



January News and Updates



Top Accomplishments of 2018

- The Commission staff presented comprehensive data on Columbus and Lowndes County to a community forum seeking knowledge and action on community issues. The forum was well attended and a follow-up community-wide committee will determine the way forward addressing key issues.
- The Commission was one of the lead sponsors in a Summit on Career Education and High Demand Jobs that focuses on the skills gap confronting employers in our region. Almost 300 people attended this event, which garnered significant media attention.
- Contributions are approximately \$13.8 million for the year.

- 2018 was again an outstanding year for endowment fund growth with 12 new funds established for a total of 219. The endowment fund balance exceeds \$80 million.
- A major new initiative was launched from the Toyota Wellspring Education Fund in the fall to place career coaches in the eight school districts. Eleven coaches were hired to work primarily with tenth graders in fourteen high schools. The coaches work to enhance career awareness and assist students in mapping out a plan to pursue their area of interest.
- 2018 was the first year of a \$1.5 million commitment over three years to fund STEAM grants to schools from Toyota Wellspring Education Fund. Proposals were submitted by the school districts to enhance their efforts in science, technology, engineering, arts and math.
- The "Imagine the Possibilities" Career Expo included all 17 CREATE counties. During the three-day event, 7,200 eighth grade students from 75 schools attended the expo. In addition, the event was open to the public on the second day, and there were over 1,000 teachers and 300 volunteers involved.
- The Toyota Wellspring Fund designated \$150,000 for early childhood education and kindergarten readiness. All eight school districts implemented summer learning opportunities for mastery of literacy and numeracy for at risk students. Professional development was provided for Pre-K and Kindergarten teachers.

New Funds Established in 2018

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

- The Homestretch Scholarship Fund
- Impact Kids – Daniel Knox Scholarship
- Tiger Foundation Scholarship
- The Sherry Buford Memorial Scholarship
- Savannah Strong Scholarship Fund
- Five Smooth Stones Scholarship Pass-through Fund

ENDOWMENT FUNDS

- The Judah Marshall Powell Memorial Endowment Fund
- Gumtree Museum of Art – Nancy Diffeo Exhibition Endowment Fund
- Dr. Marshall Hollis Family Scholarship for First Baptist Church Ripley
- Randy Dunnam Memorial Cancer Endowment Fund
- Northeast Mississippi Purchasing Association Scholarship Endowment Fund
- REAL Foundation - Ross and Diana Williams Excellence in Attendance

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

- Larry and Delois Montgomery Advised Fund
- Chip and Jennifer Crane Advised Fund
- Holland Family Advised Fund
- Roger and Martha Bland Advised Fund
- Steve Brandon and Patsy L. Fowlkes Advised Fund
- Turnage Sanders Donor Advised Fund
- Bobbie G. Miller Advised Fund
- Wendell Weakley Advised Fund
- Marshall or Sarah Jenkins Advised Fund
- Jim and Jennie Mounce Advised Fund
- Gloria Kellum Advised Fund

SPECIAL PROJECT FUNDS

- The Judah Marshall Powell Emergency Department Kids Fund
- BALM ("Because All Lives Matter")
- Gumtree Museum of Art – Nancy Diffeo Exhibition Special Project
- Music and Miracles

- and Learning Endowment Fund
- Palmer Home Endowment Fund
- Children's Foundation of Mississippi Endowment Fund
- Clifford M. and Mildred S. Brock Scholarship Endowment Fund
- Lisa Mitchell Growing Green Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund
- Five Smooth Stones Scholarship Endowment Fund
- Franklin Endowment Fund

- MidSouth Animal Welfare Project
- CLW Home Uplift Pilot
- National Public Lands Day
- TMS Wave Market
- NMCC Charitable Races
- Forge Foundation
- Leading the Way: Collision Repair at THS
- American Legion Operation Mississippi Gratitude
- Children's Foundation of Mississippi Special Project Fund
- Itawamba Food Angels
- Tupelo Area Pickleball
- Kids Across America
- Memory's Magical Dresses
- Zeke's Hands

When Should a Woman Have a Will?

A checklist for planning

In today's fast-paced economic climate, it is essential for a woman to have a valid estate plan -- including a will -- in place and up to date. Growth in asset values, longer life expectancies, and other factors make leaving the future to chance far too great a risk.

Although trusts and other planning tools continue to gain in popularity and may achieve some of the same long-term objectives, a will - either by itself or working in a concert with other legal plans -- is typically the foundation of a sound and effective long-range financial plan.

Of course, obligations to family members and others must come first. But you can name one or more charitable entities to receive whatever remains after your heirs have been provided for.

Making your plans and updating them as needed can bring you and your loved ones great satisfaction and peace of mind. We will be pleased to be of assistance as you and your advisors consider your long-range financial needs and estate plans.

1. When She is Single
2. When She is Married
3. When She Has Minor Children
4. When She Has Adult Children
5. When She and Her Husband Own Property Jointly
6. When Her Marital Status Changes
7. When She Wants to Help Other Family Members
8. When She Wants to Avoid Unnecessary Expenses
9. When She Wants to Name Her Own Personal Representative
10. When She Has Hard-to-Value Property
11. When She Wants to Remember a Friend
12. When She Has Charitable Wishes

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

