A Note From Davette

A little over a year ago we announced the community’s new Home of Philanthropy and on April 20, 2018, we ceremonially broke ground. Now, we have structure, framework and you can see what we have envisioned coming to life.

Just as we are thrilled to see the physical building taking shape, we are just as thrilled to see the community support coming together for the Home of Philanthropy. As we share the concept of what this Home can mean for people in our region, we hear the enthusiasm for philanthropy, the support for our community and belief in CKCF’s work.

Recently we announced a significant investment in the Home of Philanthropy. You can see pictured the gift from The Cecilian Bank. We are overwhelmed with gratitude for this support of our work. This gift is important and helps us move forward as we launch this campaign. The Home of Philanthropy will be realized through lots of community support and that takes many gifts from our community. Some will be large; some may be smaller. They all come from the heart and are meaningful to us. Why? Because the giver believes in our work, in our community enough to give. And that matters. It matters to me. It matters to CKCF. It matters to our community’s future. That is the framework of a community foundation.

We invite you to continue to join us on our Home of Philanthropy journey. It is exciting to watch the physical changes to the building and we look forward to inviting you into your Home of Philanthropy later this year.

Construction Support for the Community’s Home

Construction on the community’s newest home, the Home of Philanthropy, is well underway. Financial support is also progressing for it.

Central Kentucky Community Foundation recently launched a capital campaign to engage our community to support The Home of Philanthropy. Making a lead gift to the campaign, The Cecilian Bank pledged $250,000.

“In keeping with our Core Values, The Cecilian Bank’s leadership and employees are committed to building up our neighbors and making our community stronger,” Pawley said. “We are blessed to be a part of this great community, and we proudly support CKCF’s Home of Philanthropy, in their efforts to enhance the region. The Cecilian Bank has invested $250,000 in this project, so that CKCF can continue to carry out their mission to create a thriving, healthy community.”

With The Cecilian Bank’s gift and contributions of other generous donors, the capital campaign has surpassed $500,000 of our $1.3 million goal.

“This campaign is more than a building project, it is about the development of our community and enhancement of lives that starts today and leads into tomorrow,” said Capital Campaign Chair Lindsey Keith Alicna. “I have been humbled by the overwhelming support of our community and look forward to working with all of our partners in this significant project for CKCF and our region.”

Through gifts to the capital campaign and the leveraging of current assets, $2.2 million is committed of our $3 million project.

You can be part of this exciting project to ensure the future of our community is bright. It takes each one of us, working together, to build our home, and we value your insight, knowledge and support of this groundbreaking effort. To join make a gift to The Home of Philanthropy, call us at 270-737-8393.
In a night made possible by the Marvin and Joyce Benjamin Fund, we welcomed “child of the Holocaust” and Louisville resident Fred Gross as our featured speaker at A Night of Remembrance and Understanding.

A Jewish child whose family were Belgium refugees in France, Fred shared his family’s story of narrow escapes and luck as they fled Hitler’s Nazi army. He told of how, without the help and compassion of people of other faiths, his family would not have survived. They eventually escaped to Switzerland and immigrated to America after World War II.

Fred shared his inspirational story at The State Theater. Thanks to the Benjamin Fund, the community was able to hear Fred’s story firsthand and learn from his experiences.

Through a $2 million gift from the Benjamins, the fund strives to foster kindness, understanding and inclusiveness among the diverse people who call our community home. The purpose of the fund is to fight hatred, bigotry and anti-Semitism.

“The Holocaust is a current issue versus a historical event tied to a specific time period,” said Terry Owens of Radcliff. “Anti-Semitism, discrimination, hate crimes and the like are present today. These acts of hatred and discrimination were prevalent before the Holocaust in many countries and exist today.”

Fred’s story was filled with examples of how regular people can do something, even if it seems small, to fight oppression and hatred, presenting the perfect message for what the Benjamin’s desired for the community.

“The whole topic is absolutely huge,” said Paula Cohn of Elizabethtown. “If you’re Jewish, I can’t even put it into words. Everyone who is Jewish probably lost someone in the Holocaust, whether they realize it or not.”

Stephanie Murn and Jared Ben-Caro said when they saw news of the Night of Remembrance and Understanding, they knew it was meaningful to attend.

“It was important for us not only because we’re Jewish, but because if we forget the tragedies of the past, we are likely to repeat them,” Stephanie said. “Never forgetting what the Jews of the Holocaust and so many others went through helps to prevent something so horrific from happening again.”

Because the Benjamins called Elizabethtown home and cared about the
community, they established their fund with CKCF. The couple moved here in the 1950s and owned and operated Melody Music store in Elizabethtown for decades. Had they chosen to live anywhere else - had they had passion for another community - the more than 450 people who heard and were impacted by Fred's story would not have had that experience.

“The Holocaust is not an exclusively Jewish story,” Jared said. “It is a story of humanity and of the destructive impact of unrestrained, baseless hatred. Mr. Gross’s message is a reminder to all persons of the importance of removing hatred from our personal lives and maintaining an environment of understanding and accountability … Events like this help reiterate that all human beings are deserving of respect, dignity, liberty and life.”

The fund also sponsored an exhibition of Never Again: Murals of the Holocaust at Elizabethtown Community and Technical College for six weeks. The fund also provided the necessary money for Hardin County, Elizabethtown Independent, and LaRue County schools’ and home school students to visit the exhibit and for curriculum to be provided for their teachers. Just like the stories the murals and Fred told, the Benjamins’ legacy is also inspirational. Through their gift to the community in the form of an endowment fund, their message of inclusion, diversity and kindness can live forever.

It is through the Benjamins’ kindness and generosity that Fred’s story and the murals were shared with this community. To read more about Fred’s story, see video and photos from the event, or start a legacy fund of your own, go to ckcf4people.org/.

STUDENTS LEARN FROM EXHIBIT

These experiences were made possible by the generosity of Marvin and Joyce Benjamin. It is through their fund and trust in CKCF that we were able to provide this programming.

Ways To Give
Kentucky has a 20% state income tax credit for donors who make an endowed gift to a certified community foundation, like CKCF. Annually, $1 million in tax credits are available.

The tax credit can be applied to any gift to an already established or new endowed fund where the gifts benefit Kentucky charities or Kentuckians. Endowed gifts may be used to benefit any number of Kentucky charities. This can be accomplished through endowed gifts to a donor-advised fund or to endowed scholarship funds. Gifts also can go to any number of endowed funds, including funds for nonprofits, churches, education, health care, the arts, youth development, animal welfare and more.

The deadline to take advantage of the Endow Kentucky Tax Credit is June 30.

SAVE THE DATE
Endow Kentucky Lunch and Learn
May 8, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Back Home Catering, Room 62 Event Center
444 S. Mulberry St., Elizabethtown

May 9, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Where: Nelson County Public Library
201 Cathedral Manor, Bardstown

Ky. Gives Day
May 14

Get Ready! Camp
Weekdays June 3 – 28
9 - 11 a.m.
Panther Academy and North Park Elementary
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Heartland Elementary and North Park

Endow Ky. Applications Due
June 28

Heels Together Grant Application Letter of Intent Due
July 1

Youth Sports Fund of Hardin County Scholarship Applications Due
July 15

The Marvin and Joyce Benjamin Fund also provided funding for Never Again: Murals of the Holocaust, which was on exhibit for six weeks at Elizabethtown Community and Technical College. About 2,000 students from Hardin and LaRue counties were able to experience the exhibit at no cost to them or their schools. The exhibit also was made possible through a partnership with Western Kentucky University’s Center for Gifted Studies, The Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts and The Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence.
Have you dreamed of making history? Of course, we all have. And now we have a chance to be part of a powerful day of giving in Kentucky.

Last year was a record-setting Ky. Gives Day for our regional nonprofits with the effort raising almost $114,000! As a regional partner again this year, we hope to help 25 regional nonprofit organizations raise even more for the good work they do.

The 24-hour event is an opportunity for Kentuckians near and far to come together and raise as much money as possible for their favorite charities. It’s also an opportunity to unite our community and help our regional nonprofit organizations connect to new donors.

So, on May 14, Let’s Do Some Good Today and support our regional nonprofit organizations. We hope you join us in making this year another banner one!