



Clockwise with Mark Kasper presenting checks: John Lowery (Cokesbury College); Rachel Blair (United Way); Kenneth Parham and Cassy Funderburk (Pathway House); Kris Burris (Beyond Abuse)

Greenwood County Community Foundation News

December 2013

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

Community Foundation Celebrates Second Anniversary

Just two years ago, who would have thought the then-newly-started Greenwood County Community Foundation would be where it is today? Could anyone have known that it would have had such an impact on life in Greenwood County and beyond—having made almost 200 grants totaling \$760,000?

In the area of HEALTH, the Foundation made grants to support SPOT eye screening of young children, extending the work of the local Lions Club Foundation. Funds to Greater Greenwood United Ministry went to purchase a portable Electrocardiograph system at their clinic. The machine will help to diagnose heart problems earlier so that patients may be referred for preventive care. County children received dental treatment through a grant to Healthy Learners.

In EDUCATION, community investment was made to help bring the SC Governors' School of Math and Science summer program to Greenwood for high-achieving students. For those needing remedial attention, a variety of afterschool and

GED programs were funded.

These have been two difficult years for our area, as our local economy has been only slowly improving. Many remain in need, and so numerous grants have been made to HUMAN SERVICES organization such as local soup kitchens and food pantries, job training and literacy programs and health and wellness initiatives. The largest grant awarded to date (\$30,000 from the Foundation's "Innovation" fund) went to Greenwood Pathway House for their "Furnishing a Future"—to teach furniture repair and re-finishing skills to the homeless.

With the SC Festival of Flowers adding so much both economically and culturally to our area, the Foundation chose to invest in the free-to-the-public "KidFest" program (two years) and the highly-successful Aviation Expo.

Honoring those who have served our country and protected our freedoms, the Foundation made a grant to the Hall of Heroes during a COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT cycle.

(continued on page 3)

Grants Recently Made

Since September 12, 2013—
\$122,920

From Foundation Unrestricted and Field of Interest Funds:

- American National Red Cross
- Faith Homes
- Festival of Flowers
- Food Bank of Greenwood County
- Habitat for Humanity
- Humane Society of Greenwood
- Immanuel Lutheran Soup Kitchen
- Kinard Manor
- Palmetto Trust

From Donor Advised and Designated Funds

- Advance Mission to Laos
- Campus Outreach Charleston
- Child Evangelism Fellowship of the Lakelands
- First Presbyterian Church
- Greenwood County Community Foundation Operations
- Greenwood Pathway House
- Greenwood United Ministries
- First Presbyterian Church
- HospiceCare of the Piedmont
- Lions Club Foundation
- Main Street United Methodist
- Nature Conservancy (national)
- Northside Baptist Church
- Piedmont Technical College Foundation
- Soup Kitchen Ministry
- SC Nature Conservancy
- St. Mark United Methodist Church
- United Way of Greenwood and Abbeville Counties

From GreenwoodGives.org

- A Place For Us
- Alston Wilkes Society
- Cornerstone

PRESIDENT'S NOTE



Recently I was taken back to my own middle-school days of playing alto saxophone...

. . . and in the process came to realize I have the best job EVER!

Seventy-seven local band students were rehearsing for a performance with the Dallas Brass one afternoon recently at Lander. I stopped in because The Community Foundation had made a grant during our Community Enhancement cycle to underwrite this "master class" through the efforts of Greenwood-Lander Performing Arts.

What a wonderful experience to hear this group come together to play a great patriotic medley! What a great chance for these young people to perform with such a world-class group! This class and performance opportunity was open to ALL brass band students middle-school aged and older. For the rest of their lives they will be able to say, "I performed on stage with The Dallas Brass in Greenwood, SC."

Being a part of making this happen makes me know that I have the greatest job in the world! And I am keenly aware that the Foundation is making such events a reality all around Greenwood County. Our Foundation work is, in part, about feeding the hungry and helping those in dire need. But it is also about making life in our area better for ALL of us.

None of the grants we make would be possible without the wide -ranging support received by the Greenwood County Community Foundation—SO... THANK YOU! Please remember the Community Foundation in your giving (lifetime and estate) so that we can continue to support such community-enriching programs.

--Mark Kasper



Greenwood-Lander Performing Arts offered local youth a Master Class with the Dallas Brass

Open Granting Cycle Grants Announced throughout Greenwood County!

During the final quarter of this year, nonprofits which had not yet received funding from the Foundation were encouraged to submit applications for their projects. This cycle usually has requests from many Health and Human Services organizations, as there is no separate submission period for that sector.

Grants were reviewed by a committee consisting of Neal Asman, Michael Butler, Rick Green, Ann Gunby, Nick Nicholson, Ellen Nix, London Thomas, Belinda Turner, Richard Whiting and Gerald Witt. Joining the group was Supriya Lal, a representative selected from the newly-formed Youth Philanthropy Committee.

The Committee made their allocation recommendations, and the Foundation Board finalized grants at their December meeting. Grants were made for the following projects to benefit county residents:

American National Red Cross - for local disaster work (\$4,500). Last year the group assisted families impacted by 38 disaster incidents in our county.

Faith Homes—for plumbing in their planned new 32-bed dorm for alcohol and drug abuse recovery clients (\$4,500).

Festival of Flowers—for Kid-Fest 2014. This year the program

touched the lives of more than 800 children and family members (\$1,700).

Food Bank of Greenwood County—for food purchases (\$2,200) to help those who are unemployed, underemployed or have a health problem or disability.

Habitat for Humanity—for a site trailer and tools (\$5,000) to help them in building seven houses locally each year.

Humane Society of Greenwood—for a cargo van for animal/supplies transport (\$1,700), particularly to be used to transport animals to Greenville for more economical spay/neutering.

Immanuel Lutheran Soup Kitchen—for provisions, shelving, refrigeration and other food storage to aide in serving weekly meals (\$2,500).

Kinard Manor—to support programs with homeless veterans (\$1,700). Since 2007 the home has provided shelter and services to 135 veterans who have served our country.

The Palmetto Trust—for Wesley Brooks House research (\$1,500). This grant will pay for a portion of the documentation of one of the county's oldest structures. Once documented, application can be made for other state and national resources.

Second Anniversary (cont'd)

Organizations which may not have previously had a local source for “small grant funding” have been supported through the Foundation. Each has, in their own unique way, created a richer community—and they exemplify the county-wide work of the Foundation. Just a few of these projects include: a revitalization project of the Town of Troy’s historical corn mill and blacksmith shops, replacing damaged gutters and downspouts and repairing stucco at the Cokesbury College site and support for the annual Greenwood Area Studio Potters Guild tour.

Similarly, local funding for the arts and culture, through programs that reach the entire economic spectrum of our county, has been accomplished through grants to Greenwood Community Theatre, the Museum and Railroad Center, the Arts Center, Greenwood-

Lander Performing Arts, Festiva and the Greenwood Festival Chorale. GCCF helped sponsor a book of photography emphasizing the importance of preserving Lake Greenwood, in addition to underwriting public meetings to raise ecological awareness.

The momentum of the Greenwood County Community Foundation, strong to this point, shows no signs of diminishing. Programs on the horizon will strengthen the work of local nonprofits. Our planned Boards-in-Action effort, in conjunction with the Greenwood Chamber of Commerce, will serve to develop the effectiveness of local nonprofit boards and provide a route for younger leaders in our community to serve as board members. The Foundation is also leading a “community indicators” project, with the aid of several major local entities, to identify local areas of critical need so that unified efforts can be made to effect even greater change.

Many are seeing the impact of Greenwood County Community Foundation and trusting its wide-ranging and strategic grantmaking process. Assets are now more than \$3.5 million. Some are making lifetime gifts—for immediate use or for permanent endowment use in the community. Residents are investing in causes they care about related to the future of their community. Possibly most important of all, they are including the organization in their wills and other estate plans. To date, estimated bequest promises total more than \$24 million. When these legacies are received, the work of the Community Foundation will be an even-more-powerful force for positive change within the Greenwood area.

Two years? The Greenwood County Community Foundation has “only just begun”.

Our Donors Are . . . Helping Students to “See their Way” to Academic Achievement as Well as Cultural Enrichment

The Spot program, of the Greenwood Lions Club Foundation, addresses early vision problems. Spot is the first binocular, Wi Fi enabled, portable vision screener on the market. As a result of its easy operation, more children can be screened, and in conjunction with adequate follow-up care, more vision

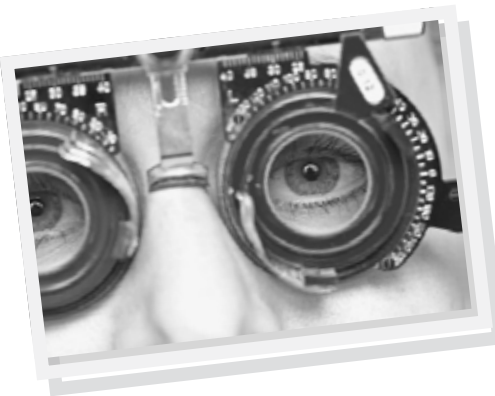
problems can be resolved while improving each student’s potential for learning and academic success.

The Lions Mobile screening unit has screened District 50 seventh graders for the past eight years. Current screening requires verbal response. Spot allows screening of very young children and special needs individuals.

During the Community Enrichment Grant Cycle, the Foundation made a grant to the group’s work. So impressed with the eye examination program, one of our donors stepped up to the plate with an additional grant from their Donor-Advised Fund.

A second program was recently funded by NUMEROUS local donors, most of whom had no previous connection to the Community Foundation.

ALL students at Cambridge Academy spend time in the music room every week. Every year staff has placed five strips of tape on the room’s floor. They’ve used these lines to practice placing music notes on the lines and for playing music games. By the end of the year, the tape was always ripped and worn. But this



summer music teacher Beck Gardner submitted a unique fund-raising project to GreenwoodGives.org, a website sponsored by the GCCF. There, through local contributors, she raised \$750 to purchase a special rug which allows her teaching methods to pleasantly work their magic. “This rug will be great for our K2 – 8th grade students,” she commented.

The Community Foundation is committed to meeting the varied needs of our community in unique ways.

Cemetery Plots, Vacant Land and American Express (AMEX) Points

Those are assets individuals inquired about giving to the Foundation recently. They are "alternative assets", which community foundations are experts at turning into resources for doing good.

The twenty-odd cemetery plots were of less value than when they were purchased, long before cremation became such a popular option. It would have been years before the Foundation was able to put their value to good work in the community. So... the potential donor was delighted with our suggestion that the plots could benefit one of her favorite local charities, one which occasionally purchases plots for burial of indigent clients. Happy donor, happy non-profit.

The vacant land was in the line of the

proposed Edgefield Corridor connecting Main Street to the Greenwood Genetic Center area. Again, it was illiquid as an asset and not of great monetary value. But...when I called Habitat for Humanity, they were pleased to receive the gift, as it would give them a foothold in that area and provide a place for them to construct a home or community garden.

Another person inquired about donating airline miles and AMEX points to us. We checked: While airlines generally accept mileage contributions only for a few select national charities, AMEX allows points to be donated to virtually any non-profit and turned into cash. I jokingly said to him, "I hope you are a million-miler," but the joke was on me as we sat before his computer and he clicked thorough 2,000,000 points (worth \$20,000) to the Foundation. He will not receive a tax deduction (as these points were never counted toward his income), but he will

add to his Fund at the Foundation and make grants to help those in need.

While most everyone is familiar with check-writing and stock-transfer as ways to give, there are numerous other opportunities as well: life insurance policies, primary residences or income real estate, business interests such as closely held stock or LLC stock and tangible property such as jewelry or art. The Foundation may not be able to accept "all" assets, but whenever possible, we will work with you so that the things you have valued can become of value to those in need. Oh, and by the way, the Foundation DOES accept more conventional gifts of cash, check and stock!

Is Greenwood included in your will or estate plan? Contact us to create your own

For more information, go to the GCCF Website at:
www.GreenwoodCF.org



**GREENWOOD COUNTY
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

Interesting local projects need your support at GreenwoodGives.org

**Greenwood County
Community Foundation**
929 Phoenix St, St 16
Greenwood, SC 29646
Phone: 864.223.1524

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Since 2011, we have granted more than \$760,000 as investment in our area's future!