

News from the
Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission

**JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION
RECEIVES GRANT FROM EASTERN WEST VIRGINIA
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission (JCHLC) is pleased to announce it has received a \$3,000 grant from the Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation- Two Rivers Giving Circle Grant. These funds will support asbestos and debris removal from the historic Duffields Depot.

Duffields Depot, built in 1839, is the second oldest surviving station on the B&O railroad line and the oldest surviving combined freight and passenger station in the U.S. Landowner Richard Duffield was given \$2,500 by the B&O for the right-of-way across his farm and he used the funds to build a depot consisting of two distinct sections: a stone section to be used as the station master's house, and a wooden structure to house incoming and outgoing goods. The depot was in operation until 1884, when the B&O constructed another station nearby. In 2007, Duffields Depot was added to the National Register of Historic Places in addition to being named a Jefferson County Historic Landmark.

This past February the JCHLC was gifted the Duffields Depot by Duffields Station, Inc. Since February, JCHLC has been fundraising, submitting grants, and planning to stabilize and rehabilitate the station masters house. The Two Rivers Giving Circle Grant will ensure safe access to the site for future projects.

JCHLC's ultimate goal is to stabilize and rehabilitate the stone station masters house and open it to visitors. After site clearing and securing the building is complete there is a long list of additional projects; understanding and correcting site drainage, structural evaluation, and rehabilitation of both the exterior and exterior.

The JCHLC is a branch of the Jefferson County government and operates under authority granted to landmarks commissions by the West Virginia legislature. The Landmarks Commission focuses on heritage education and tourism, historic preservation, and historic resource development. JCHLC's primary mission is to preserve historic sites, structures, and rural landscapes within the unincorporated areas of Jefferson County and to educate the public about the county's heritage. For more information about JCHLC programs and activities visit: www.jeffersoncountyhlc.org. or the Landmark Commission's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/JeffersonCountyHLC/>

The Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation (EWVCF) was established in 1995 and celebrates its 22nd year in 2017, managing more than 220 endowed funds with assets of just over \$22 million. EWVCF is the leading steward of philanthropic giving, connecting donors with community needs to improve the quality of life for all people in Eastern West Virginia. Thanks to an outstanding board of directors, donors, investment advisors, and a professional staff, the Community Foundation will continue to grow. For more information, please contact EWVCF Executive Director Michael Whalton at mwhalton@ewvcf.org , 304-264-0353, or visit www.EWVCF.org.