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The late Dorothy Rider Pool and her husband, Leonard Parker Pool, were generous contributors of their time and talent to the Lehigh Valley. Since the passing of Mrs. Pool in 1967 and Mr. Pool in 1975, the Rider-Pool Trustees have the privilege of carrying on their tradition of civic involvement and betterment of community through The Rider-Pool Foundation. The Trustees continue this stewardship of the rich legacy of community service of Mr. and Mrs. Pool as outlined in this report.

During calendar year 2011, The Rider-Pool Foundation awarded 66 grants, totaling $221,000, in four broad funding categories: education, human services, culture and art, and community development. We congratulate the fine boards, management, staff, and volunteers of these not-for-profit organizations who collectively contribute to the quality of life we all enjoy in the Lehigh Valley. We appreciate how the economic environment of the past several years has placed stress on our social sector. We hope our involvement is of some assistance.

Going forward, we continue to believe that the finite resources of The Rider-Pool Foundation are best used to strategically stimulate innovation and facilitate cooperative and mutually supporting programs, especially across subject areas such as education and economic development, the arts and human services, etc. We encourage the use of Rider-Pool funds to leverage support and build sustainability. Increasingly, we believe there is a need for regional indicators of progress and improvement in education, human services, and community development. As examples, if we collectively subscribe to the notion that “all children should be ready to learn” upon enrollment in the primary grades, can we develop mutually agreed standards that would enable agencies to work together on this crosscutting and worthy goal? Similarly, if high school graduation and meaningful pathways to responsible citizenship is our aspiration, how can health, education, church, civic, and other associations mutually agree on a plan of action?

We acknowledge the stressors of community work on our agencies, and yet simultaneously sense a current disconnect on an agreed quality of life agenda that impedes our collective ability to succeed. Implementing an aligned strategy will most likely occur at a neighborhood level where local residents have a chance to participate in and contribute to defining success. For this reason, we continue to be optimistic about the work of the Allentown Promise Neighborhood as a prototype for the entire region.

We are frequently reminded that Mr. Pool would be pleased, but never entirely satisfied. In that spirit, we are pleased with our progress to date in our effort to contribute to the vitality and well-being of the region. Yet there is considerably more work to do. We intend to utilize the “dissatisfaction” shown to us by Mr. Pool to spur proactive work to improve the quality of life in our communities.

Edward F. Meehan
Executive Director
FOCUS AREAS

In 1957, Leonard Parker Pool and his wife, Dorothy Rider Pool, established The Rider-Pool Foundation as a private, general-purpose foundation and on her death in 1967, Dorothy Rider Pool left her estate as the principal funder of The Rider-Pool Foundation. Mrs. Pool was a teacher by training, an accomplished pianist and painter and her husband’s valued business partner, instrumental in the growth and development of Air Products, one of the most successful businesses in the history of the Lehigh Valley. Like her husband, Mrs. Pool was deeply driven to help others in need. These values help shape the focus of The Rider-Pool Foundation.

The Trustees of The Rider-Pool Foundation have carried forth Dorothy Rider Pool’s wishes and are particularly sensitive to her interests in education, disadvantaged children and the development of future leadership in our society. Since the Pools resided in Allentown, Pennsylvania, the particular geographic interest of The Rider-Pool Foundation lies within the Lehigh Valley area of Pennsylvania. Consistent with Dorothy Rider Pool’s wishes and in keeping with the interests of Leonard Parker Pool and Dorothy Rider Pool in their lifetimes, The Rider-Pool Foundation’s intent is to serve as a means to improve the quality of life in the community, to build on the community’s strengths and add to its vitality, and to increase the capacity of the community to serve the needs of all its citizens. Within this objective, The Rider-Pool Foundation’s funding program is focused on:

EDUCATION
HUMAN SERVICES
CULTURE AND ART
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Occasionally, The Rider-Pool Foundation will engage in other special projects to be determined at the discretion of the Trustees.

Historically, Foundation grant awards have ranged between $2,000 and $10,000. Projects are generally funded for one year, but multiyear requests may be submitted where appropriate. The overwhelming majority of this support has been within the Lehigh Valley of Pennsylvania.
The mission of The Hillside School is to maximize the potential of a child with learning disabilities through excellence in education. The small private school is an accredited elementary, K-6 coed day school, where children with learning differences succeed. A maximum of eight students in each classroom are instructed using multisensory learning strategies in a stimulating academic environment. The school provides guidance, language therapists, assistive technology, and a Summer Academy. A reading program, RAVE-O, which was supported by The Rider-Pool Foundation, is a curriculum in reading fluency and a comprehension program for intervention with first through fourth graders struggling to acquire fluency. RAVE-O combines the best knowledge about phonological processes, decoding principles, and vocabulary development with new knowledge about lexical retrieval and automaticity for the subprocesses of reading.
HUMAN SERVICES

American Red Cross of the Greater Lehigh Valley

The American Red Cross, a humanitarian organization led by volunteers and guided by its congressional charter and the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross Movement, will provide relief to victims of disasters and help people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies.

In 2011, The Rider-Pool Foundation supported a program entitled “The First Aid for Children Today (F.A.C.T.)” which is a comprehensive health and safety education program for children ages 5 to 8 (grades K-3). The program teaches children about health promotion and injury-prevention activities. Its environmental theme teaches safety in a nonthreatening way. Topics include hygiene and health habits, first aid, personal safety and injury prevention.

Stitches of Love, Inc.

Stitches of Love is an all volunteer organization whose members knit, crochet, weave and sew baby clothes, blankets, prayer shawls, funeral covers and children’s winter items (hats, scarves, mittens) for those in need. The group provides these items to local crisis pregnancy centers, hospitals, shelters and US Armed Forces personnel serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. More than 33 hospitals and 35 human service agencies have received donated items. In 2011, Afghanistan was the primary beneficiary from this group.
CULTURE AND ART

Allentown Symphony Association, Inc.
Allentown Symphony Association has increased the interest of Lehigh Valley Not-For-Profits in utilizing/renting Symphony Hall meeting rooms and performance spaces to create a vibrant community destination filled with diverse programming and special events. Bringing greater numbers of people to Symphony Hall has played a significant role in revitalizing the cultural arts district in downtown Allentown. Allentown Symphony Association strives to grow the diversity of its audience and increase its relevance to the Lehigh Valley community by expanding the number of arts, cultural and civic events presented year-round. The Rider-Pool Foundation has provided resources to Allentown Symphony Association to enable not-for-profits to utilize the spaces at Symphony Hall.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Congregations United for Neighborhood Action
Founded in 1998, Congregations United for Neighborhood Action (CuNA) is a nonpartisan, multicultural, faith-based community organization that brings people together from different backgrounds, ethnicities, economic levels, and religious traditions to promote positive change in the neighborhoods of Allentown and Bethlehem. CuNA successfully identifies, trains, and equips indigenous leaders to speak up for themselves and their communities in both Lehigh and Northampton counties.

Our community faces many threats such as drugs, violence and poverty. These are threats to our core values of being a safe and family-friendly community and have the ability to fray the foundation of the entire Lehigh Valley unless people come together to challenge the status quo. CuNA has accepted this challenge and has come together to use an organizing model based in the democratic process that builds relationships and addresses these concerns at their source, making long-term systemic changes for the good of the entire community. In that spirit, Congregations United for Neighborhood Action is kicking off two new pilot efforts in Allentown that encompass a body of learning, organizing experience, and recent studies about interventions necessary to address barriers to neighborhood vitality.
GRANTS 2011

EDUCATION

Boys & Girls Club of Allentown ........................................... $10,000.00
Community Services for Children, Inc. ................................. $2,500.00
DeSales University ................................................................ $5,000.00
Family Connection of Easton, Inc. ....................................... $4,000.00
The Hillside School ................................................................ $2,000.00
Historic Bethlehem Partnership, Inc. .................................... $2,000.00
Junior Achievement of Greater Reading
and Lehigh Valley, Inc. ........................................................ $5,000.00
Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Performing Arts ... $2,000.00
Lehigh Valley Children’s Centers, Inc. ................................. $2,000.00
Lehigh Valley Public Telecommunications Corp ................. $2,000.00
Lehigh Valley Zoological Society ........................................ $2,000.00
Moravian Academy - Summerbridge .................................... $2,500.00
Northampton County Area Community College Foundation ... $2,000.00
Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children ................................ $3,000.00
ProJeCt of Easton, Inc. ........................................................ $2,000.00
SkillsUSA Council ............................................................... $5,000.00
Volunteers of America Children’s Center .............................. $2,000.00
Wildlands Conservancy, Inc. ............................................... $2,000.00
Wildlife Information Center, Inc. ......................................... $3,000.00

HUMAN SERVICES

Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank ................................ $4,000.00
Allentown Rescue Mission, Inc. .......................................... $2,000.00
American Red Cross of the Greater Lehigh Valley ............. $2,000.00
The Arc of Lehigh and Northampton Counties, Inc. .......... $2,000.00
Boy Scouts of America, Minsi Trails Council, Inc. ............... $2,000.00
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Allentown, Inc. ....... $5,000.00
The Children’s Home of Easton .......................................... $2,000.00
Cityspace ........................................................................... $1,000.00
Community Bike Works ...................................................... $4,000.00
Elwyn .................................................................................. $1,000.00
Equi-librium, Inc. ................................................................ $2,000.00
Executive Service Corps of the Lehigh Valley ................. $2,000.00
Family Answers, Inc. ........................................................ $2,000.00
Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania, Inc. ......................... $1,000.00
Lehigh County Conference of Churches ......................... $7,500.00
Lehigh Valley Military Affairs Council .............................. $2,000.00
Manito Life Center ............................................................ $2,000.00
Meals on Wheels of Lehigh County, Inc. ............................ $2,000.00
Meals on Wheels of Northampton County/Bethlehem Area .. $2,000.00
Mosser Village Family Center ............................................ $2,000.00
Pinebrook Family Services ............................................... $2,000.00
The Program for Women and Families, Inc. .................... $2,000.00
The Salvation Army - Allentown ........................................ $10,000.00
Stephen’s Place ................................................................. $2,000.00
Stitches of Love, Inc. ........................................................ $1,000.00
Treatment Trends, Inc. ...................................................... $2,500.00
Turning Point of Lehigh Valley, Inc. ................................. $2,000.00
Valley Youth House .......................................................... $2,000.00

CULTURE AND ART

Allentown Art Museum ..................................................... $12,500.00
Allentown Symphony Association, Inc. ............................... $7,500.00
ArtsQuest ................................................................. $2,500.00
The Bach Choir of Bethlehem ............................................ $10,000.00
Ballet Guild of the Lehigh Valley, Inc. ............................... $2,000.00
The Baum School of Art .................................................... $2,000.00
Civic Theatre of Allentown ............................................... $2,000.00
Community Music School ............................................... $1,000.00
Lehigh University ............................................................. $6,000.00
Lehigh Valley Community Broadcasters Association ........ $1,000.00
Lehigh Valley Storytelling Guild ........................................ $1,000.00
Mayfair, Inc. ................................................................. $1,000.00
The Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival at DeSales University ................................................................. $12,500.00
Pennsylvania Youth Theatre .............................................. $2,000.00
Reperitory Dance Theatre ................................................ $4,000.00
SATORI, Ltd. ................................................................. $2,000.00
Touchstone Theatre ....................................................... $2,000.00

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley, Inc. .... $7,500.00
Congregations United for Neighborhood Action ................ $7,500.00
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2011

ASSETS
Cash and Cash Equivalents $198,850.00
Accrued Interest Income 11,329.00
Investments 9,347,139.00

$9,557,318.00

LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities:
Accounts Payable $13,710.00
Grants Payable 32,500.00

Total Current Liabilities 46,210.00

Long-Term Liabilities:
Grants Payable 4,998.00
Deferred Excise Tax 345.00

Total Long-Term Liabilities 5,343.00

Total Liabilities 51,553.00

NET ASSETS
Unrestricted $9,505,765.00

$9,557,318.00

The financial statements for The Rider-Pool Foundation for the years ended December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010 have been examined by the accounting firm of EisnerAmper LLP. The detailed financial report is available at The Rider-Pool Foundation office upon request.
APPLICATION PROCESS

All requests are reviewed and evaluated by The Rider-Pool Foundation's Executive Director. Final approval is determined by The Rider-Pool Foundation's Board of Trustees. Proposals are accepted throughout the calendar year. Awards are made for unsolicited proposals twice a year. For consideration for funding by June 1st, proposals must be submitted by April 1st. For consideration for funding by November 1st, proposals must be submitted by August 15th. Requests are accepted through an electronic application process. Please visit our website, www.pooltrust.org to begin this process.

Requests should be as concise as possible and include:

1. A description of need
2. Specific objectives (what you plan on accomplishing with the funds)
3. A work plan for accomplishing objectives, including a time schedule
4. A proposed method of evaluating project effectiveness
5. A budget fully defined and including all sources of financial support, committed and pending
6. Evidence of the organization’s not-for-profit tax status
7. Current Board of Directors (We also like to hear about how your Board reflects the population you serve.)

The Rider-Pool Foundation is restricted from providing funds to individuals, legislative or lobbying efforts, political or fraternal organizations or organizations outside the United States and its territories. The Rider-Pool Foundation as a policy does not provide operating or capital funds to sectarian institutions, hospitals, organizations or programs in which funds will be used primarily for the propagation of religion. Further, The Rider-Pool Foundation does not underwrite charitable or testimonial dinners, fund-raising events or related advertising or the subsidization of books, mailings or articles in professional journals.

Please contact our office with any inquiries or questions.
TRUSTEES

LEON C. HOLT, JR.
Former Vice-Chairman
Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.

JOHN P. JONES III
Former Chairman and CEO
Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.

JOHN E. MCGLADE
Chairman, President and CEO
Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.

DENISE M. GARGAN, CIMA, MBA
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Program Officer

BRIDGET I. RASSLER
Administrative Manager

REGINA M. MARKS
Program Secretary

BRENDA C. SCHOENBERGER
Secretary/Receptionist
Please visit www.pooltrust.org to learn more about The Rider-Pool Foundation, including The Foundation’s priority areas and the application process.