**Congressional Record Statement: 2016 Community Foundation Week**

Members of the House of Representatives and Senate can read statements into the Congressional Record in order to express their support for causes and events that are important to their constituents. Through the Council’s website, you can easily reach out to your elected officials and ask them to read a statement in recognition of Community Foundation Week.

If you are meeting with an elected official or their staff already, you can share the following language with them directly:

Mr. Speaker, community foundations epitomize the philanthropic culture of the United States. Established in 1989, Community Foundation Week takes place from November 12-18th annually and honors the tremendous contributions of community foundations across our country. They hold a unique place in American society and provide hope and opportunity to millions of Americans.

For over one hundred years, community foundations have helped inspire millions of Americans to give back to this great country as volunteers, leaders, and donors in their communities. Today there are more than 780 community foundations in the United States—each one a source of strength and leadership in the region it serves. The spirit of generosity embodied by these institutions is a core American value. This week, I am honored to recognize these community foundations for their outstanding efforts.