



GREATER HOUSTON  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION








IMPACT 3

FAMILIES & INDIVIDUALS 11

CORPORATIONS 12

PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS 15

# CONTENTS



We are in the business of helping our donors create lasting legacies, through impactful and effective philanthropy.

In our first 20 years, we have enabled individuals, families, corporations, foundations, and their advisors to extend their giving in new ways, with greater results.

Our stewardship and expertise have connected donors to causes, to each other, and to the Greater Houston region. As a result, the Greater Houston Community Foundation has become Houston's leading philanthropic grant maker, providing a variety of organizations with the support they need to further their mission. We take our commitment to stewarding our donors' funds very seriously, and we have gathered a talented and knowledgeable team of philanthropic professionals to partner with our donors to ensure their needs are met with service beyond expectation.

# IMPACT

The Greater Houston Community Foundation is dedicated to expanding philanthropic impact with our donors. We support our donors with their philanthropy in a variety of ways—including custom solutions for even their most complex needs. We can work with donors to determine the best ways to donate closely held assets such as land, business interests, and other types of property. We are a convener for leading philanthropists with a variety of programs and events based on donor interest. And our team serves as ongoing advisors and provides access to knowledge resources, research, and a peer network of donors with similar interests.



# CUSTOMIZED PHILANTHROPIC PLANS

Every donor is different. Whether they have been involved in philanthropy for years or are just beginning their journey, their resources, their goals, and their interests are unique.

Our role is to work with our donors wherever they are and help them craft their philanthropic legacy. We work with donors to analyze their goals, develop a mission, draw up a plan, and put into place mechanisms for reporting and evaluation.

For donors already engaged in philanthropy, we can help strengthen their impact by working creatively to achieve their philanthropic goals. Our local emphasis allows us to counsel our donors on major opportunities for giving in the region.





## PHILANTHROPIC CONVENING AND CONSULTING

One important aspect of our mission is to help our donors raise awareness of important issues and needs throughout the community. We are a hub for the local giving community: connecting Houston's leading donors to an extensive network of nonprofits and innovative solutions for the social sector. We actively convene donors to collaborate and share ideas on philanthropy through a variety of educational and social events throughout the year, including panel discussions and lectures. Together with leading donors, we have created several platforms for high engagement philanthropy.

By creating a spirit of collaboration and sharing of ideas, we help foster a synergy in giving that makes Houston one of the country's most successful philanthropic communities.

# COLLABORATING FOR LEVERAGE

**DONOR WORKING GROUPS** Built around single issues, where donors collaborate to align their resources around high-impact opportunities.

**ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING WORKING GROUP**  
The first official donor working group of the Greater Houston Community Foundation was an outgrowth of a donor collaboration launched in February 2014. One of our donors, Molly Gochman, an anti-human trafficking donor and advocate, wanted to bring together a broader network of philanthropic peers in Houston to raise awareness and to strategize solutions to this community problem.

This group of committed donors and private foundations focuses on how to leverage their grant dollars and public private partnerships through alignment of goals and cofounding of strategic giving opportunities. At the request of the donors and private foundations, our staff researches or recommends innovative strategies that catalyze systemic change. Through these coordinated efforts, the working group partners have deployed nearly \$1 million in total grants in their first year and recommended the creation of a Special Advisor post specifically focused on human trafficking, which was created by Mayor Annise Parker in June 2015.

**COMMUNITY IMPACT FUNDS** Giving vehicles for donors and private foundations who want to learn and give together around a specific issue.

**STRATEGIC EDUCATION FUND (SEF)** In its first three years, the SEF focused on the areas of instructional effectiveness and parental engagement. The SEF made significant grants to support the development of a blended learning pilot at KIPP Courage which has proven to be very successful and has helped the KIPP network leverage and attract national foundation dollars. This has inspired a blended learning community of practice and new models of learning at other KIPP Schools and at a Spring Branch ISD Middle School. SEF donors are now planning for the second phase of their grant making to build on what they have accomplished in phase one and explore new opportunities to improve education in the Greater Houston area.

**YOUTH HOMELESSNESS FUND** The Youth Homelessness Fund is a local network of funders who are committed to reducing homelessness through leadership, education, and advocacy; strategic collaboration and grant making; and effective promotion and replication of best-practice models in the Greater Houston area. The fund focuses on pooling resources toward common goals that promote effective, strategic, and innovative grant making and targeting solutions for preventing and reducing homelessness in our community.



# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Our community is at the center of what we do. The Greater Houston Community Foundation offers a myriad of ways that our donors and their gifts can have an impact on the neighborhoods across the Houston area.

**SCHOLARSHIPS** Whether you are opening a scholarship to help students achieve higher education, encourage studies in certain fields, or assist your employees through a corporate scholarship, we can help customize your scholarship program to achieve your charitable goals.

**DISASTER RELIEF** The Greater Houston Community Foundation stands ready as a resource to individuals, families, and businesses to address emergency needs during a disaster. In the aftermath of Tropical Storm Allison in 2001, Hurricane Katrina in 2005, and Hurricane Ike in 2008, we played an important role in addressing the immediate and long-term needs of the Greater Houston area and the Gulf Coast. Our solutions are structured to offer resources to agencies that provide direct relief, as well as allow companies to aid employees who suffered in the storms.

*“One of the great things about the Greater Houston Community Foundation is they’ve invested in technology to help us be more impactful in our giving. In fact, with the program called DonorHouston, you can search for a nonprofit, learn more about its programs, and give more strategically.”*

DAVID WEEKLEY | CHAIRMAN, DAVID WEEKLEY HOMES









# FAMILIES & INDIVIDUALS

We are proud to partner with our network of families and individuals in their goals and initiatives. We offer a wide range of vehicles and strategies that make giving easy, efficient, and effective.

Even in situations where the giving involves more complex assets, such as land or businesses, we have the expertise to assist donors in creating meaningful impact with their resources.

**DONOR ADVISED FUNDS (DAFs)** A streamlined giving tool that has become the fastest growing platform in the country. Donors contribute as much and as often as they like, and recommend charitable grants within a time frame they choose. Because of their structure, DAFs allow for a tax deduction at the time of the donation, without immediately having to identify grant recipients.

**PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS** Where donors can retain a high level of control over the terms, investments, and tax structuring, but with the expertise of our specialists in foundation operations, grant administration, and accounting. If you want to retain your existing team of advisors, our staff will work closely with them to ensure that your grant making strategy and philanthropic platform remain consistent.

**FAMILY MEETINGS** GHCF can help you develop a charitable plan that will ensure your philanthropic legacy,

whether by passing on your tradition of philanthropy to the next generation or establishing a structure that will fund your chosen priorities for years to come.

**THE NEXT GEN DONOR INSTITUTE** Connecting and inspiring future generations of philanthropic leaders. This year-long program helps participants develop an understanding of their own philanthropic journey, as well as needs within the community.

## THE CENTER FOR FAMILY PHILANTHROPY

The Greater Houston Community Foundation is expanding its capacity and our donors' impact with the launch of the Center for Family Philanthropy (CFP), which aligns with our mission of helping donors amplify their generosity and ensure their legacy. The CFP also offers an enhanced structure with expanded resources, greater peer connection, and access to best practices in family philanthropy, locally and nationwide, to our largest donors.

The Center for Family Philanthropy:

- Provides families best in class resources, special programming, infrastructure, and peer connection across generations.
- Offers families support to ensure their giving brings the family together and enriches the communities they serve.

# CORPORATIONS

The Greater Houston Community Foundation is proud to partner with leading Houston companies to enhance their social investment and ensure that their giving has maximum impact. Our comprehensive approach ensures that a broad range of customized services are available.

**CUSTOMIZED PHILANTHROPIC ADVISING** Your plan is at the core of effective giving. Each company is unique and we work with you to understand your values, market position, and stakeholders. Our team helps you assess your current corporate giving and engagement, develop your mission and focus areas, address your grant making strategies, and structure reporting and evaluation.

**SPECIAL PROJECTS** Some of the projects we have worked on include landscape analyses, social needs assessment, demographic trends, evaluation of nonprofits, and benchmarking with peer companies.


We also provide several Giving Tools for corporate donors:

- **CORPORATE DONOR ADVISED FUNDS**
- **CORPORATE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS**
- **DISASTER RELIEF GRANT MAKING**
- **INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYEE FUNDS**
- **EXECUTIVE DONOR ADVISED FUNDS**
- **ADMINISTRATIVE OPTIONS**
- **MATCHING GIFTS PROGRAMS**
- **GRANTS MANAGEMENT**

## CORPORATE CLIENTS







*“The Greater Houston Community Foundation helps philanthropists decide where their money has the greatest impact. They bring people together and educate folks on things like education, sex trafficking, and maximizing philanthropic impact.”*

DOROTHY ABLES | CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF SPECTRA ENERGY CORP.







# PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

We respect and value the relationships professional advisors have with their clients. Our hope is to become a trusted resource and partner with the advisors, to help their clients make effective and educated philanthropic decisions.

Our staff has exceptional expertise in tax and estate planning, as well as intimate knowledge of local issues and needs, and strategic planning.

**PRIVATE BANK LEVEL OF SERVICE** We offer a dedicated client service team that provides local, hands-on, solutions-oriented service to our donors. Our donors have 24/7 access to their funds via a secure online donor portal.

**FLEXIBILITY** If you are a money manager and your client opens a fund with an initial balance of \$500,000 or more, you can continue to manage the money in that fund. We accept a variety of complex assets and offer a comprehensive array of services, including international grant making.

Though we offer donors opportunities to achieve great impact today and in the foreseeable future, we keep an eye on the long-term. Our planning vehicles can continue in perpetuity. We have created a self-perpetuating Governing Board comprised of philanthropists and business leaders who are also invested—financially and otherwise—in the long-term success of the Foundation.







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