

MEMBER VOICES

Louis J. Beccaria, Ph.D
President and CEO

Phoenixville Community Health Foundation

In his own words...

One of the best funding decisions I/we ever made . . .
was to develop and fund the now well-known directory called "The Help Book", which contains over 260 health and human service agencies providing services in the greater Phoenixville area. We have placed the directory in virtually every home in our service area, and it is also available in local banks, stores, etc. for people to use. The book is also published in Spanish and distributed throughout the Spanish community. We continuously get VERY positive feedback on the value and usability of this directory from both service providers and people in the community. We publish it every 3 years with a grant of approximately \$73,000 and also make it available online.

The person that has most influenced how I approach grantmaking. . .
is my mentor, Ruth Parker, from my days at the Glenmede Trust Company/Pew Charitable Trusts, who taught me the ins and outs of philanthropy and how to approach it with much empathy and concern for the causes and nonprofits, along with a conservative eye regarding finances and accountability.

The thing that has most surprised me as a funder...
is how interested most nonprofits are to learn and pursue a journey of excellence if they are dealt with in a collegial manner, which we try to practice here at PCHF.

My greatest aspiration for our philanthropy...
is that through our efforts, everyone in the 19 municipalities that we serve will have access to the full spectrum of health care services.

June 2010

Vital Statistics



Grantmaker Type: Private Foundation

Year Founded: Founded in 1997 with proceeds from the sale of Phoenixville Hospital to the University of Pennsylvania Health System; grantmaking program started in 1998

Total Charitable Assets: \$43 million

Annual Grants: \$1.9 million (as of 2010)

Primary Location: Phoenixville, PA

Mission/Principal Funding Areas:
To improve the health and quality of life of people through grantmaking and community involvement within the greater Phoenixville community

Name/position of other Key Leaders:
Amy Barto, Board Chairperson

Member of DVG since: 1998

Personal Involvement with DVG:
Board member for 6 years; regularly attend the Annual Members' Meeting and the Fall Conference; member of the PA Health Funders Collaborative and Food Funders group; presenter at various workshops, including the "Grant Review & Analysis" session of the *Fundamentals of Smart Grantmaking* series

More information:
www.pchf1.org