



Greenwood County Community Foundation News

May 2015

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

Second Annual Symetra Golf Tournament Scores Big for Our Local Nonprofits

The Links at Stoney Point has done it yet again!

Jim and Denise Medford along with their staff and an incredible battalion of volunteers have created an overwhelming success of "Round 2" of the **Self Regional Healthcare Foundation Women's Charity Classic**.

In addition to \$150,000 for the Self Regional Healthcare Foundation, several other organizations will benefit greatly from this group's mighty efforts, including \$40,000 to Piedmont Technical College Foundation (scholarships), \$9,500 to Lander University Foundation and \$25,000 to GCCF (to further endow a women's health Fund). Additionally, The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society—Upstate Chapter, Beyond Abuse and Bowers Rodgers Children's Home are among other local charitable recipients.

This year's tournament attracted 144 professional golfers and a number of associated golf clinics and opportunities to play with the stars. Other events included: **"Girls on the Run" 5K Run** to help preteen girls develop self-respect and a healthy lifestyles, a **Pub Crawl** which brought many participants to Uptown Greenwood for a lively time Friday evening, **Music and Fireworks on the Lake at Hole 13** on Saturday evening and a **Mother's Day Brunch** on Sunday.

The event, for which there is a ten-year agreement in place, has been an economic boon to the Lakelands area. The tournament winner, Alejandra Llana, represented Mexico well by taking home the \$30,000 top prize. The local event has the largest purse on the tour.

Chamber Invests in Local College Students and Invests with the Local Community Foundation

The Greenwood Chamber of Commerce took a bold step recently in instituting its **Greenwood Chamber of Commerce Community Scholarship** at the Community Foundation.

The Chamber's membership, the lifeblood of our economic and business growth and success, recognizes the importance of a well-educated population. That membership also recognizes the incredible local treasures we have in Lander University and Piedmont Technical College. Therefore, the group's outreach entity, the Greenwood County Improvement Foundation, elected to start a scholarship program. And they chose to secure the future of that scholarship program by investing their assets with the Foundation.

"Once the decision was made to support our youth, our future workforce and our local educational institutions through a scholarship, the choice of investing the endowment with the Foundation was a 'no-brainer'," noted Angelle LaBorde, Chamber President and CEO. "In its brief history in Greenwood the Community Foundation has established itself as a stable, permanent repository for charitable Funds such as this one. It also was beneficial that the Foundation offered a 50-cents-on-the-dollar match for endowments."

Lander and PTC will each select a local student as the scholarship recipient.

For over one hundred years, the Chamber has been impacting our area in positive ways. This endowment assures that will continue for generations to come.

Grants Recently Made Since 12/10/2014—\$109,931.89 From Foundation Unrestricted and Field of Interest Funds:

- A Place For Us
- Beyond Abuse/Megs House
- Community Initiatives
- Greenwood Family YMCA
- Healthy Learners
- La Puerta de Esperanza
- Light of Faith Ministries
- The Museum and Railroad Center
- United Way of Greenwood and Abbeville Counties
- Ware Shoals School District

From Donor Advised and Designated Funds:

- Advance GCFA
- Boy Scouts of America--Blue Ridge Council
- Child Evangelism Fellowship of the Lakelands
- Disciplemakers
- East Cooper Baptist Church
- Food Bank of Greenwood County
- Greenwood First Baptist Church
- Greenwood Genetic Center
- Greenwood Lions Club Foundation
- Greenwood Soup Kitchen Ministry
- Harry Hampton Wildlife Fund
- Hidden Harbor Marine Project
- Leukemia Lymphoma Society of the Upstate
- March of Dimes
- Mission to the World
- Northside Baptist Church
- Piedmont Technical College Foundation
- SC Wildlife Federation
- Serge
- Shepherd Center
- St. Mark United Methodist Church
- Stop Hunger Now
- Water of Life

From Greenwood Gives.org

- Beyond Abuse
- Megs House

PRESIDENT'S NOTE



Toxic Charity
How Churches and Charities Hurt Those They Help

Whenever a couple or individual comes to the Foundation office to start a Fund here, the first thing we do is sit down and have a nice long talk. Actually it is a well-structured conversation facilitated by using a four-page philanthropic planning worksheet. It helps donors discern their most important life values and consider how they impact their giving. Another thing the worksheet asks is whether donors wish to contribute to the immediate needs of those around them, or to work on solving the root causes of those needs. Most everyone says they want to work on root causes to eliminate the need for local crisis support organizations. But almost all are taken aback when I ask if they have ever given to a high-school GED program or to a jobs training program. At the same time these same donors are generous to the food bank or the soup kitchen.

A couple years ago, I started passing around copies of the book "Toxic Charity" by Robert Lupton. I am pleased that several Sunday School classes and a couple local organizations have decided to study this book, and to consider its implications in their individual and collective giving.

The premise of the book is that as a society—the government and the charitable sector—has created dependency. At the same time we have robbed those in need of their dignity, as we simply give them a hand-out without also providing a path for them to move out of their current situation. He vividly recounts the event that changed the way he thought about charitable work: He and his friends were "providing Christmas" for a family when he realized that the head of the household was sitting silently in the corner, head bowed, before quietly slipping out the door.

(continued on back cover—page 4)



"Education...is painful, continual and difficult work to be done in kindness, by watching, by warning,... by praise, but above all-- by example."
 -- John Ruskin

"Youth and Education" Awards Announced throughout Greenwood County!

There are four grant cycles throughout the year at the Community Foundation: **Youth and Education, Innovations, Community Enhancement**, which includes arts and culture and parks and recreation, and **Open Granting** for "any" grant requests, but particularly for programs and projects which do not fall within any of the foundation's other pre-determined grant categories. The Youth and Education Grants Review Committee for this cycle is composed of a wide range of community leaders including Selynto Anderson, Dan Crockett, Georgia Deal, Shell Dula, Donna Foster, Chuck Graves, David Henderson, Angelle LaBorde, Tripp May and Trentsie Williams.

After the grant requests were reviewed, the committee's recommendations were presented to the Community Foundation Board which allocated the following grants this period:

A Place For Us Ministry (\$2000) for Learning Center programs to enable residents to complete high school or obtain a GED education and higher education.

Beyond Abuse/Megs House (\$2500) for the "Show Your Strength Greenwood" program, to engage men in prevention of child abuse, sexual assault and domestic violence.

Community Initiatives (\$4000) for their after-school program's literacy initiative that provides reading and language arts education reinforcement activities.

Greenwood Family YMCA (\$2500) to expand its nine-week High

Hopes Summer Learning Loss Prevention Program.

Healthy Learners (\$4000) to expand to Ware Shoals for transportation costs to obtain medical services for children without resources.

La Puerta de Esperanza (\$2000) for two summer enrichment programs to improve reading comprehension and overall academic success of boys in grades 4 through 7 and for discussions on sexual responsibility, body changes and health issues, self-esteem builders and career possibilities for high school age girls.

Light of Faith Ministries (\$2000) to serve at-risk youth (age five to eighteen): potential high school dropouts and potential gang members.

The Museum and Railroad Center (\$370) to provide scholarships for children to experience unique, hands-on learning at the Museum, as well as participate in guided lessons that align with state curriculum standards.

United Way of Greenwood and Abbeville Counties (\$2000) for its Stuff the Bus program that provides school supplies to those unable to prepare for a new school year.

Ware Shoals School District (\$3630) to develop a GOAL (Great Outdoor Adventure & Literacy) Program and provide approximately 25 underperforming second and third grade students an engaging, adventure-themed curriculum.

Even If You Don't Have \$8M...

Oftentimes charitable couples and individuals are advised to start a private or family foundation—particularly in years where some life event would cause them to have a large tax consequence. This was not always bad advice, but now there are more efficient (please read: “cheaper”) ways to accomplish the same goals. If a person has less than EIGHT MILLION DOLLARS (because that is generally considered the break-even point on private foundation efficiency), they should seriously consider the advantages of a donor advised Fund instead of a private foundation.



For starters, a community foundation Fund can be set up in a matter of an hour or so with no start-up costs, while a private foundation can take weeks or months and involve substantial legal fees. The maximum percentages of AGI (Adjusted Gross Income) that one deduct (for income tax purposes) by contributing to a private foundation are lower (30% of AGI) than for those who create a Fund (50% of AGI). That may sound like a ceiling that one may not consistently hit, but remember, both of these vehicle are utilized in years of atypically high income. And the deductions available for gifts of stock and real property are even more stringently capped.

Further, each year a private foundation must expend 5% of its net asset value regardless of earnings (or lack thereof). Community foundations and their individual Funds are under no such requirement. Private foundations are frequently subjected to

excise taxes of 1-2% of net investment incomes. Not the case with community foundations.

Funds at public foundations add an extra layer of privacy if desired—names of individual donors can be kept confidential and grants made anonymously. Private foundations must file tax returns which are then available to the public with investment lists, trustee names, salaries, and other private donor information.

Of course, all that investment cost, record-keeping, grant making and filing, always comes an annual price tag. Community Foundations generally charge a reasonable (locally it is 1.5%) administrative fee to cover all of it's Fund services offered throughout the year.

Finally, community foundations are experts at “unusual gift” acceptance. In addition to stocks, gifts of primary or investment real estate can be arranged. Gifts of insurance or closely held stock are not problematic. Intangibles (antiques, jewelry, artwork) can be turned into the opportunity to fulfill your philanthropic passions.

And that is really what this is all about...using the assets you

have been entrusted with to make life a bit better for those around you. The variety of causes that donors to Greenwood County Community Foundation care about is evidenced in each of our newsletters and reports.



Community Foundations are known for “custom philanthropic planning.” Donors’ values are as unique as each of donor is. Each individual Fund at the Foundation should reflect that uniqueness. Most often, couples or families will establish Funds to reflect corporate values—but sometimes a husband will establish a Fund expressive of his particular concerns (like job training) and a wife will opt for her Fund to convey her love of arts and culture. Oh...and not all Funds at the Foundation are started with anywhere near EIGHT MILLION DOLLARS!

Community Indicators Project Update

Under the lead of the Community Foundation, six prominent community organizations have come together to tackle our area's most significant issues: The Greenwood Chamber of Commerce, Greenwood Partnership Alliance, Self Regional Healthcare, The Self Family Foundation and United Way of Greenwood and Abbeville Counties.

After completing a Community Needs Assessment Survey (with more than 1200 responses) and facilitating more than a dozen community-based forums (for hundreds of residents), the group arrived at five areas of focus: **Economic Vitality, Health and Wellness, Family Vibrancy, Knowledge for Tomorrow, Community Enrichment and Engagement.**

Trackable, measureable characteristics for each of these areas have been established along with baselines for each component.

A community coalition of more

than fifty area leaders is meeting in small groups to begin to identify overlaps and gaps in services, to research and envision collaborations among local organizations and to build the structures of teamwork to make a unified attack on some of our area's most important, pressing needs.

The six partner organizations are each funders of community need, some in more direct ways than others, but each is evaluating its investment role in the success of the Project—which is, in turn, the success of Greenwood County.



Foundation to Offer Webinar for Professional Advisors

Tax and estate laws are always changing. Your attorney, accountant and stockbroker needs to be up-to-date to assure you that your plans will work most efficiently and effectively for your heirs. There are many charitable instruments to achieve this end. Ann Burns and Samuel Donaldson are two experts who teach such strategies. On Monday, September, 21 at Piedmont Tech's James Self Conference Center we will be hosting a full day of continuing education (free credits provided) for these professionals. If you would like for your financial planner to attend, have him or her contact us for complimentary registration.

PRESIDENT'S NOTE (cont. from p. 2)

Lupton realized in that moment they had likely diminished the man's self-worth, and actually may have caused the children to look outside of their home for the important physical and emotional basics of life. He also noted that his group's motivation was probably as much to "feel good" about themselves as to actually reach out and change another's life for the better.

Lupton proposes low-cost "restaurants" as opposed to soup kitchens where all pull together to create a meal and to learn basic shopping and preparation skills. He talks of food co-ops which replace food banks and holiday "stores" where individual gifts can be selected and purchased at much-reduced prices. He calls for a way of re-thinking how we as

a nation and culture "do" philanthropy.

I write this today, because I am surprised and delighted that various groups in town are reading this book—and to let anyone reading now know that I have multiple extra copies of the book in our office—just let me know and I will be sure you receive one. We want to help you think about your philanthropy and help you find the best strategy for your giving. Remember our tag line is "What do you want to do for your community? How can we help you make this happen?"

--Mark Kasper

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



**GREENWOOD COUNTY
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

Interesting local projects need your support at GreenwoodGives.org

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