



Community Foundation Week 2014 Sample Op-Ed

"A Century of American Giving"

[AN EFFECTIVE WAY TO BEGIN AN OP-ED AND ENGAGE READERS IS THROUGH A PERSONAL STORY OF AN INDIVIDUAL OR FAMILY WHO FACED A PARTICULARLY TOUGH CHALLENGE AND HOW YOUR ORGANIZATION – THROUGH COLLABORATION AND INNOVATION HELPED THEM OVERCOME IT. THIS HELPS THE READER BETTER UNDERSTAND THE HUMAN IMPACT OF YOUR COMMUNITY FOUNDATION'S EFFORT.]

[INSERT NAME]’s story is a compelling example of the difference that can be made in the lives of others when a community comes together. This week, we celebrate 100 years of community foundations working together to address change in our communities.

At a time when government capacity to solve our most pressing problems is limited, community foundations offer real solutions. Community foundations are on the front lines of change, working to leverage relationships and resources to achieve real results. [INSERT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION NAME] is one of more than 700 community foundations in America working in collaboration with community, state, and national partners to tackle some of society’s toughest challenges – in education, healthcare, job training, poverty, natural disasters, and more. Community foundations are essential resources in creating strong, resilient communities.

In our own community, there are issues affecting our lives every day. [INSERT STATISTICS ABOUT YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY] These issues are ones that we are working to solve every day.

Our organization has invested [INSERT DOLLAR AMOUNTS] to support a number of organizations and causes to advance the public good. For example, [INSERT NAME OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATION] works to [INSERT ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND ABOUT THE HISTORY AND IMPACT OF YOUR COMMUNITY FOUNDATION]. PROVIDE AN EXMAPLE OF A SUCCESSFUL, COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS THAT BROUGHT TOGETHER RESOURCES AND TALENT TO EFFECTIVELY ADDRESS A PARTICULAR CHALLENGE – INCLUDE DATA ON RESULTS].

We are leading the charge to mobilize the commitment and creativity in this community to find new and better ways to improve the lives of our neighbors in need. November 12-18, 2014 marks the 25th Community Foundation Week, and the 100th year of community foundations as a force for change in our country. Help us raise awareness about our increasingly important role by telling your community about the work we do.

[INSERT AUTHOR’S NAME, TITLE AND COMMUNITY FOUNDATION].