

# What does Our Town Foundation do for our Community?

Our Town Foundation is a non-profit community revitalization organization for the Borough of Hamburg and beyond. Incorporated in 2002, we have been the driving force behind many community enriching projects and have been instrumental in receiving over \$4,200,000 in grant funding for the betterment of the community. Here is a brief synopsis of the organization:

## Programs we administer:

- Main Street Revitalization improves the downtown business district through beautification and business recruitment, and by providing assistance in any way needed to existing business owners.
- The Hamburg Area Arts Alliance and the Art and Craft Gallery of Hamburg support and showcase local artists (both visual and performing) and advance the awareness of arts in the community.
- Heritage Towns & Tours Program promotes our regional assets, including natural recreational opportunities, history and heritage, and arts and culture.
- In addition, we own and operate the Hamburg Strand Theater providing family entertainment for the community.

**We organize and host** a number of community events and festivals to benefit the downtown businesses, organizations, and the arts community, while providing entertainment and cultural opportunities to our residents and visitors:

- Taste of Hamburg-er Festival
- Community clean-up days
- Downtown promotional activities
- Performances and special events at the Hamburg Strand Theater
- Art shows and classes
- Bingo, Beer & BBQ
- Plus new outdoor events and activities are being planned for State Street Square!

**We promote** the image and identity of the Hamburg area by:

- Maintaining and updating the [www.hamburgpa.org](http://www.hamburgpa.org) website and the Hamburg, PA Facebook pages
- Serving as the town's Welcome & Information Center for visitors
- Designing, printing, and distributing several brochures including the *Historic Hamburg Visitor's Guide*, and *Fun Facts and Things to Do in and Around Hamburg*
- Placing ads in magazines and other media sources
- Sending community event information to dozens of community calendars and other media sources for publication
- Creating and distributing a bi-weekly email newsletter to approximately 3,000 subscribers



Outdoor mural painted on State Street building

More on reverse side

**We support local businesses** by providing:

- A complete business directory on hamburgpa.org
- Free distribution of hospitality business brochures
- Networking social events
- Business owner workshops
- Listing of available real estate and rentals
- Coordination of shop local campaigns and co-operative advertising opportunities
- Business referrals
- Ribbon cutting events for new businesses

**We help move the community forward** by our role in:

- Being a historic preservation advocate – received National Historic District designation
- Being an accredited Mainstreet Program
- Organizing community visioning meetings
- Creating action plans for implementing future projects
- Partnering with other organizations and working together to make the Hamburg area a place where people want to live, work, or recreate

**The Foundation has received over \$4,200,000 in grant funds to provide support for the following projects:**

- Improvements and renovations at The Hamburg Strand Theater to once again make it a thriving community hub
- Streetscape improvements in the downtown business district including new traffic light standards, sidewalks, benches, trash receptacles, holiday decorations, Hometown Heroes banners, and American flags.
- State Street Square – developing a vacant lot into a community gathering place
- A Riverfront Project to include riverfront trails, informational kiosks and a parking lot for trail users
- A housing improvement project to assist low to moderate income homeowners with interior and exterior housing improvements
- Numerous art related programs and projects including a public arts initiative (4 large murals, sculpture)
- Major improvements to three borough-owned parking lots
- Initiating a Native Wildlife Habitat Program and planting native gardens throughout the community
- Building a community garden for residents to plant their own vegetables and flowers
- Façade improvement program for non-profits including the Hamburg Public Library, Historical Society, Field House, Journey Café, and the VFW
- Façade improvement project for property owners within the Main Street and Elm Street corridors which sparked total investment of over \$500,000
- Funding for historic district designation
- Directional signs throughout the downtown
- Receipt of 30 recycling bins to be used at community events

If you would like to learn more about Our Town Foundation and how you can volunteer to enrich and revitalize our community, or if you would like to join our team as an artist, resident, or business member, please stop by the office located at 320 State Street in downtown Hamburg or call 610-562-3106 for information.

**Become a member today!**