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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Celebrating Eileen Ellsworth's Impact After 18 Years at the Community Foundation

Dear «First_Name»,

19 December 2023 (Fairfax, VA): On Tuesday, December 5, more than 300 community leaders from across the region celebrated Eileen Ellsworth's remarkable eighteen years as President and CEO of the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia. The atmosphere at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens was one of celebration, and joy. After nearly two decades, tens of millions of dollars raised, and millions of dollars in grants and scholarships awarded, Eileen closes this chapter of her career on an impeccable high note.

Remarks were shared by Bob Kipps, the current chair of the Community Foundation Board, as well as current and former board members. Paul Leslie, a former board member, offered a toast saying in part "It was incredible to bear witness to Eileen's drive and creativity. It's not just that she's led the organization so well, it's that she's had the vision to transform the Community Foundation into an anchor institution for the region." Paul Leslie, a former board member, said "Eileen's vision was always bold and fearless. When she came in, she said that she wanted to transform the organization into an institution that could help lead Northern Virginia. Eighteen years later, I believe she succeeded."

The growth of the Community Foundation since 2005 speaks for itself. In 2005, the Community Foundation had awarded in current dollars, **\$8,267,266** throughout the 27 years of its existence. By 2023, the Community Foundation has cumulatively awarded **\$92,463,995**. In 2006, the [Community Investment Funds](#) cycle was launched, now the signature grants program at the Foundation. Since its launch in 2020, [Insight Region](#)[®] has produced ten cutting edge data-driven reports on the region.

Read more about [Eileen's transformative impact here](#).

The Community Foundation board will complete the search process for Eileen's successor in the coming weeks.

About the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia

Founded in 1978, the Community Foundation has been the premier charitable partner trusted by thousands of generous Northern Virginians for decades. Our mission is to advance equity through philanthropy and community leadership. Comprised of donor advised funds, permanent funds, giving circles, and other charitable endowments, the Community Foundation's vision is to build a community that works for everyone. Our Community Foundation serves the entire region, including Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William Counties and the Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park. For more information please visit us at www.cfnova.org, or follow up on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).