**Fund Spotlight**

**Altrusa International of Anniston Charitable Fund**

A strong partnership grows success

Altrusa is an international not-for-profit organization which makes local communities better through leadership, partnerships and service. Members are civic-minded individuals who strive to create better communities worldwide. The Altrusa International of Anniston, AL Club was founded in 1965. The Altrusa International Foundation Club of Anniston, Inc. serves as the club’s fundraising entity.

As is true with many not-for-profit organizations, proceeds from fundraisers support the club’s projects. Through the years the Altrusa International Foundation Club of Anniston, Inc. focused on promoting literacy through the sale of pecans and poinsettias. While profitable for many years, the club aspired to make a bigger impact, to branch out and support organizations which served women and children.

In 2014, Eula Tatman, Altrusan and Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama’s (CFNEA) Vice President for Programs shared the idea of a Girlfriend Gala fundraiser with the club after she and Jennifer S. Maddox, CFNEA President & CEO, attended the Girlfriend Gala in Etowah County. Altrusa club members embraced the concept and a plan was put in motion. In addition, partnering with CFNEA to establish two funds allowed for the club to achieve their desired goals. Proceeds from the Gala are divided equally between two funds at CFNEA: the **Altrusa International of Anniston Charitable Fund** and the **Altrusa Women & Children’s Fund**. CFNEA provides valuable support to the club by handling all financial aspects of the funds; investing them for growth, processing income and expenses, and acknowledging donations. Grants made from the funds are voted on by club members making them the “donor advisors” for the funds.

Girlfriend Gala is a decorator’s paradise! For one evening girlfriends gather for a themed evening of fun, fine dining, music, silent auction items, and door prizes. The inaugural event was held on September 24, 2015 with the theme, *Hooray for Hollywood*; 

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The Anniston Museum of Natural History was the perfect backdrop to welcome excited fundholders, students, their families, scholarship reviewers, CFNEA trustees and staff for the 2019 CFNEA scholarship reception and dinner on May 16, 2019. $174,500 was awarded to deserving students. Students dreamed of their future as they stared at the enormous rotating bronze globe which anchored the lobby. Scenes throughout the state of Alabama scrolled overhead. Scholarship recipients enjoyed visiting with their generous donors. First-time scholarship recipients received a gold medallion with the Community Foundation’s seal on one side and the name of their scholarship fund on the other side.

Thank You...
Piedmont High School Seniors Celebrate

Piedmont Education Trust (PET) donors awarded almost $40,000 in scholarships to the Class of 2019. The Community Foundation hosted a reception in their honor on May 16, 2019 at the Piedmont First Baptist Church. PET is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1972 to help fund scholarships and various educational and support programs in the Piedmont City School System. PET has 30 funds held with the Community Foundation.

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<tr>
<th>RECIPIENT</th>
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<td>Tyler Farmer</td>
<td>Vera and Morgan Stewart Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<td>Granger and Peggy Latta Scholarship</td>
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<td>Sydney Prater</td>
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<td>The Randy and Cynthia Harper Scholarship</td>
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<td>Kaeden Jenkins</td>
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<td>Weldon (Pinkie) Roberts Scholarship</td>
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<td>Evan Cooper</td>
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<td>Brayden Kirk</td>
<td>Shane Donaldson Scholarship</td>
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<td>Oren Odam</td>
<td>Vera and Morgan Stewart Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<td>PHS Class of 1968 Scholarship (Boy)</td>
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<td>Juliana Mancilla</td>
<td>PHS Class of 1968 Scholarship (Girl)</td>
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<td>Meg Blanchard</td>
<td>Vansant Family Scholarship</td>
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<td>Madison Tyree</td>
<td>Lewis, Monteel &amp; Jerry Savage Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<td>Walter Thompson Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<td>Florence Law Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<td>Logan Pruitt</td>
<td>Megan McCain Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<td>Amber Rainey</td>
<td>Larry and Jane Gowens Scholarship</td>
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<td>MacKenzie Tolbert</td>
<td>Megan McCain Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<td>Erin McCord</td>
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<td>Frank Watson Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<td>Savannah Rogers</td>
<td>Ophelia and John Melvin Rankin Scholarship</td>
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<td>William Chandler</td>
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<td>Tariah Cox</td>
<td>Christian Cantrell Scholarship</td>
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<td>Matthew Pfledder</td>
<td>William Theodore Law Scholarship</td>
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<td>Megan McGill</td>
<td>Piedmont Lions Club Scholarship</td>
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Back Row L to R: Logan Pruitt, Joshua Smith, Tristan Donaldson, Tyler Farmer, Oren Odam, Evan Cooper, Tariah Cox, Kaeden Jenkins, Matthew Pfledder, Jackson Barber, Brayden Kirk, and William Chandler.
$337,467 in Spring Grants Boost Community Services

A reception was held at the Public Library of Anniston and Calhoun County on May 22, 2019.

Stringfellow Health Fund Awards $249,410 to not-for-profit organizations throughout our region that focus on community health and well being.

ORGANIZATIONS

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Alabama - Big Brothers Big Sisters Match Management

Calhoun-Cleburne Children's Center - Child Abuse Counseling and Advocacy

Children's Hospital of Alabama - Teen Driver Safety Program

Children's Services, Inc. - Parris Home - Intervention and Counseling Services

Clay County Community Food Bank - Support for the Clay County Community Food Bank

Clay County Healthcare Authority - Clay County Hospital Cancer Awareness Campaign

Extended Family - Kids Training Workshops

Helping Every Area Resident to Succeed (HEARTS) - Cancer Relief Services Program

Interfaith Ministries - Emergency Assistance Prescription Program

Lakeside Hospice - “Facing the End of Life’s Journey”

Safe Haven Counseling - Counseling Services

Sight Savers America - Children's Health & Vision Screenings and Follow-up Eye-care Program

St. Michael's Community Services, Inc. - The St. Michael’s Expansion Project

The Community Food Bank of Central Alabama - Kid’s Meal Campaign

YMCA of the Coosa Valley - Preventative and Restorative Health Initiative

Front Row L to R: Valerie Shannon, Big Brothers, Big Sisters; Nannette Mudiam, St. Michael’s Community Services, Inc.; April LaFollette, Interfaith Ministries; Cami McKenzie, Safe Haven Counseling; Kathryn Strickland, The Community Food Bank of Central Alabama; Leroy Falcon, YMCA of the Coosa Valley.

Middle Row L to R: Chad Nichols, Sight Savers America; John Sudduth, Safe Haven Counseling; Debbie McKinney and Kerry Tomlin, Clay County Healthcare Authority; Robi Mobley, Helping Every Area Resident to Succeed (HEARTS); Rasheedah Doss, Children’s Services, Inc.; Kara Brooks and Julie Edwards, Interfaith Ministries; George Beale, Clay County Community Food Bank.

Back Row L to R: Paul Gering, Stephanie Honeycutt and Elizabeth Thomaston, Lakeside Hospice; Jerry Glover, Children’s Services, Inc.; Julie Farmer and Michelle Littleton, Children’s Hospital of Alabama.

Heather Lamey Earns Professional Designation

Heather K. Lamey, CAP®, Director of Donor Grants and Standards for Excellence® with the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama (CFNEA) has earned the Chartered Advisor in Philanthropy® (CAP®) professional designation from the Richard D. Irwin Graduate School of The American College, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania.

Laure Clemons, Extended Family
Farley Moody Galbraith Awards - $12,978

Awards unrestricted grants to not-for-profit organizations that serve needy children, disadvantaged youth, and the arts throughout our region

*L to R: Hunter Gentry, The Arc of Calhoun and Cleburne Counties; Rasheedah Doss and Jerry Glover, Children’s Services, Inc.; April LaFollette, Interfaith Ministries.*

**ORGANIZATIONS**

*Children’s Services* - Parris Home - Transportation Fund
*Interfaith Ministries* - Emergency Assistance to Families with Disadvantaged Children
*The Arc of Calhoun and Cleburne Counties* - Arts the Word

Foothills Community Partnership Charitable Fund Awards - $18,000

Enhancing the sustainability of services of not-for-profit organizations that address human care issues in Calhoun County; specifically, education, community and economic development, safety, and wellness.

*L to R: April LaFollette, Interfaith Ministries; Nannette Mudiam, St. Michael’s Community Services, Inc.*

**ORGANIZATIONS**

*Interfaith Ministries* - Adult Dental Program
*St. Michael’s Community Services, Inc.* - Healthcare Supplies Project

Harland Jones Charitable Fund Awards - $29,079

Not-for-profit organizations which support literacy, education, safety, and the development (moral and physical) of children up to age 19.

*L to R: April LaFollette, Interfaith Ministries; Valerie Shannon, Big Brothers, Big Sisters; Sarah Wilcox, Mentone Educational Resources Foundation; Chad Nichols, Sight Savers America; Michelle Littleton and Julie Farmer, Children’s Hospital of Alabama.*

**ORGANIZATIONS**

*Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Alabama* – School-based Mentoring
*Children’s Hospital of Alabama* - Think First - Injury Prevention Program
*Interfaith Ministries* - Home Stability Program
*Mentone Educational Resources Foundation* - Arts Education and Tutoring for Disadvantaged Youth
*Sight Savers America* - Pre-K Follow-up Eye-care Program
Standards for Excellence® (SfE) Awards - $28,000

A $2,000 distribution is awarded annually to each SfE accredited organization. The funds may be used by the organization for an audit, D&O insurance, health insurance, or other designated costs.

Front Row L to R: Maudine Holloway, Community Enabler Developer, Inc.; April LaFollette, Interfaith Ministries; Joanne Pope, Cheaha Creative Arts; Jenifer Grace, The Council on Aging of Etowah County, Inc.; Jerry Glover, Children’s Services, Inc.; Back Row L to R: Cynthia Pittman, Independent Reading/Counseling Services, Inc.; Rasheedah Doss, Children’s Services, Inc.; Kay Beard, West Anniston Foundation; Rose Munford, Cheaha Creative Arts; Howard Johnson, CAST (Community Actors Studio Theatre); Valerie Shannon, Big Brothers, Big Sisters; Brenda Headrick, Piedmont Benevolence Center; Hunter Gentry, The Arc of Calhoun and Cleburne Counties.

**ORGANIZATIONS**

- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Boys and Girls Club of East Central Alabama
- CAST (Community Actors Studio Theatre)
- Cheaha Creative Arts
- Children’s Service, Inc.
- Community Enabler Developer, Inc.
- Coosa Riverkeeper
- Independent Reading/Counseling Services, Inc.
- Interfaith Ministries
- Piedmont Benevolence Center
- Public Education Foundation of Anniston, Inc.
- The Arc of Calhoun and Cleburne Counties
- The Council on Aging of Etowah County, Inc.
- West Anniston Foundation

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followed the next year with *Vacation Destinations; Fairytales & Storybooks;* and, in 2018, *Music through the Ages.* Each year generous sponsors support the event and talented decorators create amazing tablescapes. Guests may select their seats according to the table’s theme and dress to theme. The Gala has been a hit year after year.

“We are a group of women who are passionate about the community. Serving the community and helping people through our service projects bring all of us a tremendous amount of joy,” says Linda Johns, event co-chair.

Johnnie Gamble, club president, says, “CFNEA staff and trustees were with us all the way. They guided us, encouraged us, and provided hands-on support at the Gala.”

Check out our photos of past events at www.yourcommunityfirst.org/photo gallery, or the Altrusa International of Anniston, AL, Facebook page. Save the date and join us on September 26, 2019 for *Games People Play.*

Marsha Martin, a volunteer with the Lincoln Food Pantry, received the 2018 Juliette P. Doster Award for Outstanding Volunteerism in Community Health. Inspired by Juliette’s selfless contributions of her time and talent, the Community Foundation created the Juliette P. Doster Award to honor volunteers who generously give of themselves to better the health and wellbeing of our community. Marsha was honored at a reception Sunday, April 7th, surrounded by family, friends and the Lincoln Food Pantry volunteers. In recognition of the many hours she volunteered in 2018 at the Lincoln Food Pantry, Marsha received an engraved crystal clock along with a $1,000 grant from CFNEA to the Lincoln Food Pantry.

Marsha was nominated by Bonnie Ponder. Bonnie shares, “When I learned that Marsha was retiring as the Director of Human Resources with the Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind, I knew she was the perfect person to step in as the new director for the Food Pantry.” Under Marsha’s leadership the number of volunteers has more than tripled. Community donations have increased along with monetary contributions.

In 1959, Juliette P. Doster was appointed to the board of Stringfellow Memorial Hospital. For the next forty years she served as a volunteer in various roles as a board member, secretary and board chair. From 1993 to 1997, Juliette led the transition of the hospital’s administration to a management company resulting in the creation of the Susie Parker Stringfellow Health Trust, now known as the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama.

"Under Marsha’s leadership the number of volunteers have more than tripled, this includes Special Education students from the high school. Community support and monetary contributions have also increased. Donation boxes at local businesses encourage patrons to make donations. No one who comes to the Food Pantry for assistance leaves empty handed."
– Bonnie Ponder

Perpetual Plaque on display in the CFNEA office which lists Doster Award Recipients through the years.

Susan Williamson, CFNEA; Misty McGehee, United Way of North Talladega; Bonnie Ponder and Marsha Martin, Lincoln Food Pantry; Heather K. Lamey, CFNEA.
New Funds

**Copper Borstorf Family Fund** - to recommend charitable grants.

**Melanie and Todd Edmondson Memorial Fund** - to support the Oxford Performing Arts Center in Oxford, Alabama.

**Friends of the Falls Fund** - to support Noccalula Falls & Campground and/or Friends of the Falls charitable activities.

**Lunch Lady’s Pantry Fund** - to provide meals and books for children in the Etowah County school system.

**Ruby S. Wilson Scholarship Fund** - to support high school seniors in the St. Clair County School District.

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Thank You...

WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE.

MATTHEW 19:26

Dear Ruby S. Wilson Scholarship Donor,

My name is Danielle McDonald and I am honored to be one of this year’s recipients of the Ruby S. Wilson Scholarship. I would like to take the time out to thank you for funding this scholarship. Thanks to this donation, I can further my education at the University of Alabama.

I will be a freshman in the upcoming fall majoring in Business Management with a concentration of Human Resources and a minor in Business Communications. I am able to experience college and pursue a business degree thanks to your generosity.

Thank you for enabling me to reach my fullest potential.

Sincerely,

Danielle McDonald