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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Community Foundation Holds May Innovation Breakfast *Changing the Frame on Green Energy*

May 14, 2018 (Oakton, VA) – The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia and the Northern Virginia Regional Commission co-hosted an Innovation Breakfast on May 10, 2018 titled, “Changing the Frame on Green Energy.” More than 100 participants attended the event.

The keynote speaker was Sanjiv Mahan, President of WGL Energy, and the panelists included Robert Lazaro, Executive Director, Northern Virginia Regional Commission; Ruth Ann Norton, President & CEO, Green & Healthy Homes Initiative; Karen Schaufeld, Founder, Powered by Facts; and Delegate Rip Sullivan, VA State Delegate, 48th District.

WGL Energy donated carbon offsets to counterbalance conference emissions from energy use at this event. These carbon offsets are equivalent to avoiding the consumption of over 113 gallons of gasoline, or planting over 26 tree seedlings that grow for 10 years.

Carbon Offsets from WGL Energy are Green-e® Climate certified and derived from verified carbon reduction projects in the waste management sector, which capture and destroy methane from regional landfills. Even better for the environment, WGL Energy invests a portion of the proceeds into the Carbon Reduction Fund, managed by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) and used to develop new projects, such as tree plantings, to improve air and water quality in the region and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Since 2010, the Carbon Reduction Fund has supported numerous projects, including the planting of over 25,000 trees throughout the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. To learn more about Carbon Offsets from WGL Energy please visit www.wglenergy.com/commercialoffsets.

The Innovation Breakfast Series is designed to engage the Northern Virginia community in a dialogue about new and innovative solutions to spur economic growth in our region.

The Community Foundation launched its Environment Fund at this event, a permanently endowed fund to protect, restore and improve the natural environment of Northern Virginia, thereby enhancing the health and quality of life of its citizens and the economy of the region. Learn more at www.cfnova.org/environment.

The Northern Virginia Regional Commission invites Northern Virginia residents and businesses to participate in its Solarize NOVA campaign which runs through May 31st. This initiative is designed to make it easier and more affordable to install solar power in homes and commercial businesses through a partnership with the nonprofit Local Energy Alliance Program (LEAP.) They offer free solar assessments and discounted prices on solar panels. More details are available at www.solarizenova.org.

To see photos from this event please visit <https://photos.app.goo.gl/dh9VJK8Qx98QfqBt2>.

About the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia:

The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia grows philanthropy to respond to critical need and seed innovation in the region. Comprised of donor advised funds, permanent funds, giving circles, and other charitable endowments, the Community Foundation connects donors to community, and helps meet community needs with community resources.

In 2017 the Community Foundation awarded more than \$4.7 million in grants and scholarships and reported \$47 million in managed philanthropic assets.

For more information please visit us at www.cfnova.org, on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/CommunityFoundationforNOVA/> and on Twitter [@CFNova](https://twitter.com/CFNova).

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