



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
5240 Knowledge Parkway, Erie, PA 16510
November 10, 2016
8:30 a.m.

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 2016
5. COMMENTS BY CHAIRMAN
6. PUBLIC COMMENT
7. PRESENTATIONS
Steve Brawley, President & CEO, Ben Franklin Technology Partners
8. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - a. Treasurer's Report
 - b. Regional Assets Committee
 - c. Strategic Planning Committee
 - d. Update from County Council
 - e. Update from County Executive's Office
9. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
10. SOLICITOR'S REPORT
11. OLD BUSINESS
12. NEW BUSINESS
Resolution No. 21, 2016 – Resolution to enter into agreement with Parker Philips, Inc., to conduct an economic impact study of ECGRA's grantmaking and impact investing
13. ADJOURNMENT
14. PRESS CONFERENCE @ 10:00 a.m. – \$500,000 investment in Ben Franklin Technology Partners



Next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting of ECGRA

Date: Thursday, December 8, 2016
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Location: Watson-Curtze Mansion; 356 West 6th Street; Erie, PA 16507

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Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting
October 12, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Directors' Meeting of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority was held on October 12, 2016 at The Erie Community Foundation; 459 West 6th Street; Erie 16507. Legal Notice of the meeting was given through an advertisement appearing in the Erie Times-News. The meeting was called to order by the Chair.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Bagnoni, Mr. Barney, Mr. Paris, Mr. Peters, Mr. Sample, Mr. Breneman, Mr. Wachter, and Mr. Wood are also present.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Bagnoni makes a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Barney seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 2016

Mr. Bagnoni makes a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Barney seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

No comments

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

PRESENTATIONS

No presentations.



COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Treasurer's Report – Mr. Peters: We obviously have a lot to cover today, so I don't have to get into every line item. Obviously we're moving our way through our fiscal year, which everyone knows starts in April. So when we look at these, keep that in mind. We're trending in the right direction, and provided there are still revenues coming in from the casino, it should be on target. With that said, if there are any questions on balances or what we've committed, please ask. Then, of course, I think it is important to look at the Check Detail Report so that everyone understands exactly where we are writing checks. We've been providing this report for almost two years. Of all the boards that I serve on, I think this group probably has more detail about the goings on and the finances than almost any group I'm involved with. We should all be proud of that, but certainly if there are any questions, please ask.

Mr. Wood: I read in the newspaper yesterday that the EMTA board is requesting financials at every board meeting. I just didn't know it wasn't a normal thing to have financials at every board meeting.

Mr. Peters: I sit on another board that deals with significantly more money than this being given away, and the financials are not presented in the way that anyone who has ever looked at financials would understand. It's kind of like our Schedule of Grant Reserves. It's good, but this is kind of like a cheater. To be able to look at the Schedule of Grant Reserves and tie it to the other financials is something that is often missed.

As you see, we are under budget significantly in certain areas; just starting the third quarter. If there are no questions, I certainly would be thrilled if someone would make a motion to accept the report as presented.

Mr. Bagnoni makes a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Mr. Paris seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

- b. Regional Assets Committee – No report.
c. Strategic Planning Committee – No report.
d. Update from County Council – Mr. Breneman: Last night at county council we passed a resolution that will be sent to Erie County, State Legislature, Governor Wolf, and the House's Gaming Committee in strong support of addressing this matter quickly regarding the finding from the Supreme Court.
e. Update from County Executive's Office – No update.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Wood: I'm going to read my comments into the record pertaining to what's going on with the Shaping Tomorrow Grants, but before that I just briefly want to remind you that I appreciate you allowing me to work with the chairman on canceling the Thursday board meeting. I am going to be in Harrisburg. I leave Thursday morning. I'll be there for two days meeting with the leadership in both the House and the Senate. It was recommended to us that we have direct meetings with them and their staff members. They're the ones that are in the process of a fix for the gaming legislation. I'm also providing County Executive Dahlkemper with a substantial amount of information in talking points on ECGRA, our accomplishments, and where our funding has gone so that when she testifies to the House Gaming Oversight Committee in the following week, she'll be well prepared to represent Erie County. Any questions from me on that topic?

In 2015, ECGRA and The Erie Community Foundation (ECF) found themselves in a position to collaborate by using our collective networks, organizational clout, and funding to entice projects to get off the ground and running. Over several months, staff worked diligently to negotiate how this



partnership might play out. With board support, the two organizations came together, adopted the ECF's newly revamped Shaping Tomorrow process as the framework, and began co-funding large projects. The process wasn't without its hiccups, but both sides were determined to collaborate and thereby elevate the effects of proposals through joint funding. The results were very satisfying.

Tech After Hours, a workforce program targeting out of school youth and adults, was launched successfully and recently graduated its first round of students in machining, nursing, and construction trades.

All About Character commenced its activities in Erie's public schools, exposing kids to law enforcement and building a bridge to positive interactions with the police. A recent evaluation reveals the nonprofit has made great strides towards its stated outcomes.

Go College, a model educational empowerment program, continued strong in Erie's public high schools delivering career path counseling, college campus visits, and assistance in obtaining financing.

Finally, the Sarah Reed Community-based Health Center, has been delayed as the construction plans have been pushed out to 2017. This facility will be the second of its kind in Erie County.

That brings us to 2016.

Much excitement was generated when Mr. Tom Hagen created the Hagen Fund for Transformational Philanthropy seed funded with \$10mm. It was publicly advertised that the ECF would distribute as much as \$4mm through the Shaping Tomorrow process. In the Spring, 21 proposals came in, many of them asking for a full \$4mm in support. That portfolio of proposals was narrowed over the summer with input from committees representing both ECGRA and ECF. Out of the narrowed group, six were selected to submit full proposals in the fall. Out of that group, four have risen to the review committee's definition of transformational. Those projects are as follows:

Community College

First, a nonprofit called Empower Erie has proposed stewarding community leaders, local government, business interests, and philanthropy through a process to create a standalone community college in Erie County. This school would be eligible for state funding through the Community College line item in the Commonwealth's budget. But, more importantly, the college would be fiscally sponsored by Erie County government. We know this because we have assurances from four members of Council and the County Executive that they will vote in the affirmative to establish a standalone Community College with the full financial backing of County government.

Empower Erie will begin with a planning grant that will establish a legal framework, solicit the PA Secretary of Education, build partnerships with local colleges and the Erie public schools, as well as industry. Curriculum will center around occupations that are in-demand in the local economy filling a vital need for local employers. Education has been identified by many sources as a tool to fight poverty, create regional competitiveness, and increase incomes. Erie has a poverty rate higher than the state and the nation and incomes below the state average.

The Shaping Tomorrow committee recommends a \$4mm grant to Empower Erie, the first installment of which will be \$300,000 and used for an implementation study and communications strategy. Only after the initial plan has been vetted by the funders will the additional funding be released in drawdowns over a three-year period. As a proportional funder, ECGRA would be committing to \$400,000 over the next three years.

Innovation District

The Second project was led by Mercyhurst University and is called the Downtown Erie Innovation District. This project brings together the collective power of the University with its Intelligence Department in the vanguard. Partners include Erie Insurance, Velocity Network, and



McManis & Monsalve, all of which have an interest in cybersecurity and information technology analytics and products. Based on the model created by the Bruce Katz at the Brookings Institute, Innovation Districts are being used across the country to revitalize downtowns, support emerging technology clusters, retain young people, develop city housing projects, spur retail, and create competitive advantages for manufacturing and information sciences.

Envisioned as a multi-university initiative, the final grant proposal did not come together as such. Although I believe this project is visionary and strong in collaboration with corporate partners, its attempts to create an Ignite-Erie-style university partnership failed. To their credit, Mercyhurst has built significant flexibility into their proposal and expressed ultimate accommodation in bringing the other universities aboard during the planning phase.

The Shaping Tomorrow Committee recommends a \$4mm grant to Mercyhurst University, the first installment of which will be \$300,000 and used for an implementation study. During this initial phase, it will be deemed critical to both move the corporate partnerships forward and lay the groundwork for a multi-university innovation district that accentuates the strengths of each university finding an appropriate role for them. Just as the universities coalesced around Ignite Erie, it is our hope they will do so around the Innovation District as well. Only after the initial plan has been vetted by the funders will the additional funding be released in drawdowns over a three-year period. As a proportional funder, ECGRA would be committing to \$400,000 over the next three years.

Community Schools

The third project was led by Erie Public Schools and is known as the Community Schools Initiative. The schools have adopted a nationally known and studied model to transform their facilities into gathering places, support systems, and a point of entry for the community's support structure to help young people and families. The key to this initiative is its ability to turn the physical space of the school into social capital for students and their families. In other words, the school acts as an institutional intermediary providing them with the convenience of navigating bureaucracy and accessing nonprofits that are disconnected from the stakeholders central to their mission. By decreasing the effort and complexity of the system, the stresses of poverty, crime, violence, low incomes, unemployed parents, blighted housing – all the elements that contribute to toxic stress in a neighborhood – can be alleviated.

The Erie Public Schools have garnered good corporate support just shy of \$1mm and the United Way's technical assistance. Four schools are slated for the pilot phase. They include: Pfeiffer-Burleigh, Emerson-Gridley, Edison, and McKinley. The project appears to be well conceived along the lines of the national model. We've determined that the EPS's budget issues will not affect implementation of the project.

The Shaping Tomorrow Committee recommends a \$1.5mm grant to the Erie Public Schools. One of the obstacles in effective implementation has been the integration of the newly formed neighborhood center coalition consisting of MLK, JFK, Booker T., EF Smith Quality of Life Learning Center, and the Eagles Nest. The committee has discussed seed funding the community centers with \$500,000 toward reinvention and integration so they can be productive partners in the Community School Initiative. As a proportional funder, ECGRA would be committing to \$150,000 over the next three years.

East/West Bayfront Plan

The fourth project is titled: Revitalizing Erie's Bayfront Neighborhoods. Led by Gannon University in collaboration with the Bayfront Eastside Task Force, the project is a scalable neighborhood model creating a public/private partnership. According to the City's Comprehensive Plan, certain neighborhoods, like the two in this application, should be targeted for concentrated funding. Gannon University and BEST are two of the strongest entities to guide such development.



In collaboration with Erie Insurance, Hamot, and HANDS, the two footprints have ample partners, financial commitments, track records, and future plans to implement strategic investments in the housing stock and the corridors.

The Shaping Tomorrow Committee recommends a \$500,000 grant to Gannon University on behalf of the partnership. With Gannon's institutional capacity, record of supporting the neighborhood through Erie Gains, and BEST's long standing history and successful record, the committee believes this is a scalable model to kickoff implementation of the Buki plan. As a proportional funder, ECGRA would be committing to \$50,000 over the next three years.

Summary

These four proposals have been vetted through the Shaping Tomorrow process. There are seven criteria that operated as guideposts in analyzing the proposals. They are as follows: critical community needs, collaboration, measureable outcomes, transformational potential, sustainability, scalability, and organizational capacity.

In summary, this time consuming and rigorous process has lead the staff, boards, and donors from three different agencies and perspectives to make the preceding recommendations for funding in the amount of \$10mm. As a 10% funding partner, both ECF an ECGRA are responsible for \$1mm each or \$2mm total in funding. The Hagen Fund is contributing \$8mm or 80% of the projects costs. Administration of the grants will reside primarily with the staff of ECF, but they will communicate regularly on outcomes, compliance, and funding with ECGRA and the Hagen Fund. This was done to the satisfaction of the ECGRA staff and board in 2015, and we have confidence it will happen again. Therefore, the Shaping Tomorrow Committee of the ECGRA board and the staff thereby urges the full board to pass Resolution No. 20, 2016.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Wachter: I think you're aware of the Supreme Court's recent determination that the funding mechanism contained within the gaming law was unconstitutional. If there are any questions you have regarding the efforts being made, I think that is a topic of discussion this board should discuss. It does have legal implications as to what our plans would be in the event that funding was to end. I am fully confident at some level it's going to be restored. But, my only concern is, at what level? Just something to keep in mind. I know that the Gaming Authority has been doing a phenomenal job with drumming up the public interest and support for these particular issues, and we have a great partner with County Council, but from a legal perspective, it is disturbing at best, that we could be losing our funding, which would eliminate the necessity for the board.

Mr. Wood: Why don't I lay out the legal framework as we understand it and are proceeding from as a policy standpoint, and then the board can ask some questions about it, just so we have a basis of information. The way the gaming legislation currently works, local share within the gaming act has a couple of parts to it, and, of course, it depends on what part of the Commonwealth you're in. So I'm just going to give you the pieces that are relevant to Erie County. The first clause is that a minimum of \$10 million, or 2% of slots revenue, goes to the host municipality. In Erie County that host municipality is Summit Township. Part of the law does not allow Summit Township to collect more than 50% of its revenue in the fiscal year 2003-04. So that's about \$1.5 million, give or take. Think about it this way – the overage of that \$1.5 million, \$8.5 million, comes to Erie County and is then split equally between county government and ECGRA. In addition, 2% of slots revenue comes to Erie County as the host municipality. That 2% gets us up to approximately the \$11 million that we've been receiving for the last two years. So that's how the legal mechanism operates.

From a policy standpoint, in talking with Ridge Policy Group in determining what our message is to the legislature, as well as, by the way, in talking to members of County Council and the County



Executive, we have opted for a scenario in which there is a status quo amount in whatever the fix would be. In other words, we want to make sure that we are made whole at the end of the day and that we maintain the same level of flexibility that we currently have. We believe that the way it's written for the host municipality is fine; the way it's written for the host county should continue as well. And, therefore, we're calling that the "status quo" situation. Now how that actually plays out is a whole other matter, but that is our message that we are taking to Harrisburg, to our local legislative delegation, as well as to the leadership in Harrisburg.

Mr. Wachter: The supreme court case that Perry keeps talking about - the \$10 million or 2% - the supreme court case is over the fact that the law says that if you have a gross terminal revenue of \$500 million or less, you pay \$10 million. If you have \$500 million or more, you pay 2%. And what the case said was that there is an irrational distinction between that \$500 million amount. There is no value to that. There is no legal rationale to that \$500 million figure. So, essentially, you have two rates of taxation. The \$10 million for under \$500 million in gross revenue is a higher rate of tax than the 2% if you are over \$500 million in revenue. They said that lacks the uniformity required in the Pennsylvania Constitution, and the court agreed. The easy fix is to eliminate that \$500 million distinction and put it at the \$10 million or 2%.

Mr. Wood: That is the easy fix. The complication is in the fact that in order to do what Tim has described, the gaming law itself must be opened up and re-examined. And, therefore, you have to ask yourself, what is the discipline level of the legislators to focus solely on this one clause that was deemed unconstitutional? If they cannot, then other issues will begin to creep in.

Mr. Wachter: The other concern is that the only, I believe my research has shown, casino that has produced over \$500 million in gross terminal revenue is in Bucks County. The lead sponsor for the original gaming legislation is from Bucks County, and so his communities are benefiting from an amount in excess of that \$10 million. So if we were to do that fix, the lead gaming sponsor's community would actually be hurt.

Mr. Sample: Hurt to what level?

Mr. Wachter: They would receive less money.

Mr. Sample: How much less?

Mr. Wachter: I don't know how much it is. I just know that they're the only one that has produced an excess of \$500 million, so they're receiving an excess of what they would otherwise receive if they did the fix as it is proposed.

Mr. Sample: It's not like they drafted this thing without lawyers, so it should have been vetted from both sides. They obviously signed up for it when they wanted the license. At no point is their license at risk. If they don't like what they signed up for, maybe they should renegotiate where the licenses go.

Mr. Breneman: One of the things that concerns me is that I don't believe we have any representation on the Commission. That I find disturbing. I also find disturbing the fact that the changes that were just passed into the most recent budget went unnoticed by our area legislators, and that if they don't even have their eye on the ball on that, how much impetus is there for them to end this case to push for making us whole?

Mr. Wood: I think that is a great point, and that is why we are regularly communicating with them making sure that they know where we stand on the issue, but also communicating with our members, and by "members" I mean grant recipients, loan recipients, economic development projects, nonprofits, local governments. So we have started a call-to-action campaign which we have advertised through social media, and the local media has helped us get the word out as well. And so we're asking folks who have received gaming funds to contact their local legislative delegation and tell them how important these funds are to them and to also write letters to the leadership in Harrisburg letting them know that we're paying attention and that we need to save those funds from Erie County.



The way Erie County's gaming funds function is unique in the Commonwealth, and that is part of the story that we'll be getting out to the leadership when we go to Harrisburg.

Mr. Breneman: I would like to say that CCAP put out an email yesterday to all 67 county members requesting that they contact directly the members of the House Gaming Oversight Committee providing them with their email addresses, their names, and the counties that they represent.

Mr. Wachter: We don't have any local membership on the House Gaming Oversight Committee.

Mr. Sample: Yesterday on a front-page story in the Journal was the thing about how the gaming funds and how much Corry has benefited from that and the fact that they could be lost.

Mr. Peters: I also wonder from a strategic standpoint as you're in Harrisburg, at what point is it also important for us to understand what DCED is going to be lobbying for through this process? Because, if we look at the legislation that was proposed earlier, they wanted to take local share, put it in the hands of DCED, and spread it across the state. You almost not only have to worry about what is going on with the legislature, but we need to worry about what is going on with the bureaucrats that could potentially be saying, "You know what? Let's smooth this out for the whole state. We'll take the funds and dole them out." I feel like you should be discussing that with Ridge Policy Group as well.

Mr. Breneman: I know the County has a very scary proposition. We are hamstrung by one tax revenue source, and that's the burden on the homeowners, the property owners. We don't have the option of a sales tax. We are constrained to put too much of a burden on the homeowners, and that's why we see some of the funding inequities between the municipalities and the services that are provided to them. So it's important that we stay at least status quo on what we have, because otherwise we would have to cut essential services, or we would have to raise taxes significantly.

Mr. Sample: Are we being proactive as opposed to reactive? As I said to Perry, sometimes it's better to be lucky than good. We certainly got the Ridge Policy Group on line early enough, because who would want to have been searching for somebody now to help us with our representation?

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Wood: We had discussed briefly in the past the idea of creating some type of study mechanism to analyze the economic impact of ECGRA. In light of what's happened and the fact that we're being asked to provide more and more information about our impact, I have begun looking into firms here in the region that we can contact in order to do just that. I don't have anything to give you here today. I couldn't give you an amount proposed or anything, just to let you know that we have begun the process of looking into that, and we'll be coming back to you starting at the committee level with a proposal or two to figure out how we are going to quantify the economic development effects of ECGRA. It has been suggested we do this by folks who have said this is what leaders at the highest level want to see from organizations like ours.

Mr. Peters: I would encourage you to keep going with that concept, not just for today's particular issue dealing with the legislation itself, but I think if you are a grant making institution, it's imperative that you have an outsider look and say, "Hey, what you are doing is having an impact." We have such a broad range of things that we fund, we may see that certain things have a much greater impact than others, and it may help us, especially those that serve on the Strategic Planning Committee, to help shape where we are going in our future. I think that's critical, and I think it's a good idea.

Mr. Wachter: Mr. Wood, if I may also ask that if you are going to do that economic impact analysis, ask the question whether they can quantify the tax benefit to the Commonwealth and the local municipalities as a result of the investments that have been made. While we may not see a large tax benefit from the funding of the Irish Festival, you'll see a tax benefit from the creation of jobs, the



retention of jobs, things of that nature. And I know that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is always interested to see what the return to themselves is in terms of taxes, and to other entities as well – corporate taxes, income taxes, property taxes, would be great to have quantified as well.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution Number 20, 2016 – Resolution to enter into a funding partnership with The Erie Community Foundation to fund four nonprofit projects that were vetted through the Shaping Tomorrow process. Mr. Wood reads into record the resolution. Mr. Barney makes a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Bagnoni seconds the motion.

Mr. Peters: Thanks to the committee. I know you've been at this for a long time and it's been a lot of effort and a lot of meetings, and I appreciate all that effort. Regarding the community college, you mentioned that there were four council members that supported this. I haven't heard about that publically, and I'm just curious who the four members are.

Mr. Breneman: There's a letter that was signed by me, Kathy Fatica, Andre Horton, Fiore Leone, and Kathy Dahlkemper.

Mr. Peters: So you have the votes. Regarding East-West Bayfront Project, I assume that the newspaper got it wrong yesterday when they mentioned HANDS. It's BEST and Gannon.

Mr. Wood: Just like the ECGRA process, there's a main fiduciary agent, which in this case is Gannon University, however, partners were listed within the grant. HANDS is one of those partners, but the main partner for the East Bayfront neighborhood would be the Bayfront East Side Taskforce. HANDS is a key partner to the Our West Bayfront Neighborhood.

Mr. Peters: My second question is that they asked for significantly more than that. Recognizing that we're a 10% partner in this, is that anywhere near enough for them to have an impact? If we're really talking transformational, you've got two \$4 million grants, one \$1.5 million grant, and then this other one that's \$500,000.

Mr. Wood: The answer is, "No. It's not enough." But you could also argue \$4 million for the Innovation District is not enough. What I would say is that this was a substantial amount of dough for us to get them off the ground and running and to find other financial partners, and they're not excluded from applying to the process again in the future.

Mr. Peters: During your presentation you talked a lot about how you, Perry, our Executive Director, have had a seat at the table in the past with Shaping Tomorrow. A couple of these are more planning-grant-type starts with a look at them in the future. How do we as an organization know that the money that we're contributing, when we're such a small partner, how do we know that we actually have a say in what's going on at the Foundation? For example, this is a minor issue, but the press yesterday, in essence, based on an interview with someone – which wasn't you, and I don't know if it was Mike or whatever – basically said that the Gaming Authority was in. The Gaming Authority didn't have a meeting. I certainly haven't voted on anything yet, and I want it to be clear, and I want my colleagues to understand that this is a public Authority that has to properly vet these issues. And, again, thanks to the Committee for the effort, but, with due respect to the other funders – who are tremendous for doing what they're doing – they can't speak for us. So I'd like to understand, what does an agreement look like? We're sort of kicking this off, but how do we make sure that we continue – not that they'll *try* to keep us up to speed, or they'll *try* to include us – how do we know definitively that we'll be kept in the loop?

Mr. Sample: I want to address part of that. I was in Oil City yesterday and got a phone call from the Corry paper questioning me about that. I immediately called Russ Warren. You know, we've been playing badminton with this, because when we had the meeting they were told specifically that we could not act until we had a board meeting, and that we would do our best to move that board



meeting to today prior to the announcement. Well then Mike was moved that suddenly it wasn't convenient for people to show up on the 12th and he wanted to meet on the 11th. We did backflips, that was changed, and then it was moved again. When I called Russ Warren, Russ was very upset that we had not met yet. They did not know of it at that level. It puts the four of us that went to the meeting in a weird position. It's like we're walking around very cavalier saying, "Oh, yah, that's approved." No! Perry was adamant that would not be approved until we met, until we had a board meeting.

Mr. Peters: Thanks for that clarification, Mr. Chairman, but to answer my question, how do we know that as this process goes forward, our partners know that, although we may only be 10% contributors, we're still putting in a significant amount of taxpayer money into these projects?

Mr. Wood: Trust is the basis of any real partnership which has mutual benefit. We have to continue to work on building that trust, and I think that by going to the press out of order and commenting to the press, it significantly damages that potential trust. I think the most important thing we need to look at, though, is what is best for the community, but also what's best for ECGRA. And ECGRA, like you said, is a public Authority which does not make decisions in the shadows. It makes them in the light of day at publically advertised meetings. So that absolutely needs to be a continuing dialogue between us and the other funding partners as we move forward.

Mr. Sample: And at that meeting that was held, it was the whole board of ECF, and it was open context that we needed to hold another meeting.

Mr. Peters: Little errors happen. It's not the end of the world. I just think that it's important, because this Authority in the past has been accused of making decisions without the full board understanding what's going on. It goes without saying it's an awesome thing for the community, and I'm thrilled with what Mr. Hagen is doing, and the Foundation is doing, and our small part in this. I just think it's super important that we all remember that we have to – I don't like having this meeting five minutes before a press announcement, I guess, is my point.

I have one last question and you addressed it pretty thoroughly in your comments, which I know will be in the record, that is related to the Innovation District and the collaboration aspect of that. With Ignite Erie we spent a significant amount of effort to get Penn State, who leads that project, to include the other schools. For the record, those of you who may not have been here when we did Ignite Erie, there were three applications – one that had nothing to do with what we wanted from the Innovation Collaborative, one from Edinboro and Gannon, and one from Mercyhurst and Penn State.

Our whole intent, and this is one of those "beware of unintended consequences", was to get the four schools to work together. When they didn't, we all as a board pushed Perry to push Penn State to include everyone. And that is a tiny little grant - \$250,000 a year for three years – which, by the way, is not enough. But we pushed them even with that small amount to make sure there is collaboration. And Penn State, I think, has done a stellar job of having that collaboration take place.

This is a much bigger thing. Again, we're 10% of it, and the private sector involvement is fantastic. But I would really hope, and more than hope, and I'm one voice, but I would like this board to direct our Executive Director to continue to be vocal about the fact that communities where true collaboration exists between their higher education institutions, do end up with more success. And so I would hate to see Gannon, Edinboro, and Penn State not continue to be encouraged to participate in some way. It's going to be very hard both programmatically for one institution to do it. It's also going to be hard when it comes time to actually renovate buildings and controlling buildings and things like that, to not have more than one institutional player. So, I would strongly encourage us to continue to push on that issue of collaboration.

Mr. Sample: During that presentation, they stated that they were still actively pursuing the others to be actively involved in it. I remember that distinctly, because someone asked the question, "What about the other universities?" They said that they didn't choose to get in initially, but they are actively trying to get them to be participants.



Mr. Wood: That was stated explicitly by them, however, I don't think that goes to what you are asking which is, "How will we behave to make sure that a solid policy is put forth that is based upon inter-agency collaboration between universities?" Is that accurate?

Mr. Peters: That's correct. That has been what we have pushed from day one post-settlement, that there would be appropriate collaboration amongst groups when they are seeking our funding.

Mr. Wood: I still believe that is a solid policy that we should pursue. The way the funding is distributed is what allows us the opportunity to pursue good collaboration. I've already had conversations with The Community Foundation about this. When it's Ignite Erie and it's just us operating, it's simple. We make the policy, we put it in place, we enforce it, we have the discussions. Now we have another funding partner.

So, like your earlier question, there is going to have to be regular communication with the funding partner to make sure that our desires and our policy positions are communicated. The great news is phase one is a plan – a feasibility-implementation plan. That is the opportunity to engage those other institutions in the process. If they're not involved in the planning process, what's the point of the plan, because we're talking about planning for the future of "The District" itself – the Innovation District as a construct. That would be the time to engage them and to use our leverage as a compliance partner to make sure that to some extent that happens.

Mr. Peters: To be truly successful I think you are going to need more than one or two institutions. That's my point. So I appreciate that answer.

My final question is, are there agreements put in place with each of these four organizations – I assume that we're not constructing the agreements?

Mr. Wood: We're not.

Mr. Peters: So the Foundation is. Will our solicitor have the opportunity to review those and provide comment?

Mr. Wachter: I guess we should have some letter of agreement with respect to our money.

Mr. Wood: Just so you know, our documents that we have grant recipients sign are based upon the ECF documents.

Mr. Peters: I think it would be good, again, recognizing that we're a 10% partner, we are different. If you look at the three funding partners, we are different. There are two private nonprofits and one public Authority. I just think it would be good that Tim have the opportunity to review those and make sure there's no (inaudible).

Mr. Wood: In a complex situation like this when there is more than one funder, and, therefore, multiple desires on why things are being funded and for what reason, we do need to continue to maintain communication. But it would make sense for Tim and I to have a conference with the decision makers at ECF while they are going through the contracting process, and to make sure that our opinions on policy are represented.

Motion carries 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bagnoni moves to adjourn.



Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Profit & Loss
October 2016

	<u>October</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>	<u>2016-17 Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
44800 · Gaming Revenue		571,723.46		
46400 · Other Types of Income				
46410 · Interest Income - Savings	3,290.30	25,301.72		
46420 · Interest Income - EDF #1	3,833.33	11,405.33		
46421 · Interest Income - EDF #2	6,133.33	18,248.53		
46422 · Interest Income - BWC		21,916.67		
46429 · Endowment Income - Lead Assets		367,669.00		
Total Income	<u>13,256.96</u>	<u>1,016,264.71</u>		
Expense				
62100 · Contracted Services	6,548.15	37,099.40	50,808.33	87,100.00
62800 · Facilities & Equipment	2,059.59	11,503.48	18,900.00	32,400.00
65000 · Office Administration	2,871.28	21,755.90	24,966.67	42,800.00
65100 · Other Types of Expenses	9,868.18	114,654.16	154,000.00	264,000.00
66000 · Payroll Expenses	17,968.49	118,900.68	122,500.00	210,000.00
Total Expense	<u>39,315.69</u>	<u>303,913.62</u>	<u>371,175.00</u>	<u>636,300.00</u>
Net Ordinary Income	(26,058.73)	712,351.09		
Other Income/Expense				
70000 · Grants / Settlements				
70020 · Lead Assets Endowment		1,000,000.00		
70030 · Community Assets		151,640.00		
70040 · Lead Assets		646,812.00		
70050 · Municipal Settlements		142,930.89		
70060 · Human Services	45,009.00	118,946.00		
70070 · Special Events		167,108.00		
70090 · Multi-Municipal Collaboration		166,100.00		
70120 · Summer Jobs Program		150,000.00		
70150 · Shaping Tomorrow		37,500.00		
70160 · The Challenge		28,893.00		
Total 70000 · Grants / Settlements	<u>45,009.00</u>	<u>2,609,929.89</u>		
Net Other Income	(45,009.00)	(2,609,929.89)		
Net Income	<u>(71,067.73)</u>	<u>(1,897,578.80)</u>		



Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Balance Sheet
As of October 31, 2016

	October
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
10000 · ErieBank - Checking	22,500.95
10100 · ErieBank - Savings	
10100 · Uncommitted Funds	4,818,580.24
10101 · Committed Funds	4,898,060.00
10102 · Restricted Funds	428,792.58
Total 10100 · ErieBank - Savings	10,145,432.82
Total Checking/Savings	10,167,933.77
Other Current Assets	
12000 · Notes Receivable	
12001 · Note Receivable - EDF #1	500,000.00
12002 · Note Receivable - EDF #2	800,000.00
12003 · Note Receivable - CIBA	50,000.00
12004 · Note Receivable - BWC	1,000,000.00
12005 · Note Receivable - Progress	1,000,000.00
Total 12000 · Notes Receivable	3,350,000.00
14500 · Prepaid Insurance	2,370.00
Total Other Current Assets	3,352,370.00
Total Current Assets	13,520,303.77
TOTAL ASSETS	13,520,303.77
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	15,418,672.57
Net Income	(1,898,368.80)
Total Equity	13,520,303.77
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	13,520,303.77



Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Statement of Cash Flows
October 2016

	<u>October</u>
OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Net Income	(71,067.73)
Adjustments to reconcile Net Income to net cash provided by operations:	
14500 · Prepaid Insurance	790.00
Net cash provided by Operating Activities	<u>(70,277.73)</u>
Net cash increase for period	(70,277.73)
Cash at beginning of period	10,238,211.50
Cash at end of period	<u><u>10,167,933.77</u></u>



Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Budget vs. Actual
October 2016

Expense	October	YTD	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	% of Budget
62100 · Contracted Services					
62110 · Accounting Fees	0.00	0.00	6,000.00	(6,000.00)	0.00%
62130 · Professional Services	4,503.60	22,534.20	45,000.00	(22,465.80)	50.08%
62140 · Legal Services	1,963.50	12,042.50	30,000.00	(17,957.50)	40.14%
62145 · Website Design	0.00	1,920.00	5,000.00	(3,080.00)	38.40%
62150 · Payroll Services	81.05	602.70	1,100.00	(497.30)	54.79%
Total 62100 · Contracted Services	6,548.15	37,099.40	87,100.00	(50,000.60)	42.59%
62800 · Facilities & Equipment					
62840 · Office Equipment & Furniture	82.50	384.95	10,000.00	(9,615.05)	3.85%
62850 · Janitorial Services	590.20	1,410.30	2,400.00	(989.70)	58.76%
62880 · CAM	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	(2,000.00)	0.00%
62890 · Rent	1,386.89	9,708.23	18,000.00	(8,291.77)	53.93%
Total 62800 · Facilities & Equipment	2,059.59	11,503.48	32,400.00	(20,896.52)	35.50%
65000 · Office Administration					
65010 · Books, Subscriptions, Dues	116.57	3,325.47	7,000.00	(3,674.53)	47.51%
65020 · Postage	15.99	361.93	500.00	(138.07)	72.39%
65030 · Printing	0.00	109.72	2,500.00	(2,390.28)	4.39%
65040 · Office Supplies	819.23	3,641.65	3,500.00	141.65	104.05%
65050 · Cell Phone	70.87	1,114.77	2,200.00	(1,085.23)	50.67%
65060 · Copier Lease	0.00	1,092.00	2,300.00	(1,208.00)	47.48%
65070 · Copier Printing Costs	444.19	1,962.14	3,000.00	(1,037.86)	65.40%
65080 · Bank Fees	0.00	0.00	50.00	(50.00)	0.00%
65085 · Training & Education	595.00	6,037.00	16,000.00	(9,963.00)	37.73%
65090 · Meeting Expenses	748.48	3,968.12	5,500.00	(1,531.88)	72.15%
65095 · Miscellaneous Expense	60.95	143.10	250.00	(106.90)	57.24%
Total 65000 · Office Administration	2,871.28	21,755.90	42,800.00	(21,044.10)	50.83%
65100 · Other Types of Expenses					
65105 · Communications	0.00	14,844.46	15,000.00	(155.54)	98.96%
65110 · Advertising	1,851.75	3,250.60	15,000.00	(11,749.40)	21.67%
65115 · Data Processing	2,217.68	10,678.28	17,000.00	(6,321.72)	62.81%
65120 · Insurance	790.00	4,740.00	10,000.00	(5,260.00)	47.40%
65150 · Travel	8.75	1,990.82	7,000.00	(5,009.18)	28.44%
65160 · Special Projects	5,000.00	79,150.00	200,000.00	(120,850.00)	39.58%
Total 65100 · Other Types of Expenses	9,868.18	114,654.16	264,000.00	(149,345.84)	43.43%
66000 · Payroll Expenses					
66005 · Salaries & Wages	16,343.56	107,795.97	188,100.00	(80,304.03)	57.31%
66010 · FITW Tax	1,250.29	8,246.43	14,500.00	(6,253.57)	56.87%
66015 · FUTA Tax	0.00	0.00	200.00	(200.00)	0.00%
66020 · PASUI Tax	0.00	55.12	2,200.00	(2,144.88)	2.51%
66500 · Retirement	374.64	2,803.16	5,000.00	(2,196.84)	56.06%
Total 66000 · Payroll Expenses	17,968.49	118,900.68	210,000.00	(91,099.32)	56.62%
Total Expense	39,315.69	303,913.62	636,300.00	(332,386.38)	47.76%



Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Schedule of Grant Reserve
As of October 31, 2016

	October	YTD	Totals/Subtotals
Uncommitted Funds	4,818,580.24		
Committed Funds	4,898,060.00		
2016 Restricted Funds:			
First Quarter Gaming Revenue (less 25%)		203,252.87	
Second Quarter Gaming Revenue (less 25%)		225,539.71	
Third Quarter Gaming Revenue		0.00	
Fourth Quarter Gaming Revenue		0.00	428,792.58
Disbursements:			
First Quarter Disbursements		2,096,730.98	
Second Quarter Disbursements		468,189.91	
Third Quarter Disbursements	45,009.00	45,009.00	
Fourth Quarter Disbursements		0.00	2,609,929.89

Disbursements Detail

Quality of Place

Community Assets

Albion Area Fair	8,160.00	
Asbury Woods Partnership, Inc.	8,352.00	
Common Ground Youth Center, Inc.	9,120.00	
Downtown Edinboro Art & Music Festival	8,736.00	
Edinboro Highland Games	8,928.00	
Erie PAL	9,173.00	
Gannon University	8,352.00	
Humane Society of NWPA	2,432.00	
Lake Erie Fanfare, Inc.	8,640.00	
Lawrence Park Historical Society	7,280.00	
LeBoeuf Little League	8,928.00	
Living in Fulfilled Excellence	5,248.00	
McDowell Band Aides	4,560.00	
McLane Little League	3,511.00	
North East Little League	5,100.00	
Presque Isle Partnership	8,448.00	
Robbins Blass Neighborhood Network	3,160.00	
Urban Erie Community Development Corporation	8,648.00	
Veterans Miracle Center Erie	8,448.00	
Waterford Community Fair Association	8,352.00	
Young Artists Debut Orchestra	8,064.00	151,640.00

Human Services

Bethany Outreach Center	14,000.00
Children's Miracle Network	10,937.00
Emma's Footprints	5,000.00
Erie School District	15,000.00
Gaudenzia Erie, Inc.	19,000.00

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Schedule of Grant Reserve
As of October 31, 2016
(continued)

	<u>October</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Totals/Subtotals</u>
Hamot Health Foundation	15,000.00	15,000.00	
John F. Kennedy Center	8,977.00	8,977.00	
Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine		10,000.00	
Medical Associates of Erie	5,000.00	5,000.00	
Sarah Reed Senior Living	7,313.00	7,313.00	
Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network	8,719.00	8,719.00	118,946.00
Lead Assets			
Erie Art Museum		86,672.00	
Erie Arts & Culture		63,677.00	
Erie Philharmonic		80,855.00	
Erie Playhouse		81,664.00	
Erie Zoological Society		184,930.00	
expERIEnce Children's Museum		28,075.00	
Flagship Niagara League		33,533.00	
The Historical Society of Erie County		37,341.00	
Mercyhurst Institute for Arts & Culture		50,065.00	646,812.00
Lead Assets Endowment		<u>1,000,000.00</u>	1,000,000.00
Special Events			
Albion Area Fair, Inc.		13,500.00	
Asbury Woods Partnership, Inc.		2,340.00	
Borough of Wesleyville		448.00	
CAFE		15,750.00	
Dr. Gertrude A. Barber Foundation		12,137.00	
Downtown Edinboro Art & Music Festival		1,845.00	
Edinboro Highland Games		2,520.00	
Edinboro University Foundation		2,250.00	
Erie Contemporary Ballet Theatre		5,153.00	
Erie Downtown Partnership		1,647.00	
Erie Homes for Children and Adults, Inc		1,800.00	
Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partner.		2,475.00	
Erie-Western PA Port Authority		4,443.00	
Gaudenzia Erie		2,802.00	
Goodell Gardens & Homestead		524.00	
Harborcreek Township		1,828.00	
Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church		5,760.00	
Impact Cory		1,249.00	
Jefferson Educational Society of Erie		13,844.00	
Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier		1,644.00	
Lake Erie Ballet		5,549.00	
Lake Erie Fanfare, Inc.		4,073.00	
Lawrence Park Township		675.00	
McKean Community Development Group		450.00	
Mercy Center for Women		2,345.00	
The Nonprofit Partnership		2,557.00	
Presque Isle Partnership		5,069.00	

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Schedule of Grant Reserve
As of October 31, 2016
(continued)

	<u>October</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Totals/Subtotals</u>
Roar on the Shore		20,467.00	
SafeNet		5,400.00	
Saint Patrick's Church		3,672.00	
Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network		2,520.00	
Waterford Community Fair Association		4,675.00	
Wattsburg Agricultural Society		13,881.00	
Young Artists Debut Orchestra		1,816.00	167,108.00
<u>Municipalities</u>			
Multi-Municipal Collaboration			
Erie Area Council of Governments		37,500.00	
Girard Township		7,500.00	
Jefferson Educational Society		100,000.00	
West Erie County Emergency Management Agency		21,100.00	166,100.00
Municipal Settlements			
Erie County		15,722.40	
Greene Township		15,722.40	
McKean Township		15,722.40	
Millcreek Township		15,722.40	
Summit Township		64,318.89	
Waterford Township		15,722.40	142,930.89
<u>Neighborhoods & Communities</u>			
Impact Corry			
Mission Main Street			
<u>Small Business - Ignite Erie</u>			
Industry+University			
Inner-city Small Business			
<u>Youth & Education</u>			
The Challenge			
Millcreek Education Foundation		17,933.00	
General McLane Foundation		10,960.00	
Shaping Tomorrow			
All About Character, Inc.		37,500.00	
Summer Jobs			
GECAC		150,000.00	216,393.00
Total Funds Disbursements	45,009.00	2,609,929.89	2,609,929.89

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Schedule of Grant Reserve
As of October 31, 2016
(continued)

	<u>October</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Totals/Subtotals</u>
Committed Funds:			
Ben Franklin Technology Partners Inc.		500,000.00	
The Challenge		102,227.00	
Enterprise Development Fund		500,000.00	
Shaping Tomorrow			
Empower Erie	400,000.00	400,000.00	
Erie's Public Schools - Tech After Hours//Community Schools	150,000.00	283,333.00	
Gannon University - Go College//East-West Bayfront Plan	50,000.00	112,500.00	
Primary Health Network		100,000.00	
Mercyhurst University - Innovation District	400,000.00	400,000.00	
Penn State, The Behrend College		500,000.00	
PennVenture Partners		2,000,000.00	
Total Committed Funds	<u>1,000,000.00</u>	<u>4,898,060.00</u>	

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Check Detail Report
October 2016

<u>Date</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
10/07/2016	EFT	ECCA, Inc.	09/17/16-09/30/16 Payroll	-9,959.81
10/14/2016	EFT	VISA	10/3/16 Statement - Diane	-6,160.06
10/14/2016	EFT	Fidelity Investments	09/17/16-09/30/16 Payroll Retirement	-408.47
10/19/2016	1946	Jefferson Educational Society of Erie	Metro 100 Event	-300.00
10/19/2016	1947	Mark Fainstein Photography	Community Assets Grants Reception & Fairview STEM	-782.50
10/19/2016	1948	Medical Associates of Erie	Helping Today Grant	-5,000.00
10/19/2016	1949	Penn State University	November Rent	-1,386.89
10/19/2016	1950	SSJ Neighborhood Network	Helping Today Grant	-8,719.00
10/19/2016	1951	Times Publishing Company	Change of Venue Ad	-48.00
10/19/2016	1952	Sarah Reed Senior Living	Helping Today Grant	-7,313.00
10/20/2016	EFT	ECCA, Inc.	10/1/16-10/14/16 Payroll	-7,272.79
10/20/2016	EFT	Fidelity Investments	10/1/16-10/14/16 Payroll Retirement	-408.47
10/20/2016	1953	Ridge Policy Group	October Government Relations Services	-5,000.00
10/27/2016	1954	Hamot Health Foundation	Helping Today Grant	-15,000.00
10/27/2016	1955	JFK Center	Helping Today Grant	-8,977.00
10/27/2016	1956	Perry Wood	October Reimbursements	-92.07
10/27/2016	1957	Presque Isle Designs, LLC	Metro 100 & Call to Action	-281.25
10/28/2016	EFT	VISA	10/3/16 Statement - Perry	-72.48
10/28/2016	1943	Amanda Burlingham	September 2016 Statement	-4,503.60
10/28/2016	1944	Graham Upkeep Services	July, August, September Cleaning	-590.20
10/28/2016	1945	Velocity Network, Inc.	Nov. IT/Internet; Sept. copies; Oct. Phones	-1,259.10
		Total		<u><u>-83,534.69</u></u>





E·C·G·R·A
ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT**

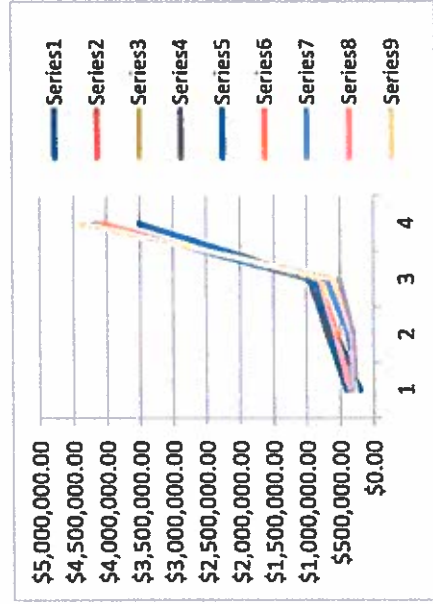
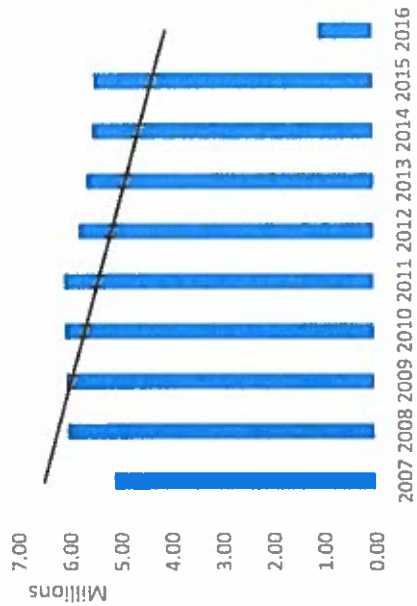
FOR

NOVEMBER, 2016

**Revenue Dashboard
by Quarter
2007 - 2016 YTD**



Year	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Total
2007	201,418.07	562,082.72	867,508.44	3,507,952.54	5,138,961.77
2008	366,211.37	672,936.98	941,125.00	4,063,561.53	6,043,834.88
2009	407,507.87	701,525.21	898,525.69	4,060,932.24	6,068,491.01
2010	385,476.85	665,559.96	962,909.94	4,073,449.24	6,087,395.99
2011	393,440.61	636,302.96	903,421.25	4,166,222.13	6,099,386.95
2012	356,241.99	554,752.50	794,443.73	4,114,583.35	5,820,021.57
2013	318,869.71	374,557.04	701,478.54	4,261,932.00	5,656,837.29
2014	281,934.65	315,628.24	584,126.03	4,350,692.65	5,532,381.57
2015	264,934.67	308,566.19	541,749.43	4,390,710.21	5,505,960.50
2016	271,003.84	300,719.61	507,757.83		1,079,481.28
	3,247,039.63	5,092,631.41	7,703,045.88	36,990,035.89	53,032,752.81





Jamie Plaster and Andrew Gross, at left, and Ed Nientimp, right, accept grants from Millcreek Education Foundation Executive Director Kristina Huber, second from right. VALERIE MYERS/ERIE TIMES-NEWS

Education foundation awards five staff grants

By Valerie Myers
valerie_myers@timesnews.com

Five Millcreek Township School District teachers and administrators received grants Monday to "do a little extra for students," from the Millcreek Education Foundation.

The grants, totaling \$7,553, will be used for programs and materials not funded by the school district, foundation Executive Director Kristina Huber said.

A \$1,000 grant to district instructional technology coordinator Jamie Plaster will pay for materials and transportation for middle school students participating in a special program to learn more about sciences, technology, engineering and math. The program will include a trip to McDowell High School to learn more about the school's advanced engineering program.

Elementary students also participate in the program by managing Chromebooks at their schools.

Westlake Middle School drama adviser Andrew Gross will buy two theater-quality microphones, cables and storage case with a \$1,753 grant. Drama students present high-quality Broadway productions at the school each year and this year will perform "Hairspray," Gross said.

The grant is appreciated, he said. "We started the program eight years ago with not even a costume, hammer or nail — nothing," Gross said.

A \$2,000 grant will pay for a staff development program by filmmaker Dan Habib, whose documentary, "Including Samuel," addresses ways to include students with disabilities in mainstream education.

"It's a different way of bringing information about inclusive practices," said Ed Nientimp, the district's

director of pupil services.

Parents and the community will be invited to participate in the August program, Nientimp said.

An \$800 grant to Principal Jeremiah Bull will buy the license fee for 20 Tracy Elementary teachers and provide a lead teacher stipend for "Reflex: A Basic Fact Fluency Resource," a game to help students improve math skills.

And a \$2,000 grant to Belle Valley Elementary teacher Melany Myers will buy six guitars with cases and 18 other instrument cases.

The foundation awarded an additional \$6,821 in grants in July.

The Millcreek Education Foundation, founded 33 years ago, is primarily funded by grants and donations from individuals and businesses, Huber said. The foundation recently earned an \$18,000 matching grant from the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority and hopes to raise an additional \$18,000 by the end of the year, Huber said.

In addition to faculty and staff grants, the foundation also presents scholarships to McDowell High School graduates, including 44 presented in spring 2016, Huber said.

Millcreek Education Foundation will sponsor a free public screening of the documentary "Most Likely To Succeed," about innovative ways to transform education, Nov. 9 at 7 p.m. at McDowell Intermediate High School.

Discussion led by Edinboro University of Pennsylvania education instructors will follow the screening.

For more information on the foundation, visit www.millcreekeducationfoundation.org.

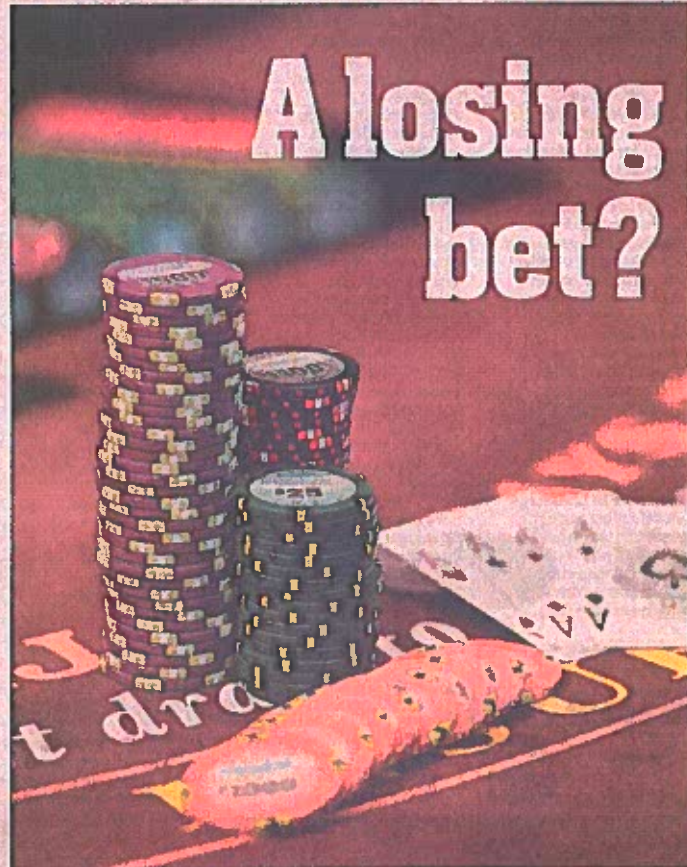
Valerie Myers can be reached at 878-1913 or by email. Follow her on Twitter at twitter.com/ETNmyers.

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A recent state Supreme Court decision struck down as unconstitutional the local share of casino gaming revenues. Now local nonprofits and other agencies are unsure if they can rely on future funding from gambling revenues. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY CHRISTOPHER MILLETTE/ERIE TIMES-NEWS

Where the winnings go:

Here is the 2016 breakdown of how Erie County Government used its \$5.5 million share of gambling revenues from Presque Isle Downs:

- \$1 million to help fund the county library system
- \$3.4 million to make payments on the county's long-term debt.
- \$1.9 million in grants to local nonprofits/social service agencies. That includes funding for EMTA and the county summer jobs program.

Total for 2016 is \$6.3 million, but that includes \$800,000 in unused county gambling revenues (reserves) from prior years.

SOURCE: ERIE COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Casino revenue uncertainty concerns Erie-area organizations

By Kevin Flowers
kevin.flowers@timesnews.com

Meals, recreational activities and educational opportunities for senior citizens.

Free Sunday hours at the Erie Zoo.

Sports programs for inner-city children.

Arts programs, local festivals and cultural events throughout the region.

All of those programs and events and many others, which benefit tens of thousands of Erie County residents each year, rely on gambling revenues from Presque Isle Downs & Casino in Summit Township, via a requirement in the Pennsylvania Gaming Act of 2004 that casinos must give millions of dollars annually to

the communities that host them.

However, those "host fees" are currently in question after a recent state Supreme Court decision, and there is no guarantee the state Legislature will fix the problem quickly.

That has officials from area nonprofits that receive gambling funds worried, with some contemplating contingency plans that could involve programming and service cuts if a solution isn't forged soon.

"The gaming funds actually support our entire agency," said Georgia Del Frio, vice president of operations for the Greater Erie Community Action Committee. "If we don't have them, we're going to have to

See CASINO, A10

CASINO

Continued from A1

find the funding somewhere else."

According to financial figures from the office of Erie County government's finance director, Jim Sparber, county government and the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority have each received more than \$2.5 million in revenue from Presque Isle Downs since the casino opened in February 2007.

The county and authority each receive about \$5.5 million in casino revenues each year. In addition to yearly grants to nonprofits, the county uses that money to fund libraries and to make payments on the county's existing long-term debt.

Of that collective \$105 million, county financial figures show, the county has awarded \$12.5 million in "community grants" to various nonprofits during the past nine years.

In addition, the Gaming Revenue Authority has invested about \$43 million into the region from its share of gambling revenues since 2009, when the authority began distributing grants and loans to various agencies, nonprofits and municipalities to improve public spaces; create jobs via small businesses; expand education and training; and help fund local festivals and other community events, said Perry Wood, the authority's executive director.

"Gaming revenue has become the new source of community development funding for many agencies," Wood said. "And without that they would not be able to operate these programs. That underscores the importance in our community. There isn't the political will to spend taxpayer money on many of these programs, so gaming money fills that void."

GECAC, which serves about 20,000 county residents each year, received \$4.8 million in gambling revenues from the county for its operations since 2007, including programs that benefit senior citizens, according to county financial figures.

Del Freo said much of that money also serves as required local match dollars for GECAC's state and/or federal funding. The agency has an annual budget of roughly \$32 million.

Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper's proposed \$99.1 million county budget proposal for 2017 recommends \$719,806 in gambling revenue grants for GECAC. Dahlkemper traveled to Harrisburg on Oct. 18 to testify before the state Gaming Oversight Committee regarding the importance of gambling revenues in Erie County.

County government has funded GECAC and other social service agencies and nonprofits for several years, using general fund budget tax dollars. However, the county has specifically used gambling funds, since 2007, to provide grants to those agencies.

Erie resident Georgia Brown, 72, is among the 10,000 older Erie County residents served by GECAC's aging programs.

"I can't say enough about



Theresa Freitas, left, Georgia Brown, center, and Roy Hoover, right, all of Erie, play cards at the GECAC Senior Center in Erie. GECAC currently receives grants from Presque Isle Downs & Casino gaming revenue. JACK HANRAHAN/ERIE TIMES-NEWS



An electronic slot machine featuring dollar signs is shown at Presque Isle Downs & Casino in Summit Township. A recent state Supreme Court decision struck down as unconstitutional the local share of casino gaming revenues. CHRISTOPHER MILLETTE/ERIE TIMES-NEWS

"Gaming revenue has become the new source of community development funding for many agencies. And without that they would not be able to operate these programs. That underscores the importance in our community. There isn't the political will to spend taxpayer money on many of these programs, so gaming money fills that void."

— Perry Wood, executive director, Gaming Revenue Authority

Across Pennsylvania, host fees fund more than \$140 million worth of services each year in communities that host casinos.

Legislative fix?

The Pennsylvania House of Representatives on Thursday approved an amended version of a bill that includes a mandate that casinos pay millions of dollars to host communities statewide.

However, the state Senate will need to take up the issue again, because the gambling bill it approved Tuesday night was changed by the House to include gaming expansions that would legalize internet and fantasy sports gambling that represent about \$100 million in new revenue for the state.

The legislation requires the state's casinos to pay a \$10 million yearly fee to their host municipalities to cover costs associated with legalized gambling and keep money flowing to communities that host casinos in the wake of the Sept. 28 Pennsylvania Supreme Court decision which struck down

estimate that brings "45,000 to 50,000 people to the room, many of whom otherwise might not be able to come," Mitchell said.

Those free hours might go away, Mitchell said, without gambling grants.

"We'll wait and see," Mitchell said. "We have winter coming, when we're closed, so we have some time to wait built into this. There's some optimism something might happen in the next few months."

"But if we don't know anything by mid-January we will have to look at our options," Mitchell said.

The Booker T. Washington Center, 1720 Holland St., could find itself in a similar position regarding its sports programs.

County government has earmarked \$10,000 in 2017 funding for the center, from gambling revenues, for wrestling, track and field, basketball and boxing programs at the center that serves 150 children and teenagers.

Shantel Hilliard, the center's executive director, said those programs could be severely cut back, or eliminated, without that funding.

"That money is very important to us," Hilliard said. "These programs are an alternative to violence and risky behaviors for our youth. If we don't have them, it's going to have a direct correlation on whether we can provide

Facts about casino revenues in Erie County

- Erie County government has awarded \$12.5 million in "community grants" to various nonprofits since 2007 from its share of gambling revenues.

- The Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority has invested roughly \$43 million into the region from its share of gambling revenues since 2009 when the authority began distributing grants and loans to various agencies, nonprofits/municipalities.

- County government and the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority have each received more than \$2.5 million in gambling revenue from Presque Isle Downs & Casino in Summit Township since the casino opened in February 2007. Collective total received: \$105 million.

- How the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority used its \$5.5 million from 2016

- \$2.5 million for small business loan financing

- \$1,240,000 for local government development grants

- \$1 million for the lead community assets/endorsement, which funds entities such as the Erie Zoo

- \$1 million in Shaping Tomorrow grants

- \$644,812 for lead asset funding

- \$170,268 in special event grants

- \$164,100 in multi-municipal collaboration grants

- \$150,000 for the county summer jobs program

- \$148,480 in community assets grants

- \$118,946 in human services grants to various organizations

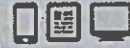
- \$79,150 in pilot program special project grants to different organizations

"We'll wait and see"

At the Erie Zoo, employees

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GAMBLING

Continued from A1

of Millcreek Township, D-49th Dist., voted for the measure.

Good for six months, the "sunset measure" would keep money flowing to communities that host casinos until the Legislature can come up with a permanent solution. The mandate that casinos pay millions of dollars to host communities was struck down by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court on Sept. 28.

Presque Isle Downs & Casino in Summit Township has been paying county government about \$11 million each year, with \$5.5 million going to the county and \$5.5 million to the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority.

Summit Township also receives roughly \$1.2 million annually as the casino's host municipality, and four other municipalities near the casino — Millcreek, McKean, Waterford and Greene townships — receive smaller shares of slots revenue as the result of a 2008 lawsuit over how county government planned to use a portion of its gambling funds.

The state House of Representatives still has to vote on the proposal, and it was unknown Wednesday when a house vote could take place. Wiley called the Senate's move "an immediate but temporary solution and one that is fair and equitable."

Dahlkemper said that the Senate's action is a quick attempt to "give us some certainty" that municipalities will continue to receive gambling revenues. The county uses gambling revenues to fund libraries, award

grants to various local agencies, and to make payments on the county's existing long-term debt.

About \$5.5 million in gambling revenue is plugged into Dahlkemper's proposed \$90.1 million county budget for 2017, currently under consideration by Erie County Council.

"I would prefer a longer fix, but I don't think that's going to happen at this point," Dahlkemper said. "But I'm very encouraged by this."

Perry Wood, the Gaming Revenue Authority's executive director, said that while the state Senate did the right thing, "we're hearing that the House is not very receptive to this fix

at this point in time."

The Gaming Revenue Authority invests that money via grants and loans in various economic and community development projects throughout the region.

The Gaming Revenue Authority currently has about \$6 million in reserve, Wood said, which means the authority could continue to operate and award grants at the same level and frequency for about 18 months.

However, Wood said he is concerned that the Legislature won't permanently address the issue without it being part of an expansion of gaming statewide. Legislators are also considering legislation that would legalize online

gaming in the state.

"If local share (funding) doesn't get fixed by the end of January, gaming revenue will cease to flow to Erie County and ECGRA will immediately have to decide which programs it will have to cut to make up for the revenue shortfall to this community," Wood said.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

Kevin Flowers can be reached at 870-1693 or by email. Follow him on Twitter at twitter.com/ETNflowers.

Gambling law fix not certain

By Kevin Flowers
kevin.flowers@timesnews.com

Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper said it's "encouraging" that state lawmakers are moving quickly on a proposed temporary mandate that casinos pay millions of dollars to host communities, a situation that affects Erie County and many other communities statewide that rely on gambling revenues.

But there is no guarantee that even a short-term fix will be in place soon.

The Pennsylvania Senate on Tuesday voted 47-1 to require the state's casinos to pay a temporary \$10 million fee to their host municipalities. State Sen. Sean Wiley

See GAMBLING, A6

VIEWPOINT

YOUR VIEW

Development efforts aid people who run them

One of the late Mayor Louis Tullio's frequent brags was that he had brought tens of millions of federal dollars to Erie. The common refrain from his detractors was, "Yeah? So where is it?" Things haven't changed that much over the past several decades.

On the same day that the Erie Community Foundation announced it was giving \$10 million to several Erie institutions, the executive director of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority, which hands out the casino cash, said it has distributed \$52 million since Presque Isle Downs & Casino came into being. During that same period, local politicians kept getting their pictures taken handing out those giant checks to fund myriad programs and projects. The gaming guy was attempting to rally the community to lobby Harrisburg to keep the cash faucet open, and his missive claimed the money has done much. I suspect his main worry just might be keeping his own wallet supplied with payday cash.

Studies, plans, projects and economic development programs have chewed up scads of public money, funds which for the most part provided jobs for the bureaucrats who ran the programs but did precious little by way of aiding the community.

The history of most of the economic development efforts reads like a tear-jerk novel. Give away the tax base to "incentivize" would-be employers, only to see them take advantage of the breaks and never deliver the promised jobs. Maybe all of this wouldn't be quite as bad if we had learned our lesson, but the beat goes on.

Do we really want private investment in Erie and Erie County? Have the schools offer top-notch education. Provide a capable and plentiful labor pool. Pick up the garbage on time. Keep taxes at the lowest possible rate by reducing the number of economic developers who, in fact, have not and cannot bring jobs.

Mark Guy Fladley, Erie

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Common Ground Youth Center receives ECGRA grant

By Charlene Kerr, Contributing
writer

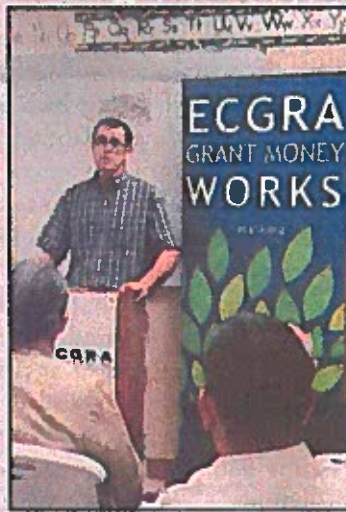
Common Ground Youth Center received a \$9,120 grant from the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority – one of 21 Community Assets Grants distributed last month. CGYC is celebrating its 10th year of operation.

The grant will be used to match a North East Community Foundation grant to upgrade the facility, including reupholstering couches, improving the recreational areas and purchasing new games and equipment to replace the originals. All this comes in an effort to add new and exciting recreational activities for youth and to maintain a safe and exciting environment.

ECGRA's Community Assets Grants are targeted to organizations that increase tourism, enhance places and develop culture. This year, more than half of the organizations receiving grants also specialize in building up local youth.

"Many of our 2016 grantees have multiplied their economic impact: They are fostering Erie's next generation of leaders," said ECGRA's Executive Director Perry Wood.

Kerry Corbin, Common Ground's executive director, was one of three grant recipients asked to speak at the awards ceremony. He reviewed the past 10 years of activities and



Common Ground's plans for the next 10 years.

He also shared the story of one student who attended CGYC for many years, and who, like many students who attend CGYC, didn't have a father figure in his life, was very rebellious toward male authority and hated school. CGYC staff and volunteers worked with this student, who ultimately graduated from high school, has a full-time job and is engaged to be married. Corbin explained that CGYC made a huge difference in this young man's life.

CGYC is grateful to ECGRA and to the North East Community Foundation for their continued support as Common Ground continues to reach out to the area's youth, providing recreational and other support to those who need it.

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Journal

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Thursday, October 27, 2016

Senate passes temporary bill to keep casino fees

BY KIM LUX
kim@thecorryjournal.com

Pennsylvania casinos will continue to pay host fees to counties and municipalities for the next seven months under a temporary mandate approved by the state Senate with a 47-1 vote.

The Senate's temporary provision will halt a Pennsylvania Supreme Court decision that determined it was unconstitutional for casinos to pay

millions in host fees to communities.

This could be good news for the Erie County Gaming Authority, who receives \$5.5 million annually from Presque Isle Downs & Casino, and funds multiple grants for local nonprofits.

The mandate will now be voted on by the House of Representatives.

ECGRA currently provides grant money to many Corry nonprofits including

the Corry Area Historical Society, the Corry Area Chamber of Commerce, the Corry Community Foundation and Impact Corry.

"The Senate action is a great first step," said Impact Corry President Steve Bishop. "Now we'll have to see if the House follows up. It is a wait and see situation."

Bishop added that he hopes Pennsylvania legislators do everything they

can to have ECGRA continue receiving its funding.

"The uncertainty is what's hard for most people," Bishop said.

Impact Corry has already applied for the next round of Mission Main Street grants offered by ECGRA.

"From what I hear, anything we are applying for now should be covered," he said. "We're in good shape there."

Currently, ECGRA gives out hundreds of thousands

of dollars in its three biggest grants to local nonprofits. These grants are the Mission Main Street grants, the Special Events grants and the Community Assets grants.

"This is another example of how we are benefiting from these dollars in Corry," Bishop said.

ECGRA is still asking local community members to contact their local legislators and let their voices be heard.

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GAMING

Continued from A1

"This will help assure that the counties and municipalities have the funding they've had for years, and there won't be any interruption of that," said state Rep. Pat Harkins, of Erie, D-1st Dist. Harkins voted in favor of the amended bill on Thursday. It passed the House 108-71.

"There are some things I wasn't thrilled with," Harkins said, "But you have to take what you can get sometimes."

However, it is unknown when the Senate would reconsider the bill before the end of the year. Host fees collectively bring more than \$140 million annually to Pennsylvania communities where casinos are located, including Erie County, and the issue has major financial ramifications

for municipalities and counties that rely on gambling revenues.

Prasque Isle Downs & Casino in Summit Township has been paying county government about \$11 million each year, with \$5.5 million going to the county and \$5.5 million to the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority.

Summit Township also receives roughly \$1.2 million annually as the casino's host municipality, and four other municipalities near the casino — Millcreek, McKean, Waterford and Greene townships — receive smaller shares of slots revenue as the result of a 2008 lawsuit over how county government planned to use a portion of its gambling funds.

State Sen. Sean Wiley of Millcreek, D-49th Dist., said that the gaming expansions in the bill "surely muddy the waters and takes the attention away from having a solution to the

local share assessment before the court-imposed deadline."

The state Supreme Court gave legislators six months to come up with a permanent fix for the local share issue.

"The bill the Senate passed earlier this week was an immediate, yet temporary, solution that met the burden and kept the money flowing to the counties that rely on it for critical programs and services. The House should have voted it clean," Wiley said.

"I don't know what the support in the Senate is like for (internet) gaming," Wiley said, "but to jeopardize the tens of millions of dollars flowing into host municipalities I feel is irresponsible."

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

Kevin Flowers can be reached at 870-1693 or by email. Follow him on Twitter at @kflowers.

State House passes amended casino bill, but issues linger

By Kevin Flowers
kflowers@timesnews.com

The Pennsylvania House of Representatives on Thursday signed off on an amended version of a bill that includes a mandate

that casinos pay millions of dollars to host communities statewide.

But the issue is far from settled, and might not be finalized before the end of 2016.

The state Senate will need to take up the issue again because the gambling bill it approved Tuesday night was changed by the House

— specifically, it includes gaming expansions that would legalize internet and fantasy sports gambling.

That gambling expansion could represent roughly \$100 million in new revenue for the state.

The legislation requires the state's casinos to pay a \$10 million yearly fee to their host municipalities to

cover costs associated with legalized gambling. Legislators seek to keep money flowing to communities that host casinos in the wake of the Sept. 28 Pennsylvania Supreme Court decision which struck down the mandate that casinos pay millions of dollars to host

See GAMING, A7

CITY & REGION

Doug Oathout
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More than \$3.8M to benefit nonprofits

By Gerry Weiss
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Erie's nonprofit community will receive more than \$3.8 million on Wednesday. The money will help pay for freezer repairs at the Holy

Trinity Lutheran Church, and support programs at the Sarah Reed Senior Living Center and for the Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network.

The Erie Community Foundation and the Erie

County Gaming Revenue Authority will distribute the money at a reception at the Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier, 3501 W. Sixth St., at 10 a.m.

The money will be disbursed through 237 grants,

224 of which are donor-advised endowments totaling \$3,054,165 that are already established at the foundation.

Of the remaining funds, 13 local nonprofits will receive about \$155,000 combined.

Wednesday's grants also include 501 scholarships totaling \$638,451.

The grants and scholarships total \$3,847,087, officials with the foundation

See **GRANTS, B2**

GRANTS

Continued from B1

said.

The foundation links charitable endowments from donors to needs in the Erie region. Four times a year, the organization grants awards to groups seeking financial assistance in education, health, arts and community development.

The largest grant Wednesday will go to the Hamot Health Foundation, which will receive \$30,000 for its Women's Health Outreach initiative.

The John F. Kennedy Center will receive \$17,954 for upgrades

to its computer lab and youth database project, while the Sarah Reed Senior Living Center will get \$14,626 for its Life Enriching Activity Program.

Other local organizations and groups receiving donations Wednesday include The Therapeutic Riding Equestrian Center (\$15,000 for programming), Veterans Miracle Center (\$11,500 for its Hauling Hope home), the Martin Luther King Jr. Center (\$10,674 for the Erie Dance Theater), and the Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier (\$11,798 for its Pathway project).

Gannon University will receive \$8,000 for

education outreach for the Erie Chamber Orchestra's 39th season, while the Waterford Community Fair Association will receive \$10,000 to help pay for drainage improvements to the fairgrounds.

Safe Kids Erie will receive \$10,000 (for its Safe Sleep Erie program), and Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church will receive \$5,000 (for the installation of surveillance cameras around the church's property).

Gerry Weiss can be reached at 870-1698 or by email. Follow him on Twitter at [twitter.com/ETNweiss](#).

VIEWPOINT

EDITORIAL

Legislators should tackle pressing state issues

The issue: Legislative session winds down
Our view: Vote on things that matter

Five days and the \$11 million Erie County receives yearly in casino host fees could disappear.

The Pennsylvania House of Representatives and Senate were in session three days Oct. 17-19.

Animal cruelty measures advanced, including one sponsored by Rep. Ryan Bizarro, of Millcreek Township, D-3rd Dist., that will likely be welcomed.

Other measures, however, as the Philadelphia Daily News observed, appeared to be veto-prone measures whose "main purpose is to pander to special interest groups."

There are five days left to legislate in 2016: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, and Nov. 14 and 15.

Legislators must do their jobs and vote on things that matter, starting with casino host fees.

Erie and other communities statewide stand to lose vital revenue due to a recent State Supreme Court decision that struck down the fees that casinos pay to the communities that host them. The fees were meant to compensate communities in part for services they would be required to provide casinos, such as police and fire protection. It was a promise that was also made in exchange for the legalization of vice in their locales.

The court found the law as worded unfairly burdened smaller casinos, but gave the Legislature 120 days to fix it.

The Legislature must act to repair the law. But any fix must uphold the deal struck with host communities and not fritter the money away throughout the state to communities that do not contend with the presence of gaming.

Erie County alone receives about \$11 million yearly in host fees from Presque Isle Downs & Casino. The Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority has invested more than \$40 million to impact five key areas in the region: small business; education and youth; quality of place; local government and development; and commercial corridor revitalization.

Meaningful pension reform could help the beleaguered Erie School District, and others like it, begin to address structural funding problems that no amount of belt-tightening can overcome.

And finally, stop kicking the can down the road on the state's sexual abuse laws. With each new investigation, we learn just how much damaging abuse some children endured in the past, often at the hands of those employed by institutions that knowingly enabled it.

Give those victims a path to justice. Extend the statute of limitations for child sexual abuse victims to file civil claims and make it retroactive. The Senate can no longer duck behind the constitutional argument put forth by Catholic Church lobbyists and the insurance industry that sank the legislation previously.

The current state attorney general and the two men running for the office say the reform meets constitutional muster. Do the right thing.

VIEWPOINT

EDITORIAL

Mayor, council dropping the ball on Erie Refocused

The Issue: Comprehensive plan awaits action
Our view: City officials must get moving

It's no small thing that more than 100 Erie business, civic and governmental leaders cleared their calendars on Oct. 12 to attend a four-hour conference on the city of Erie's comprehensive plan at the Jefferson Educational Society.

The room was packed with people with busy schedules and weighty responsibilities, but they made time to be there because the subject is so important. The program was an opportunity to get a detailed and unvarnished look at Erie Refocused and the how the community should go about implementing it from Charles Buki, the lead consultant in the process.

It's clear that all who attended came away better informed about the guiding principles in the plan and the difficult choices Erie faces.

And the session crackled with commitment and resolve among those attending.

What was worrisome was who didn't attend, starting with Mayor Joe Sinnott and most of Erie City Council. The Sinnott administration's point man on Erie Refocused, new Director of Economic and Community Development Chris Mong, stayed for about half the conference, saying he had another meeting to attend.

That poor showing reflects, practically and symbolically, City Hall's lethargic response to the plan in the nearly seven months since Buki's firm, CVB, delivered it. And it puts a sharper point on questions about whether the city's elected officials will summon the energy and stomach for the wrenching and indispensable process that Erie Refocused recommends.

Their performance to date isn't promising. It has consisted mostly of lip service.

Buki is among those who have noticed. As he is prone to do, he said so bluntly at the Metro 100 conference.

"The underlying governing variable is ducking for cover," Buki told his audience. "Real courage is going to be needed to make some of these choices."

Real courage hasn't exactly been the profile of the Sinnott administration and City Council in recent years. They have largely been content to manage the city's inexorable decline and to avoid leveling with the community about how troubling and damaging Erie's trend lines are.

That avoidance extends to ducking one of the central recommendations for putting Erie Refocused into motion — an extensive, ongoing and almost certainly contentious dialogue with all corners of the community about the plan and what it demands from all who love Erie.

That lack of engagement and action by Sinnott and City Council was only made more glaring by the shortage of city officials at the Metro 100 conference. Erie County government was better represented.

This is a defining and irrevocable moment for Erie that demands courage, vision and leadership from people who so far aren't inclined to provide it. That must change.

**ERIE
NEXT**

VIEWPOINT

EDITORIAL

State grant is needed boost for bayfront

The issue: Harbor Place awarded \$5 million
Our view: Downtown-bayfront link needed

The release of \$5 million from the state for the Harbor Place residential and commercial development on Erie's bayfront comes at a pivotal moment.

Scott Enterprises Inc. sought the money to leaven its \$150 million plan to convert 12 acres of prime bayfront property into a destination rich with amenities: two hotels, 100,000 square feet of office space, town homes, a waterfront restaurant, a family recreation center, retail shops and parking.

Company President Nick Scott Sr. has been waiting for this support from the state since the application was first submitted in 2013 under the administration of then-Gov. Tom Corbett. Scott said now that the funds from the Pennsylvania Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program have been awarded, construction will begin in 2017, starting with a hotel and office space. Over the following four or five years, he said, the other phases will follow at the location near Blasco Library.

The state's investment will yield lasting benefit to Erie. The privately developed Harbor Place — unlike the publicly financed bayfront hotels, the Erie Sheraton Bayfront Hotel and Courtyard Erie Bayfront Hotel — will add a greatly needed \$3 million to Erie's eroding tax base when complete.

The project should also supply much-needed employment for Erie workers during the construction phase and when it is complete.

And if the development of waterfront amenities in other cities, such as Baltimore or Philadelphia, are any indication, the enhanced bayfront could prove to be a potent tourism draw.

The state's seed money for Harbor Place is just the latest well-placed investment in Erie initiatives that target the region's deepest needs. It follows the recent \$10 million in awards from the Erie Community Foundation, the Susan Hirt Hagen Fund for Transformational Philanthropy and the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority for the development of, among other things, a community college and an innovation district in downtown Erie.

Erie's recently adopted comprehensive plan, Erie Refocused, and the Erie Downtown Partnership's Downtown Master Plan both point to one of the most obvious needs for downtown revitalization: the need to "bridge two valuable crown jewels," the burgeoning bayfront and downtown Erie, as principal Erie Refocused consultant Charles Buid has said.

That is due in large part to the Bayfront Parkway, which carries vehicle traffic along the bayfront but acts as a barrier between the waterfront and downtown, especially for pedestrians and bicyclists.

We welcome the development to come at Harbor Place. Looking ahead, for all of these promising enterprises both downtown and on the bayfront to gel into a vibrant, coherent and connected whole, the need to link the city to its shining waterfront must now be atop any regional agenda.

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Little League receives ECGRA grant



By Jennifer Smith, Contributing writer

North East Little League was recently selected as one of 21 local organizations to receive Community Assets Grants through the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority.

The \$5,100 grant, awarded in September, will be put toward the more than \$10,000 in fencing and other facility improvements at the NELL complex on South Washington Street.

This project is just one of the ways NELL has been working to grow and improve facilities and programming over the last few years to bring the joy of the sport to boys and girls in the North

East community and beyond.

NELL also participated in Erie Gives Day in August, receiving more than \$500, and the North East Gives Day, receiving \$120 from the North East Community Foundation.

On behalf of the NELL board, current and past players, coaches and parents, North East Little League would like to thank the community for its generosity and support this year and throughout the league's history. Thanks for being on our team!

To find out more about NELL, check out our Facebook page or visit www.nelittleleague.squarespace.com.

Citizens should clamor to fix Pa. gaming law

In reference to the Erie Times-News Oct. 1 article, "It's 'wait and see' on casino funds" and the editorial, "Legislators must fix gaming law without delay":

The former's suggestion to Erie County Council to "wait and see" how the state Legislature handles the situation over the next four months may be sound advice regarding the Erie County 2017 budget. However, as the latter statement that the Legislature "must do so without delay" is even more imperative to getting the gaming statute fixed.

Reportedly, the budgets of Erie County and the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority received in excess of about \$30 million each since the 2004 enactment of the gaming statute. The Erie County recipients of ECGRA funding alone number in excess of 100 organizations. From these ECGRA allocations, countywide, the total number of Erie County citizens who benefit can be extrapolated to a number in the tens of thousands. Just consider for a moment if the applicable state House and Senate committees and individual representatives and senators representing Erie County received an email or letter from each of their Erie County constituents. Also, what if each of the organizations that benefited by receiving ECGRA grants communicate with these legislators? All derive these benefits both from ECGRA and Erie County government's receipt of gaming money.

Having authored five-plus grants seeking gaming money since 2004 that benefited three eastern Erie County communities, along with attending the four ECGRA grant presentations, I can personally attest to the benefits derived and the varied array of recipients benefited. Take some time, as I am doing, to send an email/letter or telephone your Erie County state representatives and senators. Strongly encourage each to push for immediate formulation of legislation that corrects what the state Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional in the gaming funding statute. It's just being a good citizen.

VIEWPOINT

ANOTHER VIEW

Erie embraces a whirlwind of progress on multiple fronts



Pat Cuneo

While the county may be in a funk over a presidential race, Erie just marked one of its greatest weeks of true progress in years.

Consider these major developments in recent days: \$10 million in grants announced for a community college, a downtown investment zone, the Erie School District and a successful neighborhood program; the state committing \$5 million to spur the start of the long-awaited Scott Enterprises bayfront development; the state committing \$3 million toward the sports and recreation center at Family First; an important and frank conversation about

Erie's future drawing most of the region's top leaders to a working meeting; Erie County government reaching a tax agreement with LECOM Health; and the public bus charter controversy finally reaching a resolution, albeit with the state holding a hammer over the heads of Erie city and county governments.

This sudden series of successes followed years of work in many cases, and we're a better community for it.

The promise of a community college took a giant step forward because of the grant package announced by the Susan Hirt Hagen Fund for Transformational Philanthropy, the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority and the Erie Community Foundation.

A major study for the college, which is required for sustained state funding and to give us a blueprint for how it should work, is part of a \$4 million grant that would

give hope to residents, employers and the economic prospects of our region. Those who have studied this issue closely, like former Erie County Executive Barry Grossman, who championed the cause, know the issue is that crucial.

Equally important is that unlike with previous attempts to create a community college, this project appears to have the political backing of key members of Erie County Council, County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper and many others in government and private industry. Not only is a community college long overdue, the Erie region also deserves this commitment to its future.

The Downtown Erie Innovation District, which will work to attract innovative companies to Erie, particularly in cybersecurity and safety, represents another key commitment. Likewise, support for school-related programs

and Gannon University's bayfront neighborhood work will make Erie a better city. Many people and groups are responsible for these inspired grants, but none more so than Erie Insurance Group Chairman Tom Hagen and his family. This boost to Erie at a difficult time is nothing short of sensational.

Hagen was again among the key figures at Wednesday's Metro 100 conference at the Jefferson Educational Society, co-hosted by the Jefferson and the Gaming Revenue Authority. The subject was Erie's comprehensive plan, Erie Refocused, and consultant Charles Buld was at the top of his game.

With a cross-section of Erie's top public and private leaders, college presidents and leading lawyers and bankers in attendance, the absence of Mayor Joe Sinnott was noticeable. But I'd like to think it was a missed opportunity that can be corrected.

Erie needs its mayor fully on board with a plan his administration commissioned and about which most of us agree there's little time to waste.

Most people are probably inclined to laugh off Donald Trump's absurd claim that the election, three weeks from today, is being rigged by the news media and his other fictional foils, but it's not funny. It's dangerous for anyone, and unprecedented for a candidate for high office, to undermine the outcome of an election. Trump is responsible for his own undoing.

Finally, old friend and popular Erie radio voice Jim LeCorchick will be missed by his many friends in the worlds of news and sports. Jim, who died suddenly on Thursday, was a passionate, authentic personality who so dearly loved his hometown.

Pat Cuneo can be reached at patcuneo@gmail.com.

VIEWPOINT

EDITORIAL

Legislators must protect gaming fees as promised

The issue: Legislators return to work Monday
Our view: Tell them to protect gaming fees

The recent Pennsylvania Supreme Court decision striking down host fees paid by casinos statewide does not only threaten payments — about \$11 million a year — to Erie County.

It also gives legislators statewide an opportunity to rewrite this law and, possibly, distribute casino fees to places other than the host communities.

This would neither be proper nor fair, and Erie County residents should tell them so.

Gaming was legalized in this state on the condition that host communities would receive fees to help them cover increased costs and problems created by gaming, such as the need for more police protection. In Erie County, Presque Isle Downs & Casino provides jobs and draws visitors who spend money in local hotels and restaurants, to be sure. However, local courts have also seen crimes committed by those who become addicted to gambling.

The casinos agreed as part of licensing to pay host communities 2 percent of their gross slot machine revenues or a flat \$10 million, whichever is greater. The Supreme Court now says that is unconstitutional because it imposes an uneven tax on casinos that generate lower revenues.

So now the ground rules could be rewritten — after host communities have come to rely on these revenues, which fund more than \$140 million in community services statewide.

This year, the Erie County budget included more than \$5 million in host fees from Presque Isle Downs.

And as Perry Wood, executive director of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority, said in an op-ed piece published in Wednesday's Erie Times-News, other gaming revenues have been used since 2008 to support Erie's battle against decline. More than \$40 million has been spent on investments specifically designed to impact five key areas in the region: small business; education and youth; quality of place; local government and development; and commercial corridor revitalization.

Wood highlighted Ignite Erie, a collaborative strategy that brings together business, industry and educational institutions to boost small businesses and startups.

Erie County Council has called on the Legislature to sustain our gaming revenues.

Wood said ECGRA also has hired the Ridge Policy Group to lobby on behalf of our county, stressing the importance of this money to regional economic development.

Local legislators say they have been working behind the scenes to devise a repair to the law.

The Legislature goes back to work in Harrisburg on Monday. You can help support local lawmakers' efforts to protect the host fees.

Contact information and sample letters can be found on ECGRA's website at www.ecgra.org/calltoaction.

These revenues were promised to host communities like Erie, and they play an essential role in its renewal and recovery.

Tell the Legislature to keep that promise.

CITY & REGION

Doug Oathout
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City leaders miss comp plan conference

By Madeleine O'Neill
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Several key Erie officials, including the mayor, either did not attend or left in the midst of a Wednesday conference about the city's comprehensive plan.

During the four-hour meeting, consultant Charles Buki, whose firm developed the comprehensive plan, emphasized the need for partnership between government and the private sector. Yet Erie Mayor Joe Sinnott

was not there.

"The mayor had other business to attend to, but he has had extensive discussions about the plan with the consultant," the mayor's office said Thursday in a statement issued through an executive assistant.

The invitation-only Metro 100 conference was hosted by the Jefferson Educational Society and the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority. More than 100 community leaders attended. Ben Spieggen, the Jefferson

Educational Society's program director, said invitations, including one to Sinnott, were sent several weeks before the event.

Chris Mong, the city's director of economic and community development, attended the event, as did Assistant Director Allison Schmidt.

Mong said he had to leave the event early to attend another meeting, but he was pleased with what he heard.

"I liked the part about building confidence and

having some visible quick wins," Mong said. "I think the city really needs that."

Several city council members said their schedules did not allow them to attend the Metro 100 conference.

"I was not able to go, regrettably," said Councilman Curtis Jones Jr. "I am going to get an update on what happened ... and what our next steps are going to be."

Council President Bob Merski and Councilman David Brennan each attended

the conference, although Merski said he had to leave early to return to work.

"Because city council is a part-time position, all of us work full-time jobs, so it's hard to get off during the day," Merski said.

Merski said he also attended a meeting about the comprehensive plan held Wednesday evening, which was open to the public.

"I think people are hungry for fixing the problems that

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PLAN

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have been identified," Merski said. "The lift is going to be heavy, so we need to bring as many community partners on board and involve the citizens."

Councilman Mel Witherspoon said he could not attend Wednesday's conference due to personal business. Councilmen Casimir Kwitowski and Jim Wilarski could not be reached for comment Thursday.

Buki said Thursday he was disappointed with

the lack of attendance by some in city government.

"In a community that's hungry for partnership and leadership, it's a regrettable signal to send," he said. But he said he believes the comprehensive plan will move forward.

"The plan will be implemented because the business community cares," he said. "When a city of Erie's size can get a turnout of 100 ... leaders for four hours, you are talking about serious horsepower."

At Wednesday's conference, Buki also said City Hall had "ducked" the conversations with the community about the

comprehensive plan. Brennan said those conversations are happening, if not formally.

"There's been no formal meeting," Brennan said. "But ... it's part of every discussion. When I go out and meet with groups we always talk about the comprehensive plan."

Councilwoman Sonya Arrington, who was not able to attend the conference, said city officials could do more to communicate with community members about the plan.

"(There) definitely needs to be more communication with the community," she said. She suggested meetings

should take place in community centers so people can attend closer to home.

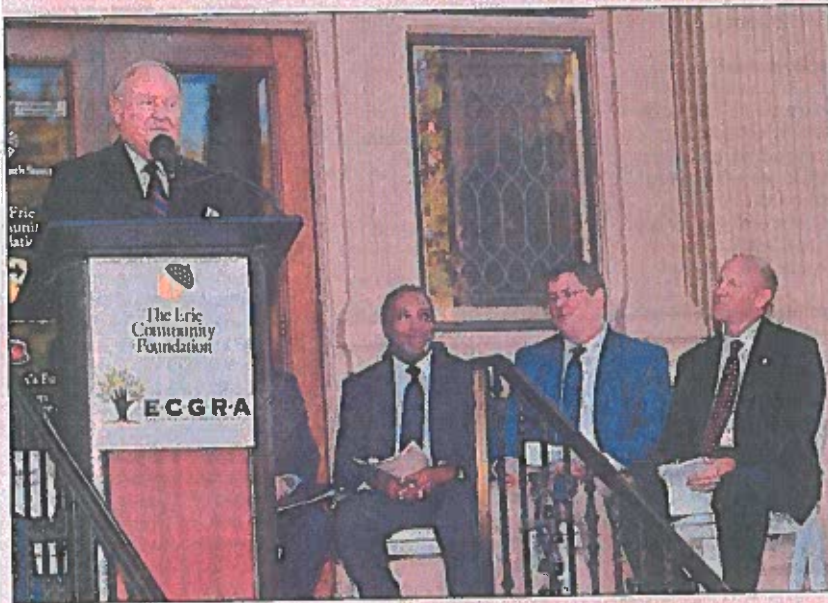
Mong said he is working with city council to figure out the best ways to reach out to the community.

"As far as ducking anything, absolutely not. ... We're working now toward getting the word out a little bit better," he said. "It's important to get the information out so people know what we're doing, the good things that are happening."

Madeleine O'Neill can be reached at 870-1728 or by email. Follow her on Twitter at [twit-ter.com/ETNoneill](https://twitter.com/ETNoneill).

Erie Times-News

'A unique moment'



Thomas B. Hagen (at podium) announces a \$10 million joint investment that will fund four projects across Erie County that specifically address education, youth, neighborhoods and innovation. The announcement was made Wednesday at the Erie Community Foundation in Erie. Hagen, chairman of the board of Erie Insurance, established the \$10 million Hagen Fund in December 2015 on behalf of the Hagen family. Seated behind him are, from left: Andre Horton, chairman of the Erie County Council; Jay Badams, superintendent of the Erie School District; and Keith Taylor, president of Gannon University. CHRISTOPHER MILLETTE/ERIE TIMES-NEWS

\$10 million in grants aim to transform Erie County

By Gerry Welsa
gerry.welsa@timesnews.com

As Erie County, wracked by persistent poverty, economic decline and low educational attainment, continues to take a renewed look at itself and its future, a \$10 million joint investment announced Wednesday plans to transform the region by targeting critical areas of need.

GOERIE See more photos from the event: GoErie.com/photos

The money will fund four projects across Erie County, specifically addressing education, youth, neighborhoods and innovation.

Officials with the Erie Community Foundation, the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority and the Susan

Hirt Hagen Fund for Transformational Philanthropy made the announcement Wednesday at an event attended by more than 125 cross-sector community leaders on the front steps of the foundation, 459 W. Sixth St.

Grants include \$4 million to Mercyhurst University for the Downtown

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GRANTS

Continued from A1

Erie Innovation District; \$4 million to Empower Erie for an Erie County Community College; \$1.5 million to the Erie School District for the "community schools" project; and \$500,000 to Gannon University to revitalize sections of the city's east and west bayfront neighborhoods.

The \$10 million will be distributed over a three-year period as benchmarks are met, officials said.

"This is a unique moment in our community's history," Mike Batchelor, the foundation's president, said Wednesday. "The recently completed city comprehensive plan, Erie Refocused, and numerous other studies reveal pathways out of poverty are access to education and training, and a revitalization of our urban core. We now have the resources to accomplish these goals."

Thomas B. Hagen, chairman of the board of Erie Insurance, established the \$10 million Hagen Fund in December on behalf of the Hagen family.

The endowment is named in honor of Hagen's late wife, a prominent community leader and philanthropist, who was Erie Insurance's longest-serving board member. She died in June 2015 at age 79.

"When we set up the fund, we intended to have this kind of impact," Hagen said to the crowd at Wednesday's event. "We're here for a better tomorrow for Erie."

Wednesday's announcement marks the largest grants ever awarded by the Erie Community Foundation in its 80-year history.

"Each of these projects has the potential of bringing substantial,



Shown Wednesday in front of vacant, blighted properties in the 400 block of West Fourth Street in Erie are, clockwise from top left: Jeremy Bloeser, executive director of the Bayfront East Side Taskforce; Erika Ramatho, committee person with the Our West Bayfront neighborhood group; Candace Battles, co-chair of Our West Bayfront; and Devantae Battles, 2, Candace Battles' grandson. The two nonprofits will receive \$500,000 to improve this neighborhood on Erie's lower west side. They plan to remove blighted houses like these and upgrade existing properties. The grant was part of a larger initiative announced earlier in the day at the Erie Community Foundation in Erie. Thomas B. Hagen (not pictured), chairman of the board of Erie Insurance, established the \$10 million Hagen fund in December 2015 on behalf of the Hagen family. CHRISTOPHER MILLETTE/ERIE TIMES-NEWS

sustainable positive change to Erie for years to come," Batchelor added.

Awarding money isn't enough by itself to open a community college, as Erie County Council must vote to create and sponsor the school.

Empower Erie, a local nonprofit established to help bring a community college here, will be awarded \$300,000 for an eight-month long planning study on the community college.

If Erie County Council votes in favor of creating and sponsoring the college, the Hagen Fund, foundation and ECGRA will provide \$3.7 million of additional support.

County Council Chairman Andre Horton, a strong advocate for increased access to education and training across the region, said Wednesday that he has enough support on the seven-member council to move the community college initiative forward.

Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper,

college here operated for two years after World War II, severing veterans, spouses and widows.

"It set the example that should have led to a modern day community college," Breneman added.

Dahlkemper said the \$300,000 invested into an upcoming eight-month feasibility study on the community college will "allow us to really truly get a picture of why this is so vital to our community."

"We can then look at how logistically to make it happen. The location of it, the finances, the partnerships," Dahlkemper added.

The Downtown Innovation District is designed to bring new jobs focused on cybersecurity and safety to the city's urban core, attracting new-for-profit businesses, residential facilities and amenities sought by millennials, officials said.

Mercyhurst, Erie Insurance, Velocity Network and the consulting firm of McManis & Monsalve Associates will work with interested partners to execute joint projects related to safety and security, specifically in the high-demand field of data science.

As the district grows, coordinators said, additional corporate and university partners will be added.

"Mercyhurst is ready to take the lead in what we believe will be a potential game-changer for Erie in dismantling brain drain in favor of brain gain," Mercyhurst President Michael Victor told the

crowd Wednesday. "We envision an innovation district in downtown Erie that will allow us to building a dynamic leadership network and work together with a singular vision focused on growth and prosperity for our community."

The Erie School District was awarded \$1.5 million Wednesday for the local "community schools" initiative, which brings social services directly into school buildings.

The United Way of Erie County also is a coordinator of the project, which already has more than \$1 million in corporate funding across the next three years from GE Transportation, Hamot Health Foundation, Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield and Lord Corp.

The pilot program will have models in place and operating in five Erie schools later this year. Thousands of city children, all living in low-income households, will be helped by the project, which has been used successfully in other school districts across the United States.

Community schools bring services like health care, dental care and after-school programming directly into school buildings, making the services more accessible and available to students in one place.

The pilot schools are

Emerson-Gridley Elementary School, Edison, Wayne, McKinley, and Pfeiffer Bureleigh.

"This investment is incredible. There's a groundswell of support for the community schools model," Erie Schools superintendent Jay Badams told those who gathered at the foundation's front steps Wednesday morning. "Our students face significant out-of-school issues that impact their ability to learn."

Gannon was awarded \$500,000 to continue its revitalization of Erie bayfront neighborhoods.

The money will help rehab properties in the targeted areas of East Sixth Street and Parade Street, on the city's east side, and the block surrounding the Martin Luther King Jr. Center, 312 Chestnut St., on the city's west side, said Jeremy Bloeser, executive director of the Bayfront Eastside Task Force.

"Today is an opportunity to add to the great work already begun by this project. Every piece is helpful," Gannon President Keith Taylor said at Wednesday's event. "It will move this city forward and these neighborhoods forward."

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VIEWPOINT

EDITORIAL

Shaping Tomorrow grants strategic and promising

The issue: Game-changing grants revealed
Our view: Projects marshal talent, target need

In "The Smartest Places on Earth," Antoine Van Agtmael, a longtime emerging markets investor, and journalist Fred Bakker examine how communities, especially in the Rust Belt, are finding new competitiveness in the global marketplace by tapping what they call "brainpower" to produce smarter manufacturing and smarter products.

They describe collaborative efforts between businesses, universities and governments in places like Akron, Ohio, and Albany, New York, that create hubs of innovation, or "brainbelts," which in turn generate growth and renewal.

That is one of many reasons we look forward to the announcement Wednesday of the latest round of Shaping Tomorrow grants from the Erie Community Foundation, the Susan Hirt Hagen Fund for Transformational Philanthropy, and the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority.

Erie Community Foundation President Mike Batchelor has not yet released all of the details, but has said that up to \$10 million in grants will be awarded to four projects.

One of the most savvy may prove to be the grant to help create a downtown innovation district focused on cybersecurity.

Batchelor said money is forthcoming for Mercyhurst University, Erie Insurance and the consulting firm McMannis & Monsalve and Associates to create a hub where businesses and academics can focus on cybersecurity.

Those partners are well-suited and the need for unassailable cybersecurity escalates daily with hostile attacks on both government and business secrets.

The as-yet unnamed location for this hub may dovetail with the Erie Downtown Partnership's downtown master plan's call for the development of a Renaissance district from Eighth to 12th streets, between Sassafras and Holland streets, focused on retail, entertainment and business development.

The Innovation Collaborative, the Renaissance Centre and Gannon University's Center for Business Ingenuity have already "created a niche for innovative entrepreneurship" here, as the plan notes. Together with Penn State Behrend's Knowledge Park and Advanced Manufacturing and Innovation Center, these could allow Erie to cultivate its own brainbelt.

Other intriguing news from Batchelor: a grant to launch a community college, which could provide educational resources needed to help drive down Erie's dire poverty rates.

Our West Bayfront — a coalition of residents, Gannon University, Housing and Neighborhood Development Service and the Martin Luther King Center — is receiving funds for a neighborhood improvement project that is in line with its comprehensive plan, he said.

And Erie's neighborhood centers, beset by funding cutbacks, will be drawn into the fold of the new Erie School District community schools project, with funding for after-school programming.

This list appears to be rich with transformational potential as the Erie region strives to reverse forces speeding its decline. While all is not yet known, it seems the Shaping Tomorrow plans strategically target projects that muster some of Erie's best resources to overcome its deepest challenges.

Erie Times-News

Consultant: Does Erie 'get' city plan?

Author of Erie Refocused returns to discuss keys to its implementation

By Kevin Flowers
kevin.flowers@timesnews.com

Charles Buki returns to Erie this week, and he is looking to gauge the community's grasp of the city's comprehensive development plan.



Buki

"The main thing on my mind is whether or not the Erie community really gets it," said Buki, the founder and

principal consultant of Alexandria, Va.-based consulting firm CZB. "I have my hopes, but I have my doubts."

Buki will be in Erie on Wednesday to participate in two events at the Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St.

The first is an invitation-only discussion from 1 to 5 p.m. of the city's comprehensive plan, which Buki's firm wrote for the city. The comprehensive development plan is the city's first in decades, and it addresses Erie's future needs in a number of areas, including housing, transportation, land use and economic development, to combat decades of systematic decline.

Following that discussion Buki and Peter Lombardi, an associate at CZB, will host a public presentation titled "Implementing Erie's new Plan — How Progressive Cities Address Their Challenges." That conversation starts at 7 p.m. and is free and open to the public, but advance registration is requested.

To register, call 459-8000 or visit www.jeserie.org.

Erie's comprehensive plan, which can be accessed at www.goerie.com/eriere-focused, also suggests the city look for creative ways to attract private financial investment, matched by public dollars, for various projects.

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PLAN

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The plan, which has been endorsed by Erie City Council and the city's Planning Commission, will likely take years to implement and its many recommendations could cost as much as \$600 million, according to CZB consultants.

Buki, in an interview with the Erie Times-News, was asked what messages he and Lombardi plan to convey on Wednesday.

Buki said that cities/regions that struggle "typically have long-in-the-tooth habits that require attention, habits that may have once made sense, but that today are clearly well past their

sell-by date. Certainly this is the case with so many Ohio and Pennsylvania and western New York communities, and this includes Erie."

Buki said he is "hopeful" when he sees the work being done in the community by groups such as the Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership, the Erie Community Foundation and the Erie Downtown Partnership, along with educational institutions and private employers like Erie Insurance.

However, "my concerns remain when I detect persistent lack of multijurisdictional partnership, a constant critique of City Hall, an obstinate tendency in the community to wait for someone else to solve a problem, and a failure to really come to

grips with the mandate to frigate given limited resources."

The comprehensive plan, Buki said, gives the Erie region a unique opportunity to reposition itself.

"I'm looking for elected officials in the city to show some guts and make some choices that are good for the city, though maybe not good for everyone at the moment, and for the private sector to have officials' backs when officials go out on a limb," Buki said.

"When elected officials make tough choices, I am looking for voters to re-elect them instead of whining. I'm looking for partnership that cuts across public and private lines, city and county lines, and (in) general across the

region," Buki said. "I'm looking for evidence of strategically linked initiatives that reinforce and grow strengths, not one-off projects sitting out there like free radicals. I am looking for a combination of surprise, excitement, anger, frustration and fear in the projects and initiatives that emerge in response to Erie's existential challenge."

"When initiatives are all bunnies and butterflies," Buki said, "I'll know that hard decisions are not being made and the real work is being kicked down the road. When there's friction, then there's progress."

Kevin Flowers can be reached at 870-1693 or by email. Follow him on Twitter at [twitter](https://twitter.com/ETNflowers). com/ETNflowers.

Harrisburg Happenings

Public health and the health of local budgets are both at stake throughout Pennsylvania.



By: Senator Sean Wiley

"We have heard too many horror stories about high school athletes whose futures are robbed by addiction that begins with prescription pain killers."
— Gov. Tom Wolf

When Gov. Tom Wolf addressed the members of the Senate and the House of Representatives on Sept. 28 as part of a joint session of the General Assembly, he made one thing vividly clear: Pennsylvania will be the phoenix that rises from the ashes of opioid addiction.

Likely the largest public health crisis that this commonwealth has ever faced, the heroin and opioid addiction epidemic claims lives in Pennsylvania each and every day. 2015 saw almost 3,500 of our family members, our friends, and our neighbors lose the battle to opioid addiction. And more lives will be lost before we truly have a handle on how to wage the most strategic war possible.

Addiction can no longer be an invisible disease, a concealed problem. Invisibility translates into opposing acknowledgement and acceptance; a

A recent joint session of the General Assembly focused on Pennsylvania's heroin and opioid crisis: "Likely the largest public health crisis that this commonwealth has ever faced."

resistance to seeking treatment. Addiction is, after all, a disease like diabetes or cancer or epilepsy, all with accompanying courses of treatment that are tailored to meet the needs of individual patients. Addiction then moves into recovery.

Addiction can enter every home in our commonwealth – quickly, silently and possessively, having a stranglehold with the strength of an army. Addicts are not street junkies. They live in our homes, work in our businesses, and sit in the same pews on Sunday mornings. They are us and we are them.

We cannot legislate our way out of this – nor can we arrest our way out. Opioid addiction needs to be treated like the public health crisis it is, and provided every available resource. To say that lives depend on it is not an exaggeration.

Switching gears now, I want to address a recent ruling by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court that impacts

communities statewide contiguous to casinos. The ruling requires the General Assembly to develop a fix – within no more than 120 days.

At issue is the County Local Share and the Municipal Local Share that casinos pay, translating into \$11 million to Erie County and \$1.2 million to Summit Township, respectively. Of that \$11 million to Erie County, \$5.5 million is used for grant-making by the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (ECGRA); and Summit Township has seen over \$12 million in revenues since the opening of Presque Isle Downs & Casino in 2007.

The Court ruling invalidated the Local Share on the grounds that it violates the uniformity clause, therefore nullifying part of the Gaming Act and making it the responsibility of the Senate and the House to resolve.

Both Summit Township and Erie County project the use of these funds in their 2017 budgets, and I can confidently assume the majority of other host municipalities and counties do, as well.

There is a solution to be found within

the General Assembly inside the 120-day timeframe, one that I will share in a later edition of Harrisburg Happenings.

At issue is the County Local Share and the Municipal Local Share that casinos pay, translating into \$11 million to Erie County and \$1.2 million to Summit Township, respectively.

As we are merely weeks away from the November general election, it is important for all of us to be doing our homework about candidates at every level of government. The decisions we will make are too important not to.

Senator Sean D. Wiley can be contacted at SenatorWiley@pasenate.com, and you can follow him on Twitter @SenatorWiley.

Lawmakers urged to protect casino revenue

By Nico Salvatori
Erie Times-News

A recent court ruling eliminating host fees paid by casinos in Pennsylvania has put in jeopardy about \$11 million that Erie County relies on each year to fund projects and operations.

So on Tuesday night, Erie County Council passed a resolution urging Pennsylvania lawmakers to quickly find a legislative solution so that slots revenue from Presque Isle Downs & Casino in Summit-Township continues to flow into county coffers.

The resolution will be sent to the Erie County legislative delegation, to Gov. Tom Wolf, and to the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania once it has been signed by Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper this week.

"The loss of gaming revenue will create a multimillion dollar hole in the 2017 Erie County budget and threaten a range of services for our citizens to cease immediately," the resolution reads.

The revenue, made possible by the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act, has been able to help fund "transformative" projects in the county, said County Councilman Jay Breneman. The

Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled in late September that the law violated the uniformity provision of the state constitution.

The 2004 gaming law mandates that host municipalities/counties annually receive 2 percent of gross slot machine revenues or \$10 million, whichever is greater. But a lawsuit filed by Mount Airy Casino in the Pocono Mountains argued the assessment violates the state constitution by imposing a heavier tax burden on lower-performing casinos.

The legislature was given 120 days to repair the gaming law because of the potential effect on municipalities in the state. State Sen. Sean Wiley, of Millcreek Township D-49th Dist., said recently that Gov. Tom Wolf could call for additional session days in the legislature to make sure the job

"Too often we are straddled with one stream of funding, which is the ever dwindling property tax," Breneman said at Tuesday's council meeting. "The risk now is that homeowners could be shouldered with an additional burden."

Nico Salvatori can be reached at 870-1714 or by email. Follow him on Twitter at twitter.com/ETNsalvatori.

County Council: State must act now

Legislators urge immediate steps to resolve casino funds issue

By Kevin Flowers
kevin.flowers@timesnews.com

Erie County Council is formally asking the Pennsylvania Legislature to quickly

repair the state's gaming law so gambling revenues the county and other municipalities rely on will continue to flow.

A resolution on council's Tuesday meeting agenda urges state legislators "to immediately fix the local shared gaming funds language" in the law. Council's request

follows a Sept. 28 Pennsylvania Supreme Court decision striking down the host fees paid by casinos statewide.

The county receives about \$11 million annually in slot machine revenues from Presque Isle Downs & Casino in Summit Township under

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GAMING

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the law, and keeps \$5.5 million. That money is used to fund libraries; award grants to various local agencies; and to make payments on the county's existing long-term debt.

The other \$5.5 million is distributed by the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority, which invests that money via grants and loans in various economic and community development projects throughout the region.

Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper's \$99.1 million general fund budget proposal for 2017, which council is now considering, includes \$5.5 million in slots revenues once again.

Across the state, municipalities and counties that receive gambling funds are concerned about the future of those revenue streams. The Supreme Court gave state legislators 120 days to repair the gaming law because of the potential effect on

municipalities.

Councilman Kyle Foust, who sponsored the resolution, said that effect and the fact that Erie County and other communities count on yearly gaming revenue is why he and other council members want to see the legislators rectify the issue quickly.

"Obviously this has major financial implications for our county budget that could blow a big hole in it," Foust said. "Plus there's the long-term effect. Gaming money has allowed us to do important projects in this area we probably wouldn't have been able to do otherwise."

The state's gaming law took effect in 2004 and mandates that host municipalities/counties annually receive 2 percent of gross slot machine revenues or \$10 million, whichever is greater. A lawsuit filed by Mount Airy Casino in the Pocono Mountains, however, argued the assessment violates the state constitution by imposing a heavier tax burden on lower-performing casinos.

A copy of the resolution is being sent to local legislators

including state Sen. Sean Wiley, of Millcreek, D-49th Dist., and state Reps. Patrick Harkins, of Erie, D-1st Dist.; Flo Fabrizio, of Erie, D-2nd Dist.; Ryan Bizzarro of Millcreek, D-3rd Dist.; and Curt Sonney, of Harborcreek, R-4th Dist.

It will also be sent to Gov. Tom Wolf's office, as well as to the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania.

Harkins said he is confident that "it will be addressed quickly, because it has such a huge effect on communities. I'm supposed to meet with a couple of people (Tuesday) about it.

"This will be a top priority," Harkins said, adding that he has also spoken with Foust and County Councilman Fiore Leone about the gaming law.

County Council meets Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Erie County Courthouse, 140 W. Sixth St.

Kevin Flowers can be reached at 870-1693 or by email. Follow him on Twitter at twitter.com/ETNflowers.

Monday, October 10, 2016

Corry area to feel effects of high court gaming ruling

BY KIM LUX
kim@thecorryjournal.com

Under a new Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruling, local counties and municipalities — including the Corry area — are no longer going to receive casino funds.

The Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority is asking local residents to contact their local legislators after the Pennsylvania Supreme Court recently eliminated host fees, which provide grants for community improvement projects.

This decision came after the court said the current gaming laws violated the nonuniform tax provision in

the Pennsylvania Constitution. State legislators now have four months to fix the gaming laws.

Currently, ECGRA gives out hundreds of thousands of dollars in its three biggest grants that local nonprofits can apply for. These grants are the Mission Main Street grants, the Special Events grants and the Community Assets grants.

Many local nonprofits in Corry rely heavily on money received from these ECGRA grants.

Just recently, the Corry Area Historical Society received about \$3,000 through ECGRA funding.

Impact Corry, the Corry Area Chamber of Commerce, the Corry Community Foundation and other area nonprofits also rely on money from ECGRA each year.

"What we have been able to do in our downtown area over the course of the last few years is all thanks to ECGRA," said Steve Bishop, president of Impact Corry. "It would be a significant blow to us if we are not able to have these funds in the future."

Impact Corry has received money from ECGRA's Mission Main Street grants for the past several years.

"In recent years we've acquired the maximum \$15,000 available from the Mission Main Street grants. This comes with matching funds from our local organizations as well, so we receive about \$30,000 annually," Bishop explained. "That's \$30,000 a year to put toward things for Corry."

Bishop said that Impact Corry has already been looking into applying for the next round of Mission Main Street grants and the application is due in early November.

"I believe that they must have the money to cover these grants," he said. "It will be very troubling for us

to see this money not be available in the future."

Bishop said that he hopes Pennsylvania legislators will be able to find a way to let ECGRA continue receiving the money from the casino, so that ECGRA can continue to help countless local organizations.

"Nothing is ever as easy as it seems when coming up with new legislation," Bishop said. "I just hope that solution can be found so these grants remain available."

ECGRA receives \$5.5 million annually from the Presque Isle Downs & Casino.

10-9-16

Gaming revenue boss to lobby legislators to restore local funding

By Ron Leonardi
Erie Times-News

Perry Wood, the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority's executive director, plans to meet with several state legislators this week in Harrisburg to push for a new state gaming law he hopes will maintain previous county gaming revenue allocations.

"The message is the gaming funds are an important source of revenue for local economic development efforts, and that the amount needs to stay same and the flexibility of the funds also needs to stay the same," Wood said.

Wood said he will meet Thursday and Friday in Harrisburg with six legislative leaders from the state House and Senate.

"We need to make sure the leadership in Harrisburg know we are paying attention to how they are fixing the state gaming law and that they know the local share of gaming revenue is absolutely essential to economic development and local government," Wood said.

The state Supreme

Court in late September struck down the host fees paid by casinos statewide to counties and municipalities, ruling the previous framework for distributing casinos fees violated the nonuniform tax provision in the Pennsylvania Constitution.

The state Supreme Court is giving state legislators four months to fix the state's gaming law.

The state's previous gaming law, which took effect in 2004, mandated that host municipalities/counties annually receive 2 percent of gross slot machine revenues or \$10 million, whichever is greater.

Erie County has received about \$11 million in revenues annually from Presque Isle Downs & Casino since it opened in Summit Township in 2007.

The county has kept \$5.5 million annually, and the other \$5.5 million has gone to the independent Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority, which evaluates grant and loan requests and distributes money to area nonprofits and other recipients for economic and community

development projects.

Wood said the Gaming Revenue Authority has distributed more than \$40 million in grants and loans since Presque Isle Downs opened in 2007.

"Those funds are driving a lot of new and creative activities," Wood said.

Although the state gaming law is in limbo, there will be no interruption of Gaming Revenue Authority funding distribution the remainder of the year, Wood said.

The Gaming Revenue Authority is expected to announce its next batch of funding recipients Wednesday, he said.

Wood is encouraging area residents to visit his agency's website at www.ecgra.org and to click on the "call to action" link.

"If the legislature can't fix it, we know there will be a \$5.5 million gap in the Erie County budget," Wood said. "We want to be an active agency in resolving this issue."

Ron Leonardi can be reached at 870-1680 or by email. Follow him on twitter at twitter.com/ETNLeonardi.

\$10M in grants to be announced

By David Bruce

david.bruce@timesnews.com

The Erie Community Foundation and two partner agencies will announce the recipients of up to \$10 million in grants on Wednesday.

The funding will be awarded to three entities whose names have not yet been released. The grants

will be given over three years, the foundation said in a news release.

"These are Shaping Tomorrow grants, which are large-scale, evidenced-based projects that have the potential to be transformational," said Pat Herr, the foundation's director of community impact.

Money for the grants

will come from the foundation, the Susan Hirt Hagen Fund for Transformational Philanthropy and the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority. It is the first year the Hagen Fund has contributed to the Shaping Tomorrow grants.

Recent recipients of Shaping Tomorrow grants include the Erie

School District, Gannon University and Primary Health Network.

The new recipients will be identified on the steps of the foundation, 459 W. Sixth St., at 10 a.m.

David Bruce can be reached at 870-1736 or by email. Follow him on Twitter at twitter.com/ETNbruce.

Times-News | GoErie.com | Tuesday, October 11, 2016 B3

Grants to benefit Erie community college, neighborhood improvement

By David Bruce

david.bruce@timesnews.com

One of the Shaping Tomorrow grants that will be announced Wednesday by the Erie Community Foundation and two partner agencies is earmarked to create and initially fund a community college in Erie County.

Officials with the foundation, the Susan Hirt Hagen Fund for Transformational Philanthropy and the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority are awarding up to \$10 million in grants to four entities. The announcement will be made at 10:30 a.m. on the steps of the foundation, 459 W. Sixth St.

A portion of the money is scheduled

to go toward creating a community college, said Mike Batchelor, the foundation's president.

"The exact amount is embargoed until Wednesday's announcement, but it's enough money to get the community college up and running," Batchelor said.

Awarding the money isn't enough by itself to open the school. Erie County Council must vote to create the community college.

The foundation has been working with council members, Batchelor said.

The three other projects to receive money include:

A Downtown Innovation District focused on cybersecurity: Money would help create the

district, which would be a partnership among Mercyhurst University, Erie Insurance and the consulting firm McManis & Monsalve and Associates, Batchelor said.

"The initial plans are to create a defined geographic area where businesses and academia can focus on similar projects, in this case cybersecurity," Batchelor said. "The hope is that it spurs community development and helps revitalize the city."

A neighborhood improvement initiative with Gannon University: A grant would pay for improvements to a neighborhood in Erie's west bayfront area, Batchelor said.

"It's a piece of the Our West Bayfront project," Batchelor said,

referring to a collaboration among residents and Gannon University, Housing and Neighborhood Development Service and the Martin Luther King Center. "It's like a pilot program."

An after-school program for Erie public school students: Funds would create after-school programs for Erie students at the city's five neighborhood centers.

"The money would help these centers and the Erie School District coordinate services," Batchelor said. "This grant would really move this project along."

David Bruce can be reached at 870-1736 or by email. Follow him on Twitter at twitter.com/ETNbruce.



October 13, 2016

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Perry Wood
Executive Director
Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
5340 Fryling Road, Suite 201
Erie, PA 16510

Dear Perry, and the Board of Directors of ECGRA:

On behalf of Veterans Miracle Center Erie's board of directors, and the Veterans we are privileged to serve – thank you for supporting our programs and services with the extension of a Community Assets Grant. We received the check #1921 in the amount of \$8,448.00 – thank you! We are very grateful for the efforts and dollars ECGRA invests into the economic and community development of Erie County to assist non-profits and small businesses alike.

Thanks to the support of generous people like you, much is happening at VMCE:

- *Saving over 400 veterans and their families tens of thousands of dollars in clothing, personal hygiene products & housewares*
- *Locating a warehouse in EBCO Park to house a future furniture adoption program for Veterans*
- *Exhibiting at the 2016 Stars & Stripes Coed Invitational hosted by Erie Gymnastics to raise awareness (thank you, Erie Gymnastics)*
- *Exhibiting at Wine on the Lake 2016 – attendees introduced to VMCE*
- *Hosting a season of Cruise-Ins at VMC Erie, beginning May 19th*
- *Presenting our 2nd annual Red, White, and Brew fundraiser at The Brewerie at Union Station on May 26th*
- *Presenting our 2nd annual American Heroes Golf Classic at Lake View County Club*
- *Launching an emergency program to help the Veterans affected by layoffs at G.E.*

Thank you for teaming up with VMCE to help us meet the needs of all those who have served and given up so much for our freedom.

Thank you.

John Kowalczyk
John Kowalczyk – Founder & Director
Veterans Miracle Center Erie

John Hornaman
Tracy Mihalak
Thanks!
Tracy Mihalak
Veterans Miracle Center is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, Federal Tax ID #47-2295973.



— SENIOR LIVING —

sarahreed.org

227 West 22nd Street
Erie, PA 16502

p 814-878-2600
f 814-878-2607

October 28, 2016

Mr. Perry Wood
Executive Director
5340 Fryling Road Suite 201
Erie, PA 16510

Dear Perry,

I am writing to thank you and ECGRA for partnering with The Erie Community Foundation to provide a 50% match toward the Technology Grant awarded to Sarah Reed Senior Living. ECGRA's contribution was a wonderful surprise! As you are aware, the funds will allow us to purchase two iN2L adaptive computer systems.

The need for the additional systems is timely, as we anticipate the opening of our expanded skilled nursing facility in early 2017. Because of this grant, we will be able to offer innovative, interactive activity programs to more residents in all of our units more frequently.

As a long standing non-profit organization in Erie, we are grateful for the support of organizations such as yours. The financial resources help ensure our mission of providing quality healthcare, housing, and associated services to residents in a caring and trusted environment.

Again, thank you for supporting Sarah Reed Senior Living and LEAP (Life Enhancing Activity Program). I hope that you will be able to attend one of the open house events for the opening of our expanded facility so we may meet in person, and you can experience all Sarah Reed has to offer. You can expect an invitation once our dates are announced.

Sincerely,

Gale Magyar, NHA CASP
Executive Director

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SCHOONER PORCUPINE
BAYFRONT MARITIME CENTER
40 HOLLAND STREET | ERIE, PA 16507
WWW.BAYFRONTCENTER.ORG



September 30, 2016

Dear Perry,

We hope these summer months have been good to you. The Schooner *Porcupine* shipwrights and volunteers have been hard at work in assembling this wonderful vessel. In the past several months the team has accomplished a great deal including installing floors, bunks, and bulkheads. Your generosity has allowed for significant progress towards completing *Porcupine*, the Schoolship for Presque Isle Bay.

As many of you are aware this project began with the generous donation of a 40' fiberglass hull meticulously crafted by an Ohio couple, Keith and Kathy Palmerton, who dreamed of retiring aboard and cruising the world. As their plans changed, the Palmerton's heard about the outstanding work being done at the Bayfront Maritime Center with underserved inner city youth struggling to succeed in school. Their philanthropic gift was the hull including an 85 HP marine diesel engine, and associated equipment.

All the kind and generous donations for Phase 1 of the *Porcupine* amounted to over \$250,000 in gifts to begin the transformation of the hull and bring this ship to life. We cannot thank you enough for making a difference in the lives of Erie's young people. We are heading into Phase 2, the final construction stage of the *Porcupine* that will finish the vessel, creating an engaging, floating STEM classroom, the first sailing science vessel for area citizens. Young and old alike will grow from this experience. This is an opportunity of a lifetime and we are inviting you to be a part of it.

Phase 2 will be an investment of \$275,000. We have already received a \$25,000 check to get us started in the right direction. Many gifts have been made supporting this next phase of the *Porcupine*. You will find a number of ways your support will make a difference moving forward. Contributions of all sizes are appreciated. There are naming opportunities available to honor and memorialize a loved one on the *Porcupine*. We have enclosed these for you to review. Please take the time to consider partnering with us to allow this final stage of construction and implementation to be a success.

As always, we are grateful for the many ways your generous gifts have made a difference in the lives of BMC students. You have allowed them a second chance to learn and thrive in an engaging environment filled with hope and educational opportunities.

Sincerely,

Rich Eisenberg

Richard Eisenberg
Executive Director

Jennie Hagerty

Jennie Hagerty
Fundraising Coordinator

*Thank you for all your support of BMC.
Please visit anytime to see the great progress.*

The Atlantic

And Now for Something Saner and More Positive: Fresno, Erie

James Fallows

October 12, 2016



James Fallows

Part of the old manufacturing corridor in Erie, Pennsylvania. Manufacturing is still underway in many of these buildings, and the city is in the middle of considering a sweeping plan for economic and civic revitalization.

Not to over-personalize, but I feel as if my life in the past few weeks recapitulates the argument my wife Deb and I have been making in our [American Futures](#) travels.

When I've been embroiled in national politics—which matter!— through [magazine articles](#), or the [Trump Time Capsules](#) or [Trump Nation](#) series, I completely feel the embroiled-ness, and the embattlement, that this campaign has brought to the nation as a whole.

But then Deb and I get to go back to reporting on the aspects of current American life *other* than the national political struggle, and find that even now they remain surprisingly positive. (“Positive” in the same sense I argued in [my cover story back](#) in March: The country has big problems, but in much of the country, most of the time, people feel as if they are moving forward rather than backward in dealing with them.)

Two examples: Last week at this time, I was in Fresno, California, talking with representatives of the [California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley](#) about the ways their collaborative efforts matched patterns we'd seen elsewhere in the country, from [Maine](#) to [Mississippi](#). I also had a chance to see how far and fast work has progressed on re-doing Fresno's historic Fulton Street Mall, whose saga over the years you can read about starting [here](#) and [here](#). The one sad note in Fresno is that Peeve's Pub, whose founder [Craig Scharton](#) has been a central figure in Fresno's re-imagining of itself, and whose [ups and downs](#) I've tried to chronicle, is in a down phase and has closed its doors. It is missed.

This afternoon I will be in Erie, Pennsylvania—which I mean to compliment by thinking of it as a Fresno of the east—for the “Metro 100” conference on the city's future, co-hosted by Erie's [Jefferson Educational Society](#) and the [Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority](#) (which I've covered in [a previous post](#)). That conference is followed by [an evening public session](#) from the Jefferson on actually implementing Erie's new civic-revival plan. If you're in the area, come on by!

As a “Do not despair!” note to myself during the extremity of this presidential campaign; as a thought-organizer before this afternoon's conference in Erie; and as a little glimpse for readers of the *richness* of what Deb and I have been finding around the country, here is a sample of the things we would already have written if the campaign weren't destroying my brain, and that we will get to once it's over.

From Erie and its environs:

- the history of this Jefferson Society, which plays a very unusual role that could set an example for other cities with similar challenges;
- the structural cruelty of the funding system for the Erie public schools, which should be a shame to the state of Pennsylvania and is a cautionary example for other parts of the country;
- the role of a tech collaborative called [Radius CoWork](#), and what it has done to make open new entrepreneurial possibilities in a city shifting out of its heavy-manufacturing, GE-dominated era;
- how the local [Behrend campus](#) of Penn State has worked with advanced-manufacturing plants in the region to connect local workers with higher-wage skilled jobs;
- how a particular [high-value local manufacturer](#) has grown and thrived;
- why the company that is now the city's largest private employer, [Erie Insurance](#), has stayed in the area and redeveloped a significant chunk of downtown;
- how [a publication](#) that started as a local alt-weekly has developed;
- and some other things.

There's a similar list of upcoming stories from western Kansas, including the surprising effects of the "[Why not Dodge?](#)" campaign in Dodge City, and the growth of local distilleries and breweries there. And more from Alabama, Texas, and beyond.

I tell myself, with 27 days to go until the election, Don't despair! Better things are happening than what dominates the news—and has dominated my own recent output. I tell readers too: Don't despair! Will provide more evidence for that assertion soon.

Meanwhile, see you tonight in Erie.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



[James Fallows](#) is a national correspondent for *The Atlantic* and has written for the magazine since the late 1970s. He has reported extensively from outside the United States and once worked as President Carter's chief speechwriter. His latest book is *China Airborne*.

...



**Cumulative Investments Report
2009-2016**



Recipient	Category	Date	Amount	Subtotals
Erie County Area Fair Inc.	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$9,291.00	
	Community Assets	11/10/2011	\$11,748.00	
	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$9,882.00	
	Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$6,726.00	
	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$11,303.00	
	Community Assets	9/26/2013	\$9,362.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$4,424.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$10,687.00	
	Community Assets	9/10/2015	\$12,120.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$13,500.00	
	Community Assets	9/8/2016	\$8,160.00	\$107,203.00
All About Character Inc.	Human Services	7/21/2014	\$10,000.00	
	Shaping Tomorrow	11/12/2015	\$75,000.00	\$85,000.00
ANNA Shelter	UChoose	12/13/2012	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Asbury Woods Partnership Inc.	Community Assets	11/10/2011	\$11,136.00	
	Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$9,996.00	
	Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$6,354.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$4,742.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$2,340.00	
	Community Assets	9/8/2016	\$8,352.00	\$42,920.00
Bayfront East Side Taskforce	Human Services	7/2/2013	\$9,592.00	\$9,592.00
Bayfront Maritime Center	Community Assets	11/10/2011	\$10,019.00	
	Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$8,877.00	
	Community Assets	9/26/2013	\$9,840.00	
	Community Assets	9/10/2015	\$11,880.00	\$40,616.00
Bayfront NATO / MLK Center	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$1,750.00	
	Community Assets	9/10/2015	\$11,880.00	\$13,630.00
Ben Franklin Technology Partners CNP	Small Business Financing	5/9/2011	\$350,000.00	
	Small Business Financing	1/17/2012	\$350,000.00	
	Small Business Financing	12/13/2012	\$500,000.00	
	Small Business Financing	8/24/2016	\$500,000.00	\$1,700,000.00
Benedictine Sisters of Erie	Human Services	3/24/2014	\$21,829.00	\$21,829.00
Bethany Outreach Center	Human Services	3/6/2012	\$3,500.00	
	Human Services	4/7/2016	\$14,000.00	\$17,500.00
Blended Spirits Ranch	UChoose	12/13/2012	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Boro Women's Services	Human Services	7/2/2013	\$675.00	\$675.00
Borough of Wesleyville	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$599.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$587.00	
	Mission Main Street	6/11/2015	\$15,000.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$448.00	\$16,634.00
Bosnian Islamic Community of Erie	Human Services	3/24/2014	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Box of Light Studios	Human Services	12/17/2015	\$15,750.00	\$15,750.00
Boy Scouts of America - French Creek Council	Human Services	10/6/2011	\$3,282.50	
	UChoose	1/12/2012	\$5,000.00	
	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$358.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$650.00	
	Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$9,750.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$2,960.00	\$22,000.50
Bradley H. Foulk Children's Advocacy Center of Erie County	Human Services	10/16/2015	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Bridgeway Capital	Small Business Financing	3/27/2015	\$100,000.00	
	Small Business Financing	1/6/2016	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,100,000.00
Café	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$17,095.00	
	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$17,500.00	
	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$15,687.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$15,750.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$16,625.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$15,750.00	\$98,407.00
Children's Miracle Network	Human Services	7/15/2016	\$10,937.00	\$10,937.00
Commodore Perry Chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart	Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Common Ground Youth Center, Inc.	Community Assets	9/8/2016	\$9,120.00	\$9,120.00
Community Health Net	Human Services	7/2/2013	\$19,000.00	\$19,000.00
Community of Caring	Human Services	3/24/2013	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Community Shelter Services	Human Services	10/6/2011	\$10,455.52	\$10,455.52
Corry Area Historical Society	Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$1,294.00	\$1,294.00
Corry Industrial Benefit Association	Pilot Programs & Special Projects	4/24/2014	\$20,000.00	
	Pilot Programs & Special Projects	9/19/2014	\$50,000.00	\$70,000.00
Corry Salvation Army	Human Services	1/15/2012	\$11,309.07	\$11,309.07

County of Erie			
Settlement 2008-2009	Local Government Development	1/5/2011	\$335,779.96
Interest 2008-2009	Local Government Development	2/3/2011	\$6,172.88
Settlement 2010	Local Government Development	4/1/2011	\$168,204.11
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	4/21/2011	\$10,819.62
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	8/4/2011	\$17,498.33
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	11/10/2011	\$24,844.08
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	2/14/2012	\$114,571.11
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	5/24/2012	\$11,171.65
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	8/17/2012	\$13,880.70
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	11/20/2012	\$21,847.20
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	2/6/2013	\$113,151.04
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	5/14/2013	\$8,768.92
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	8/6/2013	\$10,300.32
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	11/6/2013	\$19,290.66
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	2/4/2014	\$117,203.14
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	5/8/2014	\$7,753.20
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	8/13/2014	\$8,679.78
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	11/13/2014	\$16,063.47
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	2/10/2015	\$119,644.05
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	5/13/2015	\$7,285.70
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	8/5/2015	\$8,485.57
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	11/4/2015	\$14,898.11
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	2/9/2016	\$120,744.53
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2016	Local Government Development	5/3/2016	\$7,452.61
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2016	Local Government Development	8/5/2016	\$8,269.79
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2016	Local Government Development		
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter	Local Government Development		\$1,312,780.53
Crime Victim Center of Erie County	Human Services	6/28/2012	\$9,590.00
Dr. Gertrude A. Barber Foundation	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$13,389.00
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$14,116.00
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$13,172.00
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$12,137.00
			\$52,814.00
Dafmark Dance Theater	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$900.00
Dan Rice Days (Girard Borough)	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$290.00
	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$320.00
	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$360.00
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$306.00
			\$1,276.00
Downtown Edinboro Art & Music Festival	Community Assets	11/10/2011	\$11,658.00
	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$1,975.00
	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$2,084.00
	Community Assets	9/26/2013	\$7,920.00
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$2,246.00
	Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$8,512.00
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$2,303.00
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$1,845.00
	Community Assets	9/8/2016	\$8,736.00
			\$47,279.00
Downtown North East Inc.	Mission Main Street	6/27/2013	\$15,000.00
	Mission Main Street	6/26/2014	\$15,000.00
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$8,950.00
	Mission Main Street	6/11/2015	\$15,000.00
			\$53,950.00
Eagle's Nest	Pilot Programs & Special Projects	1/27/2016	\$25,000.00
Early Connections	Human Services	6/10/2011	\$9,826.50
	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$718.00
	Human Services	12/5/2014	\$5,208.00
			\$15,752.50
East Erie Suburban Recreation & Conservation Authority	Human Services	9/26/2012	\$7,500.00
	Multi-Municipal Collaboration	2/28/2013	\$16,612.00
	Multi-Municipal Collaboration	11/22/2013	(\$1,562.00)
			\$22,550.00
Edinboro Area Historical Society	Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$1,294.00
	Community Assets	9/26/2013	\$640.00
	Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$1,679.00
			\$3,613.00
Edinboro Highland Games	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$2,068.00
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$2,493.00
	Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$6,300.00
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$2,755.00
	Community Assets	9/10/2015	\$8,320.00
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$2,520.00
	Community Assets	9/8/2016	\$8,928.00
			\$33,384.00
Edinboro University Foundation	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$4,455.00
	Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$9,900.00
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$2,375.00
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$2,250.00
			\$18,980.00
EmergencyCare	One-Time	1/5/2011	\$30,000.00
Emma's Footprints	Human Services	4/7/2016	\$5,000.00
			\$5,000.00

Empower Erie	Shaping Tomorrow	10/12/2016	\$400,000.00	\$400,000.00
Enterprise Development Fund	Small Business Financing	10/12/2011	\$875,000.00	
	Small Business Financing	7/26/2012	\$500,000.00	
	Small Business Financing	8/22/2013	\$1,000,000.00	\$2,375,000.00
Erie Area Council of Governments	Multi-Municipal Collaboration	2/28/2013	\$151,800.00	
	Multi-Municipal Collaboration	2/12/2015	\$88,000.00	
	Multi-Municipal Collaboration	6/15/2016	\$37,500.00	\$277,300.00
Erie Art Museum	Lead Assets	7/14/2011	\$173,343.00	
	Lead Assets	5/23/2013	\$86,672.00	
	Lead Assets	7/24/2014	\$43,335.83	
	Lead Assets	12/22/2014	\$86,672.00	
	Lead Assets	4/20/2016	\$86,672.00	\$476,694.83
Erie Arts Fest (Erie Summer Festival of the Arts)	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$4,058.00	
	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$3,553.00	\$7,611.00
Erie Arts & Culture	Lead Assets	7/14/2011	\$127,354.00	
	Lead Assets	5/23/2013	\$63,677.00	
	Lead Assets	7/24/2014	\$31,838.55	
	Lead Assets	12/22/2014	\$63,677.00	
	Lead Assets	4/20/2016	\$63,677.00	\$350,223.55
Erie City Mission	UChoose	1/12/2012	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Erie Contemporary Ballet Theatre (formerly Erie Dance Conservatory Company)	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$135.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$860.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$3,572.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$5,153.00	\$9,720.00
Erie County CASA	Human Services	6/28/2012	\$8,522.00	\$8,522.00
Erie County Fair at Wattsburg	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$13,067.00	
	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$12,362.00	
	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$14,961.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$10,257.00	
	Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$3,415.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$13,157.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$13,881.00	\$81,100.00
Erie County Lead Assets Endowment	Lead Assets Endowment	2/23/2012	\$5,434,032.91	
	Lead Assets Endowment	12/13/2012	\$1,168,004.80	
	Lead Assets Endowment	9/30/2013	\$565,393.00	
	Lead Assets Endowment	9/17/2014	\$1,373,646.00	
	Lead Assets Endowment	7/9/2015	\$1,659,714.47	
	Lead Assets Endowment	5/18/2016	\$1,000,000.00	\$11,200,791.18
Erie County Redevelopment Authority	Multi-Municipal Collaboration	2/12/2015	\$25,600.00	\$25,600.00
Erie County Vietnam Veterans Memorial	Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$6,000.00	
	Community Assets	9/26/2013	\$10,800.00	
	Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$3,198.00	\$19,998.00
Erie DAWN	Human Services	7/2/2013	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Erie Downtown Partnership	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$2,500.00	
	Community Assets	11/10/2011	\$10,396.00	
	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$2,500.00	
	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$2,250.00	
	Mission Main Street	6/27/2013	\$12,500.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$2,250.00	
	Mission Main Street	6/26/2014	\$15,000.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$2,232.00	
	Mission Main Street	6/11/2015	\$15,000.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$1,647.00	\$66,275.00
Erie Homes for Children & Adults (EHCA)	Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$3,236.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$2,480.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$3,139.00	
	Community Assets	9/10/2015	\$12,720.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$1,800.00	\$23,375.00
Erie Opera Theatre	Community Assets	11/10/2011	\$10,458.00	
	Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$8,379.00	\$18,837.00
Erie Philharmonic	Lead Assets	7/14/2011	\$161,710.00	
	Lead Assets	5/23/2013	\$80,855.00	
	Lead Assets	7/24/2014	\$40,427.59	
	Lead Assets	12/22/2014	\$80,855.00	
	Lead Assets	4/20/2016	\$80,855.00	\$444,702.59
Erie Playhouse	Lead Assets	7/14/2011	\$163,329.00	
	Lead Assets	5/23/2013	\$81,665.00	
	Lead Assets	7/24/2014	\$40,832.21	
	Lead Assets	12/22/2014	\$81,664.00	
	Lead Assets	4/20/2016	\$81,664.00	\$449,154.21
Erie Police Athletic League (PAL)	Community Assets	9/8/2016	\$9,173.00	\$9,173.00
Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partnership	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$1,517.00	
	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$10,096.00	

		Special Events	3/28/2013	\$1,874.00	
		Special Events	4/1/2014	\$2,250.00	
		Special Events	4/1/2015	\$2,375.00	
		Special Events	4/1/2016	\$2,475.00	\$20,587.00
Erie Salvation Army		Human Services	7/26/2012	\$3,850.00	\$3,850.00
Erie-Western PA Port Authority		Special Events	8/11/2011	\$11,800.00	
		Special Events	3/22/2012	\$7,312.00	
		Special Events	3/28/2013	\$6,985.00	
		Special Events	4/1/2014	\$6,290.00	
		Special Events	4/1/2015	\$6,762.00	
		Special Events	4/1/2016	\$4,443.00	\$43,592.00
Erie Yesterday		Special Events	8/11/2011	\$1,000.00	
		Community Assets	9/26/2013	\$2,240.00	
		Mission Main Street	6/11/2015	\$15,000.00	
		Community Assets	9/10/2015	\$10,700.00	\$28,940.00
Erie Zoological Society		Lead Assets	7/14/2011	\$369,859.00	
		Lead Assets	5/23/2013	\$184,930.00	
		Lead Assets	7/24/2014	\$92,464.76	
		Lead Assets	12/22/2014	\$184,930.00	
		Lead Assets	4/20/2016	\$184,930.00	\$1,017,113.76
Erie's Public Schools	Tech After Hours	Shaping Tomorrow	11/12/2015	\$200,000.00	
		Human Services	7/15/2016	\$15,000.00	
	Community Schools	Shaping Tomorrow	10/12/2016	\$150,000.00	\$365,000.00
expERIENCE Children's Museum		Lead Assets	7/14/2011	\$56,149.00	
		Lead Assets	5/23/2013	\$28,075.00	
		Lead Assets	7/24/2014	\$14,037.26	
		Lead Assets	12/22/2014	\$28,075.00	
		Lead Assets	4/20/2016	\$28,075.00	\$154,411.26
Fairview Area Historical Society		Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$1,061.00	
		Community Assets	9/26/2013	\$800.00	\$1,861.00
Fairview Presbyterian Church		Human Services	6/10/2011	\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00
Fairview School Foundation		The School District Challenge	12/10/2015	\$8,350.00	
		Pilot Programs & Special Projects	6/13/2016	\$39,150.00	\$47,500.00
Fairview Township		Multi-Municipal Collaboration	2/28/2013	\$65,000.00	
		Multi-Municipal Collaboration	4/28/2014	(\$65,000.00)	\$0.00
Flagship Niagara League		Lead Assets	7/14/2011	\$67,066.00	
		Lead Assets	5/23/2013	\$33,533.00	
		Lead Assets	7/24/2014	\$16,766.40	
		Lead Assets	12/22/2014	\$33,533.00	
		Lead Assets	4/20/2016	\$33,533.00	\$184,431.40
Fort LeBoeuf Historical Society		Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$2,769.00	
		Special Events	4/1/2014	\$900.00	
		Mission Main Street	6/26/2014	\$3,180.00	
		Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$9,600.00	
		Mission Main Street	6/11/2015	\$15,000.00	\$31,449.00
Fort LeBoeuf School District Foundation		The School District Challenge	12/10/2015	\$10,655.00	\$10,655.00
Friends of the Tom Ridge Environmental Center		Special Events	4/1/2015	\$712.00	\$712.00
Gannon University		Special Events	4/1/2014	\$1,350.00	
	Go College	Shaping Tomorrow	11/12/2015	\$125,000.00	\$126,350.00
Gannon University: Erie Chamber Orchestra		Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$10,206.00	
		Community Assets	9/26/2013	\$12,240.00	
		Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$11,550.00	
		Community Assets	9/8/2016	\$8,352.00	\$42,348.00
Gannon University: SBDC		Small Business Financing	12/15/2010	\$175,000.00	
		Small Business Financing	12/31/2013	\$87,500.00	\$262,500.00
Gannon University: East-West Bayfront Plan		Shaping Tomorrow	10/12/2016	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
Gannondale		Human Services	6/10/2011	\$10,790.00	\$10,790.00
Gaudenzia Erie		Special Events	4/1/2016	\$2,802.00	
		Human Services	4/7/2016	\$19,000.00	\$21,802.00
General McLane Foundation		The School District Challenge	5/9/2016	\$10,960.00	\$10,960.00
Girard Township		Multi-Municipal Collaboration	6/13/2016	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
Girard School District Foundation		The School District Challenge	12/10/2015	\$8,675.00	\$8,675.00
Goodell Gardens & Homestead		Community Assets	9/26/2013	\$10,800.00	
		Community Assets	9/10/2015	\$3,533.00	
		Special Events	4/1/2016	\$524.00	\$14,857.00
Greater Calvary Full Gospel Baptist Church		Special Events	4/1/2014	\$1,481.00	\$1,481.00
Greater Erie Area Habitat for Humanity		Human Services	12/31/2012	\$12,600.00	\$12,600.00
Greater Erie Community Action Committee		Special Events	4/1/2015	\$2,375.00	
		Summer Jobs	8/5/2016	\$150,000.00	\$152,375.00
Greater Erie Youth Symphony Orchestra		UChoose	12/13/2012	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Greene Township					
Settlement 2008-2009		Local Government Development	1/5/2011	\$335,779.96	
Interest 2008-2009		Local Government Development	2/3/2011	\$6,172.88	
Settlement 2010		Local Government Development	4/1/2011	\$168,204.11	

Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	4/21/2011	\$10,819.62	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	8/4/2011	\$17,498.33	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	11/10/2011	\$24,844.08	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	2/14/2012	\$114,571.11	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	5/24/2012	\$11,171.65	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	8/17/2012	\$13,880.70	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	11/20/2012	\$21,847.20	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	2/6/2013	\$113,151.04	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	5/14/2013	\$8,768.92	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	8/6/2013	\$10,300.32	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	11/6/2013	\$19,290.66	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	2/4/2014	\$117,203.14	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	5/8/2014	\$7,753.20	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	8/13/2014	\$8,679.78	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	11/13/2014	\$16,063.47	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	2/10/2015	\$119,644.05	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	5/13/2015	\$7,285.70	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	8/5/2015	\$8,485.57	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	11/4/2015	\$14,898.11	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	2/9/2016	\$120,744.53	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2016	Local Government Development	5/3/2016	\$7,452.61	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2016	Local Government Development	8/5/2016	\$8,269.79	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2016	Local Government Development			
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2016	Local Government Development			\$1,312,780.53
Hamot Health Foundation	Human Services	7/6/2015	\$20,000.00	
	Human Services	10/17/2016	\$15,000.00	\$35,000.00
Harbor Creek Little League	Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$10,950.00	\$10,950.00
Harborcreek Historical Society	Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$2,174.00	
	Community Assets	9/26/2013	\$1,024.00	\$3,198.00
Harborcreek Township	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$743.00	
	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$1,000.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$1,440.00	
	Multi-Municipal Collaboration	2/12/2015	\$23,200.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$1,634.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$1,828.00	\$29,845.00
Harborcreek Youth Services	Human Services	10/16/2015	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Highmark Caring Place	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00
Historical Society of Erie County, The	Lead Assets	7/14/2011	\$74,683.00	
	Lead Assets	5/23/2013	\$37,342.00	
	Lead Assets	7/24/2014	\$18,670.69	
	Lead Assets	12/22/2014	\$37,341.00	
	Lead Assets	4/20/2016	\$37,341.00	\$205,377.69
Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$2,500.00	
	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$2,500.00	
	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$2,250.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$4,860.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$5,462.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$5,760.00	\$23,332.00
Housing And Neighborhood Development Service (HANDS)	Human Services	3/26/2012	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Humane Society of NWPA	Community Assets	9/8/2016	\$2,432.00	\$2,432.00
Impact Corry	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$274.00	
(formerly Corry Community Development Corp)	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$2,363.00	
	Mission Main Street	6/27/2013	\$6,500.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$2,068.00	
	Mission Main Street	6/26/2014	\$9,850.00	
	Mission Main Street	6/11/2015	\$15,000.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$1,249.00	\$37,304.00
Inter Church Ministries	Human Services	5/30/2012	\$3,950.00	\$3,950.00
Iroquois School District Foundation	The School District Challenge	12/10/2015	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
JC Martin Golf Course	Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$9,798.00	\$9,798.00
JFK Center	Human Services	12/31/2012	\$14,819.00	
	Human Services	10/17/2016	\$8,977.00	\$23,796.00
Jefferson Educational Society	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$5,000.00	
	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$39,250.00	
	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$49,500.00	
	Community Assets	9/26/2013	\$4,092.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$13,950.00	
	Multi-Municipal Collaboration	2/12/2015	\$100,000.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$17,551.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$13,844.00	
	Multi-Municipal Collaboration	6/15/2016	\$100,000.00	\$343,187.00
Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier (LEAF)	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$1,125.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$1,755.00	
	Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$6,200.00	

	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$1,582.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$1,644.00	\$12,306.00
Lake Erie Ballet	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$2,645.00	
	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$2,813.00	
	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$2,724.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$2,700.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$3,420.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$5,549.00	\$19,851.00
Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine	Human Services	8/5/2016	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Lake Erie Fanfare Inc.	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$2,050.00	
	Community Assets	11/10/2011	\$12,516.00	
	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$2,568.00	
	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$2,350.00	
	Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$12,696.00	
	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$2,421.00	
	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$2,148.00	
	Community Assets	9/26/2013	\$12,600.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$2,214.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$2,205.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$2,265.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$2,232.00	
	Community Assets	9/10/2015	\$12,960.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$4,073.00	
	Community Assets	9/8/2016	\$8,640.00	\$83,938.00
Lake Erie Region Conservancy (LERC)	Community Assets	11/10/2011	\$11,400.00	\$11,400.00
Lake Shore Railway Historical Society	Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00
Lawrence Park Historical Society	Community Assets	9/8/2016	\$7,280.00	\$7,280.00
Lawrence Park Township	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$730.00	
	Mission Main Street	6/27/2013	\$7,754.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$801.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$897.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$675.00	\$10,857.00
LeBoeuf Little League	Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$10,950.00	
	Community Assets	9/8/2016	\$8,928.00	\$19,878.00
LifeWorks Erie	Human Services	7/26/2012	\$6,600.00	\$6,600.00
Living in Fulfilled Excellence	Community Assets	9/8/2016	\$5,248.00	\$5,248.00
Maria House Project	Human Services	6/10/2011	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
McDowell Band Aides	Community Assets	9/8/2016	\$4,560.00	\$4,560.00
McKean Borough	Mission Main Street	6/26/2014	\$12,500.00	
	Mission Main Street	6/11/2015	\$15,000.00	\$27,500.00
McKean Community Development Group	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$450.00	\$450.00
McKean Township				
Settlement 2008-2009	Local Government Development	1/5/2011	\$335,779.96	
Interest 2008-2009	Local Government Development	2/3/2011	\$6,172.88	
Settlement 2010	Local Government Development	4/1/2011	\$168,204.11	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	4/21/2011	\$10,819.62	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	8/4/2011	\$17,498.33	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	11/10/2011	\$24,844.08	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	2/14/2012	\$114,571.11	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	5/24/2012	\$11,171.65	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	8/17/2012	\$13,880.70	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	11/20/2012	\$21,847.20	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	2/6/2013	\$113,151.04	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	5/14/2013	\$8,768.92	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	8/6/2013	\$10,300.32	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	11/6/2013	\$19,290.66	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	2/4/2014	\$117,203.14	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	5/8/2014	\$7,753.20	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	8/13/2014	\$8,679.78	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	11/13/2014	\$16,063.47	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	2/10/2015	\$119,644.05	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	5/13/2015	\$7,285.70	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	8/5/2015	\$8,485.57	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	11/4/2015	\$14,898.11	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	2/9/2016	\$120,744.53	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2016	Local Government Development	5/3/2016	\$7,452.61	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2016	Local Government Development	8/5/2016	\$8,269.79	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2016	Local Government Development			
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2016	Local Government Development			\$1,312,780.53
McLane Little League Association	Community Assets	9/10/2015	\$7,760.00	
	Community Assets	9/8/2016	\$3,511.00	\$11,271.00
Mead Park Association	Community Assets	9/26/2013	\$12,120.00	
	Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$11,850.00	\$23,970.00
Meals on Wheels	Human Services	10/6/2011	\$9,061.41	\$9,061.41

Medical Associates of Erie	Human Services	10/17/2016	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Mercy Center for Women	Human Services	3/26/2012	\$8,500.00	
	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$2,325.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$2,663.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$2,345.00	\$15,833.00
Mercyhurst Institute for Arts & Culture	Lead Assets	7/14/2011	\$100,129.00	
	Lead Assets	5/23/2013	\$50,065.00	
	Lead Assets	7/24/2014	\$25,032.30	
	Lead Assets	12/22/2014	\$50,065.00	
	Lead Assets	4/20/2016	\$50,065.00	\$275,356.30
Mercyhurst University: Downtown Erie Innovation District	Shaping Tomorrow	10/12/2016	\$400,000.00	\$400,000.00
Millcreek Education Foundation	The School District Challenge	9/15/2016	\$17,933.00	\$17,933.00
Millcreek Township				
Police Officer	Local Government Development	4/2/2009	\$55,052.00	
Police Officer	Local Government Development	10/22/2009	\$62,595.00	
BVFD Replacement Breathing	Local Government Development	10/22/2009	\$135,000.00	
BVFD Replacement Ladder Truck	Local Government Development	10/22/2009	\$400,000.00	
Settlement 2008-2009	Local Government Development	1/5/2011	\$335,779.96	
Interest 2008-2009	Local Government Development	2/3/2011	\$6,172.88	
Settlement 2010	Local Government Development	4/1/2011	\$168,204.11	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	4/21/2011	\$10,819.62	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	8/4/2011	\$17,498.33	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	11/10/2011	\$24,844.08	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	2/14/2012	\$114,571.11	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	5/24/2012	\$11,171.65	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	8/17/2012	\$13,880.70	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	11/20/2012	\$21,847.20	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	2/6/2013	\$113,151.04	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	5/14/2013	\$8,768.92	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	8/6/2013	\$10,300.32	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	11/6/2013	\$19,290.66	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	2/4/2014	\$117,203.14	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	5/8/2014	\$7,753.20	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	8/13/2014	\$8,679.78	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	11/13/2014	\$16,063.47	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	2/10/2015	\$119,644.05	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	5/13/2015	\$7,285.70	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	8/5/2015	\$8,485.57	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	11/4/2015	\$14,898.11	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	2/9/2016	\$120,744.53	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2016	Local Government Development	5/3/2016	\$7,452.61	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2016	Local Government Development	8/5/2016	\$8,269.79	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2016	Local Government Development			
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2016	Local Government Development			\$1,965,427.53
Miller Worldwide Ministries	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$372.00	\$372.00
Mothers Against Teen Violence	Human Services	7/21/2014	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
Multicultural Community Resource Center	Community Assets	9/10/2015	\$8,800.00	\$8,800.00
Multi-Cultural Health Evaluation Delivery System (MHEDS)	Human Services	9/26/2012	\$6,100.00	\$6,100.00
My Father's House of Erie	Human Services	6/10/2011	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
The Nonprofit Partnership	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$1,000.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$2,814.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$2,606.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$2,557.00	\$8,977.00
North East Community Fair Association	Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$1,451.00	
	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$585.00	
	Community Assets	9/26/2013	\$1,841.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$585.00	
	Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$1,173.00	\$5,635.00
North East Historical Society	Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$3,479.00	
	Community Assets	9/26/2013	\$3,200.00	\$6,679.00
North East Little League	Community Assets	9/8/2016	\$5,100.00	\$5,100.00
Northwest Pennsylvania Area Health Education Center	Human Services	7/6/2015	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Nurturing Hearts	UChoose	12/13/2012	\$5,000.00	
	Human Services	10/24/2013	\$15,000.00	\$20,000.00
Opportunities Unlimited	Human Services	7/21/2014	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Orphan Angels Cat Sanctuary	UChoose	12/13/2012	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Penn State, The Behrend College	Ignite Erie	5/13/2015	\$750,000.00	
	Ignite Erie	3/31/2016	\$25,000.00	\$775,000.00
Pennsylvania Sea Grant	Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$12,300.00	\$12,300.00
Performing Artists Collective Alliance (PACA)	Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$8,487.00	\$8,487.00
Platea Borough	Multi-Municipal Collaboration	2/28/2013	\$20,000.00	
	Multi-Municipal Collaboration	9/1/2014	(\$10,234.99)	
	Multi-Municipal Collaboration	2/12/2015	\$6,187.00	\$15,952.01
Preservation Erie	Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$867.00	

	Multi-Municipal Collaboration	2/28/2013	\$25,000.00	
	Community Assets	9/26/2013	\$9,387.00	\$35,254.00
Presque Isle Partnership	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$6,141.00	
	Community Assets	11/10/2011	\$10,284.00	
	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$17,289.00	
	Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$11,502.00	
	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$7,830.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$31,932.00	
	Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$11,550.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$11,400.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$5,069.00	
	Community Assets	9/8/2016	\$8,448.00	\$121,445.00
Primary Health Network - Sarah Reed Children's Center	Shaping Tomorrow	11/12/2015	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
Progress Fund, The	Small Business Financing	8/29/2016	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,000,000.00
Purple Martin Conservation Association	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$800.00	\$800.00
Roar on the Shore Inc.	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$20,467.00	\$20,467.00
Robbins Blass Neighborhood Watch	Community Assets	9/8/2016	\$3,160.00	\$3,160.00
Russian Orthodox Church of the Nativity	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$1,837.00	
	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$1,778.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$1,800.00	\$5,415.00
SafeNet	Human Services	5/13/2013	\$15,000.00	
	Human Services	3/24/2014	\$10,000.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$4,500.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$4,750.00	
	Community Assets	9/10/2015	\$10,640.00	
	Human Services	10/16/2015	\$10,000.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$5,400.00	\$60,290.00
Saint Boniface Players	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$752.00	
	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$1,355.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$981.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$937.00	\$4,025.00
Saint Joseph Church	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$1,790.00	
	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$1,431.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$6,840.00	\$10,061.00
Saint Luke School	UChoose	1/12/2012	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Saint Patrick Church	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$2,000.00	
	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$2,000.00	
	Human Services	12/31/2012	\$5,789.00	
	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$2,124.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$2,250.00	
	Human Services	10/16/2015	\$10,000.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$3,672.00	\$27,835.00
Saint Paul Roman Catholic Church	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$3,500.00	
	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$3,032.00	\$6,532.00
Sarah Reed Children's Center	Human Services	12/5/2014	\$5,000.00	
	Human Services	12/17/2015	\$10,000.00	\$15,000.00
Sarah Reed Senior Living	Human Services	10/17/2016	\$7,313.00	\$7,313.00
The Sight Center of Northwest Pennsylvania	Human Services	7/2/2013	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network	Human Services	6/10/2011	\$10,000.00	
	Community Assets	11/10/2011	\$6,310.00	
	Human Services	5/13/2013	\$15,000.00	
	Mission Main Street	6/27/2013	\$7,200.00	
	Community Assets	9/26/2013	\$11,400.00	
	Human Services	3/24/2014	\$7,500.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$3,600.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$3,515.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$2,520.00	
	Human Services	10/17/2016	\$8,719.00	\$75,764.00
SNOOPS Neighborhood Association	Human Services	12/31/2012	\$5,000.00	
	Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$10,640.00	
	Mission Main Street	6/11/2015	\$15,000.00	
	Human Services	10/16/2015	\$2,000.00	\$32,640.00
Stairways Behavioral Health - Center City Arts	Community Assets	11/10/2011	\$11,052.00	
	Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$12,006.00	
	Community Assets	9/26/2013	\$11,280.00	\$34,338.00
StARTup Incubator, Inc.	Community Assets	9/26/2013	\$10,320.00	
	Community Assets	10/31/2014	(\$347.61)	\$9,972.39
Summit Township				
Ladder Truck Funds	Local Government Development	4/2/2009	\$306,800.00	
Route 97 Water System Improvements	Local Government Development	4/2/2009	\$2,644,073.00	
Pump Station Improve/Force Main Extension	Local Government Development	4/2/2009	\$52,442.00	
Phase II Route 97 Interceptor Upgrade	Local Government Development	4/2/2009	\$510,000.00	
Settlement 2008-2009	Local Government Development	1/5/2011	\$1,373,645.31	
Interest 2008-2009	Local Government Development	2/3/2011	\$25,252.69	

Settlement 2010	Local Government Development	4/1/2011	\$688,107.73	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	4/21/2011	\$44,262.07	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	8/4/2011	\$71,584.09	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	11/10/2011	\$101,634.88	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	2/14/2012	\$468,699.99	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	5/24/2012	\$45,702.22	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	8/17/2012	\$56,784.69	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	11/20/2012	\$89,374.92	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	2/6/2013	\$462,890.63	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	5/14/2013	\$35,872.84	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	8/6/2013	\$42,137.67	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	11/6/2013	\$78,916.34	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	2/4/2014	\$479,467.38	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	5/8/2014	\$31,717.65	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	8/13/2014	\$35,508.18	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	11/13/2014	\$65,714.18	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	2/10/2015	\$489,452.92	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	5/13/2015	\$29,805.15	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	8/5/2015	\$34,713.70	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	11/4/2015	\$60,946.81	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	2/9/2016	\$493,954.90	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2016	Local Government Development	5/3/2016	\$30,487.93	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2016	Local Government Development	8/5/2016	\$33,830.96	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2016	Local Government Development			
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2016	Local Government Development			\$8,883,780.83
Sunshine Group of Erie	Human Services	3/26/2012	\$1,636.36	
	Human Services	7/8/2013	(\$273.15)	\$1,363.21
Tickets for Kids Charities	Human Services	5/30/2012	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Twilight Wish Foundation	Human Services	7/2/2013	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Union City Community House Association	Mission Main Street	6/27/2013	\$15,000.00	
	Mission Main Street	6/26/2014	\$15,000.00	
	Mission Main Street	6/11/2015	\$11,500.00	\$41,500.00
Union City Family Support Center	Human Services	6/15/2011	\$4,275.00	
	Human Services	5/30/2012	\$5,000.00	\$9,275.00
Union City Pride Inc.	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$750.00	
	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$726.00	
	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$900.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$900.00	\$3,276.00
United Way of Erie County	Human Services	6/28/2012	\$6,000.00	
	Human Services	3/24/2014	(\$6,000.00)	
	Pilot Programs & Special Projects	6/3/2016	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
The Upper Room	Human Services	12/5/2014	\$18,500.00	\$18,500.00
Urban Erie Community Development Corporation	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$229.00	
	Human Services	7/21/2014	\$7,500.00	
	Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$3,184.00	
	Ignite Erie	3/27/2015	\$50,000.00	
	Human Services	12/17/2015	\$20,804.00	
	Community Assets	9/8/2016	\$8,648.00	\$90,365.00
Venango Training & Development Center, Inc.	Summer Jobs	5/22/2014	\$110,000.00	
	Summer Jobs	8/6/2015	\$118,250.00	\$228,250.00
Veterans Miracle Center of Erie	Community Assets	9/8/2016	\$8,448.00	\$8,448.00
Voices for Independence	Human Services	11/8/2012	\$13,813.00	\$13,813.00
WQLN	Community Assets	11/10/2011	\$10,452.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$4,275.00	
	Community Assets	9/10/2015	\$11,400.00	\$26,127.00
Washington Township	Multi-Municipal Collaboration	2/28/2013	\$41,000.00	\$41,000.00
Waterford Borough	Mission Main Street	6/27/2013	\$15,000.00	
	Mission Main Street	6/26/2014	\$7,000.00	\$22,000.00
Waterford Community Fair Association	Special Events	8/11/2011	\$3,050.00	
	Community Assets	11/10/2011	\$12,258.00	
	Special Events	3/22/2012	\$3,000.00	
	Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$9,798.00	
	Special Events	3/28/2013	\$3,150.00	
	Community Assets	9/26/2013	\$7,040.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2014	\$3,600.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$4,275.00	
	Community Assets	9/10/2015	\$12,360.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$4,675.00	
	Community Assets	9/8/2016	\$8,352.00	\$71,558.00
Waterford Township				
Settlement 2008-2009	Local Government Development	1/5/2011	\$335,779.96	
Interest 2008-2009	Local Government Development	2/3/2011	\$6,172.88	
Settlement 2010	Local Government Development	4/1/2011	\$168,204.11	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	4/21/2011	\$10,819.62	

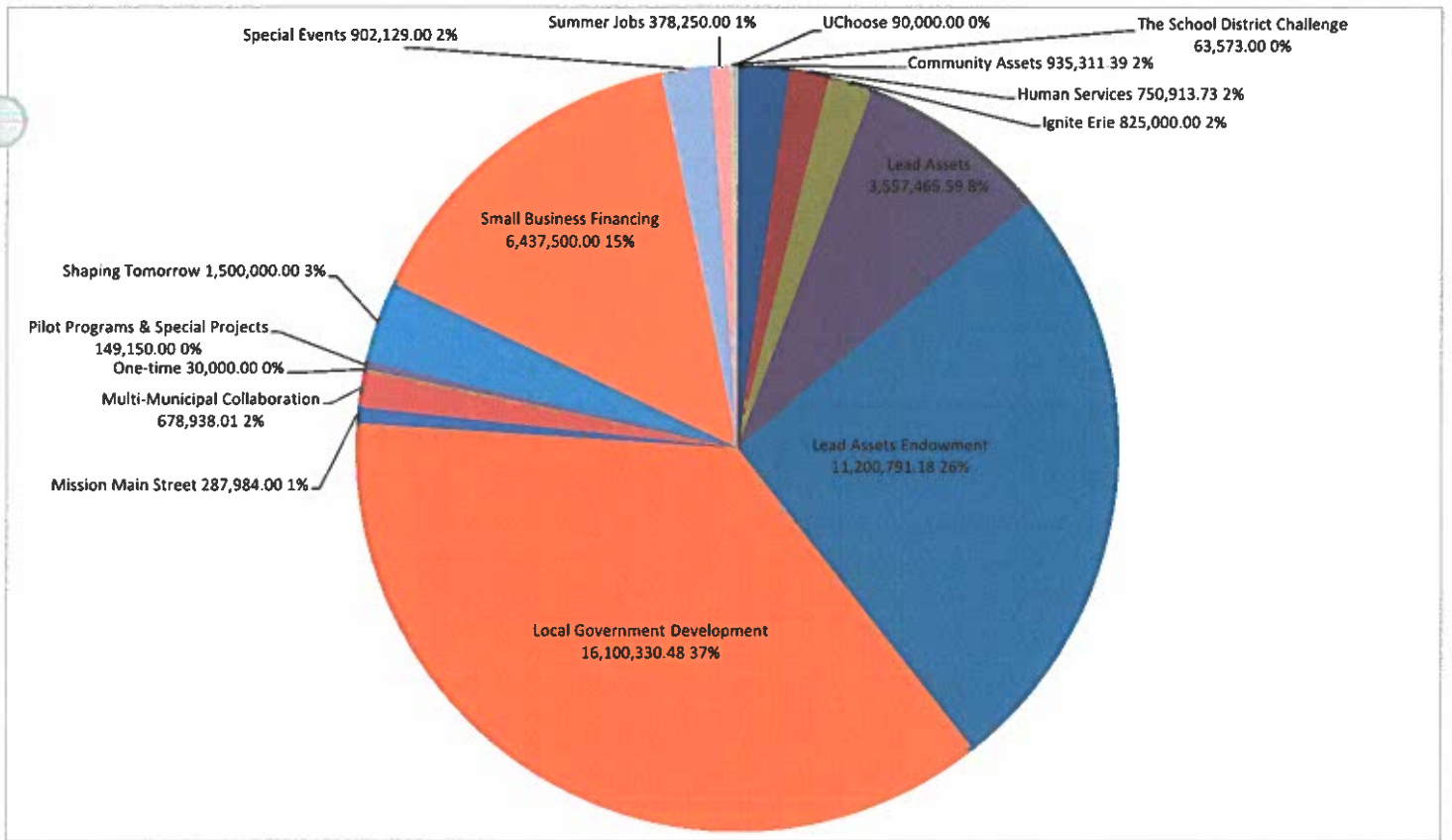
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	8/4/2011	\$17,498.33	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	11/10/2011	\$24,844.08	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2011	Local Government Development	2/14/2012	\$114,571.11	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	5/24/2012	\$11,171.65	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	8/17/2012	\$13,880.70	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	11/20/2012	\$21,847.20	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2012	Local Government Development	2/6/2013	\$113,151.04	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	5/14/2013	\$8,768.92	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	8/6/2013	\$10,300.32	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	11/6/2013	\$19,290.66	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2013	Local Government Development	2/4/2014	\$117,203.14	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	5/8/2014	\$7,753.20	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	8/13/2014	\$8,679.78	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	11/13/2014	\$16,063.47	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2014	Local Government Development	2/10/2015	\$119,644.05	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	5/13/2015	\$7,285.70	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	8/5/2015	\$8,485.57	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	11/4/2015	\$14,898.11	
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2015	Local Government Development	2/9/2016	\$120,744.53	
Quarterly Settlement 1st Quarter 2016	Local Government Development	5/3/2016	\$7,452.61	
Quarterly Settlement 2nd Quarter 2016	Local Government Development	8/5/2016	\$8,269.79	
Quarterly Settlement 3rd Quarter 2016	Local Government Development			
Quarterly Settlement 4th Quarter 2016	Local Government Development			\$1,312,780.53
Wattsburg Cemetery Association	Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$8,400.00	\$8,400.00
Wayne Township	Multi-Municipal Collaboration	2/28/2013	\$11,836.00	\$11,836.00
West Erie County Emergency Management Agency	Multi-Municipal Collaboration	2/28/2013	\$15,400.00	
	Multi-Municipal Collaboration	6/13/2016	\$21,100.00	\$36,500.00
Women's Care Center of Erie County, Inc.	Human Services	7/6/2015	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
YMCA of Erie	Human Services	11/8/2012	\$7,500.00	
	Human Services	12/3/2013	\$9,113.52	
	Human Services	7/6/2015	\$10,000.00	\$26,613.52
Young Artists Debut Orchestra	Community Assets	9/25/2014	\$9,900.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2015	\$1,235.00	
	Community Assets	9/10/2015	\$11,880.00	
	Special Events	4/1/2016	\$1,816.00	
	Community Assets	9/8/2016	\$8,064.00	\$32,895.00
Young People's Chorus of Erie	Community Assets	11/10/2011	\$11,478.00	
	Community Assets	9/27/2012	\$7,580.00	
	UChoose	12/13/2012	\$10,000.00	
	Community Assets	9/26/2013	\$7,832.00	
	Community Assets	9/10/2015	\$7,092.00	\$43,982.00

673 grants & loans / 195 nonprofits & municipalities
Last Updated November 3, 2016

Total Investment
in Erie County

\$43,887,336.38 **\$43,887,336.38**

Total (2009-2016)	2009	2011	2012	2013
\$43,887,336.38	\$4,165,962.00	\$8,178,477.60	\$9,930,329.11	\$4,481,335.10
	2014	2015	2016	
	\$4,423,739.93	\$5,433,235.20	\$7,274,257.44	





RESOLUTION NUMBER 21, 2016

Resolution to approve an agreement with Parker Philips, Inc., to conduct an economic impact study of ECGRA's grantmaking and impact investing

Whereas, ECGRA's mission is to administer an innovative funding stream to local nonprofits, municipalities, and economic development projects that positively impacts small business, youth and education, neighborhoods and local communities, municipalities, and quality of place in Erie County; and

Whereas, quantifying impact through closeout reports, compliance, numbers, and compelling stories is currently ECGRA's system for verifying impact on Erie County's economy and communities; and

Whereas, an economic impact study, conducted by a third-party entity, would use the gold standard of economic modeling to demonstrate the quantifiable impact of ECGRA's strategic grantmaking and impact investments;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority, pursuant to the Economic Development Financial Law and the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority Bylaws, hereby resolves to approve the attached agreement with Parker Philips, Inc., for an economic impact study, in the form as attached hereto, and in an amount not to exceed \$49,500.

One the motion of _____, seconded by

_____.

This resolution was passed on the 10th day of November, 2016 by a vote of

_____ - _____.

ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

Chairman, Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
November 10, 2016

ATTEST:

Secretary, ECGRA



PP

Proposal of Services

Economic Impact and Analysis Services for Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority

November 3, 2016

Mr. Perry Wood
Executive Director
Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
5340 Fryling Road, Suite 201
Erie, PA 16510

Dear Mr. Wood,

Parker Philips, Inc., in partnership with Palo Alto Partners, is pleased to provide a proposal of economic impact services to the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (ECGRA). Our well-established experience conducting economic impact studies, economic development expertise combined with our deep understanding of effective public affairs and strategic communications is a perfect match for ECGRA's needs. The team assembled to complete this project has a combined 75 years of experience throughout the United States.

The economic study will show how ECGRA's strategic grantmaking activities to organizations and other funders in the Erie County region has increased economic growth and been vital to the success of new and old companies. We want to tell a story through numbers and narrative of how ECGRA sets itself apart from other gaming authorities, and how its strategic decisions and priorities have been valuable in allowing organizations/ companies to leverage funding to effectively generate jobs, economic impact and local/state government revenue.

Due to the tight deadline on this project, the project team will need to work closely with ECGRA to collect appropriate financial and expenditure data for use in the economic analysis and to develop effective communications materials to support your goals and objectives as it pertains to legislative action. We are prepared to get started on this project immediately and deliver a defensible study that exceeds expectations.

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SITUATION ANALYSIS

Since 2008, ECGRA has administered an innovative funding stream to local nonprofits and municipalities that supports improvements to public spaces, creates jobs through small business, supports education and training, and celebrates local identity. These investments of more than \$40 million in gaming revenue in Erie County have become an integral part of Erie County's economic development funding stream, fueled new tax revenue through the innovative Ignite Erie program and creatively allocated gaming revenues through a model that one could argue should be replicated across Pennsylvania. Furthermore, Erie County and Summit Township have also come to depend on gaming to fuel projects, support operational funding and pay down debt service.

The potential termination of this funding stream is a result of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's ruling that the current local share gaming clause in the State's Gaming Legislation is unconstitutional. The State Legislature is now on a steep deadline to redraft and adopt new language —if the matter is not resolved then funding to and subsequently from ECGRA will vanish precipitously.

Mr. Wood's recent Erie Times News Op-Ed describes one possible legislative solution, which has already passed The House of Representatives and is the move in Harrisburg. If enacted, The House bill redefines local share in new forms of gaming revenue as funds to be used by the state's economic development bureaucracy, rather than given to ECGRA and Erie County government for local economic development. This bill would force ECGRA to compete with grant writers, legislative priorities and powerful lobbyists from all over the commonwealth to access tax revenue produced via Presque Isle Downs and Casino. Other possible scenarios include an extended stay by the Court and an unlikely lame duck legislative fix.

After investing \$40 million into the regional economy, setting the current crisis aside, the time has come to assess ECGRA's impact and assert its value to the community it continues to

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serve. Building a narrative that draws comparisons to other gaming authorities across Pennsylvania and placing a spotlight on ECGRA's unique and innovative approach to its mission, i.e. Ignite Erie adds value to ECGRA's work and sets it apart as a leader in the state. For example, Northampton County Gaming Revenue and Economic Development Authority awarded \$188,107 in its most recent round of funding—almost exclusively to fund police and fire equipment. This is a local decision, but when you compare it to the reach and continued influence ECGRA money has in the Erie region, it pales in comparison. We will highlight ECGRA's strategic decision-making to inspire innovation in the region.

The economic impact study will accomplish four things for ECGRA:

- 1) Provide a cumulative and annual impact for all funding provided to ECGRA on the County and State level. We will work with ECGRA to determine the best clusters of activity to breakout, e.g., arts and culture, contribution to innovation, health and human services, government, safety, small business development, debt service payments by the County of Erie, the Erie County Library.
- 2) Utilizing the economic analysis and interviews with grant recipients that rely heavily upon ECGRA and County gaming funds, the study will show through the economic analysis as well as vignettes detailing the impact of funding cuts to constituencies.
- 3) Provide a clear statement and defense about why funding generated from tax revenue at Presque Isle Downs and Casino must remain in the County and not be part of a statewide pool of funds. Where possible, we will draw upon best practices in other markets and socioeconomic data of the Erie market to show how funds are a vital part of Erie's continued resurgence and transformation.

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Proposal of Services

Economic Impact and Analysis Services for Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority

- 4) Make recommendations to ECGRA about how and what to request from grantees to build a solid database of operating, jobs supported/created, and impact of the funding streams.
- 5) Provide breakouts of impact on three geographic levels: Summit Township, Erie County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

SCOPE OF WORK

ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

This analysis will seek to show how money distributed to the grantees makes an impact on the economic vitality and overall health and well being of the community. We will look at Erie County and Pennsylvania geographies as an impact; seek to show numbers of people impacted, jobs created, and state and local taxes generated as a result of the support. Further, this impact includes by the funding of funders, and how these initial investments have been a catalyst of growth for the region.

Breaking out the impact into specific clusters will also show the broad reach of gaming dollars and ECGRA's impact. We will clearly demonstrate how ECGRA's contribution and strategic decisions to fund certain organizations in fields such a innovation, arts and culture, health and human services, government, safety, and other areas as defined through the process, have had an impact.

We will work with ECGRA to:

- Define the key areas/strategic priorities that gaming dollars support (cumulatively and previous fiscal). For example, Ignite Erie, support of the Erie County Library, Erie

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Proposal of Services

Economic Impact and Analysis Services for Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority

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County debt service payments, and other key areas and priorities as defined by ECGRA and summarized into one comprehensive report.

- Gather data about the segment which will include: names of organizations, amounts granted by ECGRA, years of dollars granted, organizational profiles (total operating budget, total number of employees, total payroll including pay and benefits, funding leveraged as a result of ECGRA grant), and selection of key organizations/companies to profile in the narrative.
- Calculate impacts by ECGRA's strategic priorities/key areas and by industry segment to show how this original funding stream of grantmaking activity has spurred growth in the region.
- Highlight the funds and impact that ECGRA has leveraged through its small business investments in funds managed by Bridgeway Capital, the Progress Fund, and the Enterprise Development Fund.
- The analysis will be conducted on three geographic levels: Summit Township, Erie County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and summarized in one report.

Data captured will seek to complete a cumulative impact (ECGRA, Erie County, Summit Twp.) as well as the most recent grantmaking period/fiscal year. Data needed to complete the analysis includes: capital expenditures, operating expenditures, pay and benefits for staff, headcount data, and money donated by organization/type of organization. We will work extremely hard to make the data collection process as simple as possible for ECGRA, but certain data points will be required to accurately complete an analysis.

The data will also be collected at specific geographic levels in order to deliver a county and statewide analysis. The team understands that data may not be collected in this manner at ECGRA; therefore it will be extremely important to have a data collection team quickly assembled. If the data for all entities included in the study is centralized, the process will be much easier, but if not then it is vital to report financial data in the same manner for all entities. The analysis will look at "in" and "out" of area spending to provide a true picture of

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how money to grantee organizations and their expenditures, expands employment and is leveraged to generate an even greater impact. The analysis will look at how critical these grant funds are into each defined type of grantee activity. This will showcase the key areas that are a strategic focus of ECGRA's grantmaking activity.

To complete the analysis, we will utilize IMPLAN (IMpact Analysis for PLANing), an econometric modeling system developed by applied economists at the University of Minnesota and the U.S. Forest Service. The IMPLAN modeling system has been in use since 1979 and is widely considered to be the gold standard for completing economic analysis. IMPLAN combines the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis' Input-Output Benchmarks with other data to construct quantitative models of trade flow relationships between businesses and between businesses and final consumers. The IMPLAN input-output accounts capture all monetary market transactions for consumption in a given time period. The IMPLAN input-output accounts are based on industry survey data collected by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and follow a balanced account format recommended by the United Nations.

IMPLAN's Regional Economic Accounts and the Social Accounting Matrices are used to construct state-level multipliers, which describe the response of the state economy to a change in demand or production as a result of the activities and expenditures. Each industry that produces goods or services generates demand for other goods and services; and this demand is multiplied through a particular economy until it dissipates through "leakage" to economies outside the specified area. IMPLAN models discern and calculate leakage from local, regional, and state economic areas based on workforce configuration, the inputs required by specific types of businesses, and the availability of both inputs in the economic area. Consequently, economic impacts that accrue to other regions or states as a consequence of a change in demand are not counted as impacts within the economic area.

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We will report and detail: the total jobs supported (direct effect, indirect effect, and induced effect), total economic impact (direct, indirect, and induced) and state and local taxes generated (direct, indirect, and induced). Simply summarized, direct effect is what ECGRA invests in the regional and statewide economy, indirect effect is the impact of suppliers, and induced effect is the household spending that occurs in the economy as a result of employees and the employees of your suppliers (e.g., mortgages, rent, groceries). We will also make clear that beyond sheer economics, how vital this funding is in supporting Erie's development. ECGRA's grantmaking activity has many ripples through the local economy and this study will seek to articulate how one rock hitting the pond ripples out to many sectors and funders.

It is important to note that while many firms can complete an economic impact analysis utilizing IMPLAN, the skill of the user is vital in insuring that the software is used properly and that the findings are defensible. Our lead analyst, Nichole Parker, is widely regarded as an expert in IMPLAN and has delivered more than 400 economic impact studies using this tool. IMPLAN is a valuable tool but understanding the financials and expected outputs of an organization on the scale of ECGRA is our team's job and role.

We will deliver the highest quality analysis, report narrative and economic impact marketing collateral, including digital infographics that suit the needs of ECGRA. We will work collaboratively with the ECGRA team to get familiarized with its system and understand what must be included in the study for it to be successful.

There are two parts to an economic impact study: 1) the economic analysis, and 2) the narrative that describes ECGRA and its unique role in the region. With an enterprise the size and complexity of ECGRA, we need to cull down information and get to a narrative that resonates with ECGRA's key constituencies. *We want to help you tell your story.* Parker Philips recommends doing between 7-10 interviews with key stakeholders at ECGRA and its grantee organizations to get an understanding of what elements must be included in the

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project narrative and roll-out of the study to the legislature. To accomplish this, we will design a discussion guide with open-ended questions and work collaboratively with ECGRA to identify an appropriate list of interviewees.

Finally, we will request reports and data about your grantees, community giving and events and all other community activity in the region for inclusion in the economic impact study. We want to show things such as numbers served, community members engaged, highlight the differences made in people's lives and describe how the funding of funders in the area has increased economic potential and growth.

We will develop a defense of the continued ECGRA funding and current mechanism for distribution. Through economic impact analysis and report, we will build the narrative and numbers to show why this funding is so vital to the region.

The final deliverables for the economic impact study will include:

- ✓ Comprehensive analysis by geography (Summit Township, Erie County and Pennsylvania) in one report,
- ✓ Specific breakouts of priority and strategic funding areas, e.g., Ignite Erie, Erie County Library, and other key segments as defined.
- ✓ Narrative report summarizing the impacts with a complete methodology and explanation of approach,
- ✓ Executive summary,
- ✓ Digital infographics,
- ✓ Final print brochure, and;
- ✓ Communications materials including Op-Ed, talking points and press release.

RETURN ON INVESTMENT OF FUNDING

We will need to show that this funding is leveraged when possible and what hangs in the balance for ECGRA and its grantees if this funding is cut. Whether the grant amount is small


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or large, often times the funding can make up a significant percentage of funding for an event or specific event. The analysis and report needs to show, if possible, the percentage of ECGRA dollars as a part of the organizational or program/event budget.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON DATA COLLECTION FROM GRANTEES

We will review best practices and current methods employed by ECGRA with regard to how they collect data and information from their grantees. This is particularly relevant to ECGRA's Lead Assets, arts and cultural institutions that provide quality of benefits for the Erie region. Evaluating models from the Pew Charitable Trust, PA Cultural Data, and others as identified, we will provide a recommended structure to enhance ECGRA's reporting and data collection and reporting strategy.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PRINT MATERIAL

A professional marketing and communications team can be the key to successfully communicating relevant information to community members, influencers and lawmakers as well as shining a spotlight on ECGRA's role in the greater community. Our expert team will provide content and recommendations for a communications strategy working collaboratively with ECGRA. The brochure content will include compelling infographics and leave the reader with a clear picture of the economic, employment, government revenue and investment impacts of ECGRA. We will provide specific examples of effective brochures and create a document, which embodies the communications strategy of ECGRA for the upcoming legislative session. Parker Philips will develop a compelling narrative based on its findings; carry narrative throughout copywriting and creative direction of all communications efforts to include:

- Talking Points,
- Press Release,

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- Op-ed by ECGRA designated official,
- Economic Impact Infographic and Brochure, and
- Social Media Graphics & Sample Communications.

Parker Philips will counsel ECGRA's leadership on potential strategies including presentations and public affairs efforts that would be an additional charge and could go under an extension of this agreement.

PROJECT TEAM

To complete this project, we have assembled a team of consultants from Parker Philips Inc. and Palo Alto Partners.



Parker Philips, Inc. is a women-owned boutique-consulting firm that puts our clients first. We pride ourselves on delivering high quality work that is not cookie-cutter and is unique to each client and their needs. We do not believe in the concept of

“Save As” and provide our clients with the highest quality work. Because we only accept a certain number of projects at a time, we do not over commit our staff or ourselves. We keep client data confidential and secure. The Principals are the project contacts and will deliver the project; you will not have to train a new employee on the job. It is our promise as a firm to make this project about your organization's needs and objectives — our clients are the priority. We are based in Erie, PA with employees working in Pennsylvania and Minnesota.



Established in 2009, Palo Alto Partners offers a wide range of consulting and financial planning services to businesses and not-for-profit organizations, including:

- Business Planning
- Community Planning



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- Financial Analysis & Modeling
- Market Research
- Real Estate Development

Whether you're looking to attract investors or government funding, analyze the cost structure of a potential project, identify products or services that could help you improve profitability, or buy, sell or develop real estate, our depth and breadth of experience can help you make the right decisions.

Tom Hardy, AICP established a consulting practice, Palo Alto Partners, in 2009 after more than a decade of various leadership positions within community development corporations including the South Side Local Development Company and Manchester Citizens Corporation. The consulting practice specializes in advising businesses and public sector organizations on financial and real estate matters.

Mr. Hardy has extensive experience in financial feasibility studies and economic analysis. With a background in both finance and urban planning, he is able synthesize economic analysis with an understanding of the real-world impacts on communities and neighborhoods. Mr. Hardy's work has received public recognition, including the receipt of a Commonwealth Design Award.

Mr. Hardy earned an MBA from Carnegie Mellon University and a Master's Degree in Urban Planning from the University of Pittsburgh. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Public Policy Studies from Duke University. Mr. Hardy holds the American Institute of Certified Planners' AICP designation and is pursuing certification from the Turnaround Management Association.

Mr. Hardy has worked both as a lead consultant and a subcontractor on projects primarily in Pennsylvania, but also in West Virginia, Texas, and Louisiana. Recently he worked as part of a team on projects in downtown Johnstown and Washington County. Mr. Hardy previously provided technical assistance to organizations working to re-build Gulf Coast communities in New Orleans and Galveston.

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Mr. Hardy serves on the Board of the Pittsburgh Economic and Industrial Development Corporation and The Midwife Center. He also serves on the advisory board of Pittsburgh Urban Initiatives, the Urban Redevelopment Authority's subsidiary that manages a New Markets Tax Credit Allocation.

Nichole Parker has been completing economic impact studies since 1999 utilizing a multitude of methodologies including REMI, linear cash flow, RIMS II, and IMPLAN. She is co-founder of Parker Philips and has over 25 years experience in the economic impact and consulting field.

Nichole is recognized as an expert in the field of economic impact having personally completed over 400 economic impact studies in the past 25 years. Some examples of economic impact studies completed for large academic health centers, health systems, or research collaboratives include: The University of Washington/UW Medicine (Washington), Association of Faculties of Medicine — AFMC (all Canadian Provinces), University of Connecticut/John Dempsey Hospital, University of Minnesota and owned health clinics and facilities, Indiana University/Indiana Health, Lancaster General Health System (Pennsylvania), Penn Medicine, University of Kansas Medical Center, Norton Healthcare (Kentucky), UAB (Birmingham, AL), University of Kentucky/Kentucky Cancer Consortium, University of Nebraska/University of Nebraska Medical Center, Paul L. Foster School of Medicine Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, University of Pittsburgh, and University of Arizona/University of Arizona Health Network/Banner Health.

Prior to founding Parker Philips, Parker was a Principal Project Director at Tripp Umbach for 15 years and established them as a national leader in economic impact studies for academic health centers, colleges and universities, corporations, major tourist events, and non-profit entities. She worked as an independent consultant for many years and completed economic impact and community benefits work for Joint Commission International (Trinidad & Tobago), MinSec (Pennsylvania), Heritage Health Foundation (Pittsburgh, PA), and the Knoxville Public Safety Collaborative (Knoxville, TN).

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Ms. Parker holds a Master's in Economic and Social Development from the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public & International Affairs. She also completed her undergraduate work at the University of Pittsburgh with a focus on Political Science, Anthropology and Latin American Studies.

Kate Philips is the co-founder of Parker Philips and has 25 years experience in the communications field. Kate is an accomplished and respected executive marketing and communications professional experienced in long term strategic planning, public affairs and an expertise in crisis communications. She is valuable resource on numerous Executive Management teams with proven ability to support and advance business goals through creative and effective communications planning.

Prior to her work in the private sector, Philips served as Pennsylvania Governor Edward. G Rendell's Press Secretary for nearly six years, before taking a leave of absence to serve as communications director for Pennsylvania Congressman Bob Brady's campaign for mayor of Philadelphia. Ms. Philips finished her tenure on the Governor's Executive staff as a Senior Advisor to the Governor overseeing the Southport seaport development project at the Port of Philadelphia, and working to advance the deepening of the Delaware River by successfully helping execute a Project Partnership Agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

As Chief Spokesperson for Governor Rendell's administration she developed messages for and defended five multi-billion dollar executive budgets. During her tenure, she directed communications for legislative achievements including: the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act of 2004; the \$2.8 billion economic stimulus legislation of 2004, Growing Greener II, which established a \$625 million fund to protect and preserve the Pennsylvania environment; the first increase in the Pennsylvania minimum wage in more

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than a decade; and the successful passage and implementation of "Cover all Kids," which extends healthcare coverage to all Pennsylvania children.

Philips served as Vice President of Marketing & Communications for MinSec, a \$20MM portfolio company of NewSpring Capital and Camden Partner private equity groups, providing Community Transition and Behavioral Health treatment. Previously she served as Managing Director of the Karma Agency, a Philadelphia based Marketing and Public Relations firm. Ms. Philips opened Ten 53 Newton, LLC a strategic marketing and communications firm in 2009, which has served a range of clients which include: The Philadelphia School District, Penn Medicine, Philadelphia Regional Port Authority, Pre-K for PA, Early Learning Pennsylvania, Benefits Data Trust, American Education Services, Gladwyne Montessori School, Mercyhurst Preparatory School, Delaware Valley Association for the Education of Young Children, Public Citizens for Children and Youth (PCCY), Gettysburg Festival, Erie Police Athletic League, Empower Erie, and Liberty Mortgage Corp.

Ms. Philips earned her Bachelor of Science at West Virginia University.

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TIMELINE

To complete a project of this scope, the work would need to begin immediately. The timeline below is aggressive and will require continuous communication between ECGRA and the project team. The timeline and deliverables of the project can be adjusted to meet project demands and meet the deadline of the legislative session. However, the data must be provided by ECGRA in a timely fashion for analysis. Following completion of the project, Parker Philips will be available to ECGRA help with communications, answering questions about the economic impact study and providing ECGRA support for success.

Proposed Timeline for ECGRA	
Week 1	Initial GoToMeeting, Data Collection Form Development and Finalization, Interview Guide Development and Finalization, and Identification of Interviewees
Week 2 and Week 3	Financial data Collection, Interviews with Key Stakeholders, Conference Call with ECGRA Communications Team, Economic Model Development
Week 4	Economic Impact Analysis and Report Writing
Week 5 and Week 6	Final Report and Brochure Writing and Review
Week 6	Final Presentation/Public Release
Week 7 and beyond	Ongoing Communications Support, as requested

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FEES

The project pricing structure is based upon key components and deliverables. Any travel costs incurred as a result of this project will be billed at actual and be approved by ECGRA prior to the trip to insure that we are compliant with policies and procedures. Parker Philips will be purchasing data from IMPLAN to complete this analysis, that cost is included within the project price. No printing fees for brochures are included within this pricing matrix. Embedded within the pricing matrix is the assumption of a \$180 hourly rate, which is our discounted rate for non-profit organizations.

Pricing Matrix	
Project Management	\$2,500
Economic Impact Analysis, ROI Calculation, IMPLAN Data Acquisition (three geographies), Interviews	\$27,500
Narrative Report and PowerPoint Development	\$10,000
Brochure and Communications Materials	\$9,500
Total	\$49,500

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