



An investment in the CEC Umbrella Campaign is an investment in the future of our local communities.

Your investment in our Community Education Center (CEC) is an investment in the future of your community. Today, we are writing to ask you to consider a contribution to the *CEC Umbrella Campaign*. Your support will stay local, and will promote innovative technologies, classes, instructors, degrees, certifications, programs, classrooms, equipment and learning, for students right here in your community.

Just like an umbrella, our Community Education Center of Elk and Cameron Counties provides over-reaching educational support and coverage to our local businesses, residents, and communities. For more than twenty years, the services of the CEC have encompassed the region's educational elements necessary for professional, academic and personal growth. The CEC offers the convenience, proximity and amenities found on college campuses and in corporate training centers, and is available right here in our community.

Perhaps you, your family, your friends or your coworkers have taken advantage of these services in the last several years through programs coordinated by at the CEC. You have witnessed first-hand the benefits of the CEC. We respectfully request your consideration of a gift in any amount. Your contribution may qualify for Pennsylvania's Educational Improvement Tax Credit program (EITC).

Support from contributions like yours enables the Community Education Center to maintain the financial strength necessary to evolve our unique model of a true rural "learning center" for the future needs of our citizens. We have set a campaign goal of \$1,000,000 over the next two years. We are excited to share that we are almost 50% of the way there! Please help us reach 100% so we can accomplish more of our strategic initiatives in the upcoming years.

The CEC's vision is to promote a vibrant and diversified region, where local businesses are competitive globally, employees are skilled and educated, and all community members are empowered to pursue lifelong learning.

We invite you to review the enclosed information to find out more about how the *Umbrella Campaign* and our vision will help our community.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug Gaffey".

Doug Gaffey, Board Chairperson
President, Liberty Pressed Metals, LLC

CEC Umbrella Campaign



The Community Education Center, together with business, education, and community partners, offers professional, academic, and personal opportunities for lifelong learning in Elk and Cameron Counties and the surrounding areas.

New Programs and Partnership Development – The CEC prefers to “look before leaping” when it comes to developing new programs and initiatives. This is one of the core functions of our CEC – to conduct careful assessment through formal and informal processes to determine the educational needs of the local area. These funds would be utilized to explore new opportunities that align with our strategic planning, conduct needs assessments, feasibility studies, and seed new programs. New program areas the CEC hopes to explore include: technical programming, additional degrees and certificates, tutoring services, expanded retirement enrichment courses, technology literacy, and potential apprenticeship program assistance to companies.

Equipment – There is no doubt that the delivery of education is relying increasingly more on technology – especially in our rural region. More courses have become dependent on distance learning, where classrooms across the state are connected through interactive television equipment. This ensures a university or college an adequate number of students and guarantees that classes will still be offered. In just the last year, 40 courses were made available to local students through interactive television. Hundreds of students utilize our computer labs each year for credit and non-credit courses. The average expected lifespan of academic computer labs is approximately three years – and the CEC maintains three computer labs in two counties, plus a mobile testing lab. Two of these computer labs are Pearson VUE Authorized test centers where more than 600 individuals have accessed professional certification exams since September 2012.

Scholarships – The need for scholarships is becoming increasingly important as higher education costs are at record highs. Our scholarship funds support returning adult and non-traditional students located in Elk and Cameron Counties. Our scholarship fund is held at the Elk County Community Foundation.

Building Repair & Maintenance – The Community Education Center owns one of the most prominent buildings located on the “Diamond” in downtown St. Marys. The facility has four floors with nine classrooms, which includes two computer labs, an executive conference room, 4 interactive television units, and CEC administrative offices. Building repairs and maintenance for the more than 17,500 square feet can become quite costly. We also maintain a computer lab in Emporium.

Existing Programs and Partners – The CEC currently operates several programs that serve individuals from the local K-12 systems through senior citizens. We currently have grant funded or fee supported programs for GED® preparation, Leadership Elk County, DISCOVER Partnership, FIT 4 Powder Metal and Manufacturing, True Beginners computer classes, as well as individual classes on demand such as QuickBooks and Travel Spanish. Our University and Community College partners and other training providers offer degree and non-degree programs.

CONTRIBUTION RESPONSE FORM

NAME: _____

COMPANY/FOUNDATION NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE #: _____ FAX# _____

Please add us to the mailing list for courses and programs

The Community Education Council of Elk & Cameron Counties is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. Your contribution is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. No goods or services are provided in exchange for your generous donation.

Please circle one of the options below and return with the enclosed stamped/addressed envelope.

1. **YES**, I will make a donation to the CEC Umbrella Campaign in the amount of \$_____.

Please select a payment option*:

_____ Check enclosed for \$ _____ (payable to "CEC" or "Community Education Council")

_____ Please invoice us in the amount of \$ _____

_____ Payment schedule over 2 years (optional): _____.

PLEASE NOTE: If you would like your contribution to qualify for the Educational Improvement Tax Credit program, please notify us as soon as possible. We will assist you through the process.

2. I am **UNDECIDED** at this time, but will make a decision by _____.

3. I would like **MORE INFORMATION** before making a decision. Please contact me to schedule a meeting.

4. **NO**, with regret, I am unable to support this campaign at this time.