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

We focus on three key areas:

- Effective Donor Philanthropy
- Impactful Grant Making
- Collaborative Community Partnerships

Foundation Facts:

- Over $45 million in charitable assets – Asset growth has tripled since inception.
- 19 years of grant making experience since inception on October 1, 1999.
- Annually the Community Foundation distributes more than $1 million in grants from all of its funds (donor advised, field of interest, designated endowment, pass-through, etc.). Over $19 million granted to local not-for-profits and scholarship recipients since inception.
- Through its work as a collaborative community partner, the Community Foundation serves as the fiscal sponsor for a wide variety of charitable activities including East Alabama Works (workforce development), Centennial Memorial Park (the State of Alabama’s official memorial for police and fire), Freedom Riders National Monument, and many others.
- Fund relationships have increased from 1 to almost 200 since inception.
- We work with thousands of donors.
- The Community Foundation provides a highly personalized service tailored to every donor’s charitable and financial interests and is committed to honoring donor intent;
- We accept a variety of assets and can facilitate even the most complex forms of giving;
- The Community Foundation is committed to upholding the highest standards and strives for transparency. Its website www.yourcommunityfirst.org contains extensive information about the organization. The Foundation also maintains a Gold designation from GuideStar.
- Each year all the funds managed by the Community Foundation are thoroughly audited.
- Every five years the Community Foundation conducts a region wide Community Needs Assessment.
- The Community Foundation was one of the first in the United States to be certified in compliance with National Standards for Community Foundations in 2006. The Foundation was re-certified in 2011 and again in 2016.
- The Standards for Excellence® accreditation for not-for-profit organizations was introduced to Northeast Alabama by the Community Foundation in 2012. To-date 85 not-for-profits have received training, 15 have achieved accreditation, and 18 are in the application process.
- The Community Foundation owns and leases Stringfellow Memorial Hospital. Lease payments provide funding for community health related grants to regional not-for-profit organizations from the Stringfellow Health Fund.
- The Community Foundation is self-supported through administrative fee agreements and does not engage in fundraising events for operating support.
- Foundation staff have a depth of philanthropic and not-for-profit knowledge.