Women In Philanthropy is a dedicated group of local women with the vision of making a difference in the Lowcountry through the power of collective giving.

Each year, the Women in Philanthropy advisory board, with member input, approves one grantmaking theme meant to strengthen Lowcountry families and individuals in the areas of health, human services, community development, education, the environment, arts and culture. The grants awarded by Women in Philanthropy provide funding to nonprofit organizations serving all of Beaufort County.

Since 2006, Women in Philanthropy has awarded $921,383 in grants to local nonprofits.

2016 Grant Theme: Providing Safe Shelter for Our Citizens: Crisis, Temporary and Permanent - $83,000
- Habitat for Humanity: $50,000
- Bluffton Self Help: $10,000
- Deep Well Project: $10,000
- Family Promise: $10,000
- Women of Faith and Power Ministries: $3,000

2015 Grant Theme: Protecting Our Lowcountry Environment - $60,000
- Port Royal Sound Foundation: $16,000
- The Outside Foundation: $10,500
- Experience Green: $10,000
- Coastal Discovery Museum: $8,000
- The Nature Conservancy, SC Chapter: $8,000
- The Friends of Beaufort County Library: $7,500

2014 Grant Theme: Curtailing Violence in Our Community - $34,958
- Abuse Prevention Coalition: $14,500
- Citizen’s Opposed to Domestic Abuse: $6,550
- National Alliance on Mental Illness: $6,000
- Neighborhood Outreach Connection: $5,000
- The Sandbox Children’s Museum: $2,908

2013 Grant Theme: Advancing Women Through Knowledge - $25,000
- Hope Haven of the Lowcountry: $11,500
- Bluffton Self Help: $6,000
- Friends of Caroline Hospice: $5,000
- Beaufort County First Steps: $2,500

2012 Grant Theme: Literacy: Fostering Creativity Through Visual, Performing and Literary Arts - $21,000
- Coastal Discovery Museum: $1,572
- Arts Center of Coastal Carolina: $3,500
- Friends of Beaufort County Library: $2,890
- The Sandbox Children’s Museum: $2,523
- Beaufort County First Steps: $2,000
- Coastal Discovery Museum: $1,572
- Memory Matters: $1,265
- Art Works: $1,250
- Thumbs Up: $1,000
- ABLE Foundation: $4,000

2011 Grant Theme: Literacy: The Need to Read - $18,000
- Literacy Volunteers of the Lowcountry (The Literacy Center): $11,743
- YMCA of Beaufort County: $5,000
- The Children’s Center: $1,257

2010 Grant Theme: Helping the Hungry - $17,000
- Bluffton Self Help: $5,000
- HELP of Beaufort: $3,000
- St. Vincent de Paul Outreach: $4,000
- The Children’s Center: $1,875
- Deep Well Project: $3,125

2009 Grant Theme: Enabling the Disabled - $14,000
- ABLE Foundation: $4,545
- The Little Red Dog Foundation: $3,000
- The Arts Center of Coastal Carolina: $3,500
- The Lowcountry Autism Foundation: $2,955

2008 Grant Theme: Family Mental Health - $12,000
- Mental Health America: $4,000
- Hope Haven: $3,000
- Programs for Exceptional People: $3,000
- Alzheimer’s Respite and Resource (Memory Matters): $2,000

2007 Grant Theme: Children in Need - $8,000
- Hope Haven: $2,500
- The Children’s Center: $2,000
- A Community Caring for Children: $2,000
- Bluffton Self Help: $1,500

2006 Grant Theme: Education - $6,000
- Thumbs Up: $4,500
- Brain Gain: $1,500

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2023 Grant Theme: Strengthening Mental Health Services for Children and Young Adults Through Age 21 - $124,375
- Child Abuse Prevention Association (CAPA): $22,500 to fund a Resident Mental Health program at the Open Arms Children’s Home in Port Royal. The Open Arms Children Home is the only youth group home located in the South Carolina 14th Judicial Circuit (Beaufort, Jasper, Allendale, Hampton, and Colleton Counties). CAPA was the recipient of the Dr. Juliann Bluitt Foster Grant.
- Beaufort County School District (BCSD): $25,000 to fund a Youth Mental Health First Aid Program, an evidence-based training program administered by the National Council for Mental Wellbeing. BCSD has identified 11 staff members who will receive training to become trainers of BCSD staff in this curriculum.
- Beaufort Memorial Hospital Foundation: $23,275 as part of a large project to install a Mental Health Evaluation and Assessment Unit in the hospital’s Emergency Department. Beaufort Memorial Hospital is the only hospital in Beaufort County with an inpatient psychiatric unit.
- Bluffton Jasper County Volunteers in Medicine (VIM): $15,900 to undertake a pilot project to offer patients the opportunity to be screened for depression and anxiety, as well as having their children screened for possible mental health issues.
- Lowcountry Autism Foundation: $25,200 to help low-income families access diagnostic testing for their children who are suspected of having Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Diagnosis is necessary for such children to obtain essential services in school as well as benefits for which they are eligible.
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Lowcountry: $12,500 will provide partial funding to hire a part-time Outreach Coordinator, a position charged with developing contacts and relationships with Beaufort County schools, faith communities, and organizations to offer NAMI programs and services.
2021 Grant Theme: Provide a New Major Impact Program for Assisting in Recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic in Three Areas: Medical and Mental Health Issues, Education Issues and Employment Issues - $85,000

- Antioch Education Center (Employment): $30,000 for a “Getting to Work” program to provide express bus service at a reduced rate between Jasper and Beaufort County.
- Foundation for Educational Excellence (Education): $25,000 for a program to identify 60 third- to fifth-grade students who are three grade levels behind - for the purpose of providing high-quality reading instruction at two Beaufort County low-income schools (Joseph S. Shanklin Elementary and Robert Smalls International Academy).
- Volunteers in Medicine (Medical and Mental Health): $30,000 for a program to expedite vaccination of the at-risk Hilton Head Island low-income population.

2020 Grant Theme: Providing Enrichment and Readiness for At-Risk Youth - $82,800

- ABLE Foundation: $5,000 for the Beaufort County Bright Beginnings program.
- Arts Center of Coastal Carolina: $9,000 for a performing arts program for at-risk pre-K children in Beaufort County schools.
- Born to Read: $6,000 for the Books for Babies program
- Boys & Girls Club of Bluffton: $15,000 for the Explorers: Learning for Life program
- Boys & Girls Club of the Lowcountry (HHI): $3,000 for the Creative Movements program
- Child Abuse Prevention Association (CAPA): $10,000 for equipping families with at-risk children
- Children’s Cancer Partners of the Carolinas: $12,000 for funding the Beaufort County Childhood Cancer Safety Net program.
- Hilton Head Recreation Association: $12,000 for therapeutic recreation.
- Second Helpings: $1,800 to help fund the K-12 Food Rescue Program.
- Women of Faith and Power Ministries: $5,000 for innovative health program for female developmentally-challenged adults, caregivers and the local healthcare industry.
- Good Neighbor Free Medical Clinic: $6,000 for paying specialists additional co-payments for low-income patients who needed specialized medical services.
- Women of Faith and Power Ministries: $5,000 for emergency hygienic assistance to women who were in crisis.
- Bluffton/Jasper County VIM: $3,500 for a five-prong approach targeted toward women to treat diabetes, hypertension and obesity.
- Neighborhood Outreach Connection: $2,000 for free health screenings for low-income women.
- YMCA of Beaufort: $2,000 for new fitness equipment for existing women’s programs including, Mommy and Me and Get Started - Stay Active.

2019 Grant Theme: Preserving Our Lowcountry Heritage and History - $76,200

- ABLE Foundation: $4,000 for an educational program designed to teach individuals with developmental disabilities about Gullah culture.
- Coastal Discovery Museum: $9,000 for a sweetheart garden at the museum, basket history and heritage classes in Beaufort and Jasper County schools, and adult basketmaking classes.
- Foundation for Educational Excellence: $9,000 for Whale Branch Middle School Archaeology Club to unearth and curate artifacts from their school’s historic grounds and create a traveling exhibition.
- Boys and Girls Clubs of the Lowcountry: $9,900 for a West African Drumming & Dance Group to honor Gullah/ Geechee heritage.
- Heritage Library Foundation: $10,000 for upgrading and updating technology capacity, and for providing improved access to all library visitors.
- Penn Center: $10,000 for replacing flooring in the York W. Bailey Museum.
- Arts Center of Coastal Carolina: $11,300 for a performing arts program into eight Beaufort County elementary schools, offering a teacher professional development workshop and supporting “A Taste of Gullah” community outreach festival.
- Mitchelville Preservation Project: $13,000 for determining the presence and condition of historic Mitchelvillebuildings, yards, roads, wells and material remains of daily life through public archaeology.

2018 Grant Theme: Addressing Women’s Health, Wellness and Justice - $72,000

- Hilton Head Volunteers in Medicine: $10,000 + $10,000 gift in memory of Dr. Jack McConnel for 100 screening mammograms for medically underserved women.
- Pregnancy Center and Clinic of the Lowcountry: $15,500 for much-needed maintenance and refurbishment of the center’s mobile unit.
- Hopeful Horizons: $10,000 for three digital camera kits that hospitals use to collect evidence for abuse investigations and prosecution.
- OSPREY Village: $8,000 for innovative health program for female developmentally-challenged adults, caregivers and the local healthcare industry.
- Good Neighbor Free Medical Clinic: $6,000 for paying specialists additional co-payments for low-income patients who needed specialized medical services.
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2017 Grant Theme: Strengthening Options for the Elderly - $71,000

- Meals on Wheels for Bluffton/Hilton Head: $15,700 for the delivery of healthy meals to the homes of senior citizens in need.
- Memory Matters: $15,000 in a special unrestricted grant made in honor of Women in Philanthropy’s 15th anniversary.
- HELP of Beaufort: $10,800 for mobile meals to 100+ senior citizens in northern Beaufort County.
- Lowcountry Legal Volunteers: $9,000 for legal advice for older adults.
- YMCA of Beaufort County: $8,500 for 75 senior citizens to join the YMCA Senior Shape Up program.
- Sandalwood Community Food Pantry: $7,000 for purchasing special tote bags filled with toiletries, necessities and healthy foods recommended for seniors.
- Second Helpings: $5,000 for providing fresh produce to senior sites in Beaufort County.
2022 Grant Theme: Continuing Efforts in Pandemic Recovery to Address Issues of Family Stability - $111,050

- Hopeful Horizons: $19,725 from the Dr. Juliann Blutl Foster Memorial Fund to fund their project for “Family Stability through Transitional Housing Program.”
- Bluffton Self Help: $16,325 to fund their “Emergency Financial Assistance Program” that supports residents still affected by COVID-19 who are unable to pay rent or purchase food due to illness or spouse’s death.
- Good Neighbor Free Medical Clinic: $25,000 to fund their “Primary Family Care” project providing primary medical care to clients in need.
- Lowcountry Legal Volunteers: $25,000 to fund their “Housing Protection Program,” which provides legal aid to prevent homelessness of local families due to evictions.
- The Children’s Center: $25,000 to fund their project “Infant Care is NOT Everywhere,” which will be used to sustain current staff salaries and to provide food and maintenance costs for their Infant Program.

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