

Chester County
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Door Opener Award

recognizing professional advisors who strongly promote legacy philanthropy

David M. Frees, III, Esq. of Malvern, West Chester & Phoenixville

The Door Opener Award is bestowed upon a professional advisor who is an outstanding promoter of legacy philanthropy. By presenting and encouraging philanthropic initiatives to their clients, professional advisors (trust officers, estate planners, financial and wealth managers) play a crucial role in propelling philanthropy in Chester County.

This year, the Community Foundation honors local community leader David M. Frees, III, Esq. with the Door Opener Award.

An extremely accomplished professional, Frees is an estate planning attorney, author, internationally known speaker and seminar presenter. A partner of the law firm of Unruh, Turner, Burke & Frees, he has offices in West Chester, Malvern and Phoenixville. As head of the firm's Trust and Estate section, his practice focuses on planned giving, asset protection, and estate and tax planning and administration.

In his role as an estate planner, Frees frequently refers clients to the Community Foundation to establish charitable legacy funds. Says Frees, "My goal is to spread the word about the Community Foundation throughout Chester County, encouraging community involvement and legacy giving."

This goal to raise awareness about community philanthropy is a mission that other professional advisors should share, Frees believes. "I think estate planners and financial managers have an obligation," says Frees, "to ask the philanthropic question. Simply put: professional advisors need to consistently ask their clients how philanthropy fits into their life plan."