Restorative Garden with Community Dog Run

1. Moon gate entrances
2. CFNEA bench/journal/signage
3. Cyprus trees along borders
4. Retaining wall/native flowers/seating/green space
5. Open green/yoga space with native flowers and plants/dry creek bed
Mission Statement

We aspire to be recognized as Northeast Alabama’s trusted philanthropic leader that champions thriving communities and improves lives through collaborative partnerships.

Our Values

- Donor Intent
- Community Trust
- Accountability
- Transparency
- Collaboration
- Inclusiveness
- Integrity
- Excellence

Our Region

Mission Statement

Our mission is to achieve positive change through the generosity of donors, now and for generations to come.
Farley Moody Galbraith Fund

Mentone Educational Resources Foundation (MERF) offered students at Moon Lake Elementary School the opportunity to experience two professional performances. Being in a rural, underserved area at a Title I school, this was a rare opportunity for the students. Even the bus ride to a big city was a thrill and new experience. Paula Easter, MERF’s Arts Education teacher, prepared them with expectation and proper etiquette so the students fully experienced “The Wizard of Oz” at the Atlanta Alliance Theatre and the Young People’s Concert by the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra. They were impressed by the costumes, set design, and the precision and sounds of the instruments. Learn more at www.merfhouse.org.

The Farley Moody Galbraith Fund provides unrestricted grants to not-for-profit organizations that serve needy children, disadvantaged youth, and the arts throughout our region.

Harland Jones Charitable Fund

One World Adventure works to create a greater student connection, increase extracurricular participation, minimize discipline issues and improve academic performance through their specialty program, Link Crew. The year-long program is in partnership with Ft. Payne High School and is designed for freshman students. Students are paired with junior and senior Link Crew Leaders who act as positive role models and motivators. Learn more at www.oneworldadventure.org.

The Harland Jones Charitable Fund awards grants to not-for-profit organizations which support literacy, education, safety, and the development (moral and physical) of children up to age nineteen (19).

Stringfellow Health Fund

Georgia-Alabama Land Trust provides children a great opportunity to experience Forest & Field: Adventures in Nature, Art, & Wellness Program. The goal of this program is to increase knowledge of the natural world and show how diversity is healthy for communities, both human and wild. The program encourages connections between participants and their natural environment by teaching observation skills on multiple levels. Learn more at www.georgiaalabamalandtrust.org.
Grant Spotlights

Where Gourmet Vegetarian Cuisine Meets Learning

Nestled just inside the Gadsden Public Library is the Beautiful Rainbow Café. An unexpected find inside a public library but one that takes the ideas of learning to new heights. Through a partnership, collaboration and desire to invest in the success of Gadsden High School students, Chip Rowan, a special education teacher/gourmet chef/lawyer, created the Beautiful Rainbow Café.

In 2013, Chip began teaching his students math, reading, and science by growing food in a school garden and teaching them how to cook. After researching the outcomes of special needs students after they left the Gadsden School System with their certificate of attendance, Chip learned that for the prior five years NO student was gainfully employed after high school. This led him to expand the program.

When the Gadsden Public Library Café closed, Chip was invited to move in with his students and create Beautiful Rainbow Café. The Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama, along with the City of Gadsden, Gadsden Rotary Club, and the Gadsden Public Library Foundation funded renovation efforts.

Students greet customers on arrival, take their order and process the payment. Once seated, guests enjoy watching the students interact with each other while they prepare your order in an open kitchen. They are professional, thorough and polite. All of the students have earned their Serve-Safe Certification.

A second Stringfellow Health Fund grant from the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama pays salaries to students to work in the Café as part of co-op and after-school programs. Several students have been hired by local restaurants in Etowah County including Back Forty Beer, Top O’ the River, Harp and Clover, Holiday Inn Express, Mater’s Pizza Emporium, and Blackstone Pub & Eatery.

All of the students have significant cognitive impairment and disabilities related to learning, communication, and socialization, and many are on the autism spectrum. Chip truly cares for his students and it shows in the way he communicates and interacts with them. He is very kind and respectful while also setting reachable goals and expecting the student’s best effort.

The Café specializes in local garden-to-table gourmet vegetarian food and pastries. Chip’s goal is to show that people with significant disabilities can create beautiful and delicious food in a safe and efficient manner. Gadsden City Schools provides transportation for three different classes of students to the Café each school day.

Black Bean & Cheese Quesadilla with garden salad.

Lunch is served Tuesday through Friday from 11:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. In the afternoons enjoy hot teas, coffees, and pastries.
Grant Spotlight

First in Alabama – A Multi-City Bike Share Program
Partners to Unlock the Joy of Riding

With funding from the Stringfellow Health Fund, the cities of Oxford, Anniston, and Jacksonville and Jacksonville State University (JSU) partnered to bring the first Bikeshare Program to Alabama. A system of 20 racks & 150 bikes offer residents and visitors access every day of the year. Service areas include Oxford’s Choccolocco Park, Downtown Anniston, Chief Ladiga Trail and JSU. Bikeshare provides an opportunity for people to incorporate activity into their daily lives which can lower health care costs by countering preventable diseases. Cycling for 30 minutes daily can reduce the risk of heart disease by 82% and diabetes by 58%. A recent study of bikeshare participants shows 30% of respondents indicated a weight loss. The program received a grant of $21,000 from the Stringfellow Health Fund.

Out of the Shadows Summit

For the 2nd year, CFNEA sponsored the Out of the Shadows Summit. The day-long program attracted more than 200 people wanting to learn and share information about mental illness. The name, “Out of the Shadows” was chosen as depression, suicide, stress and addiction are often hidden by those who suffer from them. In addition to numerous displays visited throughout the day, breakout sessions and panels were held focusing on varied topics.

This unique program brings people who have mental health issues (and their caregivers) together with mental health professionals and others who offer treatment and services. The key goals of the summit are to provide information to the public and to find better ways to provide the care and treatment to the people who need them the most. The program has been so successful it will be an annual event, held in May of each year. Out of the Shadows is made possible by a grant from the Stringfellow Health Fund and support from the Oxford Civic Center, Gadsden State Community College, Regional Medical Center, Highland Health Systems, Calhoun County Sheriff’s Department, JSU Counseling Services, NAMI Alabama, Bradford Health Services, and Coca Cola.
Open Spaces Sacred Places® are greenspaces intended for the encouragement of community well-being and resilience of mind/body/spirit of both individuals and communities. These special places have been conceived by an individual or organization inspired with the idea that access to nature can make a positive impact on the various challenges individuals and communities face. Behind each space is one or more “Firesouls”, individuals with a burning passion to design and develop an Open Spaces Sacred Places®. Each organization received a $10,000 grant from the Stringfellow Health Fund to build their OSSP.

The TKF Foundation originally conceived and created the first OSSP. The Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama chose the OSSP model to celebrate the generous legacy left to northeast Alabama by Susie Parker Stringfellow almost 100 years ago. What began as one woman's legacy has impacted millions of individuals through the provision of quality healthcare services, community wellness, and support to not-for-profit organizations which have received just over $8.5 million in grant awards since 1999.

Fred Smith, Director, Stringfellow Health Fund Grants says, “I am thrilled with the response from the community.” Fred traveled throughout CFNEA’s nine-county region to meet with groups and individuals to introduce the concept of OSSP for their community. The results have been excellent. All Open Spaces Sacred Places® will be completed by November 15, 2019, with the first ribbon cutting held February 2, 2020.

West Anniston Gateway, Calhoun County

The West Fifteenth Street Historic District was once a thriving commercial and social center for African-Americans during an era of deep segregation. The Open Spaces Sacred Places® pocket park in this historic area will offer a means for reflection; a place for people to feel an understanding of the impact of this place and history. Firesouls are Pete Conroy and Steven Folks.

Pete Conroy
Steven Folks
Cherokee County Civitan & Cedar Grove Baptist Church - Weiss Lake Overview, Cherokee County

Designed for use by its community, this Open Spaces Sacred Places® will support fellowship and neighborhood gatherings and work to promote a sense of agency and pride in the area. Firesouls are the Reverend Gregory Higgins and Bob Pickerel.

Talladega College Sacred Places: Honoring Our Ancestors, Enacting our Dreams, Talladega County

Talladega College is Alabama’s oldest private historically black college. The campus sits in the historic part of Talladega. The college has integrated an Open Spaces Sacred Places® adjacent to its chapel—one of the campus hallmarks and home to most of the campus engagement. Firesouls are Miliani Sinclair, Sedrick Hill and Mary Sood.

Gadsden Cultural Arts Foundation: Reflective Garden at the historic Gunn-Bellenger House, Etowah County

Set on the grounds of the historic Gunn-Bellenger House, all senses will be engaged through colorful native plantings, musical chimes, seasonal variations and more. The open gazebo just begs for creative practice like plein air art or writing. Firesouls are Bobby Welch & Jennifer Finlayson.
Community Restorative Garden and Dog Run, Cleburne County

Heflin is a community of dog-lovers. The Open Spaces Sacred Places® will offer a dog run aimed to inspire more use and engagement for all community members, even the furry ones. Firesouls are Tammy Perry and Kamaren Holland.

The site features:
1. moon gate entrances
2. CFNEA bench/journal/signage
3. Cyprus trees along borders
4. retaining wall/native flowers/seating/ green space
5. open green/yoga space with native flowers and plants/ dry creek bed
6. gazebo type shelter
7. seating/open space/native plants
8. wide path (handicap accessible)
9. sidewalk type path (handicap accessible) water fountain for people and dogs located nearby as well
10. parking including handicap
11. native and low maintenance foliage throughout garden
12. double gate entrance for community dog run (large/small dog separated)
13. leash rack and clean up station
14. obstacle play
15. shelters and seating (dog bone shaped benches for seating).

McCord’s Crossroads Homemakers Club: Crossroads Garden: A place of Solace and Remembrance, Cherokee County

The McCord’s Crossroads Homemakers Club provides positive support for local families through leadership and education with an emphasis on place and history. In keeping with their mission, this Open Spaces Sacred Places® will be a place where people may journey back and remember the history of their families that built the community. Firesouls are Barry Kerr, Edna Jennings and Sheila Mobley.
Named for one of the longest-serving members of the Supreme Court and a native of Clay County, the Open Spaces Sacred Places® is intended to offer a place of quiet reflection while also recognizing and honoring those who struggled and fought for their basic civil and human rights. Firesoul is The Honorable John Rochester.

Fort Payne Main Street: Reflection and Meditation Garden, DeKalb County

Tucked in a valley near Lookout Mountain, A “Life Garden”—will be integrated within a community walking park and offers a reminder to visitors to spend a few moments reflecting, appreciating and renewing oneself in nature. Firesouls are Tim Harris and Connie Fuller.
Servants in Faith & Technology (SIFAT) – Sarah’s Garden, Randolph County

SIFAT is a not-for-profit organization located in Randolph County, AL, that trains community leaders in helping distressed populations thrive—both in the US and across the globe. SIFAT looks to integrate Sarah’s Garden, in an effort to help its local community improve the physical and mental health of its citizens and to “cultivate a relationship between SIFAT and our neighbors”. Firesouls are Angie Stryker & Mellie Parrish.

Stringfellow Garden, Clay County

Infusing pride, a sense of agency and civic engagement are the driving forces behind the creation of an Open Spaces Sacred Places® in the City of Ashland. In memory of Susie Parker Stringfellow, this “park within a park” will serve as a place of acceptance and peace. Firesouls are Kim Cain and Ellen Sewell.
Sylacauga Alliance for Family Enhancement, Inc.: SAFE’s Mind, Body and Spirit Pathway, Talladega County

The “Mind, Body and Spirit Pathway” will impact the entire Sylacauga and Talladega County areas. Located within the Sylacauga Housing Authority, residents may enjoy easy access to SAFE’s Mind, Body and Spirit Pathway. Others will arrive at the Pathway by walking, biking, public or personal vehicle transportation. The Sylacauga GROWS Community Garden provides healing and restoration dealing with food impact for families who would otherwise be hungry. Firesouls are Margaret Morton and Debbie Adair.

Margaret Morton and Debbie Adair

Pell City Gateway Community Garden, Inc.: Healing and Restorative Garden, St. Clair County

A Healing and Restorative Garden will bring people together to enjoy nature. The organization hopes to enrich its culture and economy—working to prevent crime in effective ways. Firesouls are Worth Barnham and Linda Tutwiler.

Worth Barnham and Linda Tutwiler
Gadsden Public Library: Sensory Garden, Etowah County

Aligned with the mission of the library, the Gadsden Public Library’s Open Spaces Sacred Places® Sensory Garden is centered around inclusion. The space aims to facilitate learning, encourage teens and youth to be self-directed and motivated, and to provide members of the community a place to find solace, support, and relaxation. An herb garden will offer therapeutic learning—a way for students with special needs (who just happen to work at Beautiful Rainbow Café) to further develop their vocational, educational, social, and therapeutic skills into their daily routines. Firesouls are Ashley Handy and Nicole Papa-Tudor.

Mentone Arts & Cultural Center: Dr. Stephen Brewer Sculpture Garden, DeKalb County

Mentone is a pocket of rich history and culture for Alabama. To pay homage to its deep heritage, a sculpture garden will celebrate the Cherokee culture and will serve as a creative community hub for artists and the public alike. Firesoul is Randy Grider.
The Health Care Authority of the City of Piedmont:
“Timeless Seasons in the Sun”, Calhoun County

A beautiful pathway looks to infuse more holistic therapies to foster the healing of their 100+ “sojourners” — residents of their assisted living and specialty care facilities. Firesouls are Sandra Keener and Dr. Ben Ingram.

Open Spaces Sacred Places® Annapolis, Maryland

Fred Smith, Director, Stringfellow Health Fund Grants, traveled to Annapolis, Maryland as a speaker and guest of the TKF Foundation’s Celebration of the Firesouls Network. During the program Fred shared updates and highlights about the Open Spaces Sacred Places® (OSSP) sites in northeast Alabama. He also had the opportunity to visit several OSSP sites.

“Meeting Tom and Kitty Stoner, co-founders of the TKF Foundation, and other Firesouls from the Maryland area was the highlight of the trip,” said Fred Smith.

The Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama is looking forward to the continued development of all of the wonderful sites being created throughout Northeast Alabama.
Becky Fearon’s first cousin, Cheryl Hatfield of Auburn, Alabama shares, “Becky and I have close family ties as neither of us had a sister. At a very young age, I watched Becky walk down the aisle and dedicate her life to Christ. As a young child I didn’t understand the commitment Becky had made. What could she possibly be thinking? Was she going to live with missionaries in a foreign country? What would her life be like? But today, watching Becky being recognized as the 2017 Doster Award Winner, I realized this was the service God had prepared her for. Thus my answer to what she had given her life for was answered.”

Becky truly has a servant’s heart. She helps her community and the Arc of Calhoun & Cleburne Counties any way she can and without calling attention to herself. Becky volunteers for the jobs no one else wants. She volunteers with a vulnerable and unique population who relies on the support of advocates like her to promote healthy programs to improve their lives. The Arc serves children and adults with developmental disabilities. Under her leadership as president of the board, the Arc saw improvements in the overall health of the organization.

The Doster Award recognizes personal commitment, overall impact, and extraordinary service for an individual, club or group actively promoting or advancing community health in our region. Joined by her family and close friends, Becky was honored at a reception at the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama on June 7, 2018.

To recognize the many hours of time spent volunteering with The Arc of Calhoun and Cleburne Counties, Becky received an engraved crystal clock along with a $1,000.00 grant from the Juliette P. Doster Scholarship Fund to a not-for-profit of her choice. Not surprisingly, Becky selected The Arc of Calhoun & Cleburne Counties. In addition, her name has been added to a perpetual plaque listing all past award winners on display in the Foundation office.
In 1997, Rush Jordan was a member of the Stringfellow Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees when the decision was made to lease the hospital to Health Management Associates. It was Mr. Jordan’s background with the Dayton Foundation that resulted in the Stringfellow Health Trust becoming a public charity in 1999 with the creation of the Calhoun County Community Foundation. Mr. Jordan served two terms on the Community Foundation’s board including his tenure as chairman of the board from 2002 to 2004. Rush Jordan was a teacher, a leader and a servant. He spent his lifetime working to improve communities. Through his pioneer spirit and ability to focus on change, he left an impressionable footprint on our region.

Pioneers are remembered for their innate ability to persevere in thought, research and development. This year’s recipients have contributed to the mission and purpose of our Community Foundation as seen in the dreams of Rush Jordan. He charted a direction that continues to expand 19 years later.

Each year the Community Foundation recognizes an individual(s) for their contribution of significantly furthering the work of the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama as exemplified by former trustee and board chair Rush Jordan.

Keener Hudson and Mack Burt honored with L. R. "Rush" Jordan Award

In 1995, Keener & Mack negotiated an incredible win-win deal that created a stable future for Stringfellow Memorial Hospital and established a permanent healthcare endowment for our area. They went on to help Rush establish the Calhoun County Community Foundation.

Mack Burt served as the first board chair in 1998 to 2000. Keener Hudson followed Mack as the 2nd board chair from 2000 to 2002. They both served as a trustee for the Stringfellow Health Trust for 12 years (from 1986 to 1998) then as a trustee for what we know today as the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama – Keener for 6 years (from 1998 to 2004) and Mack for 5 years (from 1998 to 2003).

"For their enthusiasm, perseverance, and passion to inspire change for the better; for their unyielding dedication and commitment to growing and furthering the impact of the Community Foundation; and for their firm belief in the power of philanthropy, it is my sincere and heartfelt pleasure to present each of you with the 2018 L.R. “Rush” Jordan Award."

– Jack Swift, Board Chair
Anvil Society Honors Donors’ Generosity

Almost 100 years ago Susie Parker Stringfellow made a planned gift in her will that decades later would create the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama.

In 1920, Mrs. Stringfellow willed her home plus approximately eight acres of land to serve as a hospital, subject to a life estate. Upon her husband’s (Mr. William W. Stringfellow) death in 1932, the property and estate assets were placed in the Susie Parker Stringfellow Charitable Trust. Initially, Susie’s home served as a hospital, was later razed, and a new hospital constructed in 1938.

In 1999, with the approval of the Circuit Court of Calhoun County, the Office of the Attorney General of the state of Alabama and the IRS, the Trust was granted permission to transfer and irrevocably assign its assets (just over $13 million) to the Calhoun County Community Foundation. Thus the Trust’s private foundation status was converted to a qualified 501(c)(3) public charity status operating in corporate form. These assets established the Susie Parker Stringfellow Health Fund. The fund awards grants to not-for-profit organizations which focus on health. In 2009, the name changed to the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama in response to the growing number of funds being established in adjacent counties.

Individuals who follow Susie’s generosity become members of The Anvil Society. The early settlers to our area discovered, mined and refined the area’s abundance of iron ore. The Oxford, Cane Creek, Woodstock and Janney Furnaces shaped the economic base that gave rise to the communities across Calhoun County and northeast Alabama. The Anvil Society members shape the philanthropic base of sustainable charitable dollars for northeast Alabama.

The following individuals have made a commitment to help forge a stronger future for our region through their generosity:

Anonymous Donors (4)
Gloria K. Bennett
Carver Boynton
Lindie K. Brown
Mack & Rebecca Burt
Wayne & Nicki Carmello-Harper
George A. & Anne S. Carruth
Reverend & Mrs. Robert Childers
Elizabeth S. Colyer
Anthony & Salena Cook
Elaine Edmondson
Joseph B. Freeman
Forrest & Joyce French
Tommie J. Goggans III
Chris & Virginia Hopkins
Janice T. Hudson
Betty Hill Jackson
Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Jackson
Mary Elizabeth Johnson
Dr. Theresa Kisor
Dr. Jerry L. & Judy M. Klug
Dr. Martha G. Lavender
Jennifer S. Maddox
Dr. Martha Merrill
Newman R. (Rod) Nowlin Jr.
Nanda & Ghanshyam (Gee) Patel
Jean H. Perley
Jean L. Phillips
Greg and Cheryl Potts
Thomas S. Potts Jr.
Bevely Alison Ritch
Dr. Brenda Roberts
J. Mitchell Rogers
Wes & Cheri Smith
Dr. Daniel E. & Esta G. Spector
Warren L. Spector
Mark Stevens
James Walker Swift
Jewell A. Tarnow
Dr. and Mrs. Arthur F. Toole III
Dortha Glenn Travis
Anita Genevieve Turpin
Ralph Edward Wade
Susan Waldron
Scott & Jaime Ward
Ben Weaver

Legacies At Work
Mary S. Bernhard
S. David Boozer
Edward Crutcher
Bobby Edmondson
Karan Lee Evans
Elizabeth G. Freeman
Farley Moody Galbraith
Mrs. Stanton B. Ingram
Harland C. Jones
L. R. & Jean Jordan
Dr. William Howard & Jessie Aiken
Hodges Kryder
Dr. Gertrude C. Luther
Marie T. Rayfield
Mr. & Mrs. George B. Ritch Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew J. Saks
Oleta B. Spearman
H. T. & Terrell Stanford
Susie Parker Stringfellow
We believe that one of the best ways to improve our community is by encouraging and strengthening not-for-profit organizations in our region. The Community Foundation, in partnership with the United Way of East Central Alabama, United Way of Etowah County, United Way of North Talladega County, United Givers Fund of DeKalb County and the Alabama Association of NonProfits, help local not-for-profits organizations achieve the Standards for Excellence®.

A strong not-for-profit sector is made up of collaborative organizations that effectively manage operations and high-performing programs based on community need. This requires knowledgeable and capable staff, strong leadership, value for innovation, a clear vision and a plan.

Effective, sustainable programs are the result of strong organizations. Through our work with area not-for-profit organizations to achieve Standards for Excellence® accreditation, we have been able to identify key factors that drive an organization’s success. A few of those factors include: board and staff engagement, sound fiscal health, mission driven operations, and of course, commitment to excellence.

A total of 27 not-for-profit organizations participated in trainings held in DeKalb and St. Clair counties in 2018.

To learn more about future trainings, contact Heather K. Lamey, Director, Donor Grants and Standards for Excellence®, hlamey@yourcommunityfirst.org or 256-231-5160, ext. 18.

Staff Achievements

Heather K. Lamey Completes Certification

Heather K. Lamey, Director, Donor Grants and Standards for Excellence®, has been recognized by the Standards for Excellence Institute® for successfully completing their rigorous Licensed Consultant training program. The Licensed Consultant training is an exclusive, professional development initiative that gives independent consultants the knowledge, skills, and tools necessary to work with not-for-profit organizations across the country interested in learning about Standards for Excellence®, implementing the code, and becoming accredited by Standards for Excellence Institute.

Fred Smith Appointed to PARCA

Fred Smith was appointed to the Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama (PARCA). PARCA is a 501(c) (3) not-for-profit organization working to inform and improve state and local government, schools, and not-for-profits through independent, objective, nonpartisan policy research and data analysis. Fred is pictured with the Governor of Alabama, Kay Ivey. Governor Ivey was the keynote speaker at the annual meeting held in Birmingham on February 2, 2018.
Adventist Elementary School Endowment Fund - provides support for elementary schools in the Georgia-Cumberland Conference of the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Calhoun, Georgia.

Angel Robes Alabama Fund - provides comfort to families experiencing the loss of an infant, including pre-term, who never go home from the hospital, by providing burial gowns, small burial blankets, hand-made mementos, memorial services, and other comforting gestures.

ASOF Agency Fund - the Alabama Sports Officials Foundation (ASOF) provides scholarships for Alabama High School Sports Official's children that are continuing their education.

Cleburne County Children’s Fund - provides grant awards in support of children in Cleburne County.

Dr. Martha Merrill Youth Arts Fund - provides grant awards in support of arts education and learning for youth ages 0-18.

Edgemont Veteran’s Cemetery Fund - repairs and improves the appearance of the Edgemont Veteran’s Cemetery in Anniston, Alabama.

Emma Jean Lipscomb Memorial Scholarship Fund - provides financial support to the Opelika City Board of Education in Opelika, Alabama for the Emma Jean Lipscomb Memorial Scholarship.

First Tee National School Program Fund - provides positive impact to the lives of young people through the game of golf.

Leon Smith Memorial Fund - creates and maintains memorials of special residents of Oxford, Alabama.

Jacksonville Disaster Response Fund - assists with the disaster recovery efforts resulting from tornadoes that occurred on March 19, 2018 in Jacksonville, Alabama.

The Lunch Lady’s Pantry Fund established in memory of Evelyn Culver Lloyd - provides meals and books for school children.

Rainbow City Disaster Response Fund - assists with the disaster recovery efforts resulting from tornadoes that occurred on March 19, 2018 in Rainbow City, Alabama.

St. Clair County Disaster Response Fund - assists with the disaster recovery efforts resulting from tornadoes that occurred on March 19, 2018 in St. Clair County, Alabama.

Southside Disaster Response Fund - assists with the disaster recovery efforts resulting from tornadoes that occurred on March 19, 2018 in Southside, Alabama.

Wes and Leila Harris Scholarship at Auburn High School Fund - provides financial support to the Auburn City Board of Education in Auburn, Alabama for the Wes and Leila Harris Scholarship.

Wes and Leila Harris Scholarship at Green Chapel Church Fund - provides financial support to Green Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Auburn, Alabama for the Wes and Leila Harris Scholarship.
The March 19, 2018 tornadoes damaged homes ranging from minor repairs to complete devastation. Through the generosity of donors, the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama received contributions from throughout the U.S. totaling $137,552.38. These donations assisted with the recovery efforts.

In the eyes of a devastated community, you are heroes!

The Community Foundation would like to thank each donor for your quick response to provide financial support. Your creativity in the ways you have supported these funds from matching donations at salons, creative t-shirt designs and sales, benefit concerts and more. Your generosity to aid in recovery efforts has not gone unnoticed by the many individuals who have been helped.
Scholarship Highlights

23 Scholarship Recipients Receive – $186,250

Attending these schools:

From the following funds held with the Community Foundation:

- Alumni Association of Alabama State University - Anniston/Calhoun Chapter (ASU Alumni) Scholarship Fund
- Harry M. and Edel Y. Ayers Scholarship Fund
- Farley Moody Galbraith Scholarship Fund
- Good Choices Fund
- Guin-Stanford Scholarship Fund
- Cleve Holloway Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Dr. Clarence W. and Mrs. Juanita Harris Jairrels Scholarship Fund
- The E. C. Lloyd and J.C.U. Johnson Scholarship Fund
- Harland C. Jones Scholarship Fund
- Whitney Laine Gallahar Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Ohatchee High School Indians Scholarship Fund
- Jean L. Phillips Auburn Scholarship Fund
- Joseph and Amelia Saks Scholarship Fund
- Anna Satcher Scholarship Support Fund
- Leslie and Mary Ella Scales Scholarship Fund
- Nathan Jackson Sparks Memorial Scholarship Fund
- H.T. and Terrell Stanford Scholarship Fund
- Mary Katherine “Katy” Williamson Scholarship Fund

Piedmont Education Trust (PET)

Donors awarded just over $40,209 to 2018 students. PET has 30 funds held with the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama. PET is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1992 to help fund various educational and support programs in the Piedmont City School System.
“Becoming more self-aware and outgoing.”

Datreauna Dye

Recipient of the H.T. and Terrell Stanford Scholarship, Datreauna shares, “I dedicated my first semester of college to becoming more self-aware and outgoing before dedicating myself to other activities. During this time, I grasped the ability to gather exactly how I wanted to live life and, through the help of my advisors, resident advisors, and wonderful professors, gained the knowledge of people in my community who could help me reach the goals I’d set for myself. These people also educated me on how to study, become more ‘diverse’ in my community, and help others become more certain with their futures. I believe that this brief moment of self-gathering gave me the ability to be able to go out into my community and create that start of a great change. With this, I achieved a GPA of 3.9 at the end of the semester and many connections that cannot be replaced.”

“I feel like I am where I am meant to be.”

Kody Coppock

Recipient of the Whitney Laine Gallahar Memorial Scholarship and the Ohatchee High School Indians Scholarship, Kody attends Emory University. He is a pre-med major, minoring in business.

“I have met so many amazing people and made so many new friends. I am loving all of my classes and feel like I have learned so much in such a short amount of time. I want to thank everyone that helped me to be where I am today and am so grateful for what the Community Foundation and others have done for me.”

“I would go back in a heartbeat!”

Madison Cole

In June of 2018, Madison traveled to Zambia along with fellow nursing students from the University of Alabama. She shares, “these are some of the most loving people I’ve ever met.” A recipient of the Mary Katherine “Katy” Williamson Scholarship, Madison is a senior at the University of Alabama, studying nursing and was recognized for Outstanding Academic Performance at the Capstone College of Nursing UA Honors Day. Following graduation Madison will pursue a Master’s Degree.

Please visit our website (www.yourcommunityfirst.org) throughout the year to access our latest information on philanthropy, grants and educational opportunities.
Our donors supply the passion and we provide the philanthropic expertise and infrastructure

The **Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama** is home to over 200 charitable funds. We work with donors to identify the most beneficial methods to use in charitable giving. Annual distributions from the above funds, totaling $1,561,667 were awarded to the following:

- Action for Healthy Kids
- Agnes Scott College
- Alabama Baptist Children’s Homes and Family Ministries
- Alabama Episcopal Dioces Cursillo
- Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind (AIDB)
- Alabama Policy Institute
- Alabama Spay Neuter Clinic
- All Saints Interfaith Center of Concern
- Alliance Defending Freedom
- Altrusa Women & Children’s Fund
- American Majority
- American Red Cross-Calhoun Cleburne Chapter
- American Red Cross-Regional Office
- Angel Flight
- Anniston High School
- Anniston Housing Authority
- Anniston Museum Endowment Corporation
- Anniston Parks & Recreation Department
- Anniston Soup Bowl
- A-plus Education Partnership
- Arc of Calhoun & Cleburne Counties
- Ashland Justice Hugo Black Park
- Beautiful Rainbow Café
- Berman Museum of World History
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Alabama
- Birmingham Museum of Art
- Boy Scout Troop #247
- Boy Scouts of America - Choccolocco District
- Boy Scouts of America - Greater Alabama Council
- Boys & Girls Clubs of East Central Alabama
- Calhoun Cleburne Children’s Center, Inc.
- Calhoun County Chamber Foundation
- Calhoun County Commission
- Calhoun County Schools
- Cartersville Middle School
- CAST (Community Actors Studio Theatre)
- Central High School of Clay County
- Cheaha Creative Arts
- Chicago Community Foundation
- Children’s Services, Inc.
- City of Anniston
- City of Ashland
- City of Heflin
- City of Oxford
- City of Piedmont Parks and Recreation
- Clay County Community Foodbank
- Columbia Theological Seminary
- Community Enabler Developer, Inc.
Grantees

Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona
Coosa Riverkeeper
Coosa Valley Youth Services
Coral Ridge Ministries Media, Inc.
Council on Aging of Etowah County
Davidson College
Days For Girls International
East Central Alabama United Cerebral Palsy
Extended Family for Kids
Family Links
Family Research Council
Family Success Center of Etowah County, Inc.
First Presbyterian Church of Anniston
First Presbyterian Church of Talladega
First United Methodist Church of Jacksonville
Fort Payne Main Street Friends, Inc.
Gadsden Cultural Arts Foundation
Gadsden Public Library Foundation
Gateway to Life Ranch
General Operating Fund
Golden Springs Baptist Church
Grace & St. Paul Episcopal Church
Grace Episcopal Church
Greater Birmingham Chapter of AMBUCS
Habitat for Humanity of Calhoun County
Health Services Center
Heritage Christian University
Impact Alabama
Independent Reading/Counseling Services
Indian Springs School
Interfaith Ministries, Inc.
Jacksonville Disaster Response Fund
JSU Foundation
Kiwaniis International Foundation
Knox Concert Series, Inc.
League for Animal Welfare, Inc.
Liberty Counsel
Longleaf Fund
March of Dimes Alabama Chapter
Marcus J. Borg Foundation, Inc.
McCords Crossroads Homemakers Club Inc.
Mental Health America of Etowah County
Mentone Arts & Cultural Center
Mentone Educational Resources Foundation
Never Surrender
Northeast Alabama Bicycle Association
One World Adventure
Opportunity Center
Palisades Church of Christ
Parker Memorial Baptist Church
Patronato San Xavier
Pell City Gateway Community Garden
Piedmont Benevolence Center
Piedmont Education Trust
Piedmont Health Care Center Authority
Piedmont Historical Society
Piedmont Housing Authority
Presbyterian College
Preschool Friends
Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama
Public Library of Anniston and Calhoun County
Rainbow Omega, Inc.
Reach Out and Read - Alabama
Regional Medical Center Memorial Foundation
Rockin’ "P" Rescue, Inc.
Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic School
Safe Haven Counseling
Sav-A-Life, Inc.
Saving Animals Volunteer Effort, Inc. (S.A.V.E.)
Shiloh Church of Christ
SIFAT, Inc.
Sight Savers America
Southside Presbyterian Church
St. Michael’s Community Services
Stringfellow Memorial Hospital (RMC)
Sylacauga Alliance for Family Enhancement
Talladega College
The Baylor School
The Church of St. Michael and All Angels
The Donoho School
The Humane Society of Calhoun County dba The Animal Shelter
The Kid One Transport
The Learning Tree
The Legacy Project
The Navigators
The Salvation Army
The Salvation Army of Greater Birmingham
UAB Reynolds - Finley Historical Collections
Union Presbyterian Seminary
United Ability
United Way of East Central Alabama
University Church of Christ
University of Arizona Foundation
West Anniston Foundation
YMCA of Calhoun County
Youth on Their Own
## Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

**Year Ended September 30, 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue and Support</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$214,639</td>
<td>$1,165,043</td>
<td>$106,242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative and project fee revenue</td>
<td>769,064</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lease income</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>717,056</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income</td>
<td>89,679</td>
<td>1,446,781</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants returned</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3,005</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realized and unrealized gains on investments</td>
<td>96,811</td>
<td>1,622,959</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in cash surrender value of life insurance</td>
<td>918</td>
<td>2,790</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realized loss on assets</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(350,969)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenue and support</strong></td>
<td>$1,171,111</td>
<td>4,606,665</td>
<td>106,242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets Released from Restrictions</strong></td>
<td>2,836,935</td>
<td>(2,836,935)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses and Distributions</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and scholarships</td>
<td>1,568,064</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program</td>
<td>1,660,113</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>340,576</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>218,484</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses and distributions</strong></td>
<td>3,787,237</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Change in Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>220,809</td>
<td>1,769,730</td>
<td>106,242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Transfer of funds to outside agency</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(151,245)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beginning of year</td>
<td>2,841,379</td>
<td>23,793,355</td>
<td>14,570,899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>$3,062,188</td>
<td>$25,411,840</td>
<td>$14,677,141</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The current Annual Report, IRS Form 990, and public information items such as an annual audit report, fees charged, spending (distribution) policy, and investment manager information for the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama are available on our website [www.yourcommunityfirst.org](http://www.yourcommunityfirst.org) and upon request to all interested individuals.

For a complete list of funds, please visit [www.yourcommunityfirst.org/funds](http://www.yourcommunityfirst.org/funds).

---

### ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$716,507</td>
<td>$980,639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>$40,003,369</td>
<td>$42,821,719</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and Equipment, net</td>
<td>$2,764,184</td>
<td>$2,674,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$67,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>$5,233</td>
<td>$5,442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life insurance - cash value</td>
<td>$38,339</td>
<td>$42,047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other real estate</td>
<td>$595,000</td>
<td>$37,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$44,122,632</strong></td>
<td><strong>$46,628,969</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>$14,489</td>
<td>$53,102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued payroll and compensated absences</td>
<td>$105,805</td>
<td>$124,138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payable to other organizations</td>
<td>$2,352,032</td>
<td>$2,791,721</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charitable gift annuity liability</td>
<td>$167,984</td>
<td>$161,296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and Scholarships Payable</td>
<td>$276,689</td>
<td>$347,543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,916,999</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,477,800</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>$2,841,379</td>
<td>$3,062,188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>$23,793,355</td>
<td>$25,411,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently restricted</td>
<td>$14,570,899</td>
<td>$14,677,141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$41,205,633</strong></td>
<td><strong>$43,151,169</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$44,122,632</strong></td>
<td><strong>$46,628,969</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Memorials &
Honorariums

Memorials - October 1, 2017 - September 30, 2018

Throughout the year many generous gifts were received in memory of the following individuals and pets. These gifts have been made to funds that were meaningful to either the one being remembered or the donor.

Larry Timothy Abernathy
Margaret Andrews
Pauline Arrington
Tony Bright
Kate Brown
Vic Calhoun
Anne Case
Joe Cobb
Bettie Davenport
Daniel Davenport
Ryan Davis
Juliette Doster
Jim Gaines
Whitney Laine Gallahar
Sara Jean Goodgame
Larry Gowens
Dennis Grissom
Prudence Hilburn
Vester Holder
John Harold Hollingsworth
Randy Hurst
Betty Ingram
Travis Ivey
Vada Kemp
Dr. W. H. Kimbrough
John R. Kirkpatrick
Kenneth Kirkpatrick
Lary F. O. Lawson
Rozelle Lentjes
Evelyn Culver Lloyd
Joe Vann Marshall
Hubert & Louise Masters
Meagan McCain
Marcia McNeil
Irene Morgan
Vera Jo Myers
Sgt. Bill Norris
Nina B. Pati
Doug Peters
Glenda Phillips
Polly Putnam
John M. & Ophelia Rankin
Virgie Ray
Betty S. Reaves
Madell Brenkley Reynolds
Jackie Roberts
Robert Simmons
Rev. Donnie Smith
Leon Smith
Nathan Jackson Sparks
Evelyn Street
Sharon Street

Linda Strickland
Tommie Tarnow
Connie Tucker
Henry (Buck) Farrington Twilley Jr.
Dr. Tom & Grace VanSant
Ray Vinson
J.B. Wade
David L. Walters
Ben Warren
Pat Watson
Anna Caroline Williams
Mary Katherine “Katy” Williamson
 Mildred Wright Wilson
Susan Spector Wismimiti & Connor
Jacob Wismimiti
Michael Woods
Earl Woolf

Pets
Annie
Charlie
Emma
Stubby
Tyler

Honorariums - October 1, 2017 - September 30, 2018

The following have been honored with gifts to funds that are meaningful to the honoree or the donor.

*The Anniston Star* reporters covering the
Jacksonville Tornado of March 19th
Jodi Argo
Louis Bass
Dr. Barbara Boyd
Jerry Culberson
Julia Daugherty
Charles & Collie Dickinson
Shane & Diane Donaldson
Shane Donaldson
Dr. Jeffrey Eberhart
Jane Eldemire
Deborah Gaither
Jane E. Gowens
Mary Ann & Ted Harris
Margaret Hatley
Christopher Henley
Rodney Hill
John & Becky Hollingsworth

Dr. Russell Ingram
Professors & Friends at Jacksonville State University
Juanita Harris Jairrels
Ken Jernigan
Junior League of Anniston-Calhoun County
Sandra Keener
Jim Keenum
Dr. Mark McClendon
Dr. Amy McCurdy
Dr. Duane Mohon
Dr. John Morrow
Charlotte & Buddy Mullis
Dr. Matt Nixon
Dr. Bruce Osborn
Greg & Cheryl Potts
Michael Pruitt
Ivan Ray

Linda Rochester
COL. Robert D. Rouse, Amy, Alex, Sidney & Hunter
Carole Sams
Dr. Perry L. Savage
Freda Stinson
James Strickland
Jack Swift
Dr. Russell Ulrich
Deborah Vogelgesang
Coach & Mrs. Howard Waldrip
Jennie & Bill Wall
Andrew Warren
Ben & Amanda Weaver
Joe Weaver
John & Susan Williamson
Winn Dixie Pharmacy
Dr. James Yates
The Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama is governed by a volunteer board of trustees. These dedicated individuals provide stewardship for the Community Foundation and its charitable activities by establishing policy, setting priorities, effective governance, and final funding decisions. Our trustees represent the areas of community, education, finance, legal, business & industry, accounting, administration, health & human services, media & marketing, retail, arts & culture, and entrepreneurship.

John Stevenson of Randolph County served as a trustee from November 2015 through November 2018. He passed away on February 14, 2019 after a battle with cancer.
COMPLIANCE

National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations were designed to demonstrate transparency and financial responsibility. In addition, they also guide governing boards to adopt sound policies and practices and help build the capacity of community foundations to carry out their missions. The Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama has maintained compliance since 2006.

Bridge Builders
Connecting donor generosity with community needs.

The Honorable Brenda S. Stedham
Attorney at Law

The Honorable Randall L. Cole
Circuit Judge, 9th Judicial Circuit

Volunteer Award

Dr. Pat Borstorff
"In Recognition of Your Contribution to the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama’s Scholarships and Grants Review Committee"

L to R: Mitch Rogers, Pat Borstorff and Heather Lamey

Mitch Rogers Earns Designation

J. Mitchell Rogers, CAP®, Director of Scholarships and Initiatives, earned the Chartered Advisor in Philanthropy (CAP®) professional designation from the Richard D. Irwin Graduate School of The American College (Pennsylvania). This designation greatly increases the Community Foundation’s ability to work with donors by providing the knowledge and tools needed to assist them in reaching their charitable giving objectives while also helping them meet their estate planning and wealth management goals.