

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

THE
POWER
OF
CHARACTER



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
OF THE LOWCOUNTRY



OUR MISSION

Strengthening community by connecting people, resources and needs.

OUR VISION

Community Foundation of the Lowcountry is the most respected and able provider of philanthropic direction, management, education and support to the people in the communities we serve.

OUR CORE VALUES

We are dedicated to the following core values: integrity, honesty, respect, fairness, caring, stewardship and responsiveness.



We are proud to be accredited by the National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations accreditation program. This accreditation represents a community foundation's commitment to go above and beyond federal and state law requirements to demonstrate accountability and excellence to communities, policymakers and the public.

THE POWER OF CHARACTER

There is an appropriate saying for the uncertain times we live in: Character is revealed when pressure is applied.

The pressure we have all felt in 2020 has seemed unusually merciless. From the COVID-19 pandemic, to tornadoes in Hampton and Colleton Counties, to social unrest spawned by racial inequity, an increased need for resources challenged us like never before. This is exactly when strength of character is most honestly revealed.

And this is what Community Foundation of the Lowcountry most honestly reflects.

When the coronavirus created extraordinary need, we immediately responded by establishing our Lowcountry Community COVID-19 Response Fund. The community stepped up, and we matched the first \$200,000 raised. Within weeks the fund held over \$500,000, which was distributed to nonprofit organizations in Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper Counties to help those impacted by an unforgiving virus. The need has not diminished, and your financial support is still needed. You can make an online donation to our Lowcountry Community COVID-19 Response Fund at <https://cflowcountry.civicore.com/covid>.

When tornadoes ripped through our area in April, adding an additional layer of anguish for our

neighbors in Hampton and Colleton Counties, with the help of the Community Foundation, those communities responded with grit and grace.

And when the murder of George Floyd unleashed collective activism across our nation, the call for social and racial justice could no longer be ignored.

2020 presented us with unrelenting challenges, but it also showed us that truth of character is demonstrated by one's course of action. Especially during these times of high anxiety, we have been awed and humbled by the commitment and resourcefulness of our neighbors – some that we will tell you about in this annual report.

As you'll see, the report uses muted colors and black and white photos to communicate the solemnity of the topics and to depict the grit and perseverance we harnessed to tackle the challenges we faced.

We can all be proud of the character of our community and the people who live here. Some of our greatest challenges have been met in ways that should make us all proud. 2020 was a remarkable year, revealing that the power of our character has never been greater.

Jackie Rosswurm, PhD
Interim President and CEO

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- OUR IMPACT 4-5
- OUR COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER 6-7
- GOOD FOOD. NO AGENDAS. 8-9
- A CHARACTER-DEFINING MOMENT..... 10-11
- A UNITED FRONT 12-13
- NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS 14
- THE UPSIDE OF DISASTER 15
- LOOKING BACK, LOOKING AHEAD 16-17
- NEW FUNDS 18
- LEGACY SOCIETY 19
- OUR STAND AGAINST INJUSTICE 20
- THE FUTURE 21
- FINANCIALS 22
- ABOUT US 23



IMPACT

\$68,289,847

TOTAL ASSETS

\$6,417,634

TOTAL CONTRIBUTED IN FY2020

335

TOTAL FUNDS IN FY2020

26

NEW FUNDS IN FY2020

6,229

TOTAL GIFTS RECEIVED IN FY2020

4,430

DONORS IN FY2020

2,386

NEW DONORS IN FY2020

\$6,503,952

GRANTS AWARDED IN FY2020

\$81,601,744

GRANTS AWARDED SINCE 1994

\$737,402

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED IN FY2020

\$7,915,644

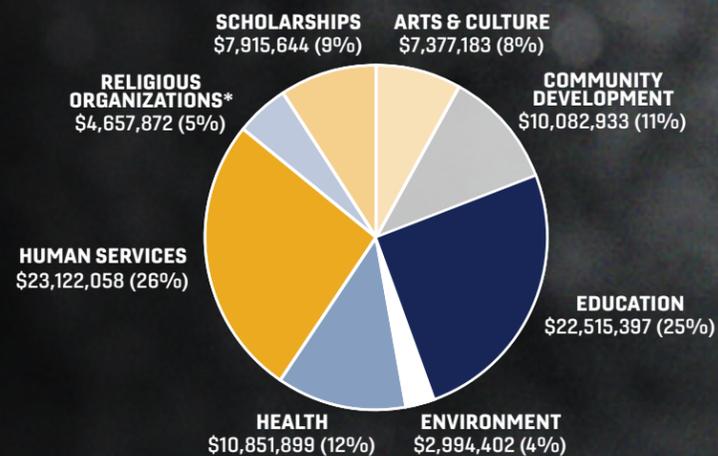
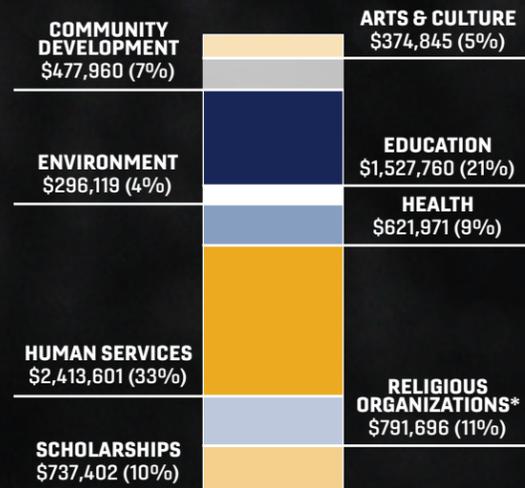
SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED SINCE 1994

\$7,241,354

TOTAL GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS IN FY2020

\$89,517,388

TOTAL GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS SINCE 1994



* FROM INDIVIDUAL DONOR FUNDS ONLY.





OUR COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER

This past March, as we witnessed the rapid spread of COVID-19 across our region, the possibility that extreme and long-term hardship would strike members of our Lowcountry community became more likely. Just as we've always done when our area has been threatened by an emergency, we took action: We established the Lowcountry Community COVID-19 Response Fund.

The fund, created to provide financial support to nonprofit organizations in Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper Counties, directly assisting individuals and families most affected by the pandemic, was up and running by mid-March. We issued a challenge to the community: We'll match the first \$100,000 raised.

Having witnessed the generosity in our community during past disasters, we weren't surprised by the immediate response. Within a week, the fund balance was up to \$200,000. Expecting the needs would extend beyond \$200,000, we issued a second \$100,000 challenge. Once again,

our neighbors and communities responded, and the fund quickly reached \$400,000. In total, our community stepped up with more than \$320,000 in donations, to which we added \$200,000 in matching funds.

We'd like to thank the following Community Foundation funds that made significant donations to our Lowcountry Community COVID-19 Response Fund:

- Coastal States Community Commitment
- Hampton Hall Charitable Fund
- Long Cove Club Community Charitable Fund
- United Way of the Lowcountry Endowment Fund
- Women in Philanthropy

In April we began making grants. Initial grants addressed food and housing insecurity, medical needs and domestic violence. In September we expanded our focus to include education. As of September 17, 2020, we had granted more than \$556,000 to 40 organizations on the frontline of pandemic relief.



Nonprofits Receiving Lowcountry Community COVID-19 Response Fund Grants

Our region's generosity cannot be overstated. Together with us, the following grant recipients thank you:

- Agape Family Life Center (*Beaufort and Jasper Counties*)
- Antioch Education Center (*Jasper County*)
- Bluffton Community Soup Kitchen (*Beaufort and Jasper Counties*)
- Bluffton-Jasper Volunteers in Medicine (*Beaufort and Jasper Counties*)
- Boys & Girls Club of the Lowcountry – Bluffton (*Beaufort County*)
- Boys & Girls Club of the Lowcountry – Hilton Head Island (*Beaufort County*)
- Beaufort-Jasper YMCA of the Lowcountry (*Beaufort and Jasper Counties*)
- Bluffton Self Help (*Beaufort County*)
- CCEDC Two, Inc. (*Colleton Commercial Kitchen*) (*Colleton County*)
- Campbell Chapel Community Development Ministry (*Campbell Chapel A.M.E. Church*) (*Beaufort and Jasper Counties*)
- The Children's Center (*Beaufort County*)
- Christ Lutheran Church (*Beaufort County*)
- Edisto Indian Free Clinic (*Colleton County*)
- First Estill Baptist Church (*Hampton County*)
- Greater Cherry Grove Food Pantry (*Hampton County*)
- Greater Faith International Ministries (*Hampton County*)
- Gullah Geechee Initiative Foundation, Inc. (*Beaufort County*)
- Hampton United Methodist Church (*Hampton County*)
- HELP of Beaufort (*Beaufort County*)
- Healing Waters Mission & Wellness Center (*Jasper County*)
- The Hilton Head Island Deep Well Project (*Beaufort County*)
- Hilton Head Regional Habitat for Humanity (*Beaufort County*)
- Hopeful Horizons (*Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper Counties*)
- Huspah Missionary Baptist Church (*Hampton County*)
- The LEGACY Foundation of SC (*Jasper County*)
- Love Abound CDC (*The Joseph Storehouse*) (*Hampton County*)
- Lowcountry Food Bank (*Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper Counties*)
- Lowcountry Strong Foundation (*Beaufort County*)
- The Margaret F. Curtis Food Pantry (*Colleton, Hampton and Jasper Counties*)
- Marshview Community Organic Farm (*Beaufort County*)
- Meals-on-Wheels, Bluffton-Hilton Head (*Beaufort County*)
- Mental Health America of Beaufort/Jasper (*Beaufort and Jasper Counties*)
- Neighborhood Outreach Connection (*Beaufort County*)
- New Destiny Center (*Jasper County*)
- Programs for Exceptional People (PEP) (*Beaufort County*)
- Real Champions, Inc. (*Jasper County*)
- St. Stephens Outreach Foodbank (*Jasper County*)
- Sandalwood Community Food Pantry (*Beaufort County*)
- Second Helpings (*Beaufort, Hampton and Jasper Counties*)
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul Holy Family Conference (*Beaufort County*)
- Volunteers in Medicine (*Beaufort County*)

The needs created by the pandemic are still great, and we continue to make grants to qualified organizations. Your donations are still needed. If you'd like to donate to our Lowcountry Community COVID-19 Response Fund, go to <https://cflowcountry.civicore.com/covid>.



L-R: Geoff Block, Kim Block, Ryan McCarthy and Leah McCarthy at Downtown Deli and Catering in Bluffton.

GOOD FOOD. NO AGENDAS.

Geoff and Kim Block met Leah and Ryan McCarthy, owners of Downtown Deli, when the Blocks moved to Bluffton and Geoff couldn't get enough of the deli's turkey Reuben sandwich. But as much as Geoff loved the sandwich, he didn't love waiting so long to get a seat in the deli's former location. One day he asked Leah, "Have you ever thought of moving?" Her reply was, "Yes. Every day." Geoff and Kim owned a property on May River Road that they were ready to renovate; they convinced Leah and Ryan to become a tenant.

Their friendship was cemented further when the pandemic hit. During a phone call one Wednesday evening in mid-March, Leah told Geoff she felt compelled to do something to help all the restaurant and hospitality workers who were losing their jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic. When

she suggested starting a 501(c)(3), Geoff told her about their LowCountry Strong Foundation that used Community Foundation of the Lowcountry as their fiscal agent. There was no need to reinvent the wheel, he told her. "We can work together."

"Our initial desire was to simply feed people," Leah says. "And our first thought was to do that through Downtown Deli. Then we thought about all the restaurants that were hurting, too. It needed to be helpful for all the food and beverage people losing jobs, as well as the restaurants trying to stay open."

Within a week of that phone call and with the help of a platoon of restaurant worker volunteers; more than 40 Bluffton, Hilton Head and Beaufort restaurants; some generous donors; and the Community Foundation, Hungry Hearts Restaurant Workers Relief Fund – a special fund within

LowCountry Strong – began serving meals to out-of-work hospitality and food and beverage employees.

The initiative used a voucher system. Booklets that contained seven vouchers (enough for a week's worth of meals) were distributed to individuals who showed proof they were out-of-work hospitality workers, generally in the form of their most recent pay stub. All the individuals had to do was go to one of the participating restaurants, give them a voucher and order whatever they wanted to eat. The restaurant turned in the voucher, along with the receipt, to Hungry Hearts for full reimbursement.

The program served its first meal on March 23 and ran until early June, when the restaurants began reopening. In addition to the 18,500 meals they served during this timeframe (averaging about

3,000 meals a week), an additional 800 traditional holiday meals were distributed to families at Easter.

Kim feels the program gave people a place to go to get a meal while maintaining their dignity. In addition, it helped the restaurants, and it kept the food pantries from being overwhelmed more than they already were with newly unemployed workers.

"The character of our community was evident watching 40-plus restaurants come together to feed the community," Geoff says.

Leah agrees and adds, "The food and beverage industry is highly competitive, but that competitiveness ended when the pandemic began. We all genuinely care about one another. There were no agendas. At the end of the day we helped people."



The Watterson family visits the new Burnt Church Distillery, which was still under construction at the time this story was written, but is slated to open in February 2021. L-R: Brenda, Billy and twins Finley and Avery.

A CHARACTER-DEFINING MOMENT

Everybody loves a classic rags to riches story about the guy who endured a tough childhood but, through hard work, tenacity and maybe a little bit of luck, overcame it all to become tremendously successful.

In this story, Billy Watterson is that guy.

Billy grew up bouncing between his divorced parents' households. He'll readily tell you that one home was abusive and that both households struggled to make ends meet. At 14 ½ Billy got his first job washing dishes in his school cafeteria while his classmates ate lunch. Earning money to help put food on his family's table set him on a course of ever-expanding jobs and, eventually, entrepreneurship. It has culminated in the founding of Watterson Brands, a holding company that boasts a dozen innovative and cutting-edge

businesses, including Bluffton's new Burnt Church Distillery.

Billy's an idea guy. A problem-solver. A high energy creative thinker. He's also a guy who understands what it's like to go hungry. So when the COVID-19 pandemic hit and he saw local people losing jobs and children going hungry – something he had experienced personally – he, along with his wife, Brenda, came up with a plan to help.

Even though he has his own foundation, the Watterson Family Foundation, he enlisted the Community Foundation to help him execute it. "The Community Foundation is well-known in the Lowcountry and lent credibility to the project," Billy says. "Without the Community Foundation, we couldn't have pulled it off."

The plan, called Help4Hope, accomplished three things: It fed families in need; it kept participating restaurants open; and it saved restaurant jobs.

It worked like this: A Help4Hope fund was established at the Community Foundation, where donations were made. Those donations paid for meal cards. These meal cards were distributed to families in need. Families redeemed the cards at participating restaurants. Restaurants returned the cards to Help4Hope and received a payment of \$50 from the fund at the Community Foundation.

The fund total reached more than \$265,000, with the Watterson Family Foundation and Hargray each donating \$50,000. Forty-seven restaurants participated. In all, 3,731 meal cards were redeemed, meaning many local families had food on their table during a time of uncertainty.

Help4Hope had some unexpected influence on Billy's two youngest daughters, twins Avery and Finley. "Working on this project helped me overcome the anxiety that comes with uncertainty," he says. "I didn't have time to be afraid. The girls saw that and wanted to do something, too." Through the Community Foundation's donations page, the girls set up a crowdfunding campaign called Kids4Hope. It raised almost \$6,000.

The pandemic gave Billy time to self reflect. "I saw that people either focused on self-preservation or on helping others," Billy says. "This crisis was a character-defining moment for me."

Community Foundation of the Lowcountry works with donors to fulfill their varied – and personal – philanthropic goals. Let us help you, too. Call us at 843.681.9100.



A UNITED FRONT

A disaster can be a unifying force. A time when we join together to ease the burdens of others. When we look around and ask, "What can I do to help?" When we realize we'll make it through and maybe even end up better and stronger.

The pandemic united us in a fight against an unfamiliar foe. It launched a surge of efforts by individuals and groups who saw their neighbors struggling and sought to alleviate their hardships. Because the Community Foundation has extensive knowledge of our community, the capacity to offer expert guidance and provide administrative support and plays a key role in our community's response during tough times, the community turned to us.

In addition to our Lowcountry Community COVID-19 Response Fund (p. 6), LowCountry Strong's Hungry Hearts Restaurant Workers Relief

Fund (p. 8), and Help4Hope (p. 10), here are some of the ways our community demonstrated unwavering solidarity in the face of a pandemic. Together we established funds or served as a partner in their fundraising efforts.

CROWDFUNDING

Hampton Hall Charitable Fund COVID-19

Support Drive: Hampton Hall Charitable Fund established a crowdfunding campaign for residents and others to make donations that were applied to our Lowcountry Community COVID-19 Response Fund.

Camelot Limousine COVID-19 Relief Fund:

This crowdfunding campaign raised money for the Lowcountry Community COVID-19 Response Fund by

picking up prescriptions, groceries, take-out orders, etc. In lieu of payment, they asked their customers to make a donation to our COVID-19 efforts.

FACES DaySpa: Celebrating their 37th year in business, FACES held a community fundraiser, with proceeds benefiting our Lowcountry Community COVID-19 Response Fund.

NEW FUND

USCB Education Foundation – Student Emergency Fund: USCB established this fund to provide support for their students who found themselves housing and/or food insecure; who did not have access to internet service or transportation; who experienced academic or basic household needs.

VIRTUAL CONCERT

Deas-Guyz Virtual Concert: Local musical legend Reggie Deas and his wildly popular band, Deas-Guyz, recorded a virtual concert to benefit our Lowcountry Community COVID-19 Response Fund. Virtual concertgoers simply made a donation and were then provided a link to watch the concert as many times as they liked during the month of May. The concert was such a success that it was "held over" through mid-June. Thanks to Deas-Guyz, our COVID fund grew by more than \$16,000.





Members of the Hampton County Assistance Fund Task Force include:
 Seated (L-R): Beth Chafin and Audrey Hopkins-Williams • Standing (L-R): William Barnes, Jeanne Seckinger and Gary Youmans
 Not pictured: Sabrena Graham, Wendy Jarrell, Pastor Lydell Mungin and Reverend Tyler Strange



Members of the Colleton County Long Term Recovery Fund Task Force:
 Seated (L-R): Janet Laney and Adrienne Stokes • Standing (L-R): Patrick Thomas, Hank Amundson, Kellye Whitaker, Chris Brinkley and David Greene • Not pictured: Pat Grant and Skip Taft

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

Just around daybreak on April 13, 2020, an EF5 tornado swept a 24-mile path of destruction through Hampton County. It damaged or totally destroyed 84 manufactured homes and 72 houses. It barely missed a school; instead it hit a federal prison, ripping out barbed wire fencing that was found eight miles away. It killed five people and injured dozens more.

In small and rural communities disasters ignite an almost transcendent communal spirit. Immediately after the tornado hit, individuals and businesses got to work clearing debris, cutting trees and cleaning up. It attests to the generous character of the people who call these towns home.

Individuals, groups and churches began raising funds, but the efforts weren't coordinated. "People and businesses were looking for a way to give that was organized, offered tax benefits and that generated confidence that the funds would be distributed properly and fairly," says Hampton County resident Jeanne Seckinger.

A task force was created to research the best way to provide much needed financial assistance to their neighbors. The task force partnered with Community

Foundation of the Lowcountry, which helped them establish the Hampton County Assistance Fund. "Working with the Community Foundation gives us credibility. This is what the Community Foundation does every day," William Barnes, who sits on the task force, says. "Businesses and individuals are confident giving to the fund because they know their donations will be administered professionally, stewarded wisely and distributed fairly."

Though the fund is currently focusing on tornado recovery, it will be there to assist with future disasters, should they arise. That should give peace of mind to a community where many families are still struggling to rebuild. "We're just supporting people who are trying to get their lives back in order," says task force member Audrey Hopkins-Williams. "We're just trying to rebuild."

If you'd like to donate to the Hampton County Assistance Fund, you can make an online donation at <https://cflowcountry.civicore.com/hampton-county-assistance-fund> or send a check to the Community Foundation. Please put Hampton County Assistance Fund in the memo line.

THE UPSIDE OF DISASTER

Before tornadoes ripped through Walterboro on April 13, 2020, there was a neighborhood the city had identified for revitalization. In earlier days it was the hub of the Black community – a vibrant area with a busy community center and park, filled with family homes and tree-lined streets. Now, elderly homeowners, absentee owners and heirs' property issues have left some of the homes empty or neglected.

The tornado hit this neighborhood especially hard, breaking windows, blowing down walls and sending centuries-old trees crashing through roofs. FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) dollars are limited during a natural disaster, and insurance pays only a portion of the funds needed to fully repair a damaged home. The situation created a financial dilemma not only for the owners, but also for a city anxious to renew the area.

Looking for a sustainable, long-term solution, the county turned to the Community Foundation. A long-term recovery fund was established to fill the gap of limited FEMA dollars and insufficient

insurance checks. The Colleton Long Term Recovery Fund will not only help homeowners who, after FEMA and insurance, still need financial help to fix their homes, but can be used to repair and revitalize those homes that have absentee owners or face heirs' property challenges.

The fund is set up to respond to natural disasters throughout Colleton County. The tornado helped identify the first area of focus. Though the tornado resulted in millions of dollars of damage, it has brought a community together. "It was a punch in the gut," says Hank Amundson, assistant city manager. "But then the community came together with a focus to move forward. We are helping each other." And that is an inspiring measure of character.

If you'd like to donate to the Colleton Long Term Recovery Fund, you can make an online donation at <https://cflowcountry.civicore.com/colleton-long-term-recovery-fund>, or you can send a check to the Community Foundation. Please make sure to include the fund name in the memo line.



LOOKING BACK

Although the pandemic, regional tornadoes and social and racial inequity issues dominated much of our work in the second half of our 2020 fiscal year, they did not keep us from accomplishing our other mission-driven objectives. Here are some other projects and initiatives that we undertook throughout the year.

Our **new website** launched in February. We upgraded our site's technology to make your experiences more satisfying and the administration of the site more manageable. We reorganized content to help you find the information you are seeking in a logical and effortless way. And the pages are cleaner and more visually appealing. Our goal was to provide our site visitors with all the information they need in a way that's easy to access, a breeze to navigate and enjoyable to discover. Take a look at cf-lowcountry.org.

Along with a new website came a **new giving platform**. While it's still easy to make an online donation, now each fund also has its own microsite that offers additional information about the fund, such as details about events. Funds can include photos and videos, and donors are able to set up crowdfunding campaigns to help support the fund.

COVID-19 created some interesting challenges when it came to awarding **scholarships** this year, as stay-at-home orders were in place during the interview process. But with the help of Zoom®, committee meetings and applicant interviews were conducted remotely. This year's scholarship class includes 156 deserving students – first-time recipients, returning students and non-traditional students – who will be attending 68 different colleges and universities across the country. More than \$717,600 in scholarships was awarded this year, bringing the total amount awarded in our 25-year history to \$7.8 million. Congratulations to our students. We wish you success in college and beyond!

We conducted a **donor perception survey** in September and October 2019, with the help of the Center for Effective Philanthropy. Surveys were sent to 347 donors, with a 31 percent response. Those surveyed indicated they appreciate the "personal touch," our ability to understand their personal charitable goals, how we help them feel connected to the Lowcountry and our knowledge of the region. We found we have some work to do to improve how we communicate our strategic goals and community impact, which we're addressing in our 2021-2023 strategic plan (see p. 21).



LOOKING AHEAD

On January 2, 2021, **Scott Wierman** will join the Community Foundation as our new president and CEO. Wierman comes to us from The Winston-Salem Foundation, where he started in 1988 as a senior vice president for donor services. In 1997 he became the organization's president. Wierman replaces Jackie Rosswurm, PhD, who has served as interim president and CEO since April 2020. Rosswurm will return to her position on the Community Foundation's board of directors.

In July our board of directors approved a new, **three-year strategic plan**. The plan addresses key elements identified around donor satisfaction and stewardship, development, grantmaking and

community impact, strengthening our nonprofits and nonprofit leadership, social and racial injustice, increasing efficiencies, growing our operating revenue, investment strategies and communication. More details can be found on p. 21 or on our website at cf-lowcountry.org/about/our-strategic-plan.

Systemic racism, though present in our country since its inception, once again came to the forefront of our national conscience earlier this year. To address this, our board approved a **racial and social justice statement** in August. For more details, look on p. 20. You can also find the statement on our website: cf-lowcountry.org.

NEW FUNDS

IN 2020

LEGACY SOCIETY

IN 2020

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS operate like a personal or family foundation, with grant recommendations made by the donor. These funds can be either endowed or non-endowed.

Allen Family Fund: supports the charitable interests of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Allen.

Cornell Family Charitable Fund: supports the charitable interests of the Daniel M. Cornell Family.

Peter and Cary Fleming Charitable Fund: supports the charitable interests of the Peter and Cary Fleming family.

Sally Frank Ayotte Charitable Fund: supports the charitable interests of Ms. Sally Frank Ayotte.

LLF Philanthropy Fund: supports the charitable interests of the donor.

Proud Family Fund: supports the charitable interests of the John and Deborah Proud Family.

George Ruckno, Jr. Memorial Endowment Fund: established in memory of Mr. George Ruckno, Jr. by the Ruckno Family.

DESIGNATED FUNDS support one or more specific organizations.

Eileen Fitzgerald Charitable Fund: supports the charitable interests of Ms. Eileen Fitzgerald.

Maureen Pesce Charitable Fund: established through a generous bequest from the estate of Ms. Maureen Pesce.

Siegelbaum Family Charitable Fund: supports the charitable interests of Mr. and Mrs. Steven Siegelbaum.

Marie and Gerald Smith Charitable Fund: supports the charitable interests of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Smith.

Strub Family Fund 2020: supports the charitable interests of the Strub Family.

University of South Carolina Beaufort Education Foundation Fund: supports the programs of the University of South Carolina Beaufort Education Foundation.

USCB Education Foundation - Student Emergency Support Fund: supports students who are housing/food insecure and may not have internet accessibility, transportation, academic needs, as well as basic household needs during times of an unforeseen crisis or unexpected hardship.

David and Patty Wetmore Charitable Fund: supports the charitable interests of Mr. and Mrs. David Wetmore.

FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS support specifically-defined charitable interests or geographic areas.

Colleton Long Term Recovery Fund: provides resources which assist Colleton County community members adversely impacted during times of economic or emergency hardships, helping to assure an enhanced quality of life for all Colleton County residents. The fund's initial efforts will focus on providing support for immediate and long term programs and services addressing disaster assistance related to the

recent tornado event impacting individuals, families and communities within Colleton County, South Carolina.

Hampton County Assistance Fund: to assist and enrich the lives of Hampton County individuals and families, in partnership with Hampton County community members, to help serve those less fortunate. The fund's initial efforts will focus on providing support for programs and services addressing disaster assistance and/or emergency hardship relief for individuals, families and communities within Hampton County, South Carolina.

Healthy Hilton Head Fund: supports educational programs, projects and services which promote the development and sustainability of transformative, community-wide health and wellness initiatives focused on improved quality of life for Hilton Head Island residents and visitors of all ages.

Help4Hope: supports special projects and programs of the Watterson Family Foundation, a private family foundation dedicated to providing help for those in need today, and through those actions, offering hope for tomorrow. The fund will initially focus on creating programs and opportunities which provide support for individuals and organizations currently facing an extreme level of financial crisis due to the COVID-19 pandemic event.

Hilton Head Island Diversity Fund: supports programs which bring together people of different races and cultures in an effort to promote a more open, harmonious, and inclusive community.

Lowcountry Community COVID-19 Response Fund: established by the Community Foundation of the Lowcountry, this fund provides resources to community-based, frontline nonprofit organizations addressing the COVID-19 pandemic in Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper Counties.

Lowcountry Speakers Series – Our Doors Are Always Open Fund: provides the opportunity for a diverse cross-section of community members of all ages to attend and participate in Lowcountry Speakers Series programs in an inclusive effort to share knowledge and increase intellectual enrichment within our Lowcountry community.

Moss Creek Endowment Fund: supports local charitable organizations and programs in the Lowcountry, helping those with the greatest needs, consistent with the caring spirit of the Moss Creek Community.

Sunset Rotary Club Hilton Head Island Charitable Fund: provides grants and distributions in support of the charitable and community service programs of the Hilton Head Island – Sunset Rotary Club.

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS support deserving students. Donors can determine selection criteria and can serve in an advisory role, recommend an advisory committee or allow the Community Foundation to select students based on the established criteria.

The Island Academy of Hilton Head Scholarship Program Endowment Fund: provides scholarships for qualified students who have expressed a desire to attend The Island Academy of Hilton Head but are financially limited.

The Legacy Society is an organization of benefactors of Community Foundation of the Lowcountry who have made provisions to leave a gift to the Community Foundation in their wills or estate plans. Too often, such gifts go unrecognized because they come at the end of the donors' lives. The Legacy Society provides a way to recognize and thank donors for these thoughtful gifts as their legacies continue after their lives.

Mrs. Opal Abbink
Anonymous
Mr. and Mrs. James J. Allhusen
Mrs. Sarah R. Ahrendt*
Mr. and Mrs. David W. Ames
Mr. W. James Ballantyne, Jr.*
Dr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Black
Mrs. Judith Blake
Mr. and Mrs. David Borghesi
Mrs. Joyce Braude
Mr. and Mrs. William E. Brooks*
Mr. William E. Brown, Jr.*
Mr. Paul Capron and
Ms. Joan Deery
Ms. Shirley Caputo*
Mrs. Barbara Carmody
Mr. Lynn S. Castner and
Ms. Deonne Parker
Mr. and Mrs. Russell Condit*
Mr. and Mrs. David Crespan
Mr. and Mrs. William L. Dix
Mrs. Margaret Downward*
Mrs. Marion M. Dutcher*
Mr. and Mrs. John Eagan*
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Edwards
Mr. and Mrs. James L. Elder
Ms. Dorothy M. Falconer*
Mrs. Juliann Bluit Foster*
Mr. and Mrs. Richard R. Gerken*
Mr. and Mrs. John A. Gilbert
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Mr. and Mrs. Merle J. Graham*
Mr. and Mrs. Theodore M. Gregg Jr.
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Mr. and Mrs. Larry D. Heichel
Mr. Curtiss S. Hitchcock*
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur F. Hoffmann, Jr.
Mrs. Dianne K. Hopstetter
Mr. and Mrs. David T. Houston*
Mr.* and Mrs. Lawrence Hughes
Mr. and Mrs. Howard E. Izer
Ms. Ramona Fantini Jacobs
Mr. G. David Jones
Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel B. P. Jones
Mrs. Ruth Kiefer*
Ms. Virginia L. Kozak
Mr. Robert E. Krommes
Mr. and Mrs. James L. Krum*
Ms. Cynthia Lowe and
Mr. Glenn Sutherland
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Lundy*
Mr. Matthew M. Malock and
Mr. William J. Whittaker, III
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Marks
Mr.* and Mrs. Robert S. Matchett
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Ms. Mary E. Noonan
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Ms. Katherine Provick
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Mr. Gerald W. Richards
Mr. and Mrs. George Rowan*
Ms. Carolyn Shamlin
Mr. and Mrs. George M. Simson*
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Spaulding
Ms. Denise K. Spencer
Ms. Nancy Sypniewski
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Tandy*
Mr. and Mrs. Jules S. Tarlow*
Mr. and Mrs. John D. Taylor*
Mr. Daniel A. Tweel
Ms. Lynn Underwood
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Mrs. Euline H. Van Vactor*
Mr. and Mrs. Bernard
von Hoffmann*
Mr. and Mrs. Philip R. Warth
Ms. Linda Watson
Mr. and Mrs. Wade J. Webster
Mr. and Mrs. Peter E. Wile*
Drs. Barry and Barbara Wright
Ms. Katherine Zalusky

*Deceased

A COMMITMENT TO THOUGHT AND ACTION: OUR STAND AGAINST RACIAL AND SOCIAL INJUSTICE

OUR PLAN FOR THE FUTURE IN 2020

The issue of racial and social injustice has commanded intense national attention. That spotlight has unearthed significant inequities across the entire nation, including the Lowcountry. Many of us have realized that we must conduct an honest assessment of our role in both perpetuating and confronting ongoing inequities.

Throughout our history, the Community Foundation has addressed issues that disproportionately affect people of color. We have supported untold efforts of local nonprofits working toward the betterment of people's lives. We undertook the Project SAFE initiative to help families on Hilton Head Island's north end, primarily Native Islanders, connect to public sewer.

But we need to do more.

To start, we have conducted diversity training for our staff and our board. We now require all nonprofit organizations applying for grants to develop a social/racial justice statement and demonstrate how they will implement it. Moving forward we, too, will be focusing on how we can ensure we are proactively standing tall against these injustices.

As part of our commitment to addressing longstanding injustices, we have adopted the following statement.

A Commitment to Thought and Action: Our Stand Against Racial and Social Injustice

At Community Foundation of the Lowcountry (CFL), one of our key goals is to build and strengthen the place we call home by working together with all others in our community to address critical issues facing our region.

Today one of those critical issues is systemic racism, across the United States, which is deeply rooted in our nation's history.

- CFL categorically denounces all forms of discrimination, bias and racial profiling, which, at their extreme, leads to senseless violence and death.
- We stand with the multitudes of peaceful demonstrators who are coming together to demand social and racial justice.
- CFL is committed to providing actionable solutions and a safe forum for constructive dialogue in addressing these complex injustices.

Furthermore...

CFL celebrates the rich diversity of our region. Equity and inclusion are at the forefront of our work.

- We demonstrate this by authentic and tangible outreach to our marginalized neighbors, in order to improve the quality of life for all who call the Lowcountry home.
- We welcome collaboration with individuals and organizations who are also striving for a more just and equal society here at home, and across our country.

Working together, we can and will make a positive impact now...and for generations to come.

In adopting this statement we have committed to providing actionable solutions to these complex injustices. While our commitment is strong and deliberate, our work has just begun.

Please join us as we commit to working together to make a positive and powerful impact for today and far beyond tomorrow.

At their July 2020 meeting, our board of directors approved a strategic plan that will move our organization forward through fiscal year 2023.

Each key element of the plan influences the others, with all working together to create a synergy that advances our work and deepens our impact.

Through our plan, over the next three years, we will:

Create a culture of philanthropy.

Work toward developing a culture where our staff and our board embrace philanthropy, fund development and donor stewardship. We'll implement or expand current programs to connect donors, community leaders and professional advisors with our mission, while we build relationships, share our impact and knowledge with the community and increase collective giving opportunities. We'll implement a "donor centric" approach and focus on building long-term relationships with our donors.

Focus on impact...

Redefine our grantmaking to better demonstrate impact and build capacity within our communities and our nonprofit organizations, transitioning from general grantmaking to identified impact grantmaking.

...and capacity building.

Convene leadership and comprehensive training programs to expand nonprofit leaders' knowledge and performance. Nonprofits with effective leadership and robust structural capacity are more effective at addressing local challenges.

Support our communities that face the challenges of social and racial injustice.

Work with organizations that are focused on addressing inequity and addressing societal challenges, including racism.

Increase operating stability.

Promote growth in operating revenue and improved efficiencies, while utilizing technology to address the ever-changing landscape and provide complete transparency to our stakeholders.

Deliver strong investment results and oversight.

Work to utilize a diverse mix of investment categories designed to outperform widely varying markets.

Share our story.

Keep our region informed of our mission, our initiatives and our impact to increase community engagement and move us forward in fulfilling our mission. Share our story via multiple media channels with our donors, local nonprofits, professional advisors, volunteers and other community stakeholders.

If you would like more details, the full strategic plan can be found on our website at cf-lowcountry.org/about/our-strategic-plan.



COMBINED FINANCIALS

IN 2020

ASSETS	2020	2019
Cash and cash equivalents	3,465,628	3,147,106
Pledges receivable, net	177,530	256,821
Assets held - charitable remainder trusts	2,084,283	2,154,299
Investments	61,114,294	63,159,201
Capital Counsel Investments	1,203,453	1,527,330
Property and equipment, net	326,819	367,037
Other assets	5,289	7,135
Total Assets	68,377,296	70,618,929

LIABILITIES	2020	2019
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	242,588	83,349
Grants payable	810,049	1,073,112
Annuities payable	1,438,492	1,578,939
Funds held for others - agency funds	2,847,890	3,753,441
Total Liabilities	5,339,019	6,488,841

NET ASSETS	2020	2019
Unrestricted	63,038,277	64,130,088
Temporarily restricted	0	0
Permanently restricted	0	0
Total Net Assets	63,038,277	64,130,088

Total Liabilities and Net Assets	68,377,296	70,618,929
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NET INCOME-UNRESTRICTED	2020	2019
Contributions received	6,609,496	6,421,183
Net realized gains/losses	(485,074)	(745,706)
Net unrealized gains/losses	2,082,454	1,794,788
Investment income	1,406,489	2,001,649
Rental income	16,100	16,095
Other	792,974	812,878
Total Revenues	10,476,439	10,300,887

EXPENSES AND SUPPORT	2020	2019
Grants paid	7,310,626	7,170,132
Program expenses	929,353	598,100
Salaries and benefits	1,018,835	1,028,240
Professional and administrative fees	1,033,259	1,107,793
Supplies and other	151,472	225,154
Fundraising*	93,314	162,205
Changes in value of split interest agreements	82,915	87,812
Changes in funds held for others	903,951	(33,306)
Depreciation	44,889	41,600
Total Expenses	11,568,250	10,387,730

Increase (decrease) in net assets	(1,091,811)	(86,843)
Net assets beginning of year	64,130,088	64,216,931
Net assets end of year	63,038,277	64,130,088

LEADERSHIP

IN 2020



2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Allhusen, *Chair*
 Jeri Farren, *Vice Chair 1*
 Allen Ward, *Vice Chair 2*
 David Wetmore, *Treasurer*
 Sandy Benson
 Geoff Block
 Cheryl Comes
 Yvonne Curl
 Arno Dimmling
 Linda Fiore

Doug Fletcher
 John Levy
 Sheila Mahony
 Michael Marks
 Paul Moeri
 Al Panu
 Shirley "Peaches" Peterson
 David Rosenblum
 Jackie Rosswurm*

2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Allhusen, *Chair*
 Allen Ward, *Vice Chair*
 David Wetmore, *Treasurer*
 Sandy Benson
 Geoff Block
 Yvonne Curl
 Arno Dimmling
 Linda Fiore
 Doug Fletcher

John Levy
 Sheila Mahony
 Michael Marks
 Paul Moeri
 Al Panu
 Shirley "Peaches" Peterson
 David Rosenblum
 Jackie Rosswurm*
 Michelle Wycoff

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF THE LOWCOUNTRY STAFF

Jackie Rosswurm, *Interim President and CEO*
 Debbie Cahoon, *Vice President for Community Investment*
 Nicki Charles, *Vice President for Finance and Administration*
 Jill Dawson, *Program Associate*
 Jean Heyduck, *Vice President for Marketing and Communications*
 Julie Jones, *Donor Services Associate*

Daryle Mitchell, *Finance Associate*
 Jennifer Phillips, *Communications Specialist*
 Emmy Rooney, *Vice President for Development and Donor Services*
 Diane Shott, *Administrative Assistant*
 Leslie Vargas-Prada, *Donor Services Associate*
 Mary Wright, *Program Associate*

CONSULTANTS

Legal Counsel
 Benjamin T. White, *Partner, Alston & Bird*
 Independent Auditors
 Lucas and Associates
 Investment Consulting Firm
 Fund Evaluation Group

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Annual Report Design
 World Design Marketing
 Writer/Editor
 Jean Heyduck, *Vice President for Marketing and Communications*
 Photographer
 Arno Dimmling (pp. 3, 8, 10, 14, 15)

* Jackie Rosswurm temporarily resigned her board position while serving as interim president and CEO. She will return to the board on January 1, 2021, when Scott Wierman assumes the president and CEO position.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
OF THE LOWCOUNTRY

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