A Note from Davette

I love spring. I am so glad for warm weather and to see green grass and flowers blooming. At a recent Heels Together event we talked about planting seeds; women coming together in our community to grow philanthropy and impact on the lives of other women and girls. Ultimately, enhancing our community over time.

We often work with people who have a desire to plant seeds — seeds of philanthropy and investments in our community. Seeds that may take a long time to grow. These seeds are founded in hope and caring; in generosity and belief; in recognition and appreciation.

Through these newsletters we highlight some of these people. In this issue, you will read about the Pedens and the seeds they planted. Seeds founded in appreciation for this community and recognition of the importance of quality classroom experiences. Seeds founded in the belief and hope of the future. The new seeds continually planted by faculty members through their Peden Fund projects is another exciting piece to their story.

On May 29th we will host an opportunity for you to see how you can plant seeds in areas you care about in our community. We will also talk about some new tax saving measures you can take advantage of as well. We hope you will join us.

In the meantime, enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of spring!

Peden Fund encourages faculty development and innovation

The Kennard and Melva Peden Fund is a great demonstration of the forever impact donors can have in their community. Quality education for local students was important to the Pedens and they established a fund to support ongoing faculty development to enhance student success in the classroom.

CKCF honored faculty and students who have professionally and educationally benefited from the $22,516 awarded by the Kennard and Melva Peden Fund this year. The Peden Fund annually makes these investments in the community.

“The Pedens provided funds for the ECTC faculty so they are always equipped with the latest skills and resources to remain relevant in the classroom and to give students opportunities to enhance their educational goals,” said Davette B. Swiney, CKCF President/CEO. “The Pedens had huge hearts and were very generous to this region.”

Kennard and Melva’s long-standing commitment to providing educational opportunities was demonstrated...
when the Pedens established an endowment in excess of $800,000 with CKCF.

“The Kennard and Melva Peden Fund presents the opportunity to teach my students in an international setting. For many students traveling to another country is not only a first time event, it’s also a pivotal experience that transforms their lives,” says Jim Murley PhD, Art History Professor at ECTC and recipient of multiple grants from the Peden Fund.


CKCF also honored the faculty selection committee who gave of their time in choosing this year’s recipients of the Peden Fund. The committee included Daniel M. Lloyd, Tracy R. Bratcher, William D. Cole, Michael B. Coyle, Robin D. Embry, Dean W. Nason, and Robert G. Woodson.

For more information on the Kennard & Melva Peden Fund or to learn how to create a fund to benefit your community, call CKCF at (270) 737-8393 or email info@ckcf4people.org.