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**THE DONLEY FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE
AND CREATION OF \$2 MILLION FUND**
New Strategic Plan Committed to Honoring Legacy in the Lehigh Valley

LEHIGH VALLEY, PA (January 22, 2018) – The Donley Foundation, www.donleyfoundation.org, a private grantmaking foundation dedicated to promoting self-sufficiency and achievement for disadvantaged children, individuals, and families through the support of education and literacy, is announcing a strategic plan update that includes the creation of a new \$2 million fund to reflect the Board’s vision for the future.

The Donley Foundation, which just celebrated its 30th anniversary, was founded in 1987 through the generosity of Edward and Inez Donley and has a long history of providing grants to organizations who share their mission throughout the Allentown-Bethlehem area of the Lehigh Valley. Under their new strategic plan, the Foundation will recognize this history and honor the Donley legacy by creating a \$2 million fund, the “Edward and Inez Donley Fund,” at the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation (LVCF). This fund at LVCF will mirror the mission and strategies of The Donley Foundation and will be available beginning in early 2021, with applications starting in late 2020, to local organizations who are seeking funds for programs focused on giving under-served people the educational skills and resources they need to achieve their potential. Meanwhile, during a transition period of 2018 through 2020, organizations in the Lehigh Valley will continue to apply to the Donley Foundation for grants as they have in the past.

Once the Edward and Inez Donley Fund is in place at the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation, The Donley Foundation will only provide grants directly to two legacy organizations in the Lehigh Valley that have long term ties to The Donley Foundation founders: Community Services for Children and The Allentown Public Library. The Foundation will focus its grantmaking moving forward in the areas where the Foundation’s board members live: Greater York County, Pennsylvania, the Upper Connecticut River Valley of Vermont and New Hampshire, the townships of Western Cook County, Illinois, and their adjoining neighborhoods on Chicago's West Side.

ABOUT THE DONLEYS AND THE DONLEY FOUNDATION: The Donley Foundation was created in 1987 through the generosity of Edward and Inez Donley. Inez and Ed Donley lived in the Lehigh Valley for more than six decades and gave their time and energy to many community organizations. Inez chaired the Allentown Public Library Board for 25 years; Ed was the Chairman and CEO of Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. from 1973-1986 and actively promoted early childhood education and other causes. The Donley Foundation’s mission is to promote self-sufficiency and achievement for children, individuals, and families through the support of education, literacy and other means. The Foundation supports programs and organizations that give under-served people the educational skills and resources they need to achieve their potential. Examples are libraries, early childhood education, non-traditional post-secondary education, adult literacy, teacher training and support and enhancements for children and programs that help close the achievement gap between different populations. The Donley Foundation makes grants to organizations that are tax exempt under the IRS Code 501(c)(3) as well as public charities under IRS Code 509(a). Grants are made for general operating support and project support. Visit www.donleyfoundation.org for more information.

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