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Community Heart & Soul In Honesdale

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Honesdale has recently joined a long list of small cities and towns throughout the United States to participate in the Community Heart & Soul journey. Community Heart & Soul is a national nonprofit that has over a decade of experience and partnerships across America and helps communities, like Honesdale, navigate a resident-driven process to become stronger and more vibrant.

This project has been supported in-part by PA Humanities, PA Route 6 Alliance through a grant from the Community Conservation Partnerships Program and the Heritage Areas Program under the administration of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Bureau of Recreation and Conservation (DCNR) and Community Heart & Soul. Additional funding and support has also been provided locally by the William E. Chatlos Foundation and the Wayne County Community Foundation.

How Community Heart & Soul Works

Community Heart & Soul's approach focuses on three powerful principles: involve everyone, focus on what matters most and play the long game. A four-phase process brings the community together over time to identify and honor their town's unique strengths and opportunities and better understand how to achieve that future they want to see for their community. Completing all four phases usually takes a community about two years, however, the end of the Heart & Soul journey is really just the beginning. Throughout this program the Honesdale Heart & Soul team will engage a wider range of people who live, work, play and/or learn in Honesdale. The goal is to inspire new ways of collaboration that nurture a more vibrant community far into the future.

How to Get Involved:

There are plenty of ways to get involved and share, whether you have a minute, a morning or more! Over the next 18 months, the Honesdale Heart & Soul team will be present at many community events and we'd love new volunteers to get involved.

You can follow along with the progress on the Wayne County Community Foundation's social media or visit the foundation's website at **waynefoundation.org** and find the "Community Heart & Soul" option in the drop down menu under the "ABOUT" tab on the home page. Keep an eye out around Honesdale for any flyers or window displays sharing more information and updates. There is a place for everyone in this effort and the more people we've heard from, the more likely it is that the shared vision that is created for Honesdale really reflects the full community. You can email the Project Coordinator, Page Atkinson, at **page@waynefoundation.org** to learn more.

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Designed by Matt Artz of Azimuth Labs & Anthro to UX.