

# 1889 FOUNDATION

## *Our Year in Review*

Annual Community Report **>>** FY 2024



# Total Funding

1889 Foundation granted \$4.3 million in fiscal year 2024 in support of six priority areas and helped leverage an additional \$5.4 million for community health and wellness initiatives.



Center for Population Health  
\$1.1 million



Physical Health & Wellness  
\$163K



Childhood Development  
\$1.6 million



Mental and Behavioral Health  
\$105K



Social Determinants of Health  
\$1 million



Medical Education and Training  
\$356K

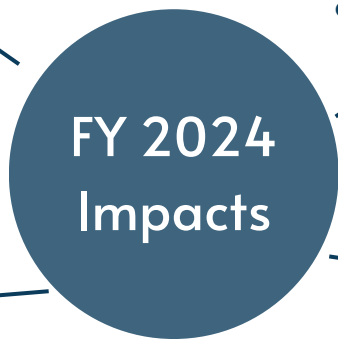
\*Since 2015, 1889 Foundation has invested more than \$31 million in community health and wellness.

More than 8,000 individuals received healthcare, mental health services, and preventive screenings

Emergency shelter and homelessness support and resources provided to more than 1,200 adults and children totaling over 11,700 nights of shelter

Nearly 1,700 individuals from the Cambria-Somerset region received medical education scholarships or health or safety-related training and education

Over 6,400 children, youth, young adults, and families received programming, services, or participated in community education and wellness events



804 children and 2,011+ adults received food

\*On our cover: Children at a Hope 4 Johnstown Community event.

To read about more initiatives 1889 Foundation is funding, scan the QR Code



Dear friends and supporters,

This was an exciting year for health and wellness in the Cambria-Somerset region!

In this past year, we provided over \$4.3 million within our core priority areas of population health, social determinants of health, physical health and wellness, mental and behavioral health, childhood development, and medical education and training. Over the past nine years, 1889 Foundation has invested over \$31 million in funding for community health and wellness initiatives, and medical education and training programs.

As we reflect on the past year, it's important to take a moment to emphasize one of the most critical aspects of our work: assessing the impact of our funding on the health and well-being of the communities we serve. While our efforts to support various health initiatives are essential, it is equally important to understand and assess how our resources are making a difference. This assessment allows us to identify the initiatives that are working, adjust those that need improvement, and, most importantly, ensure that the people who need it most are benefitting from our support.

Each year, 1889 Foundation supports the Annual Cambria & Somerset Community Health & Human Services Summit, which provides an opportunity for like-minded organizations to come together and discuss challenges, progress, and opportunities. By partnering with local organizations, health experts, and community members, we gather insights that guide our strategies and help us respond to emerging needs. It is through these collaborative efforts that we can better understand the challenges faced by different populations and target our resources where they will have the most significant, lasting impact.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express our deepest gratitude to four of our dedicated board members whose terms have recently ended: Scott Becker, Kim Craig, Bruce Duke, MD, and Mike Smith. Their leadership, vision, and commitment have been invaluable to the growth and success of the 1889 Foundation. Their contributions over the years have helped shape the direction of our work, and we are immensely grateful for their service.

This year's annual community report shows how together we are working toward a healthier, more resilient community and how the programs we fund are inspiring change and touching lives. Thank you for being a part of this journey, and for your continued contributions and commitment to making a difference.

*Susan M. Mann*

Susan M. Mann, President



Welcome to our new board members Brad Hindman, CFP, Apricity Advisors; John Miko, D.Ed., Associate Dean of Business/Professor, Saint Francis University; and Alexander Pozun, DO, Emergency Medicine Physician, Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center. We look forward to working with you and continuing our work to better the health of the two-county region.



# Center for Population Health

The Center for Population Health (CPH) is a main funding initiative of I889 Foundation.

CPH's Community Care HUB (HUB) aims to impact health outcomes by addressing risk factors associated with poor health outcomes. The HUB partners with Care Coordination Agencies who hire Community Health Workers (CHWs) to meet participants face-to-face, preferably in their homes, and connect them with needed services such as employment, housing, transportation, and food.

Anyone can make a referral to the HUB including medical providers, social service providers, behavioral health providers, self-referrals, and more.

Additional CPH initiatives include:

- Social determinants of health initiatives around food security, housing, transportation, and more
- Addressing systems-level community health disparities including mental and oral health capacity
- Health data analysis including coordination of the Community Health Needs Assessment
- Education and community outreach around healthy living and activity
- Policy advocacy addressing community public health needs



Community Care HUB CHWs and CHW Supervisors get together for a luncheon celebrating their hard work.

The HUB works with various at-risk populations, including:

- At-risk pregnant women with children up to 18 months old who live in Cambria or Somerset County and receive (or are eligible for) Medical Assistance
- Greater Johnstown Elementary School and Somerset Area School District families with social determinant of health needs
- Individuals diagnosed with substance use or mental health disorders who live in Cambria County

## 2023 HUB Highlights



327 participants served



67 babies born



1,093 visits from CHWs

The HUB reached its 2,000th referral in 2023!

Find out more about Center for Population Health



“Participants in the Community Care HUB are finding success and true joy as are their Community Health Workers. Participants who are navigating pregnancy, sometimes on their own, are experiencing healthy deliveries due to empowerment, education, and proactive measures supported by their CHWs.”

Beginnings, Inc. Executive Director Jes Phillippi

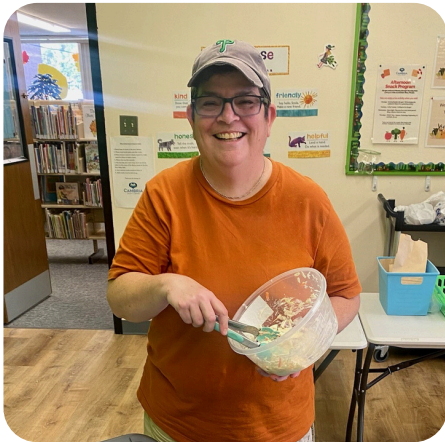
# Center for Population Health

A major initiative of CPH is addressing food insecurity with a dedicated position. Local Food Systems Coordinator Nan McNinney has been working to advance local food systems through initiatives including:

- Developing food-related resource guides
- Expanding nutrition and education
- Addressing food insecurity
- Using food as an economic driver
- Promoting and expanding farmer's markets
- Exploring grants and best practice opportunities



The Women's Help Center and Community Help Center community garden projects have been major successes. The goal of both garden bed sites is to get the residents excited about growing food and maintaining the beds all while addressing food insecurity.



1889 Foundation supports additional food initiatives, including:

## Cambria County Backpack Program

This much needed and relied on program continues to expand to provide children with healthy and sustainable food options on the weekends. The most recent expansion in Ebensburg will be serving over 200 children in northern Cambria County. 1889 Foundation has provided ongoing funding for this program including \$20,000 in FY 2024.

## Somerset County Mobile Food Bank

The mission of the Somerset County Mobile Food Bank centers around reducing the burden of travel for individuals seeking nutritious food options. By dispatching the mobile food truck to various smaller towns across Somerset County, SCMFB strives to minimize the distances people must travel to obtain essential groceries. 1889 Foundation provides funding for SCMFB through United Way.

## Sandyvale

Each spring 1889 Foundation has provided \$5,000 in funding for Sandyvale's Greenhouse and Hydroponic System startup. This support enables Sandyvale's staff of volunteers to have the tools, materials, seeds, plant material and soil amenities to provide social service agencies in the community with free, fresh produce.

# Social Determinants of Health

## Hosanna Industries

A \$500,000 grant to Hosanna Industries from 1889 Foundation is supporting free home repairs to owners in need through the Johnstown Resurrection Project. The goal is to preserve properties and prevent homes from becoming blighted.

The funds will be utilized to provide substantial housing repairs, rehabilitation, improvement and, when necessary, new construction.

Hosanna Industries works with Johnstown Redevelopment Authority to identify homeowners and properties with the highest need.

The 2024 grant will complete at least 25 home repairs in Johnstown.



“ Our hearts are humbled by the magnanimous support of the 1889 Foundation without whose trust and confidence these initiatives could not take place. ”

Hosanna Industries Founder & Executive Director Reverend Donn Ed.

## The Women’s Help Center and Community Help Center

1889 Foundation granted \$200,000 to The Community Help Center (CHC), a division of The Women’s Help Center (WHC), for continuing services to address, provide resources for, and, ultimately, prevent homelessness.

The CHC serves as the housing hub for Cambria County and connects those in need with essential housing services and resources. The essential services will provide adults and children with housing, food, connection to vital resources and medical care, and the support needed to obtain housing and regain their independence.

Currently, The CHC’s emergency shelter program provides family-style shelter with 32 beds in a secure space, on-site at the main facility to women and their families.

For men or those who cannot be accommodated at the current facility, the organization worked to create the Shelter Contingency Program (SCP), which provides off-site shelter at hotels and other lodging. It also provides food and case management. Program participants work with a Housing and Resource Navigator to identify their housing needs, options, and facilitate their transition to permanent housing.

The Women’s Help Center has experienced a growing need in the community for emergency shelter and housing resources.

In 2023, The WHC provided 11,618 nights of shelter to adults and children experiencing homelessness. 386 individuals were in the emergency shelter and 101 of them were children.

# Social Determinants of Health

## Penn Highlands Center for Culinary Excellence

1889 Foundation provided \$96,000 to Pennsylvania Highlands Community College for equipment for the culinary education center and for the Supporting Scholars Fund to support culinary scholarships.

This grant funding aligns with several of 1889 Foundation's funding priorities including wellness and education. It will also be a way to assist the regional workforce through culinary education.



Penn Highlands Center for Culinary Excellence students and staff celebrate the opening of the school.

## Johnstown Walk of Hope



1889 Foundation supported the Walk of Hope in both Johnstown and Somerset with a \$25,000 grant.

"We take pride in the fact that all donations stay in our local community, helping with the everyday needs that patients have," said Johnstown Walk of Hope Coordinator Marlene Singer.

Johnstown Walk of Hope is an all-volunteer, community-based non-profit, which supports local cancer patients with their financial needs.

## Equitable Hearing Initiative

Many major healthcare insurances including Medicare and Medicaid do not cover the cost of hearing aids. Though, statistically, individuals who are 50 and older are significantly more likely to suffer from hearing loss, Medicaid will only fund the entire cost of hearing aids in children 21 and younger.

1889 Foundation granted \$20,000 to Easterseals Western and Central Pennsylvania (ESWCPA) to benefit the Equitable Hearing Health initiative.

Funding will provide up to six visits for hearing aids for income-qualified patients. The visits include hearing aid evaluation, hearing aid visits, and four follow-up support appointments.

# Childhood Development

## Forged Futures Initiative

Formerly known as Safe Places, Forged Futures is a collaboration between nine community organizations providing programs at safe spaces for youth and young adults in the Cambria-Somerset Area.

The comprehensive set of programs serves a wide range of ages which allows each organization to focus on its target audience.

Through the collaboration, a series of overlapping programs provide positive role models, encourages strong character development, presents substance use and mental health interventions, physical activity and quality in-person interactions.



## Hope 4 Johnstown

Supporting community events that promote health and wellness and provide resources and education on healthy living, especially when it comes to children and families is important to 1889 Foundation.

With that in mind, 1889 Foundation grants funds to Hope 4 Johnstown, a grassroots organization that aims to foster unity, safety, empowerment, and non-violence throughout Johnstown. Hope 4 Johnstown uses direct communication to positively impact Johnstown's most vulnerable neighborhoods through community block parties.

At the block parties, partner organizations set up tables with resource information. There are also kids' activities.

The community block parties create a safe place for families to gather, have fun, and take pride in their neighborhoods.

 **745+ young people served weekly**

**9 local organizations** 

1st Summit Arena @ Cambria County War Memorial, Big Shotz, Coaches 4 Kids, Flood City Youth Fitness Academy, Hope 4 Johnstown, New Day, Pennsylvania Highlands Community College, Windber Area School District, Greater Johnstown Community YMCA

 **50-week period**



For more information on Forged Futures, Hope 4 Johnstown, and other ways 1889 Foundation is impacting youth, scan the QR code.





# Childhood Development

## UPJ Communi-TEAMS

During the 2023-24 school year, The University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown's Communi-TEAMS program partnered with the Flood City Youth Fitness Academy and the Greater Johnstown Middle School, providing a total of 4 themed educational programs (Sustainability, Festive Fall, Sports & Health, and STEM).

Their capacity was expanded to accommodate the entire 7th grade from the middle school (Estimated 130 students).

1889 Foundation supports UPJ Communi-TEAMS through a multi-year grant.



## Early Childhood Initiative

Providing a systems-wide coordinated approach to have all Cambria and Somerset County children in grade three at or above the Pennsylvania reading level standard by 2030 is the primary objective of the Early Childhood Initiative (ECI), as this achievement level is a marker of future academic, health, social and employment success.

The ECI was created through the collaborative efforts of the 1889 Foundation, Center for Population Health, Community Foundation for the Alleghenies (CFA), Lee Initiatives, United Way of the Southern Alleghenies, and Vision Together 2025. ECI has a mission of meeting the educational, health, and social needs of the youngest, most vulnerable residents (birth to age 8) across Cambria and Somerset Counties.

ECI's mission was built around the Five Freedoms for America's Children Framework - Freedom to be healthy, freedom to be economically secure, freedom to learn, freedom from hunger, and freedom from harm - to address issues impacting children.

To help facilitate the initiative, Lauren Lazzari was hired in January of 2024 under the United Way of the Southern Alleghenies. Funding is being provided by 1889, CFA, Lee Initiatives, and the United Way. Lazzari was hired to oversee the implementation of the ECI strategic plan for Cambria and Somerset counties.

## Color Rap

Through the Color Rap Literacy project, a reading book and activity book is provided to every child in kindergarten in Cambria and Somerset Counties. Besides reading, Color Rap books engage children in dance and song both in and out of the classroom. The Project also includes a 12-step curriculum resource for teachers in the classroom and parents outside the classroom to help them engage in their child's education. Funding for this initiative is provided through the Ann Harris Smith Foundation.



## Children's Aid Home Programs

Funding from 1889 Foundation to the Children's Aid Home of Somerset County, Inc. for its Family Foster Care Program provides services for infants to age 21 by providing a temporary living environment for children who have been removed from their home. It reimburses for room, board, and clothes, training and support, 24-hour on-call caseworker in emergency situations, and respite care. In turn, the foster parent provides a stable home environment, emotional support, clothing, healthcare, and transportation.

# Mental, Behavioral, and Physical Health

## Learning Lamp

The Learning Lamp's Early Childhood Behavioral Interventions and Supports initiative uses master's level Early Childhood Mental Health Consultants to observe a child's challenging behavior and determine best practice to mitigate the behavior.

With ongoing support from 1889 foundation, The Learning Lamp can provide continuous behavioral health consultation and will be able to expand services to Shared Services member providers.

The Learning Lamp and their Shared Services partners will be able to avoid expelling or suspending students with serious behavioral and social emotional issues by implementing strategies proven to curb these behaviors.

## Project Echo

1889 Foundation supported the Cambria-Somerset Mental Health Consortium's Psychiatry/Behavioral Health ECHO. The Consortium worked in collaboration with Penn State College of Medicine on the Project ECHO (Extension of Community Healthcare Outcomes) series. Project ECHO is internationally recognized and is an evidence-based approach to continuing education and tele-mentoring that leverages the power of sharing knowledge across miles and across disciplines.

"We have a subject matter expert and a room full of attendees representing a multitude of fields and disciplines, working together to identify best practices and resources," said Center for Population Health Associate Director Kimberly Roberts. "Truly an experience I have walked away from with enhanced knowledge that I can apply in my work."

The goal of the series is to further increase the knowledge and resources needed for local practitioners to meet the needs of patients with behavioral health disorders.

## Beginnings, Inc. Employee Care Program

1889 Foundation is supporting several initiatives through Beginnings, Inc.

Safe Start Kids allows Beginnings to continue as a Cribs for Kids area partner. It also provides funding for additional safety items for families with newborns and babies.

Beginnings Bookworms Family Libraries allows participating families to receive a bundle of books focused on social-emotional learning.

The Beginnings Employee Care program is an innovative pilot model Employee Assistance Program. Education includes a retreat where employees learn how to address vicarious trauma, ways to build resilience, recharge and care for your brain before/during/after adverse experiences in the field.

## Creative Health Impact Grant

The 1889 Foundation Creative Health Impact Grants, which is managed by the Pennsylvania Rural Arts Alliance (PRAA) are focused on fostering connections between the arts and the health and wellness of residents in Cambria and Somerset Counties.

The grant offers opportunities for local nonprofit organizations that have arts and health and wellness initiatives to apply for funding to support those initiatives. The grant requires a strong arts component with an equally strong health/wellness component.

\*Funding is provided by the Pennsylvania Rural Arts Alliance from the 1889 Foundation Creative Health Impact Grant.



A project created by participants of the Cambria County Library Senior Crafternoon event.

# Mental, Behavioral, and Physical Health

Supporting Healthy Lifestyles for Children and Teens through community running series

1889 Foundation provides funding for teens and children aged 17 and under for a series of running events throughout the year. The races include:

- Path of the Flood Historic Races
- Ghost Town Trail Challenge
- Jim Mayer Trail Family Fun Run
- Chernisky Ghost Town Trail-a-Thon
- Healthy Kids Running Series
- Second Chance 5K Run/Walk



## Second Chance 5K Run/Walk

Second Chance Fundraising was formed in March 2016 by Craig Smith after he was the recipient of a lifesaving heart transplant. Second Chance Fundraising's mission is to raise funds for organ, tissue, and cornea donation awareness initiatives in the Western Pennsylvania region. Funds also provide scholarships to college students through S.O.D.A. (Student Organ Donation Advocates) who are doing organ and tissue donation awareness in their communities. 1889 Foundation is proud to support Second Chance Fundraising as an organization supporting not only a healthy lifestyle through running and walking, but also their tireless efforts to raise organ donation awareness and education.



Second Chance Fundraising participants are ready for a great event.



Runners are focused during the Jim Mayer Trail Family Fun Run.

## Variety the Children's Charity

1889 Foundation provided funds to Variety the Children's Charity for its My Bike and My Stroller programs. Supporting Variety means supporting children and families in Cambria and Somerset counties who need safe bicycles and strollers to engage in healthy activities.

My Bike and My Stroller provide eligible children with disabilities with an adaptive bike or stroller, so they may have the opportunity to feel proud, to find greater independence and inclusion, and to create lasting memories with their family and friends in the community.

# Medical Education and Training

In Fiscal Year 2024, 1889 Foundation provided over \$226,000 in scholarships:

## Scholarships (596+ students) and Continuing Education

- Medical Education
- Nursing and Nurse Practitioners
- Mentoring in Medicine MCAT Prep Course
- Allied Health
- EMT's/Paramedics
- Community Health Worker Certification Trainings
- Stop the Bleed

## Community Health Education and Safety

- Substance use prevention, education, and trainings
- CPR/AED training in schools
- Farm safety/hunter safety
- Cardiac wellness
- Diabetes education and prevention



1889 Foundation recognizes the importance of first responders in the community by supporting the Conemaugh School of EMS - EMT program through full scholarships.

## YMCA's 'Y Drown? Keep Your Head Above Water'



1889 Foundation supported the Greater Johnstown Community YMCA's "Y Drown? Keep Your Head Above Water" event. The YMCA joined forces with Conemaugh Trauma Services, Cambria County Swift Water Rescue Team, and Eastin Charles Foundation with a \$4,000 matching grant for the safety session.

Learn more



# Medical Education and Training

## Stop the Bleed trainings



Stop the Bleed has been a collaborative effort of the 1889 Foundation and Conemaugh's Trauma Services since 2017. The program was provided to at risk populations and areas with the initial focus being school districts. The program has since advanced to other high risk areas, namely churches, industry, social and community organizations and emergency responders. Research has shown that the quicker bleeding is controlled, the higher the survival rate.

Since the beginning, Tom Causer, RN BSN, RRT, HP; Trauma Coordinator, Trauma Services has been the lead instructor. The program is offered to any group at no cost and equipment is placed in high risk areas. 1889 Foundation funds the equipment (Stop the Bleed kit) that is provided after the program has been successfully completed by attendees. The program has also received support from American Trauma Society of Pennsylvania in collaboration with 1889 Foundation and Trauma Services.

In the 8 years since the program was established, it is estimated that over 1000 programs have been completed with over 18,000 individuals trained and over 3,300 Stop the Bleed related equipment placed.

## Berlin Lions Club's CPR/AED Training

1889 Foundation granted \$20,000 to the Berlin PA Lions Club for Community CPR/AED Training and the purchase and distribution of AEDs.

Dedicated to advancing the health and safety of the region, 1889 Foundation views this initiative's potential to quick administration of defibrillation, which could increase survival rates from sudden cardiac arrests and other emergencies.

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The contributors listed in this publication made donations between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. Every effort has been made to acknowledge your generosity completely and correctly. We sincerely apologize for any errors or omissions that may have occurred. Please Contact Debbie Costlow at 814-532-0100 Ext. 2 if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you to our donors who make all of these wonderful initiatives possible.

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 Mr. and Mrs. Michael Wingard  
 Jean and Alan Wirfel  
 Dr. and Mrs. Richard S. Wozniak  
 Jesse Wright Family  
 Patrick Yanko  
 Dr. Kevin Zitnay

\*Denotes deceased

# Indicates Clara Barton Society Member. The Clara Barton Society recognizes patrons who have had the wisdom and foresight to have their financial and estate plans in order and have included 1889 Foundation in their estate planning with a planned gift by will, trust, or gift annuity. The wishes of contributors who want to remain anonymous are always respected.

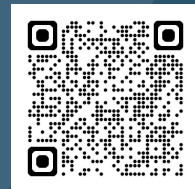
## Zachary Becker Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Zachary Becker Memorial Scholarship Fund, through the 1889 Foundation, was created to support future Westmont Hilltop High School graduates pursuing degrees in business or finance. Zach graduated from Westmont Hilltop High School in 2012 and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in finance from Capital University in Columbus, Ohio. He worked as a personal wealth advisor at AmeriServ Trust and Financial Services.



Zach's zest for living, outgoing personality, and kind heart led him to many different pursuits including board positions with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Association, Johnstown Symphony Orchestra, and Camp Sequanota. He was also an active member of Christ Lutheran Church in Westmont, where he worshipped and volunteered.

A true servant of Christ, Zach was quick to help friends and strangers, alike, with a charming smile and high energy.



To make a donation to the Zachary Becker Memorial Scholarship Fund, visit [www.1889foundation.org](http://www.1889foundation.org), or by mail, 1889 Foundation, 4 Valley Pike, Johnstown, PA 15905. You can also scan the QR code.

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