

Family Giving Circle

ABOUT



Center for FAMILY
PHILANTHROPY
GREATER HOUSTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

FAMILY GIVING CIRCLE & YOUTH LEADERSHIP TEAM

The Family Giving Circle is a year-long grantmaking program designed for 7th- to 12th-graders in Houston, fostering philanthropy, leadership, and community engagement. Participants gain valuable insights into the Houston nonprofit sector, community needs and opportunities, as well as exposure to best practices in grantmaking. They connect with community-minded peers and engage in meaningful philanthropic efforts.

The program is led by the 11th- and 12th-grade members, the Youth Leadership Team, who guide the group. Through the Family Giving Circle, young people are empowered to expand their generosity, strengthen their leadership abilities, and gain a deeper understanding of how to contribute to positive change within their communities.



DEFINE GRANT MAKING CYCLE



DETERMINE MISSION



REQUEST NONPROFIT PROPOSALS



ATTEND SITE VISITS AND
VOLUNTEER



MAKE GRANTS & CELEBRATE!

WHO SHOULD BE INVOLVED?

We are looking for involved and engaged youth who want to make a difference and become community leaders. This leadership opportunity is a great way for youth to develop their values, independent thinking, decision-making power, community knowledge, and leadership skills.

Throughout the school year, Family Giving Circle participants will:

- Gain a better understanding of making grants to nonprofits
- Develop deeper relationships with nonprofits in the Houston area
- Learn about various issues affecting Houston and surrounding communities
- Connect with an engaged and active peer group from different schools and communities in Houston
- Become leaders in their own families and schools

PRICE & HOW TO JOIN

Each family contributes \$2,000 to create a grant pool that will be distributed to three different organizations. Grants go to Houston-area nonprofits through a formal grantmaking process led by the students.

Greater Houston Community Foundation Donor Advised Fundholders

Community Foundation fundholders are invited to participate in the Family Giving Circle as part of the services we provide to them. Each participating family can contribute \$2,000 from their donor advised fund (DAF) to the giving circle's grantmaking fund. Annually, Youth leaders distribute grants from the fund to community nonprofits.

In addition to participating in the Family Giving Circle, all fundholders are invited to quarterly family volunteer programs, as well as regular donor education and learning programs for adults who wish to become more engaged in their giving.

New Families - Non-Community Foundation Fundholders

Families interested in the Family Giving Circle can speak with one of our philanthropic advisors about opening a fund at the Community Foundation. Minimum annual fee for a DAF is \$1,500.

Family Giving Circle

2025 - 2026 CALENDAR



Center for FAMILY
PHILANTHROPY
GREATER HOUSTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

**Family Giving Circle (7th - 10th graders) &
Youth Leadership Team (11th and 12th graders)**

KEY

Community Foundation Event
Family Giving Circle Meeting

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13: QUARTERLY VOLUNTEER DAY - All Family Members Invited

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM | Nonprofit: Sandal Gap Studio, 9434 Katy Freeway, Ste 380, Houston, TX 77055

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24: FAMILY MEET & GREET - Parents & Students Invited

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM | Location TBD

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28: KICK-OFF MEETING - Students-Only Required

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (Youth Leaders only), 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM (All students) | Greater Houston Community Foundation

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19: FAMILY GIVING CIRCLE MEETING - Students-Only Required

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (Youth Leaders only), 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM (All student) | Greater Houston Community Foundation

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8: FAMILY PHILANTHROPY DAY - All Family Members Invited

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM | Health Museum, 1515 Hermann Dr, Houston, TX 77004

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19: HOLIDAY GATHERING & SERVICE PROJECT - All Family Members Invited

Time & Location TBD

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2026: FAMILY GIVING CIRCLE MEETING - Students-Only Required

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (Youth Leaders only), 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM (All students) | Greater Houston Community Foundation

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 2026: QUARTERLY VOLUNTEER DAY - All Family Members Invited

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM | Location TBD

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2026: FAMILY GIVING CIRCLE MEETING - Students-Only Required

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (Youth Leaders only), 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM (All students) | Greater Houston Community Foundation

(APRIL) DATE TBD: SITE VISITS & VOLUNTEERING - All Family Members Invited

Time & Locations TBD

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2026: QUARTERLY VOLUNTEER DAY - All Family Members Invited

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM | Location TBD

SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2026: GRANTEE SELECTION - Students-Only Required

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (Youth leaders only 4:00 - 5:30 PM (All students) | Greater Houston Community Foundation

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026: FINAL SELECTION AND CELEBRATION! - Parents & Students Invited

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Greater Houston Community Foundation

CONTACT

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