

About the Foundation:

The Leighty Foundation has its roots in the humble beginnings of the Isaac and Ethel Leighty family. Isaac and Ethel were married in 1904 and began rearing their five children, while sharecropping in Macomb, Illinois.

In 1919 after helping a neighbor family who contracted tuberculosis, Ethel became bedridden with the disease herself. With five children, four to fourteen, Isaac was forced to give up farming and move his wife and children to a small, two-bedroom home at 321 West Kelly Street in Macomb, which he rented for fifteen dollars per month. He took jobs as a day laborer to feed his family. In her weakened condition, Ethel died during the flu epidemic in February 1921. Isaac and his children had hit bottom.



Ethel and Isaac Leighty – 1904

Then the miracle began to unfold. God had placed the family in the middle of loving, caring and sharing neighbors and relatives, who rallied to help look after them. Mother Moon, a neighbor with ten children of her own, melded the family in with hers, seeing that they got to Sunday school and had clothing, food and love.

The five children became a close-knit family, leading productive lives that made a difference, each in their own way. Wayne, the oldest, became a Methodist pastor, and a great spiritual resource to the family. Marvin was a hard working manufacturing manager. Veda took on the mothering responsibilities of her siblings at thirteen, and then balanced a career and a family, as an adult. Freida, who had special needs and education requirements, became the focus of compassionate love for the family. H. D. (Ike), the youngest, became a successful entrepreneur, whose contributions created The Leighty Foundation in 1985.

Ike is the co-founder of Engineered Products Company in Waterloo, Iowa, where he has been a business and community leader for fifty years. EPC is the maker of the patented Filter Minder gauge for truck and automotive air cleaners. He sold the business in early 1998 to the management team and employees who have assumed the stewardship for both the increasing potential for the idea...and their own destiny.



Directors and Advisors - 2008

Next to love, the most important word in Christianity is stewardship: stewardship of the gospel of Jesus Christ, stewardship of the priceless gift of life, stewardship of the opportunities for love and productivity which God places before us, and the stewardship of the share of His great bounty which may be entrusted to us.

Ike invited his two children and their spouses to participate with him in the stewardship of the Foundation. In 2010, three members of the next generation joined the Board of Directors. In addition, four others have volunteered to serve as Advisors. Family members have diverse interests, experiences and geographic locations, but they enjoy building consensus out of that diversity.

Emile and Ike Leighty married in 2004. Emile has become a valued friend and Associate Director of the Foundation.

We are privileged and humbled to be entrusted by God with the stewardship of resources to help put His arms around those less fortunate than we, to contribute to the creation of a sustainable future, and to encourage others in the development of their philanthropy.

We can never repay that which has been given to us by those who love us - we can only pass it on. It is in this spirit that we dedicate and distribute the resources of The Leighty Foundation.

2010-2011 CONTRIBUTIONS

EARTH PROTECTION

1000 Friends of Iowa
Alaska Center for the Environment
Alaska Community Action on Toxics
Alaska Conservation Foundation
Climate Solutions
Community Alliance with Family Farmers
Earthworks
Environmental Defense Fund
Ground Truth Trekking
Jane Goodall Institute
Juneau Watershed Partnership
Natural Resources Defense Council
Plains Justice
PlugIn America
Sitka Conservation Society
Southeast Alaska Conservation Council
Southeast Alaska Land Trust
The Land Institute
Tides Center, Rivers Without Borders
Trustees for Alaska
Windustry

EDUCATION

Alliance for Sustainable Colorado
Cedar Valley Catholic Schools
Cedar Valley Preschool & Child Care Center
Children's Literacy Center
Coast Alaska Radio
Colorado Nonprofit Association
Colorado Public Radio
Discovery Southeast
Gastineau Channel Historical Society
Island Institute
Juneau School District
National Outdoor Leadership School
National Wildlife Federation,
Alaska Youth for Environmental Action
National Wrestling Hall of Fame, Dan Gable Museum
University of Northern Iowa Foundation,
Center for Energy & Environmental Education
Waterloo Community Schools

PROMOTION OF PHILANTHROPY

Center for Nonprofit Excellence
Colorado Association of Funders
Greccio Housing
Pikes Peak United Way
TESSA

HEALTH and HUMAN COMMUNITY

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Alaska Public Telecommunications, KSKA Radio
Amnesty International
Asla Foundation
Doctors Without Borders USA
Ecumenical Social Ministries
EngenderHealth
Family and Children's Council of Black Hawk County
Gastineau Humane Society
Gazette-El Pomar Foundation Empty Stocking Fund
Mat-Su Borough Animal Care and Regulation
National Public Radio
Operation Rainbow, Inc
Peak Vista Community Health Centers
Plan USA
Planned Parenthood Federation of America
Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest
Porch Productions
Save the Children
Self-Help International
Shjon Podein Children's Foundation
Yolo County SPCA

PEACEMAKING

Handicap International, Landmine Project
Internat'l Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War
World Security Institute, Center for Defense Information

SPIRITUALITY

Dale House
Downing House
Family Life Services
MOPS
New Life of New York City, Inc.
Potter's Inn
UW Sports Ministry

VOLUNTEERISM & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Early Connections
Metro Volunteers
Pikes Peak Community Foundation,
Edmundson Capacity Building Fund
Points of Light Institute
Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado

WOMEN'S INTERESTS

Rocky Mountain Women's Film Festival
Women's Resource Agency

2010-2011 GRANTS

EARTH PROTECTION

Alaska Conservation Alliance – Anchorage, AK
State Energy Plan; Alaska Clean Energy Campaign

Audubon Alaska – Anchorage, AK
Alaska's Important Bird Area Program

Center for Science in Public Participation – Bozeman, MT
Alaska Technical and Regulatory Support Program

Cook Inletkeeper – Homer, AK
Promoting Positive Alternatives to Coal in a Changing Climate

Environmental Law and Policy Center – Chicago, IL
Iowa Office Energy Initiatives

Iowa Environmental Council – Des Moines, IA
Energy Program and Global Warming Solutions

Iowa Renewable Energy Association – Iowa City, IA
Renewable Energy Training Workshop Series

Nature Conservancy Alaska Chap. – Anchorage, AK
Southeast Alaska

Renewable Energy Alaska Project – Anchorage, AK
General Support

PROMOTION OF PHILANTHROPY

Association of Small Foundations – Washington, DC
Strategic planning and re-branding initiative

The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University, Women's
Philanthropy Institute – Indianapolis, IN
WPI 2011 Symposium, "Women World Wide Leading through
Philanthropy"

National Center for Family Philanthropy – Washington, DC
Research and education regarding CEO role in family
foundations

VOLUNTEERISM & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Catamount Institute – Colorado Springs, CO
Volunteer engagement efforts

CASA of the Pikes Peak Region, Inc – Colorado Springs, CO
Diligent Search Project: searching for family placement options
for children

Fostering Hope Foundation – Colorado Springs, CO
Volunteer engagement efforts

Hope & Home – Colorado Springs, CO
'Hope Workers' volunteer engagement efforts

Interfaith Hospitality Network of Colorado Springs – Colorado
Springs, CO
Volunteer Family Mentoring program

Leadership Pikes Peak – Colorado Springs, CO
Women's Community Leadership Initiative; develop, train, and
facilitate young professionals toward service on local nonprofit
boards

Partners in Housing – Colorado Springs, CO
Volunteer and financial resource development

Pikes Peak Community Foundation – Colorado Springs, CO
Volunteer recruitment and retention efforts for Aspen Valley
Ranch, Pinello Ranch, and community fitness initiative

Trails and Open Space Coalition – Colorado Springs, CO
Volunteer engagement efforts

Urban Peak Colorado Springs – Colorado Springs, CO
Volunteer engagement efforts

EDUCATION AND HUMAN COMMUNITY

Waterloo Development Corporation – Waterloo, IA
Cedar Valley SportsPlex

Covenant House Alaska – Anchorage, AK
General support

Direct Charitable Activities

Jane Leighty Justis is active in leadership and work with regional and national organizations which support volunteerism & civic engagement, and the promotion of philanthropy. Bill Leighty collaborates in energy policy research and presents papers at national and international energy conferences.

GRANT APPLICATION INFORMATION

OUR MISSION

To carry on the Leighty Family legacy of service and stewardship by leveraging our time and talents, as well as our financial resources, primarily in the areas of Earth Protection, Education, Volunteerism & Civic Engagement, and the promotion of Philanthropy.

GUIDELINES

The Leighty Foundation is a family foundation incorporated under Iowa law. We distribute grants and contributions to tax-exempt charitable organizations only. We are committed to the wise allocation of human, financial, and natural resources. We fund organizations that deal with today's problems and opportunities in ways which meet current needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. We increase the impact of our grants by investing in organizations that effectively engage volunteer resources to accomplish their mission.

We are a small foundation, and since we invest time in some way with each of our grantees, we consider only grant proposals that we have solicited. Please make initial contact by e-mail to Jill Haubert, our Executive Associate, with a one-page letter that includes:

- the mission of the organization
- the intended outcome of the endeavor
- the need to be addressed
- the size of the grant requested

If your organization is invited to apply, you will receive a notice from us.

Most of our grant decisions are made during our summer board meeting. However, proposals may be considered at any time during the year.

Grants are usually made for one year or one project. Grants proceed from a formal proposal and range between \$3,000 - \$10,000. A written evaluation of the project is required from each grantee. Contributions are also made each year. The majority of contributions are \$500 to \$3,000.

We generally do not consider funding for capital projects. However, when we do, we are particularly interested in building design and energy efficiency, land use, and community planning – consistent with our dedication to sustainability and to sprawl prevention. If you are planning a capital project, we suggest you download our “Investing in Capital Projects” paper from our website.

The Board of Directors of the Leighty Foundation

H.D. Leighty, Founder and President
Jane Leighty Justis
Robert F. Justis
Ryan D. Justis

Wayne W. Leighty
William C. Leighty
Heidi Reifenstein
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