

Conservancy donation

organization said, donation comes at an important time in its history as it continues to create structures on its preserve thousands of acres of farmland, for watersheds and open preserving land and historic properties is just the first step in Heritage Conservancy's mission. Preserved, each property requires annual mowing and maintenance, which comes at a significant cost. A strong commitment through the fund is the backbone of the organization," the president said.

Fred Beans Gilbert, vice president of the family dealerships, said the

businesses' charitable fund was created to support organizations such as Heritage Conservancy.

"Fred Beans believes that his success can be attributed to his practice of giving back and teaching others to give as well," she said. The charitable fund, said Gilbert, "supports initiatives and organizations of all sizes in the hopes of lending a helping hand to those who need it. We love to have the ability to give this gift to Heritage Conservancy to preserve the Bucks County community."

Fred Beans Family of Dealerships is a family-run business with 18 dealerships serving the greater Philadelphia area and parts of New Jersey.

For his death, Illinois memorialized



From left: Erin Lukoss, executive director, Bucks County Opportunity Council; Robert Kane, market president, KeyBank; Joe Cuozzo, director of development, Bucks County Opportunity Council; and Renee Murdock, corporate responsibility officer for Eastern Pennsylvania, KeyBank, pose together with the check made out to the Bucks County Opportunity Council. [COURTESY OF KEYBANK]

Bucks County Opportunity Council receives grant

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Erin Lukoss, BCOC executive director

A new Bucks County Opportunity Council program designed to help low-income mobile home owners make repairs to their homes received a two-year, \$50,000 grant from KeyBank, the bank announced Friday.

The money will provide 20 to 25 households with the means to make repairs that will qualify them for the Department of Energy's weatherization program. The federal program helps homeowners prepare their houses for winter weather, while improving energy efficiency and reducing heating costs.

The grant, said Erin Lukoss, BCOC executive director, will help the county's most vulnerable residents. "BCOC is committed to helping families with low incomes achieve

self-sufficiency and this grant from KeyBank will allow us to restore homes to healthy, affordable homes for more than 20 families."

Until the grant, the opportunity council had been unable to help some homeowners repair their mobile homes to meet even the lowest standards acceptable to benefit from the weatherization program, according to the statement.

The agency's new mobile home housing preservation program will use existing federal and state standards to select qualifying

homeowners. Those who qualify will be selected through a point system to identify those with the greatest need.

KeyBank Foundation's Neighbors program works to improve access to affordable housing services, support families to be economically self-sufficient, build safe and stable communities and help small businesses grow and succeed.

BCOC's mission is to reduce poverty and partner with the community to promote economic self-sufficiency. It has three offices in the county.