

ATTORNEY GALLAGHER OPENS DOORS FOR CHARITIES



The role of attorneys in charitable legacies will be spotlighted by the Chester County Community Foundation at its October 12 Legacy Awards celebration in West Chester, as William J. Gallagher, Esq. of MacElree Harvey receives praise for “opening doors to legacy philanthropy.”

Pictured: William J. Gallagher, Esq.

Michael B. Karwic, CFP, CRPC, Community Foundation Board Chair, notes, “Estate planning attorneys are crucial to bequests and legacy philanthropy. We are honored to highlight the work of fine attorneys such as Bill Gallagher who know how and when to discuss charitable giving options with clients. “

The Community Foundation’s Door Opener Award is bestowed upon a professional advisor who is an outstanding supporter of legacy philanthropy. By presenting and encouraging philanthropic initiatives to their clients, professional advisors, such as estate planning attorneys, investment managers, wealth managers and accountants, play a critical role in propelling philanthropy in Chester County.

Bill Gallagher of Chadds Ford is a partner of the law firm of MacElree Harvey, with offices in West Chester, Kennett Square and Centerville. Bill focuses his practice in the areas of civil litigation, personal injury, professional malpractice and family law.

Prior to joining MacElree Harvey, he served as Public Defender of Chester County and as a Captain in the Marine Corps. Bill earned his BA in Government at La Salle University, and his J.D. from Villanova University School of Law. He is licensed to practice law in Pennsylvania and is admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States.

Bill is currently a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Service to the Public Committee and the Chester County Bar Association's Pro Bono Committee. He is a director of Legal Aid of Southern Pennsylvania and Community Impact Legal Services. He also serves on a Hearing Committee for the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. Bill is a former President of the Chester County Bar Association and past member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association House of Delegates.

Bill's community involvement extends to participation in Legal Aid and advocating for the American Cancer Society. His commitment to the community was recognized through receipt of the award for Outstanding Service to Cancer Control. He also was bestowed the Chester County Women's Commission Unsung Hero Award for the development of the Protection from Abuse Pro Bono Project. In addition, he has lectured to the Pennsylvania Bar Institute and the Chester County Bar Association. Bill has also participated in volunteer and donor roles with other Chester County nonprofits

Bill encourages colleagues and friends to become involved with charities, and he is clear that planned giving is an important consideration in the estate planning process.