

IN CHALLENGING TIMES

GENEROSITY SOARS

Earlier this spring, Blue Grass Community Foundation (BGCF) was gearing up for several exciting events centered on community, including *On the Table* discussions and Chris Stapleton's Hometown State of Kind Benefit Concert at UK's Kroger Field. But all of that grinded to a halt in mid-March as the COVID-19 pandemic unfolded. And while we weren't able to physically gather together, it didn't stop our charitable network of fundholders, donors and community leaders from working together to help those most in need.

For more than 50 years, through both good times and bad, BGCF has been the region's go-to resource for philanthropic collaboration and leadership. During these unprecedented times, we were called upon by a variety of individuals and organizations to help facilitate community generosity.

When United Way of the Bluegrass wanted to create a COVID-19 relief fund, it reached out to BGCF to help make it happen. The Coronavirus Response Fund has already distributed more than a half million dollars to help feed the hungry, provide medicine and transportation to those in need and offer vital information in 10 languages.

"We are proud to partner with Blue Grass Community Foundation," said Timothy Johnson, UWBG president and CEO. "As a coalition we can leverage and combine resources to assist more people and make meaningful impacts."

When VisitLEX, E.E. Murry Family Foundation, Keeneland and FoodChain wanted to help unemployed hospitality workers and provide meals for the food insecure, they called on BGCF to establish the Nourish Lexington Fund. They have now provided 42,000+ meals across Fayette County.

**"The team at Nourish Lexington is grateful to have such a wonderful community partner in the Community Foundation."**

BGCF is also part of an effort to sustain the arts. Closed galleries, cancelled performances and lost revenue for artists and arts organizations prompted LexArts to partner with BGCF to create the Arts Resilience Initiative. To date, more than \$100,000 has been awarded to arts organizations and individual artists across the Bluegrass.

The COVID-19 pandemic illustrates one of BGCF's unique strengths: We are here to provide a rapid philanthropic response when the community calls. Thanks to your generosity, more than \$2 million has been raised through the Community Foundation since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic! Right now, we do our part by staying apart, but we are working together to help those who need it most.

FROM LISA ADKINS

Our President's Letter

Meeting the ever-changing needs of our community has always been central to our mission at Blue Grass Community Foundation. Since March, our team has responded to the COVID-19 emergency by funding critical nonprofits, connecting donors to the greatest needs and leading through collaboration.

We've partnered with the United Way of the Bluegrass to establish the Coronavirus Response Fund, with LexArts to establish the Arts Resilience Initiative, and with Lexington Mayor Linda Gorton to establish the Mayor's Fund for the Greater Good.

Many of our endowed community funds have also mobilized COVID-19 Response Funds, including Clark, Franklin, Harrison, Madison, Rowan and Woodford counties. We've also assisted charitably minded people and organizations in launching their own response funds, including the Rex Chapman Foundation COVID-19 Relief Fund, The Nourish Fund for NourishLEX and the Commonwealth, Common Health Fund for Kentucky food banks.

Especially in times like these, when we are all balancing financial uncertainty with concern and passion for the nonprofits we value, what I know for sure is we get better together. On behalf of the board and staff of Blue Grass Community Foundation, we offer our gratitude to all the givers, like you, who are stepping up to help our communities, businesses and neighbors get through these challenging times. As always, we are here to serve as your partner in charitable giving. If I can help you, don't hesitate to contact me at 859.225.3343 or ladkins@bgcf.org.



Lisa Ashner Adkins, J.D.  
President/CEO

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provides regular tours and programs and hosts monthly community home-cooked meals. And, it has helped 40 area schools establish classroom aquaponic systems as part of their science curriculums.

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, FoodChain has pivoted to use partnerships, its infrastructure and its knowledge about the local food sector to prepare meals for families living in the margins, including children who relied on school lunches. Unemployed food service professionals receive payment to prepare hot meals for distribution.

“While it’s been heartbreaking and overwhelming to see the needs in our community rise so exponentially during this crisis, it’s been a gift to contribute using FoodChain’s assets,” said Becca.

West Sixth Brewing does more than brew the best local beer around. Ben Self elaborates: “West Sixth Brewing

was founded with the goal of not just making great beer but having a positive impact on the communities it is a part of. We measure that in three ways: supporting the great work that is going on in community nonprofits, making environmentally friendly choices whenever possible and building the best place to work in Lexington.”

From its inception, West Sixth has committed 6% of its annual profits to giving back. Every year, however, it has far surpassed this bar, giving over \$160,000 last year alone.

But the synergy doesn’t stop there.

Together, Ben and Becca have established two charitable funds at BGCF.

The Self Family Fund at BGCF provides support to local nonprofits and helps Ben and Becca organize their charitable giving. “There are so many groups doing such great work in Lexington, and we hope to help whenever we can,” said Becca. She added that since she and Ben are entrepreneurs themselves, they love to support the great work and creativity of small groups that share their values.

West Sixth Brewing has recently established the West Sixth for a Cause Foundation with the goal of unifying and amplifying its charitable work. This brings together the company’s giving programs under one umbrella, improving its efforts and inspiring local and national partnerships.

**To learn how your business or personal interests align with Blue Grass Community Foundation’s mission for community good, contact BGCF Vice President of Advancement Scott Fitzpatrick at 859.225.3343.**



## A PROFILE IN GIVING

# It’s All About Local

Becca and Ben Self are an energetic, unstoppable force for good in Lexington.

Becca established FoodChain in 2011 in the former Rainbo Bread Factory building on West Sixth Street. Earlier that same year, Ben established West Sixth Brewing at the same location.

The two MIT graduates, who married in 2000 and are the parents of 5-year-old twins, exemplify synergy at its best.

FoodChain’s mission is to forge connections between community and fresh food through education and demonstration of sustainable food systems. Step one was constructing a 7,000-gallon indoor aquaponics system—the first in Kentucky.

The system allows FoodChain to grow food using just 5% of the water needed by conventional production and yields fresh greens and fish year-round. This is particularly important as the neighborhood is a food desert, with no grocery store nearby, leaving residents with few options for fresh ingredients.

But beyond its innovative production of fresh fish and fresh greens, FoodChain is, first and foremost, about education.

With help from the Knight Foundation Fund at BGCF, FoodChain opened a teaching and processing kitchen in 2017 that allows its neighbors to sample and learn how to make use of healthy, sustainable foods. FoodChain

# NEWS BRIEF



## BGCF Introduces the Kentucky Nonprofit Directory

BGCF’s Kentucky Nonprofit Directory makes it easy to learn more about any nonprofit in the Commonwealth.

The Community Foundation is pleased to provide **The Kentucky Nonprofit Directory** free of charge to all visitors to the BGCF website. This user friendly directory delivers in-depth information about every public charity in Kentucky. The site offers enhanced search and filter options, as well as interactive financial graphics, to present the latest, most transparent information about our local charities. You can find organizations by name, city, county, zip code, cause, asset or revenue levels.

Bookmark the **Kentucky Nonprofit Directory** in your web browser for future reference when you want to learn more about one of Kentucky’s charities: [bgcf.org/kynonprofitdirectory](http://bgcf.org/kynonprofitdirectory).



## Hometown State of Kind Benefit Concert Rescheduled

Country music superstar Chris Stapleton and his wife, Morgane Stapleton, announced that the Hometown State of Kind Benefit Concert – A Concert For Kentucky will be rescheduled for Saturday, April 24, 2021. The benefit concert, the proceeds of which will go to a fund at BGCF and will be awarded to youth arts and music programs in Central and Appalachia Kentucky, was originally scheduled for April 25, 2020, but had to be postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Willie Nelson & Family, Sheryl Crow and Yola will all perform with Chris Stapleton on the rescheduled date at Kroger Field.

“We can’t wait to see everyone next year at A Concert For Kentucky, and in the meantime, please stay healthy at home,” said Chris and Morgane.

<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$117,189,000</b>
<b>Number of Grants Awarded</b>	<b>2,340</b>
<b>Nonprofits Receiving Grants</b>	<b>1,092</b>
<b>Grants Awarded</b>	<b>\$12,893,157</b>
<b>Grants Since Inception</b>	<b>\$108,956,280</b>

# BGCF AT A GLANCE

From January 1, 2020, to March 31, 2020

## The Power of Local Philanthropy

On February 20, Blue Grass Community Foundation celebrated the milestone of awarding \$100 million in grants since our founding in 1967. This accomplishment would not have been possible without the generosity of our donors and the communities we serve, so we invited everyone to join in the fun with a variety of activities throughout the day.

Lexington Mayor Linda Gorton kicked off the “Thanks \$100 Million” day of celebration with a mayoral proclamation reading at city hall, in which she declared February 20, 2020, “Blue Grass Community Foundation Day.” BGCF President/CEO Lisa Adkins and board Chair Fran Taylor then presented executives and representatives of the Urban League of Lexington, the Hearing and Speech Center and Sayre School’s Green Team with grants in honor of the Community Foundation’s initial round of \$100 grants awarded in 1968.

“That initial \$100 grant from BGCF helped the Urban League fund its charter and formation. Here we both are, 52 years later, going strong and growing,” said Lisa. “That’s the power of local philanthropy.”

The Community Foundation couldn’t have awarded \$100 million in grants without the generous donors in our community, and we wanted to give back to express our gratitude. A giveaway of \$1,000 Giving Cards was orchestrated, and we partnered with two of our corporate charitable fundholders to help make it happen. We gave away free drinks at Cup of Commonwealth and Chocolate Holler, and free stickers at the Kentucky for Kentucky Fun Mall. One lucky customer at each location also received a \$1,000 BGCF Giving Card redeemable for their favorite local nonprofit.



Councilmember Jennifer Reynolds, Zach Joseph of A Cup of Commonwealth, BGCF Board Member Joseph Coleman, Sayre Educator Dr. Debbie Wheeler, BGCF President/CEO Lisa Adkins, Abby Thompson of The Hearing & Speech Center, Mayor Linda Gorton, Annissa Franklin of the Urban League, BGCF Board Chair Fran Taylor, Councilmember Josh McCurn, Urban League President/CEO P.G. Peeples, Councilmember Bill Farmer

A fourth \$1,000 BGCF Giving Card was given away in a special social media promotion.

with the vast majority of all funding staying right here in Kentucky.



The day concluded with a reception at The Apiary, where we celebrated with our friends and fundholders, and toasted our past accomplishments and the exciting potential of our future.

It took 45 years for Blue Grass Community Foundation to grant the first \$50 million but less than seven years to grant the next \$50 million. In just the past 10 years alone, we have awarded \$87.8 million in grants and scholarships. This means that since 2009, 754 students received college scholarships and 4,216 nonprofit organizations received grants,

This record of success leads us to ask, how many more years will it take until we grant the next \$50 million? Will it be another seven years or can we do it in three years or even less time? Just how fast can we accelerate our collective generosity?

Let’s start by considering how we can be more generous. Can we increase our own personal charitable giving by just 5%? Maybe more? If you don’t yet have a donor advised charitable fund to simplify and organize your current giving, the Community Foundation is here to work with you to establish one. If you haven’t yet planned your charitable legacy, we’re here to help. If you manage or own a business, consider how your company can engage in corporate charitable giving. We offer a full suite of charitable solutions to help you and your employees get more engaged. Contact us today! We’d love to help you write your charitable story, and we’d love for you to be a part of ours.

**To learn how BGCF can help you establish a charitable legacy aligned with your goals, contact Lisa Adkins, President/CEO, at 859.225.3343.**

# ALL ABOUT ENDOWMENTS

## Thanks to the Endow Kentucky Tax Credit, there has never been a better time to invest in the future of our community.

Gifts to endowed charitable funds at Blue Grass Community Foundation are eligible for up to 20% in state tax credits. Only gifts to endowment funds at accredited community foundations qualify for this tax credit.

Unlike tax deductions, tax credits are subtracted from a donor's tax bill, dollar for dollar. A gift of \$5,000 can reduce what you owe in state taxes by \$1,000. A gift of \$50,000 can reduce your tax bill by \$10,000. And this is in addition to your federal and state charitable tax deduction.

But these credits go fast! The Kentucky Department of Revenue begins accepting applications for Endow Kentucky Tax Credits on July 1. All applications submitted between

July 1 and July 7 are guaranteed to receive at least a prorated portion.

An endowment's income provides annual support for charities and charitable causes in perpetuity. Whether it's supporting an existing endowment at BGCF or creating one of your own, we can help. A gift to an endowment fund is an investment in today and tomorrow.

 **Would you like to make a gift that qualifies for the Endow Kentucky Tax Credit? Call us at 859.225.3343.**

## Here Today, But Not Gone Tomorrow

For nonprofits focused on fiscal responsibility, diversified funding streams and the long-term sustainability of their mission, there's no better strategy than establishing a nonprofit endowment at BGCF.

Nonprofit endowment funds are permanent charitable assets that provide an ongoing source of income. Annually, these funds produce a spendable amount, typically 5%, that provides an unrestricted grant to the nonprofit. The corpus of the fund is invested in a diversified portfolio to provide for long-term growth.

Endowments are especially critical during unstable times. They can make all the difference when it comes to surviving a tough economy.

"Our endowment with Blue Grass Community Foundation serves as a continual source of funding that extends the benefit of every

donation," said Sharon Price, executive director of the Community Action Council, an agency on the frontlines of providing aid to those affected by the coronavirus. "It's an opportunity for our donors and friends to invest in us, so that we can continue to support our neighbors, especially in tough economic times like these."

Laura Guerrant, executive director of CASA of the Bluegrass, which recruits and trains advocates for child victims of abuse and neglect in the family courts, said, "The payout from our endowment has supported critical services during the pandemic. In an environment of fundraising uncertainty, these dollars have been essential. Being local, BGCF has a finger on the pulse of the needs of our community, and the staff does all they can to assist us!"

Endowments are especially attractive to donors who want their gifts to continue to

make a difference long after their own lifetimes. BGCF has the expertise to work with donors of all means to help them leave a meaningful legacy for nonprofits they are passionate about. And, the Community Foundation is able to accept all types of assets, including stock, IRA charitable rollover contributions, and real estate.

With more than 50 years of experience working within our community's nonprofits, BGCF is uniquely positioned to help nonprofits create, manage and grow endowments that meet their goals for today and tomorrow.

 **To learn more about establishing an endowment for your nonprofit, contact Gift Planning Officer Halee Cunningham at [halee@bgcf.org](mailto:halee@bgcf.org) or 859.225.334.**

## Money Doesn't Grow On Trees. It Grows In Endowments.



Assumes 4% payout and 7% rate of return.

**Nonprofit endowment funds and many designated endowment funds help nonprofits safeguard charitable dollars for the future of their work and mission. Donations to any of the funds listed here are eligible for the Endow Kentucky Tax Credit.**

- All Children in Need Endowment Fund  
 Ampersand Sexual Violence Resource Center of the Bluegrass Endowed Fund  
 Anderson-Dean Park Fund  
 Arbor Youth Services Endowment Fund  
 Ashland Terrace Retirement Home Endowment Fund  
 Ashland, The Henry Clay Estate Endowment Fund  
 Audrey Rooney Vocal Competition Fund  
 Baby Health Services Endowed Fund  
 Battle of Richmond (KY) Fund  
 Berea Opportunity Fund  
 BGCF365 Endowment  
 Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bluegrass Endowed Fund  
 Big Sandy Diabetes Coalition Endowment  
 Blessing Hands Endowment Fund  
 Bluegrass Care Navigators Fund  
 Bluegrass Conservancy Fund  
 Bluegrass Greensource Endowment Fund  
 BUILD (Building a United Interfaith Lexington through Direct Action) Fund  
 Calvary Baptist Church Endowment  
 Camp Horsin' Around Endowment Fund  
 Carnegie Center Endowment Fund  
 CASA of the Bluegrass Endowment Fund  
 CASA of Lexington Endowed Fund  
 Cave Run Symphony Orchestra Fund  
 Central Kentucky Audubon Society Endowment  
 Charles H. Stone Endowed Fund to Support the Chamber Music Festival of Lexington  
 Child Development Centers of the Bluegrass Endowed Fund  
 Children's Advocacy Center of the Bluegrass Endowed Fund  
 Chrysalis House Endowed Fund  
 Civic Leadership Fund to Support BGCF  
 CKYO MusicWorks Endowment Fund  
 Clark County Animal Shelter Fund  
 Clark County Community Services Endowment Fund  
 Clark County Homeless Coalition Endowment Fund  
 Community Action Council Fund  
 Community Action Council RSVP Fund  
 Curious Forever Endowment Fund  
 Elizabeth Cannon Fund to Support the First Church of Christ, Scientist  
 Elizabeth Rosenberg Fund of the Jewish Federation fbo the PJ Library  
 Ellen and Herb Moelis Industry Service Award to Support Thoroughbred Charities of America  
 Flight 5191 Memorial Preservation Fund  
 Franklin County Humane Society Endowment  
 Friends of the Kentucky Theatre Endowed Fund  
 Friends of the Lexington Senior Center Endowment Fund  
 Friends of McConnell Springs Endowed Fund  
 Frontier Nursing University Endowment  
 FUMC of Cynthiana Apportionments Fund  
 FUMC of Cynthiana Children's Fund  
 FUMC of Cynthiana Facility Maintenance Fund  
 FUMC of Cynthiana Scholarships Fund  
 FUMC of Cynthiana United Preschool Fund  
 Garbulinska Initiative Endowed Fund to Support the Lexington Philharmonic  
 Gateway Regional Arts Center Fund  
 Georgetown & Scott County Museum Foundation  
 GleanKY Endowed Fund  
 Global Adoption, Counseling, Cultural Resources Endowment  
 God's Pantry Food Bank Hunger Relief Fund  
 GreenHouse17 Endowed Fund  
 Growing Together Preschool Endowed Fund  
 Harrison Memorial Hospital Agency Endowment Fund  
 Hazel Burns Education Foundation for Oneida Baptist Institute  
 Headley-Whitney Endowment Fund  
 Henry T. Duncan Memorial Fund to Support the Fayette County Bar Association  
 HEP Endowment Fund for First Presbyterian Church  
 Historic Christ Church Preservation Fund  
 Hope's Wings Endowment  
 Hospice Care Plus Endowment Fund  
 J.K.R. McClanahan Foundation to Support Eastland Church of God  
 James F. Glenn Fund for Indigent Medical Care to Support the University of Kentucky Human Needs Fund  
 Jane Keeble Resident Education Fund to Support the University of Kentucky Department of Surgery  
 Jean B. Ezzell Foundation Account for First Presbyterian Church  
 Jeff A. Woods Endowment for the University of Kentucky College of Law  
 Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass Endowment  
 Josephine Sculpture Park Endowment Fund  
 Just Fund Education Project Endowment  
 Keith MacAdam Endowment for the Kentucky Nature Preserves  
 Kentucky Bluegrass Chapter SWCS Endowment Fund  
 Kentucky Center for Performance Excellence Endowed Fund  
 Kentucky Equal Justice Center Endowment Fund  
 Kentucky Historical Society Kentucky Treasures Endowment  
 Kentucky Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation Fund  
 Kentucky Refugee Ministries Endowment Fund  
 Kentucky Resources Foundation  
 Kentucky River Foothills Development Council Fund  
 KSDAR Endowed Fund for Duncan Tavern Historic Center  
 LCHS Tuition Assistance Endowment Fund  
 Leeds Center for the Arts Endowment Fund  
 Legacy Greenscapes Endowment Fund  
 LexArts Fund  
 Lex-Care Endowment Fund  
 Lexington Children's Theatre Fund  
 Lexington Community Radio Endowment Fund  
 Lexington Fairness Endowed Fund  
 Lexington History Museum Endowment Fund  
 Lexington Humane Society Endowment Fund  
 Lexington Philharmonic Orchestra Foundation  
 Lexington Public Library Clock, Pendulum and Rotunda Preservation Fund  
 Lexington Rescue Mission Endowed Fund  
 Life Plan of Kentucky Endowment Fund  
 Living Arts & Science Center Fund  
 Lower Howard's Creek Heritage Park Fund  
 Madison County Athenaeum Fund  
 to Support the Madison County Public Library in Berea and Richmond  
 Martin Luther King Neighborhood Association Endowment Fund  
 Mary Louise Young and Mary Lillard Young Fund to Support Central Christian Church  
 Migrant Network Coalition Quetzal Endowment Fund  
 Millie E. and Gayle J. Adams Memorial Fund to Support Cancer Research at the Lucille Markey Cancer Research Center  
 Mission Health Lexington Endowed Fund  
 Montessori High School Endowment Fund  
 Morehead Optimist Club Endowment Fund  
 Mt. Sterling-Montgomery County Parks and Recreation Fund  
 The Nest Center for Women, Children & Families Endowment Fund  
 New Opportunity School for Women Endowed Fund  
 Newton's Attic Endowment Fund  
 NoLi CDC Endowment Fund  
 Nursing Home Ombudsman Agency Fund  
 Ohavay Zion Synagogue Endowed Fund  
 One Parent Family Facility/Virginia Place Fund  
 Opera Lex Endowment  
 Paris Animal Welfare Society Endowed Fund  
 Paris-Bourbon County YMCA Endowed Fund  
 The Plantory Endowed Fund  
 Post Clinic Endowment Fund  
 Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence Endowed Fund  
 Primate Rescue Center Endowment Fund  
 Providence Montessori Endowment Fund  
 Radio Eye Endowment  
 Ralph W. Gabbard Educational Fund to Support the Governor's Scholar Program for the Gabbard Communications Class  
 Richmond Area Arts Council Endowed Fund  
 Rose Mary C. Brooks Place Fund  
 Rowan County Arts Promotion Foundation  
 Rowan365 Endowed Fund  
 Save The Grand Theatre Fund  
 Saykaly Garbulinska Philharmonic Foundation Composer-In-Residence Fund  
 Serve Kentucky Foundation  
 Seton Catholic School Endowment Fund  
 Shoulder to Shoulder Global Endowed Fund  
 St. Agatha Academy Endowment Fund  
 Step by Step Endowment Fund  
 Surgery on Sunday Endowment Fund  
 Sweet Blessings  
 Temple Adath Israel Blue Grass Fund  
 Thoroughbred Charities of America Endowment Fund  
 United States Pony Clubs Endowment Fund  
 W. Paul and Lucille Caudill Little Endowment for Lexington Children's Theatre to Support Outreach Programs in Elliott and Rowan Counties  
 W. Paul and Lucille Caudill Little Endowment for the Morehead Theatre Guild  
 Wilderness Trace Child Development Center Endowed Fund  
 Woodford County Rural Land Board Endowed Fund  
 Woodford Humane Society Endowment Fund  
 Woods & Waters Land Trust Endowment  
 Zantker Endowed Fund for PJ Library Bluegrass

# Enhanced Tax Benefits for COVID-19 Giving



Millions of people around the world have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The most common question we hear at the Community Foundation is "How can I help?" Providing critical financial support to nonprofit organizations, including your local community foundation, is one powerful way to respond. Congress recognized this and enacted legislation within the CARES Act to improve standard tax benefits for donors.

Three main tax changes were written into the CARES Act that could affect your personal or corporate philanthropic giving strategy.

- 1. Above the Line Charitable Deductions:** Non-itemizers can take an "above the line" deduction of up to \$300 for charitable gifts to qualifying nonprofits and charitable funds (excluding donor advised funds) on their 2020 tax return.
- 2. Increased Individual Adjusted Gross Income Allowance:** Individuals can deduct up to 100% of 2020 adjusted gross income for cash gifts made to qualifying nonprofits and charitable funds (excluding donor advised funds).
- 3. Increased Corporate Taxable Income Allowance:** Corporations may now deduct up to 25% of 2020 taxable income for cash gifts made to qualifying nonprofits and charitable funds (excluding corporate advised funds).

The CARES Act also put into place a federal stimulus package to provide individuals and families with cash relief payments. You may have received a check for as much as \$1,200. For many, these dollars are essential. But, if you're not among those experiencing financial hardship at this time, Blue Grass Community Foundation can help you turn those dollars into action by connecting you to agencies and charitable funds providing critical services.

This is not legal or tax advice, and we encourage you to consult a tax professional to determine the effect of charitable giving for your tax situation.

**To make a gift to a fund at Blue Grass Community Foundation, please contact Gift Planning Officer/Deputy Counsel Halee Cunningham, JD at [halee@bgcf.org](mailto:halee@bgcf.org).**



## BGCF BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

# Jenna Mitchell

With a longstanding passion for children, families, community and Kentucky, Jenna Ramsey Mitchell is the perfect fit to serve on the Board of Directors for Blue Grass Community Foundation. Jenna, along with her daughters Saylor and Presley, and her husband Matthew (University of Kentucky women's head basketball coach) are forging a legacy that extends beyond the court.

In 2014 Jenna and her family started the Mitchell Family Foundation in partnership with Blue Grass Community Foundation, with the mission of cultivating character. And, they also organized their personal giving at BGCF, through the Jenna and Matthew Mitchell Family Foundation. Recently, their giving has taken a more urgent turn as the world grapples with the devastating consequences of COVID-19. Through their Jenna and Matthew Mitchell Family Foundation, and personally, they have donated more than \$412,000 to assist local efforts to feed families and provide basic necessities to those suffering hardships and job loss as a result of the coronavirus.

**"Matthew, Saylor, Presley and I are blessed to call Lexington home. The Bluegrass has loved and supported us and we want to return the favor."**

The Mitchell family's donations have included \$132,000 to Fayette County Public Schools to fill backpacks with meals and cleaning and hygiene supplies. Their generosity is helping FCPS families in need pay for their utilities, as well.

In addition, the Mitchells are showing support for fellow Wildcats with a \$25,000 donation to the UK Student Emergency Relief Fund. This fund provides services and support for students experiencing uncertainty around basic needs and/or financial distress, which may otherwise prevent them from continuing their education.

The Mitchells also donated \$45,000 to the Coronavirus Response Fund, a collaborative effort of BGCF and United Way of the Bluegrass. The Fund has awarded almost \$600,000 in grants to local and regional nonprofits responding to critical needs.

"Blue Grass Community Foundation can count on our continued support," said Matthew.

The Mitchells' giving has reached deep into the community with specific donations to The Well of Lexington, Children's Charity of the Bluegrass, Lighthouse Ministries, Arts Resilience Initiative (a collaborative effort of BGCF and LexArts), Nourish Lexington and



the EastEndFeeds effort powered by East End Tap and Table.

"During this incredibly unsettling time, our focus as a community must remain on supporting each other in every way we possibly can," said Jenna. "Matthew and I are extremely grateful for the support we've received over the past 15 years from this incredible community. It is time for us and all who are able to support our community with actions that create certainty where uncertainty exists."

If you want to join Jenna and Matthew's charitable endeavors, consider a contribution to one or more of the following:

**Coronavirus Response Fund:**  
[bgcf.org/coronavirus](http://bgcf.org/coronavirus)



**Arts Resilience Initiative:**  
[bgcf.org/artsresilience](http://bgcf.org/artsresilience)

**NourishLex:**  
[nourishlexington.org](http://nourishlexington.org)



# HOMETOWN LEGACY

Blue Grass Community Foundation hosts a network of endowed community funds, each seeking to improve the quality of life in its geography. In partnership with local leaders, these funds work to increase charitable giving and build local charitable resources to impact their communities greatest needs and opportunities.

Contributing to your local community fund is one important way to invest together for community good.

If you live in, or love, Clark, Franklin, Fayette, Harrison, Madison, Magoffin, Morgan, Rowan or Woodford counties, visit our website to learn more about endowed community funds in these counties: [bgcf.org/communityfunds](http://bgcf.org/communityfunds)

## ROWAN COUNTY COMMUNITY FUND:

### Green for COVID-19 Relief

When the Rowan County Community Fund established its COVID-19 Response Fund, local leadership upped the ante. On April 21, Morehead Mayor Laura White-Brown issued a challenge: If the community raised \$10,000 in 10 days for the fund, she would dye her hair green. The community exceeded the goal in 48 hours! So, County Judge Executive Harry Clark raised the stakes even higher, challenging the community to raise \$20,000 by May 1. Local residents rose to the occasion, in total donating more than \$20,000 to the fund!

This surge in local generosity has resulted in the award of \$11,500 in grants to date:

- Gateway Ad, \$1,000 for 100 food baskets and emergency kits for seniors
- Gateway Homeless Coalition, \$2,500 for emergency food
- Bluebank Church Ministry, \$8,000 for its food pantry and emergency student food boxes

 **To donate to the Morehead-Rowan County COVID-19 Response Fund, visit [bgcf.givingfuel.com/rowan-covid19](http://bgcf.givingfuel.com/rowan-covid19)**



Morehead Mayor Laura White-Brown

## CLARK COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The Clark County Community Foundation has responded to the pandemic by awarding nearly \$35,000 in grants to the following programs providing critical services to those who need it most:

- \$15,220 to Baker Intermediate School for in-classroom supplies to promote learning and mental health
- \$11,000 to Clark County Community Services COVID-19 relief
- \$7,650 to Rowland Arts Center, Mentors and Meals Program COVID-19 relief
- \$350 to Calvary Christian Church, Spring Break Meal Delivery Services

 **To donate to the Clark County COVID-19 Response Fund, visit [bgcf.givingfuel.com/clark-county-community-foundation](http://bgcf.givingfuel.com/clark-county-community-foundation)**

## FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMUNITY FUND

Franklin County's COVID-19 Response Fund awarded its first round of grants:

- \$3,000 to Frankfort Immigration Assistance Network
- \$2,700 to the Sunshine Center
- \$2,500 to the Women's Shelter

 **To donate to the Franklin County COVID-19 Response Fund, visit [bgcf.givingfuel.com/franklin-covid19](http://bgcf.givingfuel.com/franklin-covid19)**

## FUND FOR GREATER LEXINGTON

The Fund announced \$100,000 in grants to address the COVID-19 pandemic:

- \$50,000 to the Coronavirus Response Fund
- \$10,000 to the Nourish Lexington Fund
- \$10,000 to the Arts Resilience Initiative
- \$30,000 to address future needs

"The Community Foundation recognizes that we are in the greatest crisis of our lifetimes," said BGCF Board Chair Fran Taylor. "We were moved to act swiftly and approve this \$100,000 grant from the Fund for Greater Lexington to provide relief to those who most need our help."

 **To donate to the Fund for Greater Lexington, visit [bgcf.givingfuel.com/fund-for-greater-lexington](http://bgcf.givingfuel.com/fund-for-greater-lexington)**

## HARRISON COUNTY COMMUNITY FUND

Located in the seat of Kentucky's first confirmed Coronavirus cases, the Harrison County Community Fund Board of Advisors created their Harrison County COVID-19 Response Fund to rapidly provide critical support to nonprofits at the frontlines of the public health crisis in Cynthiana and Harrison County.

The Harrison County COVID-19 Response Fund awarded \$10,000 in grants:

- \$2,000 to Harrison County Food Pantry
- \$3,000 to Hopes Helping Hands Food Bank
- \$5,000 to Harrison Memorial Hospital

 **To donate to the Harrison County COVID-19 Response Fund, visit [bgcf.givingfuel.com/harrison-covid19](http://bgcf.givingfuel.com/harrison-covid19)**

## MADISON COUNTY COMMUNITY FUND

The Madison County Community Fund Board of Advisors created a COVID-19 Response Fund, which made the following grants:

- \$1,500 to Berea Food Bank
- \$2,500 to Kentucky River Foothills to purchase PPE for all Richmond Transit passengers

 **To donate to the Madison County COVID-19 Response Fund, visit [bgcf.givingfuel.com/madison-covid19](http://bgcf.givingfuel.com/madison-covid19)**

## WOODFORD COUNTY COMMUNITY FUND

Woodford County Community Fund awarded \$15,000 in action grants responding to needs identified during 2019 *On the Table* conversations. The grants were made to six different organizations that presented innovative proposals addressing one of the following: cultural heritage and diversity, public space and public conversations, welcoming newcomers to the community, partnerships to address accessibility, and telling the story of their community.

In addition, the Woodford County Community Fund created its own COVID-19 Response Fund, which has awarded just over \$6,000 to three local organizations providing access to food for students and anyone experiencing food insecurity: Esperanza Ministry of Hope, Mentors and Meals, and Spark Community Café.

 **To donate to the Woodford County COVID-19 Response Fund, visit [bgcf.givingfuel.com/woodford-covid19](http://bgcf.givingfuel.com/woodford-covid19)**

Blue Grass Community Foundation creates more generous, vibrant and engaged communities by growing charitable giving throughout the Bluegrass and Appalachia Kentucky.



## FOR YOUR CALENDAR

### Nonprofit Registration Opens 8.1.20 for the 2020 GoodGiving Challenge!

The 2019 GoodGiving Challenge raised \$1.68 million for 131 local nonprofits. In 2020, our online giving campaign will run for one week, launching on Giving Tuesday, December 1, and going through December 7. Once again, BGCF and our generous supporters will offer hundreds of thousands of dollars in match challenges and endowment prizes.



If you are interested in participating in the 2020 GoodGiving Challenge as a nonprofit or as a sponsor, contact Lauren Parsons, director of strategic initiatives and communications at [lauren@bgcf.org](mailto:lauren@bgcf.org).



## GRANT SPOTLIGHT: ITNBluegrass

### SUPPORTING OUR SENIORS

The Beulah S. Mays Charitable Endowment, a legacy fund at BGCF, supports individuals impacted by the debilitating effects of aging. It recently awarded \$40,000 to Independent Transportation Network (ITN) Bluegrass.

ITNBluegrass provides arm-through-arm, door-to-door, ride service 24/7, 365 days a year to seniors in Fayette and Jessamine counties who need transportation. Volunteer and paid drivers, all trained by the Alzheimer's Association, aid the riders with all aspects of the experience, delivering a unique service that provides seniors with more independence and decreases their feeling of isolation.

With the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, this grant was critical to aiding members of our most vulnerable population.

"We had plans to use it to expand our service but little did we know, at that time, how important it would ultimately be," said Jennifer Gripshover, Executive Director of ITNBluegrass. "With earned revenue down by 90% and expenses increasing, the Beulah S. Mays grant has allowed us to invest in expanding our services in expected and unexpected ways."



To find out more about how ITNBluegrass can help you or a loved one, visit [itnbluegrass.org](http://itnbluegrass.org).

## NEW CHARITABLE FUNDS

# Welcome to the Family!

These new charitable funds were established between January 1 and May 15, 2020. Please join us in welcoming them to our BGCF community of givers.

Advanced Manufacturing Professionals Fund  
Arts Resilience Initiative  
Bernard and Mary Ann Burch Family Fund  
Bluegrass Civic Journalism Fund  
Calvary Baptist Church Endowment Fund  
Commonwealth Common Health Food Bank Relief Fund  
Coronavirus Response Fund  
Dean and Melanie Corley Endowment  
Fayette Education Foundation  
Steering Committee Fund

Fund for Calvary Baptist Church  
Horse Country Charitable Fund  
Idle Hour COVID-19 Employee Relief Fund  
Kentucky State Beekeepers Association Fund  
Legends of Bourbon County Festival  
Mayor's Fund for the Greater Good  
Morehead Aquatics Recreation Fund  
Morehead-Rowan County Recreational Programming & Facilities Fund  
Neely and Wade Insurance Agency Charitable Fund  
The Neely Family Charitable Fund  
The Nourish Fund  
Parsons Family Charitable Fund  
Rex Chapman Foundation Covid-19 Relief Fund  
Roan and Neo Sanders Memorial Fund

The Rowan County Public Art Fund  
University of Kentucky Bilal ibn Rabah Scholarship Endowment Fund  
West Sixth for a Cause Foundation  
Woodford Humane Society Endowment Fund



If you would like to create your own charitable giving fund, contact Scott Fitzpatrick,



Vice President, Advancement at 859.225.3343 or [sfitzpatrick@bgcf.org](mailto:sfitzpatrick@bgcf.org).