

**FOR RELEASE NOVEMBER 23, 2015**

Contact: Barbara Ernico  
Adams County Community Foundation  
Telephone: 717-337-0060/Email: Barbara.ernico@gmail.com

**STAND FOR ADAMS COUNTY. . . PASS A BUDGET NOW**

Gettysburg, PA . On Monday, November 23, the PA budget impasse enters its 146<sup>th</sup> day. What that means to Adams County non-profits and school districts, indeed, non-profit organizations and school districts across PA is that since July 1, no state funding has been provided to support the operations and services they provide. In many instances the State is also holding Federal money that is typically passed through the State to non-profit organizations.

Imagine your own life if your employer did not pay you for 146 days. How would you pay your bills? How long would the electric company and the telephone company allow you to go without paying them? How long would you be able to go charging your food and running up a bill? How far would your savings take you? What bank would loan you money or extend your existing credit?

These are the problems non-profit organizations and schools across PA are having today because the PA State Governor and Legislators cannot agree on terms for the 2015-16 budget. All the while, Legislators are collecting their own pay checks and are under no financial constraints due to this impasse.

Here is what is happening in Adams County.

Survivors, Inc. provides shelter, 24-hour hotline, and counseling to women and children who are the victims of domestic violence. The telephone company is threatening to shut down their telephone crisis line. They have an unpaid food bill of \$5,400. Small businesses that service their office machines and technology are going unpaid.

The salaries of Survivors, Inc. staff are being paid thanks to Adams County Community Foundation, through the generosity of the Gettysburg Rotary Club, Adams Electric Cooperative, the Thomas L. Cline Foundation, the Robert C. Hoffman Charitable Endowment Trust, and the Gettysburg Lions Club, which are making available no-interest loans. \$130,000 in no-interest loans has been provided to Survivors, Inc. over the past 146 days.

Without this support, 20 staff persons would be laid-off and the shelter, which serves 40 people every day would have to close. These women and children would have no safe place to live which would affect their own employment and their school performance and their health and well-being. To keep doors open, Survivors, Inc. has a monthly budget of \$55,000. To "survive" they have stopped paying travel to staff, delayed opening a much needed legal center, and turned away 200 women and children because the shelter is full.

South Central Community Action Programs serves 30,000 people in Adams and Franklin County. For their monthly budget of \$396,500, they have been living on lines of credit of \$650,000 and reserves and

are indebted to a generous businessman who through Adams County Community Foundation has provided \$60,000 over the past 3 months to keep the homeless shelter open. Without this support 42 people, 20 of whom are children, would be homeless, affecting the employment of the adults and education of the children, as well as their health and well-being. In December, programs for Food Pantries, Emergency Assistance, Circles of Support, Work Ready, and others will be at-risk because SCCAP's reserves and credit will be used up.

Adams County Office for Aging is concerned because while PA Lottery winners are being paid, the State is not passing through Lottery money that supports home-delivered meals, senior centers, protective services and other vital services they provide to 2500 seniors in Adams County. To cover their \$175,000 monthly expenses, the Office for Aging has used their reserves and has taken out a \$400,000 line of credit at a cost of \$1000 and 3.25% annual interest.

Soon your schools will be impacted because in December, school districts across Adams County will begin to run out of available local funding and will need to take out loans to the tune of \$1.8 million a month in order to keep schools operating. Teachers and staff must be paid. School lunches must be served. The buildings must have lights and electricity. Precious heating systems must be kept functional as we enter winter. Vendors who operate buses and maintenance services must be paid.

This cannot continue. The quality of life in Adams County is at-risk. **STAND FOR ADAMS COUNTY. STAND FOR PENNSYLVANIANS TODAY—November 23.** Tell the Governor and your Legislators to **PASS A BUDGET NOW** by emailing them or calling them or visiting their offices today.

**CONTACT YOUR GOVERNOR AND LOCAL LEGISLATORS TO STAND FOR ADAMS COUNTY**

Governor Tom Wolf  
508 E Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120  
717-787-2500 (T)  
717-772-8284 (TTY)  
[Governor.pa.gov/contact](http://Governor.pa.gov/contact)

Representative Dan Moul  
30 W. Middle Street  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
717-334-3010 (T)  
[dmoul@pahousegop.com](mailto:dmoul@pahousegop.com)

G-32 Irvis Office Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2091  
717-783-5217

Senator Richard Alloway  
16-A Deatrick Drive  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
717-334-4169  
[alloway@pasen.gov](mailto:alloway@pasen.gov)

37 S. Main Street, Suite 200  
Chambersburg, PA 17201  
717-264-6100

172 Main Capitol  
Harrisburg, PA 17201  
717-787-4651

Representative Will Tallman  
282 W. King Street  
Abbottstown, PA 17301  
717-259-7805  
[wtallman@housegop.cpm](mailto:wtallman@housegop.cpm)

427 Irvis Office Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2193  
717-783-8875