Winning on the Court and In Life!
Fund Spotlight - Anniston Police Outreach Fund

Members of the City of Anniston Police Department volunteer many hours working with area youth inspiring them to be great! “Coaching basketball, teaching life skills, becoming a team player and spending quality time with area youth is ongoing and a part of the work much of our police force look forward to,” says Chief Shane Denham. Recently an anonymous donor created a fund with the Community Foundation to ensure the financial resources would be in place to support the youth outreach work of the force,” says Denham. Jennifer S. Maddox, President & CEO of the Community Foundation says, “All citizens can support this effort and donors have a variety of ways to make gifts to the fund. All of which are tax-deductible.” Sgt. Curtis McCants says, “I began working with the youth 20 years ago because I wanted to give back to my community and do my part to provide support and guidance to our youth. They are our future and we need to do everything we can to prepare them.” The goal of these efforts is to build relationships with the youth and their families, create a safe environment and reduce the presence of crime.
Celebrating 100 Years of Community Foundations

Fundholders, donors, community partners and committee volunteers joined the Foundation's board of trustees and staff for a Spring Brunch held May 10th at Classic On Noble. The event celebrated 100 years of community foundations.

Guest speaker, Dr. Robert E. Eckardt, Executive Vice President of the Cleveland Foundation, spoke of the first community foundation established in the Midwest and the impact his community foundation has made in their 100 years of existence.

Jennifer S. Maddox, President & CEO of the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama, likened community foundations to a mosaic which is the art of creating images by assembling small pieces of various materials.

A foundation is comprised of many individual pieces that together create a beautiful picture. The foundation began, as most artists do, with a vision. Our visionary was Rush Jordan, a Stringfellow Hospital Trustee. Rush was very familiar with the Dayton Foundation in Ohio and recommended the Stringfellow Health Trust emulate Mrs. Stringfellow's philanthropic spirit by promoting and enabling other individuals to give back to the community.

A highlight of the spring event was a custom mosaic designed by Oxford artist, Sarah Cavender of Sarah Cavender Metalworks. Sarah hand crafted a beautiful gold map representing the 9 counties served by the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama. To signify its beginnings, a beautiful crystal was selected to represent the Foundation. She also provided several unique metal pieces to be placed on the mosaic by guests. Each guest had the opportunity to select a piece meaningful to them and place it on the mosaic.

The mosaic is displayed in the offices of the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama. With each new fund created, the donor has an opportunity to place a piece in the mosaic signifying their role in improving our community. If you did not attend the event and would like to place a piece on the mosaic, please stop by the office.

Today, the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama is one of more than 700 community foundations in the United States, collectively managing more than $48 billion in assets and making grants of approximately $4.5 billion a year to improve life in their communities. There are more than 1,700 community foundations worldwide. Visit the photo gallery section of our website under the Community Involvement tab for pictures of our events.

Pictured above (from left) Al Shumaker and wife, Anne, share their choice for the mosaic with Martha Lavender and husband, Tim.

Pictured left - Board Chair, 2000—2002, Keener Hudson, places the crystal in the center of the region to represent the beginning of the Foundation in 1999.
New Gifts

Ralph Edward Wade has made a planned gift to benefit St. Michael’s Episcopal Church.

Piedmont Education Trust has established four new scholarships benefiting Piedmont High School Seniors: Shane Donaldson Scholarship; Christian Cantrell Scholarship; Harper Scholarship and Theresa Kisor Educational Scholarship.

Staff News

Pictured at left, congratulations to Eula Tatman, Vice President of Grants, Scholarships & Initiatives, for receiving the Girl Scouts “Women of Distinction” for 2014. Eula has worked with not-for-profits for over ten years educating them about grant opportunities and teaching them how to strengthen their organization.

Pictured at right, accolades to Debbie Pfledderer, Director of Accounting & Finance for receiving a B.S. in Accounting from Indiana Wesleyan University and graduating Magna Cum Laude.

Anniston Runners Club Wins Juliette P. Doster Award

Members of the Anniston Runners Club gathered to accept the 2013 Juliette P. Doster Award for Volunteerism in Community Health. The award recognizes personal commitment, overall impact and extraordinary service for a club or group actively promoting or advancing community health in Calhoun County. The Runners Club was selected for their commitment to promoting, encouraging, and fostering the love of running and pursuing a healthy lifestyle. The club strives to promote the healthy benefits of running and mentor new runners. The club touts the benefits of running to all ages and hosts six events each year.

Honorable mentions went to: Lenora Johnson, founder of Steel Magnolias, a breast cancer support group; Katie Collins, volunteer with the Interfaith Ministries Meals-On-Wheels program; and Glen Jones, volunteer with Piedmont Benevolence Center.

As award winner, the club receives a $1,000.00 grant from the Susie Parker Stringfellow Health Fund to a not-for-profit organization of their choice that serves Calhoun County; an engraved plaque noting the many hours of services performed in the community; and, their name added to an historical plaque listing all past award winners on display in the Foundation office. Their chosen organization was the Anniston Runners Club.
Scholarship awards for 2014 totaled $80,000. At a reception held in their honor at the Anniston Country Club, scholarship recipients and their families had an opportunity to meet their donor or representative and learn the meaning behind the scholarship they received. A few of the students took a moment to share what receiving the fund meant to them. Some students shared their goals and aspirations. Scholarship Committee Chair, Jack Swift, says, “It is exciting to be a part of helping students further their education. This financial assistance is possible through the generous donors who have created scholarship funds to share their legacies of higher education.” Learn more about where these students are going to college and how to apply for Foundation scholarships at www.yourcommunityfirst.org/current news.

Piedmont High School Seniors Honored

Piedmont Education Trust (PET) donors recently presented scholarships for 2014. PET is an independent not-for-profit founded in 1972 to help fund various educational and support programs in the Piedmont City School System. PET is a fund of the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama.

Scholarships Awarded

Walter Thompson - Andrew Posey
VanSant Family - Katlyn McCurdy
Leola Roberts - Kelsie Spears
Dr. W.H. Kimbrough - Denard Spears
McAbee/Salmon - Caleb Adams
Vera & Morgan Stewart
Citizenship - Andrew Posey
Advanced Diploma - Denard Spears & Exavyer Jackson
Education Major - Alexis Byers
Lewis & Monteel Savage - Jamal Young
Weldon “Pinkie” Roberts - Linda Feazell
Ryan Davis - Wade Horne
Dr. John R. Kirkpatrick - Exavyer Jackson
Frank Watson - Addison Byers
Granger Latta - Dylan Akin
Larry & Jane Gowens - Addison Byers
Health Scholarship - Raven Paslay & Ty Sparks
Miranda Givens - Caleb Adams
Erin Givens - Hannah McCurdy
Class of ’68 - Matthew Strott & Mallory Roberts
William Theodore Law - Dylan Akin
Florence Bates Law - Matthew Strott
Meagan McCain - Linda Feazell & Morgan Watkins

Back row, l to r: Matthew Strott, Kaitlyn McCurdy, Hannah McCurdy, Linda Feazell, Morgan Watkins, and Andrew Posey.
Middle row, l to r: Caleb Adams, Denard Spears, Exavyer Jackson, Ty Sparks, Dylan Akin, Jamal Young, and Wade Horne.
Front row, l to r: Kelsie Spears, Alexis Byers, Mallory Roberts, Raven Paslay, and Addison Byers.
Grant Awards Total $400,865.32
November 1, 2013 through April 30, 2014

Stringfellow Health Fund recipients smile with checks in hand. L to R, back row: Judge Brenda Stedham, Community Investment Committee Chair, Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama; Raisha Morrell, Second Chance; Eula Tatman, Vice President Grants, Scholarships & Initiatives, Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama; Kay Beard, West Anniston Foundation; Peggy Mann, American Red Cross Community Chapter Executive Talladega-St. Clair Chapter; Joy Ballenger, American Red Cross Community Chapter Executive Etowah-Cherokee Chapter; Tina Shaddix, UCP of Greater Birmingham; Scott Wood, Etowah Free Clinic; Joe Jankoski, American Red Cross Community Chapter Executive; Jack Causey, Boys & Girls Club of East Central Alabama; Tommie Goggans, Board Chair, Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama; Seated l to r: Linda Johns, Executive Director, ECP of Central Alabama United Cerebral Palsy; Nicole Williams, Manager of Grants, Sight Savers of America; Rita Flegel, Executive Director, The Right Place.

Representatives of The Right Place pose with Foundation Trustee, Manju Purohit. Grant dollars will be used to implement a fire safety program in the homes of low-income families in Calhoun County. L to R: Jeff Nelson, Valerie Mason and Lori Floyd, staff; Dr. Glenn Archibald, Board President; Rita Flegel, Executive Director; Manju Purohit, Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama Trustee; and Matthew Tyson, Board Member – The Right Place.
Thanks 2014 Scholarship Reviewers

32 volunteers reviewed 47 scholarship applications. These dedicated volunteers were divided into 5 teams. For three weeks they studied the various scholarship guidelines, read essays, reviewed transcripts and ranked their choices.


Social Media Workshop 68 not-for-profit organizations learned how to tweet, post to Facebook and share photos through Instagram. Under the direction of Alabama Power communications expert, Ike Pigott, far right with event hosts; Curtis Simpson, United Way of East Central Alabama, far left, and Jennifer S. Maddox, center, learn how to post pictures using Instagram. The workshop received rave reviews from participants. This workshop is just one of many ways we assist the not-for-profits and help them tell their stories.

Scholarship Spotlight

Quinita Jackson is a graduate of Troy University. She majored in accounting with a minor in leadership studies. Quinita is pursuing a master’s degree in international accounting and finance. About receiving the scholarship, Quinita said, “She was overjoyed knowing not only her family believes in her, but that a generous donor does as well. She is touched knowing they cared about her when they didn’t know who she was.” Quinita is a recipient of The E. C. Lloyd & J. C. U. Johnson Family Fund. Quinita is pictured with Mary Elizabeth Johnson at the 2014 Scholarship Reception.