



ATHENS AREA  
Community  
Foundation

# Growing Giving for the Community You Love.

ANNUAL REPORT 2025





# Lead Partner Guide



ATHENS AREA  
Community  
Foundation

## A Message from Our Chair

It has been an honor to serve as Chair of the Athens Area Community Foundation. My journey with the foundation began in 2017. Shortly after joining the community foundation, I was asked by then Chair Alex Patterson to lead the Marketing Committee. Our charge was ambitious—refresh our logo and update our website—and through the collective efforts of our staff, board members, volunteers, community marketing partner, and donors, we successfully strengthened our brand to better reflect our strategic goals and deepen donor engagement.

This foundation holds a special place in my heart, and I have witnessed remarkable growth across our assets, staff capacity, facilities, and most importantly, our impact in the community. Having served on many boards, I can say without hesitation that this is the finest group I have had the privilege to serve alongside. I leave every meeting both inspired and uplifted. Together we have grown and evolved into a true force for good.

My goal from the beginning was for us to be the best community foundation in the world, defined not by size, but by how effectively we use our resources to create lasting impact. Thanks to our extraordinary community of supporters, we are well on our way.

As I conclude my term, I am pleased to share that Amy BeMent will serve as our new Chair. Her leadership of the Strategic Philanthropy Committee has been exceptional, and I am confident she will guide the foundation to even greater heights.

A special thank you to our President & CEO Sarah McKinney for her tireless efforts and commitment to our community. I appreciate the collaboration and her dedication toward advancing the foundation's mission.

As Benjamin Franklin reminded us, "The good we can do together surpasses the good we can do alone." Thank you for your trust and generosity, and for all you do to strengthen our community. Serving this foundation has truly been the opportunity of a lifetime.

With sincere thanks,



Dr. Myron O. Downs  
Chair, Athens Area Community Foundation



## A Message from Our President & CEO

**We grow giving for the community we love, and in 2025, that love showed up in extraordinary ways.**

This past year, guided by our Strategic Plan, we focused on intentional growth not for growth's sake, but to create more opportunity, connection, and lasting impact across our region. Because of donors like you, we continued building a stronger foundation for the future while responding to the needs of today. You made it possible for generosity to move farther, faster, and with greater purpose.

Our plan challenged us to make it easier for people to give **to, through, and with** the Athens Area Community Foundation.

You gave **to the Foundation** by strengthening the charitable resources that allow us to serve with excellence, steward gifts responsibly, and remain a trusted community leader for years to come.

You gave **through the Foundation** by investing in funds and giving opportunities that support causes you care about, helping nonprofits and community priorities receive the support they need.

You gave **with the Foundation** by partnering alongside us to address opportunities, respond to emerging needs, and shape a stronger future for all who call this region home.

That same spirit of partnership came to life in a new and meaningful way through our **Community Living Room**.

Created as a welcoming space for nonprofit partners and community leaders, the Community Living Room expands access to the kinds of conversations that move communities forward. It is a place where ideas are shared, relationships are formed, trainings are hosted, and collaboration begins. At a time when places for meaningful gathering can be limited, you helped create room for connection, learning, and shared action.

Your philanthropy did more than grow funds and distribute grants. It built stronger relationships, opened trusted spaces, and strengthened the civic infrastructure every thriving community needs.

Your commitment allows us to enter the future with confidence and momentum. We are growing assets so community investment can be bigger. We are expanding opportunities for generosity and leadership. We are strengthening the culture of philanthropy that will serve this community for generations to come.

As we look ahead, I invite you to stay engaged. Keep asking what is possible. Keep investing in the future you want to see. Keep partnering with us as we continue growing giving for the community we love.

Together, we give roots and grow futures.  
Together, we make more possible.

Thank you for investing in us as we work to be the best community foundation in the world.



Sarah McKinney  
President & CEO, Athens Area Community Foundation



## Meeting People Where They Are and Changing What's Possible



Many people in Athens–Clarke County may not realize the scope of what our five Accountability Courts do, but for participants and families, these programs can be life-changing.

Laura Welch has been part of that work for more than a decade. She began serving as Court Administrator in 2012, just as state-level investment in accountability courts began to expand. “We had grants that covered a lot,” she explained, “but there were so many needs we couldn’t meet, like helping someone get a hotel room over the holidays, or buying diapers, or covering a washing machine. We had families who wanted to donate because we’d changed their child’s life, and we had no way to accept the money.”

The partnership with the Athens Area Community Foundation changed that. In 2014, the Accountability Courts Foundation Fund was formed, designed specifically to receive public donations that directly support participants. And today, it is still doing exactly that.

The Accountability Courts Foundation Fund is a revolving fund that, according to Laura Welch, wouldn’t be nearly as impactful without the AACF. “They facilitate a higher level of effectiveness that we wouldn’t be able to achieve without the partnership with the Athens Area Community Foundation.”

Welch also speaks to the invaluable guidance of the staff at the Community Foundation and the connections it fosters. “AACF offers networking, visibility, and awareness. They support others and are supported by others. Most people don’t know what an accountability court is unless they have a family member involved, and the Athens Area Community Foundation helps bridge that gap. They help us make connections and expand our reach in our community.”

Each of the courts—Felony Drug Court, Mental Health Court, Veterans Court, DUI Court, and Family Treatment Court—provides a framework for individuals who are high risk, high need, and nonviolent to rebuild their lives. The goal is simple: to keep people from reoffending and to address the core issues that drive their involvement in the justice system, including substance use, mental health needs, trauma, or cycles of instability.

Judge Lawton Stephens, who presides over the Western Circuit Felony Drug Court, calls this work “the most rewarding part of the job.” Accountability Courts are intentionally collaborative, with probation officers, treatment providers, prosecutors, defense attorneys, and the judge all working together as one team. “We are trying to save their lives,” he said. And research backs this model. Over the past decade, these courts have grown statewide from roughly 50 to more than 190, demonstrating their effectiveness. And that’s exactly where the Foundation Fund makes the difference.

Donations support the kinds of basic items that help someone keep going with things like gas cards, housing needs, incentives, work clothing, and transportation operating funds cannot cover. It is often those small, human needs that keep someone stable and moving forward, and the partnership with the Athens Area Community Foundation means those dollars can be handled efficiently, legally, and transparently.

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*They support others and are supported by others.*

”

LAURA WELCH



**“**  
*Everyone has someone they know that struggles with substance use disorder.*  
**”**

JUDGE LAWTON STEPHENS



There is also a ripple effect: the fund has inspired other funds to form, including the Dale Allen Memorial Scholarship Fund and many others.

Over time, the fund has also become a way for community members who don't directly encounter the Courts to play a part in the work. Laura says she's had donors say, "I don't know these participants personally, but I want to invest in what gives them a chance." The fund creates a bridge between the lived reality of participants and the neighbors who want Athens to be safer and healthier.

Laura Welch encourages people to go ahead and open a fund. "No matter how big or small, you can put money into the fund and AACF will invest that money for you and write checks to charitable causes on your behalf."

She goes on to share that making small changes can bring a greater impact to the causes you care most about: "Instead of getting a fancy cup of coffee every day, put that \$5 into your own fund. Or instead of gifting adult family members Christmas gifts that they probably don't need, put a few hundred dollars into your fund. The adults don't need one more thing, so make a contribution on their behalf and start making a difference."

The results are clear: when Accountability Courts succeed, families heal, cycles are interrupted, and our communities become more resilient.

# Turning Loss Into Lifesaving Action

June 6th, 2022, was a busy Monday morning in their dental practice. Dr. David and Dr. Patti Bradley were hard at work when they received word that two Sheriff's officers needed to speak with them.

"There's no easy way to tell you this," one of the deputies started, "but Spencer took his life last night."

No parent could possibly be prepared for such a moment.

Spencer was a nineteen-year-old college student at Kennesaw State University. Although he had some mental health challenges in the past, everyone agreed that he was the happiest he had ever been. He was making straight A's. He had a great group of friends and was an active member of his fraternity. Friends even shared that Spencer used his experiences to help them through hard times.

No one saw this coming.

Patti, David, and Spencer's sister, Sophia, were determined to redirect their grief into something that could make a difference. A friend who worked in the non-profit world asked if they wanted to start a foundation. They were put in touch with the Athens Area Community Foundation for guidance. With their help, they were able to start a donor-advised fund in a short period of time.

Patti recalls, "We had to decide if we wanted to keep our experience as a private family matter or to share it to help make a difference in the lives of others. We made a conscious choice not to let this tragedy destroy us. Something positive had to come out of this."

"We knew we couldn't be the only ones going through this," adds David. "The more we learned, the more we realized how much suicide touches everyone."

The Bradley family chose the Athens Area Community Foundation for its local expertise and guidance. "Once we learned how the process worked, it was obvious they were best positioned to help us make the most impact.

They are tapped into our immediate area better than anyone else," David explains. With the Community Foundation's connections, the couple can reach their target of youth and young adults struggling with mental health, a demographic that is often underserved.

Through their fund, the Spencer Bradley Foundation for Mental Health, they provide training for students, young adults, teachers, coaches, pastors, and others who have the opportunity to engage in critical conversations with those showing mental health struggles. The trainings teach them what to look for, both in themselves and others, so that they can address mental health challenges in a wise and helpful way.

There are simply not enough professionals to address all the mental health needs that exist in today's world. The Spencer Bradley Foundation aims to equip regular people with knowledge to recognize signs of crisis, addictions, or other disorders, and offer tools to support friends and peers.

The foundation primarily provides grants for established, effective programs such as Youth and Adult Mental Health First Aid, QPR (Question-Persuade-Refer), community peer-to-peer training, and scholarships for those entering the mental health field. The foundation now provides support for training programs in every public college and university in Georgia. This makes the life-saving information accessible to over 387,000 students.

Patti shares, "It's about awareness, but it's also about letting people know that it's okay to not be okay. Education breaks down the stigma of mental health challenges.



“  
The more we learned, the more we realized  
how much suicide touches everyone.  
”

DR. PATTI BRADLEY



It's about asking the right questions and then listening." David adds, "We're trying to create an army of laypeople with the skillset to recognize someone in need and then provide support for them until they can get professional help."

Helping people recognize signs and fostering the conversations to get people help is a huge part of the heartbeat behind the Spencer Bradley Foundation.

One recent example highlighted the impact of their work: a University of Georgia student who went through one of the programs became a student ambassador at the university. He shared his story at a recent golf tournament that benefited the SBF. He explained how the program not only helped him personally, but also gave him knowledge to use in the future with his own family, friends, and coworkers.

David says, "It was great for us to hear his story, but also impactful for the donors to hear the success that is being made through their support. We never envisioned ourselves in this position, but it's gratifying to know other families have, and will be, saved from the devastating aftermath of a loved one committing suicide."

For the Bradleys, Athens Area Community Foundation's support has been essential. "We couldn't have had the impact we've had in this short period of time without their help, guidance, and connections," Patti says. The Foundation's guidance allows them to focus on meaningful impact rather than logistics, helping the foundation ensure its giving is strategic and sustainable.



**“**  
*We're trying to create an army of laypeople with the skillset to recognize someone in need and then provide support for them until they can get professional help.*  
**”**

DR. DAVID BRADLEY

## Good Neighbors in Action: How Be Golden Is Fueling Local Impact



Golden Pantry's "Be Golden" Fund began as a natural extension of something already rooted in the company's DNA: the belief that the organization is only as strong as the neighborhoods it serves.

For CEO Brian Griffith and President Robert Griffith, that commitment goes back generations. "My grandfather, Tom Griffith, started Golden Pantry in 1965," Robert shares. "We've always believed that giving back to the neighborhoods we serve isn't optional, it's core to who we are."

When Robert began exploring how to expand the philanthropic arm of the company, he leaned into existing relationships. He first learned about the Athens Area Community Foundation in 2015 while serving on the United Way of Northeast Georgia board. He had conversations with a friend about their experience with the Community Foundation.

Meanwhile, Katie Morris, Golden Pantry's Director of Marketing, had her own relationship with the Athens Area Community Foundation staff already, especially with Executive Director Sarah McKinney. "We knew this would be our path because we trusted them," Katie said. "Honestly, there wasn't even another organization being considered."

Ultimately, Golden Pantry wanted their giving to be close to home. Golden Pantry has more than 30 stores across North Georgia but recognizes that each neighborhood is different. Each store sees different needs, different challenges, and different ways that community support can make the most meaningful impact. The Be Golden Fund became a way to give back with precision, intention, and relationship.

Today, Golden Pantry employees help nominate organizations, and committees of team members review those recommendations. "It's incredibly rewarding to see our team members light up knowing that the dollars they collect through round-ups or fundraising are going directly back to their own neighborhoods," Robert shared. "It's tangible. You see what it's doing."

One special moment has stayed with Katie. She recalls putting up new signage in a store about an organization that specific location was supporting that quarter. The store manager shared that she had personally received help from that organization as a kid. That was a full-circle reminder of why this work matters. "That was a gut check moment," Katie recalled. "It confirmed that this is the right thing. It matters in real people's lives."

Working with the Athens Area Community Foundation has amplified that impact. Katie says every idea they've had has been met with enthusiasm, expertise, and guidance. "We have a passion for supporting our community, but it's not our area of expertise. Athens Area Community Foundation always responds to our ideas with excitement and a 'Let's figure it out' attitude, which is incredible."



“

*We've always believed that giving back to the neighborhoods we serve isn't optional, it's core to who we are.*

”

ROBERT GRIFFITH

“

*There is truly not a better place to put your philanthropic dollars.”*

ROBERT GRIFFITH



For instance, when Golden Pantry wanted their employees to nominate organizations the company might serve, AACF offered expertise and guidance to help create, and support, committees to review the organizations and make the plan happen.

Robert agrees with Katie and adds that if someone were interested in starting their own fund, he would tell them not to hesitate to call Sarah McKinney of AACF right now and schedule a meeting with her.

“The evolution of where AACF came from and where they are today is amazing. There is truly not a better place to put your philanthropic dollars. The way they handle funds is beyond professional and it’s astounding how they do that with such a small staff,” Robert shares.

Celebrating 60 years since opening in 1965, Golden Pantry remains proudly family-owned, and its commitment to giving back is woven into the legacy that’s been passed down through three generations. For Golden Pantry, Be Golden isn’t just a brand message. It’s a belief, and one that’s generating meaningful, community-based impact across North Georgia.

# Giving Back Locally and Meaningfully



**For Amy and T.J. BeMent, philanthropy has always been personal. With backgrounds rooted in service—Amy as a teacher and now attorney, T.J. as a court administrator for more than 25 years—the couple has long sought ways to make a meaningful impact on the Athens community.**

Their journey with the Athens Area Community Foundation began about five years ago when Amy was asked by her employer to serve on the board. “I didn’t know much about AACF at the time, but I quickly learned what a fantastic organization it is,” she says. That excitement inspired the BeMents to establish a donor-advised fund with AACF as a strategic way to support local causes they care deeply about.

For T.J., involvement with local organizations stretches back nearly two decades. He remembers, “When I started in Athens about 18 years ago, Judge Steve Jones was serving as a judge, and he was instrumental in One Athens, which eventually became the Athens Area Community Foundation.” Over the years, T.J. has also served as a fund designee, approving grants that support court programs. This has given T.J. firsthand insight into the needs of local nonprofits.

Through their donor-advised fund, the BeMents can channel their giving toward a variety of needs, from education and court programs to initiatives that support older adults. Athens Area Community Foundation helps them keep track of everything in one place, but it also offers resources. “They inform us about other nonprofits in the area, providing lots of connections and information that we wouldn’t otherwise have. We get to learn about what’s available locally that is addressing the needs we’re passionate about, and working alongside any organization who does that is a no-brainer,” the BeMents share.

When sharing about their decision to start a donor-advised fund with the community foundation, T.J. emphasizes that everybody can give. “People hear about the community foundation and donor-advised funds and think, ‘That’s not for me.’ They think it’s only for people with millions of dollars, but that’s just not true. All giving, of any size, can be made easier through the community foundation. It also provides a double bonus of giving to organizations you care about and supporting the community foundation as they support other nonprofits and other organizations.”

The BeMents aim to address issues that matter to them while supporting broader community needs. Amy shares a personal example: “My mom passed away a few years ago after a long decline with dementia, and one organization that was critical to her was the Athens Community Council on Aging. It’s a cause we give to because they’re doing things to serve the needs of the aging population in Athens, and I feel like even our small contribution can help move the needle on those issues.”

The BeMents also enjoy engaging the next generation in philanthropy. At the Athens Area Community Foundation’s 15th anniversary celebration, they involved their niece and nephew, allowing the children to explore local nonprofits and select organizations to support with a gift from the BeMents’ fund. This was such a meaningful way to show the next generation the power of giving.



“  
All giving, of any size, can be made easier  
through the community foundation  
”

T.J. BEMENT



What makes the Athens Area Community Foundation stand out for the BeMents is the depth of its resources and connections. From educational programs for nonprofit boards to targeted giving initiatives like the Wheel of Giving, the foundation provides insight and guidance that individual donors might not have access to on their own. In this way, it's far more than just a place to house your foundation. It's like an endless treasure trove of resources and connections that have been created over years of networking, collaboration, and partnerships.

"I wish more prospective donors understood the benefit of Athens Area Community Foundation," says Amy. "You can open a DAF anywhere. When you do it at the AACF, you pay a fee like you would anywhere else, but the fees here support this fantastic network of services and products that don't come along with any other kind of DAF anywhere else."

One great example they mention is a board training series run by AACF called Ready, Set, Go. It's an opportunity for nonprofits in the Athens area and surrounding counties to send board members and let them learn about what it looks like to be a board member. This drastically raises the quality of our nonprofits in the area, and according to the BeMents, it's a great benefit of having your fund through AACF.

Truly, when it comes to giving, no amount is too small, and the community foundation is a great way to stay connected with helping in your own backyard.

For T.J. and Amy, the decision to give through the Athens Area Community Foundation is about more than writing checks; it's about making their philanthropy intentional, strategic, and connected to the community they call home.



**“**  
*I didn't know much about AACF at the time, but I quickly learned what a fantastic organization it is.*  
**”**

AMY BEMENT

Our Athens Area Community Foundation seeks to continually strike balance between asset growth and community leadership. By listening deeply, building bridges, and creating meaningful connections, we unlock the full potential of financial, social, intellectual, and relational capital. We continue our commitment as a trusted leader, partner, and philanthropic guide.

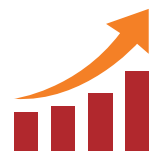
As we move forward, we are excited to unveil our strategic plan for 2025–2026.

## OUR FOCUS



- Grow our assets by \$10 million, enabling greater impact in our region.
- Expand giving opportunities, making it easier for you to give to, through, and with the Athens Area Community Foundation.

## OUR GROWTH

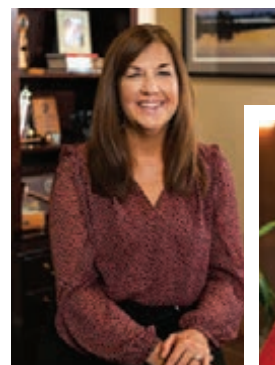


As of Dec. 31, 2025

## OUR STRATEGIC PLAN



- **\$10 Million Net New Assets by 2027.**
- **Making More Possible.**
- Growing Assets so that our *community impact can be bigger.*
- Growing Assets so that we have the *long-term ability* to make our community better.



The Athens Area Community Foundation offers donors the flexibility to meet their unique philanthropic goals. We expertly help individuals and organizations easily and effectively support issues they care about. **You can use a variety of assets to create a new fund, or you can give to an existing fund.**

## With a variety of flexible options, you can give in three ways:

### TO OUR FOUNDATION

Keep us growing and going:

- General Operations
- Founders Society
- Legacy Society - Planned Gift

### THROUGH OUR FOUNDATION

Flexible fund options for you:

- Donor-Advised
- Designated
- Field of Interest
- Employee Assistance
- Scholarship

### WITH OUR FOUNDATION

Together, we collectively respond to pressing community needs through our signature community funds:

#### Community Giving Fund named for Steve Jones & Lillian Kinsey

This fund supports the entire community—not just one group or cause. When you give here, you trust the Athens Area Community Foundation to find where the need is greatest and use your gift to make the biggest impact.

#### Financial Assistance Fund

This fund is aimed at improving the financial wellbeing and sustainability of individuals and families within the communities we serve.

#### Clean Energy Fund

This fund is dedicated to assisting nonprofit Sustainability organizations that promote clean energy and will look to provide grants to nonprofits that promote the objectives of Athens Clarke County 100% Clean and Renewable Energy Resolution and Plan.

#### The Nonprofit Revolving Loan Fund

Sometimes nonprofits run into delays getting government funding or face sudden emergencies. This fund gives them short-term loans to help cover costs and keep their work going. If approved, they agree to pay the money back over time, re-investing the funds to be used again and again for our community.



## Two Generations of Impact: How Collaboration Helps Families Build Stability

For nearly 40 years, the Athens Area Homeless Shelter (AAHS) has been a trusted resource for families in crisis, walking alongside people as they move toward long-term stability. What began in 1986 as a short-term shelter has grown into a multi-layered organization offering everything from transitional housing to education and employment support.

Today, AAHS's programs like Bridge to Home help parents gain the time, space, and resources they need to thrive. Partnerships with organizations like the Athens Area Community Foundation (AACF) are multiplying that impact.

Olivia Amato, Executive Director of AAHS, shares, "Nonprofits don't always get to be innovative but we have been able to do that because of the Community Foundation. We've had unique opportunities to grow, expand, and better serve our community because of the partnership with them." Some of these innovations that came through initiatives from the Community Foundation include the family enrichment program, the playground, and more.

Amato has seen the organization evolve significantly over her eight years of involvement. "We've gone from primarily providing emergency shelter to offering long-term stability and helping families gain access to education, employment, and housing," she says. "The staff at AACF have brought so many things to life for us. They are thought leaders and advocates, and we are so grateful for their support."

Morgan Jones, Bridge to Home Development Specialist, sees firsthand how the program supports parents who are determined to create better futures for their children. "As a first generation college student and a mom, I understand how hard it can be," she says. "It's really rewarding to help our parents find the resources they need and connect with schools, training programs, and job opportunities. We love getting to cheer them on."



One of those parents is Aretina Lay, a recent Bridge to Home participant and single mother of three. While pursuing her Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) degree, Aretina struggled to balance coursework, parenting, and bills. When she joined the program, AAHS provided her with a stable home and peace of mind. "We moved into a three-bedroom apartment where everything was taken care of — rent, utilities, everything — and I could just focus on school and my kids," she says. "It was the first time I could breathe in a long time."

Aretina's dedication paid off: she graduated, passed her licensing exams, and now works as a nurse. Her success story deepened when her teenage son became part of the Gifted Savings program, an initiative supported by the Athens Area Community Foundation, that teaches high school students about financial literacy by giving them a real-world investment experience. "He learned a lot, and we learned together," Aretina says.

Through these partnerships, families not only find stability but also gain access to opportunities that span generations. The ripple effects of one family's experience reach far beyond their household, inspiring others in the community to pursue their own goals.

For Amato, the relationship between AAHS and the Athens Area Community Foundation represents the best of what community collaboration can do. "The Community Foundation helps raise the profile of nonprofits, connect resources, and inspire innovation," she says.

She has been to many trainings through the Athens Area Community Foundation that have been "crucial in helping the board and team at AAHS improve what we do. If we can do what we do better, fewer families will face housing crises."

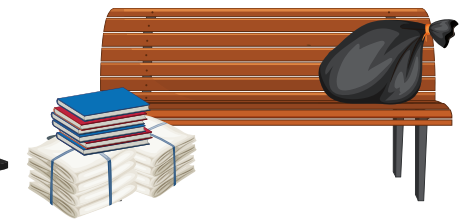
Aretina sums it up: "People think homelessness defines you, but it's not who you are. It's just a time in your life." Programs like these give families the chance to start again, and when that happens, the whole community grows stronger.

Thanks to their partnership with the Athens Area Community Foundation, the Athens Area Homeless Shelter continues to impact the lives of those right here in our community. Amato conveys her gratitude and passion, saying, "Because of the support of the Athens Area Community Foundation, we're helping families transform their futures."



*"The staff at AACF have brought so many things to life for us. They are thought leaders and advocates, and we are so grateful for their support."*

Olivia Amato,  
Executive Director of AAHS



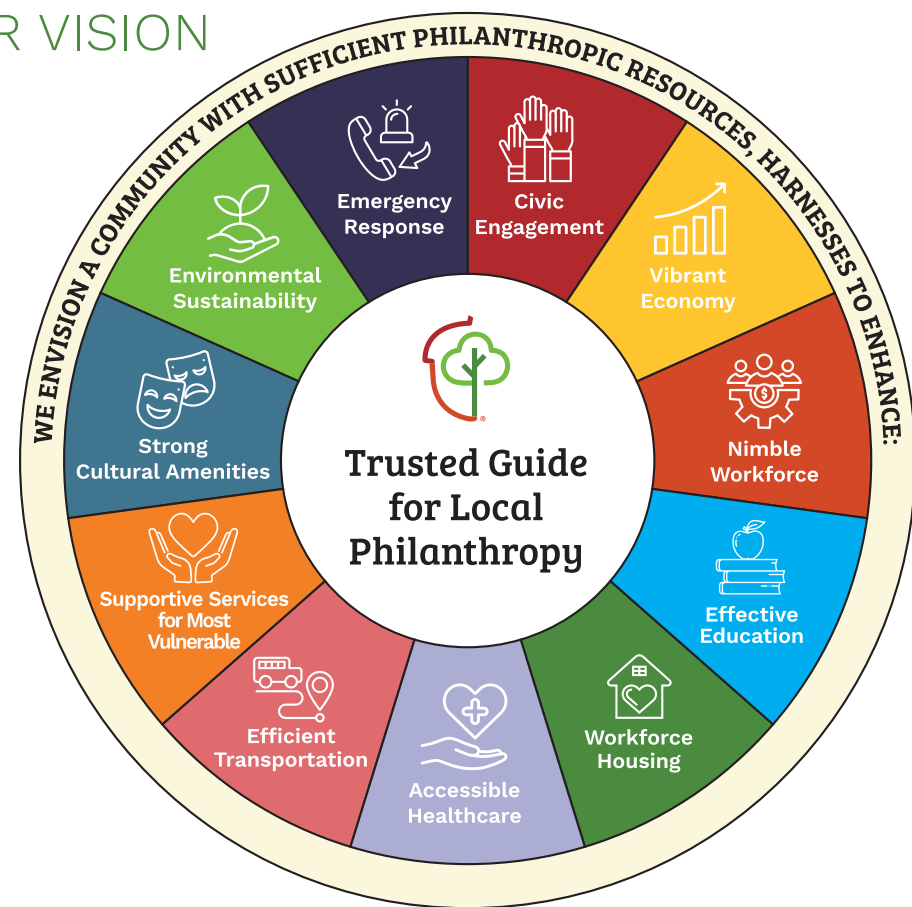


## OUR MISSION

The Athens Area Community Foundation works to grow giving by inspiring generous communities and creating lasting impact.



## OUR VISION



## OUR VALUES

Our values guide everything we do and make more possible. Together, we GIVE:

**G**

**Grow** in Knowledge

**I**

**Integrity** in All Things

**V**

**Value** Responsiveness

**E**

**Engage** in Community

When we GIVE, we spark joy, kindness, ease, and connection.

## Powerful Force For Good

The Athens Area Community Foundation is a powerful force for good in our community.

We are a:

- Trusted community leader
- Trusted partner for local organizations
- Trusted philanthropic guide

**The trust placed in us by fundholders brings our community leadership into action.**

### Community. Conversation. Philanthropy.

A curated series of experiences and events. Provides opportunities for fundholders to learn, volunteer, and engage with causes and organizations.

### Ready. Set. Go. Board Leadership Training

Signature Board Leadership training series. Designed to develop strong leaders bringing their best to the boardroom.

### Nonprofit Capacity Building

Annual workshops focused on nonprofit skills and capacity building. Provides access to specialized trainings from experts.

### The Nonprofit of the Year Award

An award that recognizes and celebrates local nonprofits annually for:

- Excellence in leadership and management
- Innovation and collaboration
- Community impact

### Professional Advisor Network

A network that inspires charitable conversations and giving strategies in our community.

### Resilient Northeast Georgia Fund

A grant to build community capacity to address root causes of trauma. Serving **12** counties across Northeast Georgia to prevent childhood adversity and increase community resilience.

### Youth Philanthropy Program

An experiential curriculum for high school students. Builds an understanding of philanthropy, connection to local nonprofits, and opportunity to make philanthropic decisions together.

### Community Living Room

A space created to serve as a hub for leadership, connection, and progress so that our shared efforts lead to lasting community wellbeing.

### Athens Wellbeing Project

A project that collects and analyzes household-level data to drive decision making for local leaders and philanthropy, through **4** survey iterations spanning a decade of local data.



**145**  
ATTENDEES  
growing in knowledge from  
2025 RSG trainings.

The Athens Area Community Foundation continued its signature Board Leadership Training, co-hosted with the Jackson EMC Foundation. The training consists of four separate workshops led by Victoria Prevatt of **Good Works**, who has two decades of experience working with organizations at the crossroads of board governance, philanthropy, and storytelling.

- **ON YOUR MARK**, for nonprofit leaders;
- **READY**, for leaders new to serving or looking to serve on a board of directors;
- **SET**, for leaders currently serving on boards;
- **GO**, for current Board Chairs and Executive Directors to dive deeper.

These courses are stand-alone workshops. Since we launched in 2022, more than 350 people have been trained in 12 separate workshops!



*“I will take a new focus on onboarding, what that looks like, and how a board member can hit the ground running back to the boards I serve on.”*

*“The information given today will guide us to build our board more effective and stronger.”*

*“Informative and useful. Wish I’d gotten this opportunity before serving as board president.”*





The Nonprofit Training Series is brought to you by a partnership with the Athens Area Community Foundation, United Way of Northeast Georgia, University of Georgia School of Social Work, and UGA Office of Service-Learning. As a group, we bring in speakers from areas in nonprofit development, fundraising, board management, and more will leverage their insight and expertise to help organizations build capacity and show impact.

The Nonprofit Training Series is now a bi-annual event, with each half-day training featuring various session topics. Past topics include:

- Annual Giving
- Major Gifts
- Ethical Storytelling, and Internships
- Service-Learning
- Volunteer Success

100% of survey responders said the Nonprofit Training Series improved their knowledge, skills, and capacity and apply what they learned to their business.



 **180**  
ATTENDEES  
in 2025



Summer of 2025 brought a fresh new series of training sessions intended to support nonprofits in our community plan, prepare, and connect.

Trainings included:

- Crisis & Emergency Planning
- Community Resiliency Model Training®

 **37** NONPROFIT LEADERS  
building resiliency together





## 2024 Nonprofit of the Year Award

The Nonprofit of the Year Award exists to recognize and honor organizations with exemplary practices in leadership, management, innovation, community collaboration, and impact. Our hope is that all nominees feel uplifted as influential members of the business community.

We are grateful to the Athens Chamber of Commerce for helping us honor our local nonprofits as we announced this award at the annual chamber meeting. The growth and success of this award would not have been possible without the support of Marilyn Vickers and the late Lief Carter. Our donors help us to grow giving and provide community leadership



**Congratulations to Project Safe, our 2024 Nonprofit of the Year Honoree!**

“Domestic violence often happens behind closed doors, and so does much of Project Safe’s work since our clients and most of our facilities are confidential. Being recognized as Nonprofit of the Year increased Project Safe’s visibility, and opened doors to several partnerships which have enhanced our impact and broadened our reach. Athens’ vibrant nonprofit community is a big part of what makes our city special, and we’re grateful that Athens Area Community Foundations shines its spotlight on nonprofits each year.”

– Joan Prittie, Executive Director, Project Safe



## Congratulations to all the 2024 Nonprofit of the Year nominees

Over 70 people from nominated organizations and AACF leadership gathered at Creature Comforts Brewing Company to celebrate the collaboration and impact of these influential nonprofits.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation             | Nuçi’s Space   |
| Athens Area Diaper Bank                   | Project Safe, Inc.   |
| Athens Area Humane Society                | The ARK  |
| Athens Parent Wellbeing                   | Thillen Education Foundation                                     |
| Athens Tech Foundation                    | Bigger Vision of Athens  |
| Athens-Oconee CASA                        | Adventure Bags, Inc  |
| Books for Keeps                           | Casa de Amistad  |
| Divas Who Win                             | Clarke County Mentor Program                                     |
| Family Counseling Service of Athens, Inc. | Encourage HER Academy  |
| Family Promise of Athens                  | Georgia Conflict Center  |
| Historic Athens                           | Kids First   |
| Hope Haven of Northeast Georgia           | Oconee Therapeutic Riding  |
| Reach Out and Read                        | Peace Place Inc.   |
| The Cancer Foundation                     | The Cottage Sexual Assault Center and Children’s Advocacy Center |
| U-Lead Athens                             | Lydia’s Place  |
| AthFest Educates                          | Piedmont Athens Regional Foundation                              |
| Chosen for Life Ministries                | BrightPaths Athens   |
| Humble Warrior Wellness                   |  |
| Love.Craft Athens                         |  |



## 2025 Nonprofit of the Year Award

Mercy Health Center is the sixth honoree of the Nonprofit of the Year Award, and the selection committee believes that they exhibited excellence in all aspects of the award criteria. They join a group of Honorees working each day to support the needs of our local community and our region.



**Congratulations to Mercy Health Center, our 2025 Nonprofit of the Year Honoree!**

“I’ve seen Mercy make a huge impact by providing compassionate, Christ-centered healthcare to people who otherwise wouldn’t have access. Beyond just meeting physical needs, Mercy creates a supportive community where patients feel cared for, valued, and known.”

– Donor, Mercy Health Center

## Previous Honorees

- 2024: Project Safe
- 2023: Athens Community Council on Aging
- 2022: The Food Bank of Northeast Georgia
- 2021: Athens Area Homeless Shelter
- 2019: Extra Special People



## Congratulations to all the 2025 Nonprofit of the Year nominees

50+ nonprofit staff, board members, and leadership from nominated organizations joined the Athens Area Community Foundation at Terrapin Beer to celebrate the impact of these incredible nonprofits.

- |   |   |                                   |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| Mercy Health Center   | Butterfly Dreams Farm Equine Therapy                        | New Path 1010                     |
| The Cottage, Sexual Assault Center & Children’s Advocacy Center | Canopy Studio   | Kids First Family Fellowship Inc. |
| The Cancer Foundation   | Athens Area Diaper Bank                                     | Downtown Ministries               |
| The Ark United Ministry Outreach Center                         | Piedmont Athens Regional Foundation                         | Athens Parent Wellbeing Inc.      |
| Atlanta Mission - The Potter’s House                            | Georgia Conflict Center Inc.                                | Love.Craft Athens                 |
| Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation                                   | Juvenile Offender Advocate Inc.                             | Connect Ministries                |
| Thillen Education Foundation                                    | Young Women’s Christian Organization of Athens Georgia Inc. | The DL Handy Foundation           |
| Family Counseling Service of Athens Inc.                        |   |                                   |
| Athens Area Humane Society                                      |   |                                   |
| Lydia’s Place   |   |                                   |
| Chess and Community   |   |                                   |
| Athens-Oconee CASA Incorporated                                 |   |                                   |
| Family Promise of Athens  |   |                                   |
| Books for Keeps, Inc.   |   |                                   |
| Adventure Bags, Inc.  |   |                                   |
| Hope Haven of Northeast Georgia, Inc.                           |   |                                   |
| Neighbors Helping Neighbors, Inc.                               |   |                                   |
| Firefly Trail Inc.  |   |                                   |
| Encourage HER Academy   |   |                                   |
| Barrow Ministry Village   |   |                                   |





## Professional Advisor Network

In August 2025, over 30 professional advisors joined us for a breakfast. We gathered to network, share inspiring stories of charitable giving, and learn about helpful charitable giving tools.

In October 2025, we provided an opportunity for advisors to join us to earn continuing education credits and learn more about finding the right fit between bequests and charitable beneficiaries that ensure donor's passions are supported, forever.



OVER  
**90%**

of surveyed advisors would be likely to refer their clients to work with the Athens Area Community Foundation.



## Resilient Northeast Georgia:

### *Building a Trauma-Informed Northeast Georgia Together*

As a special-project fund at the Athens Area Community Foundation, Resilient Northeast Georgia brings a strategic and sustainable partnership between the Athens Area Community Foundation, Georgia Family Connection Partnership Region 5, and the Athens Wellbeing Project. Together, we support partners to promote the prevention and mitigation of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and to champion Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs) for the birth to 26 communities in Georgia.

#### Trauma-Informed Communities Grant

Launched this year, this grant provides fresh energy and opportunity to deepen our trauma informed approach. With it, we are building capacity across systems, organizations, and neighborhoods—empowering more people to recognize, respond to, and prevent trauma while promoting healing across Northeast Georgia.

### In 2025, Resilient Northeast Georgia Reached:

<b>100</b> Rotary Club Members	<b>1621</b> QPR Trainees
<b>20</b> Sheriff Office Employees	<b>163</b> Mental Health First Aid Trainees
<b>288</b> Trauma-Informed Training Participants	<b>33</b> New Grant Partners
<b>69</b> CMR Trainees	<b>12</b> Family Connection Counties

### SUMMARY DATA

<b>2221</b> Participants Reached	<b>103</b> Regional Events	<b>4332</b> Contact Hours
-------------------------------------	-------------------------------	------------------------------





## Community Living Room

We are honored to celebrate the opening of the Athens Area Community Foundation's Community Living Room in 2025, a vibrant new space made possible through the generosity of Rob and Carol Winthrop. This welcoming gathering place reflects their vision of connection and collaboration, where ideas are sparked, relationships are strengthened, and our community's future is shaped together. We were delighted to dedicate the space alongside the Winthrops and so many of our fundholders, partners, and friends.



*We feel so fortunate to have this space available to us to use. It is a tremendous community benefit as a small non-profit for whom meeting space can be a challenge.*



– Erin Thompson Podvin, Executive Director Family Connection-Communities in Schools of Athens

## Youth Philanthropy Program



**75+**

high school students engaging in philanthropic decision-making with local nonprofit organizations.



*Philanthropy is about more than just giving money. It can be done with any amount of time or money and can impact this area directly. There are more non profits in my area than I first thought, and it's important to discover them and give them my time (and money, where I have it).*



– Jackson County High School Student



Since opening in July 2025, we have hosted

**1,000**

community partners. Thanks to our partnership with Golden Pantry Food Stores, each guest is welcomed with snacks, drinks, and a tech-ready space to accomplish their goals.





## A Collaborative Vision for Data-Informed Change

Since its beginnings in 2016, AWP has been a countywide effort powered by Athens-Clarke County's major public institutions, with the Athens Area Community Foundation serving as its earliest and most consistent champion.

"People don't always understand that AWP isn't a person or an institute. It's a common misconception that we're an organization, but we're not that either," says Dr. Grace Adams, Principal Investigator at Athens Wellbeing Project. "We're a collaboration. We're a community project, built and protected by community partners."

AWP emerged in response to a simple but persistent problem: Athens had data everywhere, yet too many community organizations lacked the time, capacity, or access to use it. In 2015, when hospitals started conducting required Community Health Needs Assessments, a small group began exploring how to unify local data efforts. Among them were Delene Porter, then-president of AACF, and longtime board member Ed Perkins. As Grace remembers, "There were so many surveys happening at once that the running joke was that we created another survey to deal with the multiple surveys."

From those early conversations, AWP began its first countywide wellbeing survey in 2016. Today, the project is in its fourth iteration, each cycle guided by Grace and her research team at the University of Georgia, which specializes in geospatial analysis and representative survey design. With support from AACF and partners across the community, including the school district, United Way, hospitals, the Housing Authority, the police department, UGA, and more, AWP now provides one of the most complete pictures of local community health in the country.

"We never set out to be the primary source of data," Grace said. "But with so much national data disappearing, we unexpectedly became one of the most reliable ones." The project's detailed, neighborhood-level insights help Athens understand how families are actually living and why.



*The knowledge we generate belongs to the community—and it's only as valuable as how useful it becomes.*

DR. GRACE ADAMS

That information is essential when so many philanthropic dollars go to the community's most vulnerable residents, including unhoused families, older adults, and households struggling to meet basic needs. "Before, we were flying blind about the lived experiences of high-need populations. Having data is essential to actually meeting the real needs of real people in our community."

AWP's findings have also sparked tangible new initiatives. One recent example is the Rebanking Initiative, born from AWP data showing that nine percent of local households had taken out high-interest loans in just a 90-day period. "That's 4,500 families!" Grace emphasized. "Seeing that number shifted the urgency for everyone involved."

Grace's connection to the Athens Area Community Foundation dates back to her graduate years, when Delene and Ed encouraged her early work and helped build the long-term home AWP has today. She remains a fundholder through the AWP fund at AACF, which supports ongoing project cycles and protects the work they are doing from political or institutional turnover.

Her message to others considering working with AACF is simple: "You'll be well taken care of. AACF is in a season of growth, and Sarah and Stephanie are strong, thoughtful leaders. It really comes down to the people, and AACF is a team worth investing in."

For Grace, the most important truth about AWP is that it belongs to Athens. "No one owns this data, and this project is a public good. It's for everyone," she says. "The knowledge we generate belongs to the community—and it's only as valuable as how useful it becomes."

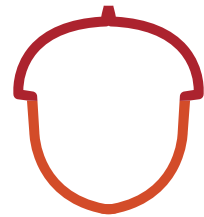


# How Can I Get Involved?

CREATING A DYNAMIC LEGACY AT AACF



1  
-ONE-



## 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  
-TWO-



## 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  
-THREE-



## 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.

# Fund Options

CHOOSE THE ONE THAT IS RIGHT FOR YOU!



## Establish a Fund

The Athens Area Community Foundation offers donors the flexibility to establish funds to meet their unique philanthropic goals.



### DONOR ADVISED FUND (DAF)

- The most popular giving vehicle
- Donor receives immediate tax deduction and time to make grant recommendations within the donor's time horizon
- Permits donors to give grants locally, nationally or internationally to nonprofits that are 501c3
- Fund assets grow tax free
- Provides a way to give anonymously



### UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

- The best way to give back to the Athens-area community
- Effective way to provide for the well-being of the region over time as needs change

#### Type 1: Community Grantmaking:

Funds a community grantmaking pool for nonprofits to receive grants directed by the Foundation's Board.

#### Type 2: Unrestricted Operating Fund (Founders Society):

Supports the Foundation's operations so we can grow giving for the community we love.



### LEGACY FUND

A legacy fund provides you with an opportunity to include charitable giving in your estate plans and leave a lasting legacy for the community you love.



### FIELD OF INTEREST FUND

Grantmaking directed from the fund is limited to a particular cause or field chosen by the donor. Community Foundation handles the grantmaking process and make grant decisions within donor guidelines.



### DESIGNATED/ AGENCY FUND

Supports a specific organization in perpetuity or a term of years to the nonprofit(s) you choose.



### SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Donor establishes criteria to benefit students pursuing higher education.

# Ways to Give

TO THE ATHENS AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



## Give Now: Cash



Generally, donors may claim a **tax deduction of up to 50% of AGI** when deductions are itemized.

## Give Now: Securities

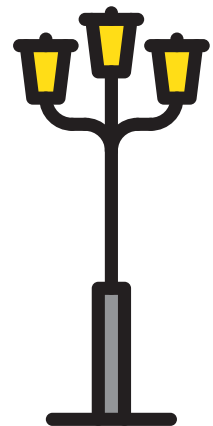


Appreciated securities donated to the AACF are deductible at their full market value up to 30% AGI each year. The AACF will liquidate and **no capital gains tax is paid** on the appreciated part of the gift. Accepted securities include **publicly traded stocks, bonds, and mutual funds.**

## Give Now: QCDs



Donors may donate their QCD to the Athens Area Community Foundation and **make pass through grants to organizations of their choosing.** Donors may also set up certain types of funds with their QCDs or support the Community Giving Fund at AACF to meet our community's greatest needs.



## Give Now: Real Estate

The Athens Area Community Foundation can accept gifts of real property (**homes, land, etc.**), but require certain procedural steps. **Donors receive immediate income tax deduction and avoid capital gains tax.**



## Give Later: Bequests

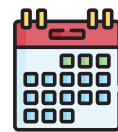
**Bequests are one of the easiest ways to give.** They can be a specific dollar amount, a percentage of the estate, or the residual that remains after all other bequests.

## Give Later: Life Insurance

Gifts of life insurance policies may be made by naming the Athens Area Community Foundation as the owner and beneficiary. The donor receives an **immediate tax deduction** approximately equal to the cash surrender value. Any premiums paid thereafter by the donor are deductible for income tax purposes.



## Give Later: Individual Retirement Accounts & Retirement Plans



Donors may designate the Athens Area Community Foundation as the beneficiary of IRAs and retirement plans. This gift helps **avoid heavily taxable income to heirs.**

## Give Later: Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT)

Pays the donor or beneficiary regular income payments for a specified term and the remainder will be transferred to the AACF. **The donor receives an immediate tax deduction for the present value.**



# Benefits

OF THE ATHENS AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



## Permanent & Stable

Your gift will keep giving. Future use of funds will honor donor's original intent and will **reside with a group of informed, local citizens.**



## Flexible & Seamless

Multiple ways to give. **Gifts may be designated for one specific purpose - or many.**



## Personal & Relevant

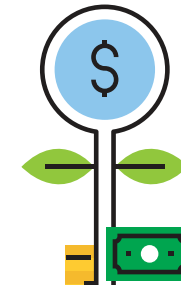
You can help meet changing community needs. Through the AACF, **donors have granted over \$42M in funds for a lasting impact.**



## Experienced Investment Management

**Access to experienced investment management**

Our Funds are professionally managed and under the Fiduciary care of our Board of Directors. In addition, we have partnered with Merrill Lynch, a global investment firm, to serve as Trust Fiduciaries, the highest standard of care available.



## Convenience

**We offer "One-Stop Giving"**

You have the ability to create a separate fund - your foundation within the foundation. We make it easy to give through us via cash, securities, bequests, life insurance, and more.



## Tax Advantage

**Your fund provides tax and financial benefits**

When you give through us, your donations qualify for maximum deductions.



## Grantmaking Expertise

**Access to Local Knowledge and Expertise**

Our professional staff is familiar with local nonprofit organizations and the critical issues facing our community, as well as data for informed, local giving. We will help you make impactful grant decisions.

# TRUST

## in Guiding Local Philanthropy



## Founders Society

Strengthening the Foundation that Grows Giving

The Athens Area Community Foundation exists to grow giving for the community we love. We help donors turn generosity into lasting impact by connecting philanthropy with real community needs. To serve our community well and for the long term, the Foundation itself must be strong, trusted, and sustainable.

**The Founders Society is our operating endowment and the foundation beneath the Foundation.**

Operating support allows us to steward charitable resources responsibly, guide donors with local expertise, and lead collaborative responses to community needs. An operating endowment is not overhead. It is what makes long term impact possible.

Since our founding, thirty-five (35) Founders Society members have stepped forward as leaders who believe this community deserves a strong local philanthropic institution. We would like to thank members of our Founders Society operating endowment.

The Benson Family	In Honor of Tim Johnson	Jinx and Gordhan Patel
Cadence Bank	John and Teresa McLean	The Riverview Foundation, Inc.
Bob Carson	Kirbo Charitable Trust	Tom and Lori Scott
Ricky H. Chastain	Margaret D. McLanahan	St. Mary's Health Care System
Bertis and Katherine Downs	Steve and Susan Middlebrooks	Synovus
Greg and Kay Garcia	Patrick C. Mercardante	The Terrell Family Foundation
Heyward Allen Motor Company	Helen H. Mills	The Ulm Family Foundation
Clementi L. Holder	William C. Mundy	Todd Emily
Epting Family Foundation	The Newland Family Foundation, Inc.	Dr. Phil and Mrs. Madeline Van Dyck
First American Bank and Trust	Alex and Janet Patterson	The Winthrop Family Foundation
Jackson EMC	Piedmont Athens Regional	Woodruff Foundation
Joe D. Irving	Jim and Emily Reynolds	

## Legacy Society

Forever Providing for the Causes You Care About

A planned gift invested with us, grows over time to make an even greater impact for organizations. Our Legacy Society includes families and individuals who have listed a fund at the Athens Area Community Foundation in their estate planning.

147 Fund	Kane Foundation Fund
AIDS Athens Legacy Fund	Karlin-Lee Arts & Culture Fund
Ashby M. Foster Memorial Fund	MaP Legacy Awards Fund
Edward W. Johnson Game Bird Management Scholarship Fund	Mary Nouri Fund
Fund for Honesty and Integrity	McCue Trust
Helene Halstead	Piedmont Shaman Rock Fund
Holt-Kassay Endowment Fund	Susan and Edward Wilde Fund
Hughes-Galau Fund	The Theresa Perenich Caring Funds
Irvin and Becky Alhadeff Fund	The Theresa Perenich Endowed Fund for Animal Rights and the Environment Fund
John Haar III and Ann Carey Legacy Fund	Thomas W. Scott, III Legacy Fund

## Supporters

Giving to support the annual operations of our community foundation supports the heart of our work and ensure we continue to grow as a trusted guide for local giving. We want to share our deepest thanks to the supporters who gave to our foundation in 2025!

Alicia Battle	Gary Bertsch	Rachael and Justin Widener
Bevan Hopper	Golden Pantry Food Stores, Inc.	Rhodes McLanahan
Carl and Sara Glickman	Good Works	Richard and Dorothy Kollar
Charles Peck	Jackson EMC	Sarah McKinney
Clark Brown	Jeremy Burch	Stephen and Susan Middlebrooks
Dan and Sally Coenen	Jody Patton	Terrell Family Foundation
Dr. Ed Novey	John and Teresa McLean	The Caterpillar Foundation
Dr. Maurice C. Daniels	Nancy Hart	Tim Johnson
Dr. Myron Downs	Philip E. Bettendorf	Winthrop Foundation of Athens
Evelyn Boynton		

# 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, 2025 - Dec. 31, 2025

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

24th Street Athens Fund  
 ABH Empty Stocking Fund  
 Accountability Courts Foundation of Athens Area  
 Accountability Courts of the Northern Judicial Circuit  
 ACF Compassion Network Project  
 AIDS Athens Fund  
 Al and Kathy Conn Parker Fund  
 Always Together Fund  
 Ashby M. Foster Memorial Fund  
 Athens 100% Renewable Energy Fund  
 Athens Achieves Fund  
 Athens Achieves Special Project Fund  
 Athens Area Community Foundation General Operations Fund  
 Athens Community Career Academy Fund  
 Athens Community Council on Aging Field Fund  
 Athens Community Partnership for Youth Development  
 Athens Firefighter Fund  
 Athens PJ Library Fund  
 Athens Resonates Fund  
 Athens Resource Center for Hope Village Apartments  
 Athens Resource Center for the Homeless Inc. Designated Fund  
 Athens Wellness Clinic Fund  
 Athens-Clarke County Leisure Services P.L.A.Y. Fund  
 Athens-Clarke County Library Foundation Designated Fund  
 Athens-Clarke County Police Department - Summer Youth Camp  
 Athens-Clarke Police Foundation Fund  
 Barbara and Frank Rice Memorial Fund  
 Barbara B. Holt Emergency Assistance Fund  
 Barron's Rental Foundation Fund

Be Golden Fund  
 Behavioral Health Grant-Resilient Northeast Georgia  
 BeMent Family Fund  
 Benson's Inc. Community Fund  
 Bertis and Katherine Downs Fund  
 Beta Zeta Scholarship Endowment Fund  
 Birkley Heynen Environmental Fund  
 Board Leadership Training Fund  
 Bonnie R.B. Harris Endowment for Support of Athens-Oconee CASA  
 Bowen Family Charitable Fund  
 Bracewell Family Fund for David C. Barrow Media Center  
 Brad and Cynthia Shepherd Family Foundation Fund  
 Briscoe Family Foundation  
 Cable East Cares Fund  
 Campbell Harper Fund  
 CandyVet Foundation Fund  
 Canopy Studio Fund For Outreach Support  
 Carrie Fischer Siegmund Grant for Classroom Innovation Fund  
 CCSD Youth Development Initiative Fund  
 Charles Briscoe Memorial Fund  
 Charlie & Teresa Friedlander Community Fund  
 Christopherson Family Fund  
 Cindy and Wayne Lester Family Fund  
 Clarke County Mentor Program Designated Fund  
 Clarke County School District Fund  
 Community Disaster Relief Fund  
 Community Impact Fund named for Steve Jones and Lillian Kinsey  
 COSSUP of the Western Judicial Court  
 Creature Comforts Get Comfortable Fund  
 D12 Community Impact Fund  
 Dan T. and Sara Wyche Coenen Fund  
 Darren and Kathryn Ash Foundation Fund

David and Jane Kidd Family Fund  
 Dawgs For Pups - WiFi Fund  
 DGD Fund  
 Divas Who Win Freedom Center Designated Fund  
 Dixen Foundation  
 Don and Phyllis Nelson Sharing Fund  
 Douglas Family Fund  
 Dr. Hoke Smith Nash, Jr. Memorial Fund  
 Dr. Nancy Coleman Hart Scholarship Fund  
 DUI Treatment Court Fund  
 E.H. Culpepper Memorial Fund  
 Eastside Eagle Foundation Fund  
 Ed and Robin Benson Fund  
 Elizabeth and Anthony DeMarco Family Fund  
 EMC Security Fund  
 Epting Family Foundation Fund  
 Erika C. Lewis Family Fund  
 Family Treatment Court Fund  
 Felony Drug Court Fund  
 FLIP Project Fund  
 Food Bank of Northeast Georgia Member Grants  
 Food to CCSD Community Fund  
 Fortson, Bentley and Griffin, P.A. 75th Anniversary Fund  
 Founders Society  
 Franklin Street Foundation  
 Friday Night Foundation  
 Friends of Nuçi's Space Fund  
 Fund for Clean Energy  
 Fund for Financial Assistance  
 Fund for Honesty and Integrity  
 Gatti Massimi Fund  
 Georgia Grantmaker Alliance Special Project Fund  
 Gilley/Welch Family Fund  
 Gleaton Jones Memorial Sporting Clays Classic Fund  
 Good Works Fund

Gordhan L. & Virginia B. (Jinx) Patel Family Fund  
 Grant and Jami Cashin Fund  
 GRF and MCF Charitable Fund  
 Hansford Family Fund  
 Helen & Milton Mills Family Fund  
 Helen and Mark Costantino Literacy Education Fund  
 Holland Blackmon Fund for Children  
 Holt-Kassay Fund  
 Horvat Family Scholarship Fund  
 Hudson Family Charitable 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  
 Joe and Trish Harrison Family Fund  
 John S. Willis Fund  
 John Waters Memorial Scholarship Fund  
 Jon and Amy Williams Family Charitable Fund  
 Joseph & Kittie Mathis Fund  
 Julie and John McLeod Fund  
 JY Arnold Family Fund  
 Kalynd Fund  
 Kappa Sigma Community Fund  
 Kimberly Easter Noland Fund  
 Kirk & Jayne Smith LIVE! Fund  
 Koehler Family Fund  
 Kurtz Charitable Fund  
 Kurtz Family Fund  
 Laseter Family Fund  
 Laura Mulherin Foundation Fund  
 Lawrence & Morris Family Fund  
 Lee Nelson Weeks Charity Fund  
 Legacy of Stipe Fund  
 Love Like Leah Designated Fund  
 Love Like Leah Special Project Fund  
 Lynne & Steve Wrigley Charitable Fund  
 M & L Fund  
 Margaret M. Rodgers Memorial Education Fund  
 Marilyn Vickers & Lief Carter Award for Nonprofit Excellence Fund  
 Martha (Marti) Elizabeth Schimmel Fund  
 Marti Schimmel Memorial Fund  
 Mary Lillie Watson Foundation Fund  
 McCue Trust  
 McKenna Archibald Fund  
 McLanahan STEP Fund for Revolving Loans  
 McLanahan STEP Funds for Financial Assistance  
 McLean Family Foundation Fund  
 McLeroy Family Giving Fund

McQuiston-Stueck Foundation Fund  
 Michael Peter Horvat Fund  
 Middlebrooks Automotive Holdings, Inc. Fund  
 Middlebrooks Family Foundation Fund  
 Mills Foundation Fund  
 Neighborhood Education Program Fund  
 Noland Family Foundation Fund  
 Nonprofit Loan Fund  
 Novy Family Fund  
 Nute Scholarship Fund  
 Oconee Hill Cemetery Fund  
 Oglethorpe County School System Fund  
 Oglethorpe County School System Peach State Tax Credit 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  
 Peter L. Buck Fund  
 Phil Hughes Family Fund  
 Prittie-Berry Giving Fund  
 Ramon C. and Amanda H. Thompson Family Fund  
 Rex, Tommy, and Brandy Foundation Fund  
 Richard and Fran Lane Family Foundation  
 Richard F and Mary L Daniels Charitable Fund  
 Ricky and Betsey Chastain Family Fund  
 Ringhand Lorentz Foundation Fund  
 Rogers Family Fund  
 Rutledge Lathen Fund  
 Ryan A. Schwartz Legacy Fund II  
 Sam Allgood Fund  
 Sara & George Schramm Family Fund  
 Seventh Son Fund  
 Shropshire Family Fund  
 Smith-Tomporowski Family Fund  
 Society of Sigma Xi Fund - UGA Chapter  
 Sonja West and Robert Fezekas Family Fund  
 Spencer Bradley Foundation for Mental Health Fund  
 Stegosaurus Fund  
 Step Up Scholarship Project Fund  
 Stephen Castile Memorial Scholarship Fund  
 Steve and Melanie Hollis Family Fund  
 Sunny Knoll Fund  
 Synovus-Athens Fund  
 Anonymous  
 The Blackwell Family Foundation Income Trust  
 The CLF and SRF Charitable Fund  
 The Dale Allen Memorial Success Scholarship  
 The Designated Dawgs Fund

The Douglas and Eleanor Carithers Memorial Scholarship Fund  
 The Elizabeth Papa Fund for the Benefit of the Bettye Henderson Holston Elementary School Library  
 The Elizabeth Price Dolvin Foundation Fund  
 The J. Kenneth and Arlene D. Whitlow Family Foundation Scholarship Fund  
 The Jesus Wept Fund  
 The Kirby Smart Family Foundation  
 The Kirby Smart Family Foundation - Autograph Request  
 The Kirby Smart Family Foundation - Charity Request  
 The MLK Day of Service Fund  
 The Mustard Seed Trust  
 The Norton Family Foundation Fund  
 The Oconee Cellar Annual Charity Golf Classic  
 The Patrick and Cameron Garrard Family Fund  
 The Patterson Family Fund  
 The Realtor Jared Fund  
 The Remarkable Foundation  
 The SOGO Japan Fund  
 The Theresa Perenich Caring Fund  
 The Wellbeing Project Fund  
 Think Locally. Act Neighborly. Fund  
 Thomas W. Scott, III Fund  
 Thornton Brothers, Inc. Fund  
 Todd Emily Community Fund  
 Treatment and Accountability Court Fund  
 VanDyck Family Fund  
 Veterans Treatment Court Fund  
 Veterans Treatment Court Mentor Fund  
 Vivian and Mamie Fisher Educational Fund  
 Wayne and Veda Sullivan Memorial Fund  
 Weeks Family Fund  
 Wellbeing Project Greene County Fund  
 Western Circuit Bar Association Fund  
 Wiggins Family Fund  
 Wilbur C. Mull Memorial Scholarship 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](mailto: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. 1, 2025 - Dec. 31, 2025

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

24th Street Inc.  
350 Org  
AACA Museum Inc.  
Acceptance Recovery Center, Inc.  
ACC SANE Inc.  
A Child's Voice Child Advocacy Center, Inc.  
ACLU Foundation of Georgia Inc.  
Adult Literacy Barrow Inc.  
Adventure Bags, Inc.  
Advocates For Children Inc.  
Aerial Recovery  
African Wildlife Foundation  
Alk Positive Incorporated  
ALS Association  
Alternative Newsweekly Foundation  
Alzheimers Disease Research Foundation dba Cure Alzheimer's Fund  
American Cancer Society  
American Civil Liberties Union Foundation  
American Friends Service Committee  
American Heart Association  
American Indian College Fund  
American Red Cross  
American Red Cross Northeast Georgia  
American Rivers, Inc.  
American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals dba ASPCA  
American Society of International Law  
American University  
American Whitewater  
Americares  
America's Second Harvest of Coastal Georgia  
Amnesty International USA, Inc.  
Anchor of Hope Foundation  
Annandale at Suwanee, Inc. (DBA Annandale Village)  
Appalachian Trail Conservancy  
Apparo Academy  
Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation  
Athens Academy, Inc.  
Athens Anti-Discrimination Movement  
Athens Area Diaper Bank  
Athens Area Emergency Food Bank, Inc.  
Athens Area Habitat for Humanity, Inc.  
Athens Area Homeless Shelter  
Athens Area Humane Society  
Athens Area Human Relations Council  
Athens Church  
Athens Clarke County Center for Racial Justice and Black Futures  
Athens-Clarke County Leisure Services  
Athens-Clarke County Unified Government  
Athens-Clarke Police Foundation Inc.  
Athens-Clarke Safe Cycling Association Inc. dba BikeAthens

Athens Community Career Academy  
Athens Community Council on Aging, Inc.  
Athens FCA  
Athens Film Arts Institute Inc.  
Athens Historical Society Inc.  
Athens Homeless Coalition  
Athens Land Trust  
Athens Neighborhood Health Center  
Athens-Oconee CASA Incorporated  
Athens Parent Wellbeing Inc.  
Athenspets Inc.  
Athens Pride + Queer Collective  
Athens Regional Library  
Athens Resource Center for the Homeless  
Athens Rotary Foundation, Inc.  
Athens Symphony Orchestra  
Athens Tech Foundation, Inc.  
Athens Tutorial Program Inc.  
Athens Wellness Clinic  
Athens Y Camps  
Athens YMCA  
AthFest Educates  
Atlanta Contemporary Art Center Inc  
Atlanta Educational Telecommunications Collaborative  
Atlanta Ronald McDonald House Charities, Inc.  
Aurora Theatre, Inc.  
Bacon County Extension 4-H Club  
Banks County Family Connection Inc.  
Barnett Shoals Elementary School  
Barrow Elementary School  
Barrow Family Connection  
Benton Mackaye Trail Association Inc.  
Bethel Haven Inc  
Bethlehem Ministry, Inc.  
Bettye Henderson Holston Elementary School - Media Center  
Beyond the Ribbon  
Bigger Vision of Athens, Inc.  
Bill, Hillary & Chelsea Clinton Foundation  
Bird Conservancy of the Rockies  
Block Community Outreach, Inc.  
Books for Keeps, Inc.  
Boys and Girls Club of Winder-Barrow County  
Boys and Girls Clubs of Athens  
Boy Scouts of America - Northeast Georgia Council  
Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta  
Boys & Girls Clubs of Jackson County, Inc.  
Boys & Girls Clubs of Lanier  
Boys & Girls Clubs of North Central Georgia Inc.  
Boy With A Ball International  
Brayden Philyaw Memorial Fund Inc.  
Breaking Chains Ministries, Inc. (DBA: Freedom Hill Recovery Home for Women)

Breakthrough T1D  
Briarwood Baptist Church  
Bridging Faith Gaps  
Brightside Child and Family Advocacy Inc.  
Brightside Forever Foundation, LLC  
Brothers Keeper Veterans Foundation Inc.  
BTG Community Outreach, Inc.  
Burney-Harris-Lyons Middle School  
Butterfly Dreams Farm Equine Therapy Inc.  
California Community Foundation  
CALIFORNIA FIRE FOUNDATION  
Called to Care, Inc.  
Calvary Bible Church Incorporated  
Calvary St. George's Church  
Camp Big Heart Civitan Club Inc.  
Camp Kudzu Inc  
Camp Lighthouse Ministry Inc.  
Camp Sunshine  
Camp Twin Lakes  
Campus Clubs Inc.  
Canopy Studio  
CARE  
Care for Cycling Inc.  
Casa De Amistad  
CASA of Lowndes and Echols Counties, Inc.  
Catholic Community Services and the Archdiocesan Housing Authority of Western Washington  
C-Change Conversations  
Cedar Shoals High School  
Center for Applied Nursery Research Inc.  
Center for New Beginnings  
Center for Wellness and Recovery  
Champions Community Foundation  
Champions Foundation Inc.  
(CHANCE Inc.) Creating Hope and Needed Care for Everyone  
Chattahoochee Nature Center Inc.  
Chattanooga Trach Families  
Chattooga Conservancy  
Chess and Community Conference  
Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Foundation  
China Outreach Ministries  
Chosen for Life Ministries  
Christ The King  
Christ Thru Baseball Inc  
Circle of Love Center Inc  
City of Hope Athens, Inc. d/b/a City of Refuge Athens  
City of Hope National Medical Center  
City of Refuge  
Clarke Central High School  
Clarke County FFA Alumni  
Clarke County Mentor Program, Inc.  
Clarke County Middle School

Clarke County Schools Special Olympics  
Clarke County Sheriff's Office  
Clarke Middle School PTA  
Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking  
Coastal Plain CASA, Inc.  
Colham Ferry PTO  
College of Athens  
Colquitt County Serenity House Project Inc  
Columbia County School District Foundation Inc.  
Come Alive Ministries of Barrow Co. Inc.  
Comics Appreciation Project Inc.  
Commerce City Schools  
Community Christmas of Oglethorpe County Inc.  
Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta, Inc.  
Community Foundation for Northeast Georgia  
Community Partnership of Elbert County, Inc.  
Community Services for Autistic Adults and Children  
Community & Youth Development Organization  
Concrete Jungle Inc.  
Connect Ministries  
Cooperative Family Fund  
Corinth Christian Church Inc.  
Cornell University  
Corners Outreach  
Covenant Presbyterian Church  
Cowee School Arts and Heritage Center  
Craft Emergency Relief Fund, Inc.  
Crawford Pentecostal Church  
Cru / Campus Crusade for Christ  
Cure Childhood Cancer Inc.  
Dads on Tap  
Dakota Indian Foundation Inc.  
Dalton State Foundation  
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Inc.  
Darlington School Endowment Fund  
Defenders of Wildlife  
Democracy Now Productions Inc.  
Denver Audubon  
Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health of Georgia  
DGD Outdoor Adventures  
Divas Who Win Freedom Center  
Doctors without Borders  
Downtown Ministries Inc.  
Eagle Ranch, Inc.  
East Athens Development Corporation  
East Georgia Cancer Coalition Inc.  
East Jackson Comprehensive High School  
East Jackson Elementary School  
East Jackson Middle School  
Ebony Drivers of Middle Georgia  
ECO Georgia Corp.  
Economic Justice Coalition  
Elbert County Middle School  
Elbert Partners for Health  
EL Sistema Colorado  
Empowering Young Energetic Sisters Incorporated  
Empowers Africa Inc.  
Encourage HER Academy  
Environmental Defense Fund, Inc.  
Episcopal Church of the Holy Comforter  
Equality Foundation of Georgia, Inc.

Equal Justice Initiative  
Essex County Conservation Alliance (ECCA)  
Evangelical Alliance Mission (TEAM)  
Extra Special People, Inc.  
F.A.I.T.H., Inc.  
Faith Restoration Ministries Intl. Community Outreach Inc.  
Families 4 Families  
Families of Children Under Stress  
Family Connection-Communities In Schools of Athens  
Family Counseling Service of Athens Inc.  
Family Promise of Athens  
Family Promise of Gwinnett County Inc.  
Feeding America  
Fellowship of Christian Athletes  
Ferst Readers of Madison County  
FINCA International, Inc.  
Firefly Trail Inc.  
First Baptist Church of Athens  
First Presbyterian Church of Athens  
First Tee Athens  
Flint Riverkeeper  
Food Bank of Northeast Georgia  
Food Bank of the Rockies  
Food To Kids Madison County Inc.  
Foothills Regional High School  
Foster Siblings Reunited, Inc. DBA Camp to Belong-Georgia  
Foundation for Excellence in Public Education in Clarke County GA Inc.  
Foundation for Public Broadcasting in Georgia, Inc.  
Four Corners Group Inc.  
Four Points Scholarship Fund Inc.  
Franklin Springs Baptist Church  
Free Chapel  
Free I.T. Athens  
Fresh Wind Recovery Ministry Inc.  
Friendship Presbyterian Church  
Friends Ministries  
Friends of Advantage Inc.  
Friends of Athens-Clarke County Library, Inc.  
Friends of Disabled Adults and Children (FODAC)  
Friends of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge  
Friends of Oconee Hill Cemetery, Inc.  
Friends of Roswell Police Foundation Inc.  
Friends of the Greenway Inc.  
Furkids Inc.  
Gateway House dba Gateway Domestic Violence Center  
Georgia 4-H Jackson County  
Georgia Club Foundation  
Georgia College & State University Foundation Inc.  
Georgia Conflict Center Inc.  
Georgia Conservancy Inc.  
Georgia Extension 4-H Foundation  
Georgia First Generation Foundation  
Georgia Heirs Property Law Center Inc.  
Georgia HI-Lo Trail Inc.  
Georgia Justice Project  
Georgia Legal Services Program Inc.  
Georgia Military College Foundation Inc.  
Georgia Mountain Food Bank

Georgia Mountains YMCA  
Georgia Museum of Art - UGA  
Georgia Options, Inc.  
Georgia Technology Student Association  
Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation Inc.  
Georgia Wildlife Federation  
Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia - Athens  
Girls Preparatory School Inc.  
Giving Hearts, Inc.  
Gladiators Football TD Club (Clarke Central High School Booster)  
Global Impact International, Inc.  
DBA Restoration Rome  
God's Faith Building Tabernacle Church  
Golden Harvest Food Bank, Inc.  
Good Samaritan Health Center of Gwinnett Inc.  
Gratcy Inc. dba Willuhelp.life  
Great Exchange Inc.  
Greene County Family Connection Commission Inc.  
Greenpeace Fund  
Gwinnett County Public Library  
Gwinnett County Public Schools Foundation Fund Inc.  
Hall County Family Connection Network Inc.  
Hall-Dawson CASA Program Inc.  
Happyfeat  
Hart County Little League Inc.  
Hart Partners Communities in Schools of Hart County Inc.  
Healing 4 Heroes Inc.  
Heifer Project International, Inc.  
Help Hope Live  
Helping Hands H-161  
Helping Mamas  
Highpoint Community Worship Center  
His Dwelling Inc.  
Historic Athens (Athens-Clarke Heritage Foundation)  
Historic Cobham Foundation, Inc.  
Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
Home of the Innocents  
Home Repairs Ministries  
Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi  
Hope 139 House  
Hope Haven of Northeast Georgia, Inc.  
Hope Heals  
Horizons Atlanta  
Hoschton Church of God of Prophecy  
HUB of Habersham, Inc.  
Humane Society of Northeast Georgia  
Human Rights Campaign Foundation  
Human Rights Watch, Inc.  
Impact46  
Innocence Project, Inc.  
Integrative Medicine Initiative Inc.  
Interactive Neighborhood for Kids Inc.  
International Committee of the Red Cross  
International Community Foundation  
International Rescue Committee  
Ivy Creek Baptist Church  
Jack Okelley Foundation Inc.  
Jackson County Family Connection

# TRUST

## in Guiding Local Philanthropy



### Nonprofit Grantees (continued)

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

Jackson County Habitat for Humanity  
 Jambos Inc.  
 Jars of Clay Ministries Inc.  
 Jasper County Family Connection Inc.  
 Jeannette Rankin Foundation  
 John Paul Stevens Fellowship Foundation  
 Jpn African American Research Library  
 Jubilee Partners  
 Junior Achievement  
 Juvenile Offender Advocate Inc.  
 Kate's Club  
 Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful  
 Kennesaw State University Foundation  
 Kids First Family Fellowship Inc.  
 Kidz2Leaders  
 Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc.  
 Lanier Technical College Foundation Inc.  
 Learning Ally  
 Lekotek of Georgia, Inc.  
 Leroy Cooper Memorial Scholarship Foundation  
 Lexington Baptist Church  
 LGBTQ Victory Institute  
 Life Enrichment Center  
 Lighthouse Family Retreat  
 Lincoln County Community Partnership Inc.  
 Lion Guardians U.S.  
 Listening for A Change  
 Little Red Acorn Inc.  
 Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church  
 Lotus Education and Arts Foundation, Inc.  
 Love.Craft Athens  
 Loving Arms Cancer Outreach, Inc.  
 Lukas Fund Inc.  
 Lumpkin County Board of Commissioners  
 Lumpkin County Family Connection Inc.  
 Luna Patterson  
 Lydia's Place  
 Lyndon House Arts Foundation, Inc.  
 Macon Tracks Running Club  
 Madison Area Resource Team (M.A.R.T.)/Madison County Family Connection  
 Madison County Rotary Foundation Inc.  
 Madison Oglethorpe Animal Shelter  
 Marigold Collective  
 Marion Library Association  
 Maysville Elementary School  
 McCallie School Inc.  
 MedLink Georgia, Inc.  
 Men Opposing Sex Trafficking (MOST)  
 Mercy Chefs  
 Mercy Health Center  
 Metro Atlanta Urban Farm  
 Michael J Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research

Michigan State University  
 Middle GA Sunrise Ministry Inc.  
 Mighty Mabel Foundation  
 Moms Adopting Moms Inc.  
 Monsignor Walter J. Donovan Catholic High School, Inc.  
 More Light Presbyterians Inc.  
 Morgan County Board of Education  
 Mosaic Georgia, Inc.  
 Mountain View Baptist Church Music Ministry  
 Mt. Pleasant Community Church  
 Murphy-Harpst Children's Centers Inc.  
 Myotonic Dystrophy Foundation  
 National Audubon Society  
 National Center for Science Education  
 National Christian Charitable Foundation, Inc.  
 National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force  
 National Park Foundation  
 National Public Radio, Inc.  
 National Trust for Historic Preservation in the US  
 National Wildlife Federation  
 Native American Rights Fund  
 Natural Resources Defense Council  
 Navicent Health Foundation  
 New Path 1010 Inc.  
 New Water Farms  
 Next Level Community Development Center  
 N O A S Ark Inc.  
 Noble Clay Ministries Inc  
 No Kid Hungry by Share Our Strength  
 Nolan Smith Pups Day Out  
 North America World Literacy Foundation  
 Northeast Georgia Council On Domestic Violence Inc.  
 Northeast Georgia Health System Inc.  
 Northeast Georgia Speech Center  
 North Oconee Titan Club Inc.  
 Nuci Phillips Memorial Foundation Inc. dba Nuci's Space  
 Nuclear Threat Initiative Inc.  
 Ocean Conservancy  
 OCHS Soccer Booster Club Inc.  
 Oconee Area Resource Council, Inc.  
 Oconee County Warrior Foundation Inc.  
 Oconee Cultural Arts Foundation  
 Oconee Hill Cemetery  
 Oconee River Land Trust  
 Oconee Therapeutic Riding  
 Oglala Lakota College  
 Oglethorpe County High School  
 Oglethorpe County Schools  
 Oglethorpe Echo Legacy Incorporated  
 Okefenokee Swamp Park Inc.  
 Opera A La Carte Association

Operation Smile, Inc.  
 Options Save Lives  
 Our Daily Bread Community Kitchen  
 Outsiders Farm & Sanctuary Inc.  
 Partner for People and Place, Inc.  
 Partnership Against Domestic Violence  
 Partnership with Native Americans  
 Pasadena Humane Society and S.P.C.A.  
 Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue  
 Peace Place Inc.  
 Peachtree Christian Health  
 Peachtree Road United Methodist  
 Penfield Addiction Ministries Inc.  
 People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)  
 People Living in Recovery Inc.  
 Perimeter Church  
 Piedmont Athens Regional Foundation  
 Piedmont Athens Regional Medical Center Inc.  
 Piedmont CASA, Inc.  
 Pilot Club of Oconee County  
 Planned Parenthood Federation of America  
 Planned Parenthood Southeast, Inc.  
 Pollack Foundation Inc.  
 Population Connection  
 Positive Impact USA  
 Prevent Child Abuse Athens (DBA: Brightpaths)  
 Prince Avenue Baptist Church  
 Project ADAM Community Assistance Center, Inc.  
 Project HOPE - The People-to-People Health Foundation, Inc.  
 Project Safe, Inc.  
 Promise 686 Inc.  
 Prostate Cancer Foundation  
 Psi Kyiv Inc.  
 Rachel's Gift, Inc.  
 Radio Training Network Inc dba The JOY FM  
 Rails-to-Trails Conservancy  
 Rainbow Children's Home  
 Rainbow Village  
 Rainforest Alliance  
 Rape Response, Inc. d/b/a Bridging Hope  
 Rare Bird  
 Reach Out and Read Georgia  
 Reading is Fundamental, Inc.  
 Red Blue & You  
 Refuge Coffee Inc.  
 Regenerative Institute of Community Education Inc.  
 Reginald Faust Foundation  
 Rehoboth Church dba Toccoa Assembly of God  
 Reporters Committee For Freedom Of The Press  
 Resilient Georgia  
 Revved Up Kids Inc.  
 RIO Ministries

Rocky Mountain Public Media  
 Ronald McDonald House Charities of Augusta Inc.  
 Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Georgia  
 Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Coastal Empire  
 Rooted Interiors  
 Rotary Club of Banks County Inc.  
 Rotary Club of the Classic City of Athens, Inc.  
 Safe Shelter Center for Domestic Violence Services, Inc.  
 Samaritan's Purse  
 Samuel L Asbury Foundation Inc.  
 Sandy Creek Nature Center Inc.  
 Sardis Presbyterian Church Food Pantry  
 Save The Children Federation, Inc.  
 School of Law - UGA  
 SD Gunner Fund  
 Seeing Eye, Inc.  
 Ser Familia, Inc.  
 Service Dawg Nation  
 Share the Magic Foundation  
 Sheats Social Services  
 Shell To Shore Inc.  
 Shepherd Center Foundation Inc.  
 Shriners Hospitals for Children  
 Sideways Sunlight Ministries  
 Sierra Club Foundation  
 Sierra Club Georgia Chapter  
 Sos Ministry of Ne Ga Co.  
 Southern Environmental Law Center  
 Southern Poverty Law Center, Inc.  
 South Jackson Elementary School  
 Southwest Christian Care  
 Special Needs Cobb (formerly Right in the Community)  
 Spectrum Autism Support Group Inc.  
 Spirit of Sharing Inc.  
 Spread Love of Georgia, Inc.  
 St. Alban's Episcopal Church  
 State Botanical Garden of Georgia  
 Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation  
 Stillman College  
 St. James Church  
 St. Joseph Catholic Church  
 St. Joseph Catholic Parish School  
 St. Joseph's Indian School  
 St. Jude Children's Research Hospital  
 St. Mary On the Hill Catholic School  
 Endowment Fund  
 St. Mary's Foundation, Inc.  
 Stonehenge Youth Association Inc.  
 St. Pauls Episcopal Church  
 St. Phillips Church  
 Streetwise Georgia  
 St. Thomas Anglican Church  
 Sunshine on a Ranney Day  
 Sweet Olive Farm Animal Rescue Inc.  
 Sweetwater Mission, Inc.  
 Taylor-Grady House National Historic Landmark Inc.

Team Up Mentoring, Inc.  
 TechnoServe  
 The Ark United Ministry  
 The Barack Obama Foundation  
 The Bearcamp Center for Sustainable Community  
 The Boys and Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County  
 The Cancer Foundation  
 The Carter Center, Inc.  
 The Catholic Center at UGA  
 The Children's Advocacy Center of Thomas County, Inc.  
 The Childrens Center for Hope and Healing Inc.  
 The Christian City Inc.  
 The Classic Center Cultural Foundation, Inc.  
 The Clute Barrow Nelson Life Foundation  
 The Colorado Sun  
 The Community Foundation for the Central Savannah River Area, Inc.  
 The Cottage, Sexual Assault Center & Children's Advocacy Center  
 The DL Handy Foundation Inc.  
 The Everyday Good  
 The Georgia Children's Chorus, Inc.  
 The Georgia FFA Foundation Inc.  
 The Georgia Wellness Group, Inc.  
 The Giving Kitchen Initiative, Inc.  
 The Lawrenceville Cooperative Ministry, Inc.  
 The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society  
 The Matthew Reardon Center for Autism  
 The Methodist Home for Children and Youth  
 The Nature Conservancy (National)  
 The New Horizons Foundation  
 The Oconee Rivers Audubon Society Inc.  
 The REcing Crew  
 The Reserve at Lake Keowee Charitable Foundation  
 The Salvation Army of Athens  
 The Sparrow's Nest  
 The Stage Oconee  
 The Summit Counseling Center  
 The Table Athens, Inc.  
 The Tree House Inc.  
 The University of Texas Foundation Inc.  
 The University System of Georgia Foundation  
 The Wilderness Society  
 The Willson Center for Humanities and Arts  
 Thillen Education Foundation Inc.  
 Thrive in Joy Nick Fagnano Foundation  
 Tiger Haven  
 Timothy Baptist Church Inc.  
 TJ and Friends Foundation, Inc.  
 Top Dogg K9 Foundation Inc.  
 Touchdown Club of Athens Inc.  
 Town and Gown Players Inc.  
 Towns County Cooperative Ministries dba Towns County Food Pantry  
 UCBC Cares Foundation  
 U-Lead Athens  
 UNICEF USA  
 Union Mission, Inc.  
 Union of Concerned Scientists, Inc.

United Negro College Fund, Inc.  
 United States Capitol Page Alumni Association Inc.  
 United States Friends Of The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust  
 United Way of Hall County  
 United Way of Northeast Georgia, Inc.  
 Universal Gifted Savings Inc.  
 University of Alabama Law School Foundation  
 University of California Berkeley Foundation  
 University of Colorado Foundation  
 University of Georgia Foundation  
 University of North Carolina  
 University of North Georgia Foundation, Inc.  
 University of Southern California  
 University of Virginia Engineering Foundation  
 University of Virginia Law School Foundation  
 University of Wisconsin Foundation  
 Upstate Forever  
 Urban Recipe  
 Urban Rural Action  
 Victory Train Inc.  
 Vintage Church of Los Angeles  
 Virginia Tech Foundation Inc.  
 Vision Atlanta Inc dba Camp Grace  
 Voice of Hope  
 Walton County Board of Commissioners  
 Washington Little Theater Company  
 Water Tower Institute Inc.  
 Watkinsville First Baptist Church  
 Wayne State University  
 Wellspring Living  
 Wesley Foundation at the University of Georgia Inc.  
 Westminster Presbyterian Church  
 Westminster Presbyterian Church of Santa Fe  
 Whispering Angels Youth Ranch Inc.  
 White County Board of Education  
 White County Family Connection  
 White Memorial Conservation Center Inc  
 Wilkes County Community Partnership Inc  
 William J Brennan Jr. Center for Justice Inc  
 Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University  
 World Central Kitchen, Inc.  
 World Wildlife Fund  
 Wounded Warrior Project  
 Wounded Warriors Family Support  
 Wreaths Across America  
 YMCA of Georgia's Piedmont  
 Yosemite Foundation  
 Young Designers Sewing Program  
 Young Life Foundation  
 Young Womens Christian Organization of Athens Georgia Inc.  
 Youth Middle School  
 Youth Outreach United

# TRUST

in Guiding Local Philanthropy

## Highlight of Agency Funds

Our goal is to help nonprofits effectively raise, use, and preserve the resources they need to fulfill their mission. As a board member, partnering with the Athens Area Community Foundation through an Agency Fund allows you to hand over the time consuming conversations about investments to a trusted community partner who will take the highest level of fiduciary care for your nonprofit's invested assets. Nonprofits gain access to diversity of investments, professional investment management, and pooled funds while keeping agency control and flexibility.

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

- Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation Fund
- Athens Area Diaper Bank Fund
- Athens Area Habitat for Humanity Fund
- Athens Community Council on Aging Fund
- Athens Community Council on Aging-Capital Campaign Fund
- Athens Symphony - Albert F. Ligotti Conductor Scholarship Program
- Athens Symphony Fund
- Athens Tech Foundation Inc. Fund
  - Athens Tech Foundation - ABB Scholarship Fund
  - Athens Tech Foundation - Adult Education Fund
  - Athens Tech Foundation - Alumni Association Fund
  - Athens Tech Foundation - Awah Teh Hospitality and Culinary Scholarship Fund
  - Athens Tech Foundation - B. Frank Coggins Jr. Scholarship Fund
  - Athens Tech Foundation - B. Frank Coggins Jr. Scholarship HS Fund
  - Athens Tech Foundation - Carol L. White Scholarship Fund
  - Athens Tech Foundation - Caterpillar Diesel Technology Scholarship Fund
  - Athens Tech Foundation - CNA Opportunity Grant
  - Athens Tech Foundation - Georgia Egg Association
  - Athens Tech Foundation - Georgia Power Emergency Fund
  - Athens Tech Foundation - Janice Emily Nursing Scholarship Fund
  - Athens Tech Foundation - Jeremy Busby Memorial Scholarship Fund
  - Athens Tech Foundation - Kramer Brown Nursing Scholarship
  - Athens Tech Foundation - Retention Grants Fund
  - Athens Tech Foundation - Rotary Scholarship Fund
  - Athens Tech Foundation - Social Work Assistant Scholarship Fund
  - Athens Tech Foundation - Walton County Healthcare Fund
- Athens-Clarke County Library Foundation Fund
  - Athens-Clarke County Library Foundation Adult Literacy Sub Fund
  - Athens-Clarke County Library Foundation Checking Sub-Fund
  - Athens-Clarke County Library Foundation Early Childhood Literacy Sub Fund
  - Athens-Clarke County Library Foundation Eastside Library Sub Fund
  - Athens-Clarke County Library Foundation Gallery Naming Sub-Fund
  - Athens-Clarke County Library Foundation Heritage Room Sub Fund
  - Athens-Clarke County Library Foundation Pinewoods Library Sub Fund
  - Athens-Clarke County Library Foundation Sensory Room Sub Fund
  - Athens-Clarke County Library Foundation Teen Center Sub Fund

- Athens-Clarke Police Foundation Agency Fund
- Athens-Oconee CASA Inc. Fund
- AthFest Educates
- AthFest Educates Money Market Sub-Fund
- Books for Keeps Fund
- Camp Hooray Fund
- Clarke County Mentor Program Agency Fund
- Clarke County Mentor Program Cultural Fund
- Delta PSI Boule Fund
- DIVAS Who Win Freedom Center, Inc. Agency Fund
- EADC Eddie Daniels Sr. Down Payment Assistance Revolving Loan Fund
- Family Promise of Athens Fund
- Food Bank of Northeast GA Fund
- Friends of Oconee Hill Cemetery Fund
- Friends of the Athens-Clarke County Library
- Friends of the Athens-Clarke County Library Puppetry Fund
- Georgia Children's Chorus Fund
- Georgia Options, Inc. Fund
- Historic Cobbham Foundation Fund
- Historic Oglethorpe County Fund
- Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi-University of Georgia Chapter 32 Fund
- Jackson County Habitat for Humanity
- Laura Conroy Memorial Fund
- Lawrenceville Cooperative Ministry Legacy Fund
- Lydia's Place Fostering Futures Fund
- Madison County Rotary Foundation Endowment Fund
- Madison County Rotary Sub-Fund
- Mr. Jay's Kids Camp Scholarship Fund
- Oconee Cultural Arts Foundation Fund
- Prevent Child Abuse Athens/Brightpaths Fund
- Project Safe Freedom Fund
- Ronnie Lukasiewicz Fund of the Lyndon House Arts Foundation
- Rotary Club of Athens Foundation Fund
- SACSA Foundation Fund
- SACSA Fund
- The Cancer Foundation Fund
- The Cottage, Sexual Assault & Children's Advocacy Center Fund
- United Way 211 Impact Fund
- United Way of Northeast Georgia Fund
- UUFA Endowment



**Athens Area Diaper Bank:** The tiny but mighty team of Athens Area Diaper Bank that strives to eradicate diaper need by providing diapers to low-income families in the Athens area.



**Lawrenceville Co-Op:** For 31 years, the Lawrenceville Cooperative Ministry has served as the emergency food bank for residents of Lawrenceville and Dacula.



**Lydia's Place:** Lydia's Place helps youth in crisis graduate from school, find employment, and move to a home of their own.



**Georgia Children's Chorus:** Georgia Children's Chorus is empowering young voices across Northeast Georgia.

# Board of Directors

## Executive Board



**Myron Downs**  
Chair  
Co-founder, Athens  
Veterinary Surgery  
Center



**Amy BeMent**  
Vice-Chair  
Attorney,  
Huestis Law, LLC



**Alicia Battle**  
Sr. Director  
Mission Partnerships



**Clark Brown**  
Treasurer  
Founder & CEO,  
Hello Wealth



**Sara Schramm**  
Immediate Past Chair  
Partner, Hammers  
Law Firm

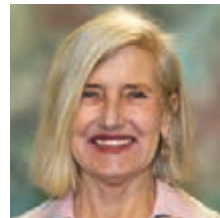
## Board Members



**David Bradley**  
President & CEO,  
Athens Area Chamber  
of Commerce



**Kevin Clark**  
Sales & Leasing  
Professional,  
Athens Ford



**Sally Coenen**  
Community Member



**Dr. Maurice Daniels**  
Retired, Dean of Social  
Work, University of  
Georgia



**Patrick Garrard**  
Attorney



**Kelly Girtz**  
Athens-Clarke County  
Mayor



**Heidi Hensley**  
Board of Education,  
Clarke County  
School District



**Bevan Hopper**  
CPA, WBH Consulting



**Dr. Stacy Jones**  
Vice President for Public  
Safety & Outreach,  
University of Georgia



**Rhodes McLanahan**  
President & CEO,  
First American  
Bank & Trust



**Dr. Teresa McLean**  
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Fundholder, and  
Community Member



**Erin Thompson Podvin**  
Executive Director,  
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**Jody Patton**  
Division CEO, Synovus  
Northeast Georgia



**Kirk Smith**  
President,  
The Adsmith



**Roy Stowe**  
COO, Jackson EMC



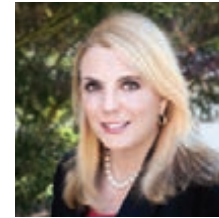
**Laura Welch**  
ACC Court  
Administrator



**Dr. Steve Wrigley**  
Retired Chancellor,  
University of Georgia

## Honoring Board Members

Thank you for your service on the Athens Area Community Foundation Board of Directors



**Jennifer Frum**  
Retired, 2025, Vice President  
for Public Service and Outreach  
at the University of Georgia

## Community Foundation Fellows



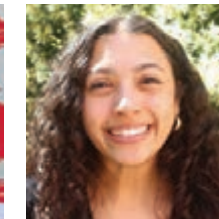
**Grace Johnson**  
Spring 2025



**Brittany Lopez**  
Spring 2025



**Kyleigh Cook**  
Spring 2025



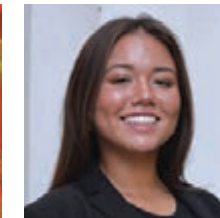
**Taya Babecka**  
Summer 2025



**Lauren Jenkins**  
Summer 2025

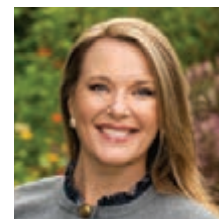


**Anna Kate Robinson**  
Fall 2025



**Kaitlyn Hood**  
Fall 2025

## Foundation Staff



**Sarah McKinney**  
President & CEO



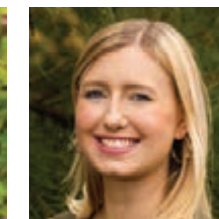
**Stephanie Mann**  
VP, Strategy &  
Operations



**Destin Newfont**  
Donor Services  
Manager



**Nicole Washington**  
Operations Manager



**Chloe Hartley**  
Executive Administrator



# Growing Giving for the Community You Love.



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## Lead. Partner. Guide.

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



**CFNS**  
ACCREDITED  
FOUNDATION



With a focus on investing in our community, **Athens Area Community Foundation** is excited to announce that it has earned the **2026 Platinum Seal of Transparency on GuideStar**, the world's largest source of information on nonprofit organizations.