



April News and Updates

CREATE's Toyota

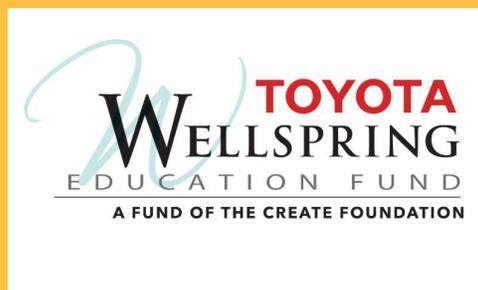
Wellspring Education Fund to be honored for volunteerism

The GIVE Awards were established through the Office of the Governor and Volunteer Mississippi to recognize those individuals and organizations that have made an outstanding impact through their gifts of service, advocacy and outreach on behalf of the citizens of Mississippi.

Tupelo-based nonprofit CREATE was honored with the Outstanding Achievement by a Community Partnership for its partnership with Toyota Mississippi through the Toyota Wellspring Education Fund.

According to CREATE president Mike Clayborne, the "Imagine the Possibilities" career expo, funded largely by the Toyota Wellspring fund, was key in receiving the GIVE award.

"That was nice for us to get that recognition because volunteerism is such a key part of making an event like this happen," said CREATE president Mike Clayborne. "It takes hundreds of volunteers to put on that three-day event."



Around 400 volunteers worked the career expo in 2017.

"It's really been very fulfilling to see the response from the community, not just the immediate area but the whole region, with people coming from all over our 17 counties to volunteer and make the event happen," Clayborne said.

To read the entire story, click [here](#).

Welcoming Dr. Kristy Luse to the CREATE team

We are pleased to introduce Dr. Kristy Luse in joining our staff as the Vice President of Toyota Wellspring Education Fund.

Kristy joins us from Tupelo Public School

District with 26 years of education experience. She is a resident of Tupelo for almost 20 years. She volunteers with numerous nonprofit organizations such as CATCH Kids and Gumtree Art Museum, and is a member of the Rotary Club.

She is looking forward to working within our community and making a difference.



In the News

200 gather for 'community conversation'



CREATE President Mike Clayborne speaks during A Community Conversation at Trotter Convention Center Monday evening. The community forum drew 200 participants and addressed issues like poverty, education and population loss. Photo by: Deanna Robinson/Dispatch Staff. Read entire story [here](#).

CREATE Foundation receives major gift for Amory Municipal Library



From left, Elizabeth Louise Smith Endowment Fund trustee Jon Will, Amory Mayor Brad Blalock, Amory Municipal Library Board President David Millender and CREATE Foundation President Mike Clayborne talk following a press release about a gift for an endowment fund and a challenge grant for the library through the Smith family. Photo Courtesy of Daily Journal. Full story [here](#).

NEWMS honors 5 women 'pioneers, heroes, survivors, humanitarians, servants'

CREATE Board Member Mitch Waycaster named honorary consul to Japan



Read the entire story [here](#).



Read the entire story [here](#).

New Funds Established

ENDOWMENT FUNDS

- Gumtree Museum of Art – Nancy Diffie Exhibition Endowment Fund

SPECIAL PROJECTS

- Gumtree Museum of Art – Nancy Diffie Exhibition Special Project
- Music and Miracles

SCHOLARSHIPS

- The Homestretch Scholarship Fund
- Impact Kids – Daniel Knox Scholarship

ADVISED FUNDS

- Larry and Delois Montgomery Advised Fund
-



Imagine

the possibilities

Northeast Mississippi Career Expo
In affiliation with Pathways2Possibilities

October 2-4, 2018

Sponsored by the Toyota Wellspring Education Fund at CREATE

**BECOME A
SPONSOR**

Planning meetings for Imagine the Possibilities Career Expo 2018 have begun!
Mark your calendars for October 2-4!

Interested in sponsoring the event?
Contact Albine Bennett at 844-8989 or click on the button below for more information.

[ITP 2018 Sponsorship Opportunities](#)



COMING SOON!

Volunteer Northeast Mississippi is the new volunteer resource for Benton, Alcorn, Tippah, Prentiss, Tishomingo, Union, Lee, Itawamba, Pontotoc, Calhoun and Chickasaw Counties, launching April 15 - National Volunteer Week!

For more information, contact:

Albine Bennett, CREATE Foundation, albine@createfoundation.com

Robin McKinney, United Way, robin@unitedwaynems.org

Jason Martin, Tupelo/Lee Hunger Coalition, jason@unitedwaynems.org



Why do you give?

Judy and I have been making our charitable contributions for years through our Advised Fund at CREATE - whether it be to the church, St. Jude Hospital, our high school alma mater or to unexpected needs such as tornado relief in Tupelo recently and in neighboring Smithville a few years ago. CREATE handles all of the details and paperwork and, most important, respects and follows our charitable wishes to the letter.

- Larry Kirk

OUR MISSION

CREATE Foundation is committed to improving the quality of life for the people of Northeast Mississippi through:

- Building permanent community endowment assets
- Encouraging philanthropy and managing charitable funds contributed by individuals, families, organizations and corporations
- Strengthening the regional community development capacity
- Taking a leadership role on key community issues and impacting the region through gifts and targeted grant-making

CREATE Foundation | 662-844-8989 | 662-844-8149 | www.createfoundation.com



