



OUTREACH

*Economic Development News
from Tioga County, Pennsylvania*

Summer Edition 2001 Issue 17

SPECIAL EDITION *TCDC's 10th Anniversary*

The *Tioga County Development Corporation* celebrated a major milestone with the Celebration of Our 10th Anniversary at our 8th Annual Meeting. To celebrate our Anniversary, this Special Edition of *OUTREACH* is dedicated to the Accomplishments & Highlights of the past ten years. It all began on January 27, 1989 with a countywide economic forum to discuss how all of Tioga County could work together in our economic development efforts. The rest is history . . .



8th Annual Meeting a Success

A Celebration of Our 10th Anniversary

On July 30, 2001, the *Tioga County Development Corporation* held its 8th Annual Meeting at the Mansfield Firemen's Auxiliary Community Center in Mansfield, Pennsylvania. The Evening began with a Reception at **First Citizens National Bank's** new Corporate Banking Center in Mansfield from 5:00 PM until 6:30 PM. First Citizens National Bank was the Corporate Sponsor for the Event. Tours of the beautiful new building were given by the Bank's staff while the guests enjoyed the Reception, which was catered by the *Antler's Inn*.

The Dinner, which was catered by Aramark of Mansfield University, began at 7:00 PM. There were 150 people from around the county and beyond in attendance. Piano Chamber Music was provided by **Diana Barnes**, Principal of Williamson Junior Senior High School. **Kristi Cornelius**, **Kate Lerch** and **Rebecca Bockus** from **Phi Beta Lambda**, the Mansfield University Charter of the National Business Fraternity, served as Greeters and Receptionists for the Reception and the Dinner.

The Evening was a celebration of *Tioga County Development Corporation's* 10th Anniversary. A Celebration of the Past, Present and Future was the theme throughout the Event. **TCDC** President **David E. Cummings** served as Master of Ceremony for the Dinner. Several **TCDC** Directors took part in the meeting: **Cathy Canniere** gave a Prayer of Celebration; **Karen Hammer** and **David Rundell** announced the winners of the door prizes; and **Dr. Edward C. Nichols** offered the Slate of new **TCDC** Directors who were elected by the Members.

Our Past . . . A Reflection

Message from TCDC President David E. Cummings

We are celebrating our 10th Anniversary . . . an achievement made possible by a great many people.

We thank you, our Members, for your continued support. More than 250 businesses, organizations and individuals support TCDC through Memberships. We thank all of our Directors . . . present and past . . . for your contributions of time and talent. Fifty-three women and men from every corner of Tioga County, representing business, industry, education, health care, agriculture, utilities, government, and private citizens have served as Directors. We recognize our ongoing partners, *Tioga County Partnership for Community Health, Northcentral AHEC, NTRPDC, Laurel Health System, Mansfield University, Pennsylvania College of Technology, BOOM, GROW, Elkland and Westfield IDC's, Small Business Development Center/University of Scranton, Northern Tier Industry Educational Consortium, Tioga County Career Development Committee, K-16 Council, and School to Work Initiatives* with our three public school systems, *Southern Tioga, Northern Tioga and Wellsboro Area School Districts*. Lastly, but most importantly, I commend the TCDC staff for their dedication and hard work.

We have prepared a Special 10th Anniversary Edition of this newsletter containing many of the accomplishments of the *Corporation* and economic development activities which have occurred in Tioga County. The accomplishments are amazing for such a small non-profit organization which has only had a professional staff since 1994.

Tioga County Development Corporation has worked hard over the past ten years. We will continue to serve you in Tioga County . . . you can help us as we begin our second decade of service . . . facing new challenges in the 21st Century . . . economic challenges, workforce development challenges and technology education challenges . . . in our quest to make *Tioga County . . . a place to call home.*

Rod C. Kelchner Speaks at TCDC's 8th Annual Meeting

"I think Tioga County is a better place to live because of TCDC." This is a quote from Rod C. Kelchner's speech at TCDC's 8th Annual Meeting. He spoke enthusiastically about the Past and all of the accomplishments TCDC has had since its inception. He reflected on the formation of the *Tioga County Development Corporation* and reminded everyone present at the Annual Meeting about the importance of working together for a common goal. *"As you know, this county is not without competition within our communities. In finding representatives to serve on TCDC's Board of directors, a balance of interests was key to the group's success. The goal was to be cooperative, not competitive."*

Rod C. Kelchner was a past Chairman for the *Tioga County Economic Development Task Force* and the Founding President of the *Tioga County Development Corporation*. He has been a Chairman of the Tioga County Partnership for Community Health, a Member of the Betterment Organization of Mansfield (BOOM), Past President of the North Penn Comprehensive Health Services Corporation, and President of the Jones Foundation. He graduated from Bloomsburg University with a Bachelor's Degree and has a Masters Degree from Bucknell University. Rod was the first recipient of the *Tioga County Development Corporation's Rod C. Kelchner President's Award*.

Highlights

Tioga County Development Corporation

The philosophy behind the creation of TCDC . . . working together in Tioga County . . . has resulted in some impressive accomplishments during these first ten years. The following are some of the major undertakings . . . complete by no means, but certainly an indication of the impact the *Tioga County Development Corporation* has had on Tioga County.

“Ward Manufacturing, Inc., is pleased to support the Tioga County Development Corporation's Capital Campaign. In fact we believe it is our duty and responsibility to support TCDC and economic development in Tioga County. Not once during all the times they have assisted us did they ask for any financial compensation. We are indeed fortunate to have such a professional first class operation in our County serving as our industry & business advocate.

Ward and our employees are indebted to TCDC and we believe in meeting our social obligation . . . in this case, it is just good business sense to invest in TCDC and the future economic growth of our County. It is now time for the private sector to step to the table and assist TCDC for all they have done to assist us.”

Doyne Chartrau,
President & COO
Ward Manufacturing, Inc.

Major Members Events

Annual Meetings

In July 1994, the 1st Annual Meeting was instituted . . . here we are at our 8th. Several noted Speakers have keynoted.

Legislative Breakfasts

As a public informational service to our Members, a Legislative Breakfast is held each Spring with our Federal and State Legislators. On May 4, 2001, we conducted our 4th Annual Legislative Breakfast.

Town Meeting

Our first *Town Meeting: Career & Technology Education (CTE) and Work Force Development* was conducted on May 4, 2001.

Membership Campaigns

An Annual Membership Campaign is kicked off at our Legislative Breakfast. Membership has ranged from 138 to 206 for the past 7 Years. As of July 30, 2001 we have 150 Members.

OUTREACH Economic News for Tioga County

Beginning in 1992 sixteen Issues of our Newsletter, **OUTREACH**, have been published internally to inform our Members of economic news throughout Tioga County. Special Editions on **Work Force Development** and **Leadership Tioga County** have highlighted major TCDC Initiatives.

TCDC Capital Campaign

In 1999 the *Tioga County Development Corporation* embarked on a Capital Campaign to solicit funding support from major employers in Tioga County. This quiet internal campaign resulted in a commitment of \$224,150 from thirty-four (34) Companies, Organizations and Individuals. The purpose of the Campaign was to develop a sustainable cash flow for TCDC. *A Special Thank You to all of our Capital Campaign Contributors for Your Investment in Tioga County.*

TCDC Finances

TCDC relies on several sources of income, both public and private to sustain our operations. In October 2000 TCDC reached a milestone by exceeding \$1 Million in accumulated income since 1991. . . a major accomplishment for such a young non profit corporation. As of July 30, 2001, \$1,184,387 in income has come into TCDC from the following sources:

Grants	\$623,669 (53%)	Contributions	\$195,725 (17%)	Fund Drive	\$163,012 (14%)
Memberships	\$73,240 (6%)	Fees	\$53,518 (5%)	Rent	\$26,435 (2%)
LTC Program	\$13,350 (1%)	Meetings	\$28,890 (2%)	Interest	\$6,549 (1%)

TCDC thanks all our financial supporters for *Your Investment in Tioga County.*

Community Accomplishments

“TCDC has been instrumental in helping the Lawrence Township Municipal Authority through the process of bringing our \$3.4 Million sewer project to fruition ... it has been a hard, yet educational and enjoyable process through which TCDC has helped ease the way. We are proud to be involved in the economic development of the area and look forward to continued cooperation and help from TCDC.”

Marwin Cummings
Chair
Lawrence Township Municipal Authority

- Development of a countywide economic development strategy, *OUTREACH To The Future* in 1992, concentrating on assisting our existing businesses & industries.
- In 2000 TCDC began an update to our Strategic Plan. *OUTREACH To The Future . . . Going Forward from 2000* will be completed in 2001 through a \$12,500 Land Use Planning Technical Assistance Program (LUPTAP) Grant from DCED and TCDC funds.
- Recipient of \$623,669 in State Grants for the operation of TCDC (1991-Present).
- Designation as a Council of Governments (COG) by the Commonwealth in 1994, as the countywide economic development organization for Tioga County & our thirty-nine boroughs and townships.
- Received Shared Municipal Services (SMS) designation from the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED) in 1996.
- Key Sponsor for the Liberty Visioning Process & lead Administrative Entity for the Liberty Strategic Plan Process, resulting in a State Planning Assistance Program (SPAG) grant of \$10,000 for a Strategic Plan for Liberty Borough, Liberty Township & Jackson Township (Lycoming County).
- Secured nearly \$4.5 Million for the Lawrence Township Municipal Sewer Project and served as the Administrative Entity for the Lawrence Township Municipal Authority for the Grants & Loan Administration.
- Designated a Certified Industrial Development Corporation (IDC)
- Designated Lead Tioga County Economic Development Organization by the Tioga County Commissioners in 1998 and became eligible recipient for State Local Economic Development Assistance (LEDA) funding.
- In 2000-01 coordinated the Partners In Progress (PIP) Project with the NTRPDC and the Tioga County Redevelopment Authority to secure \$1 Million in Public Grants from EDA, CDBC, ARC and CRP matched with a \$350,000 local PIP Campaign. PIP will renovate a building in Mansfield Borough for its Operations Center for its clients with Special Needs.

Community Involvement

- A quality contemporary highway system is paramount to growth and development of our County, as well as the safety of our citizens. TCDC is actively involved in the *Route 15 Coalition, Appalachian Thruway Association, Northern Tier Welcome Center*.
- TCDC is very involved with the municipalities of Tioga County and participates monthly with the *Tioga County Association of Boroughs* and semi-annually with the *Tioga County Association of Township Officials*.
- Prime Sponsor and Administrative Entity of the *1995 International Countryside Exchange*.
- Key charter partner in the *Tioga County Partnership For Community Health*, a countywide organization of public and private sector partners.
- Cooperative working relationship with economic organizations in Tioga County, Northern Tier Regional Planning & Development Commission and through the Pennsylvania Economic Development Association (PEDA).
- TCDC is an instrumental player in the *Tioga County School To Work Partners Program* with the *Northern Tier Industry Education Consortium* to assure our employers have a trained educated workforce. Workforce Development is one of the major concerns of our business & industry.
- Active partner in the *Tioga County Employer Advisory Council (EAC)* of the Tioga County Job Center. Involved as a partner in the Tioga County *TEAM Pennsylvania CareerLink* creation.
- Recipient of the prestigious *Excellence in Local Government Leadership Award* for “Promoting Community & Economic Revitalization” from the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development’s *Center For Local Government Services* in 1998 for our roll in countywide economic development.

Our involvement and our accomplishments have contributed to the improved quality of life of our communities, our citizens, our businesses & industries and our environment for 10 years . . .

Corporate & Business Assistance

- Secured \$28,128,000 in public loan financing for 24 industries resulting in private investments of \$103,175,000; retention of 2,808 jobs; creation of 610 new manufacturing jobs; and 659,050 new square footage in buildings in Tioga County.
- Assisted **Ward Manufacturing, Inc.** in securing state assistance for ACP Division in the amount of \$7.1 Million (included \$4.5 Million for the Lawrence Township Municipal Sewer System) and \$2.9 Million for the WARDFLEX® Phase I Project. Phase II completed in 2001. Received public funding of \$345,000.
- Assisted **ElectriCord Manufacturing Company, Inc.** management in a \$7 Million private-public financing package to purchase the Company, saving 140 jobs in Westfield.
- Designation and Administration of the **49 CORRIDOR Enterprise Zone** in 1995 . . . one of only 51 in Pennsylvania.
- Secured three Enterprise Zone Grants resulting in \$750,000 of Revolving Loan Funds to **ElectriCord Manufacturing Company, Inc.** and **Ward Manufacturing, Inc.** (WARDFLEX® Phases I and II)
- Sponsored our first PEDFA (Pennsylvania Economic Development Finance Authority) Loan for **Woodhouse Post & Beam Homes, Inc.** in December 1997, for \$400,000. TCDC has packaged PEDFA Loans on behalf of the **Tioga County Industrial Development Authority**, including **Wheeland Lumber, Inc.** for \$1,100,000.
- Prepared PIDA (Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority) Loan Applications on behalf of the **Betterment Organization of Mansfield (BOOM)** for **Ward Manufacturing, Inc.** (\$2 Million) and **Kingdom, Inc.** (\$400,000).
- Assisted **Roosa Engraving, Inc.** in securing a \$25,000 public loan from the **Northern Tier Regional Planning & Development Commission**.
- Provides direct technical assistance to nearly 100 small business clients annually.
- Prime county promoter of the *Tioga County Tax Preferential Abatement Program* for property tax reductions for business expansions and developments. Developed revised Abatement Program in 1999 for Tioga County Commissioners consideration.
- Serve as **TEAM Pennsylvan!a** Agent for Tioga County since 1998 as designated by the Tioga County Commissioners. We have conducted over 90 Business Calling Interviews, resulting in assistance to our businesses & industries.
- Conducted *Industry Matters!* Workshop in 1995 to assist businesses in public assistance available to them.
- Provided direct assistance to **ElectriCord Manufacturing Company, Inc.** and **Ward Manufacturing, Inc.**, in securing \$250,000 in Opportunity Grant Funds for both and **E. H. Hall, Inc./Westfield Tanning Company** for \$100,000.
- Serve as an advocate for business & industry with many of our 39 municipalities, the County, State and Federal Agencies.
- Serve as the lead county advocate organization for the promotion of economic development directly to our business & industry neighbors passionately striving to assist you in your growth and development.

“TCDC was extremely helpful in helping us evaluate our alternatives and preparing the grant and loan applications for us . . . Even hand delivering them and staying on top of the process until my dream became a reality. TCDC helped us obtain 100% of the financing that we went after. They played a major part in making it possible for us to purchase ElectriCord and remain in Westfield. TCDC was there for us when we needed them and we are here for them now. They need our support and they have 100% from ElectriCord Manufacturing Company, Inc.”

Mitch Samuels
President & CEO
ElectriCord Manufacturing Company, Inc.

TIOGA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE

Tioga County, Pennsylvania

Board of Directors

Roster 1989-1991

Original Members

Robert J. Blair
A. Thomas Egglar
Rod C. Kelchner
John Kuster
William Lex
Robert Morris
F. David Pennypacker
Joseph Stoddard
Jean Ward
Mary Worthington

Cathy Canniere
Raymond Kaminski
Charles L. Kenyon
C. Frederick LaVancher
John D. Lewis
David Murdock
Thomas Rudy
Robert Toombs
Linda Williams
Richard Wilber

Replacement Members

David E. Cummings
Donald W. Gfroerer
Fred Leach
Denis Landry
Donald Norman
David Rundell

Chartered by the
TIOGA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

O. Richard Bartlett, Chairman
Brian Edgcomb
Van W. Emmons

Tioga County Development Corporation

Tioga County, Pennsylvania

Board of Directors

Roster 1991-Present

Incorporated May 22, 1991

Charter Members

Robert J. Blair
Donald Carman
K. Robert Cunningham
Donald W. Gfroerer
Rod C. Kelchner
Karl Kroeck
C. Frederick LaVancher
Robert Morris
F. David Pennypacker
Jean Ward
Mary Worthington

Cathy Canniere
David E. Cummings
A. Thomas Egglar
Raymond Kaminski
Charles L. Kenyon
Denis Landry
William Lex
Donald Norman
David Rundell
Linda Williams

Replacement Members

Karen Hammer
Fred Leach
Hope Gibson
John Martin
Edward C. Nichols
Thomas Phinney
Ralph Salvage
Jon Seely
Terry Schroeder
Robert Wirth
Mark A. Germino
Philip Wood
Leo Parchesky

Richard Wilson
Gary A. Mosher
David High
Dennis Huyler
Brian H. Keck
Thomas Freeman
Erick J. Coolidge
Dr. John R. Halstead
Wendy S. Swartz
William D. Hall
Patty Vlajic
Gary Dinnison

Staff

Robert J. Blair, Executive Director
Carolyn E. Conte, Administrative Assistant
Lillian Smith, Program Specialist

Current Directors in Bold
As of January 2001

TIOGA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Erick J. Coolidge, Chairman
Walter G. Barnes
Charles James

History of the Tioga County Development Corporation

Tioga County Economic Development Summit

January 27, 1989

On January 27, 1989, several persons involved in economic development throughout Tioga County gathered at the Pennsylvania College of Technology for an economic summit with the purpose of discussing ways in which the various areas of the County could work together to promote economic development for Tioga County. The concept of the *Tioga County Economic Development Task Force* was envisioned during this meeting.

As a result, the Tioga County Commissioners created the **Tioga County Economic Development Task Force** and appointed twenty (20) persons from throughout Tioga County to serve on the Task Force. The members brought to the Task Force countless years of experience and knowledge and a commitment to foster and promote the economic development of the County. Realizing the commitment needed, the Task Force began to meet every other Friday. Goals and Objectives were determined, strengths and weaknesses identified, countless meetings were held with numerous people from throughout the County - business persons, educators, elected officials, environmentalists and media, resulting in "***A Mission Statement for Economic Development in Tioga County.***" The Mission Statement Report was formally presented to the Tioga County Commissioners on October 13, 1989 and adopted - thirteen (13) meetings involving over 285 member hours after the concept of the *Tioga County Economic Development Task Force* had been conceived. The Task Force evolved into an independent public industrial development corporation . . .the *Tioga County Development Corporation*.

The *Tioga County Development Corporation (TCDC)* was incorporated on May 22, 1991, as a Pennsylvania industrial development corporation (IDC). The primary purpose is to foster and promote the overall economic development strategy of Tioga County; to create or assist in the creation of new employment and business opportunities and to assist in the retention of jobs and to assist existing businesses in their growth and development; and to foster and promote tourism development and agricultural stability throughout Tioga County. The *TCDC* Board of Directors is comprised of twenty two (22) individual members from throughout Tioga County - many being the original Task Force Members.

8th Annual Meeting a Success (continued from Page 1)

In keeping with the theme of the Evening, Rod C. Kelchner, Founding President of *TCDC*, spoke about the beginning of the *Tioga County Development Corporation* and some of its accomplishments since 1991. Immediate Past President of *TCDC*, C. Frederick LaVancher, spoke about ***Leadership Tioga County*** and the *Youth and Community Leadership Programs*. Summer **AmeriCorps*VISTA** Member Kacy J. Zuchowski spoke about the Future of Tioga County and *TCDC*. (See related articles.) Rod and Fred were presented with cherry wood *Tioga County Development Corporation* pens in honor of their commitment to serving the County. Kacy Zuchowski, who is working at *TCDC* for the summer, was presented with an Honorary Membership to the *Corporation* and a framed Certificate of Membership.

C. Frederick LaVancher recognized several graduates of the ***Leadership Tioga County Youth Leadership Program*** Class of 2001 who were present for the Meeting.

The Highlight of the Evening was the presentation of the **Rod C. Kelchner President's Award for Excellence in Leadership & Community Involvement** to the VERY surprised Mary E. Worthington (see article). Rod C. Kelchner presented the award himself.

Fifteen packages of Door Prizes were donated by several local businesses and *TCDC* Members with values in excess of \$4,000. The Door Prizes were given out in three different segments during the Dinner Meeting, representing the Past, Present, and the Future. The following Members and Business presented Door Prizes: **LaBella Associates; Blossburg Beverage, Inc.; Butters Car Wash; Citizens & Northern Bank; First Citizens National Bank; First Heritage Federal Credit Union; Keck's Meat & Food Service, Inc.; Larson Design Group; M & T Bank; Mansfield Embroidery; Metamora Products Corporation; Northern Tioga School District; David Rundell; Ti Com; and Wal*Mart of Mansfield.**

TCDC's 8th Annual Meeting was a resounding success, celebrating 10 years of Economic Development in Tioga County.

Highlights

49 CORRIDOR Enterprise Zone

In December 1995, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania designated the **49 CORRIDOR Enterprise Zone (EZP)** as one of fifty-one State Enterprise Zones. The *Tioga County Development Corporation* was the driving force behind the development of an Enterprise Zone in this depressed portion of Tioga County. Since then, much has occurred to improve the economic climate of the Cowanesque Valley and revitalize the industrial base.

PARTICIPATING MUNICIPALITIES

Deerfield Township, Nelson Township, Elkland Borough, Osceola Township, Knoxville Borough, Westfield Borough, Lawrenceville Borough, Lawrence Township and Westfield Township

PROGRAM DURATION	December 1995 through June 2004	
BASIC GRANT FUNDS RECEIVED	\$299,162 (6 Years)	
COMPETITIVE GRANTS FUNDS RECEIVED	\$750,000 (3 Grants)	
GRANT APPLICANT	Tioga County Redevelopment Authority (TCRA)	
	Michael Egan	Executive Director
ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITY	<i>Tioga County Development Corporation (TCDC)</i>	
	Robert J. Blair	Executive Director
DECISION MAKING BODY		
49 CORRIDOR Executive Council	President	David W. Wishard
2000-2002 Executive Committee Officers	Vice President	John Abplanalp
	Secretary	David Melton
	Business Development Chair	Paul Goodridge
	Revolving Loan Fund Chair	Scott Keck
	Site/Infrastructure Development Chair	Jeffrey VanDusen

Executive Council:

Karl Kroeck, Donald Carman, Thomas Potteiger, Albert Krieger, Lloyd Butler, Vance Bieser, Thomas E. Brian, Jr., Charles James, Ronald Taft, William D. Hall, Frank Pesock, Russ Hastings, Grant Gehman, Ralph Wolstenholme, Michael Kaminski, William J. McCaig, Jr., David C. Murdock, Daniel (Bud) Fitzwater, Jr., Mary Heitzenrater, Wendy S. Swartz, Mary Brian, Keith Preston, Steve Colegrove, and James Stratton

“The 49 CORRIDOR Enterprise Zone is a prime example of direct local involvement in our own destiny. Each project taken one at a time has multiplied into an amazing number of community & economic projects. It’s nice to see what has evolved out of the work of TCDC and the 49 CORRIDOR Executive Council . . . the positive results of many hours of meetings. These may seem like insignificant numbers to some, but they enable our industries to compete and succeed in the global marketplace. Thank you TCDC.”

David W. Wishard, President
49 CORRIDOR Executive Council
 Assistant Principal, Northern Tioga School District

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING ATTENDANCE in the EZP

The Executive Council, Executive Committee and the four Committees of the EZP from 1995 to Present have conducted 103 Meetings with 877 Attending Members resulting in an In Kind Contribution of \$77,400.

SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISES in the EZP	325
TEAM Pennsylvan!a Interviews Conducted to Date in EZP	15

June 1994	Submitted the Enterprise Zone Planning Grant Application (Rejected)		
December 1995	Designation by the Commonwealth as the 51 st State Enterprise Zone		
Spring 1996	Identification & Selection of Executive Council Members (Participating Municipalities, Northern Tioga School District, County of Tioga and the Industries in the EZP)		
1996	Strategic Plan for EZP Developed and Adopted		
January 1997	Kaminski Lumber Company, Inc.	NTRPDC Loan Approved	\$70,000
March 25, 1997	49 CORRIDOR By Laws and Code of Ethics Adopted		
March 1997	Grant for Handicapped Access for the NTRA Community Center in Knoxville		
May 9, 1997	Authorization to Execute Contract for Industrial Park Feasibility Study		
September 16, 1997	EZP Competitive Grant Application Submission	ElectriCord Manufacturing Company, Inc.	\$250,000
1997	ElectriCord Manufacturing Company		
	DCED Opportunity Grant		\$250,000
	JCTC Tax Credits		\$150,000
	Customized Job Training Grant		\$100,000
January 14, 1998	1 st EZP Competitive Grant Approved	ElectriCord	
February 25, 1998	EZP Loan 1 Closed	ElectriCord	\$250,000
March 29, 1999	EZP Loan 2 Closed for Ward Manufacturing, Inc./WARDFLEX Phase I		\$250,000
March 31, 1998	Extension endorsement to include Tioga Township & Tioga Borough. (Not Approved)		
May 1998	Industrial Business Park Site Selection & Development Plan Completed		
June 29, 1998	ElectriCord MELF Letter of Intent and Non-Prejudice Letter		\$175,000
July 20, 1998	Ward Manufacturing, Inc.	DCED Funding Commitment	\$2,900,000
October 28, 1998	Award of Opportunity Grant	Ward Manufacturing, Inc.	\$250,000
October 1998	ElectriCord submitted Full MELF Application to DCED		
November 4, 1998	2 nd EZP Competitive Grant Application	Ward Manufacturing, Inc.	\$250,000
November 1998	Robinson Project Received Executed Grant Contract (DCED)		\$28,074
May 17, 1999	Ward Manufacturing, Inc. Submitted MELF Application to DCED		\$500,000
May 27, 1999	Approval Granted by DCED for Opportunity Grant for E. H. Hall, Inc./Westfield Tanning Company		\$100,000
September 14, 1999	RLF Loan Application Completed (RLF Committee)		
December 6, 1999	Ward Manufacturing, Inc. submitted PIDA Loan Application		\$1,488,000
February 14, 2000	3 rd EZP Competitive Grant Submitted by Ward Manufacturing, Inc.		\$250,000
March 17, 2000	MELF Grant Application submitted	Ward Manufacturing, Inc. Phase II	\$500,000
August 28, 2000	R & T Mechanical, Inc.	RLF Loan 1 Approved (RLF & Executive Committees)	\$30,000
September 8, 2000	TCDC Board Approved Loan	R & T Mechanical, Inc. Project	
November 20, 2000	OGF Commitment	R & T Mechanical, Inc.	\$25,000
December 21, 2000	EZP Competitive Grant Approval	Ward Manufacturing, Inc.	\$250,000
2000-2001	Testimony Prepared & Presented by TCDC & 49 CORRIDOR to support a Full Interchange at US Route 15 & PA Route 49 with a Full Diamond Interchange		
January 24, 2001	1 st Revolving Loan Fund Closed	R & T Mechanical, Inc.	\$30,000
February 28, 2001	EZP Loan 3 Closed	Ward Manufacturing, Inc./WARD@FLEX Phase II	\$245,000

Rod C. Kelchner Leadership Award

for Excellence in Leadership & Community Involvement

In 1995, the Board of Directors of the *Tioga County Development Corporation*, in recognition of our first & founding President, created the Rod C. Kelchner Leadership Award. This Award is presented annually at the *TCDC* Annual Meeting to a distinguished resident of Tioga County who has shown their leadership and community involvement to their community and Tioga County. The following recipients certainly display the caliber of this prestigious Award.

1995

Rod C. Kelchner
Mansfield University

1996

Doyle Chartrou
Ward Manufacturing, Inc.

1997

John "Cap" Kuster
Borough of Blossburg

1998

Charles L. Kenyon
Borough of Elkland

1999

Michael T. Egan
Tioga County Redevelopment Authority

2000

John J. Antonio
Appalachian Thruway Association

2000

Phester R. Bailey
Appalachian Thruway Association

2001

Mary E. Worthington
Wellsboro Chamber of Commerce
& GROW

Mary E. Worthington Receives Honor at *TCDC*'s 8th Annual Meeting

Mary E. Worthington is the first female recipient of the **Rod C. Kelchner President's Award For Excellence in Leadership and Community Involvement**. She was presented the Award at the *TCDC* Annual Meeting on July 30, 2001.

Mary has served as the Executive Director of the Wellsboro Area Chamber of Commerce since 1973. She serves as the Executive Secretary/Treasurer of Growth Resources of Wellsboro Foundation and Treasurer of the Wellsboro Foundation. In her position with the Chamber, Mary works cooperatively with many local agencies and organizations on matters of tourism, beautification/community enhancement, economic development, and Historic District designation; including: Wellsboro Borough Council; Wellsboro Parks & Recreation; Tioga County Commissioners; Laurel Health System; Penn College of Technology; University of Scranton Small Business Development Center; and PennDOT. She is a member of the State Transportation Advisory Committee, appointed by Governor Ridge in 1996; chairperson of Tioga Management Services Organizations, Inc.; member of the PA Chamber of Commerce Executives; member of Pennsylvania Economic Development Association (PEDA); member of the Keystone State Railroad Association; member of the Advisory Board of Pennsylvania College of Technology/North Campus; serves on the Advisory Board of Tioga County Human Service Agency; and has served as Treasurer for the Northern Appalachian Storytelling Festival since its inception 21 years ago.

She has also worked with the Susquehannock Trail Pro Rally organizers since the event was brought to Wellsboro over 20 years ago and has turned it into one of the most popular races on the STPR Schedule which is held throughout the World. She is a participant in the Travel Pennsylvania Association Certificate Program and was the recipient of a Certificate of Appreciation from the Federal Aviation Authority in March 1996 for her support during development of the Grand Canyon State Airport. She is a member of the Wellsboro Area Rotary Club. Mary is a Charter Member of the Tioga County Economic Development Task Force and has served on the Board of Directors of the *Tioga County Development Corporation* since its inception in 1991.

Mary moved to Wellsboro, Tioga County, in 1971 from Radnor, PA. Her hobbies include reading and gardening. Her Family is at the center of her Universe . . . She has two sons, Steve and wife, Jennifer and Andy and wife, Kristine and her five grandchildren . . . Dustin, Charlotte, Noah, Elliot, and Tucker. . . are her most precious joy.

Our Present . . . Where We are Today

Immediate Past President C. Frederick LaVancher

When I became President of the *Corporation*, I challenged our Board to consider a Leadership Program and to develop new Leaders in Tioga County. Having been involved for several years (something like 35 to be more precise) in various organizations around the county, I had been impressed by the fact that the same faces are seen over and over again at all of the different organizations. I was also aware of what a tremendous program Lycoming County had going, giving that our company (Larson Design Group) had several employees graduate from Leadership Lycoming.

One of the unfortunate side-effects of our fast-paced life style today has been a decrease in community volunteer participation. We read and hear that it is especially acute in our Volunteer Fire and Ambulance Companies. But it is also true of many other community-based organizations. Many of our Boroughs and Townships have vacancies on their elected Boards or Councils, not to mention such groups as Planning Commissions or Zoning Hearing Boards.

When *TCDC* conducted County-wide focus group meetings in 1998 to solicit input about a Leadership Program, our private sector participants were very interested in developing a *Community Leadership Program*. Representatives of business realized that they would benefit from Leaders, as well as the communities from which their employees come from. Many of the middle-management personnel in the County have been recruited by our employers and have moved into the area. The **Leadership Tioga County** Program will be ideally suited for them not only to learn about Tioga County and become better public and civic leaders, but also to develop a network of professional relationships and friends.

One of the benefits of **Leadership Tioga County** has been the *Youth Leadership Program*, which came about in 1999 and quickly received county-wide recognition and support. The program has already graduated two classes in 2000 and 2001, and the third Class is set to begin in September. The classes consist of thirty high school juniors representing our three public school districts.

Several times I have been asked why *TCDC* – an economic development corporation – is spending so much time on Leadership Programs?

These are some of the answers I give:

1. **Leadership Tioga County** is dedicated to improve the stability of our communities and businesses by developing new – educated leaders.
2. **Leadership Tioga County** is designed to promote our economic development efforts and the creation of jobs and employment opportunities. It is integrally tied to Work Force Development efforts. The *Community Leadership Program* is at the very heart of making our County better and improving our economic base. And one of the components of the *Youth Leadership Program* is to show our most promising students what a variety of employment opportunities are available right here in Tioga County.
3. **Leadership Tioga County** will enhance the quality of life in Tioga County.

Finally I'd like to recognize the financial support that **Leadership Tioga County** has received from various county-wide organizations and individuals

In-kind contributions : nearly \$70,000

Community Revitalization Grants sponsored by Rep. Matthew Baker and Sen. Roger Madigan – \$25,000 for each program

Tioga County Partnership for Community Health

North Central Area Health Education Consortium

Packer Foundation

And just this past month we have submitted a grant proposal to the ARC through NTRPDC for a \$65,000 grant to assist the *CLP*.

But the most important contribution has been the time and effort supplied by a host of volunteers and individuals, School Districts and organizations committed to the **Leadership** concept. The **Leadership Tioga County** Highlights in your program note those people, and we are truly indebted to them for their efforts. Thank you all.

Tioga County Foundation

The *Tioga County Development Corporation (TCDC)*, a 501(c)(6) non-profit Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), formed the *Tioga County Foundation*, a 501 (c)(3) charitable foundation on September 21, 1999. The exclusive purpose of the *Foundation* is for the benefit of and to perform the charitable, educational and scientific functions and activities of the *Tioga County Development Corporation*. The Board of Directors is given the sole discretion to decide which functions and activities will receive the support of the *Foundation*. The Mission of the *Tioga County Foundation* is to assist the people of Tioga County with educational sponsorships through Leadership Programs and Scholarships. The *Foundation* believes that with scholarship support, the *Foundation* can challenge and motivate the people of Tioga County to further develop a successful community. On June 26, 2000, the first project through the *Tioga County Foundation* was the approval of a Pennsylvania Dental Primary Care Challenge Grant for \$125,000 on behalf of the *Tioga County Partnership for Community Health*.

A Primary Function of the *Tioga County Foundation* is to serve as the financial instrument for **Leadership Tioga County**. The purpose of **Leadership Tioga County** is to recruit, train, encourage & develop caring individuals to participate in community leadership activities & responsibilities throughout Tioga County. The first Program to be developed under **Leadership Tioga County** was the *Youth Leadership Program*. As of May 2001, sixty (60) 11th grade students from the three (3) public school districts have graduated from the year-long leadership program. The *Tioga County Foundation* solicits contributions and awards scholarships to the students for the Program.

Highlights

Leadership Tioga County

In 1998, the *Tioga County Development Corporation* embarked on a completely new community based initiative which in three short years has received noted recognition and the involvement and support of individuals, organizations, municipalities and businesses which have far exceeded our anticipated outcome. The *Youth Leadership Program*, which will begin its third year in September 2001, was the initial Program developed. Planning and development of our *Community Leadership Program* is underway and will premiere in October 2002.

Leadership Tioga County has been a success due to the involvement of the Steering Committee, Coordinators, Presenters, School Districts, and several community organizations, in particular: North Central AHEC, *Tioga County Partnership for Community Health* and Laurel Health System.

STEERING COMMITTEE:

Active Members: C. Frederick LaVancher (Chair), Lance Albertson, Robert J. Blair, Elaine M. Hickey, David B. Krick, Arnie Kriner, Tom Nelson, Deb Sawyer, Lillian Smith, Susan Sticklin, Susan Strassburg, Jill Tombs, David W. Wishard, and Linda Yungwirth

Supporters: Kevin Abrams, Diana Barnes, Ebby Basalyga, Jacqueline Bellamy, Trent Bocan, Dr. Ronald Boyanowski, Wayne Crawford, James Eagen, Tamara Eberly, John Eidener, Dot Everhart, Cindy Frost, Hope Gibson, Jackie Gundersen, Penny Hackett, Patrick Hewitt, Ann Krohn, Ellen Krajewski, Albert P. Lindner, Dr. Donna Mettler, Sharon Miller, Marlene Plank, Jackie Powell, Rebecca Reese, Earle D. Robbins, Tom Schill, Brian Stahler, Michael Swartz, and Peggy Yacovissi

Youth Leadership Program

“ *Leadership Tioga County is touching the future as it prepares individuals to step up and take leadership positions and gives people the tools they need to create better communities.* ”

Elaine M. Hickey
 Co-Chair
 Youth Leadership
 Program Committee

Executive Director
 for
 Community Services
 Laurel Health System

January 11, 1998	President C. Frederick LaVancher, in his Inaugural Address to the Board of Directors of the <i>Tioga County Development Corporation</i> , set forth the Agenda to create new leaders for Tioga County	
August 19, 1998	RFP prepared and submitted to the <i>Tioga County Partnership for Community Health</i>	
August 20, 1998	<i>TCPCH</i> Proposal Approved	\$2,500
September 30, 1998	First Focus Group Meetings	
December 2, 1998	First Steering Committee Meeting	
July 2, Central AHEC	Grant Application Proposal	
August 1999	North Central AHEC Grant Approved	\$4,000
March 13, 2000	Prepared a Packer Foundation Grant Application	\$2,500
April 2000	Program Specialist hired to work with Leadership Tioga County	
April 2000	Published an OUTREACH Special Edition: Leadership Tioga County	
May 18, 2000	Packer Foundation Grant Approved	\$2,000
August 31, 2000	Submitted a <i>Tioga County Partnership for Community Health</i> Work Group Grant	
October 2, 2000	Presentation of Leadership Tioga County to the Polish Delegation through the Penn State Extension Exchange Program	
October 26, 2000	Joint Leadership Exchange with <i>Leadership Lycoming</i> attended by C. Frederick LaVancher, Leo Parchesky, Robert J. Blair and Lillian Smith	
November 2, 2000	<i>Tioga County Partnership for Community Health</i> Work Group Grant Approved for Youth Leadership Scholarships	\$2,000

YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND COORDINATORS:

Deb Sawyer (Chair), Lance Albertson, Robert J. Blair, Nancy Christman, James Eagen, Elaine M. Hickey, Arnie Kriner, Ruth Landry, David B. Krick, C. Frederick LaVancher, Tom Nelson, Patty Riehl, Lillian Smith, David Stager, Phil Stillerman, Susan Strassburg, Jill Tombs, Jim Weaver & David W. Wishard

- March 31, 1999 First Meeting for the *Youth Leadership Program*
- June 1999 30 High School Juniors from Northern Tioga & Wellsboro Area School Districts selected for participation in *Youth Leadership Program* Class of 2000
- March 13, 2000 Submitted a Community Revitalization Program Grant as requested by Senator Roger A. Madigan
- May 7, 2000 *Youth Leadership Program* Class of 2000 Graduates
1st Year of the *YLP* involved 113 Individuals, Organizations & Businesses who contributed In Kind of \$20,264.
- May 2000 30 students selected for 2001 *Youth Leadership Program* from Northern Tioga, Southern Tioga & Wellsboro Area School Districts
- May 6, 2001 *Youth Leadership Program* Class of 2001 Graduates
2nd Year of the *YLP* involved 118 Individuals, Organizations & Businesses who contributed In Kind of \$48,714.
- May 2001 *Youth Leadership Program* Class of 2002 Selected
- September 2001 The 3rd *Youth Leadership Program* Class of 2002 begins

YLP Class of 2001

On May 6, 2001 the *YLP* Class of 2001 graduated:

- Cowanesque Valley High School**
Robert Cunningham, William Jacobson, Kristin Landry, Amanda Perry, and Joshua Romaneo
- Elkland Area High School**
Angela Conrad, and Craig Johnson
- Liberty High School**
Heidi Foulkrod, Joel Ostrom, and Skylar Pais
- Mansfield High School**
Amy Evans, Christina Hughes, Adrian Lovenduski, Elizabeth Nance, and Kristina Whipple
- North Penn High School**
Nichole Hall and Jason Weaver
- Williamson Junior Senior High School**
Troy Baker, Krista Deats, and Carrie Warso
- Wellsboro Senior High School**
Mary Janae Deats, Meghan Deming, Jennifer Fisher, Stephanie Ley, Nathan Sayre, James Serfass, Maren Smithgall, Elizabeth Townsend, William Watkins, and Teri Zuchowski

"The Youth Leadership Program is an affirming, learning experience, in which students become more aware of their motivations, personal goals and ambitions. Students develop numerous skills to help them meet their goals. I am continually impressed with the students who enter this program. It's exciting to see how bright our future is!"

Deb Sawyer, Co-Chair
Youth Leadership Program Committee
Health Educator, North Central AHEC

Community Leadership Program

- March 13, 2000 Submitted a Community Revitalization Program Grant for *Community Leadership Program* and *Other Leadership Programs* as requested by Representative Matthew E. Baker
- June 2000 Community Revitalization Program Grant for *CLP* Approved \$25,000
- July 21, 2000 First *Community Leadership Program* Sub-Committee Meeting
- July 2000 *Community Leadership Program* Sub-Committee selected
- July 2001 Submitted Appalachian Regional Commission Grant Proposal through the Northern Tier Regional Planning & Development Commission (NTRPDC) for *CLP* \$65,000

The *Community Leadership Program* continues to be developed, marketed & implemented, with the 1st Class to begin October 2002.

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Robert J. Blair, Elaine M. Hickey, Scott Keck, Arnie Kriner, C. Frederick LaVancher, Al Locey, Dennis Murray, Leo Parchesky, James Prevost, Deb Sawyer, Lillian Smith, Bill Williams, Linda Williams, David W. Wishard & Phil Wood

Other Leadership Programs

The third component of **Leadership Tioga County** is our *Other Leadership Programs*. This category consists of small individual programs which **Leadership Tioga County** has identified and continues to develop for both adults and youth. This will be an ongoing Program with various workshops, seminars, speakers, panels, mixers, etc. being conducted throughout the year. A wide variety of topics geared toward specific audiences of potential leaders for Tioga County will be offered. A leadership schedule will be developed and distributed of all of the courses being offered during the year.

Some Programs we have initially identified include:

Understanding the Local Elected Official Process

A Series of workshops for potential persons interested in running for public office. What lies ahead for them as an elected official. This Program would run in the Spring and Fall before the Primary & General Elections. It would be strictly partisan and not support or endorse any person running for public office.

Newly Elected Officials Seminar

Provide training for newly elected officials so they are better informed how a public meeting operates; how to deal with the public; general public meeting rules (Sunshine Law, etc.); local government structures (boroughs and townships and interaction with County, State, and Federal Governments).

Non Profit Boards of Directors Series

The roles and responsibilities of non profit volunteers who serve on Boards of Directors including how to operate and conduct public meetings; confidentiality, fiduciary responsibilities; staff interaction; etc.

Basic Leadership Skills & Procedures Series

A series of select topics on various leadership skills and procedures, including: History of Leadership and Management; Leadership Trends, Changes, & Challenges; Personal Learning Styles; Understanding Organizational Change; Overcoming Resistance & Sustaining Change; Understanding Systems & How You Can Make An Impact; Attitudes & Recognizing Opportunities; Communication & Marketing; Passion, Innovation, Involvement, & Commitment; Leadership Qualities; Public Speaking; Time Management & Prioritization; Personal Changes & Support Systems; etc.

Tioga County Partnership for Community Health Youth Leadership Mini Scholarships

In October 2000 the *Tioga County Partnership for Community Health* awarded a Work Group Grant for \$2,000 to the *Community & Family Awareness Work Group* for mini grants for 9th –12th Graders in Tioga County. As of July 2001, six (6) Scholarships totaling \$1,614.94 were awarded to students from the three public school districts. Recipients of the Scholarship in 2001 were:

Joshua Sticklin	WASD	\$280.00	Pennsylvania Association/Student Councils
Leisl Bauman	WASD	\$280.00	Pennsylvania Association/Student Councils
Maleah Heck	NTSD	\$224.94	Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership
Whitney Taylor	WASD	\$280.00	Pennsylvania Association/Student Councils
Lauren R. Walls	STSD	\$300.00	2001 Junior Statesmen Summer School
Alex Borzok	WASD	\$250.00	Pennsylvania Governor's School: Health Care

Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week

In 2001, **Leadership Tioga County** became involved with and endorsed the *Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week (PFEW)* Youth Program. PFEW is a week long intensive business orientation and excellence in learning program through *The Foundation for Free Enterprise Education*. Four one-week long sessions are held each July-August at Lycoming College.

TCDC provided letters to over fifty major employers in Tioga County encouraging them to provide \$350 Scholarships. Several employers stepped forward and provided scholarships. In addition, *TCDC* working with our three public school districts solicited 10th and 11th graders to make application to PFEW. The results being that in 2000 there was only one student from Tioga County in the Program. In 2001, there are 13! Students from Tioga County who participated in PFEW in 2001 included:

Brent Baker	NTSD/Cowanesque	Dominion
Patrick Chambers	NTSD/Cowanesque	K & W Medical Specialties, Inc.
Emily D'Ulisse	WASD/Wellsboro	Citizens & Northern Bank
Jennifer Fisher	WASD/Wellsboro	Citizens & Northern Bank
Ashley Lovejoy	NTSD/Williamson	Citizens & Northern Bank
Samantha Pint	STSD/Mansfield	Ward Manufacturing, Inc.
Lee Plank	NTSD/Cowanesque	Citizens & Northern Bank
Keith Rice	WASD/Wellsboro	Eagle Family Foods, Inc.
Beth Scholtz	STSD/Mansfield	Laurel Health System
Kristina Sheshkoff	WASD/Wellsboro	Dominion
Laura Smith	STSD/North Penn	Citizens & Northern Bank
Maren Smithgall	WASD/Wellsboro	Patterson Lumber Company, Inc.
James Tomb	NTSD/Cowanesque	Citizens & Northern Bank

On August 3, 2001 *TCDC* Executive Director Robert J. Blair served as a Stockholder Judge for the Financial Portion of the evaluation and selection process.

Our future . . . Full of Hope

The following is the complete Speech given at the TCDC's 8th Annual Meeting by Kacy Zuchowski, a Graduate of Wellsboro High School, Class of 2001, graduate of the **Leadership Tioga County Youth Leadership Program** Class of 2000 and a summer AmeriCorps VISTA Member with the *Tioga County Partnership for Community Health*, assigned to the *Tioga County Development Corporation*. Kacy was given a Standing Ovation for this exceptional Speech. . . . Our Future is indeed Full of Hope.

What are you going to be when you grow up?

This is a question that I've been asked many, many times and I've probably changed my mind at least a thousand times about what I want to be. In fifth grade I wanted to be an anthropologist. In seventh grade I wanted to be a writer. In tenth grade I wanted to be a choral teacher. And as far back as I can remember, I've ALWAYS wanted to be an actress on Broadway.

Two years ago, I was in the first graduating class of the **Leadership Tioga County Youth Leadership Program**. From September until May of my Junior year in High School, I was given the opportunity to learn all about the county in which I've lived my whole life. I got a glimpse of area industries, local government, the law, and found out all of the wonderful things Tioga County has to offer as far as entertainment and the arts are concerned.

The *Youth Leadership Program* challenged me with a question that I had not been asked before. They didn't ask what I want to do when I grow up. They didn't ask what I'm planning on majoring in in college. Instead they asked me . . .

What do I want to be NOW?

This question was not asked verbally. In fact, the coordinators and organizers might not even know that they asked us this question. But what the *Youth Leadership Program* did for us was to challenge each student to look inside themselves and ask our own questions.

So I thought about this, and I didn't know how to answer it. I can list all of the activities I'm in, and I can list my accomplishments. But does that really tell what type of person I want to be?

Throughout the months of the *Youth Leadership Program*, I found out what the answer to that question is. I learned that I want to be someone who other people come to for help and guidance. I learned I want to be well-liked. I learned I want to be able to compromise with others to get things accomplished.

And then I realized what I want to be . . . a **LEADER**.

A leader is not what I had thought it was when I applied for the *Youth Leadership Program*. It's not someone who always takes control of a group or a situation. It's not someone who believes that if something is not done their way it shouldn't be done at all. A leader is someone who influences others by setting a good example and by working right alongside everyone else in a group. Lucky for Tioga County, we now have 60 new LEADERS ready to take on responsibilities right here!

My challenge to all of you is to find more ways to make Tioga County a place where these local leaders want to stay. Give these young people jobs – because they hold Tioga County very close to their hearts and want to give back as much as has been given to them. The future of Tioga County is so full of hope and promise . . . all you have to do is open the door for these young leaders so that they can continue the work of the *Tioga County Development Corporation* to make this county a wonderful place to live and work in – a place to raise a family and nurture more young leaders.

The work of **Leadership Tioga County** was not meant to have an isolated impact. It was intended to create a chain reaction . . . but if Tioga County does not retain the fruits of the *Youth Leadership Program*, it will stop right here. We have to do all we can to make this an environment where people want to plant their roots. We need options and choices so that we can stay in this beautiful place we call home. It's true . . . some people will move away. But many of us want to come back to serve the people we've grown up with and to work hard to make the changes necessary for Tioga County to be one of the very best places to live in the United States. And for those of us who move away . . . be assured that we will always remain loyal to Tioga County.

So now I ask you . . . ***What do YOU want to be NOW?***

Leadership Tioga County is not only for young people. Quite on the contrary. The *Community Leadership Program* should be up and running beginning next fall. This is your chance to ask and answer your own questions and learn what it takes to become a leader. If the entire community becomes involved in the process of developing and training leaders, we have no place to go but up. So get involved and continue to challenge yourself



114 Main Street
Wellsboro PA 16901
Voice: (570) 723-8232
Fax: (570) 723-8441
eMail: tcdc1@ptd.net
www.tcdc-pa.com

President

David E. Cummings

First Vice President

Karen Hammer

Second Vice President

Dr. Edward C. Nichols

Treasurer

Wendy S. Swartz

Secretary

Robert J. Blair

Immediate Past President

C. Frederick LaVancher

Board of Directors

Cathy Canniere
Donald Carman
Erick J. Coolidge
Gary Dinnison
Thomas Freeman
Mark A. Germino
Dr. John R. Halstead
Raymond Kaminski
Charles L. Kenyon
Karl Kroeck
Gary A. Mosher
Leo Parchesky
David Rundell
Patty Vlajic
Philip Wood
Mary E. Worthington

Executive Director

Robert J. Blair

Program Specialist

Lillian Smith

Administrative Assistant

Carolyn E. Conte

From the Executive Director . . .

The *Tioga County Development Corporation* has been in existence for ten years . . . it seems like just yesterday we all gathered at the North Campus and created the *Tioga County Economic Development Task Force* on that cold winter Friday in January 1989. *TCDC* has undergone many changes; been involved in many county efforts, partnered with countless organizations; yet has firmly remained focused on our commitment and mission of assisting our business and industry to grow and expand in Tioga County. From direct business loan assistance to administering the **49 CORRIDOR Enterprise Zone** to being fully involved in work force development to assure our employers have a quality trained labor force to developing and growing new leaders through **Leadership Tioga County** we have consistently been committed to our businesses.

All of these efforts come down to one word . . . people. What we do at *TCDC* has no meaning if it is not for people. The young adult who secures that first entry employment into the work force. That person, through training assistance, who advances in employment with her employer. The company president who risks all and purchased the company from a corporate absentee owner to save jobs in his community. It's about what we do to assist people with employment opportunities and how we assist our companies to create jobs. It's about all those people who give of their time, their expertise, their commitment to *TCDC* and our programs. We grow good people in Tioga County who are sincerely committed to their fellow neighbors . . . we live in different parts of the County, but we are all neighbors and friends. Thank you.

It's about our Board of Directors . . . past and present . . . twenty two individuals from all over the county who have always provided their guidance and set policy, yet allows their professional staff to implement their policy and administer our programs. Thank you.

At *TCDC*, we never say "I" . . . it's "we" . . . we are a team working together . . . not one of us makes things happen, not one of us makes a mistake . . . We make things happen, we make the mistakes. I is not part of our vocabulary, but I know my staff will provide me with this editorial liberty for just this once. I am blessed to have one of the most dedicated staffs in the business. Lillian and Carolyn give their all and it shows with our accomplishments. Thank you.

Each day another person steps forward and offers to give help to us as we help others. Each day I am proud of our residents. I am truly amazed with the caliber of our youth . . . how about that Kacy and her Future Speech . . . working with our youth truly keeps me young. Each day is different. Each day has its challenges and it has its rewards, but each day involved people . . . I truly think I have the best job in Tioga County. Thank you.

*To foster and promote the economic development of Tioga County,
passionately striving to improve the quality of life of our communities,
our residents, our business & industry and our environment
in our quest to make*

Tioga County . . . a place to call home.