

**For more information about
The Giving Pledge, contact:**



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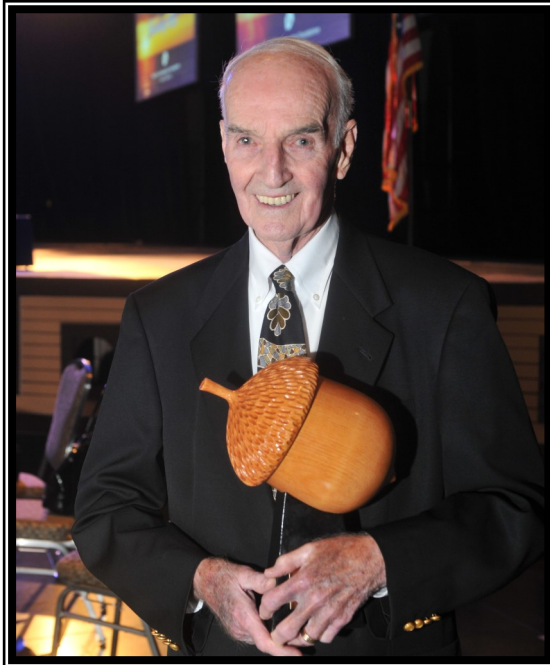
THE GIVING PLEDGE
Sponsored by The Erie Community Foundation

What is The Giving Pledge?

Imagine. . .

- Hundreds of nonprofits, supported by The Erie Community Foundation, working each year to encourage their donors to consider a planned gift.
- Harnessing the type of energy which surrounds Erie Gives to encourage thoughtful, enduring plans that will benefit our community forever.
- Our nonprofit sector, generations from now, benefiting from decisions made today.

This is the power of **The Giving Pledge**, a program of The Erie Community Foundation.



M. Fletcher Gornall, Esq. passed away at the age of 92 in 2015, but by remembering his favorite nonprofits in his estate plans, he will continue to support them forever.

The Center for Rural Pennsylvania estimates \$4.79 billion will transfer from one generation to another over the next five years in Erie County. While more than 80 percent of Americans contribute to nonprofits during their lifetime, it is estimated that far less than 20 percent of Americans include a provision for their favorite nonprofits in their will or estate plans.

Imagine the positive impact just 10 percent of this \$4.79 billion would have on local schools, churches, hospitals, youth, arts, animal protection, history and other favored nonprofits if used to create a charitable legacy.

The Erie Community Foundation sponsors and supports **The Giving Pledge**. Working with our colleagues at The Nonprofit Partnership, we encourage nonprofits to ask that their donors consider pledging to include their favorite nonprofits in their will or other estate plans. The Erie Community Foundation and The Nonprofit Partnership will not benefit from these pledges; our goal is to encourage nonprofits in this region to initiate the planned giving discussion with their donors.

Because plans sometimes change, **The Giving**

Pledge is non-binding. If you need help starting the conversation with your donors, we are happy to assist you.

As an incentive, The Erie Community Foundation will honor the nonprofits obtaining the most pledge commitments each year.

The mission of The Erie Community Foundation is to improve the quality of life for all in our region by evaluating and addressing community issues, by building permanent charitable endowments and by promoting philanthropic and community leadership. **The Giving Pledge** will help us fulfill this mission and increase our ability to serve our region for generations to come. Ensure the longevity of your organization and our community—starting obtaining pledges *today!*



At the age of 99, Margaret Spaeder peacefully passed away in 2007. Due to her thoughtful estate planning, her generosity lives on and will impact her favorite nonprofits for generations to come.