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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Community Foundation for Northern Virginia to Host 2026 Raise the Region Gala

The Annual Event Marks More than Four Decades of Celebrating the Area's Philanthropy and Community Leadership

Fairfax, VA (September 29, 2026) – The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia (CFNOVA) will honor two of the region's most impactful leaders, Gil and Liz Blankespoor and Inova Health, at the annual Raise the Region Gala on October 16 from 6:30pm to 10:00 pm at the Hilton McLean Tysons Corner, bringing together more than 400 business, civic, and philanthropic leaders for an evening of celebration, connection, and community impact.

The Gala, emceed by award-winning NBC4 broadcaster Tommy McFly, is a high-energy evening, featuring live and silent auctions with exclusive packages and experiences, cocktails, dinner, and meaningful opportunities to connect with fellow leaders from across the region who are invested in building a stronger Northern Virginia.

"The Raise the Region Gala is more than a celebration, it's a testament to what's possible when a community comes together," said Renée Byng Yancey, President and CEO of the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia. "Every dollar raised supports scholarships, grants, and programs that strengthen our neighbors' lives, from housing and workforce development to education and healthcare. Together, we are building a Northern Virginia that works for everyone."

Leading sponsors who collectively donated more than \$200,000 include: Avison Young & Harry Klaff, Bob and Pamela Kipps, Claude Moore Charitable Foundation, Inova Health, John and Nina Toups Charitable Fund, K. Paul Singh, Rezon8 Capital & Advisory Group LLC, Lou and Wendy Brown, McGuire Woods LLP, Monument Wealth Management, NobleReach Foundation, Paul & Julia Leslie, the Shrivastava Family, and Truist Wealth.

For tickets and additional information, visit: www.cfnova.org/gala.

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ABOUT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR NORTHERN VIRGINIA

The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia is building a region that works for everyone by advancing philanthropy and community leadership. Since 1978, we have united thousands of generous Northern Virginians with the causes they care about through donor-advised funds, permanent funds, giving circles, and charitable endowments. We cultivate enduring partnerships with nonprofits, foundations, government, businesses, and community members, maximizing impact to drive meaningful change. Through Insight Region®, our original research initiative, we deliver data-driven insights that reveal the trends and issues shaping Northern Virginia's future.

The Community Foundation proudly serves all Northern Virginians in Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William Counties and the Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas, and Manassas Park. Learn more at cfnova.org.