The Luzerne Foundation helps people create funds to do good things today and lasting good for tomorrow. It is a simple, personal and powerful way to give back to your community.

The Luzerne Foundation is privileged to facilitate the philanthropy of very special people who understand that quality of life requires ‘giving back’ so others might realize the unique attributes of our area, have access to the arts, education, healthcare, social services and enjoy safe neighborhoods.

Since 1994, The Luzerne Foundation has assisted individuals and families, businesses, civic groups and other non-profit organizations with realizing their goals for philanthropy. Together they can improve the quality of life for those living and working in Luzerne County.
When a loved one passes away many families and friends wish to create a lasting legacy in honor of his or her life. Making the decision of which charity or charities should receive donations can be daunting during this highly emotional time. A Memorial Fund at The Luzerne Foundation gives you time to consider how best to represent your loved one’s passions and interests.

Why a Memorial Fund?
A Memorial Fund is a charitable account set up at The Luzerne Foundation to accept donations in memory of a loved one. When you and/or your family is ready, you can use the money that accumulates in the fund to make a grant to a single cause or multiple grants to many organizations as you see fit. By establishing a Memorial Fund you will have the time to consider all options and decide which community organizations represent the memory of your loved one.

Will I Know Who Made Gifts in Memory of my Loved One?
Yes. You will receive a list of names and addresses of individuals and families who have made a gift to your Memorial Fund. The Luzerne Foundation will acknowledge every gift by sending a thank you letter to the donor on your behalf with wording from you about the fund included. All gifts are fully tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

What Can I Do With the Donations Made to the Memorial Fund?
You may use the funds to make grants to organizations recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as tax-exempt, not only in Luzerne County, but regionally. Examples include:

- Places of worship
- Public Libraries
- Schools
- Human Services Organizations
- Fine Arts Organizations
- Other Nonprofit Organizations

If you wish, we will provide you with a list of Northeastern Pennsylvania Nonprofits. You may designate a specific field of interest, accept applications for grants, or establish a Scholarship Fund, etc. For more information about these types of funds and others please visit The Luzerne Foundation website at www.luzfdn.org or contact The Luzerne Foundation at 570.714.1570.

How Do I Establish A Memorial Fund?
- Select the name of your fund and include it in the obituary using wording such as, “Memorial contributions may be made to: The John Smith Memorial Fund of The Luzerne Foundation, 140 Main Street, Luzerne, PA 18709.
- Please contact The Luzerne Foundation at 570.714.1570 (or ask the funeral director to contact us) so that we are prepared to accept donations.
- Complete the paperwork (we will assist you with this) and select a family representative(s) who will decide how the donations to the fund will be distributed.

Please accept our condolences on the loss of your loved one. If you have any questions please call us at 570.714.1570.