



ATHENS AREA
**Community
Foundation**



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Growing giving for the **community** you love.

Lead.

ATHENS AREA

Partner.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Guide.





TRUST

in Leadership



LETTER

FROM SARAH & RHODES

As a **trusted guide for local philanthropy, a trusted partner for local organizations, and a trusted community leader**, we appreciate the trust you place in us to carry out our mission and vision. At the close of 2021, assets managed total more than \$23MM. More importantly, since our inception, grants from our Athens Area Community Foundation have exceeded \$12.8MM, representing many changed lives.

In this report, you'll read about the Hughes Family and their passion for supporting a service animal, Glada Horvat and her connection to her late son's memory through grantmaking, Hattie Thomas Whitehead and Jane Nute on a mission to support scholarship, and the Fortson, Bentley, & Griffin law firm honoring their 75th anniversary through a fund dedicated to community. Each of these funds paints a picture of local philanthropy in action. Each story illustrates the role our Athens Area Community Foundation plays in our efforts to come alongside your giving, listen to your interests, and be a **trusted guide for your local philanthropy**.

Trust in leadership is central to our mission. In this report, we share our growing commitment to being a **trusted partner for local organizations and a trusted community leader**. The initiatives we launch, stand behind, and encourage are the direct result of your investment as a donor and include our work in the COVID-19 Community Response Fund, the DGD Fund, Resilient Northeast Georgia, the Nonprofit of the Year Honoree, and so much more.

It is our honor to work with you to **grow giving for the communities we love**. Thank you for believing in and trusting us. We are just getting started.



Sarah McKinney
President & CEO



Rhodes McLanahan
Board Chair



Honoring Memories Through Giving

Athens family uses fund to donate service dog.

If it wasn't for Sarge, their story might have been different.

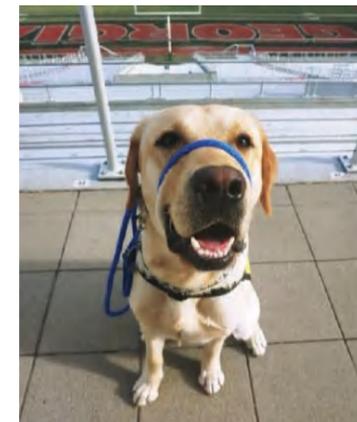
"Years ago, we had a German Shepherd named Sarge because my husband Phil was in the military for 10 years," recalled Phoebe Hughes. "And when [our daughter] Apryl was 3 years old, we feel that Sarge literally saved her life."

Phoebe and her late husband Phil had been in the yard when their daughter Apryl, in a quick second, started toward the highway.

"Sarge brought her down without breaking the skin on her arm," remembered Phoebe. "That memory has stayed with me — how our dog made a huge impact in our daily life."

And it's that memory that has fueled Phoebe's desire to provide someone else in need with help. With support from the Athens Area Community Foundation, she's in the process of donating a service dog.

▲ Phoebe Hughes with her daughters, Thananya Hughes Scott and Apryl Hughes.



▲ Sarge, the service dog in training.

“Giving through the AACF is a wonderful way to leave a lasting legacy for a loved one.”

— Apryl Hughes

"I was eager to find a nonprofit that would allow us to name the dog [Sarge] and to have a say in where it went — so that I would know it's helping someone needing assistance in their daily life," said Phoebe. "This service dog will go to either a blind person or someone who is incapacitated." She's also hopeful the service dog could benefit a veteran, in honor of her husband Phil, an Army veteran who passed away in 2012.

Supporting this — and other projects close to their hearts — through the Phil Hughes Family Fund they created at the AACF has allowed the family to continue Phil's tradition of giving back.

"My dad was very philanthropic. Both my parents have been," said Apryl, Phoebe's daughter. "And after he died, we were looking for different avenues to continue that. ... It's just a wonderful way to honor him with causes that are important to us."

For them, AACF simplified the process of giving back.

"When my mom said she was interested in the service dog, [AACF President and CEO] Sarah McKinney did all the leg work for us and had several different options," explained Apryl. "They took over [the process]. They vetted the charity. They did all that for us. It's a seamless way to become involved and make sure that causes you're interested in are supported."

Working with the AACF is also a way to make sure your giving has the most impact.

"It's complicated doing this on your own," said Apryl. "But this way — by giving through the AACF — Athens families as a collection, as a whole, can have their money invested and earning interest. It's a great way for that money to grow, and then every family can choose where they want their money to go, whether it's the Salvation Army, or a church — or for mom, a service dog.

"Our community is only as strong as what you put into it. And the community needs, especially during Covid, have been so significant. So many nonprofits and charities have needed help. Imagine if there wasn't a philanthropic association in Athens that could facilitate those needs?"

For the Hughes family, giving is a way of life and working with the AACF helps them continue doing what they love.

"[Giving through the AACF] is a wonderful way to leave a lasting legacy for a loved one who has passed," said Apryl, "or a family member who has lived and served in the community."

For the Hughes family, giving is a way of life and working with the AACF helps them continue doing what they love.

How one mom turned tragedy into a brighter future for generations of students

“It’s amazing how far a family can go when they have the advantage of a college scholarship.”

– Glada Horvat

Together with the AACF, Glada and her family set up a fund to benefit a senior at Cedar Shoals High School.

When Glada Horvat lost her 16-year-old son, Michael, to suicide in 2017, she could have just focused on healing from the loss.

But instead, she decided to give back.

“We had directed donations [in Michael’s memory] to the Foundation for Excellence in Public Education to set up an ‘Excellence in Coaching’ award in his name for the Clarke County School District,” explained Glada. “I also wanted to set up a scholarship fund and approached [FFE Executive Director] CJ [Amason] about a month later. She referred me to Sarah [McKinney] and the Athens Area Community Foundation.”

When Glada learned more about the Athens Area Community Foundation, she said she realized it was a great way to honor Michael and support other students.

“As I read up on the foundation, I was impressed with the number of local people involved and the impact it was having on the quality of life for citizens in our community,” she said. “I had some life insurance proceeds from my son’s death, and when I saw that a \$20,000 donation could be turned into a \$1,000 annual award, it seemed like a great way to honor his memory and help students with college expenses.”

Together with the AACF, Glada and her family set up a fund to benefit a senior at Cedar Shoals High School — the school where all three of the Horvats’ children attended. Setting up this fund meant giving back didn’t have to be a one-time event.

If I had just given the school \$1,000 a year, the funds would be gone in 20 years,” she said. “But if I made a donation to the community foundation, the award could be made every year in perpetuity.”

They’ve also set up a donor-advised fund — The Michael Peter Horvat Fund.

“I’m working to grow that fund and am looking forward to making grants with Michael in mind,” Glada explained. “Last year, for example, I made one to a project at Barnett Shoals Elementary where he attended and his third-grade teacher, Mrs. Aliceson Nobles, is now the principal.



“It’s pretty awesome that a regular person like me can basically have their own foundation without doing any work other than creating a fund and making grants. The staff and board at AACF are experts at managing the legal aspects and the finances while also keeping an eye on the needs of the community.”

Glada knows first-hand the impact of scholarships and higher education. She’s the Senior Associate Athletic Director at UGA, and part of her job includes administering scholarships.

“I’ve seen the impact a scholarship makes on the trajectory of a student’s life, especially those who are the first in their family to go to college,” she said. “It’s amazing how far a family can go in just one generation when they have the advantage of a college education.”

She has also seen the difference AACF can make for other organizations.

“I’ve been an officer for 30 years in the UGA chapter of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi and I’m currently serving as treasurer. Our board voted last year to set up a fund at the AACF, and it has been so successful that we’ve increased both the number and value of our annual high school scholarships,” she explained. “It’s rewarding to be able to help more students because of the foundation’s great stewardship.”

Whether it’s giving scholarships or giving encouragement, Glada said she’s learned over the years that we can all make a difference.

“We all have something to give — whether it’s a smile, a hug, a listening ear, a word of encouragement, or financial resources,” she said. “And it makes the world a better place when we actively do things to show that we love our neighbor.”

▲ Glada Horvat holding a life-sized picture of her late son, Michael.

Teamwork helps make college more accessible for local students

“I think partnerships are so important. You don’t have to do everything by yourself.”

– Jane Nute

College can get a little pricey these days. And we’re not just talking about tuition.

Before school even starts, costs add up. And this can be a big hurdle — especially for students who struggle to afford college in the first place.

That’s where the Athens StepUp Scholarship Program comes in.

“So many scholarships kick in when a kid steps in the door [at college],” said Jane Nute, who joined the Athens StepUp board three years ago. “But there are so many other needs, too. It can be mind-boggling. There are fees for your application to college, dorm fees, orientation fees. Or even getting a hotel to go to orientation. There are so many before-you-step-in-the-door needs.”

Athens StepUp’s goal is to help local students tackle some of these needs.

“We give \$500 scholarships directly to the students so they get help with things they need — things their family cannot afford to give them — whether it’s gas, registration, or whatever they need to help them get to college,” said Hattie Thomas Whitehead, Founder and Executive Director of Athens StepUp.

Initially launched as a family scholarship fund named in honor of Hattie’s mother, Laura Maude Thomas Day, Athens StepUp has grown over the years. Its aim? To support graduating high school seniors who have overcome significant obstacles and have been accepted to a technical school or college.

To date, Athens StepUp has gifted nearly 70 scholarships to students in need since its inception a decade ago. Goals for 2021 include giving at least 15 scholarships to Athens-Clarke County seniors. They’re hoping to eventually offer continuing scholarships to recipients, too.

One of their partners in this effort? The Athens Area Community Foundation.

As the scholarship fund grew, Hattie realized they needed more help. So she decided to move the fund to AACF.

“I knew AACF was an established and respected institution in our city and would help us succeed even more. They helped us orchestrate it all, to grow and be where we are today,” said Hattie. “Any needs that we have, if I reach out to them for support, they are there. Whatever questions we have, they are there.”

◀ Board Member, Jane Nute, with Hattie Thomas Whitehead, Founder and Executive Director of Athens StepUp.

Big needs or small, the community foundation was ready to help make a difference.

“What I am so impressed with is that we were not too small for them to embrace,” added Hattie. “We didn’t have to be this big organization. In my opinion, they did just as much for us as they would for some bigger organization.”

Jane echoed those thoughts, adding that she appreciated AACF President and CEO Sarah McKinney.

“Hattie saw the need,” she said. “And Sarah did the facilitating. I think it’s wonderful.”

This isn’t the only time Jane has worked with Sarah.

Jane and her husband Donald worked with AACF to develop their own scholarship fund — The Nute Family Scholarship Fund — mentoring high school students as they prepare for college and then supporting them with a 4-year college scholarship.

“My husband and I are both educators — he at the university level and me at the middle school level,” she explained. “We just feel so strongly about education and making it possible for someone who wouldn’t have had that possibility.”

Whether it’s Athens StepUp or family scholarship funds like Jane’s, the guidance Sarah McKinney and the AACF team provides to organizations, families, and individuals is invaluable.

“I think the world of Sarah. She doesn’t just see a problem. She’s an action person. A lot of people see it, but they’ll wait for other people to come up with ideas. That’s not Sarah,” added Jane. “She sees a need and jumps in. She really epitomizes what community means.”

Having partners like that can be a game-changer.

“I think those partnerships [like ours with AACF] are so important,” said Hattie. “You don’t have to do everything by yourself if you have partners.”

Wondering how we can help you or your organization invest in your community? Learn more at athensareacf.org/giving/ways-to-give.

To date, Athens StepUp has gifted nearly 70 scholarships to students in need since its inception a decade ago.

The power of keeping giving local: Why one couple gives through the Athens Area Community Foundation

For Rod and Ethel Rutledge, it's not just about making a donation.

It's about sharing their love of giving.

"I think giving is kind of in our DNA. My parents, Ethel's parents — we come from a family of givers," explained Rod. "I think it was rooted in our parents and passed on to us, and we passed it on to our children."

The Rutledges are honoring that legacy of giving with the Rutledge Lathen Fund at the Athens Area Community Foundation.

"It was named for our parents," said Ethel. "We were involved with the community foundation in Charleston [when we lived there]. [When we moved] Rod sought out the community foundation here. We had a fund at the one in Charleston, and we transferred it here."

With teachers and musicians in the family tree, projects supporting education or music are always near to their hearts. But they also use the Rutledge Lathen Fund to support immediate needs in their community, too.

"We were flooded out of our home in Charleston for three years in a row. That's basically how we ended up here [in Athens]. And fortunately, we had resources. We had insurance. But so many people didn't have resources," explained Ethel. "So many people were living in basic shacks. The flood just wiped them out. Some senior citizens were living in mold. It was a sad situation."

And giving through their local community foundation was one way to make a difference.

"We couldn't take it on ourselves to find the individuals who needed help, but we knew we could give to a local organization," added Ethel.

And they've continued that tradition since moving to Athens in 2018.

Rod served as a board member with the community foundation in Charleston. So, connecting with the Athens Area Community Foundation — where he also serves on the board — was an easy decision.

▶
Rod and Ethel Rutledge.

"I know Sarah [McKinney, President & CEO of Athens Area Community Foundation,] and the other staff. They have their finger on the pulse of the community. That's why I love it so much. That's why we continue to support it," said Rod. "I just think the community foundation is the eyes and ears of the community. They know what the challenges are. They have the ability to be very broad-based."

Ethel echoed those feelings.

"We're members of Athens Church. And I love the model they use. They don't start all these programs themselves. They don't try to recreate the wheel. Rather, they fund existing programs and organizations that are out there. They'll partner with them. And that's sort of how we look at the [Athens Area] Community Foundation," she said. "When you have an organization that has a good reputation and good stewardship, it makes it easy to support and it's local."

Want to know more about the Athens Area Community Foundation and how you can open a fund? Contact us at [706-357-7148](tel:706-357-7148) or smckinney@athensareacf.org.

The Rutledge Lathen Fund
supports education and music
projects, in addition to
supporting the immediate
needs in the
community.

“
I just think the community foundation is
the eyes and ears of the community.
”

– Rod Rutledge



Celebrating Milestones

Athens firm honors milestone year by paying it forward.

It's a celebration 75 years in the making.

Forston, Bentley & Griffin, an Athens-based law firm, turns 75 this year. And they're celebrating in a big way.

"We debated many different ways of celebrating the firm's 75th and how to celebrate in a COVID world," said Kevin Lang, partner at Forston, Bentley & Griffin. "But frankly, even absent COVID, I think we settled on a way of commemorating the milestone that feels true to the values of this firm."

To mark 75 years of serving the Athens area, Forston, Bentley & Griffin has established a \$75,000 donor-advised fund with the Athens Area Community Foundation — funds all aimed at boosting area nonprofits.

"We were looking for a way to celebrate the firm's longevity and history. This just felt like the right way for us to do that," explained Kevin. "The AACF does such a good job administering and connecting with nonprofits in the area. We felt like it was a good mechanism, a good way to structure our charitable giving."

With the fund, Forston, Bentley & Griffin can continue to give back, connecting to more nonprofits in need.

"Sarah [McKinney, AACF President & CEO] and her team have such good connections with all the area nonprofits," Kevin said. "They have such a good feel for who needs funding and what plans need support. They have insight we don't have — which is so helpful. We value that insight."

This isn't the first time the firm has worked with the community foundation and it won't be the last.

"We have confidence in Sarah and her team, as well as the board," Kevin said. "In fact, this new partnership has gone so well, we'll be continuing the relationship past our 75th anniversary."

While this fund may be new, giving back isn't. Serving their community is a long-standing tradition at Forston, Bentley & Griffin.

“
We were looking
for a way to
celebrate the
firm’s longevity
and history. This
just felt like the
right way for us
to do that.”

— Kevin Lang

**Founded by a pair of veterans
fresh out of service in World War II,
Forston, Bentley & Griffin’s
partners boast a history of
service to both their
country and their
community.**



▲
Attorneys from Forston,
Bentley & Griffin

"Community involvement — and having the attorneys here at the firm actively involved in the community — is really important to us," said Kevin. "And we have a history going back to the founding of the firm of being involved in organizations and giving to nonprofits that are important to our community."

In a way, their history of service started even before their founding — in the jungles of the South Pacific and on the beaches of Normandy. Founded by a pair of veterans fresh out of service in World War II, Forston, Bentley & Griffin's partners boast a history of service to both their country and their community.

"They had a pretty amazing young adulthood experience coming through World War II. Particularly Mr. Griffin with his experiences at Normandy," said Kevin.

And giving back is one way they're honoring that legacy.

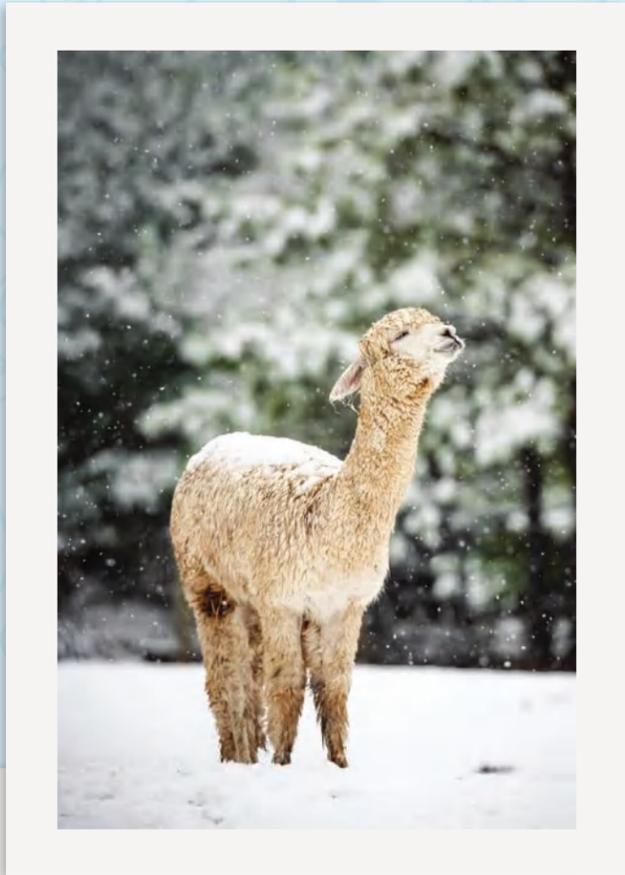
"Our founding partners were so involved and so generous with their time, trying to do things that helped Athens and helped people in our community," explained Kevin. "And we really try to make sure that ethos continues with the firm. We felt like this [fund] was a good reminder that this level of help and charitable giving is important."

Giving through AACF also helps givers make a broad impact with their gift.

"It's a great way to use the knowledge base the AACF has — to know what charities are out there, what their needs are, what impact they make on the community," said Kevin. "For those who are interested in giving to charities in our area, I think this is a very good way to go about it."

Community Leadership

Did you know that **47%** of all grants from the Athens Area Community Foundation are given in the last three months of the calendar year? Granting is a great way to bring meaning to your holidays!



May your home be filled with

LOVE,
PEACE &
JOY

Happy Holidays from the Athens Area Community Foundation!

Janet McKinney
Stephanie Mann
Kipper Koslowski

CRYN III

Community Leadership

The Athens-Banner Herald Empty Stocking Fund has been a source for local agencies to assist those in need in the Athens area for many years. Funds raised through the Empty Stocking campaign are used to help families at risk of eviction **pay rent and take care of many other necessary expenses, including medical, power and water bills.** Since 2018, we have partnered with Online Athens | Athens Banner Herald to accept, steward, and distribute all funds donated to assist those in need. During the Holiday season, referrals are made by 501C3's, government agencies, or schools on behalf of individuals. Once approved, grants are made back to the referring agencies to support the emergency needs of their clients.

Giving Feels Good!
Make an impact this holiday season.

EMPTY STOCKING FUND
BEGINNING DECEMBER 1, 2021

OnlineAthens
ATHENS BANNER-HERALD
Empty Stocking Fund

Give Online:
athensareacf.org/donate

Mail a Check:
Athens Area Community Foundation
Attn: Empty Stocking Fund
PO Box 1543
Athens, GA 30603

ATHENS AREA Community Foundation

Providing Local Assistance During the Holiday Season

Thank you for giving to
The Empty Stocking Fund at the Athens Area Community Foundation!

Through your generosity,
\$54,305.21 was given to
13 community organizations, impacting
211 individuals this holiday season.

THANK YOU, AACF!

Community Leadership

A sample of the many thank you notes we receive for our community leadership, made possible by our donors and fundholders.



Thank you so much for taking the time to speak with us! You provided so much insight about non-profits and boards. I know it was very inspiring to me and I'm sure it was for the rest of the AmeriCorps team. I really loved your advice that everyone wants to be known and to be intentional. Also, thank you for sharing your stories about Ed and Casper. Those were beautiful memories and they warmed my heart. You are appreciated!

Thank you so much for taking the time to talk to us about our new venture and give us guidance on getting started. We knew you'd be a wealth of knowledge, but we didn't realize how much concrete + helpful advice you'd be able to offer. We so appreciate your time and willingness to help.

Thank you all so much for all you have done and continue to do to help meet the needs of our most vulnerable populations. It has been a pleasure collaborating with your team and I appreciate the low barrier approach you've employed to help community members. The experience is always seamless and I hope more nonprofits emulate the work you do. Thank you!

"Every kid is one caring adult away from being a success story."
- Josh Shipp

I am grateful for you and your willingness to take time out of your busy schedule to flesh matters me. I have always greatly appreciated you and your willingness to support me. Your words of wisdom will play a pivotal role if I am fortunate enough to land an interview. God Bless & Be Brave!



Community Leadership

We recently received a grant from an Anonymous Fund at the Athens Area Community Foundation. We are so honored by the generous investment in Concrete Jungle, and we hope you can pass on our gratitude to our donor. With your support we are able to work with local growers to improve food access so children and families can thrive. Thank you for sharing the word about Concrete Jungle.

Thank you so much for your help and insight regarding charitable giving with a brewery. If I can ever return the favor with a brainstorm of your own, please be in touch.
Jordan Richardson



Thank you for leading our community well, especially during the COVID-19 health crisis. We, at OAC, are so thankful for the designated funds to purchase freezers, coolers, and InstaCrates. These supplies will allow us to safely store and distribute food for our Summer Food for Kids program.

I want to send an overdue thanks to you for making time to speak with me about the foundation and donor advised funds, their purpose and how it all works. I learned a lot and know who to reach out to when my clients have a need for specific local legacy planning. Hope your strategic planning went well and things are good with your business.



It was a delight to finally meet you. I enjoyed the opportunity to learn more about how you and your team inspire a spirit of philanthropy in our community. Together, we can move mountains! Please give my regards to Kipper- you're a remarkable team.



RESILIENT NORTHEAST GEORGIA

Hi, my name is Meredith Lysaught and I'm the project manager for **Resilient Northeast Georgia**, a regional trauma grant initiative aimed at preventing and mitigating childhood trauma. I am a recent graduate from the University of Georgia's College of Public Health and hold a Bachelor of Science in Health Promotion degree.

I began work on the previous cycle of our Resilient Georgia trauma grant as the Spring 2021 Community Foundation Intern and have since spent time researching adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), learning about the counties that make up northeast Georgia, and connecting with existing regional trauma-related initiatives to better understand experiences of adversity from a hyperlocal perspective.

Now as project manager, I work with Family Connection staff and other partners from around our 12-county region to plan and coordinate trainings and initiatives that address the unique needs of each county, build a common language surrounding trauma, and encourage cross-sector regional collaboration. In this role, I hope to help create a collaborative, sustainable, and regionally inclusive approach to trauma prevention that unites partners across the region under a common goal: building a trauma-informed Northeast Georgia together.



Resilient Northeast Georgia is an emerging regional collaborative of community stakeholders, partners, and leaders working across a twelve-county region to identify ways to prevent childhood trauma and address how trauma impacts lives.

THE GRANT

From 2019 to 2021, the Athens Area Community Foundation, Envision Athens, and the Athens Wellbeing Project worked together to steward a grant for the prevention of trauma in six counties (Clarke, Barrow, Jackson, Oconee, Oglethorpe, and Madison Counties). Building on the foundational work established in the previous grant cycle, the Athens Area Community Foundation, Georgia Family Connection Region 5, and the Athens Wellbeing Project have partnered to form Resilient Northeast Georgia, a twelve-county collaborative. Utilizing the knowledge and relationships held by the Family Connection organizations in each county, the Resilient Northeast Georgia coalition aims to establish approaches to trauma tailored to the specific needs and resources of each county. Region-wide, Resilient Northeast Georgia will host trauma trainings, networking meetings, and regional events to engage all members of the community.

GRANT PARTNERS



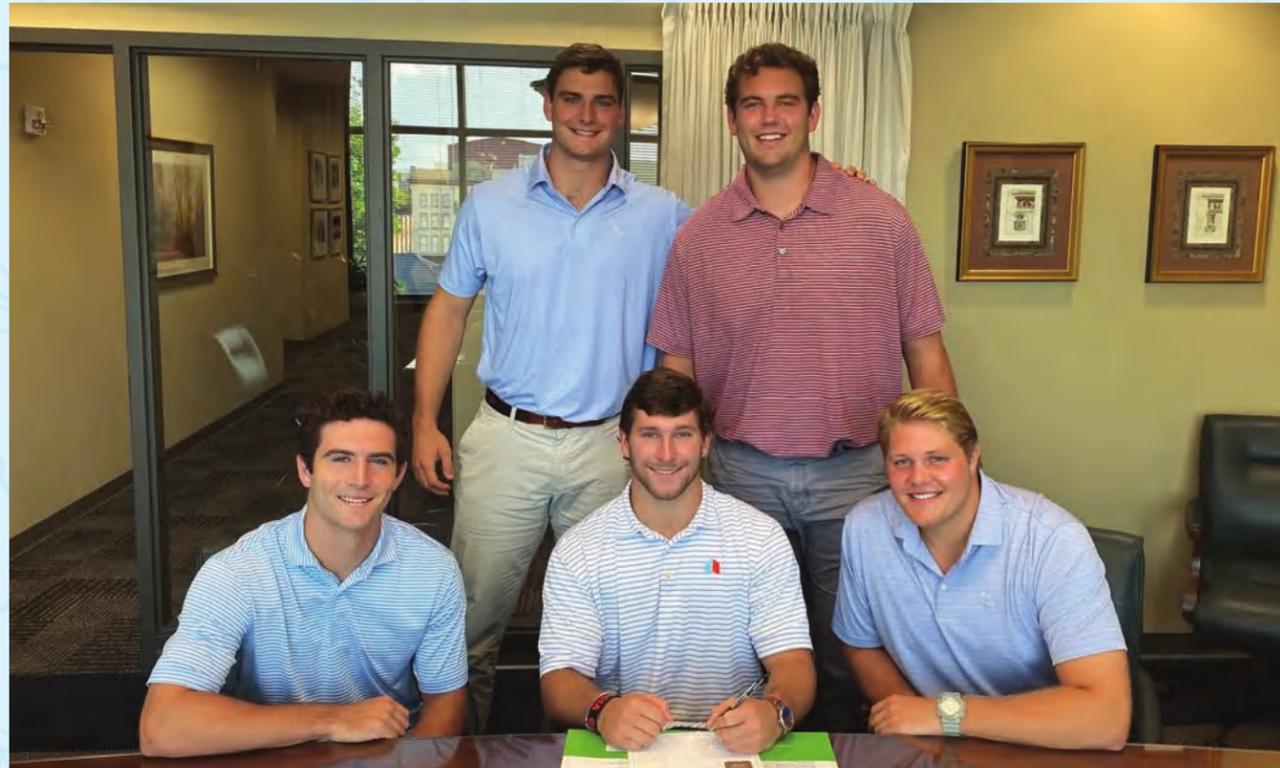
PROGRESS TO DATE

- ✓ PSA video discussing trauma
- ✓ Trauma resources webpage added to athensareacf.org and Resilient Northeast Georgia's coalition website, resilientnortheastgeorgia.org
- ✓ Data-driven assessment of the region's behavioral health system during COVID-19
- ✓ Grants to support telehealth therapy services
- ✓ Grants to support Family Connection Partners in their work to increase regional capacity and engagement
- ✓ Training opportunities for practitioners, organizations, and members of the community who actively work with youth in juvenile justice, foster and adoptive, and homeless and transitional housing settings
- ✓ Grants to support local non-profits (e.g., Juvenile Offender Advocate) that work with teens

Community Leadership



We are so proud of our Dawgs for winning the National Championship! We are even more proud of their work beyond the field and their hearts for giving back. Together, **John Staton, Stetson Bennett, Owen Condon, John FitzPatrick, and Payne Walker** have raised substantial funds through their **DGD Fund** at the Athens Area Community Foundation to benefit Mental Health and Suicide Awareness, The Boys and Girls Club of America, The ALS Association, American Brain Tumor Association, and Happyfeat. Congratulations on all your success!



Community Leadership

In late November, University of Georgia students joined in on the Athens-Clarke County Restore Our River Project, an initiative to restore wildlife habitat alongside the North Oconee River in Athens. The event was a collaboration between the **UGA Office of Sustainability, Athens-Clarke County Sustainability Office, and the Athens Area Community Foundation**, with grant funding from **One Tree Planted** and the **Caterpillar Foundation**.

The partnership allowed them to weave together all the different pieces of this project – including education, volunteerism, and creative funding – to create a healthy community.



Community Leadership



Community Leadership



\$40,000

to 18 organizations offering food distribution and food access to Northeast Georgia residents. These organizations included food banks and pantries, meal deliveries and more for all populations and demographics.



\$85,000

to 18 nonprofits supporting individuals and families affected by, or at risk for, homelessness, partner violence, chronic conditions, behavioral health, and substance use disorders.



\$71,000

to 16 organizations providing positive youth engagement opportunities in summer 2020 and those helping keep children safe and healthy.



\$72,000

to 14 area public school systems to provide healthy, safe, educational opportunities for students in fall 2020.



\$50,000

to two local technical institutions, Athens Technical College and Lanier Technical College, to provide direct financial assistance to their students facing hardship.



\$100,000

to the Northeast Health District - Georgia Department of Public Health for equitable vaccine outreach and distribution in its region.



\$80,000

to Georgia Family Connection partners in Northeast Georgia to be used for needs relevant to each partner and its residents.



(7) rounds of COVID-relief funding were granted between March 2020 and December 2021.



Athens Area Nonprofit of the Year and Reception

Athens Area Nonprofit of the Year Award

The Nonprofit of the Year Award stemmed from a desire to honor a nonprofit organization excelling in management skills, leadership, and community impact in our region. We know that nonprofit organizations are always working to help better our community, and we want to acknowledge and congratulate all of our nominees for their dedication and excellence.

We are incredibly grateful to the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce for joining us in celebrating this amazing nonprofit as we announced their award at the annual chamber meeting.

Congratulations to the Athens Area Homeless Shelter, our 2021 Nonprofit of the Year Honoree!

“While AAHS works hard on the big picture and this has perhaps the largest community impact, the heart of our work is in the daily effort to do right by the families in our programs. There is no impact more powerful than a family who arrives in need of emergency shelter and leaves us stably housed and independent.”

– Shea Post, Athens Area Homeless Shelter Executive Director



Congratulations to all of our Nonprofit of the Year Nominees

All organizations nominated for the 2021 Nonprofit of the Year were invited to a reception to celebrate and honor their organizations. It was an incredible night of community together!

- Adult Literacy Barrow
- Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation
- AthFest Educates
- Athens Alliance Coalition
- Athens Area Homeless Shelter
- Athens Area Humane Society
- Athens Anti-Discrimination Movement
- Athens Neighborhood Health Center
- Athens Parent Wellbeing
- Athens YMCA
- Butterfly Dreams Farm Therapy
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Athens
- Canopy Studio
- Family Promise of Athens
- Farm to Neighborhood Foundation, Inc.
- Georgia Options, Inc.
- Hope Haven of Northeast Georgia
- Living Waters Christian Fellowship Church
- Mercy Health Center
- Northeast Georgia Homeless Veterans Shelter
- People Living in Recovery
- United Way of Northeast Georgia



Philanthropy has a role in every aspect of our world, and we are dreaming big for this region. Equipped with a culture of integrity, engaged leadership, and a passion for great giving, our Athens Area Community Foundation has embarked on a wonderfully aggressive, two-year strategic plan.

Over the last five years, the commitment and generosity of Athens Area Community Foundation fundholders has ignited remarkable growth in assets managed and grants. To move forward meaningfully, we need a roadmap. A great strategic plan provides purpose, direction, and clearly defined goals. Our first ever strategic plan defines six key focus areas: Board and Staff, Operations and Facilities, Finance, Marketing and Development, Fundholder Experience, and Community Leadership. This plan is usable and ambitious, and we are excited to get started.

Together, let's keep growing giving for the community we love.

OUR Growth

2016
\$5.2M
NET ASSETS

\$1.5M
GRANTS

77
FUNDS



2021
\$23M
NET ASSETS

\$12.8M
GRANTS

186
FUNDS

Statistics for 2021 are through 12/31/21.

KEY Focus Areas



The Board and Staff has a culture of integrity through being engaged, consistent, knowledgeable, forward thinking, and trusted community leaders.



The Athens Area Community Foundation is accredited by the National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations, representing operational effectiveness, and has a facility plan that considers community needs.



The Athens Area Community Foundation has excellent budget, audit, and investment practices.



The Athens Area Community Foundation is a trusted leader, partner, and guide for local philanthropy.



Fundholders experience exceptional customer service, ease in giving, and consistent opportunities to engage in, network with, and learn about their community.



The Athens Area Community Foundation is a trusted community leader, organizational partner, and philanthropic guide creating a better future for all by pursuing the community's greatest opportunities and addressing critical challenges.

OUR Mission

The Athens Area Community Foundation helps passionate donors leave permanent legacies, serves as a well-informed grantmaker, and shapes effective responses to community needs through collaboration.

OUR Vision

We envision a community with sufficient philanthropic resources harnessed to enhance civic engagement, a vibrant regional economy, a nimble workforce, effective schools, affordable housing, accessible healthcare, efficient public transportation, supportive services for the most vulnerable, strong cultural amenities, and environmental sustainability.

WHO We Are

- Trusted Guide for Local Philanthropy
- Trusted Partner for Local Organizations
- Trusted Community Leader

OUR Commitment

Champion Strategic Philanthropy

Create Joy in Giving

Inspire Philanthropy

Serve as a Point of Connection

Offer Local Community Expertise

OUR Values



HIGHLIGHT

of Agency Funds

For an established nonprofit organization that is interested in long-term financial sustainability, an agency endowment fund is one way to make the best use of the donations received. Working with the Athens Area Community Foundation offers a cost-effective investment option and frees your staff from time-consuming administrative and investment responsibilities so you can remain focused on your core mission. Nonprofits gain access to diversity of investments, oversight, benchmarks, and standards difficult to achieve with a portfolio of your own.

Today, several nonprofit/agency entities take advantage of our economy of scale and professional, endowment-oriented investment management to build their endowments.

- Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation Fund
- Athens Area Habitat for Humanity Fund
- Athens Community Council on Aging-Capital Campaign Fund
- Athens Community Council on Aging Fund
- Athens Symphony - Albert F. Ligotti Conductor Scholarship Program
- Athens Symphony Fund
- Athens Tech Foundation Inc. Fund
- Athens Tech Foundation Funds
 - ABB Scholarship Fund
 - Adult Education Fund
 - Alumni Association Fund
 - Awah Teh Hospitality and Culinary Scholarship Fund
 - B. Frank Coggins Jr. Scholarship Fund
 - B. Frank Coggins Jr. Scholarship HS Fund
 - Carol L. White Scholarship Fund
 - Caterpillar Diesel Technology Scholarship Fund
 - First Generation Scholarship Fund
 - Georgia Egg Association Fund
 - Georgia Power Emergency Fund
 - Ian Hodson Memorial Scholarship Fund
 - Janice Emily Nursing Scholarship Fund
 - Jeremy Busby Memorial Scholarship Fund
 - Rescue Rollout Fund
 - Rotary Scholarship Fund
 - Social Work Assistant Scholarship Fund
 - Walton County Healthcare Fund

- AthFest Educates Fund
- Books for Keeps Fund
- Camp Hooray Fund
- Children First, Inc. Dream Fund
- Clarke County Mentor Program Agency Fund
- Clarke County Mentor Program Cultural Fund
- Delta PSI Boule Fund
- Family Promise of Athens Fund
- Food Bank of Northeast GA Fund
- Friends of the Athens-Clarke County Library Fund
- Friends of the Athens-Clarke County Library Puppetry Fund
- Georgia Options, Inc. Fund
- Historic Oglethorpe County Fund
- Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi-University of Georgia Chapter 32 Fund
- Jackson County Habitat for Humanity Fund
- Laura Conroy Memorial Fund
- Mr. Jay's Kids Camp Scholarship Fund
- Prevent Child Abuse Athens/Brightpaths Fund
- Project Safe Freedom Fund
- Ronnie Lukasiewicz Fund of the Lyndon House Arts Foundation
- The Cottage, Sexual Assault & Children's Advocacy Center Fund
- United Way 211 Impact Fund
- United Way of Northeast Georgia Fund
- UUFA Endowment Fund



AthFest in Action



Books for Keeps in Action



Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation in Action



Clarke County Mentor Program in Action



Athens Community Career Academy Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Advanced Manufacturing and Welding Lab.



Matt Dixon using her donor advised fund to deliver food to teachers at Rocky Branch Elementary School.



Brightpaths in Action

How Can I Get Involved?

CREATING A DYNAMIC LEGACY AT AACF

1  **Let's Talk**

Contact us to talk about your passions in giving. We will be your philanthropic guide to match your giving to the causes you care about most.

2  **Let's Make a Plan**

We work to make your giving seamless. We have flexible options to give now, or later, with the most benefit for your needs. Set up a fund and begin giving today.

3  **Let Us Make You Feel Great About Your Giving**

We want you to experience joy through your giving! Have your voice heard by championing the causes you are passionate about, and become a part of the collective philanthropy working to help our community thrive for years to come.



BEHIND THE SCENES

OF THE ATHENS AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



TRUST

in Guiding Local Philanthropy



When donors give through the Athens Area Community Foundation, not only are they supporting issues they care deeply about, but they're also making a collective impact on the entire community - impact that is bigger, more responsive, and longer-lasting than can be accomplished alone. The Athens Area Community Foundation offers flexibility by providing different types of funds for donors to utilize in their philanthropic efforts.

We serve many individuals, families, and businesses as they anchor their charitable giving through funds at the Athens Area Community Foundation. Together, we create a lasting legacy - unleashing generosity through grantmaking today, while growing community assets for tomorrow.

Funds : Jan. 1, 2021 - Dec. 31, 2021

The Athens Area Community Foundation helps passionate donors create dynamic legacies.

ABH Empty Stocking Fund
Accountability Courts Foundation of Athens-Clarke County
ACF Compassion Network Project
Al and Kathy Conn Parker Fund
Athens 100% Renewable Energy Fund
Athens Area Community Foundation General Operations
Athens Community Career Academy Fund
Athens Community Council on Aging Field Fund
Athens Community Partnership for Youth Development
Athens Nurses Clinic Fund
Athens Resonates Fund
Athens Resource Center for Hope Village Apartments
Athens Wellbeing Project
Athens-Clarke County Leisure Services P.L.A.Y. Fund
Athens-Clarke County Police Department - Summer Youth Camp
Barbara and Frank Rice Memorial Fund

Barron's Rental Foundation Fund
Behavioral Health Grant-Resilient Northeast Georgia
Benson's Inc. Community Fund
Bertis and Katherine Downs Fund
Beta Zeta Scholarship Endowment Fund
Bracewell Family Fund for David C. Barrow Media Center
Brew for One Fund
Briscoe Family Foundation
Campbell Harper Fund
CandyVet Foundation
Charles Briscoe Memorial Fund
Charlie & Teresa Friedlander Community Fund
Cindy and Wayne Lester Family Fund
Clarke County Mentor Program Designated Fund
Clarke County School District Fund
COVID-19 Community Response Fund
Creature Comforts Get Artistic Fund
Creature Comforts Get Comfortable Fund
Dan T. and Sara Wyche Coenen Fund
Darren and Kathryn Ash Foundation Fund

David and Jane Kidd and Family Fund
Dawgs For Pups - WiFi Fund
DGD Fund
Dixen Foundation Fund
Don and Phyllis Nelson Sharing Fund
Douglas Family Fund
Dr. Hoke Smith Nash, Jr. Memorial Fund
E.H. Culpepper Memorial Fund
Ed and Robin Benson Fund
Elizabeth and Anthony DeMarco Family Fund
Epting Family Foundation Fund
Erika C. Lewis Family Fund
FLiP Project Fund
Food to CCSD Community Fund
Fortson, Bentley and Griffin, P.A. 75th Anniversary Fund
Founders Society
Fund for Honesty and Integrity
Gatti Massimi Fund
Give Back Real Estate Foundation Fund
Gordhan L. & Virginia B. (Jinx) Patel Family Fund
Hansford Family Fund

Helen & Milton Mills Family Fund
Hepburn Family Charitable Fund
Historic Cobbham Foundation Fund
Holland Blackmon Fund for Children
Holt-Kassay Fund
Horvat Family Scholarship Fund
Hugh Milton Mills III Auto Tech Scholarship Fund
Hutchinson Family Foundation Fund
Irving Family Fund
Jackson EMC Fund
Jan and Ed Perkins Fund
Jim & Emily Reynolds Fund
Jon and Amy Williams Family Charitable Fund
Joseph & Kittie Mathis Fund
Julie and John McLeod Fund
Justice is on the Agenda Fund
Kappa Sigma Community Fund
Kurtz Charitable Fund
Kurtz Family Fund
Laura Mulherin Foundation Fund
Lawrence & Morris Family Fund
Lee Nelson Weeks Charity Fund
Margaret M. Rodgers Memorial Education Fund
Marilyn Vickers & Lief Carter Award for Nonprofit Excellence
Marti Schimmel Memorial Fund
Mary Lillie Watson Foundation Fund
McKenna Archibald Fund
McLean Family Foundation Fund
McQuiston-Stueck Foundation Fund

Michael Peter Horvat Fund
Middlebrooks Automotive Holdings, Inc. Fund
Middlebrooks Family Foundation Fund
Neighborhood Education Program Fund
Noland Family Foundation Fund
Novoy Family Fund
Nute Scholarship Fund
Oconee Hill Cemetery Fund
One Athens Fund
One Tree Planted Special Project Fund
Patrick C. Mercardante Family Fund
Paul and Carol Kurtz Giving Fund
Paul Boumbulian Social Entrepreneur Fund
Phil Hughes Family Fund
Ramon C. and Amanda H. Thompson Family Fund
REACH Scholarship Fund
Richard and Fran Lane Family Foundation
Ricky and Betsey Chastain Family Fund
Rogers Family Fund
Rutledge Lathen Fund
Seventh Son Fund
Shropshire Family Fund
Smith-Tompsonski Family Fund
Society of Sigma Xi Fund - UGA Chapter
Sonja West and Robert Fezekas Family Fund
Step Up Scholarship Project Fund
Steve and Melanie Hollis Family Fund
Steve Jones and Lillian Kincey Community Impact Fund
Sunny Knoll Fund

Synovus-Athens Fund
The Blackwell Family Foundation Income Trust
The Dale Allen Memorial Success Scholarship
The Douglas Carithers Memorial Scholarship Fund
The Huffer Foundation Fund
The Kirby Smart Family Foundation
The Kirby Smart Family Foundation - Autograph Request
The Norton Family Foundation Fund
The Patrick and Cameron Garrard Family Fund
The Patterson Family Fund
The Remarkable Foundation
The SOGO Japan Fund
The Theresa Perenich Caring Fund
Think Locally. Act Neighborly. Fund
Thomas W. Scott, III Fund
Thornton Brothers, Inc. Fund
Todd Emily Community Fund
VanDyck Family Fund
Vivian and Mamie Fisher Educational Fund
Wayne and Veda Sullivan Memorial Fund
Weeks Family Fund
Western Circuit Bar Association Fund
Wiggans Family Fund
William T. Berry Fund
Winthrop Family Fund

If you would like to join our growing list of fundholders, please contact Sarah McKinney at smckinney@athensarecf.org or 706-357-7148.

Let us help you grow giving for the community you love!

TRUST

in Guiding Local Philanthropy



Nonprofit Grantees : Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021

The Athens Area Community Foundation fosters strategic philanthropy and shapes effective responses to community needs through collaboration.

24th Street Inc.
350 Org
5 Star Youth Alliance, Inc.
A Child's Voice Child Advocacy Center, Inc.
A Place of Hope Georgia
A Place of Hope North GA Inc.
AARP Foundation
ABH Empty Stocking Fund
ACC SANE Inc
Acceptance Recovery Center, Inc.
ACLU Foundation of Georgia Inc.
Adventure Bags Inc.
African Wildlife Foundation
Ahis-Bhhs Alumni Association
ALS Association
ALS Association Golden West Chapter
American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, Inc.
American Friends Service Committee
American Heart Association
American Indian College Fund
American Red Cross
American Red Cross - Northeast Georgia Chapter
American Society of the University of Haifa
Americares
Amnesty International USA, Inc.
Apparo Academy
Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation
Athens Academy, Inc.
Athens Anti-Discrimination Movement
Athens Area Diaper Bank Inc
Athens Area Emergency Food Bank, Inc.
Athens Area Habitat for Humanity
Athens Area Homeless Shelter
Athens Area Human Relations Council
Athens Area Humane Society
Athens Chautauqua Society Incorporated
Athens Choral Society Inc.
Athens Church
Athens Community Council on Aging, Inc.
Athens Farmers Market

Athens Film Arts Institute Inc.
Athens First United Methodist Church
Athens Historical Society Inc.
Athens Housing Authority
Athens Land Trust
Athens Montessori School Inc.
Athens Nurses Clinic, Inc.
Athens Prayer Network
Athens Pride
Athens Queer Collective
Athens Regional Library
Athens Rotary Foundation, Inc.
Athens Symphony Orchestra
Athens Tech Foundation, Inc.
Athens Technical College
Athens Tutorial Program Inc.
Athens Y Camp for Boys
Athens-Clarke County Unified Government
Athens-Clarke Heritage Foundation
Athens-Clarke Police Foundation Inc.
Athens-Clarke Safe Cycling Association Inc.
AthFest
ATHICA
Atlanta Ronald McDonald House Charities, Inc.
Bacon County Extension 4-H Club
Banks County Family Connection Inc.
Barrow County Family Connection Inc.
Barrow Elementary School
Be THE Voice
Bear Creek Council
Bethel Haven Inc
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Chattahoochee Valley
Bigger Vision of Athens, Inc.
Books for Keeps, Inc.
Bounty & Soul
Boy Scouts of America - Northeast Georgia Council
Boys & Girls Club of Athens
Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta
Boys and Girls Club of Winder-Barrow County

Boys Town
Bread for Life Inc.
BrightFocus Foundation
Brightpaths
Brown University
Bucknell University
Called To Care Inc.
Camp Big Heart Civitan Club Inc
Camp Kudzu Inc.
Camp Trach Me Away
Camp Twin Lakes Inc.
Campus Crusade for Christ International
Cancer Foundation of Northeast Georgia
Canopy Studio, Inc.
CARE
Cedar Shoals High School
Center for Biological Diversity Inc.
Champions Community Foundation Inc.
Chattahoochee Nature Center Inc.
Chattahoochee Riverkeeper Inc.
Chess and Community Conference
Child Enrichment Inc.
Children First, Inc.
Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
Chosen for Life Ministries
Christian Brothers University
Christian City, Inc.
City Squash Inc.
Clarke Central High School
Clarke County Department of Health
Clarke County Mentor Program, Inc.
Clarke County Middle School
Clarke County School District
Clarke County Schools Special Olympics
CMF International
Coastal Plain CASA Inc.
College AIM, Inc.
College Factory, Inc.
Community Christmas of Oglethorpe County Inc.
Community Partnership of Elbert County

Concrete Jungle Inc.
Congregation Children of Israel Athens GA
Cornell University
Cornerstone Church - Athens
Covenant House Georgia Inc.
Cultivating a Lifetime of Legacy
Cure Alzheimer's Fund
Cure Childhood Cancer Inc.
Dakota Indian Foundation Inc.
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Inc.
Delta PSI Charity, Inc.
Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance
Destined Inc.
Destiny Family Services Community Development Corporation
Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health Georgia
Divas Who Win Freedom Center
Doctors without Borders
Doctors without Borders USA Inc.
Downtown Ministries Inc.
Drew University
Dysautonomia International Inc
Eagle Ranch, Inc.
East Athens Development Corporation
Emmanuel Episcopal Church
Environmental Defense Fund, Inc.
Episcopal Relief and Development
Equal Justice Initiative
Etowah Valley Historical Society Inc.
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Exceptional Way Inc.
Extra Special People, Inc.
Families of Children Under Stress
Family Connection-Communities in Schools of Athens, Inc.
Family Counseling Service of Athens Inc.
Family Heritage Foundation Inc.
Family Promise of Athens
Fast Break Club Inc.
Feeding America
Fellowship of Christian Athletes

FINCA International, Inc.
Firefly Trail Inc.
First Baptist Church of Athens
First Christian Church Watkinsville
First Presbyterian Church of Athens
Food Bank of Northeast Georgia
Foster Siblings Reunited Inc.
Foundation for Public Broadcasting in Georgia, Inc.
Four E Youth Organization
Frederick Douglass Family Foundation Inc.
Friends of Advantage, Inc.
Friends of Athens-Clarke County Library Inc.
Friends of Cherry Grove Schoolhouse Inc.
Friends of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge
Friends of Oconee Hill Cemetery, Inc.
Friends of Refugees Inc
Friends of the State Botanical Garden of Georgia Inc.
Georgia Audubon
Georgia Center for Child Advocacy, Inc.
Georgia Children's Chorus
Georgia Club Foundation
Georgia Conflict Center Inc.
Georgia Conservancy Inc.
Georgia Family Connection Partnership Inc.
Georgia Gwinnett College
Georgia Heirs Property Law Center Inc.
Georgia Museum of Art - UGA
Georgia Options, Inc.
Georgia Public Broadcasting
Georgia Public Telecommunications Commission
Georgia Rotary Student Program
Georgia Southern University
Georgia Technology Student Association
Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia - Athens
Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia - HQ
Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia-Gainesville
Give Thanks Foundation Inc.
Gladiator Football Alumni Foundation, Inc.

God's Marketplace Inc.
Great Exchange Inc.
Great Heights Foster Care Inc.
Greene County Family Connection Commission Inc.
Greenpeace Fund
Habitat for Humanity International
Handweavers Guild of America, Inc.
Hartwell First United Methodist Church, Inc.
Heifer Project International, Inc.
High Country News
Historic Athens
Holy Cross Lutheran Church
Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi
Hope Haven of Northeast Georgia, Inc.
Hope Heals
Hopecam Inc.
Hugh Hodgson School of Music
Human Rights Watch, Inc.
Innocence Project, Inc.
International Fund for Animal Welfare, Inc.
International Rescue Committee
Jackson County Family Connection Council Inc.
Jasper County Family Connection Inc.
Jeannette Rankin Foundation
John Paul Stevens Fellowship Foundation
Joyce Ervin's Open Hearts Center Inc.
Jubilee Partners
Junior League of Athens
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation
Juvenile Offender Advocate Inc.
Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc.
Kate's Club
Kentucky State Treasurer
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Inc.
Lighthouse Family Retreat Inc
Lion Guardians U.S.
Lotus Education and Arts Foundation, Inc.
Love-Craft Athens Inc.
Lutheran Church of the Holy Family



Nonprofit Grantees *(continued)*

The Athens Area Community Foundation fosters strategic philanthropy and shapes effective responses to community needs through collaboration.

Lydia's Place
 Lyndon House Arts Foundation, Inc.
 Madison County School District
 Madison Oglethorpe Animal Shelter
 Medical College of Georgia Foundation, Inc.
 Mercy Health Center
 Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research
 Michigan State University
 Monsignor Walter J. Donovan Catholic High School, Inc.
 Morgan County Board of Education
 Murphy-Harpst Children's Centers
 Myotonic Dystrophy Foundation
 NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.
 NAMI
 National Audubon Society
 National Football & College Hall of Fame - University of Georgia Chapter
 National Park Foundation
 Natural Resources Defense Council
 Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc.
 Navicent Health Foundation Inc
 Nesbitt Discovery Academy PTSO
 New American Pathways, Inc.
 New York University
 Newton County Family Connection Inc.
 No One Left Behind Inc
 North East Georgia Homeless Veterans Shelter Inc.
 North Oconee High School
 Nuci's Space
 Nuclear Threat Initiative Inc.
 Ocean Conservancy
 Oconee Area Resource Council Inc.
 Oconee Club Stingrays
 Oconee County High School
 Oconee Cultural Arts Foundation
 Oconee River Land Trust
 Oconee Youth Playhouse
 Oglala Lakota College

Oglethorpe County School System
 Operation Smile, Inc.
 Ossabaw Island Foundation, Inc.
 Our House, Inc.
 Our Lady of Angels Parish Catholic Church
 Our Lady of Perpetual Help Home Auxillary
 Oxfam America, Inc.
 Partner for People and Place, Inc.
 Peace Place Inc.
 Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue
 Performing Arts Center - UGA
 Piedmont Athens Regional Foundation
 Planned Parenthood Federation of America
 Planned Parenthood Southeast, Inc.
 Playing for Change Foundation
 Population Connection
 Prager University Foundation
 Presbyterian Church USA
 Prince Avenue Christian School
 Project Renew Inc.
 Project Safe, Inc.
 Promise 686 Inc.
 Prostate Cancer Foundation
 Purification Heritage Center Inc.
 Put On The Brakes, Inc.
 Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
 Rainbow Children's Home
 Reef Ball Foundation, Inc.
 REMERGE
 Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press
 Revved Up Kids Inc.
 RIP Medical Debt
 Ronald McDonald House Charities of Augusta Inc.
 Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Georgia Inc.
 Rotary Club Foundation
 Rotary Club of the Classic City of Athens, Inc.
 Rotary International Oconee County
 Sacred Heart Center
 Samaritan's Purse

Sandy Creek Nature Center Inc.
 Sardis Baptist Church
 Save The Children Federation, Inc.
 School of Law - UGA
 Ser Familia, Inc.
 Share the Magic Foundation Inc.
 Sheep Inc Health Care Center
 Shepherd Center Foundation Inc.
 Shriners Hospitals for Children
 Sierra Club Foundation
 Smithsonian Institution
 South Enotah Child Advocacy Center, Inc.
 Southeast Fiber Arts Alliance Incorporated
 Southern Environmental Law Center
 Southern Poverty Law Center, Inc.
 Southwest Christian Care
 Sparrow's Nest Mission Church Inc.
 Special Needs Cobb
 Squam Lakes Conservation Society
 St Lukes Church of Hilton Head Inc.
 St Marys Foundation Inc.
 St. James United Methodist Church
 St. Joseph Catholic Parish School
 St. Joseph's Indian School
 St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
 State Botanical Garden of Georgia
 Stephen Siller Tunnel To Towers Foundation
 Stillman College
 Strong Base, Inc.
 Sunshine on a Ranney Day
 Sweet Olive Farm Animal Rescue INC
 Tall Timbers Research, Inc.
 The Ark United Ministry Outreach Center
 The Atlanta Botanical Garden
 The Classic Center Cultural Foundation, Inc.
 The Clute Barrow Nelson Life Foundation
 The GroundTruth Project, Inc.
 The Houston Zoo
 The Methodist Home for Children and Youth
 The Nature Conservancy (Atlanta)

The Nature Conservancy (National)
 The New Horizons Foundation
 The Oconee Rivers Audubon Society Inc.
 The Rape Foundation
 The Salvation Army Athens
 The Summit Counseling Center Inc.
 The Trevor Project
 The Trust For Public Land
 The Willson Center for Humanities and Arts
 Thrive in Joy Nick Fagnano Foundation
 Tiger Haven
 TJ and Friends Foundation, Inc.
 Tommy Nobis Center
 Town and Gown Players Inc.
 Trinity Classical School Inc.
 UGA Golf Course
 UGA Grady College of Journalism & Mass Communication
 Uganda Development Initiative
 U-Lead Athens
 UNICEF USA
 Unified Healthcare for the Rural Underserved
 Union of Concerned Scientists, Inc.
 Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Athens

United Negro College Fund, Inc.
 United States Friends of the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust
 United Way of Northeast Georgia, Inc.
 University of Alabama Law School Foundation
 University of Georgia
 University of Georgia Athletic Association Inc.
 University of Georgia Foundation
 University of North Georgia Foundation, Inc.
 University of Virginia Engineering Foundation
 University of Wisconsin Foundation
 Upstate Forever
 Urban Recipe
 Urban Rural Action
 Vanderbilt University Medical Center
 Variety-The Children's Charity of Georgia, Inc.
 Victory Train, Inc.
 Walton County Board of Commissioners
 Wellspring Living Inc.
 Wesley Foundation at the University of Georgia Inc.
 Western Circuit Treatment and Accountability Courts
 Westminster Christian Academy Inc.

White House Historical Association
 Wild Rumpus Events Inc.
 Wilkes County Board of Education
 Wilkes County Community Partnership Inc.
 Wills Memorial Hospital Foundation Inc.
 Windwood Family Services
 Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University
 Wisdom Hunters Resources Inc.
 World Wildlife Fund
 YMCA of Athens Georgia
 YMCA of Georgia's Piedmont
 Young Designers Sewing Program
 Young Harris Memorial Athens United Methodist Church
 Young Womens Christian Organization of Athens Georgia Inc.

Supporters : Jan.2021 - Dec. 2021

The Athens Area Community Foundation thanks the supporters that help advance our mission.

Mr. B. Heyward Allen
 Alicia Battle
 Amy BeMent
 Mr. Philip E. Bettendorf
 Clark Brown
 Daniel R. Burke
 Mr. Bob Carson

Jaime M. Collazo
 Dan and Sally Coenen
 Mr. Patrick Garrard
 Mrs. Sarah McKinney
 Mr. Tim Johnson
 Rhodes McLanahan
 Dr. Virginia (Jinx) Patel

Mr. Benjamin Rivers
 Dr. Everard O. Rutledge
 Mr. Leonard J. Sopera
 The Adsmith, Inc.
 WBH Consulting LLC

FOUNDERS SOCIETY

For Operational Sustainability

Creating a dynamic legacy includes impacting communities and generations to come. The members of our Founders Society intend to do just that. We are grateful for their generosity and recognize the contributions they have made to impact our present and future generations.

In most cases donors give through a community foundation, not to a community foundation. However, our community is fortunate to have philanthropists who understand the potential of having a community foundation built by and for the people of Athens-Clarke, Oconee, Barrow, Madison, Jackson, and Oglethorpe Counties. We would like to thank contributors to our Founders Society Operating Endowment.

Our Founders Society Operating Endowment helps our staff grow and stay focused on donor services, community leadership, and exceptional grantmaking.

The Benson Family
Cadence Bank
Bob Carson
Ricky H. Chastain
Bertis and Katherine Downs
First American Bank & Trust
Heyward Allen Motor Company
Clementi L. Holder
Joe D. Irving
Kirbo Charitable Trust
Margaret D. McLanahan
John and Teresa McLean Family
Patrick C. Mercardante
Helen H. Mills
William C. Mundy
The Newland Family Foundation
Jinx and Gordhan Patel
Alex and Janet Patterson
Piedmont Athens Regional
Jim and Emily Reynolds
The Riverview Foundation
St. Mary's Health Care System
Tom and Lori Scott
Synovus Bank
The Terrell Family Foundation
The Ulm Family Foundation
The Winthrop Family Foundation
Woodruff Foundation



LEGACY SOCIETY

Forever Providing For The Causes You Care About

A planned gift is invested with us, growing over time to make an even greater difference in organizations you support and bestowed at timing you control. Our Legacy Society includes families or individuals who have listed a fund at the Athens Area Community Foundation in their estate planning:

Your values today can reflect your giving forever. Our staff can help you and your financial advisors identify the best way to reduce estate and income taxes or produce retirement income through a planned gift.

AIDS Athens Legacy Fund
Fund for Honesty and Integrity
Helene Halstead Legacy Fund
Kane Foundation Fund
Karin-Lee Arts & Culture Fund
MaP Legacy Awards Fund
Mary Nouri Fund
Piedmont Shaman Rock Fund
Susan and Edward Wilde Fund
The Theresa Perenich Caring Funds
The Theresa Perenich Endowed Fund for Animal Rights and the Environment



Executive Board



Rhodes McLanahan
Board Chair
President & CEO,
First American Bank
& Trust



Sara Schramm
Vice Chair
Attorney, Blasingame,
Burch, Garrard & Ashley,
P.C.



Jinx (Virginia B.) Patel
Secretary
Scientist, Athens Research
and Technology, Inc. -
Retired



Clark Brown
Treasurer
Wealth Strategist,
Vickery Financial



Phil Bettendorf
Immediate Past Chair
Senior Vice President,
Synovus Bank



Mayor Kelly Girtz
Mayor, Athens-Clarke
County



Bevan Hopper
CPA, WBH Consulting



Tim Johnson
Executive Director,
Family Connection-
Communities in Schools
of Athens



Tawana Mattox
Board of Education,
Clarke County School
District



E.O. "Rod" Rutledge
Healthcare Executive -
Retired

Board Members



Alicia Battle
Director of Workforce
Development, Goodwill
of North Georgia



Amy BeMent
Attorney, Blasingame,
Burch, Garrard &
Ashley, P.C.



David Bradley
President & CEO,
Athens Area Chamber
of Commerce



Bob Carson
President, Carson
Advisory Inc.



Kevin Clark
Regional Sales
Representative,
Pop RV's



Kirk Smith
President, The Adsmith



Judge Lawton Stephens
Judge, Superior Court



Roy Stowe
COO, Jackson EMC



Justin Widener
Research and Development
Leader, Boehringer Ingelheim
Animal Health

Foundation Staff



Sally Coenen
Community Member



Myron Downs
Co-founder, Athens
Veterinary Surgery
Center



Dexter Fisher
Retired University of
Georgia and Athens
Clarke County School
District



Jennifer Frum
Vice President for Public
Service and Outreach,
University of Georgia



Patrick Garrard
Attorney



Sarah McKinney
President & CEO



Kipper Koslowsky
Director of Donor
Services



Stephanie Mann
Director of Operations

A low-angle, upward-looking photograph of a large, mature tree. The trunk and thick branches are dark brown and textured, dominating the right and bottom portions of the frame. The canopy is filled with vibrant green leaves, some of which are illuminated by a bright sun, creating a warm, golden glow and lens flare effects. The sky is a clear, bright blue, visible through the gaps in the foliage.

**Growing Giving
for the Community
You Love.**



Lead. Partner. Guide.

Trusted Community Leader. Trusted Nonprofit Partner. Trusted Philanthropic Guide.



With a focus on investing in our community, **Athens Area Community Foundation** is excited to announce that it has earned the **2021 Platinum Seal of Transparency on GuideStar**, the world's largest source of information on nonprofit organizations.