

YOUR VIEW: Investing in the future of your community

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By

To the Editor:

An elderly man who lives independently and does not have family locally is able to attend doctor's appointments in town thanks to transportation services for seniors. A middle school girl knows what a healthy relationship is – and isn't – and is aware of services she can access for herself, friends or family. A homeless family is able to furnish their new apartment and pay for a licensing fee to obtain a job so they can live a healthy life. These stories - alongside the countless others like them - are due to grants awarded from Main Street Community Foundation as well as the partnerships the Foundation has built with local organizations.

From Nov. 12 to 18, we celebrate Community Foundation Week, our chance to share and reflect on these stories that demonstrate the tremendous impact and unique importance of community foundations in this country. Though you may not yet know your local community foundation, you've likely felt its impact.

That's because Main Street Community Foundation and more than 780 other community foundations across the country help to bring donors and residents together. The community foundation unites their efforts behind the efforts that will help the places we call home continue to flourish and grow.

As we enter the giving season, America's generosity surges. Millions of people from every background will be looking to give back to the communities that have supported them. They'll also look to ensure that their heartfelt giving - however they choose to give - will have the most impact. That's why so many of them will choose to give to a community foundation.

A gift to your local community foundation is really an investment in the future of your community. We like to say that community foundations are "here for good." At Main Street Community Foundation, we don't think about the next election or business cycle, we think about the next generation and the next after that.

That can seem a daunting task, but it's one that we all share. During Community Foundation Week, I hope you'll join us in recognizing our collective impact and the difference we can make together.

Susan D. Sadecki, President & CEO, Main Street Community Foundation, Bristol