

## Community Connection Sept. 2017

### Celebrating Milestones and Networking with a Purpose



As if reaching the \$500,000 endowment mark wasn't enough, the Women's Fund just keeps on making significant strides in their efforts to positively impact the lives of women and girls in central Illinois! Recently, at the "Networking with a Purpose" event, members of the Women's Fund gathered to celebrate more than 180 "Founding Members" who have given \$1,000 or more since its inception in 1993 to build a lasting endowment that allows the Fund to grant more than \$20,000 each year to deserving nonprofit organizations.

With the overall mission to build a million dollar endowment that would allow the Women's Fund to increase the impact they have in the community, the women are excited to spread the word to other philanthropic minded professionals. For more information on the Women's Fund or to support their efforts, please visit [www.communityfoundationci.org](http://www.communityfoundationci.org) or call (309) 674-8730.



## Regional Fresh Food Council Hosts "Fresh Food Summit"

On Wednesday, September 20th over 50 representatives from surrounding communities came together to discuss



important topics related to food insecurity in our region. Speakers for the event included Senator Dave Koehler whose discussion focused on the importance of working together for a strong local food system. Dr. Leslie McKnight, City of Peoria Economic Development Manager and Community Foundation Board Member, was also on hand to discuss the collective impact of all parties working

together to create change in our community.

Representatives from "The gitm Foundation", the Tazewell County Health Department as well as local growers and advocates also participated in this thought provoking and important discussion to develop a



strategy to solve the food insecurity issues in our central Illinois. According to local food advocate, Mary Ardapple, "We can begin by doing small things at the local levels. That's really how change takes place in these systems."

The Community Foundation is proud to support the Regional Fresh Food Council and its collaborative efforts to improve our community's access to fresh and healthy food. For more information on the Regional Fresh Food Council, please visit [www.regionalfreshfoodcouncil.org](http://www.regionalfreshfoodcouncil.org).



## The Emerging Philanthropists Fund "Caps" Off Another Great Year!

Recently the Emerging Philanthropists Fund hosted an end of the year "Capstone" celebration to highlight its 2017 grant award recipient, Friends of Proctor Center, as well as to honor "Summit Club" members, a giving level for those that have contributed \$1,000 or more to the Fund's endowment.



David Wiest presents a certificate of appreciation to Scott & Heather McCord as "Summit Club" members

In just four short years, the Emerging Philanthropists Fund has awarded over \$25,000 to support innovative programs that serve an unmet need in the community. The Fund is comprised of a cross section of professionals in central Illinois who have an interest in positively impacting the quality of life in our community through grantmaking. Collectively the members donate to build the

endowment that is permanently invested with a percentage of the fund being made available for distribution annually through grantmaking initiatives.

This year, the Emerging Philanthropists Fund Advisory Board is chaired by David Wiest, an attorney with Hasselberg, Grebe, Snodgrass, Urban & Wentworth. David has a giving heart for the community and also serves on the board for the Illinois Central College Education Foundation. David's commitment to improving the lives of others is truly unique and we are excited to have him on board with the Emerging Philanthropists Fund.

To learn more about the Emerging Philanthropists Fund, please visit [www.communityfoundationci.org/epic](http://www.communityfoundationci.org/epic) or contact Kim James at [kim@communityfoundationci.org](mailto:kim@communityfoundationci.org).



## Kick Off the Season of Thanks with Pop! Fizz! Clink!

**SAVE THE DATE**

*Pop! Fizz! Clink!*

AN ANNUAL BRUNCH HONORING THE WOMEN IN OUR LIVES THAT HAVE SUPPORTED AND INSPIRED US TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**Hosted by the Women's Fund**  
OF THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF CENTRAL ILLINOIS

**Saturday • November 4, 2017 • 10:30 am - noon**

Please visit [CommunityFoundationCI.org](http://CommunityFoundationCI.org)  
for more information



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