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 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 $518,200 in grants to local nonprofit organizations.

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

ABLE Foundation: $4,000
This grant will fund an educational program designed to teach individuals with developmental disabilities about Gullah culture through educational programs, theater and musical performances and other cultural events.

Coastal Discovery Museum: $9,000
These funds will help preserve the tradition of Gullah sweetgrass basket-making by planting a sweetgrass garden at the museum, teaching basket history and heritage in Beaufort and Jasper County schools and offering adult classes to train future basket makers.

Foundation for Educational Excellence: $9,000
The grant will assist Whale Branch Middle School students unearth and curate artifacts from their school’s historic grounds and create a traveling exhibition featuring their discoveries.

Boys and Girls Clubs of the Lowcountry: $9,900
The grant will fund a West African Drumming & Dance Group to honor Gullah/Geechee heritage.

Heritage Library Foundation: $10,000
The Heritage Library Foundation will use these funds to upgrade and update its technology capacity and provide improved access to all library visitors.

Penn Center: $10,000
Funds will be used to replace flooring in the York W. Bailey Museum; design a “Herstory” scavenger hunt; and host the 2nd annual Charlotte Forten Day and 37th Annual Heritage Days.

Arts Center of Coastal Carolina: $11,300
The funds will be used to introduce a Gullah history and sweetgrass baskets arts education program into eight Beaufort County elementary schools, offer a teacher professional development workshop and support “A Taste of Gullah,” a free community outreach festival.

Mitchelville Preservation Project: $13,000
These funds will help to determine the presence and condition of historic Mitchelville buildings, yards, roads, wells and material remains of daily life through public archaeology. The research will be used to aid in the interpretation and appreciation of Mitchelville while also creating materials for use in area classrooms.

For more information and/or to join Women in Philanthropy, please contact Julia Moore at Community Foundation of the Lowcountry: jmoore@cf-lowcountry.org or call 843.681.9100

Women in Philanthropy is a fund of Community Foundation of the Lowcountry.

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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 McConnell
These funds paid for 100 screening mammograms for medically underserved women.

Pregnancy Center and Clinic of the Lowcountry: $15,500
This grant was used to fund much-needed maintenance and refurbishment of the center’s mobile unit.

Hopeful Horizons: $10,000
Funding covered the cost of three digital camera kits that hospitals use to collect evidence for abuse investigations and prosecution.

OSPREY Village: $8,000
This grant funded an innovative health program for female developmentally-challenged adults, caregivers and the local healthcare industry.

Good Neighbor Free Medical Clinic: $6,000
The grant was used to pay specialists additional co-payments for low income patients who needed specialized medical services.

Women of Faith and Power Ministries: $5,000
These funds provided emergency hygienic assistance to women who were in crisis.

Bluffton/Jasper County VIM: $3,500
The grant helped fund VIM’s STAR At-Home Complement — a five-prong approach targeted toward women to treat diabetes, hypertension and obesity.

Neighborhood Outreach Connection: $2,000
The grant provided free health screenings for low-income women.

YMCA of Beaufort: $2,000
The funds were used to purchase new fitness equipment for existing YMCA women’s programs including Mommy and Me and Get Started - Stay Active.

2017 Grant Theme:
Strengthening Options for the Elderly — $71,000

Meals on Wheels for Bluffton/Hilton Head: $15,700
The grant aided in the delivery of healthy meals to the homes of senior citizens in need.

Memory Matters: $15,000
This special $15,000 unrestricted grant was made in honor of Women in Philanthropy’s 15th anniversary.

HELP of Beaufort for Mobile Meals: $10,800
These funds provided mobile meals to 100+ senior citizens in northern Beaufort County.

Lowcountry Legal Volunteers for Senior Legal Assistance: $9,000
Funding helped older adults with proper legal advice including Power of Attorney for Health, general Power of Attorney, estate planning, simple wills and simple probate.

YMCA of Beaufort County for Senior Shape Up: $8,500
The grant enabled 75 senior citizens to join the YMCA Senior Shape Up program, which provides positive health, nutritional wellness and safe exercise to develop strength and balance in seniors.

Sandalwood Community Food Pantry for “Totes of Love” for Seniors: $7,000
The grant was used to purchase special tote bags filled with toiletries, necessities and healthy foods recommended for seniors to supplement dietary needs and to help prevent diseases like osteoporosis and diabetes.

Second Helpings for Healthy Food Initiative: $5,000
The grant helped provide fresh produce to senior sites in Beaufort and Bluffton.

2016 Grant Theme:
Provide Safe Shelter for our Citizens: Crisis, Temporary and Permanent — $83,000

Habitat for Humanity: $50,000
The largest grant in Women in Philanthropy’s history was used to construct a “Women Build” Habitat home in The Glen section on Hilton Head Island.

Bluffton Self Help: $10,000
The grant provided emergency financial assistance to the elderly and disabled to help pay rent and mortgages as well as utility bill assistance during months of weather extremes.

Deep Well Project: $10,000
The funds kept families in a safe, healthy environment by providing materials and labor so they could remain in their homes.

Family Promise: $10,000
Grant funded “Leap Forward/ Staying on Track” program, which was committed to finding local housing solutions by networking with landlords to attain more affordable housing units.

Women of Faith and Power Ministries: $3,000
The funds assisted individuals in emergency homeless situations with overnight accommodations. It also assisted with limited housing expenses if a family was on the verge of becoming homeless.

2015 Grant Theme:
Protecting our Lowcountry Environment — $60,000

Port Royal Sound Foundation: $16,000
The grant assisted with the youth programming at the Maritime Center by creating educational and marketing materials, supplies and takeaways plus more youth-friendly exhibits.

The Outside Foundation: $10,500
Funding helped pay for a sustainable garden, observation beehive and interpretive panels for two gardens.

The Nature Conservancy, SC Chapter: $8,000
The grant was used to treat Phragmites australis, a type of grass that can destroy wetlands if not treated.

The Friends of Beaufort, SC Library: $7,500
Funds were used for an Environmental Literacy Lab Project at the Beaufort Branch of the Beaufort County Library.

2014 Grant Theme:
Curtailing Violence in our Community — $34,958

Abuse Prevention Coalition: $14,500
The grant was used for a media campaign, Men Can Stop Rape “Where Do You Stand!”

Citizen’s Opposed to Domestic Abuse (CODA): $6,950
The grant supported a part-time children’s advocate who worked in tandem with CODA’s children’s counselor and their community educator.

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI): $6,000
The grant was for the “Parents and Teachers as Allies” program to help create an awareness of early warning signs for mental illness, and to help identify children at risk.

Sandalwood Community Food Pantry for “Totes of Love” for Seniors: $7,000
The grant was awarded for a neighborhood watch program that fostered community solidarity and involvement to promote a safe environment free of crime in the Oaks neighborhood.

The Sandbox Children’s Museum: $2,908
The Sandbox used this grant for a bully prevention program titled “Be a Buddy, not a Bully” for kindergarten-aged children.