

## **The Shenandoah Community Foundation Celebrates National Community Foundation Week**

The Shenandoah Community Foundation is joining more than 700 community foundations across the United States in celebrating National Community Foundation Week--November 12-18, 2014.

National Community Foundation Week was created by former president George H.W. Bush to celebrate the work of community foundations throughout the United States.

The first community foundation was started 100 years ago in Cleveland, Ohio. Since then, community foundations have been organized in every state and in every type of community--small, large, urban, and rural. Community Foundations are independent, non-sectarian, and locally-run. They offer their communities the power and long-term benefit of endowed philanthropic giving by investing the gifts that are made to the foundations and then using the annual income to address community needs in future years.

According to recent surveys, the nation's 100 largest community organizations had combined total assets in excess of \$50 billion and made grants of approximately \$4 billion.

“The Shenandoah Community Foundation works to help the residents of Shenandoah County make their dreams for our community come true,” said Foundation President Jeff Dalke. “We do this by working together to find innovative and effective solutions that address the diverse needs of this community.”

The Foundation runs three major programs: 1) its annual unrestricted grants program that provides support to area non-profit organizations, 2) its scholarship program that awards educational scholarships to County high school graduates, and 3) its restricted grants program that makes philanthropic gifts from Funds that have been separately established by individual and institutional donors.

So far in 2014 the Shenandoah Community Foundation has awarded approximately \$120,000 in scholarships and grants; and during the past 7 years, the Foundation has given out approximately \$870,000. The Foundation currently maintains more than 50 active Funds, including scholarship, memorial, donor-advised, field of interest, unrestricted and agency funds.

If you have a philanthropic goal which you would like to turn into a reality, let us help you.