

FRANK BREWER, *Clay-Mir Foundation*

Frank Brewer is a bona fide local success story and a shining example of how entrepreneurial vision combined with commitment to excellence can lead to phenomenal success. Born and raised in Kimberton, Frank graduated from Owen J. Roberts High School and earned his B.A. in Marketing from Kutztown University. After college he worked selling electronic security systems for ADT. After several years of work, travel and transfers within the industry, Frank thought, "I can do this better." And he did.

In 1995 Frank founded Security Services and Technologies - a company specializing in design, installation and service of integrated security management, closed circuit television, photo-ID badging and network communication systems. Before long, SST had earned an impressive list of accolades. Under Frank's leadership, INC magazine recognized SST as one of America's 500 Fastest Growing Companies in the years of 1996, 1997, and 1999. In 1998, Frank was voted by the Philadelphia Business Journal as one of the top 40 Business Leaders under age 40. In 2001, Ernst & Young named Frank as Entrepreneur of the Year. The Philadelphia Business Journal named SST which is now a subsidiary of FirstService Corporation as one of the Philadelphia Region's Fastest Growing Privately Held Companies from 1997 to 2003.

In the midst of this phenomenal growth, Frank and his wife Lorelei decided to establish the Clay-Mir Foundation at the Community Foundation. "Our business grew hugely successful and we felt obligated to help those in need," explains Frank. "We realized that our children would have more than we had ever imagined," adds Lorelei, "and we wanted to do something to keep the family grounded in the issues of the community where we live."

When the Brewers started the Clay-Mir Foundation, their son Clayton was 13 and daughter Miranda was 11. From the onset, Clayton and Miranda joined in family meetings with Community Foundation staff. They discussed why the family had created an endowed foundation, and how the money was invested in the stock market for the long term growth and capital preservation. They also discussed where they as a family wanted to make an imprint. Their experience with philanthropy has shaped who they are and what they want to accomplish. "My favorite grants," explains Miranda, "are to Friendship Ministry and One Night at a Time where we volunteer. We give our time, hard work and also give our money. We've learned that time and money go hand in hand to make a substantial difference in people's lives." "Through the Foundation," Clayton adds, "our parents have taught us that philanthropy is a powerful investment. Its impact will last forever into the future."