**Make a Lasting Impact on the Future of Your Community**

[BY-LINE]

[An effective and engaging way to begin an op-ed is through an anecdote about an individual or family who faced an especially tough challenge and how your organization helped them overcome it through collaboration and creativity. This helps the reader understand the human impact of your foundation’s work.]

This story, along with the countless others like it, demonstrates the importance of U.S. community foundations, which are uniquely situated to improve their regions by enacting innovative solutions and creating powerful partnerships. From November 12-18, we celebrate Community Foundation Week, a time when we can share and reflect on stories of local impact and human connection over the past year. Though you may not yet know your local community foundation, you’ve likely felt its impact.

That’s because [INSERT YOUR FOUNDATION NAME] and more than 750 other community foundations across the country help to bring donors and residents together. In a way that few other institutions can, community foundations work to support the efforts that will help the places we call home continue to flourish and grow.

[This is a good place to highlight your foundation’s community leadership. Choose a broader cause that the foundations is dedicated to and discuss how the issue is particularly relevant within your community, as well as action steps by your foundation to convene stakeholders and create change.]

As we enter the giving season, 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 an investment in the future of your community. We like to say that community foundations are “here for good.” At [INSERT YOUR FOUNDATION NAME] 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.

*For more information on Community Foundation Week visit* [*www.cof.org/cfweek*](http://www.cof.org/cfweek) *and follow #CommunityFNDWeek on Twitter.*