



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
OF GREATER BIRMINGHAM

GIVING TOGETHER

A FOUNDATION FOR THE COMMUNITY

As you will see, 2016 was an exciting year for the Community Foundation. Due to the generosity of our donors, we received \$20 million in gifts and surpassed the \$250 million mark in assets. Through our collaboration with passionate philanthropists like you, visionary community leaders and innovative nonprofits, our impact continues to grow as we immerse ourselves in critical issues facing our community. Below provides a glimpse of some of the initiatives and programs that we have been working on over the course of 2016.

Results Framework Grantmaking: Our competitive grant process supports the four areas of our Results Framework. In 2016 we awarded a total of \$2.44 million to 62 nonprofits:

- Children are Successful along the Education Pipeline: 8 grants, \$390,000
- People Can Lead Healthy Lives: 22 grants, \$796,800
- Individuals and Families are Economically Secure: 12 grants, \$392,500
- Communities are Sustainable Livable and Vibrant: 20 grants, \$871,500

Giving Together is a unique program that gives donors the opportunity to learn more about nonprofits in our area and to work in partnership with the Community Foundation through gifts and grants from their Advised Funds. 2016 was the eighth year of Giving Together and we hit a high watermark with 44 donors contributing more than \$1.2M in funding aligned with Foundation grants and initiatives.

Innovation District: In 2015, the Community Foundation brought together Mayor Bell and key CEOs to identify economic development opportunities for Birmingham. Their focus coalesced around the creation of an innovation district, building on the success of Innovation Depot. Progress includes:

- The Community Foundation is part of the leadership team driving this initiative.
- The Community Foundation provided funding to work with planning firm Perkins + Will to develop a market/real estate analysis and organizational structure for the district.
- Innovate Birmingham, the new innovation ecosystem will be launched this year.
- Plans are moving forward to hire a full-time executive director to lead the initiative.

Mental Health Initiative: Over the past few years, mental health issues, especially for children, have surfaced as a key community need. The Community Foundation has been exploring ways to strategically address these needs.

- We have worked with St. Vincent's to pilot a model that integrates mental health and primary care in a clinic setting. Studies have shown that this type of collaborative care can bring significant improvement in mental health outcomes and lower health care costs.
- We are also collaborating on a pilot for school-based health centers that links a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) with local schools to

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2016

TOTAL ASSETS
\$259 million

NEW GIFTS
\$20 million

NEW FUNDS
21

TOTAL FUNDS
489

TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED
\$18.7 million

MORE THAN
\$375 million in grants awarded to
the community since 1959

YEAR FOUNDED
1959

COUNTIES SERVED
Blount, Jefferson, St. Clair, Shelby and
Walker Counties

unaudited, as of 12/31/16

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF
GREATER BIRMINGHAM
2100 FIRST AVENUE NORTH, SUITE 700
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35203
205-327-3800
CFBHAM.ORG

Continued on back

provide mental health and primary care in a school clinic setting. Models like this have improved student outcomes, including lower rates of suicidal behavior, hospitalizations, ER visits, alcohol and drug use, suspensions and dropouts.

- In 2016 we awarded three grants totaling \$130,000 to East Side Mental Health, Impact Family Counseling and Oasis Family Counseling. The grants focused on sustainably expanding and/or enhancing mental health services for children.

Predatory Lending: This is an issue that we have seen adversely affect members of the community that we serve, causing a strain on the resources of nonprofits. In collaboration with nonprofit and faith-based partners we are working to reform toxic lending through advocacy, direct services and community leadership. Recent actions include:

- Partnered with Alabama Central Credit Union and Gateway to provide a loan product and financial counseling to help more than 50 individuals with outstanding predatory loans.
- In 2016 we focused on community outreach and had support in the senate during the legislative session but we did not receive a final vote.
- In anticipation of the 2017 legislative session, we convened an Advisory Committee on Predatory Lending Reform, comprised of nonprofits and other community leaders and chaired by Dr. Neal Berte.
- The committee is working with a public affairs firm on grassroots support. Several bills have been introduced this legislative session that would help reform predatory lending practices.
- We continue to work with the Advisory Committee to help move these bills to a vote.

Birmingham Violence Reduction Initiative (BVRI): The Foundation brought this model to Birmingham in 2015 after seeing it successfully lower homicides in more than 50 communities. BVRI seeks to reduce homicides through a laser-like focus on the groups and gangs that are responsible for the majority of violent crimes, while providing support and outreach to those who need it most. 2016 saw an increase in homicides both nationally and in Birmingham. 2017 will be a pivotal year for BVRI with a focus on community outreach and building trust with the affected communities. We remain hopefully optimistic that we will see a decline in homicides as this initiative takes root.

Regional Cooperation: The Community Foundation, with the support of our Catalyst Donors, partnered with PARCA to conduct an intensive study on regional cooperation for the Greater Birmingham area. Our goal was to fully understand the opportunities for greater economic prosperity for our region. The study will be completed and released this summer. We are working on plans to engage the community in this project.

Other News: The breast cancer survivor initiative supported by the **Women's Breast Health Fund** and involving all five area hospitals launched this fall. The program, called Forge, offers supportive services to survivors and their loved ones. The **LGBTQ Fund** completed its first community grants process awarding \$10,000 to four nonprofits. The focus of the grants was on improving outcomes for LGBTQ Youth. The **Remy Fund** for Pets and Animal Services announced a record \$50,000 in grants awarded to 11 companion animal focused non-profit organizations.

At the Community Foundation we launched a **Deep Dive Luncheon** series for our donors so watch your inbox for information about 2017 events. We also said goodbye to several long-time staff and board members. We will miss their knowledge and expertise but they have left us in good hands. We have welcomed new faces to our staff and are in the process of filling open positions in programming and development.

Thank you for helping make 2016 such a successful year. Already, 2017 is shaping up to be even more exciting. This is due in large part to a wonderful community of donors committed to bettering our region. This would not be possible without your support and generosity. It is truly a privilege for me to be associated with such a wonderful organization. It is truly the "community's" foundation.

Christopher Nanni

2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair: G. Ruffner Page, Jr.

Greg Butrus

Stewart Dansby

John Alex Floyd, Jr., Ph.D.

David Gray

Jay Grinney

Kathryn D. Harbert

Judge William Hereford

Gen. Charles Krulak

Michael D. Luce

Susan Matlock

Kathryn Miree

Sanjay Singh, Ph.D.

Yolanda Sullivan

Larry D. Thornton, Sr.

Ray L. Watts, M.D.

Lloyd R. Wilson

Denise (Dee) A. Woodham

President and CEO:

Christopher Nanni

A HIGHER STANDARD



The National Standards Seal indicates official confirmation from the Council on Foundations that we have met the most rigorous standards in philanthropy. It affirms our commitment to financial security, transparency and accountability. It says our grant-making includes an open, competitive process designed to address the changing needs of our community.