

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Patricia Azriel
Director of Communications
pazriel@yccf.org
717.848.3733

November 17, 2008

**YORK COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
IN TOP PHILANTHROPIC TIER NATIONALLY
The Community Foundation Meets Rigorous Standards for Quality and Accountability**

York, PA – York County Community Foundation recently received notification that it has met the nation’s highest philanthropic standards for operational quality, integrity and accountability. The notice comes from the Council on Foundations, a national professional association based in Washington, D.C.



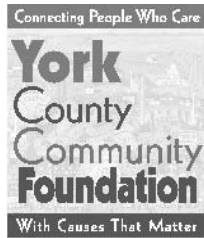
“This is similar to the Good Housekeeping Seal for community foundations,” said Steve Gunderson, Council on Foundations president and chief executive officer. “It says that York County Community Foundation has demonstrated a commitment to operational quality, integrity and accountability.”

The National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations Program requires community foundations to document their policies for donor services, investments, grantmaking, and administration. With more than 200 community foundations already confirmed in compliance nationwide, the program is designed to provide quality assurance to donors, as well as to their legal and financial advisors.

“This is critically important to our donors,” said Susan Barry, president of the Community Foundation. “When people make a charitable bequest, establish a fund or set up an annuity, they are putting their trust in us. They are counting on us to manage the investment wisely, honor their charitable wishes and, in some cases, provide lifetime income to a loved one. The National Standards confirmation says our house is in order.”

York County Community Foundation offers a range of charitable funds, allowing donors to advance a cause such as education or the environment, support an individual organization,

(more)



(Community Foundation Meets National Standards, Page 2)

provide flexible support for community needs, or recommend individual grants. In addition to affirming the organization's philanthropic services, the confirmation validates the Community Foundation's grantmaking practices for the nonprofit community.

The National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations program is the first of its kind for charitable foundations in the United States.

The Council on Foundations is a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit membership association of more than 2,000 grantmaking foundations and corporations, with assets totaling more than \$280 billion. The Council provides the opportunity, leadership, and tools needed by philanthropic organizations to expand, enhance, and sustain their ability to advance the common good. For more information on the Council, visit its website at www.cof.org.

Founded in 1961, York County Community Foundation is committed to preserving and enriching the quality of life in York County. Through leadership in advancing, encouraging, and celebrating philanthropy for the public good, we strengthen our community, now and for generations to come. York County Community Foundation granted nearly \$5 million in 2007.