



GREATER HOUSTON  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

# ONE COMMUNITY.

2018 REPORT OF PROGRESS & ACHIEVEMENTS



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# TO OUR DONORS AND OUR COMMUNITY

To our donors, our partners, and our community,

Greater Houston Community Foundation is honored to collaborate with and serve each of you. We live in a vibrant, entrepreneurial, can-do city with visionary leaders who actively work to change our city for the better. The potential for how philanthropy can positively impact the people of our community is only surpassed by the generosity of our donors and citizens.

The year 2018 was an important year for our city and for the Greater Houston Community Foundation. It was a year of great challenge, accomplishment, and collaboration as we created connections across our community in new, meaningful ways.

- The year marked key milestones in the disbursement of more than \$113.6 million in grants to 126 local nonprofit organizations through the Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund, which Mayor Sylvester Turner and County Judge Ed Emmett entrusted us with stewarding.
- We developed ways to better connect our community's donors, influencers, and nonprofit organizations to build stronger networks of giving. With new programs focused on specific interest areas, our team convened donors sharing similar passions and values to amplify their impact.
- The year marked meaningful internal growth, as we continued to evolve our systems and programming to fit the changing needs of our donors. We grew our private foundation services, making foundation management even more streamlined, and ensuring our donors could focus on the most critical aspects of their giving missions.
- We finalized the Foundation's long-range strategic plan that will ensure continued growth, relevance, and opportunity to support the philanthropic needs of our growing donor base. We will share this plan in early 2019.
- We established a Philanthropic Impact Committee, charged with setting the strategic direction of philanthropic initiatives and activities that will help donors address Houston's challenges.
- We felt honored to welcome our community to our new offices, which were intentionally designed to reflect the community we serve and to increase the collaborative spirit across our organization. We are proud of our new space and look forward to all the growth opportunities it will afford us.

As we look to 2019, we challenge ourselves to build upon the successes of the previous year, and to evolve to support our community. We will introduce an important initiative – The Legacy Project. This vital, highly innovative service will help donors build and chronicle legacies of giving that will continue to grow for generations. GHCF will formally introduce this program in early 2019.

We are blessed by the people who believe in the power of philanthropy and who devote their energy, time, and resources for the benefit of others. Your generous spirit always inspires us, and we are humbled by your continued support of the work we do. Thank you for trusting Greater Houston Community Foundation with your philanthropic needs.

*In service,*



*Michael R. Dumas*

Michael R. Dumas  
Governing Board Chair



*Steve Maislin*

Stephen D. Maislin  
President & CEO



A portrait of Kate Dearing Fowler, a woman with long blonde hair and blue eyes, smiling. She is wearing a dark top. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey.

## DONOR PROFILE

# Q&A WITH KATE DEARING FOWLER

### *Next Gen alumna leads family foundation and founds nonprofit*

We recently sat down with Kate Dearing Fowler, a 2015 Next Gen Donor Institute alumna and the current Next Gen Giving Circle President, to learn more about her philanthropic journey. She is the Executive Director of the Jerry C. Dearing Family Foundation and the founder of Houston Improvement Project, a nonprofit that aims to revive and restore nonprofit-owned community space.

**Q: Please share as much of your childhood as you feel comfortable, in regards to philanthropy.**

**Kate Dearing Fowler:** Well, as a kid, you don't consider it philanthropy. It was volunteering or doing service days. My family would help at animal shelters, BCAM (Bear Creek Assistance Ministries) and serve at our church. I was a Girl Scout for a long time, and participated in Junior Achievement and National Honor Society.

**Q: What philanthropic moment sticks in your memory?**

**KDF:** In 2011, I went to El Salvador with Living Water International. I saw firsthand people living on dirt floors who would walk for miles to get potable water. To see that level of poverty was eye opening.

**Q: How did you learn about GHCF's Next Gen Donor Institute, and why did you take the course?**

**KDF:** I learned about it through an attorney who has done work for the foundation and family, who has a relationship with GHCF. I took the Next Gen course because I was new to philanthropy; my background is mostly in marketing, so I had no context in nonprofit work as an industry. It was a good way to meet people, get my feet wet, and get the knowledge I needed to succeed.

**Q: How did Next Gen and GHCF help you grow as a philanthropist?**

**KDF:** It gave me a road map and a plan to think about strategic and impactful giving. For the past few years, we've made impact giving a priority. I consider it like any business investment and want to fund successful (or prospectively successful) ventures. The 21/64 Picture Your Legacy has been a great tool when working with the younger children of my family.

**Q: What excites you the most about philanthropy?**

**KDF:** There is so much inequality in our society as far as access to health care, childcare, et cetera that anything we can do to equalize the playing field even a little bit makes all of this worthwhile.

**Q: Who or what inspired you to found Houston Improvement Project?**

**KDF:** When I was in the Junior League in New York City, I co-chaired a committee called Community Improvement Project. I loved how even slight changes made such a difference. I've also observed as a grant maker, when you give to an organization, if they have a choice, it's going to go to programs and their people; their space is typically not a priority. When you have a space used by many people on a daily basis, it gets a lot of wear and tear. For now, we do one project a year, and for 2018, we chose Covenant House Texas.

**Q: What's next for you as a nonprofit founder?**

**KDF:** If the team keeps learning, Houston Improvement Project keeps growing. We get better with each project—and I think it's important to realize just because you created something doesn't mean you do it on your own or are always in charge. I'd love to have a new board member who's an architect or interior designer, but our main priority is to keep having fun with it.

**Q: What's next for you as a philanthropist?**

**KDF:** As a foundation, we're always exploring new topics, like conservation, veterans' issues, arts, and media. It's something I also get to do with the Next Gen Giving Circle, and the issue area is usually something we don't fund within the foundation. This past year, the Next Gen Giving Circle explored college and job readiness; it's amazing to meet with local nonprofits during site visits and see what solutions are working.

**Q: How can GHCF continue to help you expand philanthropic impact?**

**KDF:** Continue to introduce me to organizations through the Next Gen Giving Circle. I've loved the learning opportunities about Hurricane Harvey, the state of Houston, and impact giving.

To learn more about the Next Gen Donor Institute, contact **Jennifer Touchet**, Senior Director of Family Philanthropy, at [jtouchet@ghcf.org](mailto:jtouchet@ghcf.org) or **713-333-2228**.

*This interview was edited for length and clarity.*



# FIVE YEARS OF GROWTH & IMPACT

## THE ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING DONOR WORKING GROUP

*Concerned donors collaborate with national and local partners to combat modern-day slavery*

In the fall of 2013, Molly Gochman reached out to Greater Houston Community Foundation to tell us she learned human trafficking was a big issue in our community, and asked for resources. GHCF conducted some research for Molly, who became involved on a national level. As a native Houstonian, she was interested in connecting with local donors and other stakeholders who might want to learn more and collaborate to effect change.

With that in mind and at Molly's request, GHCF organized a donor education event in February 2014, convening local and national experts in a moderated panel discussion. "Our panel was intentionally created to have multiple, layered perspectives," Rebecca Hove, GHCF Senior Director of Strategic Philanthropy, shared. Topics covered that evening included national and local data and quantitative viewpoints, the lived experience through victims' stories shared from caseworkers, policy at a Houston and Texas level, community awareness, and that human trafficking could involve sex or labor.

Donors who continued to express interest in the topic were offered the chance to participate in a bus tour that highlighted Houston-area businesses known for human trafficking. From there, the Anti-Human Trafficking Donor Working Group formed with the goals of "transitioning Houston from being a human trafficking hub to a solution center, helping to shut down or deter the cycle, and improving the lives of survivors," Hove said. Donors were asked to commit to the issue and be serious about making change through innovative, creative, up-stream solutions that get to the root causes of human trafficking.

The Donor Working Group's first victory was Houston's acceptance as a CEASE City in 2014. Cities Empowered Against Sexual Exploitation (CEASE) is a network of cities committed to the reduction of the purchasing of sex. A municipal partner was required to join CEASE, so the Donor Working Group met with then-Mayor Annise Parker to present a plan, budget, position description, and potential outcomes for a Special

Advisor to the Mayor on Human Trafficking position. In June 2015, the group received an appointment by Mayor Parker to move forward on creating and staffing the position.

The CEASE Network recognized Houston as a Spotlight City in 2016, based on the early achievements of the collaboration between GHCF donors and other philanthropists, the Mayor's office, and community nonprofit partners. Since then, the GHCF Anti-Human Trafficking Donor Working Group scaled existing, successful projects; garnered speaking opportunities at national and local conferences and panels; and served and led by example through the trial and error of various innovative, localized strategies. The Jones Day Foundation organized and hosted the Donor Working Group's next major event in March 2017. Jones Day, a major law firm, convened highly-esteemed corporate clients to discuss and implement clean supply chains and tools for screening out trafficked labor.

GHCF assisted the Donor Working Group in expanding philanthropic impact by cultivating relationships with other committed, engaged, community stakeholders and donors; sourcing new opportunities; creating and setting overall strategy; and monitoring the outcomes of those strategies. "We have connected with other donors and catalyzed them in this area, and given them smart, strategic opportunities so limited grant dollars can have outsized impact," Rebecca Hove shared. Speaking on the success of the group, Rebecca stated that "Everyone, from our city partnership to corporate participation, from individual GHCF donors and other individual community members who wanted to make a difference, to our private foundation partners, has found their own way to add significant impact to this issue."

The growth and success of the group could not happen without the nonprofit partners serving Houston. The Anti-Human Trafficking Donor Working Group has collaborated with approximately 30 nonprofit organizations, including CHILDREN AT RISK, A Second Cup, Love146, and Tahiri Justice Center. "There is

*"The impact of the working group clearly demonstrates the power of creating a space to connect, listen, and collaboratively fill gaps around us. Who knew that asking for help on our learning journey would lead to all of the creative solutions that were engineered and implemented?"*

Kyle Wright  
CEO of Stardust Fund and Founding Member of the Donor Working Group.

absolutely no way we can do this without our nonprofit partners," Hove said. "We rely on them; we want everything that our group is doing to be field-informed, so they're the experts we seek. They are the front line implementers getting the work done, working with victims and survivors."

Looking towards the future, the group continues to identify gaps in the field. They will also continue to support change that influences shifting social behaviors, specifically when it comes to reduction in the demand for purchased sex and reduction in the use of forced labor/labor trafficking within supply chains, and as a method of corporate risk management.

Most recently, GHCF helped our donors continue to grow and move forward through learning about responsible investing strategies, and applying a mission-related investment strategy to their private foundation or endowed portfolios, as well as personal, individual investment portfolios. Donors will then be able to use their investments to inform change-making strategies by communicating their values.

To learn more about the Anti-Human Trafficking Donor Working Group, contact **Rebecca Hove**, Senior Director of Strategic Philanthropy, at [rhove@ghcf.org](mailto:rhove@ghcf.org) or **713-333-2245**.

# GHCF BY THE NUMBERS

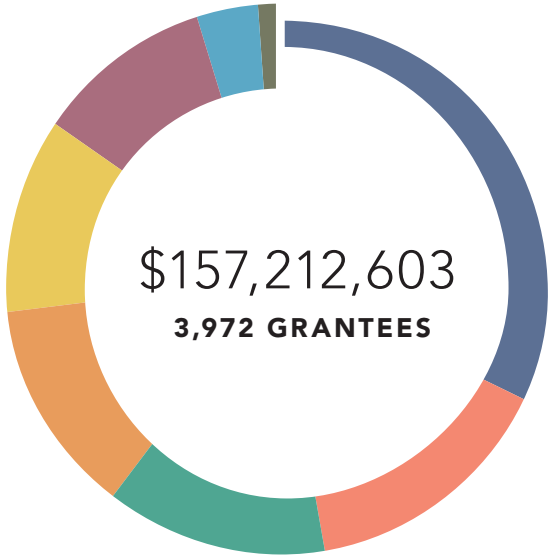
## 2018 GHCF Most Frequent Houston Grant Recipients

GRANTEE	# OF GRANTS	AMOUNT
National Multiple Sclerosis Society	208	78,899
The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston	92	2,394,418
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center	90	671,855
Junior Achievement of Southeast Texas, Inc.	79	99,838
University of Houston	69	257,442
The Methodist Hospital Foundation	56	38,584,250
Congregation Beth Israel	55	1,171,904
St. Martin's Episcopal Church	54	626,250
Houston Public Media Foundation	54	134,185
Texas Children's Hospital	53	4,467,251
HomeAid Houston	52	6,415,606
The Kinkaid School, Inc.	50	1,194,864
United Way of Greater Houston	47	2,936,133
Holocaust Museum Houston	45	393,187
Star of Hope Mission	44	679,494
Houston Food Bank	43	363,625
Houston Symphony Society	41	2,319,550
St. John's School	39	630,050
Houston Zoo, Inc.	39	238,051
Houston Grand Opera Association, Inc.	32	723,483
St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church	29	226,500
The Salvation Army	28	126,682
Houston Ballet Foundation	26	225,550
Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo	25	527,615
Jewish Federation of Greater Houston	25	319,400
Covenant House Texas	25	227,411
Houston Community College	25	53,850
Menil Foundation, Inc.	24	335,630
Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation	24	201,589
Memorial Hermann Foundation	23	977,928

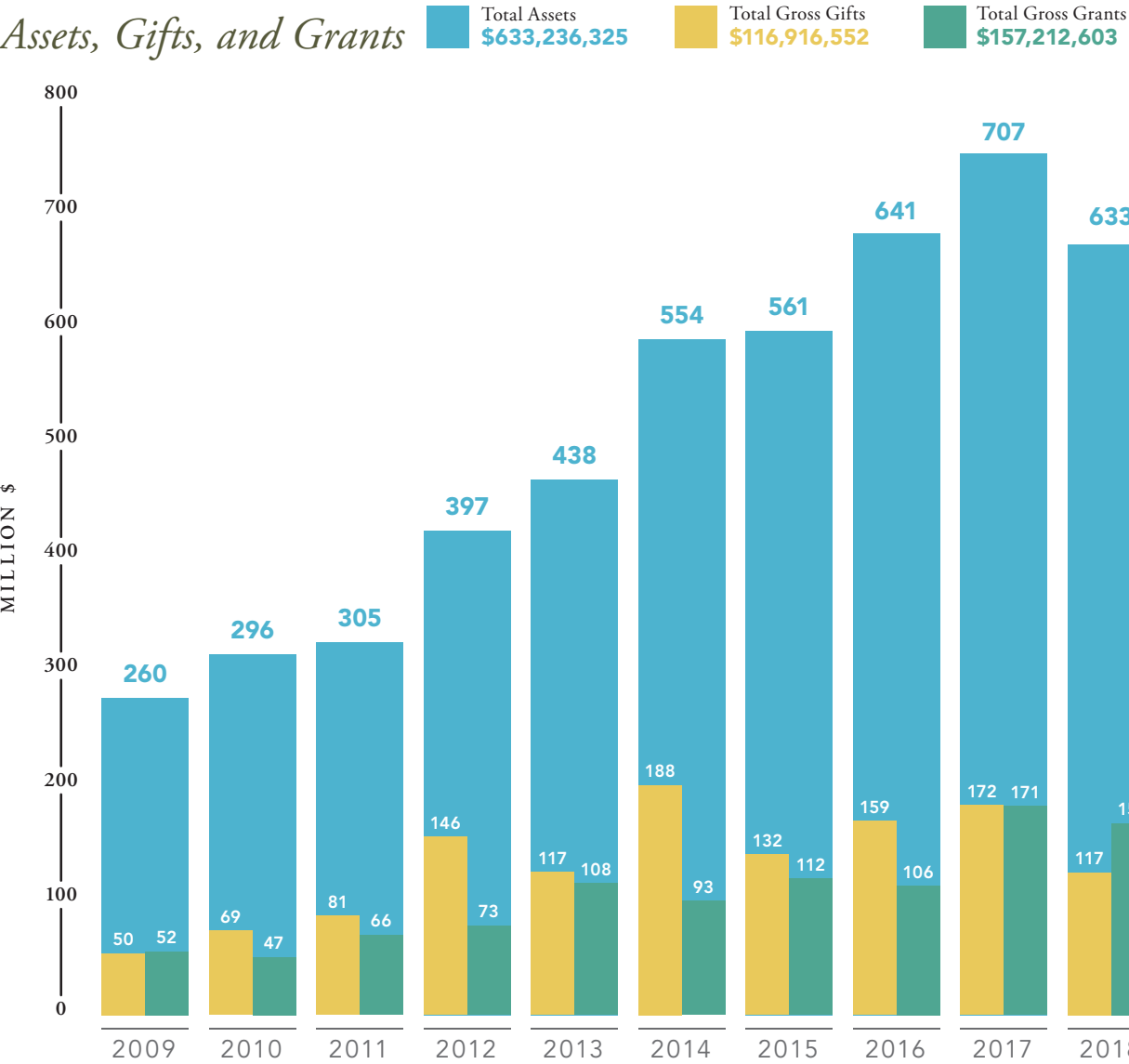
## Grants by Program Area

(1/1/2018 – 12/31/2018)

Health	\$50,488,368
Education	\$23,696,338
Public Benefit	\$20,620,943
Human Services	\$20,091,280
Arts	\$18,201,186
Religion	\$16,605,348
Environmental	\$5,554,606
International	\$1,954,534
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$157,212,603</b>



## Assets, Gifts, and Grants





# CORPORATE EMPLOYEE DISASTER RELIEF

VOLUNTEERS FROM SERVICE CORPORATION INTERNATIONAL, A GHCF CORPORATE CLIENT, SUPPORT A COLLEAGUE IMPACTED BY HURRICANE HARVEY.

With the devastation wrought by Hurricane Harvey in 2017, Corporate Employee Disaster Relief became a much bigger program at GHCF than it had previously been. In late 2017 and well into 2018, GHCF served 53 new clients and eight reinstated clients. In total, we helped over 3,000 employees and their families with more than \$9 million in grants for Hurricane Harvey recovery.

In a federally declared disaster like Hurricane Harvey, employers can make tax-free awards to qualified, affected employees if they follow a number of rules set out by the Internal Revenue Service. The GHCF team helps corporate clients through the process, ultimately disbursing their funds to help their employees recover.

Employers who collaborate with GHCF contribute funds and/or raise funds from employees and vendors for a disaster relief fund. GHCF provides grant application templates and works with clients to customize certain aspects. All employees who have damages and want to apply for the award may do so by a deadline set by their respective companies. GHCF team members and volunteers review the applications and make awards to the approved impacted employees.

A number of our corporate clients also supported their employees impacted by other federally declared disasters in 2018 including Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and the California wildfires.

With the extensive experience our team gained since Hurricane Harvey and other federally declared disasters, GHCF is ready to assist corporate clients who want to help their employees with disaster relief. Contact **Stephanie Blair** at [sblair@ghcf.org](mailto:sblair@ghcf.org) or **713-333-2233** for more information.

# LEARN. ENGAGE. ADVANCE. PERSEVERE.

## CORPORATE CLIENT EXPANDS ITS PHILANTHROPIC IMPACT IN HOUSTON'S EAST END

Hess Corporation engaged GHCF in 2011 to design and manage a signature education initiative focused on dropout prevention at two HISD middle schools in Houston's East End. The signature three-year collaborative program, LEAP (Learn. Engage. Advance. Persevere.), provided in-school and out-of-school support including credit-recovery courses, after-school and summer programs, student and family social support, college and career path exposure opportunities, parent education programs, and more.

After the completion of the initial three-year program, Hess decided to expand its footprint in the East End and looked to GHCF to conduct an education landscape analysis and to identify gaps in services that Hess could fill. Based on the results, Hess leadership decided to offer programs that included pre-kindergarten through high school graduation.

Starting with the 2017-2018 school year, Hess' funding provided services in four HISD elementary schools (De Zavala, Franklin, Gallegos, and Tijerina), one HISD middle school (Edison), one HISD high school (Austin), and two KIPP schools (Explore and Intrepid). The expanded program, named LEAP 2.0, includes partnerships with the Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation—My Home Library Program, Communities In Schools, Children's Museum—Science Workshop, and Genesys Works. As part of the program, Hess hosts tours of its downtown tower, where the students meet with different industry professionals to learn about their careers. Hess caps off the tour by giving each student the highly coveted Hess toy truck.

In the 2017-2018 school year, LEAP 2.0 served almost 3,000 students and we expect that number to grow each year. Hess is one of many corporate clients that GHCF is honored to serve and act as a catalyst for their philanthropic efforts.

For more information on how GHCF can assist you with Corporate Giving, contact **Stephanie Blair**, Senior Philanthropic Services Manager, at [sblair@ghcf.org](mailto:sblair@ghcf.org) or **713-333-2233**.





# Center for FAMILY PHILANTHROPY

GREATER HOUSTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

## MISSION

To connect, serve, and inspire families in their quest to do personal and impactful giving across the generations.

## CENTER FOR FAMILY PHILANTHROPY FOUNDING FAMILIES

Leslie & Jack Blanton, Jr. Family

Fluor Family

Melanie Gray & Mark Wawro

Anika Jackson Reddick & Family

Kao Family

Tellepsen Family

Vettical Family

Bonnie & David Weekley

K.C. & Randa Weiner Family



## NEXT GEN GIVING CIRCLE

The Next Gen Giving Circle (NGGC) serves as a forum for aspiring Houston philanthropists, specifically alumni of GHCF's Next Gen Donor Institute, to explore, develop, and implement the tools of strategic giving. Each year, giving circle members collectively decide to focus on one area of need in the greater Houston area, solicit for and examine grant applications, perform site visits to grant semi-finalists, and ultimately select one or more organizations to support.

The giving circle mission for 2018 was to support programs and services aimed at increasing college and/or vocational access, persistency, and ultimately graduation rates for vulnerable youth (16-25) in Harris County. BridgeYear, the 2018 recipient, connects students from low-income communities to skills-based educational pathways and high-demand employment opportunities through immersive career exposure and near-peer planning. GHCF donor Dawn Hawley, the Founding Board President of BridgeYear, helped launch this great start-up organization with a lot of potential.

## FAMILY GIVING CIRCLE

The Family Giving Circle is a group of families with children ages 5-18 who are interested in learning together about grant making while exploring different issues and organizations in the greater Houston area. It is open to families involved with GHCF, their friends, or attendees of Family Philanthropy Day.

The 2018 giving circle mission was to support organizations and programs that work to increase literacy for children in Harris County. Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation, The Rise School, and the Harris County Public Library were the grant recipients in 2018.



FAMILY PHILANTHROPY DAY 2018

# OPEN HEARTS, OPEN DOORS

*Collaboration between donors and community partners  
benefits those experiencing homelessness*

GHCF held its third annual Family Philanthropy Day in November, partnering with Covenant House Texas (CHT) and Houston Improvement Project (HIP) to learn about youth homelessness and to lift the spirits of the young adults seeking assistance at CHT.

GHCF donor families and staff gathered on a chilly Saturday morning to learn more about youth homelessness in a variety of age-appropriate ways. Teens and adults heard from leaders in the field, as well as from three young adults living at Covenant House in the Rites of Passage Program. Several GHCF donors shared how they practice collaborative giving through the Youth Homelessness Fund. Middle school and younger family members, under the guidance of the GHCF Youth Leadership Team, learned about homelessness through story time and educational games.

Eleven students from eight different schools make up the Youth Leadership Team; their duties

include reviewing grant proposals for the Family Giving Circle grants process, as well as planning and leading activities for Family Philanthropy Day.

"Family Philanthropy Day was an incredible opportunity for me to learn about the issue of homelessness, while also working and helping to solve it," said Beatrice Graubart, Youth Leader. "Hearing personal stories from Covenant House residents showed me how real and common the issue of homelessness is. I think everyone who participated in Family Philanthropy Day left with a new understanding of how prevalent world issues are in our local community, and gained an eagerness to jump in and solve them."

In keeping with the tenets of developing the next generation of philanthropic leaders, inspiring giving, and improving the community, participants went to work on a variety of service projects. Along with Houston Improvement Project, teens and adults beautified the Youth Intake Center

by painting walls and assembling new furniture. When asked about the impact of this project, Kate Dearing Fowler, Executive Director of HIP, said, "To have a space that is welcoming, clean, and approachable will be a better environment for those seeking refuge during a crisis moment. We're helping create a safe haven for these kids, so they have dignity and can tell themselves, 'I am okay here.'"

The younger participants also participated in creating a haven by painting with community service leaders and teachers from St. John's School. The collective painting will serve as a welcoming illustration of hope for the young adults who visit Covenant House Texas. Other service projects benefiting those in need included cleaning the exterior and interior of CHT vans, as well as sorting, organizing, and taking inventory of the many in-kind donations CHT received.

We feel that helping our donor families come together to learn and grow in their philanthropy

is an important, meaningful experience. Please contact **Jennifer Touchet**, Senior Director of Family Philanthropy, at [jtouchet@ghcf.org](mailto:jtouchet@ghcf.org) or **713-333-2228**, to learn how we can help you and your family grow in your philanthropic journey.

*"Thank you for all of your efforts; it [Family Philanthropy Day] allowed me to have some great conversations with my two oldest about our family's responsibility and privilege to give back."*

Chris Weekley  
Center for Family Philanthropy Advisory Board Chair



# GHCF'S GROWTH THROUGH THE YEARS

## *Looking back, looking ahead, and a Q&A session*

In light of our recent move to a larger and very innovative office space, we wanted to look at how Greater Houston Community Foundation has grown to serve our donors more effectively. Thank you to Steve Maislin, GHCF President & CEO; Michael Dumas, Board Chair; and Stephanie Blair, Senior Philanthropic Services Manager, for sharing their thoughts.

Greater Houston Community Foundation was incorporated as a 501(c)(3) public charity in 1971. We became a standalone entity in 1995, and that is when we really began operations. At that time, the mission was “to anticipate and respond rapidly, creatively and effectively to a wide range of existing and emerging community needs with financial assistance. By providing an efficient mechanism for many donors to contribute to an endowment with professional staff and investment management, the GHCF possesses unlimited capacity to build a corpus of funds generating income for community advancement.”

Steve Maislin, President & CEO, joined the GHCF staff in 2001. At that time, there were five members on staff, and approximately \$45 to \$50 million in assets. “We could work with some complex assets, but most giving involved cash and publicly traded stocks. We had a couple of small scholarship funds, but we mainly had donor advised funds,” Maislin said.

In 2002, GHCF retained the strategic planning services of Greater Kansas City Community Foundation. Our Kansas City colleagues helped ramp up GHCF’s transactional platform and growth strategy, and planted the very early seeds of what is now our Philanthropic Services Department. Our updated mission, still true today, became “Growing effective philanthropy by **connecting donors** to the causes they care about, providing excellent **stewardship** of assets entrusted to us, and **convening resources** to address important community needs.”



**Q:** Please tell us about the staff and program growth through the years.

**Steve Maislin:** We’ve always made it a priority to ramp up our staff as needed to ensure we can take care of our donors. Our evolution lays out really well. We went from a small staff to get us launched; we developed our transactional skills, attained sustainable financial footing, and always worked to improve our customer service. In 2010 (with a new strategic plan), we gathered the strategic resources to further convene our donors and help train the next generation of donors. We went through another strategic planning process in 2017, so now we’re looking at how to deliver the most benefit for our community in partnership with our donors. As always, we honor donor intent, and we are going to add resources around community impact—the ultimate goal of which is to help our donors channel their generosity into proven philanthropic strategies.

GHCF opened in its current location on October 15, 2018. Based at 515 Post Oak Boulevard, the Community Foundation occupies the entire tenth floor, in Suite 1000. What began as an organization of five staff members blossomed into a robust team of 35, with over \$633 million in assets.

**Q:** What went into the planning for our newest space?

**SM:** I would say if there’s a theme for this, it’s community. It’s our staff, donors, and greater Houston community all here. Based on the latest research on maximizing productivity, our staff members have their own private spaces to accomplish their work, but there are also many opportunities to convene. We have a wonderful collaborative space, both for staff to come together and work in teams, and for a place to bring donors together. The space was designed to have a great deal of natural light; it lifts your spirit to be in a place with a lot of light. The energy here is palpable, and I’m really pleased with how it came out. We were also mindful of building the nicest office possible, while being frugal.

**Q:** How does our new space help us better serve our donors and other stakeholders?

**SM:** I think that when you have a team that has adequate resources to do their jobs well and feel valued, they take better care of your customers. We’ve set the table to continue to enhance technology; we also have room for literal growth. We will continue to deliver great customer service. This space will really enhance opportunities for those who want to learn and engage with each other.





**Q: How has GHCF changed the most throughout the years?**

**Michael Dumas:** Well, the breadth of services has been expanded dramatically. Our core mission is to serve our donors, to help our donors serve the Houston community, and to meet our donors' philanthropic needs. I think the services provided now provide guidance and collaboration for a variety of donor opportunities where they can have a greater impact.

**Stephanie Blair (joined GHCF in 2011):** We've grown dramatically from being mainly transactional to much more transformational in our relationships with donors and the community. When I started, we had limited programming, we had one donor event a year, and a handful of scholarships and Foundation Services clients. Since then, we've added many offerings like the Center for Family Philanthropy, programming to educate and assist our donors in their philanthropy, and added partnerships with community thought

leaders. We were already delivering high-level service through grant making; now our high-level service encompasses almost anything a donor could need.

**Q: What does the future of GHCF look like?**

**SB:** To me, I think the future is limitless, which is exciting! I see us continuing to add services that best fit the needs of our donors.

**MD:** GHCF will continue to be donor-focused, with greater emphasis on collaboration between donors, the community, and nonprofits, in order to have a greater impact with limited donor dollars. There will be more collaborators and thought leaders in the philanthropic arena to do whatever it takes to assist our donors with their philanthropic objectives.

**SM:** I think it looks like a place where we will bring more and more people into the strategic philanthropy conversation in Houston, and

hopefully continue to grow and impact more lives in the Houston area in a positive way. I think we'll become even more innovative; most importantly, our role as a connector in the philanthropic sector will continue to grow. I hope we will continue to shine light on the needs of the community and the neediest, and participate in the conversation of how we can help provide opportunity and empower those living in our community.

**Q: What is the most important thing you wish to share with our readers?**

**SM:** With 17 years in on my tenure, this place is more exciting than ever to me; it is a privilege for me to be part of the team. I'm constantly reminded how amazing our donors are, and I'm humbled by their generosity. It is fascinating to watch how we're working with generations of donors, and how we can help play a role to help the elder generation transfer their values and show [the younger generations] how blessed they are and that they have an obligation to give back.

We have the best staff ever, and our board has real ownership of the new strategic plan. This is just a launching pad for more impact and to have the Community Foundation become one of the anchor institutions of Houston's philanthropic community. There is no shortage of needs and challenges; that we're positioned well to play a role is enormously exciting.

*These interviews were edited for length and clarity.*

To learn more about the Greater Houston Community Foundation, visit [www.ghcf.org](http://www.ghcf.org) or email [info@ghcf.org](mailto:info@ghcf.org).





# GHCF IMPACT SCHOLARSHIP

We established the GHCF Community Impact Scholarship in 2018 to celebrate 20 years of providing scholarships on behalf of our donors. For its inaugural year, the GHCF Community Impact Scholarship recognized students directly impacted by Hurricane Harvey. In order to be eligible, those impacted students needed to be graduating seniors from public high schools in Harris County who planned to attend a two or four-year public college or university in the greater Houston area.

Though we were originally looking to provide one scholarship, thanks to our donors, GHCF was able to provide two full scholarships and one partial scholarship. Victoria Keo and Viet Nguyen received full scholarships of \$20,000, payable over four years. Allison Funk received a partial scholarship of \$11,000, payable over four years. Congratulations to these well-deserving, hard-working students!

Please contact our Scholarships Team at [scholarships@ghcf.org](mailto:scholarships@ghcf.org) or 713-333-2230 for more information on this scholarship or on how you can establish a scholarship fund at GHCF.

## THE LEGACY PROJECT

STORY. IMPACT. HOUSTON.

Let us help you document your story and your legacy in the community through the Legacy Project, which launches in March 2019. The Legacy Project is a program open to all current fund holders, as well as those wishing to make a legacy gift in the future. GHCF wants to understand your story and the legacy you wish to create with your giving. Stay tuned for more information about how we can work with you, your family, and your advisors to put a plan in place and to document what's been important to you over the years. The GHCF team can help you achieve your impact and facilitate your giving now and in future generations.

The Legacy Project will offer small group workshops, individual advising sessions, and self-directed work for donors who wish to create lasting impact through sharing their values and stories, as well as through planned giving. The Project is also available for professional advisors who wish to assist their clients in this endeavor.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE LEGACY PROJECT

To learn more, please contact **Jennifer Touchet**, Senior Director of Family Philanthropy, at [jtouchet@ghcf.org](mailto:jtouchet@ghcf.org) or 713-333-2228.

If you are a professional advisor, please contact **Susan Zarich**, Director of Advisor Relations, at [szarich@ghcf.org](mailto:szarich@ghcf.org) or 713-333-2203.



# YOUTH HOMELESSNESS FUND

The Youth Homelessness Fund (YHF)—formerly known as the Greater Houston Fund to End Homelessness—was established in 2013 to build a local network of funders who are committed to preventing and reducing youth homelessness, strategic collaboration and grant making, and effective promotion and replication of best-practice models in greater Houston.

Year 2018 Members included Di Portanova Charitable Foundation, the Frees Foundation, Shirley Allen, Jane Holston, Lindsey Wise, and Melissa Wise.

In 2018, the YHF focused on:

- Helping the collaborative grantees advance the ideas and models developed through the 2017 planning grants.
- Exploring opportunities to connect homeless youth to local resources through increased social media and communication efforts.

YHF made three grants in 2018:

1. To the Homeless Youth Network of Houston Harris County (HYN) to hire the HYN Coordinator
2. To Covenant House Texas, HAY Center, and the Kinder Emergency Shelter to hire a Licensed Master of Social Work for a Collaborative Project Administrator position.
3. To HYN to support the development of a Community Action Plan to address—and ultimately end—youth homelessness in Houston.

For more information or to join the fund, contact **Eileen Alexander**, DonorHouston & Nonprofit Liaison, at [ealexander@ghcf.org](mailto:ealexander@ghcf.org) or 713-333-2237.



# GIVING CIRCLES

*“Since our inception, GHCF has been a tremendous partner and resource for the New Giving Collective. GHCF’s team of professionals work extremely hard to meet and anticipate all of our needs and they played an instrumental role in the success of our formal launch this year.”*

Cassye D. Cook Provost, *Founder, New Giving Collective*

GHCF assists donors with collaborative giving through giving circles, a form of philanthropy where groups of individuals donate their own money to a pooled fund; voting members decide where to grant the funds.

The Asian American Giving Circle was the first giving circle established at GHCF, in 2008. Since then, GHCF worked with donors who established Latino Giving Houston (established 2009), the Asian American Youth Giving Circle (2014), and New Giving Collective (2016).

GHCF held a Giving Circle Leadership Reception at our new office in November 2018, in order for donor leaders from each of these circles to have the opportunity to network with each other. They shared their thoughts on what works for them in collaborative giving, and learned more about how their time, talent, treasure, and ties can expand their philanthropic impact.

For more information on these giving circles, contact **Eileen Alexander**, DonorHouston & Nonprofit Liaison, at [ealexander@ghcf.org](mailto:ealexander@ghcf.org) or 713-333-2237.

*“Latino Giving Houston founded its giving circle with GHCF in 2009. Since then, LGH members have been afforded the opportunity to learn from giving circles that preceded us. Whenever LGH needs assistance or wants to take advantage of a new learning opportunity within GHCF, the staff is fully supportive and gets the job done for us.”* Clarissa L. Valdez, *Treasurer, Latino Giving Houston*





# EDUCATION LEARNING SERIES

*“We are deeply committed to providing educational opportunities for our donors, and will continue these learning series in 2019. We hope donors will continue to inform us of their interest areas, so we can, whenever possible, convene those with shared interests.”* Renée Wizig-Barrios, Senior Vice President & Chief Philanthropy Officer

The Education Learning Series presented two opportunities for donors to expand their knowledge on Innovative Approaches to School Governance Models and Expanding Access to School Choice.

Speakers at both lunch & learn sessions presented information on these topics, as well as participated in panel discussions.

Speakers for Innovative Approaches to School Governance Models were:

- Chris Barbic, Senior Fellow at the Laura and John Arnold Foundation
- Dr. Jasmine Jenkins, Executive Director of Houstonians for Great Public Schools (Houston GPS)
- Patra Brannon-Isaac, Regional Director of Harris County for Leadership ISD

Expanding Access to School Choice’s speakers were:

- Colleen Dippel, Founder and Executive Director of Families Empowered
- Mark DiBella, Chief Executive Officer of YES Prep
- Aasimah Navlakhi, Chief Executive Officer of Building Excellent Schools
- Shiroy Aspandiar, Board Chair of Étoile Academy Charter School

Please contact **Stephanie Blair**, Senior Philanthropic Services Manager, at [sblair@ghcf.org](mailto:sblair@ghcf.org) or **713-333-2233** for information on the Education Learning Series.



# MENTAL HEALTH LUNCH & LEARN SERIES

*“Thank you. Thank you for raising awareness of the need for better, broader mental health services.”* GHCF Donor

As part of the commitment to provide educational opportunities to donors, GHCF held a lunch & learn series focusing on Mental & Behavioral Health and Adolescent Recovery.

This four-part series, which included presentations and panel discussions, included information on:

- Houston’s Mental Health Landscape (speakers were Alix CaDavid, Mental Health America of Greater Houston; Susan Fordice, The Hackett Center; and Mel Taylor, Council on Recovery)
- Prevention and Early Intervention (Dr. Quianta Moore, Baker Institute for Public Policy and Dr. Crystal Collier, Council on Recovery)
- What Is Integrated Care? (Dr. Stephanie Chapman, Texas Children’s Center for Children and Women and Alejandra Posada, Mental Health America of Greater Houston)
- Reducing Disparity in Mental and Behavioral Health (Gwen Emmett, wife of Harris County Judge Ed Emmett; Elizabeth Perez, Harris County Public Health; and George Youngblood, Teen and Family Services)

For more information on next steps, contact **Eileen Alexander**, DonorHouston & Nonprofit Liaison, at [ealexander@ghcf.org](mailto:ealexander@ghcf.org) or **713-333-2237**.





GINNY ESPOSITO DINNER  
ONE COMMUNITY. 2018 REPORT OF PROGRESS & ACHIEVEMENTS

# DONORHOUSTON COFFEETALKS

The fifth annual DonorHouston CoffeeTalks, held in August 2018, brought 112 Houston-area nonprofit organizations together for networking, a presentation on giving circles, a Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund update, and—of course—hot, delicious coffee.

Organizations that participated and had complete, up-to-date DonorHouston profiles as of September 15 were entered into a drawing for three \$500 grants. The winners were CCSC –

Christian Community Service Center, KIPP Texas – Houston, and University of Houston-Downtown. We are grateful for their continued partnership in DonorHouston.

For information on how you can use DonorHouston to research Houston-area nonprofits, contact **Eileen Alexander**, DonorHouston & Nonprofit Liaison, at [ealexander@ghcf.org](mailto:ealexander@ghcf.org) or 713-333-2237.

*“I learned more about how GHCF works and that we have been missing out on opportunities from such a large and impactful organization.”*

CoffeeTalks Participant





WE ARE  
GREATER  
TOGETHER

Recapping and moving forward from Hurricane Harvey

The Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund (HHRF), established by Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner and Harris County Judge Ed Emmett, raised \$114 million from over 126,000 donors. As administrators of the HHRF, Greater Houston Community Foundation, along with the HHRF Advisory Board and Grants Committee, worked diligently and vigorously to meet the needs of people in the hardest hit areas of our community. As of December 31, 2018, more than \$113.6 million dollars was granted out to 126 nonprofit organizations

providing disaster relief efforts in Houston and Harris County. “The effects of Harvey will be felt for years to come,” said County Judge Ed Emmett. “These local nonprofit grantees have strong track records of supporting our communities. We’re confident that they can make a real difference in the longer term.”

In August 2018, HHRF released the results of a third-party evaluation conducted by FSG, which noted the highlights of the fund’s work and provided recommendations for a similar effort in the event of a future disaster.

The Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund conducted five rounds of funding. Throughout, the Fund took a regional approach to ensure coverage across the city and county and held convenings by region according to the applicant-targeted zip codes. An estimated 190,000 households will be served through the fund with individuals and households receiving services that include but are not limited to:



ADMINISTRATION  
& OPERATIONS  
of Recovery Services



BASIC NEEDS



BEHAVIORAL  
HEALTH



DISASTER CASE  
MANAGEMENT



EDUCATIONAL  
SERVICES



FINANCIAL  
ASSISTANCE



FURNITURE,  
FURNISHINGS  
& APPLIANCES



HOMELESSNESS  
PREVENTION



HOUSING  
NEEDS &  
HOME REPAIR



LEGAL  
SERVICES













OTHER PURPOSES  
approved by the  
advisory committee  
and consistent with  
the Fund's charitable  
purposes



TRANSPORTATION

In partnership with SBP (an organization dedicated to shrinking time between disaster and recovery), GHCF and the Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund launched Harvey Home Connect, a common application and coordination system for eligible seekers of home repair services in Houston and/or Harris County. Using the information provided through this application process, Harvey Home Connect is able to match eligible seekers to reputable, pre-vetted nonprofit organizations that can help. GHCF will monitor and report on grants, and will share ultimate results with donors through the next two years.

Though nearly 55 inches of rain fell, Hurricane Harvey did not take out the spirit and soul of Houston. While much of the story following Harvey’s landfall tells of tragedy and strife, it also depicts togetherness and strength, supporting one another, and showing the world what it means to be a community. It was inspiring to see how people came together to help; it was Houston at its very best. When we work together, we really are Greater Together.

ROUND 1		\$7.55 M TOTAL GRANTED	 28 NUMBER OF GRANTEES
ROUND 2		\$28.9 M TOTAL GRANTED	 92 NUMBER OF GRANTEES
ROUND 3		\$31.7 M TOTAL GRANTED	 32 NUMBER OF GRANTEES
ROUND 4		\$42.3 M TOTAL GRANTED	 27 NUMBER OF GRANTEES
ROUND 5		\$3.0 M TOTAL GRANTED	 17 NUMBER OF GRANTEES



# GHCF STAFF

## EXECUTIVE



Stephen D. Maislin  
*President & CEO*



Renée Wizig-Barrios  
*Senior Vice President and  
Chief Philanthropy Officer*



Mike Pawson  
*Chief Financial Officer*



Morgan Steen  
*Senior Executive Assistant*



Lissette Romano  
*Receptionist*

## ACCOUNTING



Ed Padar  
*Controller*



Nelson Hernandez  
*Assistant Controller*



Hunter Edmondson  
*Accounting Manager*



Cindy Newman  
*Foundation Services  
Accounting Manager*



Michael Trout  
*Senior Accountant*



DaMon Jackson  
*Accounting Associate*



Stephanie Lopez  
*Accounting Associate*

## GIFT PLANNING SERVICES & MARKETING/COMMUNICATIONS



Susan Zarich  
*Director of  
Advisor Relations*



Rachel Young  
*Marketing &  
Brand Manager*



Allison Sullivan  
*Senior Marketing  
Associate*



Alicia Jacobs  
*Meeting &  
Events Coordinator*

## DONOR SERVICES



Krystle Folse  
*Director of  
Donor Services*



Kolby Gilbert  
*Donor Services  
Associate*



Michelle Morrison  
*Donor Services  
Associate*



Megan Sparks  
*Donor Services  
Associate*



Jenna Whyte  
*Donor Services  
Associate*

## PHILANTHROPIC SERVICES



Rebecca Hove  
*Senior Director of  
Strategic Philanthropy*



Jennifer Touchet  
*Senior Director of  
Family Philanthropy*



Stephanie Blair  
*Senior Philanthropic  
Services Manager*



Anne Fried  
*Family Philanthropy  
Manager*



Lydia Hickey  
*Foundation Services  
Manager*



Diane Higginbotham  
*Scholarships  
Manager*



Robert Sepeda  
*Data &  
Impact Manager*



Eileen Alexander  
*DonorHouston &  
Nonprofit Liaison*



Courtney  
Grymonprez  
*Scholarships Associate*



Allison Hale  
*Philanthropic  
Services Associate*



Lauren Jones  
*Foundation Services  
Associate*



Natasha DeCell  
*Philanthropic Services  
Executive Assistant*



# GOVERNING BOARD 2018

## CHAIR

Michael R. Dumas  
*Vice President & Chief Financial Officer | Intermarine LLC*

## IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR

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*Retired Partner | PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP*

J. Murry Bowden  
*Chairman & CEO  
Hanover Company*

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*Chief Executive Officer  
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Terri Lacy  
*Partner  
Andrews Kurth LLP*

Celestine Vettical  
*Managing Partner  
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Lacey Fluor Goossen  
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*Vice President of Central Living  
& Innovation*

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*Chief Executive Officer  
Gregory & Cook, Inc.*

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*Retired Managing Partner  
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Randa Weiner  
*Community Volunteer*

Nancy D. McGregor  
*Community Volunteer  
Retired Attorney*

# TAILORED SOLUTIONS

## PHILANTHROPIC VEHICLES

- Donor Advised Funds
- Designated & Agency Funds
- Field of Interest Funds
- Community Impact Funds
- Scholarships
- Supporting Organizations
- Donor Working Groups
- Corporate Donor Advised Funds
- Legacy Funds

## MEETING DONORS WHERE THEY ARE

- Legacy Planning
- Center for Family Philanthropy
- Next Gen Donor Institute
- Family Meetings
- Interest Area Programming & Learning Opportunities
- Corporations – Customized Programs

## AN INVESTMENT IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Through working with GHCF, a 501(c)(3) public charity, donors are making an investment in their community that will be remembered and valued for generations to come.

To learn more about the Foundation’s philanthropic services, please contact **Susan Zarich** at [szarich@ghcf.org](mailto:szarich@ghcf.org) or 713-333-2203.

## CUSTOMIZED PHILANTHROPIC SERVICES

- Nonprofit Research
- Grants Management
- Landscape & Issue Analysis
- Private Foundation Services
- Convening & Consulting
- Giving Plans
- Corporate Giving Program Support & Management Services
- Corporate Employee Disaster Relief
- Disaster Relief

## WORKING WITH PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

- Third Party Investment Management (starting at \$500,000)
- Acceptance of Complex Assets
- Solution-Oriented Services for Clients
- The Professional Advisor Institute





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COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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