



2012/13

Annual Report

Mission

A grantmaking organization, the mission of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority is to empower the nonprofit sector toward economic and community development.

Since February 2008, ECGRA has invested more than \$24 million in Erie County thanks to the innovative leadership of members of the Board of Directors, advisors, staff, and the support of Erie County Council.



Executive Director's Message

This year's annual report demonstrates ECGRA's ongoing support of regional assets, local governments, economic development, and human services. With a fiscal year investment of \$4.8 million and cumulative investments of more than \$24 million since 2008, ECGRA has impacted 115 nonprofits and municipalities through 238 grants. We're seeing meaningful and lasting change from Albion to North East, and from Presque Isle to Corry, as you'll read in the following pages.

We've also made a few improvements of our own.

We're using technology to protect our environment and stay as lean and efficient as possible through the implementation of paperless board meetings, an online grant-writing system, and customized stakeholder relationship management software.

We're using our website, an e-newsletter, social and traditional media, and reports like this one to stay in touch with our stakeholders and keep the community informed of the investments we make. We've also involved many community members as advisors.

We're spending grant money creatively. We've fostered and invested in municipal collaboration and grew endowments that will serve Erie County's culture, heritage, and recreation organizations in perpetuity.

At five years young, ECGRA has chiseled out an innovative way of doing business as a municipal authority. This year's report showcases how that approach is effective in touching lives countywide, empowering fledgling and veteran organizations, and moving Erie forward.

Thanks to many of you for your support this year. Special thanks to our grantees for making this work so rewarding.

All my best,



Perry N. Wood

Executive Director
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Financials

ASSETS	
Checking Account	17,893.58
Savings Account	11,466,253.79
Accounts Receivable	500,000.00
Prepaid Expenses	7,226.66
TOTAL ASSETS	11,991,374.03

LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	8,649.65
Grants Payable	154,932.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	163,581.65

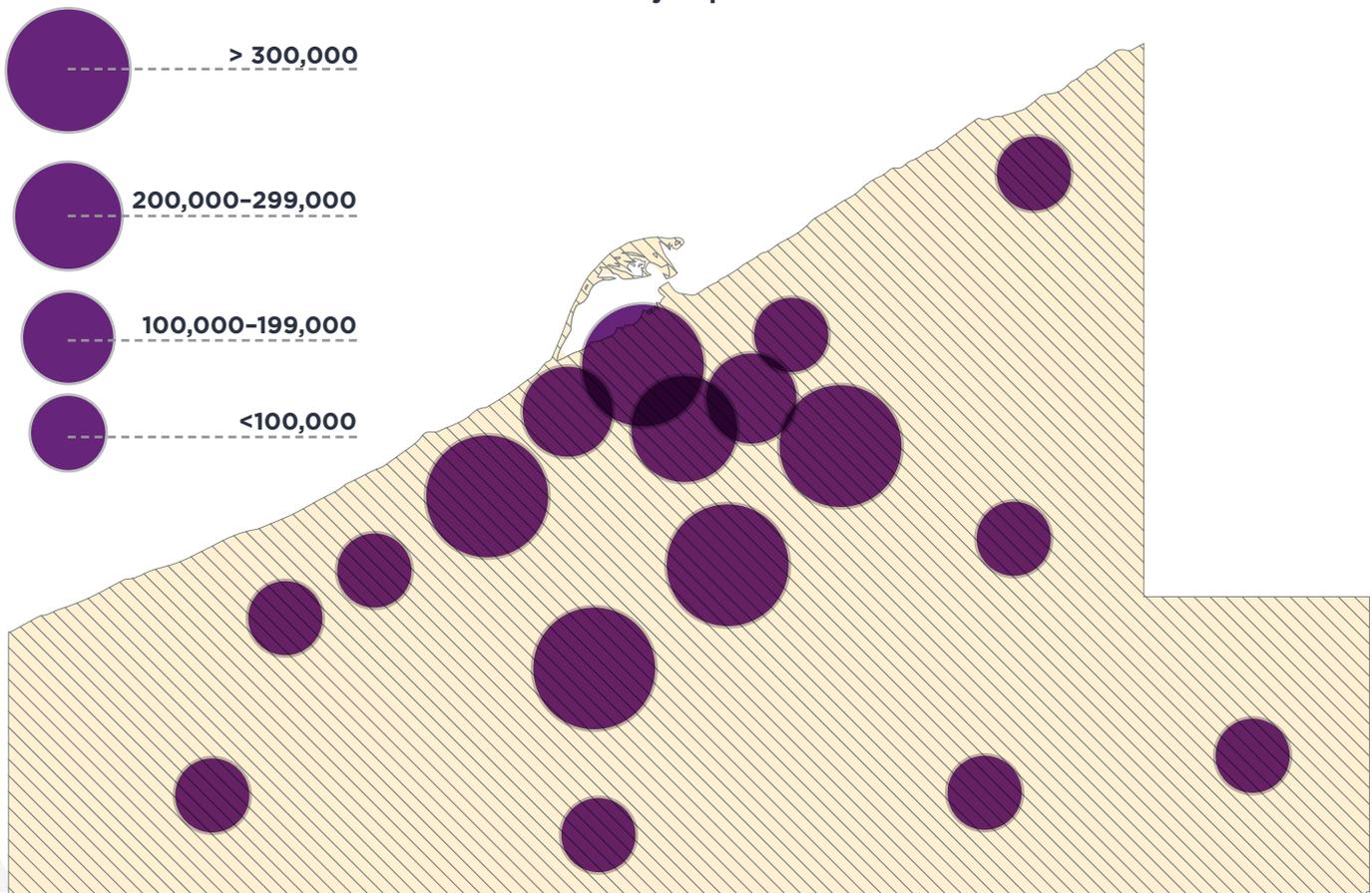
EQUITY	
Beginning Balance	11,115,351.73
Net Income	712,440.65
Grants Issued	4,875,413.99
Municipal Allocations	(1,455,005.41)
Economic Development	(587,500.00)
Social Services	(155,094.36)
Lead Assets	(646,810.00)
Erie County Lead Assets Endowment	(1,170,439.74)
Community Assets	(149,759.00)
Special Events	(149,637.48)
Special Events 2013 Payable	(154,932.00)
UChoose	(60,000.00)
Multi-municipal Collaboration	(346,236.00)
TOTAL EQUITY	11,827,792.38
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	11,991,374.03

Grants by Initiative

- UCHOOSE
- SPECIAL EVENTS
- COMMUNITY ASSETS
- SPECIAL EVENTS 2013 PAYABLE
- SOCIAL SERVICES
- MULTI-MUNICIPAL COLLABORATION
- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- LEAD ASSETS
- ERIE COUNTY LEAD ASSETS ENDOWMENT
- MUNICIPAL ALLOCATIONS



Grants by Impact Area



Economic Development

\$1,087,500

ECGRA continues to satisfy a need in the small-business community by making catalytic investments in economic development organizations. During 2012, economic development grants and loans funded by ECGRA totaled \$1,087,500 helping small businesses in collaboration with three key economic development agencies: Ben Franklin Technology Partners of Central and Northern PA, the Enterprise Development Fund of Erie County, and the Gannon University Small Business Development Center (Gannon SBDC).

The Start, Grow, and Prosper Initiative



The Start, Grow, and Prosper Initiative is a cooperative effort between ECGRA, the Gannon SBDC, and the Enterprise Development Fund. The fund makes loans available to nonprofits, small businesses, and startups. The Gannon SBDC promotes the availability of those loans, focusing on minority- and women-owned startups, rural and urban poverty areas, cottage industries, and nonprofits countywide. The SBDC also provides no-cost mentoring and personal small-business coaching to prepare applicants for fund loans. See *Gannon SBDC Metrics on adjacent page*.

In 2012, \$2 million in investments enabled 26 businesses across the county to create or retain 339 jobs. Since ECGRA's initial \$875,000 contribution to the fund in late 2010, the fund's total assets have grown to more than \$6 million—a 235% increase—and leveraged nearly \$12 million in private investment. The fund's rapid expansion is projected to allow for \$2.9 million in investments or loans in 2013.

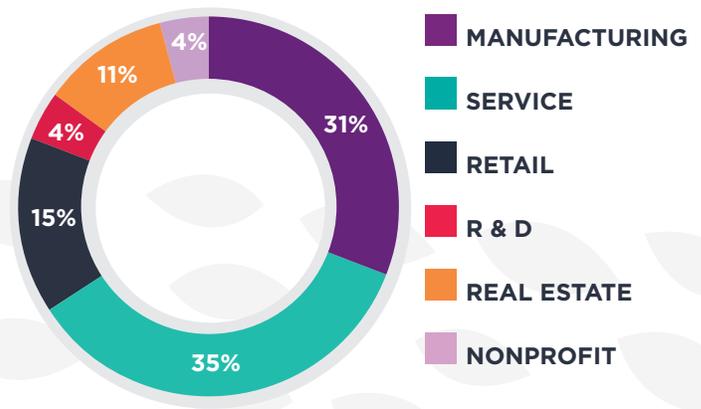
FUND LOAN SIZE

Through the Start, Grow, and Prosper Initiative, ECGRA funding was used to introduce the region's first Microloan Program, which assisted eight companies in the last two years.

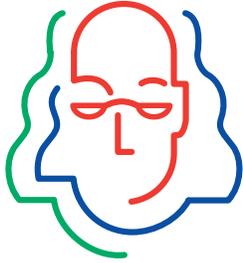


LOAN DIVERSIFICATION

Investments through loans were made across every business sector.



Erie Innovation Fund



A visionary partnership between ECGRA and Ben Franklin, the Erie Innovation Fund (EIF) provides much-needed capital and professional services to small technology startups. This year the EIF supported eight local businesses with \$800,000, which was matched dollar-for-dollar by Ben Franklin.

@Home FMS, LLC, was one of those businesses. @Home FMS securely streamlines billing paperwork for Medicaid-approved homecare services for elderly patients. The company is owned by local innovator James Fetzner and is an offshoot of Comfort Care and Resources, Inc., a nursing home alternative. Fetzner received \$152,450 from the EIF. Ben Franklin matched ECGRA's investment 1:1.

GANNON SBDC START, GROW, AND PROSPER INITIATIVE METRICS

GEOGRAPHIC TARGETS	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Erie	24	24	26	18
North East	5	5	2	3
Corry	1		2	2
West County	11	9	12	7
Waterford	1		1	2
Harborcreek	3	1	1	1
Edinboro	2	1	1	
McKean	2	3	2	
Union City	1			
Wattsburg	1			
Albion			1	1

QUALITATIVE TARGETS	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Women	27	21	21	16
Minorities	5	4	3	1
Nonprofits	10	6	7	8
Rural	13	19	12	11
Urban	9	13	11	11



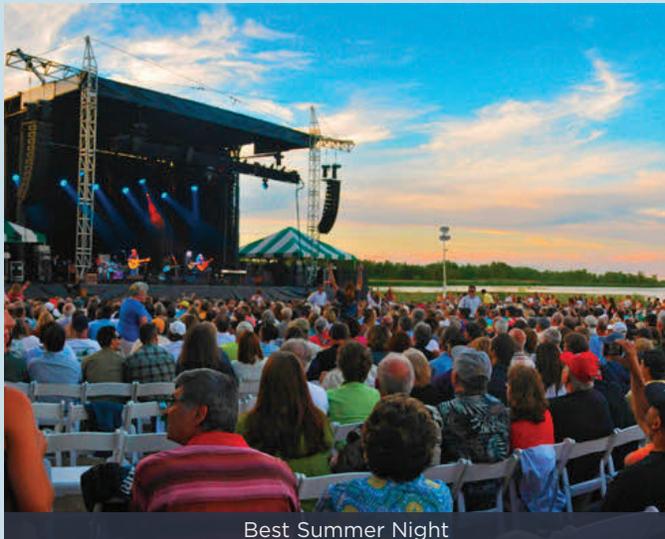
Jim and Kim Wright of Wright's Carpets, 14425 Main St., Wattsburg, received the Economic Development Corporation of Erie County 2012 Excellence Award for the creation of substantial job opportunities through capital investment. The Wrights used an Enterprise Development Fund microloan to install an addition that allowed them to begin serving commercial customers. They prepared for that loan with ECGRA-supported Gannon SBDC business training and are continuing to work with the SBDC to get the most out of the opportunity.

Special Events

\$156,923

Special Events Grants—ECGRA’s contribution to the many exciting concerts, fairs, and festivals that serve as a source of civic pride in our community—provided \$156,923 in funding to 27 organizations that held 46 events during 2012, including Presque Isle Partnership’s Best Summer Night.

Best Summer Night was a rare beachfront concert featuring folk-rock legends Crosby, Stills, and Nash. The group performed on Presque Isle State Park’s Beach 11, not only entertaining thousands of spectators, but also giving Presque Isle Partnership the opportunity to raise funds it will dedicate to improving the condition of the park. In addition to building a new pavilion and adding additional picnic tables, proceeds from Best Summer Night will be used for the restoration and re-lighting of Presque Isle’s Perry Monument—a timely and appropriate achievement during this, the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Lake Erie.



Best Summer Night



Eight Great Tuesdays

EVENTS

- 5th Annual Beer on the Bay
- 9th Annual Symposium & Parents’ Night Out
- 12th Annual All-School Musical Production
- 16th Annual German Heritage Festival
- 29th Annual Drum Corps International Competition
- 54th Annual Nutcracker
- Albion Area Fair
- Best Summer Night, Discover Presque Isle, and Sunset Music Series
- CelebrateErie
- CorryFest and WinterFest
- Dan Rice Days
- Downtown Edinboro Art & Music Festival
- Downtown Erie Block Parties, Bike Nights, and d’Lights
- Eight Great Tuesdays
- Embracing the Past while Celebrating the Present
- Erie County Fair
- Erie Irish Festival
- Erie Summer Festival of the Arts
- Governor’s Awards for the Arts in Pennsylvania
- Harborcreek Community Days
- Italian Festival
- Martin Luther King Holiday Celebration
- Oktoberfest
- Perry 200 Commemoration
- Russian Troika Festival
- UnNamed Music Festival at the Gathering at French Creek
- Waterford Community Fair
- Zabawa



Governor's Awards for the Arts in Pennsylvania



Waterford Community Fair

ORGANIZATIONS

GRANTS

Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership	\$1,875
Early Connections	\$1,275
Saint Boniface Parish	\$1,438
Lake Erie Fanfare, Inc. and DANK Chapter 71 of Erie	\$2,350
Lake Erie Fanfare, Inc.	\$2,595
Lake Erie Ballet	\$2,813
Albion Area Fair, Inc.	\$9,882
Presque Isle Partnership	\$17,289
Café	\$17,500
Corry Community Development Corporation	\$994
Girard Borough	\$320
Downtown Edinboro Art & Music Festival	\$1,975
Erie Downtown Partnership	\$2,500
Erie Western PA Port Authority	\$7,312
Urban Erie Community Development Corporation	\$950
Wattsburg Agricultural Society	\$12,362
Saint Patrick Church	\$2,000
Erie Summer Festival of the Arts	\$5,020
Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership in collaboration with the Erie Downtown Arts & Culture Coalition	\$8,750
Harborcreek Township	\$1,000
Saint Paul Roman Catholic Church	\$4,000
Bayfront NATO, Inc./Martin Luther King Center	\$1,750
Saint Joseph Church	\$1,762
Jefferson Educational Society	\$39,250
Russian Orthodox Church of the Nativity of Christ	\$1,900
Union City Pride	\$2,561
Waterford Community Fair Association	\$3,000
Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church	\$2,500

Local Governments

\$1,801,653

On October 30, 2012, the first-ever Multi-municipal Collaboration Grants (MMC Grants) were board-approved to catalyze functional cooperation among Erie County's municipalities, support modern governmental processes, and offer the highest quality services to residents.

Four months later, ECGRA invested a total of \$346,648 among 28 municipalities and seven authorities, nonprofits, and intergovernmental agencies.

The ground-breaking MMC Grants are being used in innovative ways by grantees to cooperate and coordinate with one another on projects, including technology implementation, structural and public safety improvements, and historic preservation.

The first of its kind, the MMC Grant program was called "Erie County's pioneering government cooperation fund" by Keystone Edge online magazine.

Two grantees are using their grant dollars to champion Erie's "zero waste" initiative.

Joint Municipal/Recycle Clean-up Day

Thanks to Platea Borough, seven partnering townships and boroughs, and a \$20,000 MMC Grant, western Erie County residents can take advantage of the "Once a Year" event to dispose of oversized or toxic trash items,

such as old refrigerators, dead batteries, and obsolete electronics.

Begun in 1999, the event brings elected officials, municipal employees, and residents together as volunteers with a common goal: Keep neighborhoods clean, safe, and free from debris while encouraging recycling. More than 5,375 households have contributed to date.

Millfair Compost and Recycling Center In-vessel Composter

With the help of a \$65,000 MMC Grant, Fairview and Millcreek townships plan to utilize a new, enclosed system to begin processing food scraps and grass at the Millfair Compost and Recycling Center.

It is estimated that more than one-third of organics in the region are sent to local landfills to decompose over an average 10-month period. The townships propose to shave eight months off this timeline, channeling organic waste away from the waste stream and helping the local economy.

The use of single-stream recycling and food waste collection offsets the unnecessary buildup of wasteful food products in the landfills while also promoting a more efficient and cost-effective method for businesses when it comes to waste removal. The new system also creates jobs for contracted haulers to collect and transport compostable waste from grocers and schools.

In addition to the Multi-municipal Collaboration Grants, pursuant to a 2010 agreement, ECGRA again contributed \$1,455,005.41 to six local governmental jurisdictions: Erie County, Greene Township, McKean Township, Millcreek Township, Summit Township, and Waterford Township. During 2012, each municipality received a quarterly allocation from ECGRA to be used for the continuing development of emergency services, health and public safety, human services, and infrastructure improvements.

PRIMARY APPLICANTS	COLLABORATING APPLICANTS	PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS	AWARDS
East Erie Suburban Recreation and Conservation Authority	Harborcreek Township, Lawrence Park Township, Wesleyville Borough	Replace 37-year-old roof and supporting superstructure of main building	\$16,612
Erie Area Council of Governments	City of Erie, County of Erie, Fairview Township, Franklin Township, Girard Borough, Harborcreek Township, Lawrence Park Township, Millcreek Township, North East Township, Summit Township, Wesleyville Borough	Provide instructor-led training in Microsoft SharePoint and current version of Office for municipal staff	\$13,000
Erie Area Council of Governments	City of Erie, County of Erie, Fairview Township, Franklin Township, Girard Borough, Harborcreek Township, Lawrence Park Township, Millcreek Township, North East Township, Summit Township, Wesleyville Borough	Create a central online source for residents to complete, submit, and pay for forms and permits	\$38,800
Erie Area Council of Governments	City of Erie, County of Erie, Fairview Township, Franklin Township, Girard Borough, Harborcreek Township, Lawrence Park Township, Millcreek Township, North East Township, Summit Township, Wesleyville Borough	Connect all municipalities, authorities, and school districts through interactive Internet and networks	\$100,000
Fairview Township	Millcreek Township	Millfair compost and recycling center in-vessel composter	\$65,000
Platea Borough	Cranesville Borough, Elk Creek Township, Franklin Township, Girard Borough, Girard Township, Springfield Township	Organize and implement joint municipal recycle/clean-up event	\$20,000
Preservation Erie	County of Erie, Erie Yesterday, Erie County Historical Society, Harborcreek Township, Lawrence Park Township, McKean Township, Millcreek Township, PA Historical & Museum Commission, Union City Borough	Preserve and inventory Erie historic sites	\$25,000
Washington Township	General McLane School District	Execute cooperative sewer extension and economic development strategy	\$41,000
Wayne Township	Amity Township, City of Corry, Concord Township, Elgin Borough, Venango Township	Standardize regional emergency operation center with professional personnel and equipment	\$11,836
West Erie County Emergency Management Agency	Albion Borough, Cranetsville Borough, Elk Creek Township, Franklin Township, Girard Township, McKean Borough, McKean Township, Platea Borough, Washington Township	Acquire emergency equipment and infrastructure	\$15,400

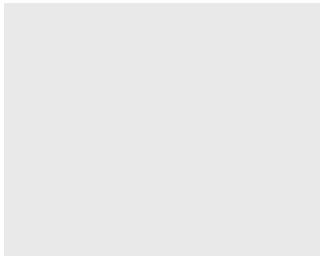
Lead Assets

\$646,810



The Erie
Community
Foundation

Helping today...Shaping tomorrow.

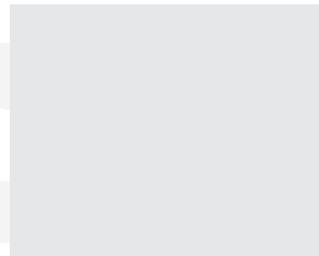
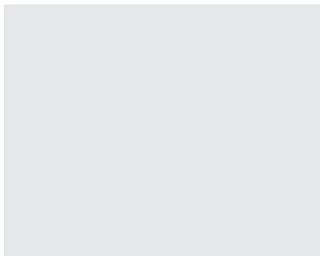
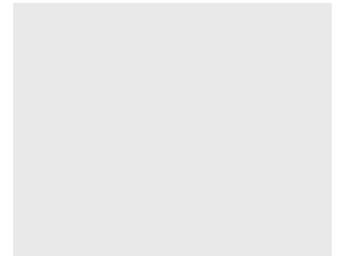
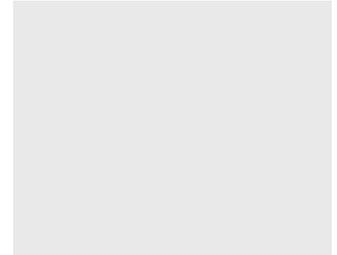


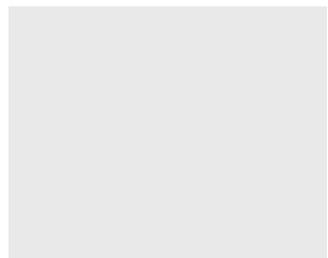
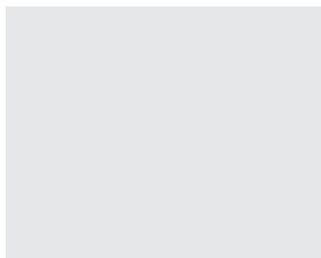
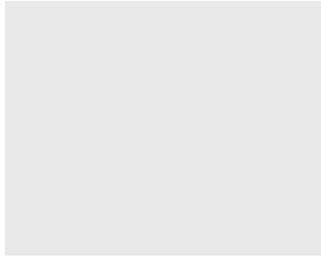
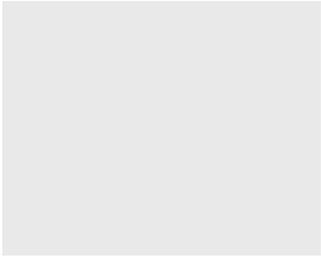
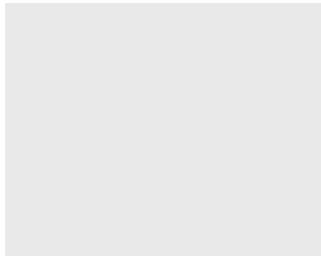
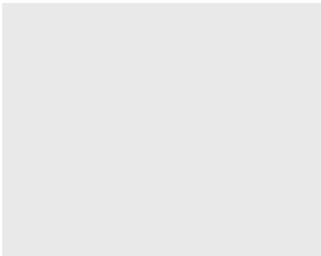
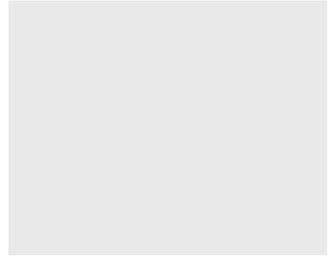
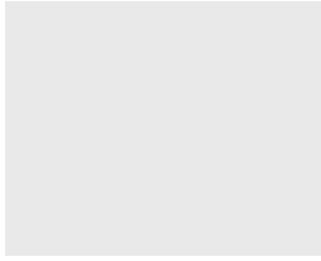
In the book, *Who's Your City?* Economic Geographer Richard Florida discusses how we're each drawn to cities that support and can sustain who we are and who we want to become.

He wrote, "In today's creative economy, the real source of economic growth comes from the clustering and concentration of talented and productive people. New ideas are generated and our productivity increases when we locate close to one another in cities and regions. The clustering force makes each of us more productive, which in turn makes the places we inhabit much more productive, generating great increases in output and wealth."

By investing in cultural vitality, ECGRA is investing in Erie's ability to attract, retain, and mobilize creative talent and innovative businesses—something we need now more than ever.

In 2012, ECGRA invested \$646,810 in the Erie County Lead Assets—nine culture-, heritage-, and entertainment-based nonprofits that have demonstrated their continuing ability to contribute to the vitality and vibrancy of our community. ECGRA also added more than \$1 million to the Erie County Lead Assets Endowment Fund within The Erie Community Foundation.





Community Assets

\$149,759

ECGRA's unique Community Assets Grant program funds organizations that, while smaller in scope, are no less valuable to the community than larger organizations. In 2012, 23 Community Assets received \$149,759 for arts, culture, and entertainment programming. Among those recipients is the JC Martin Golf Course (JCM).

A nine-hole regulation golf course constructed in 1919, JCM is an Erie landmark owned by the city of Erie. The sole golf course within city limits, JCM has long served as a place for Erie's youth to learn the game of golf, as well as critical life skills that come with competing on the green.

JCM sees the most play by children ages 9-15, and is the home course for various area grade schools and grade-school tournaments. The YMCA also offers programming at JCM that fosters appreciation of golf for disadvantaged children. These rolling greens have helped grow a vibrant population of recreational and amateur golfers and golf enthusiasts.

With roughly 14,000 rounds of play by these youngsters, the course is in need of crucial renovations. ECGRA's \$9,798 investment helps ensure generations of Erieites will grow up with golf in their city for years to come and that JCM will continue to serve Erie youth well into its second century.



JC Martin Golf Course

ORGANIZATIONS

Albion Area Fair, Inc.

Asbury Woods Partnership, Inc.

Bayfront Maritime Center

Commodore Perry Chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart

Corry Area Historical Society

Edinboro Area Historical Society

Erie Center for Design & Preservation

Erie Homes for Children and Adults

Erie Opera Theatre

Fairview Area Historical Society

Fort LeBoeuf Historical Society

Gannon University

Harborcreek Historical Society

JC Martin Golf Course

Lake Erie Fanfare, Inc.

North East Community Fair Association

North East Historical Society

Northwest PA Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Inc.

Pennsylvania Sea Grant in collaboration with Presque Isle State Park

Presque Isle Partnership

Stairways Behavioral Health

Waterford Community Fair Association

Young People's Chorus of Erie

PROJECTS

\$6,726 to replace the roof over the horticultural and homemaking building
\$9,996 toward hiring a community programming coordinator who meets environmental and educational goals
\$8,877 for the Small Boat Festival that raises funds for youth and adult sailing and environmental training
\$6,000 to afford the final construction phase of the Purple Heart Memorial of Northwestern Pennsylvania
\$1,294 to complete urgent building maintenance to the home of the only 1930s Climax-theme Locomotive Historical Museum
\$1,294 for entertainment at the 2013 Maple Syrup Festival
\$867 for consulting services to develop a strategic plan
\$3,236 for MOVE Partners in Dance Program offering adults with profound intellectual and physical disabilities an opportunity for physical therapy, artistic expression, and live performance
\$8,379 to present for free operatic productions that have been translated into English
\$1,061 for electrical updates and archival supplies for the new space at the historically preserved Sturgeon House
\$2,769 to construct an equipment shed for the Eagle Hotel and Judson House Museum
\$10,206 in support of the 35th season of the Erie Chamber Orchestra
\$2,174 for media equipment to further document and present the history of the township
\$9,798 to complete tee and bunker construction at this youth-focused golf course
\$12,696 for the 30th Annual Junior Drum Corp & Color Guard Competitions driving \$450,000 of impact to the local economy, according to a 2011 study done by VisitErie
\$1,451 to increase marketing and viticulture programming for the North East community
\$3,479 to replace the roof of the 1880-built museum
\$6,000 for phase two construction of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Memorial Park
\$12,300 to survey Presque Isle State Park visitors in order to improve visitor experiences and expand regional opportunities that maximize the park's economic impact
\$11,502 to restore the 1872 Presque Isle Lighthouse—one of only three functioning lighthouses in our region
\$12,006 to expand the Center City Arts campus to include a welcome center and studio space for working artists and to support arts and wellness programming
\$9,798 to renovate buildings and maintain grounds in anticipation of the fair's 75-year celebration
\$7,850 to provide children of diverse backgrounds a comprehensive choral experience

Human Services

\$155,094

ECGRA funds Erie County's human services organizations through a vibrant partnership with The Erie Community Foundation. The foundation's Helping Today grants respond to nonprofits' basic needs and great ideas, including one-time capital projects, technology upgrades, and program enhancements. In 2012, 20 deserving organizations benefited from more than \$155,000 in ECGRA grants.

The Crime Victim Center of Erie County was one of those 20 organizations. Founded 40 years ago, CVC supports victims of all types of crimes, including abuse, assault, robbery, and murder. Trained Counselor Advocates perform counseling and intervention, as well as guide victims through both the criminal justice and medical systems as necessary.

Not merely content to give a person a fish, CVC also teaches people how to fish. Staff members and volunteers provide outreach and awareness programs designed to break the cycle of crime and violence in our community, and conduct programs and training for businesses, community groups, faith-based institutions, and schools.

CVC is currently serving more than 600 people a year. Its 2012 ECGRA grant—totaling \$9,590—was used to purchase laptops for center counselors, who can now expand services to rural Erie County, as well as operate more efficiently in the process. And at CVC, where crime never rests, efficiency is a must.



Crime Victim Center of Erie County

ORGANIZATIONS

Bethany Outreach Center

Crime Victim Center of Erie County

East Erie Suburban Recreation and Conservation Authority

Erie County CASA

Greater Erie Area Habitat for Humanity

Housing and Neighborhood Development Services, Inc.

Inter-Church Ministries of Erie County

John F. Kennedy Center

LifeWorks Erie

Mercy Center for Women

Multi-Cultural Health Evaluation Delivery System

Saint Patrick Church Food Pantry

The Salvation Army of Erie

SNOOPS Neighborhood Association

Sunshine Group of Erie

Tickets for Kids Charities

Union City Family Support Center

United Way of Erie County

Voices for Independence

YMCA Camp Sherwin

PROJECTS

\$3,500 for a refrigerator to help feed up to 200 families per week on Erie's east side, where residents earn an average of \$10,484 per year

\$9,590 to purchase laptops for center counselors in order to expand services to rural Erie County and further reduce the impact of crime through counseling, education, and advocacy

\$7,500 to replace a 750-foot fence and two 8-foot gates at the Tri-Community Outdoor Pools and Waterpark located in Harborcreek at the Eastside Family YMCA as a collaboration with the East Erie Suburban Recreation and Conservation Authority

\$8,522 for technology upgrades to ultimately increase hours volunteers spend advocating for abused children in the child welfare system

\$12,600 for critical home repairs for a local family, making the residents' dreams of living in a safe, decent home a reality

\$15,000 toward a planning collaborative to help make lower west-side neighborhoods stronger and more vibrant through quality affordable housing

\$3,950 to improve technology that aids in the study and advocacy of issues, such as racial harmony, nonviolence, and health and welfare

\$14,819 for East Erie CATCH to improve the conditions of work, play, study, health, and living among the 10,235 people residing in a specific disadvantaged area of the city of Erie

\$6,600 to replace an antiquated phone system to better serve aging men and women throughout Erie and the surrounding region

\$8,500 to make facilities "home" to homeless women with or without children by installing new floor coverings

\$6,100 to repair a parking lot and a sidewalk outside this primary health care facility used by medically at-risk, indigent patients

\$5,789 to renovate pantry floors allowing volunteers to more safely serve up to three tons of food per week to an average of 530 people in conjunction with the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwestern Pennsylvania

\$3,675 to replace the freezer necessary for the Senior Center lunch program, children's summer breakfast and lunch program, afterschool program, and food pantry

\$5,000 to create a neighbor-to-neighbor communication plan to combat crime and neighborhood deterioration

\$1,636 for telephone and Internet service so volunteers can handcraft and distribute 10,000 gifts to lonely and less-fortunate people

\$10,000 to purchase tickets to a variety of entertainment and motivational events and distribute them free-of-charge to economically disadvantaged and at-risk children and their families

\$5,000 for mobile technology upgrades that provide the support needed for families and their children to become healthy, well-educated, safe, and economically independent

\$6,000 toward the implementation of a 2-1-1 system with the development of a regional call center to connect those in need with the appropriate service provider

\$13,813 to purchase two computers, monitors, and printers, and the necessary hardware and software to ultimately empower people with disabilities and improve the quality of their lives

\$7,500 to construct an aquatic playground (SPLASH pad) designed to boost self-esteem and encourage relationship-building

UChoose

\$60,000

In the truest spirit of a public-private partnership, ECGRA's state-of-the-art UChoose Grants program allows members of the Erie community to select—through popular voting at www.ErieUChoose.com—local nonprofits as beneficiaries of grant monies. So energizing is the annual program, that in 2012 ECGRA doubled funding from the previous year, granting \$60,000 to six organizations.



Greater Erie Youth Symphony Orchestra

With a \$15,000 UChoose Grant, the orchestra extends free violin instruction to K-2 students at Diehl, McKinley, Lincoln, and Edison elementary schools, teaching discipline and self-control while improving grades and attitudes through the Carpe Diem Academy Violin Instruction.



The ANNA Shelter

With the “Help Us ‘Fix’ Erie” project supported by \$15,000 in UChoose funds, the shelter continues to offer low-cost and now offers discounted and free-of-charge spay and neuter services at both the Erie and Corry clinics.



Young People's Chorus of Erie

The “Changing the Lives of Children: One Song at a Time” project funded with a \$10,000 UChoose Grant continues to ensure that no child is turned away from an opportunity to represent Erie through the power of song.



Blended Spirits Ranch

The ranch's \$10,000 UChoose Grant is being used to extend 40 scholarships of Equine Assisted Psychotherapy and Equine Assisted Learning to veterans and their families suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, to underprivileged children, and to Crime Victim Center clients and their families.



Nurturing Hearts, Inc

With its \$5,000 UChoose Grant, Nurturing Hearts plans to implement the Positive Self-esteem and Healthy Lifestyle Program, which focuses on character building for at-risk girls.



Orphan Angels Cat Sanctuary and Adoption Center

Orphan Angels is utilizing its \$5,000 UChoose Grant to construct a quarantine/sick room designed to provide superior, in-house care to ill cats, as well as cats recovering from surgery.

Board, Staff, and Volunteers



*Back row, left to right: Timothy S. Wachter (solicitor), Corder, Giles, Peters, Jones, Paris
Front row, left to right: Yaple, Hill, Sample, Breter, Wood*

BOARD MEMBERS & EX-OFFICIOS

Dr. Lynn K. Corder, Retired Superintendent, Northwestern School District
Jennifer D. Hill, Director of Development, Erie Art Museum
Ronald J. Jones, Division Administrator, Saint Vincent Medical Group
Michael J. Paris, Owner, Paris Homes
Charles J. Peters, Managing Partner, Altair Property Management
David S. Sample, Owner, Corry Lumber Co. Inc.
David H. Yaple, Owner/Operator, Pine Avenue and Lawrence Park Dairy Queens
Denee M. Breter (ex-officio), Administrative Officer, Erie County Executive's Office
Hon. Joseph F. Giles (ex-officio), Chairman, Erie County Council

2012 COMMUNITY ASSETS GRANTS REVIEWERS

Jeremy Bloeser, Executive Director, Bayfront East Side Taskforce
Charlotte P. Mashyna

2012-13 MULTI-MUNICIPAL COLLABORATION GRANTS REVIEWERS

Michael Fuhrman, Project Manager, Destination Erie: A Regional Vision
Richard M. Novotny, Executive Director, Erie County Redevelopment Authority

2012-13 MULTI-MUNICIPAL COLLABORATION GRANTS RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS

Corry Community Roundtable, Erie Area Council of Governments, Erie County Association of Boroughs, Erie County Association of Municipal Administrators, Erie County Association of Township Officials, Erie County Redevelopment Authority, Northwest Tri-County Council of Governments, West Erie County Emergency Management Agency, Zoning and Code Enforcement Officials Association

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