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For Immediate Release

GROVE CITY FOUNDATION PARTNERS WITH GROVE CITY COLLEGE STUDENTS TO HELP LOCAL COMMUNITY

GROVE CITY, Pa. (January 19, 2018)— This past semester, students enrolled in a class centered around social entrepreneurship had the opportunity to learn directly from local charities.

“Our region is blessed with incredible charitable organizations that work on a daily basis to help improve the lives of those in our community that need it most.” said Kyle English, Executive Director of the Community Foundation of Western PA & Eastern OH, “It made perfect sense to have the students learn from, and also help, the local leaders that are running these terrific organizations.”

The 25 students in the class were divided into 4 teams, which then toured either the Children’s Aid Society of Mercer County, the Grove City YMCA, George Junior Republic, or the Hope Center for Arts and Technology. The executive director of the organization then asked the team to help them in solving a problem that they were encountering. Coming up with a solution to this problem was the central component of the team’s final project in the class.

The students based their solutions on what they learned about the missions of the different organizations. “Getting the students off campus to learn about the commitment it takes to run a successful organization was an invaluable experience for them. By having the students then come up with the solution to a real world problem, and explain how that solution would fit into the organization’s structure, it gave them the opportunity to think like an executive director” added Professor Tim Sweet.

Jordan Horst, a student in the class, concurred by adding “Most external school projects are done remotely. Even with communication and access to information, the projects seem like somewhat of a simulation. Actually having the ability to visit the location and meet the people affected by the program made it more authentic.”

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The Grove City Foundation provided each organization with a grant of \$500 to help them execute the students' solutions. The students were able to present the checks to representatives of the organizations that were able to attend class and watch their presentations.

"The Grove City Foundation is always looking for different ways to support the Grove City community. It was great to play a role in providing this experience for the students while at the same time supporting local charitable organizations" said Kyle English.

The Grove City Foundation is one of 6 affiliates within the Community Foundation of Western PA & Eastern OH. As a whole, funds within the Community Foundation grant over \$5 million into our region on an annual basis.