

# **A BRIEF CASE FOR CACLV**

**CACLV has long been on the cutting edge of community problem-solving efforts in the Lehigh Valley, bringing together a diverse range of stakeholders to tackle tough issues creatively, effectively, and at low cost.**

**CACLV has promoted policies and developed initiatives designed to grow the region in ways that strengthen urban communities, preserve open space and modernize governance.**

**We established three “neighborhood partnership programs,” one in each city, recruiting nearly a dozen local businesses to invest more than \$750,000 per year in community development projects that leveraged millions of additional dollars for such uses as installation of decorative street lights, banners and trash receptacles, residential and commercial façade improvements, sidewalk improvements, park development and enhancement, and trees.**

**We organized the Green Future Fund voter referenda in Lehigh and Northampton counties, paving the way for the allocation of more than \$60 million for open space preservation and municipal parks.**

**We led the effort to establish RenewLV, the top smart growth coalition in Pennsylvania.**

**We have actively promoted policy proposals that call for consolidating services and shared tax base.**

**CACLV has led the way in creating economic opportunities and helping families build assets.**

**We have helped almost 2,800 lower-income and minority families buy their first home with responsible financing.**

**We fought unscrupulous lenders preying on unsophisticated buyers, doggedly promoting better regulation, law enforcement and consumer protections; in the process, we broke a fraud conspiracy in Allentown, putting three felons in jail.**

**We helped more than 100 of families save over \$200,000 and leverage over \$3.3 million for home repair and purchase, education or business start-up.**

**We convinced the counties to create housing trust funds that have invested more than \$10,000,000 in affordable housing development.**

**We have taught more than 600 prospective entrepreneurs how to start and operate a business.**

**We lent nearly \$2,000,000 in microloans to more than 75 businesses.**

**We helped create or retain hundreds of jobs.**

**We worked with banks during the merger process to develop more than \$600 million in community reinvestments.**

**CACLV has developed stronger protections for families that lose their income due to unemployment, family strife or catastrophic illness.**

**The Sixth Street Shelter provides services that move more than 100 homeless families with children per year work toward self-sufficiency.**

**Safe Harbor Easton shelters nearly 350 homeless adults and serves more than 45,000 meals per year.**

**We help 6,300 PPL customers per year maintain a bill payment plan that eliminates arrearages.**

**We reduce heating bills by weatherizing more than 1,200 homes per year.**

**The Second Harvest Food Bank supplies over 170 non-profits with food, enabling them to serve more than 63,000 people per month.**

**CACLV does it all with an intense commitment to responsible stewardship of the resources entrusted to us.**

**It's your money – taxpayers' and donors' – and we pinch every penny. Our administrative costs are an unprecedented 7.6% of our total budget.**

**FOR DETAILS ON THE RESULTS CACLV ACHIEVED IN 2009-2010, SEE OUR ANNUAL REPORT BY CLICKING [HERE](#).**