addition, children learn how to grow and eat fruit and vegetables. Developing these habits at an early age will last a lifetime."

– Laura Dice, Project Coordinator, KEYS

WV Healthy Kids and Families Coalition $42,200 (Health)

This grant will support "Try this! WV" for a second year; this project aims to knock WV off the worst health lists, by awarding community teams within TGKVF's six-county region with mini-grants. Each grant-awarded team will also receive training, coaching, and technical assistance to implement a healthy lifestyle project in their communities. Funding will support staffing and at least 12 mini-grant awarded teams within TGKVF's service area.

"Try This West Virginia is starting to make history in Appalachia - having recruited, trained, funded, and supported 153 community-led teams across the state... each of those teams is fueled by local leaders, who are committed to knocking West Virginia off the top of the worst health lists. "

Children's Therapy Clinic $35,500 (Health)
The second year of collaboration between Children's Therapy Clinic and Bright Futures Learning Services will continue to provide appropriate therapy services for children with disabilities who have insufficient insurance coverage and/or income. Bright Futures Learning Services will provide behavioral treatments to children with autism and related disorders. Funding will support staffing, collaborative workshops, and materials.

"Without this support these children may not receive the therapy services they need to help them increase skills and become more independent."

– Valicia Leary, Executive Director, Children's Therapy Clinic

Team for WV Children $5,400 (Health)
Funds will support the creation of a website and digital home for the newly-formed statewide Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) Coalition. The ACES Coalition strives to mobilize child-abuse prevention work and foster collaboration amongst WV providers. The Coalition's mission is to improve the health and wellbeing of all West Virginians by reducing the impact of adverse childhood experiences.

"The foundation's support will help us develop a website and digital home for the Coalition where we will provide online tools, training and resources to inform various audiences about Adverse Childhood Experiences."

Coalfield Development Corporation $55,500 (Health)
Coalfield Development Corporation's initiative, Refresh Appalachia, will receive a grant to continue its second year of regional economic and workforce development work in Lincoln County. By working with Unlimited Future and Lincoln County Schools, the project aims to strengthen local food systems, support novice farmers, increase access to healthy food, and aggregate and distribute produce to meet regional markets. Funding will support staffing, training, and building materials.

"We have a tremendous opportunity to build a local food economy in southern West Virginia - an economy that supports living wage jobs and provides fresh, healthy food to communities in need."

– Ben Gilmer, President, Refresh Appalachia

Appalachian Reading Center $48,176 (Education)
The Appalachian Reading Center and The Bridge of Mission WV will partner with Clay County Schools to provide a second year of outreach in Clay County. The coalition will continue to identify and tutor dyslexic and reading deficient students within foster or kinship care; services will be provided at no charge to participants. Funds will continue to support training and stipends for tutors, materials for students and families, and scholarships for regional youth to attend the Appalachian Reading Center.

Mission WV $55,629 (Education)
In its second year of collaboration with TEAM for WV Children's Fostering Futures program and other partners, Mission WV's project "The Bridge" will continue to serve foster children and their caretakers in TGKVF's six-county region through mentorship, advocacy, and support services. Funding will assist with academic support, staffing and mentoring, self-sufficiency coaching, and enrichment activities for foster youth.

East End Family Resource Center $40,343 (Education)
East End Family Resource Center will partner for the second year with The Education Alliance and Kanawha County Schools to provide the AmeriCorps on the Frontline Dropout Prevention program; the Bob Burdette Center and PRO-Kids will also join the collaboration in 2016. The project's target population are at-risk students in grades 3-5 at Piedmont Elementary, Mary C. Snow Elementary, and Edgewood Elementary. Funding will help support six AmeriCorps mentors, staff, volunteer recruitment and community engagement, and STEAM education materials.

"TGKVF will help us fulfil our Mission of "building bridges of opportunities" by giving Charleston residents the opportunity to achieve. We accomplish our mission by coordinating, facilitating, and/or initiating activities and programs that respond to the needs of families."

Kanawha County Schools $12,490 (Education)
The Kanawha Valley Coding Club, a pilot project, will serve Capital High, Stonewall Middle, John Adams Middle, George Washington High, Horace Mann Middle, South Charleston Middle, and South Charleston High Schools. Students will be trained via an online tool that offers courses in coding, web design, and application building. In-person services will be offered after school and throughout the summer. Funding will be used to offer student scholarships, materials, and a stipend for an IT professional.

"Programming is basic literacy in the new digital age. An investment in learning and understanding computer coding is a very direct and tangible investment in our children's future."

– Margaret Leef, community member and parent

womanSong $3,500 (Arts/Culture)
Funding will support womanSong, a women's community-based chorus for sopranos and altos. Support will assist the choir with the production of its 2016-17 season, including concerts in December of 2016 and Spring of 2017.

Manna Meal, Inc. $61,000 (Basic Needs)
Manna Meal, a soup kitchen providing meals for the homeless and disadvantaged, will collaborate for a second year with Covenant House, a basic needs assistance agency, and Roark Sullivan Lifeway Center, a homeless shelter for men. This partnership works to coordinate services and improve the quality of Kanawha County and surrounding area residents by providing food and shelter to those in need.

Recovery Point of Charleston $12,500 (Basic Needs)
Recovery Point of Charleston, a long-term, residential recovery program for women suffering from addiction, will be housed on Charleston's West Side. Funding will be used to support the basic needs of homeless women seeking recovery.

"Recovery Point Charleston will serve 92 clients at no cost to them. Some basic needs are provided for our clients as they work to complete a structured, intensive 12 Step-based recovery program."

– Lara Lawson

Kanawha Valley Fellowship Home $20,500 (Basic Needs)
Kanawha Valley Fellowship Home, a transitional addiction recovery home, provides housing and addiction recovery services to men seeking assistance with substance abuse. Funding will provide food and shelter for program participants while they focus on becoming sober, productive, and healthy.

The Salvation Army $40,000 (Basic Needs)
Funding will assist the Salvation Army to provide emergency shelter, case management, and other supportive services for the flood victims of Clay and Kanawha counties.

Tyler Mountain Cross Lanes Community Services $16,000 (Basic Needs)
Funding will assist Tyler Mountain Cross Lanes Community Services, an emergency service agency, to support low-income households in Cross Lanes and the surrounding area with basic needs assistance including food, shelter, utility terminations, and a weekend snack program for youth.

Bob Burdette Center $62,274 (West Side Initiative)

Bob Burdette Center and the East End Family Resource Center will be offering full day programming to students from Mary C. Snow Elementary during school intercession breaks on the West Side of Charleston. The intercession programing will focus on STREAM (Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts, and Math) education. At the end of each STREAM Break, the sites will host a STREAM Family Night. Funding will support salaries for teachers and staff and supplies for STREAM activities.

"Building relationships is critical not only to a child's educational success but for life success."

Keep Your Faith Corporation $30,000 (West Side Initiative)

Keep Your Faith Corporation seeks to expand its school garden efforts based at Mary C. Snow Elementary to all of its urban producers, including the community garden, SAGE, and "Produce Pedalers." Through this grant, a permanent location for the West Side Farmers Market will be developed and children at Mary C. Snow will receive tokens to purchase produce that will be sold at the school. Funding will support an AmeriCorps VISTA, supplies for gardens, and the market development.

"The team is excited about this opportunity and ready to get to work."

– Dural Miller

Mary C. Snow Elementary $45,048 (West Side Initiative)

The principal and Title I teachers at Mary C. Snow Elementary will be developing an intensive academic afterschool tutoring program to provide support for up to 90 of the lowest performing students in grades 3-5. The primary focus will be in the areas of math and reading; tutoring will supplement the available programs that are offered during the regular school day. The implementation of this program will provide highly individualized instruction and support in a small, personalized setting. Funding will support staff, materials, transportation expenses, professional development, and evaluation.

The Clay Center for the Arts and Sciences
$250,000 (Special Initiative)

The Clay Center has launched its revitalization and remodeling program, which will include a new interactive art sculpture and interactive art galleries. The downstairs space, which is currently called STEAMworks, will house a small city designed for kids. The city will have math, science and art-related features where children may explore various careers. Through this renovation, students will be in charge of their own learning, but teachers may adapt the activities to fit into the classroom. To support this revitalization project, a $250,000 grant will be disbursed over a five-year period (2017-2021).

"The Avampato Discovery Museum should be a resource for every West Virginia teacher and inspire a love of learning in every West Virginia student."

– Al Najjar,
Clay Center,
President & CEO

FOUNDATION SPOTLIGHT

Todd Dorcas,
Program Officer

Todd Dorcas came to The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation after nine years with the West Virginia Department of Transportation's Division of Public Transit (DPT) where he was charged with implementing the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) State Safety Oversight (SSO) Program over the PRT or Personal Rapid Transit in Morgantown WV.

He has a Bachelor of Arts degree from West Virginia State and attended graduate school at Ball State University's College of Architecture and Planning. Shortly after graduate school, he became the Executive Director of the King Park Area Development Corporation where he assisted the city of Indianapolis with an awarded $4.5 million grant from HUD to demolish vacant and blighted houses, build 269 new homes and rehabilitate 44 homes, improve streets and infrastructure, and develop a system of parks and green space. Today, this project is known as "Fall Creek Place" and has become one of the country's most successful residential/mixed-use redevelopment projects. Fall Creek Place has won several national design awards and has been designated as best practices in several categories from architecture to redevelopment. Mr. Dorcas later went on to work for the city of Indianapolis as a city planner specializing in writing zoning ordinances and land use.

Todd is a current board member for the Kanawha County Ambulance Authority and an avid golfer.

TIME TO APPLY SCHOLARSHIPS

November 1, 2016
Application available online

January 15, 2017
Application deadline

January - April 2017
Processing & selection meetings

May 4, 2017
Notification letters sent

August 1, 2017
Award checks mailed

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