



CREATE
NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI'S
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

2016

IMPACT REPORT



“

CREATE should not shed its own light,
but should intensify the brightness by
involving the light of many local citizens
in the solution of community problems.

”

> George McLean
CREATE Founder



CREATE

NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI'S
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

213 West Main Street
P.O. Box 1053
Tupelo, MS 38802
Phone: 662.844.8989
Fax: 662.844.8149
www.createfoundation.com

CREATE embodies the best spirit and values of our region. Through meaningful partnerships, we help organizations and communities now and in the future. We help turn beliefs into action by creating an

IMPACT

- Through connecting donors to community needs
- By providing leadership on key community issues
- By supporting and strengthening local nonprofits that in turn serve the greater community
- By supporting educational improvement and enhancement initiatives
- By providing leadership training opportunities for youth and adults
- By sponsoring various summits and forums to raise awareness of issues that are impacting our region
- Through partnerships with our community affiliates that help develop new leaders, revitalize communities, increase civic involvement, and lead to private investments throughout the region
- Through gifts and targeted grant-making



2016-2018

Chairman: Robin McCormick

Vice Chairman: Sean Suggs

President: Mike Clayborne

Treasurer: Bo Collins

Secretary: Grace Clark

Past Chairman: Greg Pirkle

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Mike Clayborne
President



Lewis Whitfield
Senior Vice President



Juanita Floyd
Vice President of
Finance & Administration



Albine Bennett
Director of Communications
/Administrative Assistant



Katie Stuart, CPA
Director of Finance



CREATE is the
oldest and largest
community
foundation in
Mississippi
(\$101.8 million in assets)
and the third
largest grant
making foundation,
public or private, in
the state.



We serve
17 counties
in Northeast
Mississippi.

CREATE FOUNDERS

George A. McLean
1904-1983

Anna Keirsey McLean
1906-2000

DIRECTORS EMERITUS

Felix Black
1917-2003

J.C. Whitehead
1921-2004

Jim Ingram
1930-2006

Jack Reed, Sr.
1924-2016

James Hugh Ray
1927-2007

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Mary Childs
President
The Peoples Bank
Ripley



Dr. Alice Clark
Vice Chancellor
University Relations
University of Mississippi



Grace Clark
Community Volunteer
Tupelo



Bo Collins
President & CEO
BNA Bank
New Albany



John Creekmore
Attorney
Creekmore Law Office, PLLC
Amory



Dr. Ormella Cummings
Chief Strategy Officer
North MS Health Services
Tupelo



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President, Publisher & CEO
Journal, Inc.
Tupelo



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Senior Vice President /
Business Development Officer
Renasant Bank
Columbus



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Owner
Room to Room Furniture
Tupelo



Larry Kirk
Retired CEO
Hancock Fabrics, Inc.
Tupelo



Randy Long
President
Long Wholesale Distributors, Inc.
Corinth



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Partner
Watkins, Ward & Stafford, PLLC
West Point



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Board Counsel
Mitchell, McNutt & Sams, P.A.
Tupelo



Buddy Montgomery
Chairman & President
First Choice Bank of Pontotoc
Pontotoc



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Attorney
PHELPS DUNBAR, LLP
Tupelo



Eddie Prather
Consultant
The Excellence Group
Tupelo



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President
R.W. Reed Company ("Reeds")
Tupelo



Cathy Robertson
Executive Vice President
BancorpSouth
Tupelo



Becky Rollins
Community Volunteer
Tupelo



Ronny Rowland
Manager
Prentiss County Electric Power Assoc.
Booneville



Dr. David Shaw
Vice President - Research
& Economic Development
Mississippi State University



Shane Spees
President & CEO
North MS Health Services
Tupelo



Sean Suggs
Vice President
Toyota Motor Manufacturing
Blue Springs



Mitch Waycaster
President
Renasant Bank
Tupelo



H.L. "Sandy" Williams
President
Coca Cola Bottling Works Corp.
Corinth



Bryan Wilson
Managing Partner
Tacoma Ag, LLC
Fulton



ASSETS TOP \$100 MILLION FOR THE FIRST TIME!

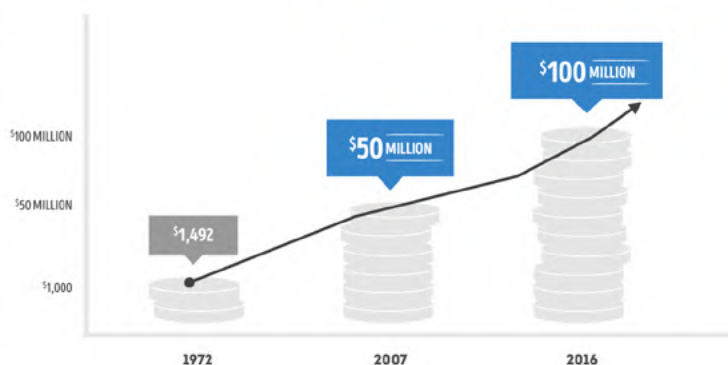
The CREATE Foundation has given more than \$96 million to communities and organizations during its 44-year history because of the endowments and funds placed under its care. The foundation announced its total assets top more than \$100 million for the first time. As of July 31, the figure was \$101,252,651. At CREATE's founding in 1872, its assets totaled a mere \$1,492.

"When George and Anna Kiersey McLean established this foundation in 1972, they envisioned a regional community foundation which would impact the lives of those in Northeast Mississippi," said Robin McCormick, the foundation's board chair.

CREATE encompasses 17 counties and is the oldest and largest community foundation in Mississippi. It has grown into the third-largest grant-making foundation in the state.

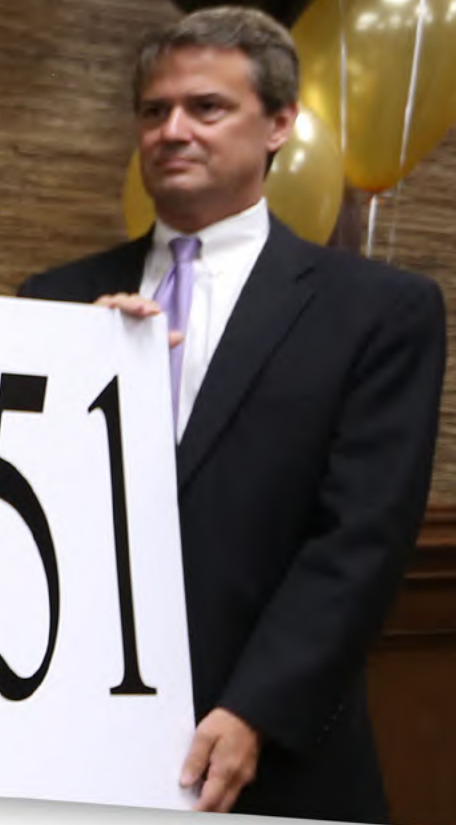
It was only in 2007 that CREATE's assets reached \$50 million. The growth has been spurred by Toyota Motor Corp., which pledged \$50 million into the Toyota Wellspring Education Fund that benefits schools in Pontotoc, Lee and Union counties. The automaker announced it would build a plant in Blue Springs in 2007, and made the first of 10 \$5-million payments three years later. To date, it has given \$35 million.

TOTAL ASSETS



CREATE FOUNDATION

101,252,651



CREATE President Mike Clayborne acknowledged Toyota's "tremendous commitment ... to support education in three counties had played a significant role in the growth of the foundation."

But foundation officials also praised the generosity of individuals, families, organizations and businesses throughout the region that have supported CREATE or one of its 13 affiliates.

"I think the McLeans would be very proud of the growth of the foundation, but I also think they'd be proud of the impact these funds have had," McCormick said.

Grant disbursements reached more than \$1 million for the first time in 1996 and have remained in seven figures since. CREATE issued more than \$7 million in grants last year for the second consecutive year and the third time since 2010.

"We are definitely making Northeast Mississippi a better place," McCormick said.

> This story was featured in the Daily Journal | July 2016

> Written by Dennis Seid



READ MORE!

Scan the QR code to read the entire article from the Daily Journal website.

The COMMISSION

on the Future of Northeast Mississippi



Overall Goal:

Increase regional per capita income to 75% of the national average.

Primary Supporting Goal:

Improve the educational attainment for adults in the region.

The Commission on the Future of Northeast Mississippi has entered its third decade of service to the region.

The purpose of the Commission is to build regional cooperation and unity. It accomplishes its purpose by engaging in regional community development. Over the years, the Commission has addressed several key issues, with a host of partners, including leadership development, racial reconciliation, improved broadband internet access, highway improvement, and educational achievement and attainment.

EDUCATION

Higher educational achievement and attainment throughout our region results in the development of a high quality workforce. For more than a decade, the Commission has helped establish and facilitate several regional initiatives designed to reduce dropouts at every level of education and to enhance the quality of education of all students. Examples of Commission initiatives include dropout recovery programs, media campaigns, support for high quality early childhood initiatives, and facilitation of the MSU-UM Task Force on Regional Development. Two other initiatives deserve special mention below.

TUITION GUARANTEE

Since 2008, a tuition guarantee initiative has been growing within our region. Today, all 17 counties in our region offer the Tuition Guarantee Program to recent high school graduates with the promise of 100% paid tuition for up to four regular semesters at one of four community colleges. In the fall of 2016, a total of 2,676 young people were covered by our region's program. Financial sponsors vary by county but include three foundations, two planning and development districts, counties, cities, businesses, and individuals. The state of Tennessee recently passed a law funding an almost identical program throughout their state.

DISTRICTS OF INNOVATION

For two years, the Commission worked with the Mississippi Legislature to secure passage of a new law, entitled Districts of Innovation. This law enabled public school district leaders to formulate new plans designed to improve academic performance. The State Board of Education may designate up to five Districts of Innovation annually. Each district will be given five years to implement and execute its plans. Booneville and Corinth were the first two districts from the region to apply for this status. Corinth was one of three districts in the state to be awarded this opportunity to further excel in its academic achievement.

STATE OF THE REGION

For 21 years, CREATE's Commission has sponsored the State of the Region meeting. In May, more than 300 community and state leaders heard two excellent presentations from Don Nielsen of Seattle, Washington and Blake Wilson, CEO of the Mississippi Economic Council. Those in attendance also received two key reports - one which profiles regional growth and development and one which measures progress towards regional goals.



Don Nielsen gives his opinion on how to fix the public education system and how Mississippi can do what other states cannot during CREATE Foundation's State of the Region address.



COMMISSION
ON THE FUTURE OF NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI
CREATE FOUNDATION

COMMISSION

Alcorn

John Mercier
Clayton Stanley

Benton

Jack Gadd
Bill Renick

Calhoun

John Burt
Lisa McNeece

Cickasaw

Patsy Gregory
Bill Smith

Clay

Amy Berry
Eddie Longstreet

Itawamba

B.J. Canup
Mike Eaton

Lafayette

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Randy Leister
Jon Maynard

Lee

Tillmon Calvert
Grace Clark
Guy Mitchell, III
Paul Mize, Jr.
Amy Tate

Lowndes

Nick Ardillo
Allegra Bringham
Birney Imes
Antwann Richardson

Marshall

Dr. Gemma Beckley
Mayor Kelvin Buck
Sarah Sawyer

Monroe

Jim Edwards
Jean Pinkley
Barry Thompson

Oktibbeha

Michelle Amos
Frank Chiles
Dr. Tommy Stevenson

Pontotoc

Phyllis Ford High
Judge James L. Roberts, Jr.

Prentiss

Ricky Ford
Ronny Rowland

Tippah

Duane Bullard
Kyle Smith

Tishomingo

Beth Davis
Dr. Bob Ferguson

Union

Betsey Hamilton
Phil Morris

University

Lee Tyner
Kyle Steward

At Large

Denotee Martin
Eddie Prather
Senator Bill Stone

Emeritus

Kenny Dill
Hassell Franklin
Bobby Martin
Jack Reed, Sr.
Sandy Williams



Commission's 2016-2017 Chairman,
Guy Mitchell, III, addresses the crowd
at CREATE's annual meeting

ALCORN (CARE)

H. L. "Sandy" Williams, *Chair*
Hull Davis
Orma R. Smith
Clayton Stanley
Fred Joe Vann, Jr.
Kenneth Williams
Mona Lisa Grady, *Executive Director*

CALHOUN

John G. Burt, *Co-chair*
Bill Williams, *Co-chair*
Randy Baker
Jim Blue
Sheila Freely
Joel McNeece
Tina Scott
Precious Thompson
Mona Tillman
Michael Watkins
Becky Wright

CHICKASAW (PACE)

Bobby Mooneyham, *Chair*
Frank Alford
Alford Bell
Jason Brooks
Tom Byrne
Mike Colbert
Dr. Betsy Collums
John Ellison
Hassell Franklin
Millette Nabors
Rayburn Parks
Bob Scott
Gary Staten

CLAY (WEST POINT)

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Dewel Brasher
Jimmy Bryan
Robin McCormick
Louise Campbell, *Executive Director*

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Jennifer Bost, *Secretary*
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Romona Edge
Teresa Floyd
Ginger Howell
Sid Kirksey
Vaunita Martin
Teresa McNeece
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Brian Quinn
Jason Wallace
Bryan Wilson

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Ken Rutherford, *Vice-chair*
Ben Bolton
Michael Joe Cannon
Donald Cole
Dotsy Fitts
Teresa Flautt
Gaye Flynt
Sam Haskell
Lisa Hickman-Tollison
Jeff Johnson

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Jean Jordan
Jacqui Lear
Elise Lee
Caroline McIntosh
Ed Meek
Mike Mitchell
Jane Kerr Nance
Robert Paine
Diane Scruggs
Betsy Smith
Molissia Swaney
Sherry Wall
Frank Yerger
Julie Yoste
Jody Holland, *Executive Director*

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Stevan Black
Matt Bogue
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Brandt Galloway
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Wanda Holley
Frank Howell
Birney Imes
Darren Jordan
Tommy Lott
Tango Moore
Bain Nickels
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Antwann Richardson
Josie Shumake
Alma Turner
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Patsy Claxton
Nan Corbell
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Martin Hansen
Susan Honeycutt
Bradley Lipsey
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Dwight McComb, Sr.
Greg Miller

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Mary Lib Francis
Art Gentry
Dottie Haney
Geneva Moon
Larry Palmer
Dr. Len Pinkley
Tony Poss
Deborah Rogers

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Nellah Taylor, *Chair*
John Robert Arnold
Dr. David Boles
Bobby Crosland
Suzanne S. Dressel
Dr. Dora Herring
Pat Lane
Paul Millsaps
Buddy Staggers
Allan Tucker
Charles E. Weatherly
Martha Wells
Ross Williams
Marty Wiseman
Jan Eastman, *Executive Director*

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Bob Glover, *Chair*
Dean Caviness
Von Coombs
John Frank Gibbs
Melissa Harrison
Jim Jackson
Beverly Moffitt
Deborah Hurt, *Executive Director*

TUPELO/LEE COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Dick White, *Chair*
Pat Caldwell, *Vice-chair*
Tillmon Calvert
V.M. Cleveland
Kim Estess
Linda Gholston
Chauncey Godwin
Lisa Hawkins
Mickey Holliman
Chuck Imbler
Zell Long
Gene McDade
Gloria McKinney
Ted Moll
Sam Pace
Aubrey Patterson
Scott Reed
David Rumbarger
Mitch Waycaster
David Wilson

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Cathy Garrett, *Vice-chair*
James (Bo) Collins
Gary Cooper
Moises Lemus
Dale Manning
Margaret Maxwell
Cathy McClinton
Phil Morris
Thad Mueller
Rodney Shands
Ann Shirley
Bill Smallwood
Anne J. Stephens
Collett Cross, *Executive Director*

AFFILIATE ENDOWMENT BALANCES

ALCORN

\$1,363,413.15
CARE Endowment Fund

CALHOUN

\$260,514.66
Calhoun County Endowment Fund

CHICKASAW

\$467,472.00
PACE Endowment Fund

CLAY

\$1,122,163.01
West Point Community Foundation

ITAWAMBA

\$687,485.41
FIRST Foundation Fund

LAFAYETTE

\$729,615.26
LOFT Endowment Fund

LOWNDES

\$325,181.58
Columbus Lowndes Foundation Fund

MONROE

NORTH MONROE COUNTY

Community Fund: \$180,603

SOUTH MONROE COUNTY

Community Fund: \$178,662

OKTIBBEHA

\$359,619.23
SOAR Endowment Fund

TIPPAAH

\$365,305.42
TARGET Endowment Fund

UNION

\$646,030.26
UNITE Endowment Fund



■ Bob Glover, TARGET Chairman, accepts the James Hugh Ray Award from Mike Clayborne, CREATE President.

COMMUNITY AFFILIATES

CREATE and its 13 community affiliates work together to help revitalize communities, develop new leaders, and increase civic involvement and private investments throughout the region. Our affiliates support a wide range of initiatives that help breathe new life into the region. To recognize their efforts, Journal, Inc. established the James Hugh Ray Community Affiliate Award. James Hugh Ray was a community hero and made many valuable contributions to our region and to the CREATE Foundation. He was instrumental in CREATE's establishment, serving as its legal architect and advisor. He was a loyal board member for many years.

2016 James Hugh Ray Community Affiliate Award Winner:

TARGET

(Tippah and Ripley Growing Excellent Together)

RECENT GRANTS INCLUDE

- North and South Tippah Teacher of Distinction Awards
- Boys and Girls Club of Ripley
- Koon's Care Free Clinic
- Blue Mountain College Literacy on the Lawn Program
- Tippah County Historical Museum
- Ripley Arts Council
- New scoreboard for Walnut Municipal Park
- "Imagine the Possibilities" Career Expo 2016 Sponsor
- Chalybeate Library
- Tippah County Good Samaritan Program
- Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program
- Ripley Main Street Association
- Town of Walnut
- Southern Sentinel newspapers for classrooms
- South Tippah pre-school
- Ripley parks and recreation
- Dr. Jessie Mauney historical marker
- Ripley High School career day
- Ripley Middle School cheerleaders
- Tippah County Development Foundation

Since 2000, TARGET has given 47 grants to 30 organizations in the total amount of \$58,576.



Members of TARGET board were on hand for the unveiling of the new scoreboard granted to the Walnut Municipal Park.



DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

ALBERT AND BILLIE GREEN
ALBERT DELGADILLO
ALFORD AND SHELIA BELL
ALICE STAFFORD
ANN PHILLIPS AND HUGHES MILAM
ANNA MIZE ADAMS AND PAUL LOUIS ADAMS
BABS AND MICKEY HOLLIMAN
BETSEY AND TOM HAMILTON
BOBBY J. AND MINERVA MOORE
BOBBY MOONEYHAM
BOBBY P. AND BARBARA M. MARTIN
BULLARD FAMILY
CABELL FUND
CAROL BYRNE CHILDREN'S FUND
CATHERINE AND PAUL MIZE
CATHY AND DON ROBERTSON
CHAD AND MARY MARGARET CASE
CHARLES AND JOYCE JOHNSTON
CHARLES WEATHERLY
CINDY AND MARTY SPARKS
CLAY AND LANA FOSTER
CROFTON AND CAMILLE SLOAN
CUMMINGS FAMILY
DAKIN REED
DAVID AND DONNA RUMBARGER (GRACE)
DAVID AND RITA HANKINS
DAVID HENSON
DAVID M. PALMER
DENNIS AND BETH TOSH
DOROTHY D. AND GEORGE H. RUFF
DOUG AND RHONDA HANBY
DR. AND MRS. DAN BRASFIELD
DR. AND MRS. DOUG CLARK
DR. AND MRS. FAYETTE WILLIAMS
DR. AND MRS. RICHARD WARRINER
ED AND HELEN MEEK
EDDIE AND PRISCILLA PRATHER
ELLEN DRANE MAULDIN
ELLEN R. WALKER
FRANK AND AMY DAVIS
FREEMAN FAMILY
FULTON AND JULIE THOMPSON
GEORGE M. AND BETTY B. TAYLOR
GLEN AND PAIGE EVANS FAMILY
GREG PIRKLE
HASSELL H. FRANKLIN
IMBLER FOUNDATION

ITAWAMBA GOOD WORKS FUND - WALDORF
JACK AND DANA FOSTER
JACK AND LISA REED
JACK AND MARY LIB FRANCIS
JAMES D. BRYAN
JAN BOTTS
JANE SPAIN
JASON AND MELISSA HARRISON
JENNIFER MOONEYHAM
JIM AND LISA HAWKINS
JOE AND LAUREN BABB
JOE AND MAROLYN HESTER
JOE EDD AND SANDI MORRIS
JOE RUTHERFORD
JOHN AND JANET MATTHEWS
JOHN AND SARA FRANCES HARDY
JOHN P. AND LINDA C. SULLIVAN
JOHN PAUL FRERER MEMORIAL FUND
JOHN R. AND MARY FICKLIN ARNOLD
JOYCE AND HAL POLK
JUDY AND BOB DAVIS
KATY AND CLAYTON STANLEY
KENNY AND ANNA DILL
KIRK AND TATE FORRESTER
LAURIE HORN STEVENSON
LEN AND JEAN PINKLEY
LENHOFF FAMILY TRUST
LILLA REED
LINDA MADDEN MARTIN MEMORIAL
LOUISE CAMPBELL
M AND A FAMILY
M/M RONNY ROWLAND
MARSHALL AND DAPHNE MONTGOMERY
MARTHA AND M.B. MARTIN
MARTHA SWINDLE
MARY AND CHARLES WERNER
MARY AND SAM PACE
MELVIN AND VALERIE RAY
MINGA FAMILY
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MR. AND MRS. ALAN BANK
MR. AND MRS. AUBREY B. PATTERSON
MR. AND MRS. BARRY FORD
MR. AND MRS. DENOTEE MARTIN
MR. AND MRS. H.L. (SANDY) WILLIAMS
MR. AND MRS. HEYWOOD WASHBURN
MR. AND MRS. JOHN G. BURT

MR. AND MRS. JOHN JAMESON ROGERS
MR. AND MRS. LARRY KIRK
MR. AND MRS. MIKE CLAYBORNE
MR. AND MRS. MORGAN BALDWIN
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MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM RAY REED SR.
MR. KENNETH WILLIAMS
MR. ROBERT H. SCOTT
MRS. ANNE J. STEPHENS
MRS. BILLIE H. WADLINGTON
MRS. CAROLYN BOGGAN
MRS. ELIZABETH ANN BROWN
MRS. GRACE DIRLAM
NELLAH TAYLOR AND J. MARK MERRITT
PHIL AND SUSAN MORRIS
PHIL AND VICKIE LITTLE
RANDY AND PENNY LONG
RAYBURN PARKS
RICK AND KATHRYN GRISWOLD GIVING FUND
ROBERT AND JANE BLACK
ROBERT W. AND KATHLEEN SEYMOUR
ROBIN AND ANNE HAIRE
ROBIN AND MIMI MCGRAW
ROBIN Y. MCCORMICK
ROY AND LOU BOOTH FAMILY FUND
RUBY DEL HARDEN
RUSSELL AND LYNN GAINES
SANFORD AND SUSAN THOMAS
SARA AND MONTGOMERY BERRY
SARA M. AND HOWARD R. HINDS
SARAH DILL REILY
SCOTT AND ANNETTE REED
STAGGERS FUND
STEPHEN AND SONYA MILES
STUART P. VANCE
SUSAN AND GUY MITCHELL
TERRE AND ORMA SMITH
TERRY AND KATHY JACKSON
TERRY G. MANN
THE LARRY BROWN FUND
VAN OSTEN FAMILY
WILLIAM AND ELIZABETH WEST
WILLIAM GRAHAM AND MARTHA F. WELLS
ZELL LONG

CORPORATE DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

CARDIOLOGY RESEARCH LLC CARE FUND
CARLOCK TOYOTA
COMMUNITY OUTREACH FUND
FUSION FOUNDATION
LONG DISTRIBUTORS CORINTH

MALONEY MANAGEMENT, LLC
MOSSY OAK FOUNDATION
OLD WAVERLY GOLF CLUB
R.W. REED COMPANY

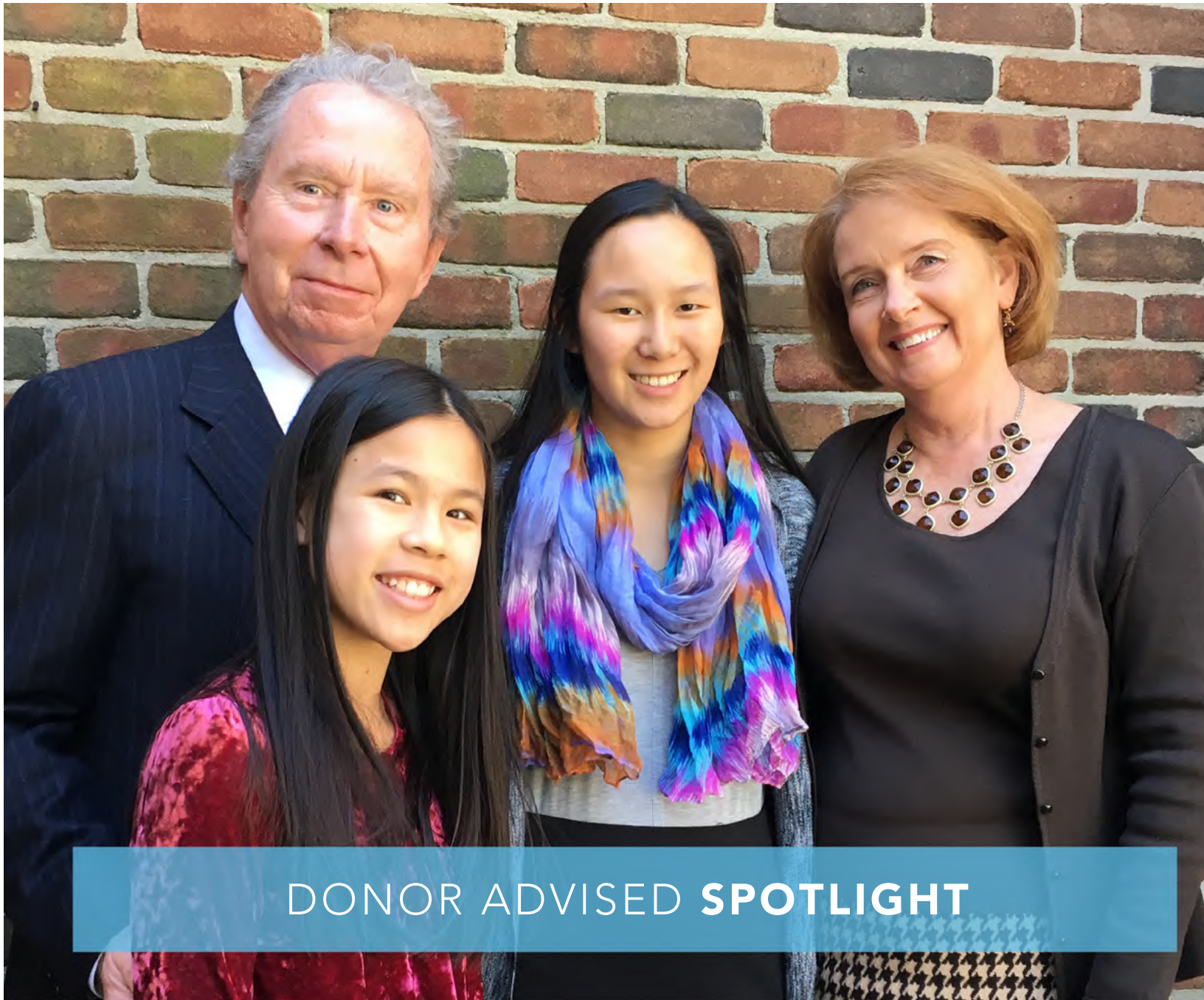


DONOR ADVISED SPOTLIGHT

Kathy and I are not natives of north Mississippi, so when we moved to Tupelo we didn't have knowledge of our new community's needs. Our friend, Dudley Weathers, introduced us to the CREATE Foundation. Through our work with the foundation, we began to gain an appreciation for our community's needs and how well CREATE helped meet those needs. Throughout the years, CREATE's staff has been eager to share information on many worthy charitable organizations with us.

We have utilized a donor advised fund to support many of those charities that are dearest to our hearts. We believe the donor advised fund is a great tool to reach areas of our community that need our help. We would recommend this type of fund to anyone.

Terry and Kathy Jackson



DONOR ADVISED SPOTLIGHT

Before our family entered into a partnership with CREATE Foundation, the financial support we provided to ministries and agencies had to be contributed before the end of the year to be deductible for tax purposes. However, that did not always fit our timing and desires. A friend suggested a donor advised fund administered by CREATE, which has worked well for our business and family for a number of reasons. First, we can disburse funds immediately to those organizations we participate in and have funds in reserve to distribute throughout the subsequent year as needs and opportunities arise. We are able to sponsor opportunities such as community events, mission trips, and other requests because of the flexibility our donor advised fund allows. Second, a simple phone call or email request results in efficient and prompt payment by CREATE, which is either mailed to us or directly to the organization.

Since there is not a charge for this service, 100% of the funds disbursed go directly to the ministries and organizations we support. This feature of a donor advised fund saves us a significant amount of time and effort. Finally, the ease and accessibility of historical recordkeeping is an added benefit. Our family typically reviews previous year's contributions provided by CREATE in a simple, easy-to-read format and makes adjustments and additions based on the availability of this information. At year-end, which is generally a busy time, the ability to quickly request and review historical information is convenient and helpful. Our decision to open a donor advised fund at CREATE Foundation has been a good one for us. It allows our family and business to contribute to our community, the nation, and the world easily and conveniently.

Jack Brown and Family



CORPORATE DONOR ADVISED **SPOTLIGHT**

I became interested in CREATE's donor advised funds after a friend told me about it. Our family business has a history of making charitable contributions, usually at the end of our fiscal year. Of course, some donations are made throughout the year, but most of our giving occurs after the close of our annual business year. In the past, we sometimes had the capability to make some significant gifts, but we didn't have enough time to evaluate possible recipients since we were facing a tax deadline. Now, we have the luxury of contributing to a CREATE donor advised fund, receiving an immediate tax deduction, and then taking adequate time to decide the best use of our charitable dollars.

We can easily make recommendations for our donor advised fund online and CREATE handles all the details very efficiently. This process worked so well, Penny and I quickly opened a personal donor advised fund, and it has given us similar flexibility. Of course, we still make some gifts directly, but the donor advised fund also allows us to accumulate funds for larger gifts at a later time, which is a very good approach for us.

Randy and Penny Long
Long Distributors Corinth Advised Fund

THE HENRY MIZE FOUNDATION



The Henry Mize Foundation was established in 2003. The foundation provides support for the charitable organizations that Mr. Mize loved. Several worthy organizations received support this year including Mississippi State University Mize Pavilion, a multi-purpose facility that features a basketball practice court and an abundance of office space; Lee County Library; Community Development Foundation; and Antone Tannehill Good Samaritan Free Clinic. The 2016 Henry Mize Foundation grant disbursements were \$193,544, making the total investment to our region nearly \$4.3 million.

Mize Foundation Grant disbursement in 2016:

Mississippi State University
Mize Pavilion

Lee County Library

Community Development
Foundation

Antone Tannehill
Good Samaritan
Free Clinic

THE BENJAMIN & CORINNE PIERCE FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT FUND



The Pierce Endowment Fund

was established in 2001 by Corinne Pierce in memory of her husband Benjamin to commemorate his commitment to community and to honor his civic leadership. The 2016 Pierce grants and scholarships exceeded \$210,000, making the total investment by the Pierce Foundation in Alcorn County more than \$4.7 million.

The Pierce Endowment gave grants to the following in 2016:

The Alliance
Boys and Girls Club of Northeast MS
Corinth Area Arts Council
Corinth Main Street Association
Corinth Theatre Arts
Crossroads Museum Historic Depot
Crosswind Ministries
Lighthouse Foundation of Corinth
L.I.N.K.
Living Healthy Free Medical Clinic
Living Free Ministries
Mississippi State University - Small Town Center
Northeast Mississippi Business Incubator
Red Cross
Sharing Hearts
United Way of Corinth and Alcorn County

ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Endowment Funds allow donors to provide a secure, stable and permanent stream of income to support designated areas of interest. Donors are assured that funds will be provided to the causes they support now and in the future through interest income from the endowment, with the principle remaining untouched.

ALBERT HORN AND FAHOMA CRUMBY HORN ENDOWMENT
ALICE LITTLE ENDOWMENT
ALICE LYNN ROEBUCK ENDOWMENT FOR UNITED WAY
ANDY HEWITT HELPING HANDS FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT
ANN R. KIMBERLANE ENDOWMENT
ARLAND A. AND GRACE DIRLAM ENDOWMENT
BENJAMIN AND CORINNE PIERCE FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT
BETH MCAULEY MUSIC ENDOWMENT
BOOTH FAMILY ENDOWMENT
BROTHER MIKE MARECLE ENDOWMENT
BRYAN YOUTH CENTER ENDOWMENT
CAROLINE BRYAN HARRELL EDUCATION ENDOWMENT
CDF/ LEHMAN LEADERSHIP
CREATE UNRESTRICTED ENDOWMENT
DUDLEY WEATHERS ENDOWMENT
ED AND BECKY MEEK ENDOWMENT
EDWINA WILLIAMS "MOTHER GOOSE" ENDOWED
FOR CHILDREN'S LITERACY AND ADVANCEMENT
ELAINE DUNDY AND ROY TURNER ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS
EMILY WRIGHT HORNE MEMORIAL
EVERGREEN DESIGNATED ENDOWMENT
HARRY AND ELLEN WALKER ENDOWMENT
HARRY LEE WILLIAMS, SR. ENDOWMENT(CARE)
HHS MEMORIAL PLAZA ENDOWMENT
INGOMAR ENDOWMENT FOR EXCELLENCE
INNOVATIONS IN EDUCATION ENDOWMENT
INTERFAITH COMPASSION MINISTRY ENDOWMENT
JACK AND FRANCES REED ENDOWMENT
JACK REED, SR. COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP ENDOWMENT
JIM CRAIG ENDOWMENT
JOHN AND JANET MATTHEWS ENDOWMENT
JOHN PAUL FRERER MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT
JOHN ROBERT ARNOLD ENDOWMENT
JOHNNY MORGAN FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT
JOYNER FAMILY ENDOWMENT
KENNETH AND NANCY ANN WILLIAMS ENDOWMENT (CARE)

MARCHBANKS FAMILY TRUST ENDOWMENT
MIZE FAMILY ENDOWMENT
MONROE EDUCATION ENDOWMENT
MORGAN DALE ROEBUCK MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT
FOR SALVATION ARMY
MR. AND MRS. O.T. RAY ENDOWMENT
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF PONTOTOC
NATIONAL CTR FOR COMPUTATIONAL HYDROSCIENCE
AND ENGINEERING ENDOWMENT
NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY
COLLEGE TUITION GUARANTEE ENDOWMENT
NORTHEAST MS FOUNDATION FOR PERFORMING ARTS ENDOWMENT
NORTHEAST MS REGIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ENDOWMENT
PAMELA MASSEY ENDOWMENT FOR THEATRE OXFORD
PAT "ROBIN" DOWS ENDOWMENT
PIRKLE LIBRARY ENDOWMENT
RJ WILEMON FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT
ROBERT REED SPIRIT ENDOWMENT
ROWLAND JOYNER LEARNING SKILLS ENDOWMENT
RUTH AND CLAUDE ROEBUCK ENDOWMENT FOR
SALTILLO FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
SALLY KATE WINTERS FAMILY SERVICES ENDOWMENT
SARA FRANCES MITCHELL EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT
SHOCKWAVE AQUATICS COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT
SPECIAL MISSIONS ENDOWMENT (FPC CORINTH)
SUSAN N. AND THOMAS J. MCDONALD ENDOWMENT FOR
THE TUPELO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
THE BERNICE GAMBRELL ENDOWMENT
THE MATT FUND
TOMMY TOSH MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT
VIRGINIA H. CHRESTMAN MEMORIAL FUND FOR THE CITY OF OXFORD
WEITZENHOFFER MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT
WELLSPRING COMMUNITY CHURCH ENDOWMENT
WEST UNION ENDOWMENT FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION



Junior Auxiliary of Tupelo Endowment Fund provides scholarships to area high school seniors.



Robert McDonald, (third from left), nephew of the late Ann Berryhill, recently gifted the Pontotoc City School Endowment fund with \$100,000 from her estate. The fund grants awards to teachers to provide extras for the students such as gardens, microscopes, charts, and baby chicks. Accepting the funds is Milicent Seawright (second from left) who is on the endowment board. Others include First Choice Bank President Buddy Montgomery (left) and Mike Clayborne (right) with the CREATE Foundation. -Photo courtesy of Pontotoc Progress



ORGANIZATION ENDOWMENT SPOTLIGHT

Itawamba Crossroads Ranch,

located in Fulton, Mississippi, was founded by Renae Bennett. Renae's vision for this project was one borne from tragedy fourteen years ago when her son, Marcus, only 17, sustained a traumatic brain injury as the result of a motorcycle accident. After spending many years in the frustrating environments of various institutions, she decided the way to change the face of assisted living for young adults with special needs was to just dig in and do it herself. Renae's vision includes a 100% privately funded, residential community where special needs adults can thrive, not merely exist. Her dream is to advocate for the best interests of these young adults in the least restrictive, most productive, safest environment possible. While searching for help in forming Itawamba Crossroads Ranch, Renae approached CREATE Foundation and was approved in 2012 as a special project. Being associated with CREATE gave the project needed credibility while raising funds. At first, the only funding was through pottery sales. However in 2015, Crossroads Ranch launched a full scale fundraising initiative. To jump start fundraising, a "Denim and Diamonds" event was held on April 2, 2016, at Sheffield Manor in Fulton. This singular event far exceeded expectations by yielding \$78,500.

With the success of the "Denim and Diamonds" event and through the help of CREATE Foundation, news media, community leaders, loving friends and families, donations, pottery sales and volunteers, Itawamba Crossroads Ranch is becoming a reality. Once completed, the Ranch will include a lodge for group meals, an education center and gathering place, individual cottages for residents, a garden with a greenhouse, and a skills depot, an area where pottery is made, as well as hosting art and music activities. To date, forty-two acres have been donated for the site of the ranch. The skills depot is completely renovated. The construction of the first building, the lodge, is scheduled to begin in March 2017. The local leadership team of Eight Days of Hope is overseeing the project by utilizing volunteers from local churches, businesses, and the community. God can make something beautiful from tragedies in our lives. One mother's vision for her son will now serve as a beacon of hope and a safe haven for many others. The ranch will be a place where patience and respect is given and the residents can live a full life—happy, healthy and safe. Through the continued support from our community, an endowment fund has now been set up at CREATE to help continually fund projects at the Ranch.



Crossroads Ranch pottery



Crossroads Ranch Denim and Diamonds Event



Crossroads Ranch Skills Depot

AGAPE HEALTH SERVICES
 AMERICAN LEGION POST 49
 AMORY TRI-CENTENNIAL
 BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
 BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB
 BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF NEW ALBANY
 BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS - OXFORD FACILITY
 COCA-COLA LEGACY FOUNDATION
 COLUMBUS ARTS COUNCIL
 COLUMBUS MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
 DOORS OF HOPE TRANSITION MINISTRIES
 FORTNIGHTLY MUSICALE AGENCY
 FOX FOUNDATION
 GOOD SAMARITAN (FREE CLINIC)
 GUMTREE MUSEUM OF ART
 ITAWAMBA CROSSROADS RANCH
 JUNIOR AUXILIARY OF TUPELO
 LA-MS-WEST TN KIWANIS FOUNDATION
 LEE COUNTY LIBRARY
 LEE COUNTY LIBRARY BERRY
 LEE COUNTY LIBRARY HELEN FOSTER
 LEE COUNTY LIBRARY WALKER-MCGILL
 LQC LAMAR HOUSE
 MEGAPOP
 MISSISSIPPI ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS FOUNDATION
 MISSISSIPPI HEART
 NEW BEGINNINGS AGENCY
 NEWMS
 NORTH MS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
 OXFORD ENDOWMENT FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION
 OXFORD FILM FESTIVAL
 OXFORD LAFAYETTE HUMANE SOCIETY
 PONTOTOC CITY SCHOOLS ENDOWMENT FOR
 EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION
 PUSHMATAHA AREA COUNCIL BSA
 REGIONAL REHABILITATION CENTER
 SANCTUARY HOSPICE HOUSE
 STARKVILLE KIWANIS CLUB
 TCPS ACADEMIC CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE
 THE DEAN PROVENCE ENDOWMENT FOR
 EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION (UNITE)
 TUPELO COCA-COLA CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
 TUPELO COMMUNITY THEATRE
 TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
 TUPELO/LEE COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY
 UNION COUNTY HERITAGE MUSEUM AGENCY
 ENDOWMENT (UNITE)
 UNITED WAY
 UNITED WAY OF OXFORD-LAFAYETTE COUNTY AGENCY
 YOKNAPATAWPHA ARTS COUNCIL AGENCY

CREATE's organization endowments support a specific non-profit organization and may be established by the organization or by a donor. An endowment fund allows an organization to use a portion of the investment proceeds from the fund while keeping the principle intact.

SPECIAL PROJECT FUNDS

CREATE's special project funds allow community groups to carry out their charitable services while waiting for IRS designation as a 501(c) 3. CREATE serves as fiscal agent for the special project allowing the group to operate as a non-profit under the auspices of the foundation.

TALBOT HOUSE SOBER LIVING FOR WOMEN

is a home for women transitioning from successful completion of a drug and alcohol treatment program back into society as sober women in recovery. Women are provided a safe, stable and supportive living environment in which to learn, or relearn, the skills necessary to return to active participation in her own life. The residents are expected to follow a treatment plan, abide by house rules and build a foundation of recovery. Talbot House assists its residents with obtaining employment, permanent housing and long-term recovery support. Addiction is no respecter of persons. The brave, beautiful, fearless women Talbot House serves come from all walks of life, all socioeconomic groups and from all over the country.

Talbot House is the result of a vision born of a dream. After working for several years with recovering addicts and alcoholics in treatment, founder Becky Weatherford was often faced with the same problem from her clients. "I have nowhere to go." Becky knew this struggle all too well. As a recovering alcoholic herself, she was all too familiar with the challenges of re-entering an unhealthy environment after completing the hard work of becoming sober. The result was a vision for a sober living home where women who have completed treatment for addiction could come and feel safe. "I wanted these women to be able to exhale, and to have access to the services they need to rebuild their lives", said Weatherford.

"In 2015, Talbot House became a reality. Start-up funding became available, a Board of Directors was assembled, location was established, and the process began to form a 501 (c) 3 corporation. Talbot House also became a special project of the CREATE Foundation while the nonprofit application was in process. Acceptance into the CREATE special project program allowed Talbot House staff to focus on its mission of assisting women in recovery. The CREATE staff was invaluable to me in our first year and were always available to provide information and answer questions. The entire office staff was encouraging and acted as cheerleaders as Talbot House met different personal and professional milestones. I can't say enough good things about CREATE Foundation and its staff. Because of CREATE, we were able to build Talbot House on a solid foundation."

SPECIAL PROJECTS:

A WAY OUT (FULTON)
AMERICAN LEGION POST 49 CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
AMORY COMMUNITY EVENTS (ACE)
ANDY HEWITT HELPING HANDS
ANSWERS FOR AGGIE
ANTONE TANNEHILL GOOD SAMARITAN HEALTH SERVICES
APRILS ANGELS
ART & HEALTHY FOODS TOGETHER CREATE A HAPPY LIFE
ASSOCIATION FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION
BABY STEPS IMAGINATION LIBRARY
BILL RASPBERRY'S BABY STEPS
BOERNER BE WILD
BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY
CALEDONIA BAND
CARE BIRTHDAY
CENTURY 21 BALANCE
CHANGE AMORY
CHARACTER EDUCATION
CIVIC BALLET
COKE 10K KIDS GET FIT INITIATIVE (CARE)
COLUMBUS AFB STATIC DISPLAY
COLUMBUS BACK THE BLUE
COLUMBUS CHORAL SOCIETY
COLUMBUS EXCHANGE CLUB-UNCLE BUNKY RUN
COLUMBUS POLICE ACADEMY ALUM
COLUMBUS SUZUKI-CARNEGIE
COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF ALCORN COUNTY

COMMITTEE FOR KING
COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE ALUMNI
CORINTH BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM
CORINTH SCHOOL DISTRICT FOUNDATION
CORINTH SIDEWALK REPAIR PROJECT
COTESWORTH CULTURE AND HERITAGE CENTER
CREELY MUSEUM
DANCING WITH THE KING DANCE EVENT
DISTRICT 6 LEADERSHIP CAMP
DONIPHAN DANCE PROJECT
ECEC ARTS INTEGRATION
ED GOODMAN MEMORIAL
ELVIS PRESLEY FOUNDATION
EXCEL BY 5 LEE COUNTY
EXPECT
FALLING THROUGH THE CRACKS
FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES TOGETHER
FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN RETREAT, INC.
FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN RETREAT, INC. BUILDING
FIREWORKS ON THE WATER
FOR KIDS SAKE
FRIENDS OF LEISURE LIFESTYLES OF OXFORD (LLO)
FRIENDS OF MUSIC BEND NATURE TRAIL
FULTON COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS
FULTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL
FULTON PARKS PROJECT
GRILLING ON THE RIVER
HELPING HANDS OF UNION COUNTY (UNITE)

HHS MEMORIAL PLAZA (PACE)
HUGHES SHELTER
ITAWAMBA COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER
ITAWAMBA COUNTY SHERIFF
ITAWAMBA CROSSROADS RANCH
ITAWAMBA LEARNING CENTER
JOHN PAUL FRERER BICYCLE SAFETY
KIDNEY HEAD
KIDS WITH CHARACTER
KIWANIS HOTBED CLASSIC
KRISTEN MINGA FOUNDATION
L.Q.C. LAMAR HOUSE
LEADERSHIP UNION COUNTY
LEE COUNTY LIBRARY FOUNDATION
LINK CENTRE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN / OTHER
LKT HYDROCEPHALUS MIRACLE
LOWNDES YOUNG LEADERS
MAIN STREET COLUMBUS
MAMA'S GOT A BRAND NEW BAG
MANTACHIE EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION
MAYOR'S TASK FORCE ON EDUCATION
MCLEAN BIOGRAPHY
MILL VILLAGE HISTORIC REVITALIZATION
MISSISSIPPI ANGELS PAGEANT
MISSISSIPPI HILLS DEVELOPMENT
MLK CITY OF TUPELO RECEPTION
MOMMIE ME TIME NETWORK
MS AVIATION MUSEUM AND LEARNING CENTER

SP



TALBOT HOUSE

SPECIAL PROJECT FUND SPOTLIGHT

MY BOOK OF LOWNDES COUNTY
NE MS COMMUNITY RECOVERY
NEWMS - WOMEN'S BUSINESS
NEWMS FAIRY GODMOTHER PROJECT
NEWMS FUND
NEWMS GENERAL
NEWMS LUNCHEON
NEWMS SUCCESS SKILLS/TEEN SS SCHOLARSHIP
NEWSPAPERS IN EDUCATION
NORTH MS KILT WALK FOR BRAIN TUMOR AWARENESS
NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL
NORTHEAST MS BIRTHING PROJECT
NORTHEAST MS CHARITABLE
NORTHEAST MS DOWN SYNDROME SOCIETY
OKOLONA DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION CHARITIES
OXFORD COMMUNITY MARKET
OXFORD HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE ARTS GUILD
OXFORD SPLASH PAD
PAL EZELLE MEMORIAL
PARKWAY ELEMENTARY PTO
PEDIATRIC SURGERY BOOK PROJECT
PIERCE FUND
PLAYGROUND OF DREAMS
POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE
PRESERVING FULTON HISTORY
PROJECT IMPACT AS THE J.L. KING CENTER
R.J. WILEMON MINISTERIAL ASSISTANCE
REBEL VENTURE CAPITAL

RED HILL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
REGIONAL REHAB CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
RILEY TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP
ROBBY HALE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
ROTARY VETERANS PARK CLOCK PROJECT
SALUTE LOWNDES COUNTY FINEST
SAVING TUPELO'S FIRST PARK (NATL FISH HATCHERY)
SCENIC 7 HERITAGE CORRIDOR
SEVENTH AVENUE HERITAGE FEST
SHANNON COMMUNITY/ SCHOOLS IMPROVEMENT
SMILE INITIATIVE
SNUGGLE BUDDY
SOCIALLY AWKWARD TIMELORDS CLUB
SPORTSMEN ORGANIZED FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT
STARKVILLE BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY
STARKVILLE KIWANIS
STOP THE HURT PROJECT
SUMMER S.A.L.T.
TALLAHATCHIE ARTS COUNCIL
TEACHER OF DISTINCTION INNOVATIONS
TEAM 36
TEAM TUPELO/RESIDENT LEADERSHIP COMM
THE FELLOWSHIP
THE MESSIAH
THE PEOPLES BANK CHARITIES'
THE WINDOWS INITIATIVE
THS ACTIVITY AND COMMUNITY FIELD
THS BAND BOOSTERS

TOM TIMMS MEMORIAL
TPD ADVANCED TRAINING AND NMLET
TPSD SPONSORSHIP
TUPELO AQUATIC CENTER
TUPELO ELVIS FAN CLUB
TUPELO FILM FESTIVAL SOCIETY
TUPELO POLICE DEPARTMENT COPS AND KIDS
TUPELO POLICE DEPARTMENT RESERVE DIV I
TUPELO POLICE DEPARTMENT RESOURCE OFFICER/DARE
TUPELO POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAFFIC SAFETY
TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TUPELO VISION - GOODNIGHT MOON PROJECT
TUPELO VISION - MS HEALTHIEST CITY
TUPELO VISION - NEIGHBORHOOD TASK FORCE
TYLER SLOAN MEMORIAL
VETERAN'S PARK MEMORIAL JET PROJECT
VIETNAM REPLICA WALL
WE CARE FOR KIDS SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE
WEST UNION PANTRY
WESTON REED FOUNDATION
WILDROSE DIABETIC ALERT DOG
WINGS OVER COLUMBUS
WIVES OF WARRIORS

CREATE's scholarship funds provide a way to honor and memorialize loved ones while giving deserving students the opportunity to further their education. Funds may be designated for a particular field of study, or a specific county, school, or area. CREATE has more than 90 scholarship funds. Anyone who is interested in establishing a scholarship fund or would like to make a donation to a fund, please contact the CREATE Foundation at (662) 844-8989.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND SPOTLIGHT: DR. MARSHALL E. HOLLIS



SCHOLARSHIPS

Dr. Marshall E. Hollis Family Health Care Scholarship Fund

To be eligible for the scholarship, a student must show an interest in a health care field; be a graduating senior from a high school in Tippah County; have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and have a minimum ACT score of 20; plan to enroll in a college as a full-time student; and show examples of leadership in community or school programs.

Dr. Marshall E. Hollis Family Scouting Scholarship Fund

To be eligible for this scholarship, a student must be an Eagle Scout (boys) or a Gold Award Scout (girl); be a graduating senior from a high school from one of the counties of the Yocona Area Council or Girl Scouts Heart of the South; have a minimum GPA of 2.5 and a minimum ACT score of 18; plan to enroll in a college as a full-time student; and show examples of leadership in community or school programs.

Dr. Marshall E. Hollis Family 4-H Scholarship

This scholarship is based on financial need and 4-H leadership. To be eligible for this scholarship, a student must have a minimum GPA of 2.5 and a minimum ACT score of 18; be a graduating senior from a high school in Tippah County; be an active member of Tippah County 4-H Club; show a leadership role in local club, county, and state 4-H events; be involved in other school church, and community activities; and plan to enroll in a college as a full-time student.

// I chose CREATE because it is a local, well-established foundation with a history of good investment returns. I have many friends on the Foundation Board and also know many people that have endowments with CREATE. CREATE has an outstanding program designed to help individuals and corporations provide scholarships for students in their communities and throughout northeast Mississippi. I would encourage anyone who is interested in establishing an endowment to consider the CREATE Foundation. They have always been extremely nice and helpful anytime I need assistance. I could not have attended college without the help of scholarships from endowments and trusts. God has blessed me and my family. So, I decided to set up endowments and pay it forward to help others get a college education like I did. **//**

- Dr. Marshall E. Hollis

SCHOLARSHIP PASSTHROUGH FUNDS

BGC EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP
CASEY SPRADLING MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
COACH ALLEN SCHOLARSHIP OF BRAVERY
COACH JIMBO BYARS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
CODY MICHAEL DANIELS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP
DARREN FENTON NAYC SCHOLARSHIP
DENNIS BAILEY & MAXINE MONTS CAMERON MEMORIAL
EXPRESS EMPLOYMENT PROFESSIONALS SCHOLARSHIP
FUTURE EDUCATORS OF AMERICA (Rutledge) SCHOLARSHIP
GEORGE MAYNARD CLASS TUTORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
/FUMC-TUPELO
HASKELL SCHOLARSHIP
J.T. NEELY SCHOLARSHIP
JAKE MAY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
JAMES AND JEANETTE HALL SCHOLARSHIP
JAMES DALTON CODY RICE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
JOHN N. TODD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
JULIA BLAKEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
(LINK CULINARY ARTS)
JUNIOR AUXILIARY OF TUPELO SCHOLARSHIP
KAROL JEAN VOGUE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
LISA MITCHELL GREEN AND GROWING MEMORIAL
MAGGIE THOMPSON PHIPPS DANCE SCHOLARSHIP
MARIE PICKENS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
MARSHUAN BRAXTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
MASON GREGORY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
MCCARTY COMPANY SCHOLARSHIP
MR. AND MRS. TOM ROBINSON SCHOLARSHIP
NELLIE MORGAN BALLARD SCHOLARSHIP
NEWS GENERAL EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP
PAL SCHOLARSHIP
PHILLIP NEAL JONES SCHOLARSHIP
PRESLEY WALLACE, JR SOCCER SCHOLARSHIP
RAY AND SHEILA HUTCHESON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
RYAN PETTIT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
SHOCKWAVE SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE
SIMPSON VICKERY SCHOLARSHIP
TEACHER OF DISTINCTION AWARD FROM
TPSD ADMINISTRATION
TERRY MANN SCHOLARSHIP
TIMMY BRYANT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
TONY LAUNIUS SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP
TUPELO LADIES CIVITAN SCHOLARSHIP
YOUNG LAW GROUP SCHOLARSHIP

SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENTS:

ALLIENE GIBENS SCHOLARSHIP
AMORY ROTARY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP
AMORY ROTARY HOLACE MORRIS SCHOLARSHIP
AMORY ROTARY LEE MCCOWN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
BOB AND MARILYN MONROE SCHOLARSHIP
BOBBYE FRANKS JONES SCHOLARSHIP
BYRNE-FIELD SCHOLARSHIP
CASEY SPRADLING MEMORIAL
CHRIS WALL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
CLAUDIA RUTH CASTENIR SCHOLARSHIP
CLAY WAYCASTER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
COACH JOE BRIGANCE SCHOLARSHIP
DAVID SKINNER SCHOLARSHIP
DOUGHERTY SCHOLARSHIP
DR. AND MRS. WALTER BOURLAND SCHOLARSHIP
DR. MARSHALL HOLLIS FAMILY 4-H SCHOLARSHIP
DR. MARSHALL HOLLIS FAMILY HEALTH CARE SCHOLARSHIP
DR. MARSHALL HOLLIS FAMILY SCOUTING SCHOLARSHIP
ELGAR AND LUENE WAYCASTER MINISTERIAL SCHOLARSHIP
ELISE MOBLEY SCHOLARSHIP (PACE)
EMILY MCDONALD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
ERNEST CADDEN SCHOLARSHIP
EVA ANN BEASLEY DORRIS SCHOLARSHIP
FRANCES MALLORY SCHOLARSHIP (CALHOUN)
G. HENRY SCHULTZ SCHOLARSHIP
GALE STAUFFER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
J.C. MCDANIEL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
JEFFREY HINES HOPPER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
JOHN PAUL FRERER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
JORDAN LINDSEY CHRISTIAN CHARACTER SCHOLARSHIP
JUNIOR AUXILIARY OF WEST POINT /MATT POSEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
KAYLA SUE MIZE SCHOLARSHIP
KELLEY ELIZABETH HUMPHREYS NURSING SCHOLARSHIP
KIM GREEN SCHOLARSHIP
LARRY BROWN CREATIVE ARTS SCHOLARSHIP (GOCF)
LEE WESTON REED SCHOLARSHIP
M & F BANK - JIM AND NANCY INGRAM SCHOLARSHIP
M. GLEN AND LORA H. DAVIDSON SCHOLARSHIP
MARGARET BYRAM SCHOLARSHIP
MCLAUGHLIN HARRISON FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP
MISSISSIPPI FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS SCHOLARSHIP
MR. AND MRS. B.L. RIEVES SCHOLARSHIP
MS THEATRE ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP
NELLIE MORGAN BALLARD SCHOLARSHIP
ORMA SMITH JR. SCHOLARSHIP
OWEN B. WHITEHURST SCHOLARSHIP
PEBBLES EAST AULDS SCHOLARSHIP
ROBBY HALE "MAKE A DIFFERENCE" MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
ROTARY CLUB OF OXFORD EDWIN MOAK SCHOLARSHIP
RUSSELL DORMAN SCHOLARSHIP
STUBBS SCHOLARSHIP
TAMARA WALDROP "TOP DAWG" MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
TAYLOR MOORE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (UNITE)
THE MARY KIRKPATRICK HASKELL SCHOLARSHIP
TODD HARDIN MEMORIAL LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP (PACE)
TUPELO LUNCHEON CIVITAN SCHOLARSHIP
TYLER SLOAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
VALERIA MORGAN WHITFIELD SCHOLARSHIP
WHITESIDE SCHOLARSHIP
WINIFRED AND MAYFIELD RILEY TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP

TOYOTA WELLSPRING EDUCATION FUND

The commitment of Toyota to establish a \$50 million endowment over ten years at the CREATE Foundation is the most extraordinary gift to support public education in the history of our state. Over the past four years, CREATE, through the recommendation of the Toyota Wellspring Advisory Committee, used the proceeds from the endowment to enhance education in Lee, Pontotoc and Union counties.



Toyota Wellspring Education Fund Advisory Committee

Ricky Ferguson
Pontotoc, Mississippi

David Copenhaver
Tupelo, Mississippi

Mike Statten
BNA Bank
New Albany, Mississippi

Sean Suggs
Vice President
Toyota Motor Manufacturing MS, Inc.
Blue Springs, Mississippi

Greg Pirkle
Partner, Phelps Dunbar, LLP
Tupelo, Mississippi

Jean Massey
Associate State
Superintendent of Education
Jackson, Mississippi

Committee Advisors

Dr. Larry Anderson
Founder/Director
National Center for
Technology Planning
Tupelo, Mississippi

Mike Clayborne
President, CREATE
Tupelo, Mississippi

Dr. Chuck Garrett
Senior Education Consultant
New Albany, Mississippi

Toyota Wellspring grants have supported:

- professional development opportunities for educators and administrators
- curriculum audits that resulted in the development of curriculum tool kits to assist teachers for all eight school districts
- a foundation for the Wellspring Center for Professional Futures, a high-school level advanced career center
- \$1 million in grants that were used primarily for improving technology and its necessary infrastructure, and enhancing early childhood education in the eight school districts
- travel and registration costs for teams from each of the eight school districts to attend national conferences
- dual-enrollment courses in web app development, healthcare careers, aviation, and advanced manufacturing
- tuition for summer academic camps at MSU and Ole Miss and advanced manufacturing camps at NEMCC and ICC
- a link between education to careers through an initiative that included hiring a national consulting firm to conduct interviews and provide guidance to a committee of educators and business leaders to determine how to better prepare students for careers
- the establishment of a permanent committee of educators and business leaders to help develop systemic changes to link education to careers in kindergarten through grade 12
- major career expo held in the fall of 2015 and 2016
- funds for Teacher of the Year awards in all eight districts





Imagine the Possibilities Career Expo

The Toyota Wellspring Education Fund at CREATE Foundation was the lead sponsor of a major career expo on October 4-6, 2016, at BancorpSouth Arena in Tupelo. The expo is designed to provide a better understanding of the opportunities available after graduation to over 7,000 eighth-grade students. "Imagine the Possibilities" featured activities connected to 17 career pathways. These pathways include Aerospace; Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources; Architecture & Construction; Arts, A/V Technology & Communications; Education & Training; Energy; Engineering; Finance; Government & Public Administration; Health Science; Hospitality & Tourism; Human Services; Information Technology; Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security; Manufacturing; Marketing; and Transportation, Distribution & Logistics. The expo was open to public school students located in 17 Northeast Mississippi counties.

"Imagine the Possibilities" formed community partnerships with local businesses to address the community challenges of inspiring and motivating students to pursue career goals. Education and workforce development professionals must work together in order to ensure a promising future for all students. This issue is not unique to Northeast Mississippi, or even to our state. Students everywhere need to know what jobs are currently available, the necessary training and education required, and the potential pay scale. Career awareness should start at an early age and should involve the entire community in developing a high quality workforce.

THE JOHN & FRANCES **MARCHBANKS** ENDOWMENT FUND

John and Frances Marchbanks believed in giving back to their community. John, a native of Shannon, Mississippi, maintained a deep love for the area where he grew up, even though he had not lived there for more than 60 years. He and his wife, Frances, desired to help others overcome their problems, misfortunes and handicaps, and to assist them in helping themselves to achieve better lives and become productive citizens. Having grown up during the Depression, John and Frances Marchbanks knew something about overcoming adversity in their own lives. They both suffered from the effects of Frances' having had polio as a child. That fueled their desire to help others overcome obstacles to better themselves. In 2005, the Marchbanks left a gift of \$8.7 million to benefit the region.





Salvation Army Groundbreaking \$100,000 grant to Salvation Army's lodge and shelter expansion.
-photo courtesy of the Daily Journal



TUITION GUARANTEE PROGRAM
An annual commitment of up to
\$150,000 to support Tuition Guarantee
Program in Lee County.



Helping Hands Scholarship Winners
\$5,000 scholarship presented by Cathy Robertson to scholarship
recipients Dollie Johnson, Jessica Roe, and Madison Fowler.



EXCEL BY 5 LEE COUNTY
\$10,000 grant to improve early childhood education.



MCLEAN AWARD WINNER:
DALRYMPLE FAMILY

THE MCLEAN AWARD FOR PHILANTHROPY

is given to honor those individuals, families, and corporations that exemplify CREATE Founders George and Anna Keirsey McLean's spirit in charitable giving. It recognizes the extraordinary leadership of people and organizations working to improve the quality of life in our community and our region. This year's award was presented to an extraordinary family from Amory, Mississippi.



Philanthropy and service have been integral parts of the Dalrymple family for generations. The family was honored with the 2016 McLean Award for Philanthropy for their many contributions to Amory and Monroe County over the years, which include donations of the Administration and the Learning Center buildings to the Amory School District, the Adoption Center office and holding area for the Amory Humane Society, the building for Amory's Food Pantry, seven defibrillators for the city and county schools, the school nurse program, the Amory Museum, and a mobile spay and neuter vet unit to Mississippi State University. In addition, the family renovated McAlpine Lake, which is a public recreational area in Amory. They also renovated the old National Guard Armory and developed the Northeast Mississippi Nature Trail.

*"From everyone who has been
given much, much will be required"*

Luke 12:48

The Northeast Mississippi Youth Foundation (NEMYF), established by CREATE in 2001, is driven by its desire to make a difference in the lives of young people. Eleventh and twelfth graders from Northeast Mississippi are nominated and elected by the current NEMYF board. These students learn about philanthropy and making a difference in their communities while raising money for their endowment. At the April press conference, students present grant awards to non-profit agencies that primarily serve children and youth. The NEMYF endowment has exceeded the \$115,000 mark with nearly \$40,000 in grants given back to the Northeast Mississippi communities.



NEMYF BOARD MEMBERS

Kennedy Akin, *Treasurer*
Savannah Alley
Owen Bennett
Sara Boggs
William Bradford
Thomas Byrne
Dillon Clayton
Abby Coleman
Hannah Davis
Makaela Dickerson
Sarah Duley
Devan Dunlap
Anne Marie Fetter
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Sarah Harris, *Assistant Historian*
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Liz Honeycutt
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Madison Shelton
Rachel Shumaker
Emily Waltmon
Allie Ward
Makayla Weston
Caroline Wigington
Anna Kathryn Williams

2016 Grants

Union: Agape Clinic

Itawamba: Crossroads Ranch

Monroe: Aberdeen Fish & Loaves
Food Pantry

Lee: Catch Kids

Tishomingo: Backpack Ministry

Tippah: Together for Tippah

Chickasaw: Houston Food Pantry

Pontotoc: Banah PTC
(Pregnancy Clinic)



2016

at a
glance

\$17.2

million
contributions

\$9.7

million
grants

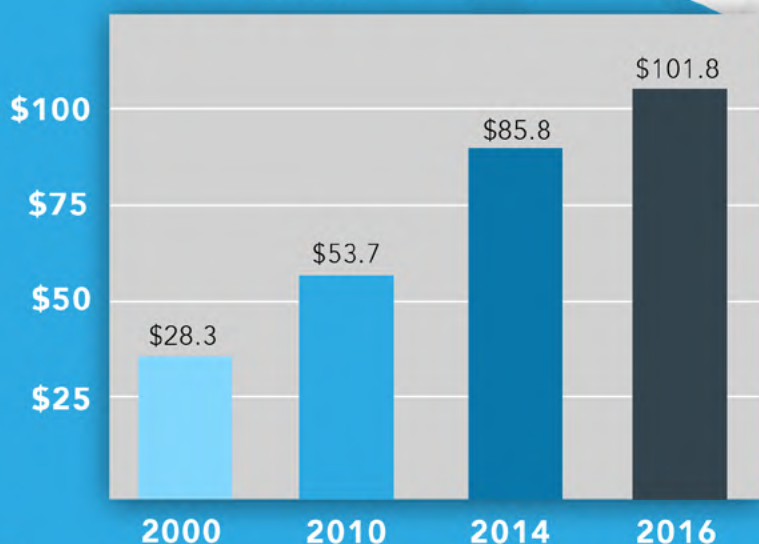
\$101.8

million
assets

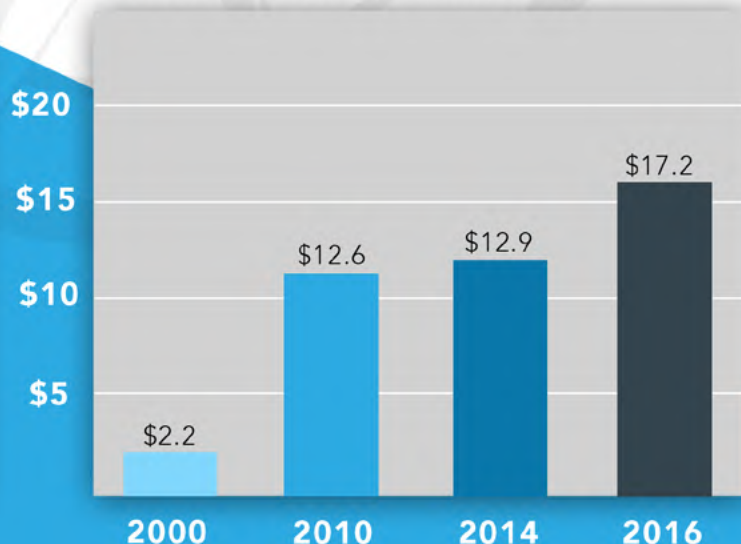
Audit:

The CREATE Foundation annually engages the services of an independent accounting firm to perform an audit of the Foundation's financial statements. As part of the audit, the firm also reviews the internal controls and various policies and procedures to ensure the Foundation staff is adhering to the most current accounting practices. The Foundation's auditor, Nail McKinney Professional Association, has issued an unmodified audit opinion on the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016. Complete audited financials are available at www.createfoundation.com or may be obtained by calling the CREATE office at (662) 844-8989.

Net Assets (in millions)



Contributions (in millions)



\$68.6

million
endowments
total

190

endowment
funds

193

special
project
funds

164

donor
advised
funds**National Standards Compliance**

The CREATE Foundation has been confirmed in compliance with the Council on Foundations National Standards. The National Standards Seal signifies that CREATE Foundation has met rigorous National Standards and has demonstrated its commitment to financial security, transparency, and accountability.

**Charity Navigator Certification**

CREATE Foundation earned its eighth 4-star rating for its ability to efficiently manage and grow its finances. Only a small percentage of the charities rated have received eight 4-star evaluations, indicating that CREATE Foundation consistently executes its mission in a fiscally responsible way and outperforms most other charities in America.

**Center for Fiduciary Excellence Certification**

CREATE Foundation is the first foundation in the world to successfully complete the Center for Fiduciary Excellence (CEFEX) certification process. The CEFEX standard of excellence for investment stewards is based on 22 fiduciary practices that seek to increase long-term investment performance by diversifying the portfolio, evaluating investment management fees, and selecting investment managers.

Investment Performance

Dear CREATE donors and supporters,

I am pleased to report 2016 was a very good year for the CREATE Foundation investment portfolio. For the year, the portfolio gained 8.81% net of investment fees. Hardy-Reed, our investment advisors, performed well as the portfolio outperformed our custom benchmark and better than other community foundations our size based on a national survey. Our three year return was 4.26%, the five year return was 8.29%, and the seven year return was 7.57% all net of investment fees.

Our investment committee meets quarterly with our investment advisors to review performance and to discuss any adjustments required. We also continue to have our investment process reviewed by CEFEX to insure we meet the highest standards for fiduciary excellence. Please know that we take our fiduciary responsibilities seriously and work to maximize returns through a sound investment process. If you desire more information on our investment holdings or process the CREATE staff will be happy to respond to your request.

Sincerely,

Larry Kirk, Chairman

CREATE Investment Committee



CREATE

NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI'S
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

To learn more about how to
make a difference, please come
by or call the CREATE foundation

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P.O. Box 1053
Tupelo, MS 38802
662.844.8989
Fax: 662.844.8149
www.createfoundation.com

Mission Statement:

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