



# Partnership Works for Alumni and Community

By Laura Hammel

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**S**aint Ignatius High School and the Community West Foundation (CWF) embody a deep sense of social justice. Shared missions of forming men of faith for the Church and the world and illuminating hope through community-based philanthropy are the perfect combination—not unlike, well, blue and gold.

CWF was founded to advance the health and well-being of the community and, in 2006, became a publicly supported foundation, granting monies primarily to West Side agencies. A 10-year relationship between CWF and Saint Ignatius began when then-president Fr. Tim Kesicki, S.J., assumed a leadership role during CWF's early years. Currently, Saint Ignatius President Fr. Bill Murphy, S.J. serves on the board. Says CWF Executive Director David Dombrowiak, "Without the leadership of exceptional and community-minded individuals like Fr. Kesicki and Fr. Murphy, we would be incapable of carrying out our mission. In addition to giving over \$3 million last year in donations, we offer nonprofit organizations a variety of philanthropic services to augment the good work being done by their development staffs."

These days, exceptional stewardship of resources is paramount to responsible nonprofit management, and the Advancement Department at Saint Ignatius is doing just that with its forward-thinking participation in CWF's Colleagues Program. Saint Ignatius' Vice President of Institutional Advancement, John Morabeto, facilitates the



David Dombrowiak,  
CWF Executive Director

relationship with CWF to maximize the impact his department can have on the school community.

"The Colleagues Program enables us to engage the expertise of planned giving and financial advising professionals while offering our alumni opportunities to invest in Saint Ignatius High School and the surrounding west side community.

Everyone benefits," he says.

For example, the collaboration with a donor works like this: longtime Saint Ignatius benefactors John and Rita Jones have enjoyed making a series of individual gifts, but now they wish to create a legacy of giving. They work with the Saint Ignatius Advancement Department and CWF to set up a donor-advised fund—an effective and tax efficient vehicle that will help them manage and carry out charitable giving. The Jones' children or friends can share in the responsibility of recommending gifts on their behalf. All the record keeping associated with the charitable activity is managed by CWF. In fact, just last year CWF granted nearly \$1 million from donor advised funds alone.

"A rising tide floats all boats" is the sentiment often repeated by CWF leadership, and John Morabeto couldn't agree more. "We are always looking for ways to help our alumni make significant contributions to Cleveland, Ohio and the world. Whatever we can do to foster a cycle of giving only strengthens the global community in which we live."