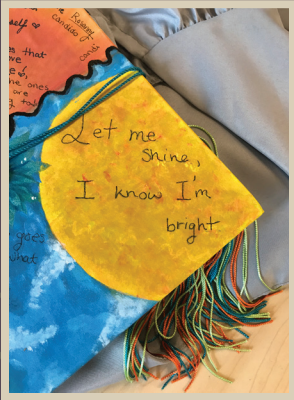


The Rider-Pool Foundation Annual Report 2019



Cover Photo:

A student shares pride and promise through her mortarboard at Building 21 - Allentown's first graduation ceremony in June 2019.

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Page 6: Photo C: Katherine D. Santoro

Page 6: Photo D: Courtesy Kolbe Academy

Page 7: Courtesy Lehigh Valley Health Network/Building 21 – Allentown

Page 8: Photo A: Courtesy Promise Neighborhoods LV

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**THE RIDER-POOL
FOUNDATION**

Our Mission is to serve as a means to improve the quality of life in the community, to build on the community's strengths and add to its vitality, and to increase the capacity of the community to serve the needs of all its citizens.

From the Executive Director



Proactive. Standing alone, one word defines a powerful, forward movement. It is the word at the heart of 2019 for The Rider-Pool Foundation – a year that represents the culmination of thoughtful review and a willingness to adapt and evolve processes to meet growing and changing community issues around us. Most importantly, the word captures the vision set forth by Leonard Parker Pool and Dorothy Rider Pool. This year, after five years in testing and learning, The Rider-Pool Foundation announced a transition to 100% proactive grantmaking.

From its founding in 1957, The Foundation responded to community requests surrounding the arts, education, human services, and community development. We are proud of the more than 1,100 grants totaling \$8 million to community organizations since 1996 alone. These grants supported the work of many fine agencies, enabling numerous important programs, services, and support to Lehigh Valley residents. We are keenly aware of and grateful for the hard work and efficiency with which our partner agencies maximized grants in the range of \$2,500 to \$10,000 through the decades.

From 2014 to 2019, the transformation began to take shape. During that time, Foundation Trustees started directing a portion of annual financial support through a proactive grantmaking strategy that deployed greater resources to address complex social challenges in our neighborhoods. The timing was in line with an extraordinary commitment from many community leaders to concentrate on activity in Allentown’s downtown and surrounding neighborhoods, largely in the form of the Neighborhood Improvement Zone (NIZ), Downtown Allentown Community Development Initiative (DACDI), and Upside Allentown.

By autumn of 2019, the Trustees were satisfied with the impact of the beta grants made over the previous five years and chose to fund all philanthropic efforts proactively. We will continue to work with many of the dedicated non-profit agencies we have supported in the past. We will do so in a more targeted and effective way with shared data analysis, common metrics, mutually agreed milestones for progress, and collective action.

Together, we celebrate highlights of the community investments made in 2019. Evident are the themes connecting work across the social determinants of health: a cradle-to-career education pipeline, community wellness, safe and healthy housing, and the creation of a “backbone” service to support agencies and neighborhoods with work that demonstrates the best of the concepts of Purpose Built Communities and Collective Impact. We are confident that these developmental and proactive investments will drive action for improved quality of life in the Lehigh Valley.

From this transformative point, the forward, proactive movement continues.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. F. Meehan'.

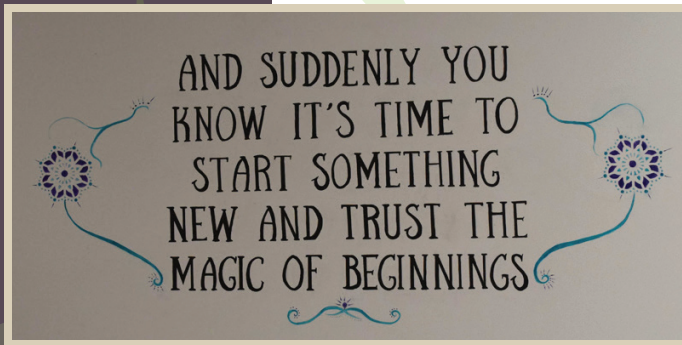
Edward F. Meehan, MPH
Executive Director

Highlights 2019

Proactive Grantmaking Announced

“I think that in time there will be phenomenal support for not-for-profits who are willing to adapt and change and evolve, and think about how to pragmatically address the challenges that we have in housing, health, and education.”

– Edward F. Meehan, Executive Director
The Rider-Pool Foundation on WDIY’s Lehigh Valley Discourse May 2019



In 2018, proactive grants accounted for 80% of The Foundation funding. In 2019, with careful review of the results, the Trustees agreed to move The Rider-Pool Foundation to 100% proactive funding. Proactive grants lean toward longer-term solutions to social problems that affect the health and well-being of our community. In the capacity of proactive grantmaking, The Rider-Pool Foundation announced it would remain focused on concentrated areas of Generational Success in Education, Community Development Linked to Economic Development in the Allentown Neighborhood Improvement Zone (NIZ), and Measurement for Results. Social determinants of health, such as housing and education, are the frame for The Foundation’s proactive work.

While Allentown experiences a once-in-a-generation economic initiative in the downtown area, we are keenly aware that a poor health and well-being status, educational gaps, and housing challenges remain a reality to many individuals and families. In response, leaders representing philanthropy, housing, education, community, health, government, and business are collaborating to ensure the momentum continues in an upward direction. Together, this work group has defined a framework to create a community-focused, sustainable approach to improve the overall quality of life in Allentown.

Collective Impact Fellowship Extended

“Economic development is unsustainable if social development doesn’t happen alongside it. What excites me about The Rider-Pool CI Fellows Initiative is the holistic and intentional approach you have created to ensure that you are creating pathways to facilitate that happening.”

– Sylvia Cheuy, Consulting Director
Collective Impact, Tamarack Learning Centre

The Foundation created The Rider-Pool Collective Impact Fellowship Program in 2014 to address and make measurable improvement to complex quality of life challenges within neighborhoods surrounding the Allentown Neighborhood Improvement Zone (NIZ) by training and supporting current and emerging non-profit and community leaders. With the graduation of the fifth cohort of the Fellowship in spring of 2019, the original goal of training 50 local leaders was met.

With noted success in collective work through the trust and relationships built in the first five years, the Fellowship was extended. In September 2019, the Collective Impact Fellowship Program launched with a sixth cohort.

The Fellows spend nine months in an intensive program including 110 hours of training from national experts in effective project design and evaluation, application of collective impact strategies, authentic community engagement, and effective communications and messaging. In addition, 2019 saw seven peer-led “Community of Practice” sessions held at various sites around Allentown, with representation from all six cohorts. Topics included Lehigh Valley Census 2020, community engagement, equity, evaluation for discovery, key informant surveys, and effective communication models.



Collective Impact Fellows 2019-2020

Nate Boateng, Project Analyst, Network Transformation, Department of Community Health, Lehigh Valley Health Network

Karim Brown, School Parent Liaison Facilitator, Allentown School District

Milagros Canales, Community Liaison for Jordan Heights, Community Action Development Corporation of Allentown (CADCA)

David Fagerstrom, President/CEO, Greater Valley YMCA

Daniel Farrell, Executive Director, Allentown Housing Authority

Sandra Genzel, Director of Program Operations, Head Start/Early Head Start of the Lehigh Valley Pre-K Counts, Community Services for Children, Inc.

Christopher Kocher, President, Wildlands Conservancy, Inc.

Lisa Liddington, Program Director, School-Based Health and Child Advocacy Center, Lehigh Valley Health Network

Eric Lightman, Executive Director, Jewish Community Center of the Lehigh Valley

Sam Mullay, Development Director, Livin’ The Dream

Laura Savenelli, Assistant Director, Impact Operations, United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley

Kimberly Velez, Major Gifts Officer – Corporate and Business Partnerships, Lehigh Valley Health Network

Community Event Brings Collective Impact and Evaluation Leader to Lehigh Valley



“Most people want systemic change without putting in the work. What stood out for me during the sessions in the Lehigh Valley was a more serious approach and their long-term commitment to community change.”

– Mark Cabaj, President, Here to There Consulting

In May of 2019, The Rider-Pool Foundation and The United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley partnered to bring Mark Cabaj to the Lehigh Valley for a three-day dialogue with non-profit leaders. Cabaj, President of the consulting company From Here to There and Associate of Tamarack Institute, is an expert in how diverse organizations and communities work together to tackle complex issues, to address social innovation as a “sub-scene” of community change work, and on strategic learning and evaluation.

Rider-Pool Foundation Team Offers Education and Outreach

In January, Ronald C. Dendas, MS, Program Officer, and Edward F. Meehan, MPH, Executive Director of The Rider-Pool Foundation, joined Sylvia Cheuy, Consulting Director of Collective Impact at Tamarack Learning Centre of Ontario-based Tamarack Institute, in a new webinar. “Cultivating Local Collective Impact Capacity Through Place-Based Philanthropy” was offered in January to provide early results of The Rider-Pool Collective Impact Fellowship.

Throughout the year, the Executive Director and Program Officers of The Rider-Pool Foundation presented at professional development events, served on panels, and joined with a number of other representatives of community, philanthropy, and health-based organizations to propel the discussion of collective impact and support for the social determinants of health.

The three-day event included several small group discussions covering Successes and Challenges in Evaluation for Discovery, Evaluating the Collective Impact Fellowship, and Outcome Harvesting. Cabaj led a Community of Practice focused on his paper “Collective Impact 3.0,” open to all five cohorts of The Rider-Pool Collective Impact Fellowship. The finale of Cabaj’s visit was a workshop attended by more than 75 non-profit leaders, coalition members, and community funders around the topic of Evaluating Systems Change.

Purpose Built Communities Continues Dialogue in Allentown



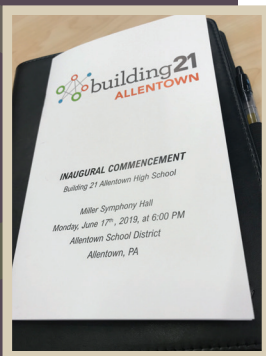
In May of 2019, the conversation continued when Allentown welcomed Purpose Built Communities leaders Alexa Abbott, Community Development Advisor, and Carol Naughton, President. A consortium of local partners joined them, including leadership from Lehigh Valley Health Network and Allentown School District, to provide an update on multi-sector collaborations in the city and explore next steps to implementing Purpose Built's framework for neighborhood transformation. The meetings included a tour of Building 21 - Allentown and the surrounding neighborhood, as well as Ripple Community Village, Early Learning Hub, and the neighborhood around the new Allentown School District elementary school. The activity ended with a review of potential next steps and a timeline for moving the framework forward in Allentown.

William Allen High School Dedicates New Dugouts



The William Allen Construction Company officially dedicated the new dugouts for the baseball and softball fields for Allen High School. The dugouts, which were constructed by the William Allen students, with the assistance of the Butz Family of Companies, provide space and shelter for both home and away boys' and girls' teams. As part of their management of this project, students from the William Allen Construction Company approached The Rider-Pool Foundation with a professional presentation and request for support. Students connected with various contractors and local businesses who donated supplies and services to complete the project. Along with other local funders, The Rider-Pool Foundation provided a grant for the costs of this renovation.

Building 21 - Allentown Graduation



"That stage is calling my name and I can't wait to walk across it!"

– Tavian Aquino, member of the first graduating class of Building 21 - Allentown moments before the 2019 commencement.

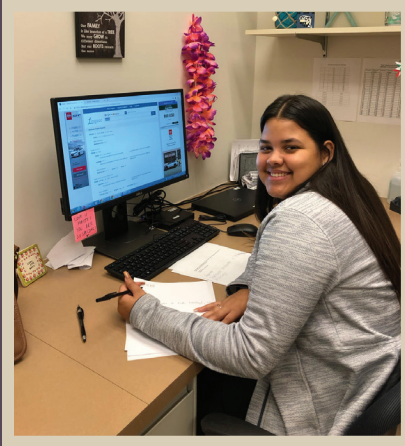
On June 17, Allentown School District's Building 21 saw the first class of high school students receive their diplomas. The graduation night, held at Miller Symphony Hall, drew a crowd of family members and friends to applaud the first 84 students to move through four full years at the high school. Many had announced their plans to move on to college study.

Kolbe Academy Ribbon-Cutting



On August 26th, Kolbe Academy held a ribbon-cutting to open the first faith-based recovery high school in the country. Located in Bethlehem, Kolbe Academy offers students in recovery an academic environment and guiding principles that support a path to remain healthy and sober.

Spring 2019 Grants Awarded



Post-Merger Capacity Building

\$25,000 to Meals on Wheels of the Greater Lehigh Valley

Building 21 – Allentown Summer Internship/Enrichment Opportunities and Director of Climate and Culture

\$50,000 to Building 21 – Allentown

Season Sponsorship for 2020 Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival

\$25,000 to Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival

Leadership Without Limits

\$25,000 to Promise Neighborhoods of the Lehigh Valley

Bach Choir Christmas Concerts 2019

\$10,000 to The Bach Choir of Bethlehem

Collective Impact Fellowship 2019-2020

\$85,000 to The Collective Impact Fellowship

Strengthening the Collaboration between Ripple Community, Inc. and Community Bike Works

\$40,000 to Ripple Community, Inc.

Fall 2019 Grants Awarded

“The Rider-Pool Foundation grant was the first dollar in and it absolutely allowed us to leverage other funding from partners involved in the project. This funding was critical.”

– Rev. Dr. Gregory Edwards, President/CEO, Resurrected Community Development Corporation Inc.

Cradle to Career Education Pipeline

Educational outcomes for every child are improved when we co-create change together. Our region is host to a wide range of groups, organizations, and sectors that are committed to student success. This work focuses on community- and home-based early childhood learning, quality Pre-K for all children, strong K-12 placement, and opportunities for vocational and higher education attainment.

Allentown Freedom School Partnership

\$25,000 to Resurrected Community Development Corporation

Data Analytics in the Allentown School District - Phase II

\$10,000 to Kamran Afshar Data Analytics Center at DeSales University

Planning for the Implementation of The Century Promise

\$40,000 to Community Services for Children

“The Century Promise is a pledge that every graduating student will have the support needed to develop and fully execute a plan to realize the opportunities available to them in a career or college. It’s an entire cradle to career approach.”

– Donald Bernhard, Trustee, The Century Fund and Executive Director, Downtown Allentown Community Development Initiative

Fall 2019 Grants Awarded (cont.)



Community Wellness:

Our approach to community wellness is to support physical health and emotional well-being. Encompassed within are access to quality health care, opportunities for physical activities, access to nutritious food, and social interaction. In turn, these approaches can lead to reduced risk of illness and disease, improved community resilience, and more individual contributions to community, family, and work life.

Comprehensive Approach to Reduce Youth Violence in Allentown

\$50,000 to Promise Neighborhoods of the Lehigh Valley

"This grant is still fairly new and is allowing us to collaborate with neighbors in Allentown to learn what the community needs for positive youth programming. This is the prevention part of addressing youth violence."

-Hasshan Batts, Executive Director, Promise Neighborhoods of Lehigh Valley

Safe, Healthy Housing:

In response to growing health concerns that disproportionately affect the most underserved populations, the concept of safe and healthy housing has risen as a high priority in Allentown. Within this focus area, activities will create the conditions necessary for public and private reinvestment in distressed neighborhoods that are critical to a family's choice and voice in their community.

Resident Engagement at The Little Lehigh Housing Projects

\$25,000 to Allentown Housing Authority



Community Quarterback/Backbone:

The fluid interactions and overlaps of these initiatives are joined together for individual and collective successes. A belief defined by Purpose Built Communities and Collective Impact is that effective partnerships need an entity to foster the cross-sector communication, alignment, and collaboration required to improve the quality of life in the neighborhoods surrounding the downtown development. That entity — a backbone organization or community quarterback — works to guide vision and strategy, drive revitalization initiatives, establish shared data, measurement and analysis, cultivate community-level inclusion, and serve as a single point of accountability for partners and funders.

Hiring of a Project Manager for Purpose-Built Community Work

\$50,000 to support a new position co-created with The Century Fund

Statements of Financial Position

December 31, 2019 and 2018

ASSETS	2019	2018
Investments, at fair value	\$12,718,390	\$11,489,914
Prepaid excise tax	4,814	-
	<u>\$12,723,204</u>	<u>\$11,489,914</u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 9,425	\$ 8,970
Deferred excise tax	28,350	7,370
Total Liabilities	<u>37,775</u>	<u>16,340</u>
NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	<u>12,685,429</u>	<u>11,473,574</u>
	<u>\$ 12,723,204</u>	<u>\$ 11,489,914</u>

The financial statements for The Rider-Pool Foundation for the year ended December 31, 2019 have been examined by the accounting firm of BBD, LLP.

A detailed financial report, as examined by BBD, LLP, is available at The Rider-Pool Foundation office upon request.

Trustees and Staff

Trustees

Leon C. Holt
John P. Jones III
John E. McGlade
J. Scott Pidcock
Denise M. Gargan, Corporate Trustee

Staff

Edward F. Meehan, MPH
Executive Director

Ronald C. Dendas, MS
Program Officer

Joseph J. Napolitano, PhD, MPH, RN, CRNP
Program Officer

Bridget I. Rassler
Manager, Finance and Administration

Regina M. Gabriel
Program Secretary



The Rider-Pool Foundation
Two City Center
645 W. Hamilton Street, Suite 202
Allentown, PA 18101
phone: 610-770-9346
www.pooltrust.org
info@pooltrust.org

