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# GreenwoodGives.org

## Greenwood County Community Foundation News

April 2013

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO FOR YOUR COMMUNITY?  
HOW CAN WE HELP YOU MAKE THAT HAPPEN?

## Community Foundation Debuts New Website Where Anyone Can Be a Philanthropist

Want to give someone in your garden club a birthday remembrance?

**Check out [GreenwoodGives.org](http://GreenwoodGives.org)!**

Does your nonprofit need to fund a small project that is not in your budget?

**Check out [GreenwoodGives.org](http://GreenwoodGives.org)!**

Like to help a local charity, but not sure how to choose just one?

**Check out [GreenwoodGives.org](http://GreenwoodGives.org)!**

The Greenwood County Community Foundation has just launched an affiliated website where local nonprofits, and those working with charitable causes, can list their special projects – and then you can show your support by contributing online to these efforts. Not all persons can have a named Fund at the Community Foundation, but almost everyone can find a cause they care about at [GreenwoodGives.org](http://GreenwoodGives.org). You can make a gift there and truly feel like you are part of “the team” of generous people making a difference in Greenwood County!

Each organization or group may keep two projects running at any given time and the projects MUST be funded within a ninety-day window. The projects are smaller, allowing your gift to make a GREAT impact. We anticipate the total amount

requested from all donors combined to average about \$1,500 per project. Funds raised for projects which do not get fully funded in their window of opportunity will be added to the most similar Focus Area of the Community Foundation’s unrestricted grantmaking.

Even though the site is brand new, there are already a dozen or so projects highlighted. Interest is quickly being generated among nonprofits and other local organizations. Tracey Marcengill, with Piedmont Agency on Aging, which runs the local Meals on Wheels program, was excited by an additional opportunity to raise funds for their organization: “Thank you for this opportunity to be highlighted on the website.”

The website was the semester project of Foundation intern Kelly Plemmons, a senior at Lander University. The site is a great opportunity to learn more about the work of local nonprofits. And it is a terrific tool to teach children about philanthropy.

Donations can be made in any amount, large or small, and the site is designed so that you can use your PayPal account or secured credit card. You can even write a check to the Foundation.

**Check out [GreenwoodGives.org](http://GreenwoodGives.org) today!**

### Funds Recently Created

“*A Time to Give*” Fund started by an anonymous donor for giving to a multitude of organizations. *The Latham-Dolny Family Endowment* created to give in perpetuity to causes important to Stephen and Linda Dolny and their families. *The Greenwood Kiwanis Star Student Fund* to create a permanent source of income to award annual scholarships. *The Martha C. and J. Roland McKinney Fund* to annually support the Shepherd Center for spinal cord injury and brain injury.

### Grants Recently Made

**Since January 1, 2013—\$43,000**

From Foundation Unrestricted and Field of Interest Funds:

- *A Place For Us*
- *Alston Wilkes*
- *Beyond the Walls*
- *Faith Camp*
- *Healthy Learners*
- *La Puerta de Esperanza*
- *Leadership Greenwood/Bowers Rodgers*
- *Ninety Six National Historic Site*
- *United Way/Stuff the Bus*
- *YMCA*

From Donor Advised and Designated Funds

- *Food Bank of Greenwood County*
- *Greenwood Genetic Center*
- *Greenwood Soup Kitchen Ministry*
- *Hidden Harbor Marine Environmental Project*
- *Piedmont Technical College Foundation*
- *Project Host*
- *St. Mark United Methodist Church*

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE



April marks the beginning of our first "Innovations" grant cycle here at the Community Foundation.

This quarterly granting focus joins Youth and Education, Community Enhancement and Open Granting (including Health and Human Services) to round out the work of our organization. This new cycle, which is our least narrowly defined, may also prove to be our most exciting.

Within our other focus area we have made some significant grants for new projects—bathrooms for Burton Center Miracle League, the on-line Greenwood History Project at the Museum and helping provide for expansion at La Puerta de Esperanza (Door of Hope). Many other grants have been made to sustain ongoing programs—some to meet those in our community with special needs and some to enrich the lives of every community resident. Grants made from our unrestricted assets have been relatively small in size, averaging less than \$3,000 each.

Our Innovation grants will be larger—and bolder. These grants will support "testing ideas that foster strategic change" originating from new sources of insight and inspiration. They will generate collective excitement for their originality and potential as well as their courageous approach to improving and enriching the lives of the people in our community. These grants differ from our other three focus areas: no more than one or two grants per year will be funded (some years none). These grants may be considered for multi-year commitments.

I am excited about the risks, challenges, investments and community changes that will be a part of this grant cycle. The Community Foundation is here to be a part of things new and different to improve life in Greenwood County! Stay tuned for developments!

--Mark Kasper



Students in the afterschool program at La Puerta de Esperanza celebrate learning in a newly expanded space for homework tutoring

## Youth and Education Grant Cycle Offers Local Organizations the Chance to Expand Their Work

Anyone who has ever been a classroom teacher knows that students suffer academically and behaviorally during the carefree days of summer break each year. To engage young minds and provide a sense of discipline and personal development, the Foundation has chosen to help fund several summer programs. The **Ninety-Six National Historic Site** (\$1,000) is offering a historic-based educational summer camp while the **YMCA** (\$3,600) is seeking to expand their High Hopes program to the Magnolia Park area. The Foundation is encouraging collaboration by offering a joint grant to **Beyond the Walls** (at Seaboard Center) and **Faith Camp** through Light of Faith Ministries (\$2,300).

Adult Education has not taken a back seat to the school-age crowd in the work the Foundation seeks to support. **A Place for Us**, a home which serves the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of young women facing crisis situations, received a grant (\$3,500) in their Learning Center, where residents complete their high school education. Similarly, The **Alston Wilkes Society** (\$2,500) provides educational workshops that identify resources to meet prisoners' basic needs (food, clothing, shelter, ID's etc.) upon release. They also seek to increase employability with education and job acquisition skills training. In the local community,

they also provide intensive Anger Management Education Workshops.

When the school year resumes in the fall, the work of the Foundation will be evidenced in support for students. **United Way** (\$2,000) sponsors the familiar Stuff the Bus school supplies program, but often expensive items are not collected. A grant from the Foundation will supplement much needed items to fill book bags so that each student starts the year on an equally equipped footing. **Healthy Learners** (\$4,500) works to remove health barriers so that students can learn by providing access to basic health care services (i.e. dental, vision, medication, assistance with referrals to local mental health agencies, episodic care, hearing evaluations, transportation and payment of uncovered medical costs). After school hours, Hispanic students at **La Puerta de Esperanza** (\$3,000) will gather in much needed additional space as the Foundation provided funding to transport & setup an additional classroom.

Finally, the Greenwood Chamber's **Leadership Greenwood** group (\$2,100) received a grant for their service project at Bowers-Rodgers Home, which provides emergency shelter for children. Funds are for paint supplies and to secure a dining table where residents can share meals in a family-like setting.

## Why Would a Nonprofit Choose to Place Their Endowment with the Community Foundation?

The Greenwood Kiwanis Club has been recognizing Star Students in Greenwood County for more than 17 years.

Recently a permanently-endowed Fund was created at GCCF – The Greenwood Kiwanis Star Student Fund. Each year this Fund will make a distribution to the club to award scholarships to top Greenwood County students. No doubt, many reading this article serve on local nonprofit or civic organization boards—and may wonder why these Kiwanians voted to do this. The reasons are many.

- An “Agency Fund” allows the nonprofit to focus on its mission. Time to manage an in-house endowment may not add up to the return since administration, audit and tax filing costs of a separate organization-related foundation can be high.
- The Fund is invested in a larger pool of assets, which can lead to greater growth, greater income, and lower investment fees.
- The Foundation can help in establishing, marketing and growing the endowment through bequests or alternative asset gifts.
- A Fund provides permanent protection from possible future Board neglect, shortsighted

invasion, or improper use—GCCF serves as the guardian of the Fund.

- Creation of a Fund assures donors their conditions are perpetually met— if the organization should cease to exist, it is GCCF’s responsibility to use the Fund, in as much as possible, to comply with the donor’s original intent.

And here is another very tangible bonus: Greenwood County Community Foundation is currently matching fifty cents on the dollar all endowed gifts, meaning you can start an endowed Fund with only \$14,000, which immediately becomes \$21,000. If you are related to a local nonprofit, please consider an endowment at the Foundation to establish a permanent and predictable source of income for the organization.

## Donor Advised Fundholders Grant Strategically Beyond Greenwood – as close as Greenville and even to the Florida Keys

Couples, families and individuals created their named Funds at the Community Foundation when it was financially most beneficial to them and are now recommending grants to a variety of causes. Philanthropy originating in Greenwood is spreading far beyond our county.

One GCCF donor recommended a grant to Project Hope in Greenville

where The CC Pearce Culinary School teaches culinary and life skills to chronically unemployed and underemployed people, helping them gain and sustain employment and become positive role models for their children, grandchildren and peers in the community.

Their website notes, in 2003, the program “was created to address the root causes of hunger by equipping individuals with the skills and knowledge they need to gain and sustain employment in the food service industry. The Culinary School is a 12 week program that includes hands-on food preparation, ServSafe food-safety instruction and life skills lessons to prepare people for gainful employment that will lead them towards self-sufficiency. The program is offered free of charge to those in need. The students develop their skills by cooking meals for the Feeding Hungry Children Project.”

Another Donor-Advised Fundholder has enjoyed



several trips to the Florida Keys and has grown to appreciate the natural beauty and diverse wildlife of the area. Hidden Harbor Marine Environmental Project opened the Turtle Hospital in 1986 to rescue, rehab and release tropical sea turtles.

A variety of ailments are treated including flipper amputations caused by fishing line and trap rope entanglements, shell damage caused by boat collisions, and intestinal impactions caused by ingestion of foreign materials such as plastic bags, fishing line and/or hooks.

The Turtle Hospital has successfully treated and released over 1000 Sea Turtles since its founding.



## Appreciated Asset Gifts – Double the tax benefits, twice the fun

Creating your own Fund at the Community Foundation with an appreciated asset, such as stock or real property, has multiple advantages. The stock market has broken records this year, with the Dow regularly above 14,000, so you may be holding an asset that could be used to make your charitable dream come true.

Due to an uncertain tax climate and several years of strong markets, 2012 was a record year for "donor advised" charitable gift funds (DAFs). DAFs enable charitably-minded

taxpayers to contribute money in one year and reap a tax deduction then, while postponing decisions about donations to specific causes into the future. Once in the account, the money is invested and grows tax-free, enabling the donor to give more over time. However, gifts may be made quickly when the donor is ready.

A Donor-advised Fund can also facilitate distribution from the contribution of a large, indivisible appreciated property such as real estate. Property can be contributed to a DAF, sold without tax consequences, and the proceeds used to make smaller contributions to multiple recipients or donations over time.

While deducting the charitable gift at market value in most cases, donors receive another tax benefit when they

donate appreciated property, because they do not have to pay capital gains tax on the appreciation. For this reason, many choose to make gifts from their IRAs or retirement accounts—where long-held investments may include one's most highly appreciated assets.

Remember that a **Donor-advised Fund at the Greenwood County Community Foundation can be established for as little as \$14,000.** Appreciated stock or real property may be just the gift to start your own Fund and reap the benefits. Call us for more information about why this solution might work best for you.

Is Greenwood included in your will or estate plan? Contact us to create your own custom, permanent legacy!

For more information, go to the GCCF Website at: [www.GreenwoodCF.org](http://www.GreenwoodCF.org)



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Since 2011, we have granted more than \$526,000 as investment in our area's future!