

Parkersburg Area Community Foundation

Civic Leaders Fellowship

Parkersburg, West Virginia

Challenge

An extensive 2011 study done by Parkersburg Area Community Foundation found that the Mid-Ohio Valley's economic competitiveness was severely impacted by the out-migration of its educated young adults.

Innovation

The Civic Leaders Fellowship creates opportunities in the Appalachian area by delivering jobs for the next generation and cultivating the fellow's interest in returning to and serving their communities.

Overview

The Fellowship was conceived by Parkersburg Area Community Foundation and its Advisory Committee (made up of local and regional government, higher and public education, business, industry, and nonprofit representatives). It ensures that area students acquire work experience and are exposed to community leadership activities while in college and builds a network between Fellows, employers, and local leaders. Thus far, 98 Fellows have completed at least 1 year of the program and 80 percent of the participants are employed within a 3-hour radius of Parkersburg Area Community Foundation.

PARTNERS

City, local, and state government agencies, universities, nonprofit organizations, regional businesses and local schools.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Judy Sjostedt
(JudyS@pacfwv.com)

