<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>In 1976, Westmoreland Alliance Against Rape organized as an independent offshoot of the Westmoreland County Conference of Economic Opportunity. The community began supporting the agency’s mission from the first days of operation, with needs list collections and financial contributions. The agency’s first volunteer training class was held in 1976. Thirty community members completed this training to become the agency’s first group of volunteers. The rape hotline in Westmoreland County began ringing on December 6, 1976. Services quickly expanded to include domestic violence issues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>In 1978, the total agency budget was $28,000. Westmoreland Alliance Against Rape became Women’s Services of Westmoreland County in 1978.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>In the early 1980s, the agency developed school-based education programs on sexual abuse prevention and began to present in school districts across the county. The agency began observing the National Day of Unity on October 17, 1981 to commemorate those who died as a result of domestic violence, and to offer support to surviving victims. This activity also served to alert the community to the gravity of the issue. The first shelter for battered women and their children opened its doors in September 1979. The administrative/counseling offices were in the same space – using a corner of the kitchen for some administrative staff.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>The agency experienced a dramatic increase in requests for services to child sexual assault victims in November 1982. This closely followed the airing of the TV movie, “Something About Amelia,” which dealt with the issue of incest. The shelter moved to its second location in 1983. The administrative office moved to the second floor of the Redstone Presbytery building in 1983. There were only four offices and a large closet that doubled as an office. All staff shared space – and some had only a drawer in a desk.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>Legislation enacted in February 1985 made it a second degree felony in Pennsylvania to sexually assault your spouse. Before this new legislation, rape laws excluded spousal sexual assault. In the late 1980s, the agency expanded its school-based education programs to include domestic violence. The shelter moved to its third – and current – location in 1986. The administrative/counseling office moved to its third location (in the basement of the Law and Finance building on Pittsburgh Street) in 1986.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The agency sponsored a series of fundraising events in the late 1980s and early 1990s, ranging from fashion shows to sports auctions to dance concerts to performances by a choir from Wales.

The agency sponsored events to include the community in the call to action to end domestic and sexual violence. In the 1990s, these included Take Back the Night Marches and Rallies, An Empty Place at the Table displays, and a poetry reading.

In the 1990s, the agency added dating violence/date rape to its school curriculum. During these years, the agency reached the distinction of touching every school district in the county with education programs.

In 1997, the agency formally adopted the model of therapeutic services for victims of sexual violence – expanding on the existing counseling that was being provided to sexual assault clients. The Center also began using dogs (Bella and Charlie) in therapy services.

The Center completed the shelter expansion and renovation in 1998. The shelter gained an accessible suite for clients, a playroom on the first floor, office space for shelter staff, a smoking room, a group room in the basement, kitchen upgrades for accessibility – and improvements throughout.

The HERO Project, a public awareness campaign targeted at potential protectors of children, was launched in 1998 by a group of agencies and businesses. The Center was the lead agency for this initiative. The materials developed through the HERO Project won several Addy awards in Pittsburgh.

Women’s Services was approached by the Westmoreland County Prison in 1992 to begin group counseling services to women inmates who were victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

With the passage of the Violence Against Women Act in 1994, funding became available for enhanced legal advocacy services. The agency expanded staff with these available funds and has been able to provide services at all 18 district justice offices in the county, during Protection From Abuse hearings at the courthouse, and during criminal trials.

The agency launched the Clothesline project in the mid 1990s, to raise awareness in the community about sexual and domestic violence.

Women’s Services of Westmoreland County became The Center Against Domestic & Sexual Violence in 1996. The name change was prompted by several concerns, including the confusion about the agency’s purpose and gender exclusivity.

The Center launched a billboard campaign in the mid 1990s to alert people to the availability of services.

The Center launched a successful capital campaign, Breaking the Cycle of Violence, in 1996 to raise $1,000,000 in support of shelter renovations, equipment upgrades and program expansion.

The Center continued to conduct fundraising events in the later 1990s, with one of the most successful an Italian Feast at Rizzo’s Malabar Inn in Crabtree. The agency held this event for five years.

In 1999, The Center expanded domestic violence services to include follow-up contact with former shelter residents for up to twelve weeks. The time following a shelter stay can be the most difficult – and dangerous – time for a battered woman.
In 2002, The Center Against Domestic & Sexual Violence became Blackburn Center Against Domestic & Sexual Violence: honoring the vision of one of the agency’s founding mothers.

Also in 2002, the agency renovated its administrative/counseling offices to make better use of the space and create a more welcoming environment for clients, volunteers, visitors and staff. This was accomplished through a mini-capital campaign.

The agency adopted a position statement on Social Change/Transformation in 2004. This was developed over an 18 month period by a work group of staff, board, volunteers and community members.

In 2006, the agency convened a group of staff, board and community partners to develop messaging related to social transformation. This group met over a ten month period and developed the theme line: Challenge the Power. Demand Change. This theme line was incorporated into website design, newsletter and brochure content, postcards and window clings. It was the first time the agency named the oppression of women as the root cause of domestic violence and sexual assault in such a proactive fashion.

Fundraising in the early years of this new century? A Golf “Ining” and Silent Auction at the Promise of Light/Giving Thanks event, and the launch of the Mother’s Day/All Occasion Cards.

In 2001, the agency expanded its counseling services to include outreach to clients through other service providers and facilities across the county ... in an effort to reach victims of domestic and sexual violence who did not have the resources to travel to Greensburg.

The agency marked its 25th anniversary with an event for donors and partners in fall 2001.

The agency launched its first Men Against Sexual Violence activities in 2003.

To “brand” the new agency name, Blackburn Center conducted a public awareness campaign in 2003 that included posters, billboards print ads, and matchbooks. The agency also launched its first website at this time.

In March 2001, Blackburn Center held its first Walk a Mile in Her Shoes event, to raise awareness in the community about gender violence.

In 2007, the agency launched Una Sera del Dare (An Evening of Giving) as its annual fundraising event. This event continued through 2011.

Blackburn Center began a formal partnership with Seton Hill University in 2008, to develop primary prevention activities on campus that can be tested for impact. This project was expanded in 2009 through VAWA funds the agency received specific to a campus outreach project. The project, now called STAR (Social Transformation through Advocacy and Resolve), will be adding the Red Flag project in 2012.

In FY 2011/2012, Blackburn Center’s budget is $1,301,487. The agency has grown in response to community needs and as a direct result of the generosity and unwavering support of the Westmoreland County community.
In 1975, a group of individuals in Westmoreland County were concerned about the reports they were hearing of rape victims who had no place to turn for help. They joined forces, developing a short-term solution of services for any victim in need, and a long-term vision of communities free from violence and oppression. The mission of what is now Blackburn Center Against Domestic & Sexual Violence was seeded from the concern of community members and cultivated by the energy and passion of a group of founding mothers who gave the first call to action in Westmoreland County to stop this violence.

By December 1976, Westmoreland County’s rape hotline took its first call, with services quickly expanding to include victims of domestic violence. And the agency launched public awareness and education activities … for the first time in Westmoreland County, people began to talk about these issues. And these services and conversations continued and grew.

Shortly after Blackburn Center’s 25th anniversary, we embarked on a project to clarify our work in a key part of our mission: to actively advocate for the rights of all people to live free from violence and oppression in their homes and communities. After more than 25 years of service in the community, we acknowledged that the majority of our work had been focused on client services, basic outreach to increase awareness of the existence of our services, and focused education efforts targeted to women and girls to reduce the risk of victimization. While those efforts were vitally important to the community, we needed to add to them if we were to have any impact on the part of our mission dedicated to ending this violence. In the ten years since, we have made great strides in renewing our energy to transform our culture so that we are focusing on the responsibility of perpetrators, understanding the social norms that perpetuate gender violence, and changing the community’s acceptance of domestic and sexual violence as inevitable.

Since our earliest days, the vision and passion of community members has driven Blackburn Center’s mission. That is as true today as it was 35 years ago. In this 35th anniversary edition of Blackburn Center’s annual report, we invite you to visit our new micro-site (mediahurts.org) to learn more about our efforts to change the conversation about gender violence and to find out how you can continue to be part of the solution.

Sincerely,

Linda Polinsky
President, Board of Directors

Ann M. Emmerling
Executive Director

A copy of official registration and financial information for Blackburn Center may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling within Pennsylvania 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.
Supportive Services

Blackburn Center Against Domestic & Sexual Violence provides supportive services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, incest, and sexual harassment. In addition, the agency provides education in the community about these issues.

All client services are **free** and all information is **confidential**.

### 24-Hour Hotline
- The hotline provides 24 hour crisis counseling to survivors of sexual assault, incest, domestic violence, and sexual harassment.
- The hotline can be the first contact victims have with an organization dedicated to their safety and healing.
- The hotline is available to everyone – victims, their family and friends, and professionals who seek information about how they might better meet the needs of their clients who are victims.
- Counselors have received training in the dynamics of domestic violence and sexual assault and understand the complex issues involved.

### Medical Accompaniment
Medical advocates meet victims of domestic or sexual violence at the emergency room of any Westmoreland County hospital, 24/7, to provide support during medical examinations and information about resources and options available.

### Legal Accompaniment
Legal advocates accompany victims of domestic or sexual violence through the legal system and provide support and encouragement and help victims plan for safety.

### Support Groups
Blackburn Center staff provides weekly support groups for victims of abuse. Groups may be offered for:
- Female victims of domestic violence
- Children of female victims of domestic violence
- Incarcerated females (County Prison)
- Adults sexually abused as children
- Sexual assault/harassment victims
- Significant others of sexual assault or domestic violence victims

### Medical Accompaniment
Medical advocates meet victims of domestic or sexual violence at the emergency room of any Westmoreland County hospital, 24/7, to provide support during medical examinations and information about resources and options available.

### Community Education Programs
Blackburn Center can provide a speaker for any organization interested in learning more about the issues of domestic violence and sexual assault.

### Student Awareness Programs
Blackburn Center provides student awareness programs to Westmoreland County schools, pre-school through 12th grade, and area colleges.

### In-Service Trainings
Blackburn Center provides training on the issues of domestic violence, sexual assault, and sexual harassment for professionals (police, paramedics, medical personnel, teachers, counselors, etc.).

### Blackburn Center Contact Information
- Office: 724-837-9540
- Fax: 724-837-3676
- Hotline: 724-836-1122
- Toll Free Hotline: 1-888-832-2272
- Website: [www.blackburncenter.org](http://www.blackburncenter.org)

“Service is the rent we pay to be living. It is the very purpose of life and not something you do in your spare time.”

– Marian Wright Edelman –
**Statistical Summary**

24-hour hotline providing crisis counseling, information, and referrals.
Individual counseling and therapy.
Group counseling and therapy.
- Number of hotline calls ........................................... 3,463
- Number of counseling hours provided .................. 10,401
- Total number of new clients .................................. 3,026

Emergency shelter for battered women and their dependent children.
- Days of shelter provided ...................................... 5,058
- Women and children sheltered ............................. 190

Medical advocacy/accompaniment at hospital emergency rooms.
Legal advocacy/accompaniment at PFA hearings, District
Justice hearings and trials.
- Medical advocacy contacts ..................................... 75
- Legal advocacy contacts ........................................... 1,895

Student awareness programs in Westmoreland County schools, preschool through 12th grade, and area colleges.
- School programs – domestic violence ..................... 350
- School programs – sexual assault ........................ 2,252
- Students and teachers participating in domestic violence and sexual assault awareness programs (unduplicated) .......... 21,348

Community education programs including speakers for organizations and community groups.
In-service trainings for police, medical personnel, teachers, counselors, social workers and other professionals.
- Community programs and trainings to professionals
- Domestic violence .................................................... 121
- Sexual assault ...................................................... 100

**Financial Statement**

**Revenue and Support**
Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence .................. 351,531
Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape ................................... 262,361
Victims of Crime Act ......................................................... 176,340
STOP Violence Against Women Act .................................... 56,022
Other Government Funding ............................................... 78,860
Contributions ................................................................. 336,282
Other Income ................................................................. 73,328
Total Revenue and Support ...................................$1,334,724

**Expenses**
Program Services ........................................................... 1,040,735
Management & General .................................................. 184,240
Fundraising ................................................................. 44,870
Total Expenses ............................................................ $1,269,845

Amount of each $1 spent on Program Services* $0.82
*see page 3 for full list of Program Services.

**“I would thank you from the bottom of my heart, but for you my heart has no bottom.”**

– Author Unknown –

**CHALLENGE THE POWER. DEMAND CHANGE.**

Domestic and sexual violence are rooted in an imbalance of power between men and women. Our society accepts violence against women as normal and inevitable. For Blackburn Center to fulfill its mission to end domestic and sexual violence, we must challenge this imbalance of power that supports the oppression of women.

We extend our sincere appreciation to all of our supporters.

Blackburn Center has endeavored to include everyone who supported our agency in the 2010/2011 fiscal year; we apologize if we have made an error. Please telephone the administrative office at 724-837-9540, x101 if a correction is necessary.

Support from the community, through contributions and governmental support, is invested in services for victims of domestic and sexual violence, and education programs for the community.
THANK YOU to all supporters of Blackburn Center

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Merck Partnership for Giving
Metalor Technologies
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Mullen Refrigeration Service Inc.
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Philips Respiroincs
Pittsburgh Glass Works
Pittsburgh Opera
PK Development
Platinum Salon & Spa
Proctor and Gamble
Prudential Preferred Realty
QuatriniRafferty
Quinn Angell Cioffi
Renal & Electrolyte Associates
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Westmoreland Athletic Club, Inc.
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Department of Public Welfare
FISA Foundation
Human Services Development Fund
Kennametal Foundation
Millstein Charitable Foundation
PA Coalition Against Domestic Violence
PA Coalition Against Rape
PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency
Premo J. Pappafava Foundation
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Ms. Diane Manson
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Ms. Juliane Mulvaney
Ms. Tammy Murphy
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Sandy Nader
Ms. Patty Neil
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Ms. Nancy O’Hara
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Mr. & Mrs. Edward Oles
Ms. Patricia Owens
Ms. Phyllis Pack
Ms. Carol Palmer
Ms. Debra Palmer
Rosalie Panebianco
Mrs. Lorraine Pappafava
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Perlinder
Ms. Jennifer Petrisiek
Ms. Lindsay A. Plutto
Jennifer Potter
Ms. Carol Potthoff
Ms. Kellie Prola
Mr. Vincent Quatrini
Ms. Arlene Quinn
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Ms. Bernadette Ramesdorfer
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Ms. Veronica Schilling
Brent Scholar
Mr. Jack Scott
Dr. & Mrs. Rodger Searfoss
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Ms. Jean Shuster
Ms. Kathy Shuster
Reverend Marion Silbert
Ms. Amy Siler
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Mr. & Mrs. Richard Ziff
Ms. Carol J. Zorman
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Ms. Palma J. Skvarla
Ms. Jean Slusser
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Taska Smola
Ms. Deborah Snider
Ms. Mary Jane Snyder
Ms. Jan Stackawitz
Mr. & Mrs. Byron Stahl
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Ms. Terry Stewart
Debbi Stewart & Al Slotter
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Ms. June Stokes
Ms. Kathryn Stout
Ms. Susan Stray
Ms. Jane Strettman
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Ms. Susan Tanto
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Ms. Cassandra Telford
Ms. Linda Tirpak
Mr. & Mrs. Wallie Tobin
Michael & Linda Travis
Ms. Michelle Trehee Barber
Sonra Trout
Ms. Virginia Turner
Ms. Dana L. Twaddle
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Tyler
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick Utech
Ms. Dana Van Kirk
Ms. Clara Vana
Ms. Joan Vernall
Ms. Joanne Viano
Chuck & Debbie Wansor
Ms. Shelly Weaver
Ms. Nicole Weeden
Ms. Elizabeth Weidlein
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Welch
Ms. Joan Wesley
The Reverend Stephen C. West
Mr. Mark Williams
Ms. Dee Williams Green
Ms. Lois Wills
Ms. Donna Wirth
Ms. Susan Wisneski
Ms. Brandy Lee Rose Wolfe
Ms. Theresa Wubben
Mr. & Mrs. Sharlene Wylie
Ms. Kelly Yoder
Ms. Jane Young
Cheryl Zagorac & Avon Reps
Ms. Jessica Zahorchak
Ms. Anita Zanke
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Zeiders
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Ziff
Ms. Carol J. Zorman
Ms. Mildred Zornan Sweeney

www.blackburncenter.org
CIVIC GROUPS/ORGANIZATIONS/CHURCHES

AAUW - Greensburg Branch
ABATE Westmoreland County
Alpha Beta Sorority, Charleroi
Alwine Homemakers, New Alexandria
Armbrust Christian Academy
Arnold United Methodist Church
Arona United Methodist Church
B.P.W. of Greensburg
B.P.W. of Latrobe
B.P.W. of Ligonier Valley
B.P.W. of Scottdale
Barren Run United Methodist Church
Beta Sigma Phi, Norvelt
Bethany United Methodist Church, Latrobe
Bethel Church Women, Acme
Buchanan Church of God WCSC, Acme
Busy Hands Ministry, Harrison City
Calvin United Presbyterian Church, Scottdale
Carlow University, Greensburg
Carnegie Science Center
Cereal Heights Homemakers, North Huntingdon
Cheston Ridge Lions Club
Christ Episcopal Church, Greensburg
Christ Episcopal Church Women, Greensburg
Christ United Church of Christ, Latrobe
Christ United Methodist Church, Youngwood
Christian Life Fellowship Church, Greensburg
Clover Ridge Tuesday Night Bible Study
Comfort Scarves of SWPA
Community United Methodist Church Women, Irwin
Community United Presbyterian Church, New Alexandria
Community Women’s Club, Irwin
Congregation Emanuel-El Israel, Greensburg
Conquer Presbyterian Church, New Alexandria
Daisy Troop #20235, Greensburg
Daisy Troop #22002, Greensburg
Daisy Troop #22003, Greensburg
Delmont Presbyterian Church
Delta Kappa Gamma Upsilon, Irwin
Delmont Presbyterian Church
Delta Kappa Gamma Upsilon, Irwin
Denmark Manor United Church of Christ, Export
Dry Ridge Garden Club
East Huntingdon Lioness Club
Eastgate Aglow, Delmont
Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Export
Excelsa Health - Frick Hospital
Excelsa Health - Frick Hospital ER
Excelsa Health - Latrobe Hospital
Faith United Methodist Church, Greensburg
First Baptist Church of Greensburg
First Baptist Church, Pittsburgh
First Baptist Church of Scottdale
First Presbyterian Church, Murrysville
First Presbyterian Church Women, Irwin
First Trinity United Church of Christ, Youngwood
First United Church of Christ, Greensburg
First United Church of Christ Women’s Fellowship, Irwin
First United Church of Christ, Irwin
First United Methodist Church Outreach Committee, Irwin
First United Methodist Church, Irwin
First United Methodist Church, Blairsville
Forbes Regional Hospital
Friday Card Club, Greensburg
Friends Who Count, Greensburg
Friendship Club from Jeannette
Friendship Community Alliance Church, Latrobe
Girl Scout Troop, Delmont
Girl Scout Troop #40201, Ligonier
Girl Scout Troop #70404, New Derry
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Greensburg
Greater Latrobe Junior High School “Choral Cats”
Greater Latrobe Junior High School Student Council
Greensburg College Club
Greensburg Hose Company #8
Hallmark East Collector’s Club
Harrison City Women’s Club
Hearts and Hands Quilt Guild
Heritage Baptist Church, Jeannette
Hermine United Methodist Church
Holy Trinity Church Christian Mothers, Ligonier
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Irwin
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church WELCA, Irwin
Hutchinson Elementary Kindergarten Class
Indian Head Church of God
Jeannette Lions Club
Jeannette Rotary
Kids Stitch, Scottdale
Kiski Middle School
Kiwianis Club of Greensburg
Knights of Columbus #2648
Latrobe Area Hospital Nurses
Latrobe United Presbyterian Church
LECOM Peds Club, Greensburg
Level Green Women’s Club
LifeSpring Christian Church, Greensburg
Lock Bible Study
Lowerer Post Office
Luxor United Methodist Church
Manor Post Office
Maplewood United Presbyterian Church, Greensburg
McKenna Senior Center
Mental Health America
Middle Presbyterian Church, Mount Pleasant
Mom’s Club of Greensburg
Mother Teresa Outreach, Mother of Sorrows Church, Murrysville
Mountain View P.T.O.
Mt. Pleasant Women’s Club
Murrysville Area AAUW
Murrysville Women’s Club
National Association of Women in Construction
National Network to End Domestic Violence
New Alexandria Lions Club, Inc.
New Hope Presbyterian Church, North Huntingdon
New Neighbors of Greensburg
New Stanton Assembly of God
Newtonsburg Presbyterian Church
Nicely Elementary School PTO
Norwin Lions Club
Norwin Senior High School
Oak Grove Church of Christ, Ligonier
Oak Hollow Community Center, North Huntingdon
Otterbein United Methodist Women, Greensburg
Our Lady of Grace Church, DePaul Center, Greensburg
Penn Area Library
Penns Woods United Methodist Church, North Huntingdon
Pennsylvania State Police, Greensburg
PEO Sisterhood, Chapter AJ, Greensburg
Phipps Conservatory
Pittsburgh Playhouse
Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra
Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium
Point Park University
Poke Run Presbyterian Church, Apollo
Razzle Dazzle Red Hat Group, Dawson
Red Hats Ladies of Adventure, Greensburg
Regional Family YMCA, Mt. Pleasant
Rehoboth Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon
Rostraver Grange
Salem Lutheran Church, Delmont
Seton Hill University Campus Ministry
Seton Hill University Residence Life
Seton Hill University Student Services
Seton Hill University
Sisters of Charity Seton Hill
Southwest Greensburg Garden Club
St. Agnes Christian Mothers, North Huntingdon
St. Agnes Church Junior Youth Church, North Huntingdon
St. Alban’s Anglican Church, Murrysville
St. Claire of Assisi Youth Group, Clairton
St. Emma Monastery, Greensburg
St. Joseph Preschool, Delmont
St. Michael’s Antiochian Orthodox Church, Greensburg
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Latrobe
St. Paul’s Rosary Society, Greensburg
St. Paul’s United Methodist Church Eve Circle, Youngwood
St. Regis Church, Trafford
St. Vincent Archabbe, Latrobe
St. Vincent College - Psi Chi, Latrobe
St. Vincent Prayer Ministry, Latrobe
Super Seniors, Jeannette
The Cos metology Academy @ Douglas
Trail Mix Hiking Club
Trinity Women of the ELCA, Latrobe
United Methodist Women, Greensburg
United Methodist Women, Irwin
United Presbyterian Church Women, Greensburg
United Presbyterian Church Women, Latrobe
University of Pittsburgh, Greensburg
Verizon Telecom Pioneers, Fort Pitt Chapter 13
VFW Post 33 Marilao Auxiliary
Waterford United Methodist Church
Westmoreland County Community College Retired & Senior Volunteer Program
Wesley Chapel Methodist Church, Scottdale
Wesley Chapel Methodist Church Women, Scottdale
West Newton Presbyterian Women
Westmoreland Area Nurses Association
Westmoreland Casemanagement
Westmoreland County Food Bank, Inc.
Westmoreland County Medical Society
Westmoreland Hospital OB Nurses Unit
Westmoreland Intermediate Unit 7
Westmoreland School Counselors
Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra
Women of The Moose Chapter 2003
YMCA of Greensburg
Youngwood Lion’s Club
Zion’s Lutheran Church Sunday School Group, Greensburg
Zion’s Lutheran Church of Harrison City
Zion’s Lutheran Church WELCA, Greensburg

DONORS from July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011