



PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS HAVE SUPERPOWERS, TOO! SEE PAGE 10.



YOU DON'T NEED TO FLY, TURN INVISIBLE OR BE TELEPATHIC TO BE A HERO. YOU JUST NEED A PASSION TO DO GOOD AND THE POWER OF PHILANTHROPY!



THIS SUPER LEGACY IS BUILDING COMMUNITY AROUND ART. SEE PAGE 8.





At the Community Foundation, we help those who do good, do *greater*. Our region is full of heroes – a donor seeking to leave a legacy, a nonprofit leader

making an impact, a corporation investing in giving back. For each of those trying to make a difference, the Community Foundation is here. Sometimes we are the spark of change. Sometimes we are the vehicle. Sometimes we are a collaborator, facilitator and partner. But we are integral to the philanthropic fabric of Atlanta. And so are you.

Superheroes are a cultural phenomenon, especially right now. In 2017, you saw the movies and read the comic books. You know that heroes are strong on their own. But when heroes join together into supergroups for action? Well, that's when the magic happens. Together, they can tackle inequity, injustice and intolerance, drive change and save the world. That's what philanthropy does – it's a unifying force made up of time, talent and treasure that bands us all together.

This year's annual report was inspired by the superheroes and supergroups we see and work with every day, and the impact they make through philanthropy. The real heroes are not on the silver screen, but are people just like us, driven to be the change they want to see in the world around them.







Arts | Community Development | Education | Nonprofit Effectiveness | Well-being

On a long quest, it's important to have a clear destination in mind and a map of how you want to get there. Our Impact Areas are the destination for our community work – our promise to the 23-county region that in partnership with our donors, nonprofits and collaborators, we will make the greater Atlanta region even *greater*.

We seek to impact our community in five issue areas – Arts, Community Development, Education, Nonprofit Effectiveness and Well-being. Turn the page to see our 2017 Impact Area investments in grantmaking, partnerships and advocacy in action.

With this quest, we know that the path we take to get there is as important as the destination itself. But how do we know we are headed in the right direction? How do we measure success?

In 2017, the Foundation identified metrics across our region that we seek to improve in collaboration with others. We track these metrics annually on a dashboard created by Neighborhood Nexus (see below). It includes data points on topics such as access to transportation, civic activity, food security and high school graduation rates. Knowledge is super powerful and our dashboard is essential for smart, data-based decision making. We invite you to explore the dashboard at cfgreateratlanta.org/areas-of-impact.

#### DATA IS A SUPERPOWER.

THAT'S WHY WE PARTNERED WITH NEIGHBORHOOD NEXUS ON OUR IMPACT AREA METRICS. PULLING MORE THAN 6,000 DATA SOURCES ACROSS THE REGION INTO ONE INCREDIBLE SITE, NEIGHBORHOOD NEXUS HELPS OUR REGION'S NONPROFITS AND CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS WORK MORE EFFICIENTLY BY USING QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS TO IDENTIFY AND MEET OUR REGION'S EVER-EVOLVING CRITICAL NEEDS. FROM TRACKING BROAD TRENDS ON ISSUES LIKE INCOME INEQUALITY AND CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS, TO A HYPER-LOCAL LOOK AT SCHOOL PERFORMANCE OR CRIME STATISTICS, NEIGHBORHOOD NEXUS IS THE FIRST STOP FOR CONSISTENT, OBJECTIVE AND RELIABLE RESEARCH. LEARN MORE AT NEIGHBORHOODNEXUS.ORG.









**ARTS** | Build a dynamic arts ecology to ensure all residents have access to high-quality cultural experiences and diverse artistic programs



**\$4.4** million in Renew Atlanta Infrastructure Bond funds were activated by the City of Atlanta to acquire 9 new landmark public art sculptures. Selection was led by a curatorial committee, chaired by Foundation staff



**400+ people attended** a Mayoral Forum on the Arts, presented by the Community Foundation and ChooseATL; **4,930 people watched** the forum via a live stream on Facebook #ArtsVoteATL



**\$5,000 awarded** to Ideas Challenge winner Living Walls for "Signs of Solidarity ATL - Voter Edition" to create and hang 100 banners around Atlanta by local artists encouraging people to vote (above by Joe Dreher at The Swag Shop)



**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT** | Advocate for equitable economic growth, strong civic health and safe, sustainable communities

15 Community
Development grants
and 3 Love Your
Block grants from the
Neighborhood Fund
to neighborhood
groups and leaders for
community projects

90

\$10,000 awarded to Ideas Challenge winners Kavi Vu and Phi Nguyen who partnered with Asian Americans Advancing Justice-Atlanta to create "Wake Up Atlanta," a web-based voter video series targeting Atlanta's Asian American community



Facebook page had a total of 1,291 followers and 155,000 video views

\$115,000 awarded to six organizations aimed at boosting civic engagement around local elections. Voter participation in the November general election saw more than 97,000 ballots cast, almost double that of 2013



**225 guests** at WABE's community conversation "State Government Matters Too: A Crash Course on the Georgia Legislature," funded by a Civic Engagement Fund grant from the Community Foundation



**EDUCATION** | Improve outcomes and expand opportunities for all learners across the education spectrum



**903 new scholarships awarded** for the 2017-18 academic year via Achieve Atlanta 1,510 students received a college scholarship

parents participated in workshops through the Foundation's Parent Leaders United for Students program





**NONPROFIT EFFECTIVENESS** | Invest in the region's nonprofits with management and financial resources to equip these organizations to effectively manage operations and high-performing programs

12 nonprofits completed leadership succession plans through our Embrace the Future: Succession Planning for Nonprofit Organizations pilot program



**4 Strategic Restructuring Fund awards**, including 2 that supported nonprofit mergers and 1 that enabled a nutritious food program at Grady Hospital



8

\$2.4 million

**granted** in general operating support to 38 nonprofit organizations



including 7 technology grants in partnership with TechBridge and 10 to help develop nonprofit strategic plans



to fund solar panels



**WELL-BEING** | Ensure a healthy, safe and engaged region, where all residents have access to quality health care and nutritious food

22 funders attended a dialogue about health equity in partnership with the Atlanta Regional Collaborative for Health Improvement, a coalition of public, private and nonprofit organizations committed to improving the health of the metro Atlanta region

60 patients served and 150 family members touched by the FVRx fruit and vegetable program launched at Grady Hospital, in partnership with Wholesome Wave Georgia and Open Hand



\$50,000 granted (and matched) to HomeStretch, a public/private partnership with the City of Atlanta to invest in direct services for homeless men, women and children



**\$774,000** in grants to decrease HIV/AIDS including \$419,000 announced by Funders Concerned about AIDS on World AIDS Day from the new Southern HIV Impact Fund to metro Atlanta HIV/AIDS serving agencies



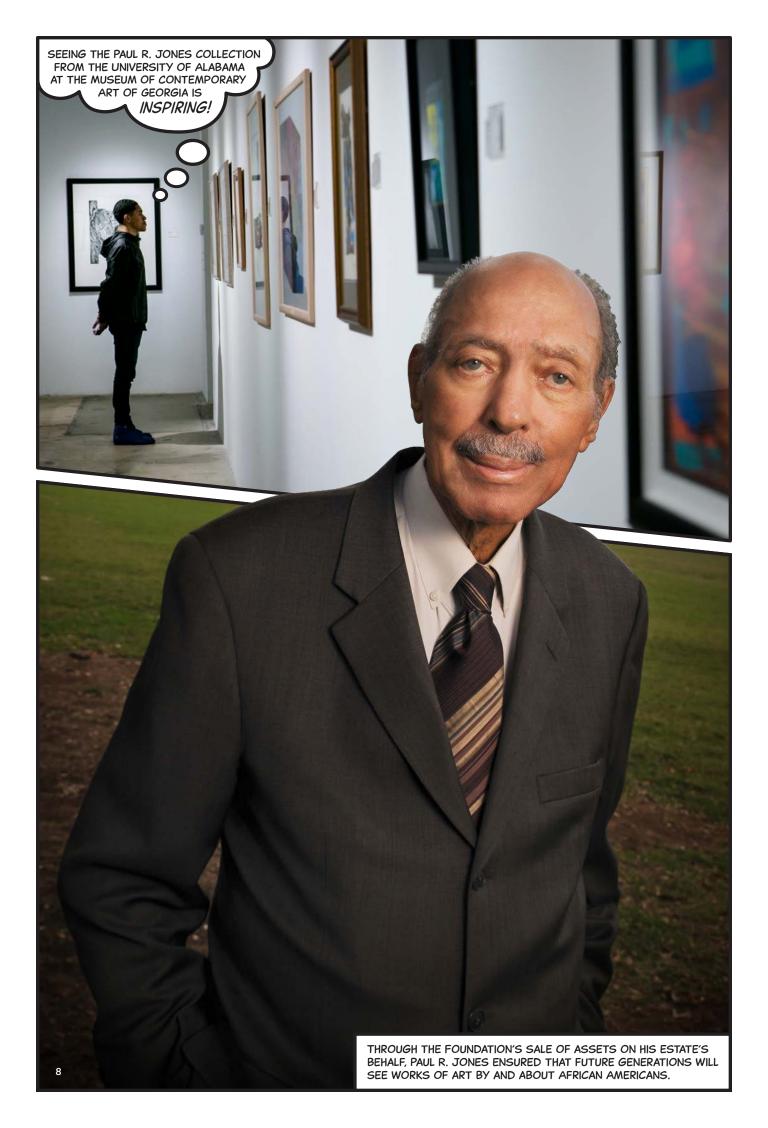
#### A flexible solution for good: Frances Hollis Brain Foundation Fund

Diane Bryant and her extended family were at a crossroads – how to fulfill the legacy of their multi-generational family foundation and remain fully engaged amidst the reality of busy schedules and competing priorities for time? Thus, the family began a two-year journey to find the right fit for the changing needs of their philanthropic giving. In 2017, after careful consideration, the family contributed some assets of their foundation into a donor-advised fund at the Community Foundation, which became the Frances Hollis Brain Foundation Fund.

The family's giving intent focuses on primary needs – early childhood development, health, housing and senior care. Diane's career in social work puts her at the forefront of her community's needs and helps her navigate the web of connections that help ensure philanthropic dollars go where they are needed most. Today, the family can focus on the joy of giving while the Community Foundation acts as their philanthropic partner. "We want to honor my parents' legacy long into future generations," Diane said. "And now we have a full measure of support behind us that allows us to focus on impact, not administration."



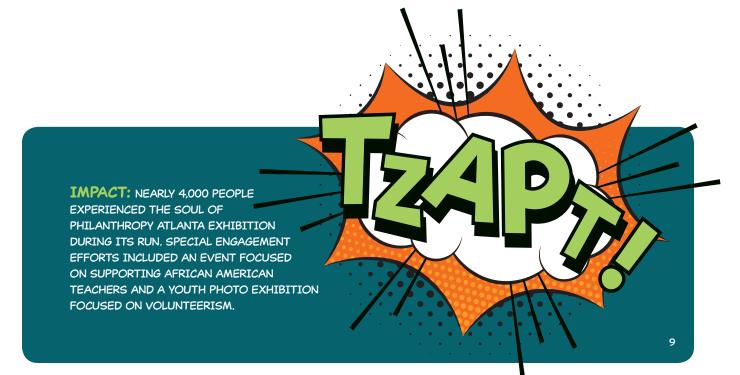
IMPACT: THE FAMILY FINDS MORE JOY IN THEIR FOUNDATION'S GIVING NOW THAT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION HELPS WITH ADMINISTRATION. IN 2017, THE FRANCES HOLLIS BRAIN FOUNDATION FUND GRANTED OUT MORE THAN \$144,000 TO 23 NONPROFITS IN OUR REGION.



#### An arts superhero - past, present and future: Paul R. Jones

Paul R. Jones had a front-row seat to history, living and working in Alabama during the height of the civil rights movement. He began collecting African American art and photography in the 1960s when he realized it was under-represented in museums and galleries, amassing a collection that included artists who have since grown to great recognition and prominence. In the late 1990s he became a donor and volunteer with the Community Foundation's Metropolitan Atlanta Arts Fund. In 2004, he participated in the Foundation's "Giving: A Shared Inheritence" study on African American giving in Atlanta – his art was even featured in the study publication. After he passed away, his estate gave the Foundation multiple types of complex assets including hundreds of pieces of artwork, nearly a dozen residential and commercial properties in both Georgia and Alabama, as well as financial assets at multiple banks.

To honor his legacy, the Community Foundation structured his gift as a Field of Interest Fund for the arts and African American philanthropy. In 2017, a grant from the fund was used to underwrite The Soul of Philanthropy, a traveling exhibition that celebrates the history and traditions of African American philanthropy.





#### Super smart super connector: Courtnay Bazemore, CPA

One of Courtnay Bazemore's favorite conversations is explaining to her clients how they and their children can make a philanthropic impact. Bazemore, a principal in Windham Brannon's tax practice who advises individuals with estate planning and philanthropic strategies, often springs into action to bring up the idea.

"They can raise a generation that has a natural inclination to give back," she says.

She helps clients quickly move from point A to point B with a custom-tailored philanthropic strategy, thanks to her connection with the Community Foundation team and programs. For example, our Philanthropic Advisor Leadership Institute (PALI) grew her network and knowledge of nonprofits.

If she could give her clients a super skill, it would be the enduring power of philanthropic giving. "Sometimes it takes time to see the fruits of your efforts," she says. "Not giving up is important."

IMPACT: "IT'S NATURAL FOR ME
TO INTRODUCE THE FOUNDATION AND
THE FOUNDATION'S BENEFITS TO THE
COMMUNITY. THAT SUPPORT, THAT
KNOWLEDGE, THE EDUCATIONAL VALUE,
THE ABILITY TO ADVISE, THOSE THINGS
ARE UNPARALLELED, AND A WORLD-CLASS
SERVICE THAT A POTENTIAL DONOR
CAN BENEFIT FROM." -COURTNAY BAZEMORE





#### Helping kids envision the future: Learn4Life

Kids don't need X-ray vision to be super heroes. But an unprecedented partnership is providing an essential tool – glasses – to improve reading proficiency at a crucial time in the lives of metro Atlanta students.

Learn4Life launched in 2017 with a clear focus on scaling proven ideas to achieve better education outcomes. The work began by focusing on six key indicators related to areas such as reading, math and graduation rates. The leadership of eight metro Atlanta school districts, along with dozens of business, community and nonprofit organizations form this incredible super squad.

This team of powerful partners is banding together to build an education agenda to lift the Atlanta region. Learn4Life has identified common goals and shared benchmarks to improve outcomes for 600,000 students.

When data showed that only 39 percent of metro Atlanta third-graders were proficient in reading, the group identified several strategies to help, including Vision To Learn, a mobile vision lab that provides students free exams and glasses during the school day. Research shows that correcting vision issues is an important step to improve early grade literacy.

Learning to read can improve students' grades and self-worth. This collaboration would make Clark Kent – and his alter-ego Superman – proud. Learn more at L4Lmetroatlanta.org.





#### Building a superhero culture: MailChimp Community College

Known for its superpowers in the marketing automation world, Atlanta-based MailChimp is helping its employees discover the power of philanthropy through a partnership with the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta. The two organizations joined forces in 2017 to launch MailChimp Community College to encourage MailChimp's employees to move beyond the office walls and do good in their community.

MailChimp has always given back at the corporate level, but its leaders recognized it needed the Foundation's knowledge of the city and philanthropic expertise to provide an innovative curriculum focused on Atlanta's stark income inequity. MailChimp's 15-week Community College program is now educating its employees in the role philanthropy can play in closing Atlanta's unconscionable equity gap. Through the program, groups of employees are given a deeper understanding of local issues, as well as insight into the day-to-day work of nonprofits. The Community Foundation's curriculum also teaches all the nuts and bolts to both evaluate and award competitive grants.

MailChimp's partnership with the Community Foundation is endowing employees with the knowledge to become tomorrow's community heroes.

IMPACT: MAILCHIMP KNOWS THE IMPORTANCE OF INVESTING IN LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND GAVE THE COHORT A HANDS-ON OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE AN IMPACT AT THE END OF THEIR LEARNING JOURNEY. THE MEMBERS OF THE INAUGURAL MAILCHIMP COMMUNITY COLLEGE CLASS GRANTED A TOTAL OF \$200,000 TO THE GEORGIA JUSTICE PROJECT, PARTNERSHIP FOR SOUTHERN EQUITY AND RAISING EXPECTATIONS.



#### Creating a Justice League of their own: Spark Opportunity Giving Circle

From the simple spark of a serious conversation, our donors banded together in a new and mighty way to address income and opportunity disparities. The Spark Opportunity Giving Circle began as a learning group in 2016 after donors attended a Community Foundation event featuring expert Robert Putnam. Because of what they learned about the nation's growing opportunity gap, they were driven to action and didn't have to look far – Atlanta is consistently rated one of the worst cities in the U.S. for economic inequity.

Collaborative giving plays a role in community solutions, and through learning and dialogue about the needs, donors co-created an effort with the Community Foundation to tackle the problem locally. In 2017, Spark Opportunity made \$157,500 in collaborative grants to nonprofits serving the Thomasville Heights neighborhood on Atlanta's east side.

The result? Unlawful evictions were fought. Parent leaders got engaged as advocates for schools and the community. Youth participated in service learning and visited cultural institutions. Spark Opportunity's learning and investing events continue as our donors work to avenge economic disparities and close the opportunity gap.



#### ALTERNATIVE TRANSIT RELIEF FUND

WHEN THE INTERSTATE 85 BRIDGE FIRE AND COLLAPSE CLOSED A SECTION OF THE HIGHWAY FOR NEARLY TWO MONTHS IN 2017, NONPROFITS FACED UNEXPECTED AND URGENT NEEDS. NONPROFIT EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTEERS AND CLIENTS SPENT MORE ON PUBLIC TRANSIT, RIDESHARING AND GAS BECAUSE OF LONGER ROUTES AND TRAFFIC.

WE WERE RIGHT THERE TO HELP. WE RUSHED TO THEIR AID WITH A SOLUTION INSPIRED BY A WATER COOLER DISCUSSION. OUR FAST, NIMBLE RESPONSE — THE NEW SHORT-TERM ALTERNATIVE TRANSIT RELIEF FUND — GRANTED A TOTAL OF \$7,095 TO 14 NONPROFITS FOR MARTA AND GAS CARDS, AND ADDITIONAL COSTS RELATED TO CHILDCARE, TRANSPORTATION AND TELECOMMUTING.





## SUPER FUN AND SUPER POWERFUL:

#### THE DRAGON CON FUND

EVERY LABOR DAY WEEKEND, DOWNTOWN ATLANTA IS OVERTAKEN BY SUPERHEROES, ELVES AND STORMTROOPERS AS DRAGON CON CELEBRATES THE COLORFUL, MYRIAD FACETS OF POPULAR CULTURE. DRAGON CON IS ALSO PHILANTHROPIC, WITH A FUND AT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GENERATED BY PROCEEDS FROM THE EVENT. EACH YEAR, IT ASKS ATTENDEES TO HELP GIVE BACK BY RAISING FUNDS FOR A SPECIFIC LOCAL ATLANTA NONPROFIT, WHICH DRAGON CON THEN MATCHES. AS A RESULT, SPECIAL OLYMPICS GEORGIA RECEIVED \$109,254.30 IN 2017.

"DRAGON CON IS SO MUCH MORE THAN ONE PERSON. IT'S EVERYONE THAT COMES, HAS FUN, CONTRIBUTES AND GIVES.

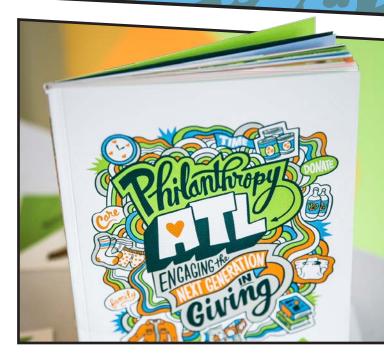
SHERRY HENRY, VICE PRESIDENT, DRAGON CON ATLANTA HAS BEEN GOOD TO US -IT'S IMPORTANT TO GIVE BACK."



# VEAR OF DISASTERS

HURRICANES IRMA AND MARIA. FLOODING IN HOUSTON IN THE WAKE OF HARVEY. FIRES IN SONOMA. THESE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE NATURAL AND MAN-MADE DISASTERS IN 2017 THAT COMPELLED OUR DONORS TO HELP. WHEN OUR DONORS LOOK TO US, WE ARE PREPARED WITH TIMELY AND ACCURATE INFORMATION TO HELP DECIDE WHERE TO DIRECT RELIEF DOLLARS.

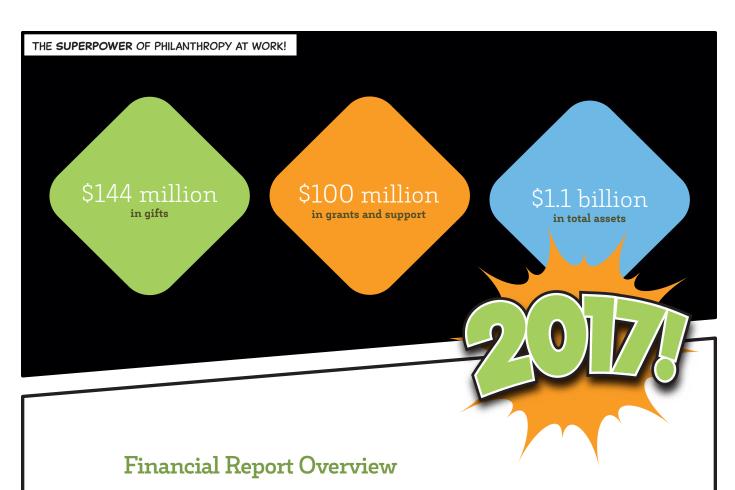
OUR SWIFT AND EXTRAORDINARY DONORS GAVE OVER \$1 MILLION TO HELP DISASTER VICTIMS AND COMMUNITIES THAT NEED TO REBUILD. IT'S YET ANOTHER TESTAMENT TO THE EXCEPTIONAL RESPONSE THAT MAKES OUR DONORS HEROES.



YOU WANT TO IMPART THE VALUE OF GIVING BACK ON YOUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN...

BUT HOW DO YOU ENGAGE YOUNG PEOPLE WITH A DIFFICULT CONCEPT LIKE PHILANTHROPY IN A FUN, ENGAGING WAY? IN 2017, THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION PUBLISHED PHILANTHROPYATL: ENGAGING THE NEXT GENERATION IN GIVING. THE EXCLUSIVE TOOL FOR OUR DONORS IS FILLED WITH AGE-APPROPRIATE ACTIVITIES, CONVERSATION STARTERS AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTU-

NITIES FOR CHILDREN GRADES K-12.



At the Community Foundation, we manage with excellence. It's essential as we seek to provide maximum impact to our community and quality service to our donors. A key pillar of that excellence is serving as a reliable steward of the long-term philanthropic assets that are entrusted to us for the future of Atlanta. In 2017, our total assets reached \$1.1 billion.

We distributed over \$100 million in grants and support in 2017. That represents 8,200 grants awarded to over 3,100 nonprofits locally, nationally and internationally. Of these grants, 70% stayed within our 23-county metro Atlanta region. Grants were made to 27 issue areas, the top three being education, arts/culture/humanities and religion. Our organization distributed 10% of our total assets through grantmaking in 2017.

Our generous donors make our work possible. We received more than \$144 million in gifts in 2017 and established 56 new funds. Our most popular giving vehicle is the donor-advised fund. In 2017, 86% of our total grants were made through donor-advised funds.

As the investment landscape continues to evolve, we are happy to report that our Investment Pool returned a 16.1% gain for 2017. The Foundation's Investment Pool continues to have strong, positive three-, five- and 10-year pool returns: 8.0%, 9.4% and 6.4%, respectively. With capable oversight from our experienced investment committee, we will continue to work on achieving the investment goals that are so critical to the Foundation, our donors and the greater Atlanta community.

The financial information contained in this annual report is unaudited and summarized. Please visit cfgreateratlanta.org to view our expanded digital report with more detailed 2017 financial information. Our 2017 audited financial statements and 990 will be posted in October 2018. Until then, our 2016 audited statements and 990 are available online.

### Our Team

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Benjamin T. White,

Alston + Bird

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Evan Greene, Donor Data and Portal Manager

Elyse Hammett, Vice President, Marketing and Communications Kimano Harris, Accounting Specialist

Maria I II III and Database and Arabata Ma

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Mindy Kao, Program Associate Hannah Klemm, Program Assistant

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Vanessa Meyer, Program Officer

Louise Mulherin, Public Relations Manager

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Megan Swett, Director, Operational Strategy

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