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For Immediate Release

### **ALMIRA FOUNDATION REACHES 4 MILLION DOLLARS GRANTED OUT TO THE COMMUNITY**

NEW CASTLE, Pa. (May, 11 2018)— Passion and dedication over the span of many years have led the Almira Foundation to do exactly what it was created to do—to give back and help individuals and organizations in the community. That passion is also what allowed the Almira Foundation, a foundation established within the Lawrence County Community Foundation, to reach a milestone by recently granting its 4 millionth dollar out into the community.

It's hard to believe that while the Almira Foundation became a part of the Lawrence County Community Foundation in 2002, it all began back in 1891 when two sisters simply saw a need for a home where elderly women could live and feel secure and comfortable. To fulfill that need, Almira Martin and Ella Reeder started out by going door-to-door to collect funds. Their very first donation was a five dollar bill.

Those five dollars were just the start the sisters needed and within a couple of years, \$10,000 had been donated toward the building of the home. Over the years, the Almira home grew, flourished and expanded to house men as well. After years and years of service to the community, the home began phasing out and in 2000, the home closed due to low occupancy. The Almira Foundation was then established in its place.

“The goals of the foundation are to assist children and the elderly in the Lawrence County,” said Carol Kennaday, a member of the Almira Foundation Board of Directors. “Individuals and groups who demonstrate a need for charitable support are also helped.”

Thanks to the Almira Foundation, over \$225,000 is now granted out into the community each year to organizations in need. One of those organizations, The Gussie M. Walker Community Outreach Organization, has continuously received support from the Almira Foundation over the years.

“The funds that the Gussie M. Walker Community Outreach Organization receives for the Walker House After-School and Summer programs enables us to feed the underprivileged youth of our community on

a daily basis and provide the basic supplies needed for our programs,” said Carol Barber of the Gussie M. Walker Community Outreach Organization. “As a nonprofit organization, we would not be able to provide services for either program if it were not for the support of the Almira Foundation and that of others in our community. “

Additional organizations and programs the Almira Foundation supports include: Options in Aging, Crisis Shelter of Lawrence County, Pittsburgh Symphony’s program for Lawrence County Youth, Children’s Advocacy, Cray Youth and Family Services and the Human Services Center of Lawrence County.

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*Founded in 1981, the Community Foundation of Western PA & Eastern OH is comprised of 6 affiliate foundations: the Lawrence Community Foundation, the Grove City Foundation, the Northern Mercer County Community Foundation, the Trumbull County Community Foundation, the Shenango Valley Foundation, and the Northern Trumbull County Community Foundation. As a whole, the Community Foundation has over 700 funds which contain upwards of \$90 million.*