

Chester County
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Jordan Award for Lifelong Philanthropy
significant, comprehensive philanthropic achievements

Robert & Jennifer McNeil of Coatesville



Robert and Jennifer McNeil commit their time, energy, leadership and financial support to a great many Chester County causes. Bob and Jennifer are regarded as true humanitarians who have shown incredible commitment to the community. Their philanthropic impact has been felt throughout the region through personal commitment of time and energy and through their family's foundation, The Claneil Foundation. Westtown School, Handi-Crafters, Bridge of Hope, Community Volunteers in Medicine, YMCA of the Brandywine Valley, Boy Scouts of America, Chester County Council and Chester County Food Bank are some of the region's beneficiaries.

Bob and Jennifer McNeil became active in Chester County with their role in Brandywine Hospital's annual campaign and its efforts to implement Level II Trauma Services. Since the Hospital's sale to a for-profit health system, the McNeils set the pace for future leaders to follow at the newly formed Brandywine Health Foundation in Coatesville. They have annually hosted hundreds of donors at their home for the annual Garden Party fundraising event.

Jennifer is actively involved in affordable and accessible health care and youth services, where she provides valuable expertise utilizing her psychology training. She volunteers at Camp Dreamcatcher, Jenner's Pond, Community Volunteers in Medicine, and the Maternal and Child Health Consortium. Jennifer assists with the Community Volunteers in Medicine nutrition and cooking classes and participates in the Hope Chest campaign. She also co-chaired Westtown School's campaign to improve its physical education and athletic facilities. Jennifer has served on the board of the Brandywine Visiting Nurses, and she currently serves on the board of The Claneil Foundation.

Bob applies his business skills to help create financial stability for nonprofits. He has served on the Executive Committee of the Boy Scouts of Chester County Council, co-chaired "Today's Youth...Tomorrow's Leaders" Capital Campaign, and founded the first Annual 5K run. In 2004 he was honored with the prestigious Silver Beaver Award for his distinguished service to youth.

Bob co-chaired Handi-Crafters' major renovation and capital campaign, Bridge of Hope's endowment campaign, and served on CVIM's Hope Chest campaign. Bob serves on the board of The Claneil Foundation and has also served on the boards of United Cerebral Palsy and Coatesville Area Partners for Progress, among others.

Most recently, Bob has taken a hands-on leadership role in the newly restructured countywide Food Bank, Gleaning Program and West Chester Food Pantry. The Chester County Food Bank is helping Chester County by forming citizen advisory boards, incorporating new entities, determining the appropriate organizational structures, increasing food drives, and raising funds to fight hunger in Chester County. Bob and the Board have plans to greatly strengthen the food cupboards and feeding sites so that hunger is not as prevalent.

Jennifer and Bob's dedication to finding workable, sustainable solutions to community issues is truly inspiring. The Chester County region is the fortunate beneficiary of Jennifer and Bob's generosity and deep involvement.