# ANNUAL REPORT 2020—

REPUTATION
RELATIONSHIPS
RESULTS



# Celebrating the Legacy of

# BOBBY MARTIN

1933-2020

On November 4, we lost our friend Bobby Martin of Ripley. Bobby was an extraordinary man who left an unparalleled legacy with numerous organizations and individuals.

He was regarded as one of the most generous people in Mississippi.

Bobby's initial involvement with CREATE began with his election as Vice Chairman of the Commission on the Future of Northeast Mississippi. He served on the Commission for 25 years. He was elected to the CREATE Board in 1995 and served as Chairman of the Board from 2002 to 2004. He was one of the key founders of Tippah and Ripley Growing Excellent Together (TARGET), CREATE's affiliate in Tippah County.

Bobby and his wife, Barbara, received the McLean Award for Philanthropy in 2004, and he received the Jack Reed, Sr. Northeast Mississippi Community Leadership Award posthumously in 2020. Bobby will be truly missed.







213 West Main Street | Post Office Box 1053 | Tupelo, Mississippi 38802 Phone: 662.844.8989 | Fax: 662.844.8149 | www.createfoundation.com



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# Staff



Mike Clayborne President



Lewis Whitfield, MBA



Juanita Floyd Vice President of Finance & Administration



Kristy Luse, PhD Vice President Toyota Wellspring



Albine Bennett, MBA Director of Communications & Imagine the Possibilities Career Expo Coordinator



Stewart McMillan, M.Ed.
Toyota Wellspring/CREATE
Project Manager



Dana Peters
Project Coordinator
& Administrative Assistant



Katie Stuart, CPA
Director of Finance



PK Thomas
Director of Development

# **CREATE Founders**

GEORGE A. McLEAN 1904-1983

ANNA KEIRSEY McLEAN 1906-2000

### Director Emeritus

**FELIX BLACK** 1917-2003

J.C. WHITEHEAD 1921-2004

> JIM INGRAM 1930-2006

JAMES HUGH RAY 1927-2007

JACK REED, SR. 1924-2016

BOBBY MARTIN 1933-2020

HASSELL FRANKLIN

H.L. "SANDY" WILLIAMS

# **Board of Directors**



William Bronson President & CEO Journal, Inc. Tupelo



Jason Brooks Certified Public Accountant Watkins, Ward & Stafford Houston



Mary Childs President The Peoples Bank Ripley



Grace Clark Community Volunteer Tupelo



Bo Collins CEO BNA Bank New Albany



Phil Faulkner Former Owner Nauticstar Boats Amory



Bobby L. Harper Senior Vice President/ Business Dev. Officer Renasant Bank Columbus



Lisa Hawkins Owner Room to Room Furniture Tupelo



Julie L. Henry Executive Vice President First Choice Bank Pontotoc



Larry Kirk Retired CEO Hancock Fabrics, Inc. Oxford



Kirk Lewis President Blue Springs Metal Tupelo



Randy Long President Long Wholesale Distributors, Inc. Corinth



Aubrey Patterson Retired, Chairman & CEO BancorpSouth Tupelo



Greg Pirkle
Attorney
Phelps Dunbar, LLP
Tupelo



Brian Quinn
Agent
ItawambaCountyFarmBureau



Jack Reed, Jr.
President
RW. Reed Company ("Reed's")
Tupelo



Cathy Robertson Retired, Executive Vice President BancorpSouth Starkville



Becky Rollins
Community Volunteer



David P. Rumbarger President & CEO Community Development Foundation Tupelo



David Shaw Provost & Executive Vice President Mississippoi State University Starkville



Shane Spees President & CEO North MS Health Services Tupelo



Sean Suggs President Toyota Motor Manufacturing Blue Springs



Robyn Tannehill Mayor City of Oxford



Mark Tapp Executive Vice President Farmers & Merchants Bank Booneville



Lee Tucker Plant Manager Carpenter Company Tupelo



Mitch Waycaster President & CEO Renasant Bank Tupelo



H.L. "Sandy" Williams President Coca Cola Company Corinth



Bryan Wilson Retired, Managing Partner Tacoma Ag, LLC Starkville



Guy Mitchell Legal Counsel Tupelo



### STRENGTHENING CHARITABLE GIVING IN MISSISSIPPI

ENDOW Mississippi is a state tax credit program that is an incentive to encourage individuals, businesses and organizations to make lasting investments in their local communities through charitable giving. It was created in 2019 by the state Legislature to encourage gifts to permanent endowments only at qualified community foundations, like the CREATE Foundation.

CREATE Foundation's participation in Endow Mississippi 2020:

- 36 endowment gifts
- \$1,054,200 52.7% of total statewide gifts
- \$263,550 in state income tax credits for donors

# **HOW DOES IT WORK?**

- The ENDOW Mississippi tax credit applies only to gifts to permanent, endowed funds at qualified Mississippi community foundations. These gifts will generate many times the initial value of the gift and will always benefit Mississippi.
- Minimum gift is \$1,000 (\$250 tax credit)
- Maximum gift is \$200,000 (\$50,000 tax credit)
- There are a LIMITED number of ENDOW Mississippi state tax credits to share for the entire state, so we encourage anyone who is interested to contact us promptly. Once available credits are claimed, we will reset the process on January 1 of each year.
- Gifts may be made to any endowment (an already existing endowment, or a newly created one).
- An endowed fund is defined as one that benefits Mississippi charitable causes, is held at a qualified community foundation and has an annual granting policy less than or equal to 5%.



To ensure tax credit for 2021 make your gift by October 31

ENDOW Mississippi provides an incentive for Mississippians to give back to their local communities in a meaningful and lasting way. It promotes charitable giving in Mississippi, for Mississippi.

The initiative is administered for the state by the Mississippi Alliance of Nonprofits and Philanthropy.

For more information, contact us at 662-844-8989.

# COVID-19 SUPPORT EFFORTS





#### **COVID-19 Crisis Fund**

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, CREATE Foundation, in partnership with United Way of Northeast Mississippi, established the COVID-19 Crisis Fund to provide a vehicle for the community's charitable response to those in need. Organizations best positioned to identify needs and provide services were utilized for support. Individuals and businesses were encouraged to make contributions to the fund either through CREATE or United Way. Contributions could have been designated for the benefit of a specific county or purpose. As of December 31, 2020, the fund raised \$587,087 and distributed over \$540,000 to those in need across the region.

#### **Disbursements by County:**

Alcorn - \$29,011 Calhoun - \$2,500 Chickasaw - \$44,500 Clay - \$2,500 Itawamba - \$7,500 Lafayette - \$8,000 Lee - \$343,995 Lowndes - \$10,000 Monroe - \$54,000 Oktibbeha - \$11,500

Pontotoc - \$6,500 Tippah - \$5,000 Tishomingo - \$2,500 Union - \$12,500

# Mississippi CARES Act Grant



As part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, the State of Mississippi established the Community Foundations (CF) COVID-19 Grant Program during the 2020 legislative session. Program funding in the amount of \$8 million, divided equitably between nonprofits and food pantries, were funneled through the Mississippi Development Authority to the state's seven community foundations.

The CREATE Foundation oversaw \$1.6 million (\$786,261 for nonprofits and \$786,261 for food pantries) to be allocated across twenty-one counties. CREATE received 195 applications from 164 organizations. This reimbursement-based funding has supported nonprofits and food pantries related to cleaning supplies, food and delivery costs, and operational expenses to keep the doors open for organizations meeting the community needs.

The CREATE Foundation recognizes the six United Way organizations in Northeast Mississippi-Corinth & Alcorn County, Lowndes & Noxubee County, North Central (Starkville), Oxford-Lafayette County, Northeast Mississippi, and West Point – Clay County for their diligent work to communicate about this opportunity to their agencies and organizations in their area and support this grant process.

# THE MCLEAN AWARD FOR PHILANTHROPY

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 region.

#### **GEORGE AND ANNA KEIRSEY MCLEAN**

CREATE Founder George McLean believed that by joining together, communities could cultivate leaders who would make a difference for us all. Whether through supporting early childhood education, granting scholarships, developing the promotion of leadership training programs, or enhancing college and career readiness, promoting leadership in communities is key to the long-term success of a region. George McLean served as an examplar of what exceptional leadership can accomplish. He believed that each of us has the responsibility to help raise the level of all people in our communities. This vision for a vibrant and growing Northeast Mississippi would not have happened without his persistent, tireless leadership.

# MCLEAN AWARD RECIPIENTS

2001 Phil Hardin Foundation

2002 Carpenter Foundation

2003 Frances and Jack Reed; The Hancock Foundation

2004 Barbara and Bobby Martin; Kenny Dill and Family

2005 Corinne and Benjamin Pierce; BancorpSouth

2006 North Mississippi Health Services; Hassell Franklin

2007 Brevard Family; William Raspberry

2008 Jim and Claiborne Barksdale; Anne J. Stephens

2009 Rosemary and Sandy Williams; Nancy Ann and Kenneth Williams

2010 The Crane Family; Jane and Frank Spain

2011 Christy and Milton Sundbeck; Renasant Bank

2012 Ruby Kathryn and Aubrey Patterson

2013 Babs and Mickey Holliman; BNA Bank

2014 Toyota Motor Manufacturing MS

2015 C. C. Clark and Company; Julie and Michael Waldorf

2016 Dalrymple Family

2017 Terry and Kathy Jackson

2018 Mossy Oak

2019 Ted and Lynn Moll





### 2020 AWARD RECIPIENT: V.M. CLEVELAND

VM Cleveland is this year's recipient of the award. VM Cleveland is to be admired as a person of investment: investment in the community, investment in society, investment in nonprofit organizations. Some of his major contributions to the area include serving as a faithful board member for over 15 years with Sanctuary Hospice House, advisory board member for over 20 years and past chairperson with Salvation Army, Building Committee Chair with Sanctuary Home Hospice Office, and Construction Committee Member with Salvation Army Capital Campaign. VM Cleveland generously provides the Tupelo Furniture Market to numerous nonprofit events such as Celebration Village for Sanctuary Hospice, Steak & Burger Dinner & Silent Auction for Boys and Girls Clubs of North Mississippi, Salvation Army's Annual Angel Tree Warehouse & Distribution Center and the Annual Empty Bowls Fundraiser.





BUILDING REGIONAL UNITY AND COOPERATION IN NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI

1995 - 2020

The Commission on the Future of Northeast Mississippi was established in 1995.

Its purpose is to strengthen regional unity and cooperation by engaging in community development. For the past 25 years, the Commission has addressed several major regional community development issues.

Some of these are discussed below.

#### LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Thousands of people in the region have completed leadership development classes through the Covey Institute's Seven Habits Program.

#### **DEVELOPMENT TEAMWORK**

Local, regional, and statewide developers engage in meaningful dialogue and networking during quarterly roundtables hosted by the Commission.

#### **BROADBAND ACCESS**

Access to broadband can make a difference in improving the lives of thousands of people. After the Commission studied this situation, MEGAPOP was established almost twenty years ago to provide better broadband access. In 2019, the Mississippi Legislature passed a bill that would allow rural electric cooperatives to offer high-speed internet service to their customers. This effort was led by Public Service Commissioner Brandon Presley and endorsed by CREATE's Commission.

#### **RACIAL RECONCILIATION**

CREATE and its Commission have supported a local Mission Mississippi chapter in Tupelo for 16 years for the purpose of building relationships between people of different races.

#### **EARLY CHILDHOOD INITIATIVES**

High quality early childhood programs are essential to proper development of youngsters, from birth to five. The Commission has provided moral and financial support (primarily through CREATE's Marchbanks Fund) to initiatives designed to improve the quality and availability of early childhood programs, including Baby Steps in Okolona, Excel by 5, Mississippi Building Blocks, and several early childhood centers in Lee County. The Commission also hosted an Early Childhood Summit and supports expansion of the state's early childhood collaborative initiative

#### **EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT**

Initial efforts were focused on dropout prevention. The North Mississippi Media Alliance (organized by the Commission) and Three Rivers Planning and Development District ran media campaigns to reach the general public to address the dropout issue.

Marchbanks grants to ICC and NEMCC led to innovative approaches to increase the number of GED graduates. These initiatives resulted in a huge percentage increase of GED graduates, which led the state legislature to provide \$3 million statewide annually for all community colleges to lead dropout recovery efforts.

A Tuition Guarantee Program in northeast Mississippi was planned and coordinated by the Commission. Over the past decade, more than 15,000 high school graduates have benefited from having their tuition guaranteed to one of four community colleges serving our region.

The Commission was the main advocate for passage of Districts of Innovation legislation, which enables school districts, with state approval, to develop and implement innovative plans for their districts. Baldwyn, Booneville, Corinth, Oxford, and Tupelo have received this designation.

Dropout prevention summits were sponsored by the Commission for twelve years to assist school districts in addressing the dropout issue. High school dropouts have been reduced by 50% over the past decade in our region.

#### **UNIVERSITY COLLABORATION**

Mississippi State University and the University of Mississippi were asked to help our region achieve better education and economic results. The university CEO's enlisted the help of their top administrators and formed the MSU-UM Task Force on Regional Development. In addition to providing a directory of services to our development community, they developed a reverse articulation agreement and a unique teacher education scholarship program. The agreement allows a community college student to automatically receive his or her associate's degree after entering a state university and completing the remaining courses needed to qualify for the community college degree. The MSU College of Education and UM School of Education developed and implemented the Mississippi Excellence in Teaching Scholarship Program, which is a full-ride scholarship for more than 40 new students each year. This program requires each graduate to teach in Mississippi for a five-year period. It is attracting high quality students from throughout the nation. This program is funded by the Herrin Foundation.

#### **HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS**

The Commission continues to support the completion of four-lane construction on more than 150 miles of high priority highways in our region.

#### **LOCAL COMMUNITY ACTION**

The Commission staff is making presentations in local communities to inform them of their current economic, demographic, and social status. Several communities are evaluating the data and forming task forces to address some of the key issues revealed by the data they received from the Commission.

# 2020-2021 COMMISSION MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Allegra Brigham, Chair Bill Renick, Vice Chair

#### Alcorn

Ray McClellan John Mercier Clayton Stanley

#### **Benton**

Jack Gadd Bill Renick

#### Calhoun

Sheila Freely Joel McNeece

#### Chickasaw

Patsy Gregory Millette Nabors

#### Clav

Bob Harrell Eddie Longstreet

#### Itawamba

Dr. Jay Allen B.J. Canup

#### Lafayette

Kurt Brummett Randy Leister Jon Mavnard

#### Lee

Polly Bailey Grace Clark Guy Mitchell, III Paul Mize, Jr. Kenneth Wheeler

#### Lowndes

Nick Ardillo Matt Bogue Allegra Brigham Greg Stewart

#### Marshall

Dr. Gemma Beckley Mayor Kelvin Buck Justin Hall

#### Monroe

Chelsea Baulch Jim Edwards Jean Pinkley

#### <u>Oktibbeha</u>

Frank Chiles Nelle Cohen Lee Ann Turner

#### **Pontotoc**

Phyllis Ford High Matt Koon

#### **Prentiss**

Dr. Ricky Ford Ronny Rowland

#### <u>Tippah</u>

Duane Bullard Kyle Smith

#### <u>Tishomingo</u>

Beth Davis Harold Lomenick

#### Union

Betsey Hamilton Phil Morris

#### At Large

Denotee Martin Eddie Prather Bill Stone

#### **Emeritus**

Kenny Dill Hassell Franklin Dr. Gloria Kellum Bobby Martin (1933-2020) Jack Reed, Sr. (1924-2016) Sandy Williams

#### University

William Nicholas Kyle Steward

# NEMYF BOARD MEMBERS

#### Calhoun

Abigail Maddox Emmie Shaw

#### **Chickasaw**

Jaiden Linley

#### Lee

Elizabeth Gaines
Olivia Hanby
Keili Ikemori
Khaoula Kamal
Sarah Elizabeth Long
Autumn McHenry
Connor McHenry
Lydia McKissick
Anna Mae Ramsey
Summer Rodgers
Causey Simmons
Avery Tate

#### **Monroe**

Kyra Howard Alexis Stegall

#### Oktibbeha

Matthew Daves Tyler Highfield Emmy Moyen Fallon Parker Harris Ruffin

#### **Pontotoc**

Dawson Suggs

#### **Tippah**

Regan Hall Reese Horton

#### **Tishomingo**

Sarah Grace Barnes Noah Carpenter Avery Dawson Maggie Hardin Mark McCarley Madison Pruitt Claire-Mann Taylor

#### Union

Joseph Fennell Jill Gafford Mary Greer Ellie Myers Giavanna (Gia) Vainis

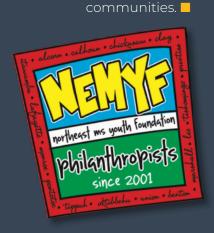


## NEMYF OFFICERS

Sarah Elizabeth Long, *Chair* - Lee Mark McCarley, *Assistant Chair* - Tishomingo Avery Dawson, *Secretary* - Tishomingo Kyra Howard, *Assistant Secretary* - Monroe Maggie Hardin, *Treasurer* - Tishomingo Giavanna (Gia) Vainisi, *Assistant Treasurer* - Union Anna Mae Ramsey, *Historian* - Lee Abigail Maddox, *Assistant Historian* - Calhoun

# NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI YOUTH FOUNDATION

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 \$157,00 mark with over \$50,000 in grants given back to the Northeast Mississippi



### JACK REED, SR. NORTHEAST MISSISSISPII COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD

#### JACK REED SR. AWARD RECIPIENTS

2017 – Dr. Gloria Kellum 2018 – Mike Staten In January 2016, we lost Jack Reed, Sr. - a special leader who achieved an unparalleled record of service to our region. Jack was a founding board member of the CREATE Foundation and served as its chairman. He was also one of the original members of the Commission and served as its chairman. As a way to perpetually remember this great regional leader, the CREATE Board established the Jack Reed, Sr. Northeast Mississippi Community Leadership Award. It is presented annually at our State of the Region meeting to individuals who have demonstrated vision, integrity, and a commitment to excellence over an extended period of time. Each recipient of the award will be given the opportunity to recommend the disbursement of \$2,000 to charities of their choice from the Jack Reed, Sr. Community Leadership Endowment Fund at CREATE, which was established by a special dividend of \$50,000 from Journal, Inc.

This year's award recipients are: Aubrey Patterson, Hassell Franklin, the late Bobby Martin and H.L. "Sandy" Williams. These outstanding men have made tremendous contributions to the CREATE Foundation and our region. Their leadership has made a profound impact on the CREATE Foundation. All four have served as the Chairman of CREATE, helped grow the CREATE Foundation assets, started and continue to support the CREATE Affiliates, received the McLean Award for Philanthropy, and served on the Commission on the Future of Northeast Mississippi Board.

Outside of CREATE, these men share other commonalities. All four have served and supported the Boys Scouts of America, and served on the Daily Journal Board. Three of the four served on the North Mississippi Health Services Board. These men have made so many contributions to our region it's difficult to name them all.



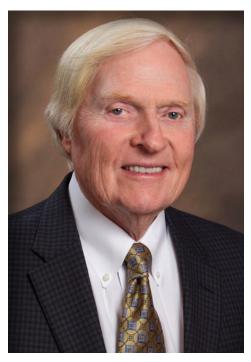
**Bobby Martin** 

Received the Rotarian of the Year Award in Ripley, MS, served as the President of the MSU Foundation, received the Boys and Girls Club Champion of Youth Award.



**Hassell Franklin** 

Awards the Franklin Corporation Scholarship annually, honored with the Distinguished Service Award from Home Furnishings Alliance, recognized as the Alumnus of the Year by Itawamba Community College.



**H.L. "Sandy" Williams** 

Assisted in founding the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, received the Junior Auxiliary's Outstanding Citizen Award Corinth, MS.



**Aubrey Patterson** 

Devout member who serves in various leadership roles at First Presbyterian Church Tupelo, recipeint of the Silver Buffalo Award – scouting's highest commendation at Boys Scouts of America, inducted into the Mississippi Business Hall of Fame.

# COMMUNITY AFFILIATES

CREATE and its 13 community affiliates work together to revitalize communities, develop new leaders, and increase civic involvement and private investment throughout the region. Our affiliates support a wide range of initiatives that help breathe new life into the region.

### AFFILIATE ENDOWMENT FUNDS REPORT

#### **ALCORN**

CARE Endowment Fund \$1,595,407

#### **CALHOUN**

Calhoun County Endowment Fund \$326,068

#### **CHICKASAW**

PACE Endowment Fund \$726,712

#### CLAY

West Point Community Foundation \$1,290,556

#### **ITAWAMBA**

FIRST Foundation Fund \$869,919

#### **LAFAYETTE**

LOFT Endowment Fund \$850,402

#### \_EE

Tupelo-Lee County Endowment Fund \$159,346

#### LOWNDES

Columbus Lowndes Foundation Fund \$410,946

#### MONROE

North Monroe \$239,506

South Monroe \$247.144

#### **OKTIBBEHA**

SOAR Endowment Fund \$439,033

#### TIPPAH

TARGET Endowment Fund \$453,402

#### UNION

UNITE Endowment Fund \$885,858

TOTAL \$8,494,299





To recognize the efforts of community affiliates, 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.

The 2020 award went to Lowndes Community
Foundation. Since 2005, Lowndes Community
Foundation has given grants to 43 organizations in
the total amount of \$156,037. Grants include monies
to The Dream Center of Columbus, Golden Triangle

Homeless Coalition, Lowndes Excel by 5 Coalition, United Way of Lowndes County, Imagine the Possibilities Career Expo, Helping Hands Ministry, Golden Triangle Outdoors, Columbus Arts Council, Lowndes Imagination Library, HEARTS After-School Tutoring, Last House on the Block, Safe Haven, Salvation Army - Columbus, Tenn-Tom Waterway Museum, Columbus YMCA, and Pushmataha Area Council BSA. In 2018, Lowndes Community foundation organized a community forum which was attended by more than 200 community residents. The forum identified key community issues and opportunities. The formation of top five prioritized areas included education proficiency, community engagement, poverty, leadership vision for the future, and crime and addiction.

### COMMUNITY AFFILIATE BOARDS

#### **ALCORN**

H. L "Sandy" Williams, *Chair*Hull Davis
Mona Lisa Grady
Lanny Griffith
Orma Smith
Tim Smith
Clayton Stanley
Fred Joe Vann, Jr.
Kenneth Williams

#### **CALHOUN**

Sheila Freely, *Chair*Randy Baker
Bill Malone
Joel McNeece
Tina Scott
Precious Thompson
Ramona Tillman
Michael Watkins
Becky Wright

#### **CHICKASAW**

Gus Clark, Chair
Frank Alford
Jason Brooks
Tom Byrne
Mike Colbert
John Ellison
Hassell Franklin
Shenia Kirby-Jones
Bobby Mooneyham
Millette Nabors
Rayburn Parks
Bob Scott
Gary Staten
Jackie Strong
Cathy Spencer, Executive Director

#### **CLAY**

Louise Campbell
Dewel Brasher
Jimmy Bryan
Kenny Dill
Robin McCormick

#### **ITAWAMBA**

Vaunita Martin, Chair
Jennifer Bost
Romona Edge
Teresa Floyd
Tony Green
Jim McCullough
Teresa McNeece
Luke Montgomery
Laken Osbirn
Brian Quinn
Bryan Wilson

#### **LAFAYETTE**

Elise Lee, Chair
Donald Cole
Earl Dismuke
Anne Clark Downing
Norris "EJ" Edney
Dotsy Fitts
Jack Garner
Kate McNees
Ken Rutherford
David Shelton
Betsy Smith
Hattie Steiner
Afton Thomas
Asheley Wilkinson
Jody Holland, Executive Director

### **LEE**Dick White, *Chair*

Pat Caldwell, Vice-Chair V.M. Cleveland Eddie Dalton Kim Estess Chauncey Godwin Lisa Hawkins Mickey Holliman Chuck Imbler Zell Long Gene McDade Ted Moll Sam Pace Aubrey Patterson Scott Reed David Rumbarger Mitch Waycaster David Wilson

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Jay Fisher, Co-Chair Josie Shumake, Co-Chair Stevan Black Joe Boggess Matt Bogue Tom Buckley Jim Davidson Butch Dollar Jeff Farnham Rita Felton Bobby Harper George S. Hazard, Jr. Wanda Hollev Frank Howell Deborah Johnson Darren Jordan Ralph McLain Tango Moore Bridget Smith Pieschel Doug Robertson Pam Russell Jan Eastman, Executive Director

### **SOUTH MONROE**Kathy Seymour, *Chair*

Nan Corbell
James Edwards, Jr.
Helen Evans
Martin Hansen
Susan Honeycutt
Bradley Lipsey
Leon Manning
Dwight McComb, Sr.
Greg Miller
Terry Smith

#### **NORTH MONROE**

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

#### **OKTIBBEHA**

Suzanne S. Dressel. Chair Dr. David Boles **Bobby Crosland** Andrew Gaston Mitzi Johnson-Mills Pat Lane Paul Millsaps Janice Muzzi Gavin Rees **Buddy Staggers** Nellah Taylor Chuck Ware Martha Wells Ross Williams Marty Wiseman Jan Eastman, Executive Director

#### **TIPPAH**

Bob Glover, Chair
Dean Caviness
Braxton Coombs
John Frank Gibbs
Melissa Harrison
Jim Jackson
Beverly Moffitt
Deborah Hurt, Administrative
Coordinator

#### **UNION**

Mike Kirk, Chair
James (Bo) Collins
Gary Cooper
Cathy Garrett
Lee Henson
Moises Lemus
Dale Manning
Margaret Maxwell
Cathy McClinton
Mary Jennifer Russell
Ann Shirley
Anne J. Stephens
Billye Jean Stroud
Travis Wiseman
Collett Cross, Executive Director

# THE HENRY MIZE FOUNDATION

Established in 2003 by Mr. Mize's nephew, Paul "Buzzy" Mize, the Henry Mize Foundation provides support for the charitable organizations that Mr. Mize loved. Several worthy organizations received support this year. The 2020 Henry Mize Foundation grant disbursements were \$192,294, making the total investment to our region nearly \$5.1 million year to date.



A donor advised fund allows donors to make contributions and grant recommendations at their convenience. Donations and tax reporting are consolidated into a year-end statement for the donor by CREATE. All donations are tax deductible at the time they are made to the Foundation; however, gift disbursements may be made at a later date. Another advantage of donor advised funds is that appreciated securities may be used as contributions to the fund and are not subject to capital gains tax. In most cases, the full market value is tax deductible. Donor advised funds may be established by individuals, families, organizations, or corporations. To learn more about establishing a donor advised fund at CREATE, log on to createfoundation.com or call (662) 844-8989.

### DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

ADAMS FAMILY FOUNDATION ALBERT AND BILLIE GREEN ALBERT DELGADILLO ALFORD AND SHELIA BELL ALICE STAFFORD ALLAN H. TUCKER OR BARBARA H. TUCKER AMANDA KATHLEEN B. DALTON & FRANK TRICE DALTON ANONYMOUS BABS AND MICKEY HOLLIMAN BETH AND SKIPPER HOLLIMAN BETSEY AND TOM HAMILTON BOB AND AMBERLY GLOVER FAMILY FUND BOBBIE G. MILLER BOBBY J. AND MINERVA MOORE BOBBY MOONEYHAM BOBBY P. AND BARBARA M. MARTIN **BRASFIELD FAMILY BULLARD FAMILY** CABELL FUND BYRNE CHILDREN'S FUND CATHERINE ""KITTY"" BRYAN DILL CATHERINE AND PAUL MIZE CATHY AND DON ROBERTSON CHAD AND MARY MARGARET CASE CHARLES AND JOYCE JOHNSTON CHARLES WEATHERLY CHIP AND JENNIFER CRANE CINDY AND MARTY SPARKS CLAY AND LANA FOSTER CROFTON AND CAMILLE SLOAN **CUMMINGS FAMILY** DAKIN REED DAVID AND DONNA RUMBARGER (GRACE) DAVID AND JENNY IRWIN DAVID AND RITA HANKINS DAVID HENSON DAVID M. PALMER DENNIS AND BETH TOSH DOROTHY D. AND GEORGE H. RUFF FOUNDATION DR. AND MRS. DAN BRASFIELD DR. AND MRS. DOUG CLARK DR. AND MRS. FAYETTE WILLIAMS DR. AND MRS. RICHARD WARRINER ED AND BECKY MEEK EDDIE AND PRISCILLA PRATHER ELLEN DRANE MAULDIN ELLEN R. WALKER ERNEST L. JOYNER FRANK AND AMY DAVIS FREEMAN FAMILY FULTON AND JULIE THOMPSON GEORGE M. AND BETTY B. TAYLOR GLEN AND PAIGE EVANS FAMILY GREG AND BECKY BUELL GREG PIRKLE HASSELL H. FRANKLIN HOLLAND FAMILY FUND IMBLER FOUNDATION ITAWAMBA GOOD WORKS FUND - WALDORF J.W. YOUNG, JR. JACK AND LISA REED JACK AND MARY LIB FRANCIS JAMES D. BRYAN JAN BOTTS JANE SPAIN JASON AND MELISSA HARRISON JASON B. DEES JEAN BAKER BUTLER JENNIFER MOONEYHAM JIM AND JENNIE MOUNCE JIM AND LISA HAWKINS JOE AND LAUREN BABB JOE AND MAROLYN HESTER JOE EDD AND SANDI MORRIS JOHN AND JANET MATTHEWS JOHN AND SARA FRANCES HARDY JOHN P. AND LINDA C. SULLIVAN JOHN PAUL FRERER MEMORIAL FUND JOYCE AND HAL POLK JOYCE B SUMNERS JUDY AND BOB DAVIS KAREN TAYLOR KATY AND CLAYTON STANLEY KELLUM FAMILY KENNETH E. DEAN

KENNY AND ANNA DILL

LARRY AND DELOIS MONTGOMERY LAURIE HORN STEVENSON LEN AND JEAN PINKLEY LENHOFF FAMILY TRUST LILLARFED LINDA MADDEN MARTIN MEMORIAL LOUISE CAMPBELL M AND A FAMILY M/M RONNY ROWLAND MARSHALL AND DAPHNE MONTGOMERY MARSHALL OR SARAH JENKINS MARTHA AND M.B. MARTIN MARTHA SWINDLE MARY AND CHARLES WERNER MARY AND SAM PACE MARY CHILDS MARY FICKLIN ARNOLD MELVIN AND VALERIE RAY MERRILL & ELLEN JOHNSTON MINGA FAMILY MR. AND MRS. ALAN BANK MR. AND MRS. AUBREY B. PATTERSON MR. AND MRS. BARRY FORD MR. AND MRS. BRITT ROGERS, III 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 MR. AND MRS. OCTAVIUS IVY MR. AND MRS. STUART P. VANCE MR. AND MRS. THEODORE S. MOLL MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM F WATERS, JR. MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM H. DAVIS, JR. MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM HULL DAVIS 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 POWELL FOUNDATION RANDY AND PENNY LONG RAYBURN PARKS RHONDA R. HANBY RICK AND KATHRYN GRISWOLD GIVING FUND ROBERT AND JANE BLACK ROBERT W. AND KATHLEEN SEYMOUR ROBERTS/MOLL ADVISED FUND ROBIN AND ANNE HAIRE ROBIN AND MIMI MCGRAW ROBIN Y. MCCORMICK ROGER AND MARTHA BLAND ROSS AND DIANA WILLIAMS ROY AND LOU BOOTH FAMILY RUBYE 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 STEVE BRANDON AND PATSY L. FOWLKES SUSAN AND GUY MITCHELL TERRE AND ORMA SMITH TERRY AND KATHY JACKSON TERRY G. MANN THE JESSOP FAMILY CHARITABLE FUND TOM AND FREDDA ROBINSON TURNAGE SANDERS VAN OSTEN FAMILY WENDELL WEAKLEY WESLEY AND ELAINA BURGESS WILLIAM GRAHAM AND MARTHA F. WELLS

ZEKE AND KAREN HODGES

**ZELLIONG** 

# DONOR FUND SPOTLIGHT PHIL& VICKIELITTLE

Vickie and I discovered the CREATE Foundation about ten years ago. Our friends recommended we look into all CREATE had to offer. We believe we are placed on this earth to make a positive difference in the lives of others. By utilizing our Donor Advised Fund at CREATE, we are able to give to organizations and ministries about which we are passionate. Our contributions are easily accessible due to the excellent job of the CREATE staff.



### CORPORATEFUNDS

CARLOCK TOYOTA
COMMUNITY OUTREACH FUND
FRANKLIN CORPORATION
FUSION FOUNDATION

LONG DISTRIBUTORS CORINTH MADDOX FOUNDATION MALONEY MANAGEMENT, LLC MOSSY OAK FOUNDATION

OLD WAVERLY GOLF CLUB
R.W. REED COMPANY
THE BYRNE CPA CHARITABLE ADVISORY FUND



# THE BENJAMIN & CORINNE PIERCE FOUNDATION

The Pierce Foundation 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 2020 Pierce grants and scholarships exceeded \$135,000, making the total investment by the Pierce Foundation in Alcorn County over \$5.3 million.

## PIERCE FOUNDATION GAVE GRANTS TO THE FOLLOWING IN 2020:

The Alliance
Boys and Girls Clubs of Northeast Mississippi
Corinth Area Arts Council
Corinth Main Street Association
COVID-19 Support Fund

Crossroads Museum Historic Depot

Crosswind Ministries
Imagine the Possibilities Career Expo
Lighthouse Foundation of Corinth
Living Healthy Free Medical Clinic
Living Free Ministries
Sharing Hearts

### **ENDOWMENT FUNDS**

ALICE LITTLE ENDOWMENT

ALICE LYNN ROEBUCK ENDOWMENT FOR UNITED WAY

AMORY TRI-CENTENNIAL ENDOWMENT

ANDY HEWITT HELPING HANDS FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT

ANN R. KIMBERLANE ENDOWMENT

**ANONYMOUS** 

ARLAND A. AND GRACE DIRLAM ENDOWMENT

BENJAMIN AND CORINNE PIERCE FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT

BETH MCAULEY MUSIC ENDOWMENT

**BOOTH FAMILY ENDOWMENT** 

BRIDGET ANN NICHOLS MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT

BRYAN YOUTH CENTER ENDOWMENT C.A.R.E. CHARLESTON ENDOWMENT

CAROLINE BRYAN HARRELL EDUCATION ENDOWMENT

CDF/ LEHMAN LEADERSHIP

CHAD AND NICKY MCMAHAN ENDOWMENT

CLAUDE AND GUSSIE ROEBUCK MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FOR ST. LUKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CLAY COUNTY EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT CREATE UNRESTRICTED ENDOWMENT

DELMAR WATSON ENDOWMENT

DR. MARSHALL E. HOLLIS KAMANORO MINISTRIES FOOD FUND

DR. MARSHALL E. HOLLIS RIPLEY FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH CAMP FUND

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

EVERGREEN DESIGNATED ENDOWMENT

FAYE'S PURSE ENDOWMENT

FRANKLIN ENDOWMENT

GLEN AND PAIGE EVANS FAMILY FUND ENDOWMENT

GRAHAM AND MARTHA WELLS ENDOWMENT

HARRY AND ELLEN WALKER ENDOWMENT

HARRY LEE WILLIAMS, SR. ENDOWMENT(CARE)

HENRY MILLER ENDOWMENT

HHS MEMORIAL PLAZA ENDOWMENT

HTN ENDOWMENT

INGOMAR ENDOWMENT FOR EXCELLENCE

INNOVATIONS IN EDUCATION ENDOWMENT

INTERFAITH COMPASSION MINISTRY ENDOWMENT

JACK AND FRANCES REED ENDOWMENT

JACK REED, SR. COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP ENDOWMENT

JAMES HUGH RAY MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT
JOHN AND JANET MATTHEWS 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)

LOU-HOME, INC. ENDOWMENT

LOVE PACKS ENDOWMENT

MARCHBANKS FAMILY TRUST ENDOWMENT

MARY MALONEY EDUCATION ENDOWMENT

MIKE AND CATHY STEWART ENDOWMENT

MISS MS VOLUNTEER SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

MISSISSIPPI ALLIANCE FOR NONPOROFITS AND PHILANTHROPY'S 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

NEMYE 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

POWELL FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT

PROVERBS FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT

RANDY DUNNAM MEMORIAL CANCER ENDOWMENT

RHONDA R. HANBY FAMILY ENDOWMENT

RJ WILEMON FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT

ROBERT REED SPIRIT ENDOWMENT

ROBERTS/MOLL ENDOWMENT

ROSS AND DIANA WILLIAMS EXCELLENCE IN ATTENDANCE AND LEARNING FOUNDATION

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)

THE BERNICE GAMBRELL ENDOWMENT

THE JUDAH MARSHALL POWELL MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT

THE MATT FUND

THE NETTLETON MEN'S CLUB ENDOWMENT

TOMMY TOSH MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT

TOYOTA WELLSPRING EDUCATION ENDOWMENT

VIRGINIA H. CHRESTMAN MEMORIAL FUND FOR THE CITY OF OXFORD

WALTER FAMILY ENDOWMENT

WEITZENHOFFER MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT

WELLSPRING COMMUNITY CHURCH ENDOWMENT

WEST UNION ENDOWMENT FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION

WHITFIELD LEADERSHIP

WILDROSE SERVICE COMPANIONS ENDOWMENT

WOOD COLLEGE INC. ENDOWMENT

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

# ORGANIZATION ENDOWMENTS

The CREATE Foundation'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 provide a secure, stable, and permanent stream of income to support the areas of interest.

AGAPE HEALTH SERVICES

AMERICAN LEGION POST 49

AMORY MUNICIPAL LIBRARY-JAMES VICTOR SMITH AND ELIZABETH LOUIS SMITH

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF NEW ALBANY

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS - OXFORD FACILITY

CALHOUN CITY ROTARY CLUB

**CHANGE AMORY** 

CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION OF MISSISSIPPI

COCA-COLA LEGACY FOUNDATION

COLUMBUS ARTS COUNCIL

COLUMBUS MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

CORINTH-ALCORN ANIMAL SHELTER

DOORS OF HOPE TRANSITION MINISTRIES

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PONTOTOC

FORTNIGHTLY MUSICALE AGENCY

FOX FOUNDATION

GOOD SAMARITAN (FREE CLINIC)

**GUMTREE MUSEUM OF ART** 

GUMTREE MUSEUM OF ART - NANCY DIFFEE EXHIBITION

HALFWAY HOME ANIMAL SHELTER

HOPE FAMILY MINISTRIES ENDOWMENT FUND

ITAWAMBA CROSSROADS RANCH

JUNIOR AUXILIARY OF TUPELO

LA-MS-WEST TN KIWANIS FOUNDATION

LAFAYETTE COUNTY AND OXFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

LEE COUNTY LIBRARY

LEE COUNTY LIBRARY BERRY

LEE COUNTY LIBRARY HELEN FOSTER

LEE COUNTY LIBRARY WALKER-MCGILL

LEE COUNTY LIBRARY YOUTH ENDOWMENT

LQC LAMAR HOUSE

MEGAPOP

MISSISSIPPI ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS FOUNDATION

MISSISSIPPI ENTOMOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

MISSISSIPPI HEART

MISSISSIPPI MAIN STREET ASSOCIATION

**NEW BEGINNINGS AGENCY** 

NEWMS

NORTH MS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

OXFORD ENDOWMENT FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION

OXFORD FILM FESTIVAL

OXFORD LAFAYETTE HUMANE SOCIETY

PALMER HOME

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

THACKER MOUNTAIN RADIO

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

# R. J. WILEMON FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT FUND

The Wilemon Foundation was established in 2000 by R.J. and Ruth Wilemon. Brother Wilemon was the founder of R.J. Wilemon Construction Company which was responsible for the construction of hundreds of residential and commercial properties. In 1960, Brother Wilemon surrendered to the ministry and pastored several churches before becoming a full-time evangelist. Ruth Wilemon was a devoted partner for 65 years. The Wilemons both passed away in 2012.

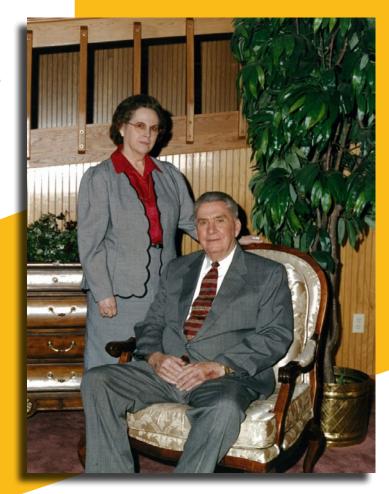
The Wilemon's love of God and desire to leave lasting support for Baptist and Baptist related ministries led to the establishment of the foundation. They had a particular desire to support long serving pastors and their spouses.

In 2014, the Wilemon Foundation established an endowment fund at the CREATE Foundation to help ensure that goals of the foundation are supported in perpetuity. CREATE is honored to have this partnership with the Wilemon Foundation.

"Our grandparents were always givers, but we didn't realize how much so until their deaths. We heard countless stories of how they had helped families and churches in times of crisis. The establishment of Wilemon Foundation is a perfect example of their giving hearts. We are honored to be part of it. CREATE Foundation has partnered with us in our efforts and has been incredibly instrumental in assisting us in carrying out the purposes and goals set forth by our grandparents. We are grateful for this partnership. "

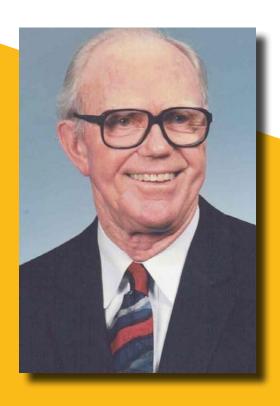
—Shonda Wilemon Sharpe

ESTABLISHISED 2014



# JOHN ROBERT ARNOLD ENDOWMENT FUND

1923-2017



John Robert Arnold was an extraordinary person who had a successful career in agriculture, manufacturing, retail and in the charter bus business. His great success in business was secondary to his faith, love and commitment to family, friends and love of his fellowman. CREATE was honored to partner with John Robert and his family in establishing the John Robert Arnold Endowment Fund to help continue his legacy of service. This fund provides annual support to First United Methodist Church of Starkville, Pushmataha Council of the Boy Scouts, SOAR, Millsaps College, Rust College, Lake Junaluska Methodist Camp, United Way of Oktibbeha County, MSU Symphony, Lake Stephens Methodist Camp, and the Sessums Community Club. He demonstrated his commitment through his leadership and involvement with numerous ministries at First United Methodist Church in Starkville. He was instrumental in establishing the churches' TV, bus and day school ministries as well as teaching generations of 7th grade youth. Mr. Arnold was highly active in a number of community organizations including (SOAR) - Starkville-Oktibbeha Achieving Results, an affiliate of the CREATE Foundation. He was also a big supporter of the Imagine the Possibilities Career Expo, one-year volunteering for four consecutive days.



# SPECIAL **PROJECT FUNDS**

100 WOMEN WHO CARE COLUMBUS

A SERVING HEART

A WAY OUT (FULTON)

AMERICAN LEGION POST 49 CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

AMORY COMMUNITY EVENTS (ACE)

AMORY FIRE DEPARTMENT ATV

AMORY POLICE DEPARTMENT K9 PROGRAM

ANDY HEWITT HELPING HANDS FOUNDATION

ANTONE TANNEHILL GOOD SAMARITAN HEALTH SERVICES (FREE CLINIC)

APRIL'S ANGELS

ART & HEALTHY FOODS TOGETHER CREATE A HAPPY LIFE

ASSOCIATION FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

BABY STEPS IMAGINATION LIBRARY

BECAUSE ALL LIVES MATTER

BILL RASPBERRY'S BABY STEPS

BREWER COMMUNITY CENTER PLAYGROUND

BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY

CALEDONIA BAND

CARE BISHOP PARK PLAYGROUND

CARE ROSEMARY WILLIAMS CHARITABLE FUND

CARE SANDY WILLIAMS CHARITABLE FUND

CARE STREET SIGN

CELEBRATING 200 YEARS OF PUBLIC EDUCATION IN MS

CENTURY 21 BALANCE

CHARACTER EDUCATION

CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION OF MISSISSIPPI

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

COLUMBUS-LOWNDES EXCEL BY 5 COALITION COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF ALCORN COUNTY

COMMITTEE FOR KING

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

CORINTH BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM CORINTH SCHOOL DISTRICT FOUNDATION

CORINTH SIDEWALK REPAIR PROJECT CORINTH-ALCORN ANIMAL SHELTER BUILDING

COTESWORTH CULTURE AND HERITAGE CENTER

CREFLY MUSEUM

DANCING WITH THE KING DANCE EVENT

DONIPHAN DANCE PROJECT

EARLY CHILDHOOD COALITION

ECEC ARTS INTEGRATION

ED GOODMAN MEMORIAL

ELVIS PRESLEY FOUNDATION

ENDOW MISSISSIPPI

FALLING THROUGH THE CRACKS

FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN RETREAT, INC.

FIREWORKS ON THE WATER

FORGE FOUNDATION FOX FOUNDATION - FOX HOLE GOLF TOURNAMENT

FRANKLIN SPECIAL PROJECT FUND

FRIENDS OF LEISURE LIFESYLES OF OXFORD (LLO)

FRIENDS OF MUSIC BEND NATURE TRAIL

FULTON COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

FULTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL FULTON PARKS PROJECT

GRAPHENE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FUND

GRILLING ON THE RIVER

GUMTREE MUSEUM OF ART-NANCY DIFFEE EXHIBITION

H.O.P.E. - TEEN LIFE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

HELPING HANDS OF UNION COUNTY (UNITE)

HENRY COBB THS VOCATIONAL TROPHY FUND

HHS MEMORIAL PLAZA (PACE)

HODE CONTINUES 5K RUN

**HUGHES SHELTER** 

ITAWAMBA COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

ITAWAMBA COUNTY BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

ITAWAMBA COUNTY SHERIFF

ITAWAMBA FOOD ANGELS

ITAWAMBA LEARNING CENTER

JOHN PAUL FRERER BICYCLE SAFETY

KEEP STARKVILLE BEAUTIFUL

KEEP STARKVILLE BEAUTIFUL

KEEP TUPELO BEAUTIFUL

KIDNEY HEAD

KMG CREATIONS COMMUNITY PRODUCTIONS

KRISTEN MINGA FOUNDATION FOR TEEN CHALLENGE

L.Q.C. LAMAR HOUSE

LEADERSHIP UNION COUNTY

LEE COUNTY HUNGER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

LEE COUNTY LIBRARY FOUNDATION

LINK CENTRE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN / OTHER

LKT HYDROCEPHALUS MIRACLE

MAMA'S GOT A BRAND NEW BAG

MANTACHIE EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

MAYOR'S TASK FORCE ON EDUCATION TUPELO READS

MEMA MONROE STRONG

MEMORY'S MAGICAL FORMAL WEAR

MENT CONFERENCE

MILL VILLAGE HISTORIC REVITALIZATION RENOVATION

MISSION MOLLYKATE

MISSISSIPPI HILLS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

MLK CITY OF TUPELO RECEPTION

MOMMIE ME TIME NETWORK

MS AVIATION MUSEUM AND LEARNING CENTER

MULTI-CULTURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER (FORD PROJECT)

MY BOOK OF LOWNDES COUNTY

NANCY ANN KINCADE WILLIAMS MEMORIAL FUND

NE MS COMMUNITY RECOVERY

NEWMS FAIRY GODMOTHER PROJECT

NEWMS GENERAL

NEWSPAPERS IN EDUCATION

NMCC CHARITABLE RACES

NORTH MS KILT WALK FOR BRAIN TUMOR AWARENESS

NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

NORTHEAST MS BIRTHING PROJECT

NORTHEAST MS CHARITABLE FUND

NORTHEAST MS DOWN SYNDROME SOCIETY

OKOLONA DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION CHARITIES

OPERATION FIT NATION

OXFORD HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE ARTS GUILD

OXFORD RELIFF FUND PASTURE TO PANTRY

PEDIATRIC SURGERY BOOK PROJECT

PIERCE FUND

PLAYGROUND OF DREAMS

POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE

PONTOTOC HIGH SCHOOL BAND UNIFORM

PRESERVING FULTON HISTORY

PROJECT MPACT AS THE J.L. KING CENTER

R.J. WILEMON MINISTERIAL ASSISTANCE

REAL MEN STAND UP

REBEL VENTURE CAPITAL

RED HILL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

REGIONAL REHAB CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

RILEY TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP

ROBINS FIELD INITATIVE/ELIZABETH C. FORD ROTARY VETERANS PARK CLOCK PROJECT

SALUTE LOWNDES COUNTY FINEST

SEVENTH AVENUE HERITAGE FEST SHOP WITH A COP SMILE INITIATIVE

SOCIALLY AWKWARD TIMELORDS CLUB

SPORTSMEN ORGANIZED FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

STARKVILLE BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY

STARKVILLE KIWANIS

STARKVILLE OKTIBBEHA UNITY LEAGUE (SOUL)

START WITH THE ARTS

STONE HOUSE MINISTRIES

TALLAHATCHIE ARTS COUNCIL

TEACHER OF DISTINCTION INNOVATIONS IN EDUCATION

TEAM M.A.R.C.U.S./KIDS ACROSS AMERICA

TEAM TUPELO/RESIDENT LEADERSHIP COMM

THE 18TH WARD

THE GOOD SAMARITAN SPECIAL PROJECT

THE JUDAH MARSHALL POWELL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT KIDS FUND

THE MAGGIE PROJECT FOR DIABETES

THE MESSIAH

THE PEOPLES BANK CHARITIES

THE WINDOWS INITIATIVE

THE WINDOWS STATE GRANT

THS ACTIVITY AND COMMUNITY FIELD THS BAND BOOSTERS

TMS WAVE MARKET

TOM TIMMS MEMORIAL TPD ADVANCED TRAINING AND NMLETC

TPSD SPONSORSHIP

TUPELO AQUATIC CENTER MEMORIAL AND HONORARIUM

TUPELO ELVIS FAN CLUB

TUPELO POLICE DEPARTMENT COPS AND KIDS

TUPELO POLICE DEPARTMENT HONOR GUARD

TUPELO POLICE DEPARTMENT RESERVE DIVI TUPELO POLICE DEPARTMENT RESOURCE OFFICER/DARE

TUPELO POLICE DEPARTMENT SWAT TEAM

TUPELO POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAFFIC SAFETY

TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

TUPELO ROCKS

TUPELO VISION - GOODNIGHT MOON PROJECT

TUPELO VISION - MS HEALTHIEST CITY TUPELO VISION - NEIGHBORHOOD TASK FORCE

TUPELO-LEE COUNTY HUNGER COALITION

TYLER SLOAN MEMORIAL VIETNAM REPLICA WALL

VISION 2040 - LOWNDES COMMUNITY FOUNDATION TASK FORCE VOLUNTEER NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI

WE CARE FOR KIDS SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

WEST UNION PANTRY

WILDROSE SERVICE COMPANIONS WINGS OVER COLUMBUS

WIVES OF WARRIORS

YOUTH ASSISTANCE FUND ZEKE'S HANDS

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

### **SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS**

SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENTS ALBERT HORN AND FAHOMA CRUMBY HORN SCHOLARSHIP 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 CLAUDIA RUTH CASTENIR SCHOLARSHIP
CLAY WAYCASTER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
CLIFFORD M. AND MILDRED S. BROCK SCHOLARSHIP
COACH JOE BRIGANCE SCHOLARSHIP
COACH LYNN WOOD SCHOLARSHIP
DAVID SKINNER SCHOLARSHIP
DOUGHERTY SCHOLARSHIP
DR. AND MRS. WALTER BOURLAND SCHOLARSHIP
DR. MARSHALL E. HOLLIS FAMILY FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF RIPLEY SCHOLARSHIP
DR. MARSHALL HOLLIS FAMILY 4-H SCHOLARSHIP
DR. MARSHALL HOLLIS FAMILY 4-H SCHOLARSHIP DR. MARSHALL HOLLIS FAMILY HEALTH CARE SCHOLARSHIP DR. MARSHALL HOLLIS FAMILY SCOUTING SCHOLARSHIP ED AND BECKY MEEK SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT
EE MANNY DAVIS SCHOLARSHIP (PACE)
ELGAR AND LUENE WAYCASTER MINISTERIAL SCHOLARSHIP
ELISE MOBLEY SCHOLARSHIP (PACE)
EMILY MCDONALD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP EMILY WRIGHT HORNE MEMORIAL FUND EMILY WRIGHT HORNE MEMORIAL FUND
ERNEST CADDEN SCHOLARSHIP
ETHEL SIMPSON SCHOLARSHIP (PACE)
EVA ANN BEASLEY DORRIS SCHOLARSHIP
FIVE SMOOTH STONES SCHOLARSHIP
FRANCES MALLORY SCHOLARSHIP (CALHOUN)
FRANK BOUCHILLON-CHARLIE DUNCAN SCHOLARSHIP
G. HENRY SCHULTZ SCHOLARSHIP GALE STAUFFER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP GALE STAUFFER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
HARRISON AND WRIGHT FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP
IRENE ROGERS CARLISLE-HETTIE WOOD DUNCAN SCHOLARSHIP
J.C. MCDANIEL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
JEFFREY HINES HOPPER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
JIM CRAIG SCHOLARSHIP
JIM WILLIAMS "FOLLOW AND FIGHT" 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
KEI LEY FILIZABETH HUMPHREYS NURSING SCHOLARSHIP KELLEY ELIZABETH HUMPHREYS NURSING SCHOLARSHIP KELLY CANTRELL CLARK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP KIM GREEN SCHOLARSHIP LARRY BROWN CREATIVE ARTS SCHOLARSHIP (GOCF) LD HANCOCK AWARD LEE WESTON REED SCHOLARSHIP LISA MITCHELL GREEN AND GROWING MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP LI ROBINSON SCHOLARSHIP (PACE) LORAINE ROGERS BOUCHILLON SCHOLARSHIP M. GLEN AND LORA H. DAVIDSON SCHOLARSHIP MARGARET BYRAM SCHOLARSHIP MCLAUGHLIN HARRISON FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP MICKEY LINDER SCHOLARSHIP
MISSISSIPPI FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS SCHOLARSHIP
MR. AND MRS. B.L. RIEVES SCHOLARSHIP
MS THEATRE ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP NANNEY PERFORMING ARTS SCHOLARSHIP
NELLIE MORGAN BALLARD SCHOLARSHIP
NETTLETON CHURCHES BIBLE SCHOLARSHIP
NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI PURCHASING ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP ORMA SMITH JR. SCHOLARSHIP ORMA SMITH JR. SCHOLARSHIP
OWEN B. WHITEHURST SCHOLARSHIP
PEBBLES EAST AULDS SCHOLARSHIP
RENASANT BANK - JIM AND NANCY INGRAM SCHOLARSHIP
ROBBY HALE "MAKE A DIFFERENCE" MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
ROBERT P. CHASE SCHOLARSHIP (PACE) ROTARY CLUB OF OXFORD EDWIN MOAK SCHOLARSHIP RUSSELL DORMAN SCHOLARSHIP SHERRY BUFORD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP STUBBS SCHOLARSHIP STUBBS SCHOLARSHIP
TAMARA WALDROP "TOP DAWG" MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
TAYLOR MOORE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (UNITE)
THE MARY KIRKPATRICK HASKELL SCHOLARSHIP
TODD HARDIN MEMORIAL LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP
TUPELO LUNCHEON CIVITAN SCHOLARSHIP
TYLER SLOAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP VALERIA MORGAN WHITFIELD SCHOLARSHIP WHITESIDE SCHOLARSHIP
WILLIAM "W.C." TUCKER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

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 interested in establishing a scholarship fund or who would like to make a donation to a fund, please contact the CREATE Foundation at (662) 844-8989.

#### SCHOLARSHIP PASSTHROUGH FUNDS

BGC EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP COACH ALLEN SCHOLARSHIP OF BRAVERY COACH JIMBO BYARS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP CODY MICHAEL DANIELS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP COREY LIPSEY "KEEP YOUR DREAMS ALIVE" MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP DARREN FENTON NAYC SCHOLARSHIP DORRIS J. OAKS SCHOLARSHIP DR. J. BRUCE LESLEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP **ERBY CANNON SCHOLARSHIP** EXPRESS EMPLOYMENT PROFESSIONALS SCHOLARSHIP FUTURE EDUCATORS OF AMERICA (RUTLEDGE) SCHOLARSHIP GEORGE MAYNARD CLASS TUTORIAL SCHOLARSHIP/FUMC-TUPELO HASKELL SCHOLARSHIP IMPACT KIDS - DANIEL KNOX SCHOLARSHIP J.T. NEELY SCHOLARSHIP JAMES AND JEANETTE HALL SCHOLARSHIP JAMES DALTON CODY RICE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP JEFF BOREN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP JEFF BOREN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP JO MILLER ORR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
JULIA BLAKEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (LINK CULINARY ARTS) JUNIOR AUXILIARY OF TUPELO SCHOLARSHIP KAROL JEAN VOGE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP MAGGIE THOMPSON PHIPPS DANCE SCHOLARSHIP MARSHUAN BRAXTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP MASON GREGORY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PAL SCHOLARSHIP PHILLIP NEAL JONES SCHOLARSHIP
PRESLY WALLACE, JR SOCCER SCHOLARSHIP RAY AND SHEILA HUTCHESON MEMORIAL ROBBIE BUFORD SCHOLARSHIP RYAN PETTIT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP SAMANTHA RANKIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP SAVANNAH STRONG SCHOLARSHIP SHARON KEETON 70 X 7 FORGIVENESS SCHOLARSHIP SIMPSON VICKERY SCHOLARSHIP SOUTHERN MOTION SCHOLARSHIP TEACHER OF DISTINCTION AWARD FROM TPSD ADMINISTRATION TERRY MANN SCHOLARSHIP THE DANIELLE ADAMS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP THE HOMESTRETCH SCHOLARSHIP TIGER FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP TIMMY BRYANT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

TONY LAUNIUS SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP

UNION COUNTY SCHOOLS SCHOLARSHIP

WINIFRED AND MAYFIELD RILEY TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP



# FIVE SMOOTH STONES SCHOLARSHIP

The Five Smooth Stones scholarship was created with the hopes of providing access to a dream for young, Mississippi African American students. As a young black high school student, it is often difficult to find the resources to continue secondary education. When we moved to the state of Mississippi, it was one of the lowest educational preforming states in the nation. It has since made tremendous strides. Our contribution to the education solution was to give a scholarship in hopes of continued prosperity for our state.

The reasons why we chose the CREATE Foundation to administer this scholarship is because of the outstanding service and commitment, great people with a servant's heart and a group that has impeccable integrity.

Janet and I feel blessed to not only have the ability to give but to be a part of the CREATE family.

-Sean and Janet Suggs

The vision of Five Smooth Stones Scholarship is to provide a path to help ensure the success of African American high school students who are aspiring to go to college. The five smooth stones represent the story of David and Goliath and how he conquered the giant with one smooth stone. Although he took five smooth stones, it only took one to accomplish his mission. Our goal is to help young African Americans to conquer their giants in life. Our hope is that these scholarships will help them start their road to success.



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 six 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 CHANCERY CLERK, PONTOTOC COUNTY PONTOTOC

DAVID RUMBARGER
PRESIDENT/C.E.O., COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION
TUPELO

MIKE STATEN
PRESIDENT, BNA BANK
NEW ALBANY

SEAN SUGGS
PRESIDENT, TOYOTA MOTOR NORTH AMERICA
BLUE SPRINGS

GREG PIRKLE PARTNER, PHELPS DUNBAR, LLP TUPELO

WENDY CLEMONS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION
MS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
JACKSON

#### **Committee Advisors**

MIKE CLAYBORNE PRESIDENT, CREATE FOUNDATION

DR. KRISTY LUSE
VICE PRESIDENT, TOYOTA WELLSPRING EDUCATION FUND

STEWART BREVARD MCMILLAN
PROJECT MANAGER, TOYOTA WELLSPRING EDUCATION FUND

ALBINE BENNETT
COORDINATOR, IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES CAREER EXPO

# **CAREER COACHES**

11 Career Coaches in 14 high schools across districts in Pontotoc, Union, and Lee counties.













Career Coaches ensure students are exposed, prepared, and connected to their college and career goals.

Career Coaches provide opportunities for students to experience internships, summer camps, business industry visits and college tours, as well as training in transformational leadership skills.





### **IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES VIRTUAL CAREER EXPO**

For over 5 years, the *Imagine* the Possibilities Career Expo has provided over 30,000 eighth graders from the 17 CREATE counties with the opportunity to experience 18 career pathways.



In 2020, Imagine the Possibilities Career Expo experience veered from an in-person event to a virtual format. The virtual format includes a website. www.itpcareerexpo.com, and Imagine the Possibilities app that is accessible via Apple and Android products. Students and parents can access information on all eighteen pathways with each pathway including a pathway overview video, pathway resources, a "day in the life" videos, mentor for a

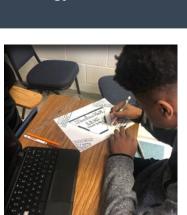


All career pathways with which students receive exposure align with the Mississippi Department of Education College and Career Readiness Standards.



# **STEAM GRANTS**

Over \$2.0 million in STEAM grants have been provided to the 8 school districts, enhancing STEM instruction, providing infrastructure and technology resources







The STEAM grants targeted highdemand workforce careers, paid internship opportunities for students, and fees for the WorkKeys assessments required by business and industry.





Implementation of high school courses, such as Health & Medical Professions, Law and Public Safety, as well as the necessary resources to sustain these classes were creative uses of STEAM grant funds.



# THE JOHN AND 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 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. The illness 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.



2020 MARCHBANKS GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

\$301,523

Tuition Guarantee Program – Annual commitment of up to \$150,000 to support Tuition Guarantee Program in Lee County.

\$75,000 grant to Tupelo-Lee County Hunger Coalition.

\$8,000 grant to Volunteer Northeast Mississippi.

\$21,250 awarded in scholarships.

\$8,500 grant to Start with the Arts.

\$8,000 grant to Lee County Early Childhood Coalition.

\$7,500 grant to Parkgate Pregnancy Clinic.

\$5,000 grant to Faith Ministries Counseling Center.

\$5,000 grant to NEWMS Fairy Godmother Project.

# FINANCIAL REPORT



Dear Friends,

2020 was another outstanding year for investments. Our return was 11.09% for 2020, net of investment fees. For the eighth time in ten years, our return performed better than other community foundations our size based on a national survey. Our three-year return was 6.47%, the five-year return was 8.87%, the seven-year return was 6.92% and the ten-year return was 7.49%. We remain confident in our diversified portfolio approach to generate an appropriate, long-term return. We previously shared with you we believed increasing our equity allocation to 75% is the appropriate approach to meet our long-term objectives. However, we know from the long history of the financial markets that the road along the way will not be without twists and turns, hills and valleys, and unforeseen potholes.

Our committee continues to believe the best way to navigate the road ahead is with a rational asset allocation model that has proven to work over time. We are pleased to report to you the investment cost of our pooled investment fund continues to decrease as our fund value increases. The 2020 expense was 0.274%. Certainly, we take our fiduciary responsibilities seriously and work to maximize investment returns with the least possible risk through a sound investment process. Our process is audited externally to ensure that it meets the highest standards of fiduciary excellence.

We hope you find the information contained in this letter to be helpful. If you have questions, please contact the CREATE office. Thank you for your continued support and confidence in the CREATE Foundation.

Sincerely,

Larry Kirk, Chairman Investment Committee CREATE Foundation Inc.



#### 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. In 2020, CEFEX recognized CREATE for 10 consecutive years of fiduciary excellence



#### CHARITY NAVIGATOR CERTIFICATION

In 2020, CREATE Foundation earned its tenth 4-star rating for its ability to efficiently manage and grow its finances. Only 3% of the charities rated have received nine 4-star evaluations, indicating that CREATE Foundation consistently executes its mission in a fiscally responsible way and outperforms most other charities in America.



#### NATIONAL STANDARDS COMPLIANCE

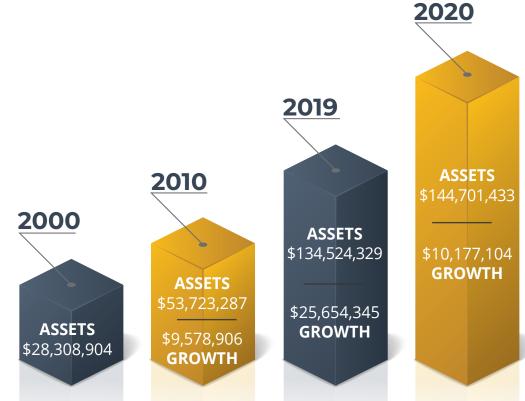
The CREATE Foundation has been confirmed in compliance with the Council on Foundations National Standards. The National Standards Seal signifies that CREATE Foundation has met rigorous National Standards and has demonstrated its commitment to financial security, transparency, and accountability.

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. 2020. Complete audited financials are available at www.createfoundation.com or may be obtained by

calling the CREATE office

at (662) 844-8989.

# **CREATE FOUNDATION 2000-2020 SCORECARD**



	2000	2010	2019	2020
<u>Assets</u>	\$28,308,904	\$53,723,287	\$134,524,329	\$144,701,433
Contributions	\$2,234,555	\$12,647,155	\$21,395,310	\$10,893,755
<u>Grants</u>	\$1,747,212	\$7,677,602	\$10,099,138	\$12,271,722
Endowment Funds				
Number	36	127	241	254
New	11	16	19	15
Amount	\$3,770,948	\$25,607,821	\$108,656,698	\$117,545,629
<u>Affiliates</u>	\$680,622	\$5,111,092	\$7,821,756	\$8,494,299
Donor Advised Funds	53	147	192	185
New	16	6	8	7
Special Projects	29	166	228	223
New	10	32	17	9



CREATE Foundation
213 West Main Street • 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 regional community development capacity
- Taking a leadership role on key community issues and impacting the region through gifts and targeted grant making