

April 9, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: NONPROFIT FACILITIES PLANNING, FINANCING & FUNDRAISING CONFERENCE IS PLANNED FOR SATURDAY APRIL 24

West Chester, PA -- Facilities projects are won or lost in the planning phase. A facility project accelerates organizational change, and it is inevitable that effort and resources will be shifted away from a nonprofit's mission and programming during the project. Nonprofit leaders need to consider what the completion of a facilities project—and the incurrence of debt, particularly mortgage debt, will ultimately mean to their nonprofit's bottom line.

A workshop to address those critical issues will be presented by the Chester County Community Foundation, in partnership with Brandywine Health Foundation, Phoenixville Community Health Foundation, United Way of Chester County & United Way of Southern Chester County on Saturday, April 24, 2010, 9 am-4 pm at the West Chester University Graduate Business Center, located Just off Rt. 202 Boot Road exit. It is priced to attract boards and committees from non profits, with fees starting at \$40 and includes workshop materials and lunch.

Presenters include Joanne Bursich, Director, Greater Philadelphia Program of The Nonprofit Finance Fund, who will focus on the impact that building ownership and renovations can have on a nonprofit's mission, programs, operations, fundraising, and financial health. Her topics include: Examples of how facilities projects have impacted other nonprofits; Planning for the project and understanding its impact on your nonprofit; Organizational readiness; Phases of capital projects, and the lending process and financing options

State Senator Andrew Dinniman, State Representative L. Chris Ross, and State Representative Duane Milne will discuss "Government Funding Financing Resources, "and a panel of architects and construction experts will provide a session "Checklist for facilities planning," ranging from a needs assessment to bidding and construction.

Afternoon sessions include, "A Blueprint for a Fundraising Capital Campaign," presented by Noel Stanek, of Kane Stanek Associates, Devon. She will discuss what a small nonprofit can do if it lacks staff and/or capital experience and review the key elements for a successful capital campaign, from initial strategy to opening day and everything in between. "From The Ground Up: Building and Fundraising Campaign Tips" will be offered by representatives from local non profits who have recently undergone a facilities campaign.

The program is presented by the Chester County Community Foundation, in partnership with Brandywine Health Foundation, Phoenixville Community Health Foundation, United Way of Chester County & United Way of Southern Chester County. The target audience includes board and committee members, fundraisers and development officers at all levels.

Located in downtown West Chester, the Chester County Community Foundation leads, inspires and encourages all individuals and organizations to create or contribute to lasting philanthropic charitable legacies.

The Community Foundation holds over \$25 million in trust and by administering funds helps more than 300 individuals, families and nonprofits who want to provide a charitable legacy for their community forever. Last year, The Community Foundation awarded \$1.5 million in grants and scholarships. For more information about the Chester County Community Foundation, visit www.chescocf.org or call (610) 696-8211.