ABOUT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

OUR VISION
A just, prosperous and unified region where every person is empowered to reach their full potential.

OUR MISSION
To ignite passion for transformational change.

OUR CORE VALUES
Lead | Inspire | Innovate | Include

HISTORY
Our Community Foundation was founded in 1959 by a group of generous, dedicated leaders as a public endowment to support enduring change and success for the community. Although the issues facing our community have changed over the past six decades, our commitment to supporting our region remains steadfast. We continue to galvanize the passion of philanthropists, nonprofits and leaders to empower communities, create opportunity, grow capacity and build charitable resources for a brighter future for a Greater Birmingham.

TYPES OF FUNDS

COMMUNITY CATALYST FUNDS: Philanthropic venture funds that allow the Community Foundation and its donors to make transformational investments that benefit the greater Birmingham community.

DESIGNATED: Donors can choose to create a long-term charitable resource to benefit one or more nonprofits.

DONOR ADVISED: These funds allow individuals, families and businesses to be part of the work of the Community Foundation, while also supporting their favorite charities and organizations. Donor Advised Funds are like having a private foundation, but with greater tax advantages and fewer administrative burdens.

FIELD OF INTEREST: Many donors have a specific area of philanthropic interest they want to support; a Field of Interest Fund allows them to do this without having to specify any particular organization.

AGENCY ENDOWMENTS: These funds allow individual nonprofit organizations to start and build an endowment, using the professional services of the Community Foundation.

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

Total Assets
$265 Million

Grants made in 2022
$25.7 Million

New gifts in 2022
$35 Million

Number of Grantmaking funds
640

Minimum fund size
$15,000 most funds
$50,000 Catalyst fund
$200,000 Scholarship fund

Average fund size
$471,310

Largest fund
$17 Million

Community grants
Since 1959
$552 Million

Year founded
1959

Counties served
Blount, Jefferson, St. Clair, Shelby and Walker counties

As of 12/31/22 (unaudited)
GRANTS AND INITIATIVES

GRANTS: The grants we make to nonprofits in the Birmingham region come from the Community and Field of Interest Funds. In 2022, the Foundation awarded $2,670,000 in grants to 98 organizations to support our five priorities identified by the community:

Creating Economic Opportunity for All
16 grants totaling $578,000

Overcoming Persistent Poverty
19 grants totaling $589,000

Nurturing Thriving Communities
42 grants totaling $1,015,000

Driving Regional Cooperation
3 grants totaling $150,000

Fostering Equity and Inclusion
18 grants totaling $338,000

In addition to the Foundation’s competitive grants process, in 2022, donors designated more than $19 million through their donor advised funds to support causes they are passionate about including education, community and economic development, faith organizations, social services and arts and culture.

PROACTIVE INITIATIVES: To maximize our positive impact on the region, the Community Foundation develops and implements largescale, multi-year regional initiatives. Working with donors, nonprofit organizations, and local leaders, we identify key concerns and develop initiatives to address those concerns and accelerate opportunities within the area.

Current initiatives include: Mental Health, Greater Birmingham Community of Hope (focused on supporting and strengthening families and communities), Regional Cooperation, Inclusive Economic Opportunity, Microtransit and Summer Learning Loss.