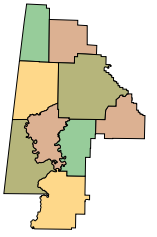


MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of
The Community
Foundation of West
Alabama is to
promote charitable
giving for present and
future generations.

Community Foundation



Volume 20 No. 1
SPRING 2021

OF WEST ALABAMA

MARK THE DATE - 2021 PILLARS



The date for the 2021 Pillars of West Alabama will be October 14, 2021. The program was postponed in 2020 due to COVID-19. We look forward to the fall date this year to recognize the following honorees: Sam P. Faucett, Richard Holland and his late wife Rebecca, Amos Hubbard, Clyde Marine, Doug Phillips, and also being recognized posthumously, Cliff and Mary Louise Armstrong, and John Pradat.

The 2021 class is the 17th class to be recognized for their impact and influence in West Alabama. The program began in 2004 and continues to recognize deserving individuals.

To see all the previous classes of Pillars, please visit the CFWA website at www.thecfwa.org and click on the Pillars tab. To nominate someone for future recognition please submit the application found on the website.

Community
Foundation
OF WEST ALABAMA

YOUR GIVING GIVES ON

Current Officers & Directors

Claude Edwards
Chairman

Mary Bess Paluzzi
Vice President

Dr. Barry Mason
Secretary

Lin Moore
Treasurer

Pierce Boyd
John T. "Jack" DeWitt

John England

Sam Faucett

James I. Harrison, III

Bobby Ingram

Shelley Jones

Thomas A. Nettles, IV

Dr. Pam Parker

David R. Pass

Leah Ann Sexton

Dr. Hugh H. Stegall

Glenn Taylor

Staff

Glenn Taylor

President/CEO

Cynthia Johnson

Donor Development

Becky Elmore

Administrative Assistant

Past Directors

Jody Blackburn

John L. Blackburn

Davis S. "Buddy" Burton, Jr.

Marion Combs

Susan Cork

Jim Flemming

Phyllis Gamble

Fred P. Hahn

Laura Gregory

Gina Miers

Anne Moman

Larry W. O'Neal

Tim Parker

Gordon Rosen

Charles Storey

William A. Tate

William W. Walker

A MESSAGE FROM GLENN

After my 27 years in the field of education, my work at the CFWA is a second career for me. As I celebrate my 15th anniversary with the Community Foundation, I am reminded how this organization has blessed me. I am not alone. The CFWA has been a blessing to so many in our community.

During these 15 years, I have witnessed the CFWA play a role in so many good works in West Alabama. We were part of the process of restoring the Bryce Cemeteries. Through the Long-Term Recovery Coalition, we played an integral role in the recovery of West Alabama after the 2011 tornadoes ravaged our community. Most recently, we helped our small business community stay afloat during the pandemic of 2020 with our Small Business Relief Funds. I could go on.

With the help of our many supporters, this has been possible. Without you, it wouldn't have happened. And without you, it can't continue.

Such is the nature of a community foundation. The concept is simple. People in a community pool their resources with the intent on accomplishing greater good collectively.

The last 12 months have presented many

challenges and needs. However, it is in times of great need that the CFWA steps up. Over \$2.15 Million dollars in grants were distributed to our community during 2020.

As I consider the last 12 months, I am reminded of the African proverb, "Smooth seas do not make skillful sailors." I am sure we will all be the more skillful having lived through the challenges of 2020.

The last 15 years have been a joy for me and I thank you for allowing me to serve. I invite you to come be a part of something bigger than the individual and with that, I leave you with the following quote.

"The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well."
-Ralph Waldo Emerson



Glenn Taylor,
President/CEO

In Memory Of

October 1, 2020 - Present

Mr. Jerry Belk
Ms. Shelley Jones

Dr. John L. Blackburn
Holly & Hal Piper

Davis S. "Buddy" Burton
Brian Burton
Carla Burton Gale
Drew & Angela Hamiter

Walter Bryan "Buster" Chandler
Mrs. Angela Hamiter

Henry B. "Bubs" Cummings
Drew & Angela Hamiter

Benjamin B. Fields, Sr.
Benjamin B. Fields, Jr.

Jim Flemming
Pierce & Louise Boyd
Brad & Cynthia Johnson
Ms. Shelley Jones
Milton & Weezie Noland
Glenn & Teresa Taylor

David Ford
Kaye & John Robb

Dr. Fred Glaze
Ms. Shelley Jones

Rebecca Ann Guy Holland
Dr. Richard D. Holland

Ms. Cecile Horton
Ms. Shelley Jones

William "Bill" Lanford
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Rumsey

Ms. Joyce Payne
Drew & Angela Hamiter

Larry Pierson
Bobby & Cathy Wooldridge

John Pradat
Alex & Carol Gatewood

Chuck Sittason
Mike & Amy Echols

In Honor Of

October 1, 2020 - Present

Mrs. Robert Almon, Sr.
Ms. Mary Ann Phelps

Ed & Mary Babin
Angela Hamiter

Anne Bell
Angela Hamiter

Elizabeth Bradt
Angela Hamiter

Jim & Karen Brooks
Angela Hamiter

Reese & Mary Louise Brooks
Angela Hamiter

Mr. & Mrs. Paul W. Bryant, Jr.
Ms. Mary Ann Phelps

Buddy & Frankie Burton
Angela Hamiter

John & Debra Burroughs
Angela Hamiter

Mrs. John D. Cade
Ms. Mary Ann Phelps

Lamar Chatham
Angela Hamiter

Sydney & Martha Cook
Angela Hamiter

Brad & Susan Cork
Angela Hamiter

Dolly Crafton
Angela Hamiter

DO IT YOURSELF PROJECTS



*Cynthia Johnson,
Director of Development*

Time and time again, people support the charities that are most important to them. Some of you have asked about whether you should donate to the CFWA or give directly to your favorite cause. Did you realize you can do both? Giving to a Donor Advised Fund at the CFWA can be one simple tool in your toolbox to accomplish your goals. It is a tool that can move your donations from good to great.

Good to Great

While writing checks here and there for the charitable needs you care about is good, creating and funding a donor advised fund can make your giving great. According to Helaine Olen's article in *The Atlantic*, "For one thing, they allow ordinary people to grow their money over time, and give it to charity as a philanthropist would, like a DIY Bill Gates." Having a donor advised fund is like having a mini private foundation without all the hassle. Ms. Olen adds, "Another reason: Perhaps the account holder just wants the tax deduction, and doesn't feel like selecting a charity at the moment. These funds allow people who earn more money in one year than another to

time their deduction, depositing money in the donor-advised fund in years when their earnings permit them to receive a greater tax benefit, and then donating the money to charities over a period of years."

Great Example

Mr. Allen Henry of Tuscaloosa says he has been very pleased with the Donor Advised Fund he and his wife created, telling us "It was an easy way to give real property and be able to support multiple organizations. Sara and I avoided paying capital gains taxes on liquidating that property, and we have been able to distribute funding for projects at our church and other charities. Giving property increased our tax deductions too. Now that I have seen how easy it is to work with the CFWA, I plan to do more."

Call a Professional

You don't have to DIY all your charitable giving. Community foundations were established to provide support and leverage resources by working together. Talk with your most trusted advisors, and talk with us. We are always available to help you plan your philanthropy. Remember, having a donor advised fund available when you are ready to use it is a great feeling.

Nancy Dowling
Angela Hamiter

Drew Emerson
Angela Hamiter

Mr. & Mrs. Sam Faucett
Ms. Mary Ann Phelps
Dr. & Mrs. Arthur Thompson

Kristine Fitts
Angela Hamiter

Lewis & Carrie Fitts
Angela Hamiter

Mr. & Mrs. David Fuhrman
Ms. Mary Ann Phelps

Mr. & Mrs. Russell Gibson
Shelley Jones

Mrs. Peggy Harrison
Shelley Jones

Mr. & Mrs. John Hicks
Shelley Jones

Charles & Mary Harmon Hilburn
Angela Hamiter
Ms. Mary Ann Phelps
Dr. William & Linda Hill
Angela Hamiter

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Howell
Shelley Jones

Mr. & Mrs. William Jessup
Ms. Mary Ann Phelps

Mrs. Virginia Joiner
Shelley Jones

Ms. Shelley Jones
Frances & Nat Hansford
Lynn & Melinda Corder
Phillip Weaver

Dr. Rehka Khurana
Angela Hamiter

Jack & Emily Leigh
Angela Hamiter

Dr. John & Pam Mantle
Angela Hamiter

Johnny & Alice Maxwell
Angela Hamiter

Mr. Leroy McAbee
Ms. Mary Ann Phelps

David & Martha McElroy
Angela Hamiter

George Harris & Paula McLendon
Angela Hamiter

Laine Moore
Angela Hamiter

Tommy & Stella Moore
Angela Hamiter

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Patterson
Shelley Jones

Dr. Louis & Catherine Payne
Angela Hamiter

Mr. & Mrs. Scott Phelps
Ms. Mary Ann Phelps

Mrs. Pam Pierson
Shelley Jones

Jim & Pat Pilkinton
Angela Hamiter

Mr. & Mrs. Henry Pruett
Shelley Jones

Ken & Susan Randall
Angela Hamiter

Katherine Ransone
Angela Hamiter

Mr. & Mrs. Alex Rivers
Shelley Jones

Sen & Mrs. Richard Shelby
Ms. Mary Ann Phelps

Mrs. Allison Sherrill
Shelley Jones

Mr. & Mrs. Alan Taylor
Shelley Jones

Mr. Harrison Taylor
Ms. Mary Ann Phelps

Mr. & Mrs. Britt Turner
Shelley Jones

Doug Randall & Krystyn Traylor
Angela Hamiter

The Holidays
Paula Quarles

Dr. Curtis & Erin Tucker
Angela Hamiter

Phillip & Suzanne Ward
Angela Hamiter

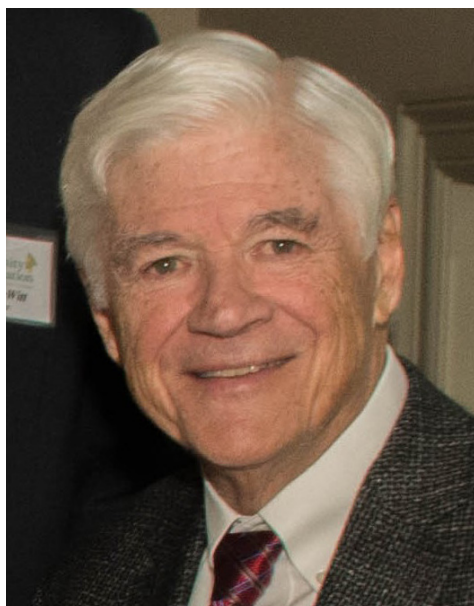
Dr. & Mrs. J. Bryan Wilhite
Ms. Mary Ann Phelps

Mr. & Mrs. Eric Wilson
Shelley Jones

Frank & Beverly Wingard
Angela Hamiter



P.O. BOX 3033
TUSCALOOSA, AL 35403



IN MEMORIAM - JIM FLEMMING

December 31, 2020, the CFWA was saddened at the sudden passing of a friend and director, James "Jim" Flemming. Jim was an integral part of the business and charitable community in West Alabama since moving back to Tuscaloosa in 1985. He had served as a member of the Board of Directors for the CFWA since 2017 and was a member of the class of Pillars of West Alabama in 2005. We will miss Jim.

DATES TO REMEMBER

October 1, 2021 Fall Grants Deadline

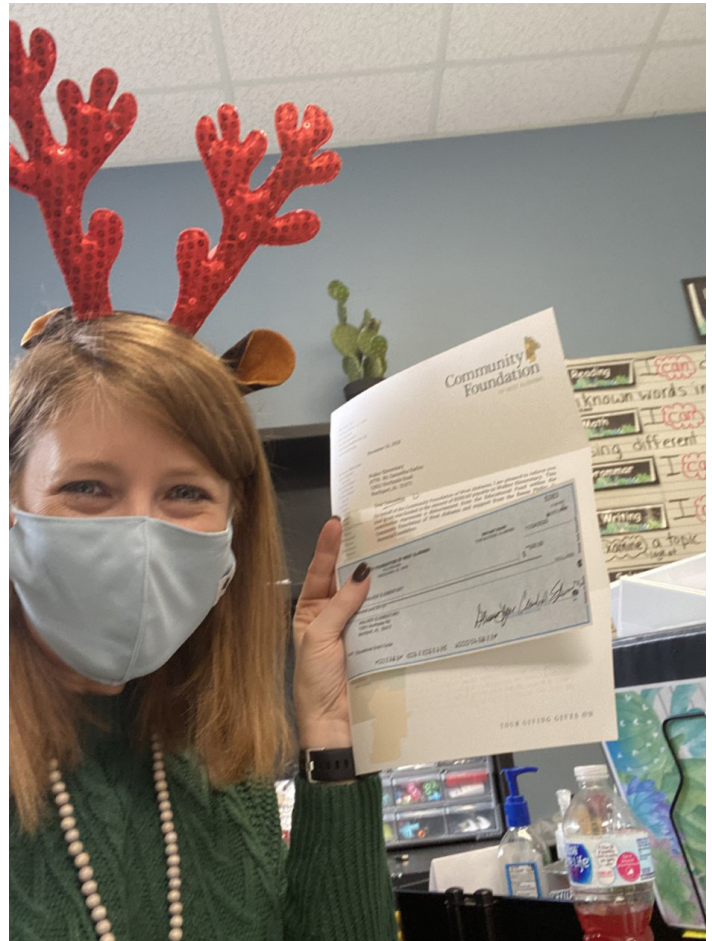
October 14, 2021 Pillars Dinner

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED



Ms. Kirsten Hubbard was the 2020 winner of the Elois Zeanah Endowed Scholarship. She attends UAB and resides in West Blocton. She was selected based in part on an essay on “the most challenging issues facing my generation and how I can make a difference.” Mrs. Jackie Ray, President of the Republican Women of Tuscaloosa County, is shown presenting the scholarship certificate to Ms. Kirsten Hubbard.

EDUCATION GRANTS



Each year the CFWA, in conjunction with the Reese Phifer, Jr. Memorial Foundation, supports educators by awarding grants to local teachers. The application deadline is November 1 and the grants are awarded prior to the Christmas break. Samantha Harbin of Walker Elementary School celebrates her early Christmas present.

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SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF EFFORTS



Partnering with the Chamber of Commerce, a total of 300 businesses in West Alabama were helped with our Small Business Relief Funds. A total of \$1.25 Million was awarded to local businesses. Glenn is pictured with Jim Page and Barkley Garrett of the Chamber.

Glenn noted, “My faith in our local community was strengthened as I watched the small business community come together in support of one another. Just one example will suffice. One of our local businesses received a grant from our Small Business Relief Fund early in 2020. The grant helped the business survive and recover. Later in the year, we received a donation from this business for the SBRF. Their desire was to help others as they themselves had been helped.”

YOUR COMMUNITY AND YOUR FOUNDATION

When people think of the Community Foundation, what comes to mind? I suspect in many cases it is that this organization is only for those with deep pockets and great resources. That is a misconception. This organization exists because of donors like you. People who care about West Alabama. People who see a problem and want to help. Between concern and hope, a check is written.

It is a fact that 35% of our accounts contain less than \$25,000 with many under \$10,000. The services we provide are very helpful to the donor regardless of income bracket.

Currently our 16 agency accounts hold about 30% of our total funds. These accounts are designed to help our nonprofits invest their funds. In 2020, these funds produced a return of about \$750,000 for our partner agencies. If you are part of a nonprofit, this might be of interest to you.

We manage 10 Scholarship funds that award 16 scholarships per year. This is an excellent way to honor one's family while supporting education. The recipients each year are grateful for the support. To date, about 275 of these scholarships have been awarded.

Endowments are permanent sources of support. The 8 endowments managed by the CFWA help fund regular grant cycles. Endowments are great tools to include in estate planning. The permanent funding can support one's charitable interests even after you are gone.

The Donor Advised Funds are our most popular accounts. They make up about 70% of our accounts. The convenience of these funds makes them very attractive to donors and they offer several tax advantages.

The CFWA currently manages over 100 accounts with \$17 Million in assets. We would love to discuss our services with you and add you to our family.

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