

GOOD²G^{IVE} connection

2022 ISSUE



NEW FACES OF

Philanthropy



Connecting People who Care with Causes that Matter

 **Community
FOUNDATION**
for Northeast Georgia

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Scan to learn more about the Nonprofit Internship Program



This year brought some significant changes to the Community Foundation, including welcoming our new CEO DePriest Waddy and officially expanding into North Fulton and Forsyth! We also helped launch a new nonprofit internship program at Georgia Gwinnett College, saw even more younger families become fundholders and more. Throughout these pages you'll get to read about some of those young families, learn about our new CEO and see more of the fun we've had throughout 2022!

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	JIM JOEDECKE Andersen, Tate & Carr	MICHAEL PARK Whitlock Group	
	SLOAN JONES Georgia Gwinnett College	SAM PARK Georgia House of Representatives	

2022
GOOD2GIVE
Celebration

As we've slowly worked our way back to large in-person events, this year's Good2Give Celebration was especially meaningful as we welcomed our new CEO DePriest Waddy. Emceed by Jay Dennard, COO of Northside Hospital Duluth, the evening highlighted the work being done in healthcare, homelessness/housing and education and ended with a grant being given to Georgia Gwinnett College to help further the new Nonprofit Internship Program! Guests enjoyed listening to two talented young musicians from Corners Music Academy, plus The Hudgens Center for Art and Learning displayed original pieces of art on each table. Here's a glimpse into the evening, made possible by our generous sponsors!



August 18
Atlanta Athletic Club





Meet our new CEO DePriest Waddy

In June of this year, we welcomed our new CEO DePriest Waddy. DePriest has a long history of leadership in the nonprofit sector. He has served almost 30 years in leadership roles at various nonprofits and Fortune 500 companies, including the American Hospital Association, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Atlanta, United Way of Greater Atlanta, Jefferson County Committee for Economic Opportunity, and, most recently, Families First.

Waddy received his bachelors degree in marketing from The University of Alabama and his MBA from Kennesaw State University. He is a Leadership Gwinnett Class of 2015 alumnus, as well as a Leadership Birmingham Class of 2019 alumnus and Leadership Atlanta Class of 2022. He has been named to the Atlanta 500 in 2021 and 2022, *Atlanta Magazine's* annual list of the area's most powerful leaders. He was also awarded the Georgia Titan 100 in 2022. He and his wife, Carol, have one married daughter and two granddaughters.

Keep reading to learn more about him!



The common fiber in all we do is “Connecting people who care with causes that matter.”

There is a spiritual element in our work that connects the Community Foundation to a higher power of service and obedience.



CFNEG: *What do you hope to accomplish through your new role as President and CEO of the Community Foundation?*

DePriest: The common fiber in all we do is “Connecting people who care with causes that matter.” There is a spiritual element in our work that connects the Community Foundation to a higher power of service and obedience.

We have many philanthropists who are supporting local causes as well as addressing pressing needs of those in Ukraine and around the world. Our goal is to meet them where they are and help them to make informed decisions regarding their philanthropy. We know that the caring and generous support they provide will make an impact over many generations to come. And we take this work very seriously to ensure these investments have lasting impact.

CFNEG: *Why are you passionate about the Community Foundation of Northeast Georgia?*

DePriest: I feel we need to continue to scale these facilitated conversations to make informed decisions about our communities at large, based on good data of what is actually happening today. And I am excited to continue the great work of the Community Foundation in this space. I have seen transformational outcomes based on philanthropists and like-minded individuals coming together to solve a pressing need.

During COVID, I had the opportunity to work across the aisles with the Community Foundation and a host of others to make a way for providing housing, food, educational resources and jobs. I was impressed with how the Community Foundation galvanized leaders from every facet of the community, and I look forward to continuing this great work and helping philanthropists understand how we can maximize dollars spent with great up to date information.

CFNEG: *What do you consider to be your greatest accomplishment as a leader, husband, father, and grandfather?*

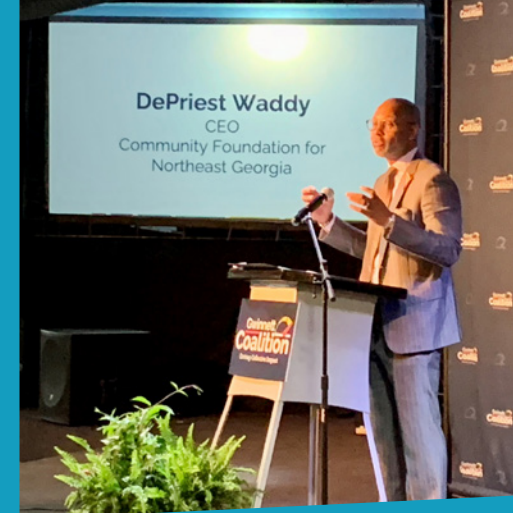
DePriest: On a professional level, it warms my heart when some of my direct reports have come into their own and become powerful leaders themselves and continually seek guidance from me along the way. Mentoring is the best gift we can give and the most precious gift we can receive. And, as leaders, we should be willing to share our mistakes or lessons learned as well as our wins. On a personal level, my wife Carol and I have been married many decades and she's still my best friend. We've seen so many of our young leaders that we've mentored soar to great heights. Our daughter and her husband are extremely successful, and they have built a tremendous legacy for our granddaughters. Raising her as a young father taught me to love more and judge less. Every generation is challenged differently by the world, and we become victims if we don't understand the ebbs and flows of life.

CFNEG: *What is your favorite hobby?*

DePriest: I love to write fiction. My wife Carol and I are also foodies, and I balance it out with time at the gym every morning. We also travel frequently (not so much during COVID), but typically we take an international trip every other year.

CFNEG: What's one thing people would be surprised to know about you?

DePriest: I love to collect antiques.



GO BE GREAT!
- Dr. Daniel J. Kaufman



NEW FACES OF

Philanthropy

Our country's age demographic is shifting. Today, 1/4 of the population is from the millennial generation – and since they make up 11% of U.S. giving, they're not to be ignored. As the idea of advocacy becomes more prevalent, these cause-driven powerhouses are making a splash in the philanthropy world. Here are three young couples who are passionate about giving back.

Thomas and Anne Benton



For this North Fulton couple, it was the desire to be more intentional with their giving. So when Thomas and Anne Benton's friends, Brett and Rachel Johnson, began telling them about their own experience as fundholders at the Community Foundation, Thomas and Anne were intrigued.

"We wanted to add some structure to our giving efforts," Thomas said. "That's why we decided to become fundholders. Having [that donor-advised fund] allows us to be more disciplined and intentional. Plus, we appreciate the expertise the Community Foundation provides - they educate us on where to give according to our interests."

One of their main interests? Autism awareness and support.

"As parents of children on the autism spectrum, we have become increasingly cognizant of the need for autism awareness and family assistance. Having the education and resources for child advocacy is critically important to their success," Thomas said. "Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Northside Hospital have had meaningful impacts on our lives and the lives of our children. Any time we get a chance to give back to these two fantastic organizations, we do."

"The Community Foundation is an amazing network where you can plug in and choose to give to what you already have in mind, but, once you get to know other people within the foundation and other organizations, you can give with even more purpose. We love that the Community Foundation has so many resources and that it's personal - there's so many connections. It's not just an ad on the TV for a faceless organization - it's in your own backyard." Meagan Castillo

Brian and Emily Gardner

"It's not about cutting a check and walking away."

It's a simple sentence - but it succinctly describes Brian Gardner's passion for the Gwinnett community and the reasoning behind he and his wife Emily's decision to become fundholders at the Community Foundation.

As a young couple, they both deeply value the sustainability of the organizations they give to. So when financial advisor Scott Phelan introduced them to the Community Foundation, they were intrigued.

"We had started thinking about planned giving and giving back, where to donate and such," said Brian, a tax attorney. "After looking into the Community Foundation we decided it would be a good fit for us personally. We liked the idea of giving back to a place, a community, we grew up in."

Brian and Emily currently live in Cobb County but both grew up in Gwinnett, in Dacula. They wanted their giving journey to start in their home community.

"My family has lived in Gwinnett for many generations, so it is very much home to us," Emily said.

"We really liked the sort of causes the Community Foundation is supporting - and how they are supporting them," Brian said. "They're investing in local nonprofits through education and other ways that makes those nonprofits sustainable for a long time. We view this as a long-term investment."



Megan and Carlos Castillo

"One thing we really wanted to do was give back to the community we grew up in, especially the school we both graduated from, Berkmar High School," Carlos said. "We still have very close relationships there, friends that we hang out with today."



Meagan's business partner John Upchurch, a fundholder at the Community Foundation and president of Scholastic Images, had initially told them about the Community Foundation. Their financial advisor happened to be Cliff Bray, another fundholder and a member of the Community Foundation's professional advisor network.

"Initially we thought we'd start with a scholarship fund, but the more we talked through it we realized we didn't want to JUST be a scholarship fund," Meagan said. "We wanted to be able to give to other causes as well. The Community Foundation seemed like the perfect fit for us - it would allow us to grow our giving over time."

For the Castillos, becoming fundholders at the Community Foundation is allowing them to take the next step on their Journey of Generosity.

"We've worked hard for our money and to be where we're at and we're so thankful," Meagan said. "We want to make sure our giving gets poured back into the community that helped build us up to where we are today. We have a lot to attribute to Gwinnett for our successes and our growth as young adults and leaders. So it's extra special to be able to give back to our own backyard through the Community Foundation."

Scan the code to learn more about becoming a fundholder.



Your Generosity at Work!

This year we awarded 36 grants totaling \$395,000 to area nonprofits at our annual grant awards celebration! Including nonprofits who received challenge grants, the total impact being funneled into area nonprofits is \$735,000.



Community FOUNDATION
for Northeast Georgia

Around Town

Golf. Nonprofit Tours. Leadership luncheons and more. We love spending time with our fundholders and community whenever we can!

This year we also expanded into North Fulton and Forsyth with the addition of space at the Greater North Fulton Chamber.



Our **Good2Give Community Fund** provides the funding for the grants, along with the help of our generous fundholders. The grants received are just a portion of the estimated \$12 million the Community Foundation poured into

nonprofits this year, along with education programming and other support services.



For **LETTUM EAT**, a mobile food service providing free meals to food-insecure individuals and families in local communities, the funds helped them feed even more people.

"The Community Foundation has been a tremendous supporter of LETTUM EAT. There are so many small nonprofits that set out to do great work in their communities

but can't survive the financial challenges they face," said Founder and Chef Hank Reid. "The Community Foundation has not only provided financial resources but also led in educating its fundholders about the various nonprofit organizations and how they impact the people they serve.

"We are blessed to benefit from the vast resources the Community Foundation makes available. This grant supported our Food Truck Feeding Tours initiative, where we go into underserved communities and serve hot meals. Our \$10K grant funded transportation and meals for over 2,500 people at our mobile events."



Another grant recipient, **Home Repairs Ministries**, provides critical home repairs to those in need.

"Home Repairs Ministries is honored to receive the support of the Community Foundation," said Executive Director Mark Wolfe. "Not only has the need for repairs grown due to the effects of COVID and repairs being postponed, but the price of materials has also greatly increased. We used the funds to help additional people in need of critical home repairs."



The main focus of this year's grant awards were education, healthcare, food insufficiency and homelessness.

"Our grants committee pours over each application, spending hours making decisions regarding where these funds needed to go," said Julie Arnold, chair of the grants committee. "It was not an easy task to select these 36 winners out of the 173 who submitted letters of intent. We are so thankful for the incredibly generous community and fundholders we have!"

Anyone can give to the Community Foundation's Good2Give Community Fund. There is no age limit or dollar amount restrictions on the fund as giving is something the Community Foundation wants the entire community involved in. **To donate or learn more, visit www.cfneq.org.**



To read the full list of grant recipients, scan the QR code.

36 GRANTS | \$395k TOTAL

Connecting the Dots

Helps Clients' Achieve Their Giving Goals

Cliff Bray has a unique perspective. Not only is he part of the Community Foundation's professional advisors network through his work as a CPA at WMBO CPA Group, but he and his wife Amy are also fundholders.

So when Meagan and Carlos Castillo started telling him about their giving goals, he knew exactly where to point them.

"I was meeting with the Castillos, who have been clients of mine for seven years, to discuss tax planning and they told me they had an idea. They wanted to establish a long-term gifting strategy to Berkmar High School as well as other organizations," Cliff said. "I immediately thought of the Community Foundation and told them I would connect them. I knew the Community Foundation would be a good way for them to open a donor-advised fund and start building a foundation for their giving."

From there, everything fell into place.

"We sat down with Cliff to talk through our desire to give back to Berkmar and keep our giving within the Gwinnett community," Meagan Castillo said. "He began connecting all the dots for us and encouraged us to open a fund through the Community Foundation. Initially we thought we'd start with a scholarship fund, but the more we talked through it we realized we didn't want to JUST be a scholarship fund. We wanted to be able to give to other causes as well. The Community Foundation seemed like the perfect fit for us - it would allow us to grow our giving over time."

As Cliff has connected others like the Castillos to the Community Foundation over the years, he's seen the benefits first hand.

"[My clients] become connected to an organization that can connect them to other nonprofits addressing causes they're passionate about," Cliff said. "Plus it gives them a way to save for giving, a tax deduction, and, as I mentioned, a source for connecting with causes that matter to them."

"Personally, as a fundholder myself, the Community Foundation provides more than simply fund management. You get people that are working to help you put that money to work, to make a real difference - they really have a mission to help people make solid decisions about philanthropy."

"And, as a professional advisor, it just makes sense to be part of the Professional Advisors Network. It's a great way to network with other professionals, plus really learn how to best help your clients achieve their giving goals."



Interested in learning more about joining our professional advisors network? Scan the QR code.



Having Fun

LEARNING!

So many of you attended this year's **Nonprofit Academy: Starting Point**, a jam-packed day of learning with 15 sessions and a special keynote speaker Ann Cramer! We kept up the learning through our monthly nonprofit education events covering a variety of topics, from nonprofit leadership to fundraising to storytelling and more.

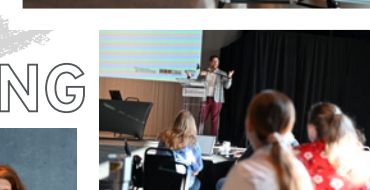
800
attendees

30+
speakers

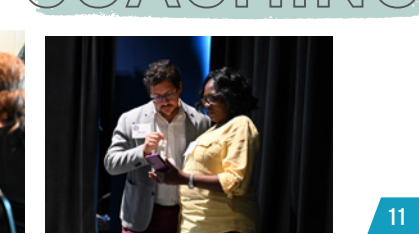
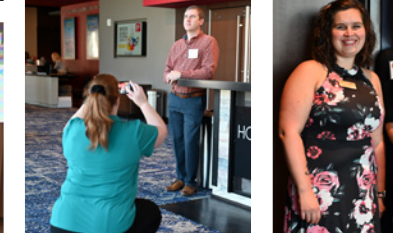
STARTING POINT



FUNDRAISING



VISUAL STORYTELLING



COACHING



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Karyl Kaye Miller, Executive Assistant | Christy Norris, Nonprofit Academy | Tarina Carter, Accounting | Heather Loveridge, Chief Storyteller

BREAKDOWN OF GRANTS IMPACTING OUR COMMUNITIES SINCE 1985

\$10,907,893
ARTS



COMMUNITY
\$38,396,183



\$22,428,213
EDUCATION



HEALTHCARE
\$14,024,411



\$18,530,077
HUMAN SERVICES



RELIGION
\$14,024,411



That's \$120,607,758 in total grant dollars!