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**BUTLER COUNTY TOURISM & CONVENTION BUREAU (BCTCB) HOST GRANT WRITING SEMINAR  
Twenty-Five BCTCB-Member Organizations Learn Tips on Grant Writing**

**HARMONY, PA (Sept. 19, 2022)** – More than 25 member organizations took advantage of the Butler County Tourism & Convention Bureau’s (BCTCB) seminar, *Grants: Where to Find Them & How to Win Them*, Monday, Sept. 19 at the Steamfitters Local 449, Harmony. Attendees had the opportunity to learn about the world of grant writing and how to enhance their chances of securing funding.

The BCTCB developed the idea for the seminar as a way to help its members and to increase awareness of its foundation’s grant program. The BCTCB awarded a total of \$100,000 in tourism grants to 28 local organizations at its Toast for Tourism event this past spring.

“We’re dedicated to increasing tourism in Butler County and we believe that by educating our membership on the different grants available to them and tips on how to write grant submissions is one of the most important things we can do,” said Amy Pack, Senior Director of Tourism Development, BCTCB. “We assembled a top-notch panel, all of whom were quite generous and gracious in sharing their historical knowledge.”

Debbie Crum, Director of Outreach, BCTCB, moderated the panel which consisted of: Joella Baker, President, Get Fit Families and Executive Director, Mighty Moraine Triathlon Series; Alice Del Vecchio, Chairperson, Dept. of Nonprofit Management, Empowerment and Diversity Studies Director, Institute for Nonprofit Leadership, Advisor, Student Nonprofit Alliance at Slippery Rock University; Lance Welliver, Director, Butler County Parks and Recreation; and Chris Ziegler, Executive Director, Armstrong Trails formerly Allegheny Valley Land Trust.

“This seminar provided a helpful overview of the basics, as well as specific information about where to look for grant opportunities – how to write effective grant requests, sourcing for impact reporting, and possible pitfalls,” said Renee Ayers of Spring Street Studios in Zelienople, which secured a grant from the Butler County Tourism Foundation for a community-based glass mosaic that will be unveiled Sept. 29 at the studio. “The panelists were engaging and well versed in every area of the grant process. I was especially interested in partnering with other organizations when applying for a grant. I hadn’t considered that but I can see incredible possibilities for local nonprofit organizations.”