Home is where the heart is. Wade Hembree found his – and a name – at Goshen Valley Boys Ranch.

See page 4

INSIDE:
- Harry Norman REALTORS® gives back
- Innovative partnership serves refugees
- GoATL Fund expands impact
President’s Message

Welcome to one of my favorite times of year.

Not just because of the emphasis on family and togetherness and all of the good food, but because year-end is a time for generosity. I see it in all of our donors and I thank each of you for your generous spirit year after year.

There is real power in giving back together, as a family and as a community. Together last year, donors of the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta contributed more than $125 million to causes that make metropolitan Atlanta a better place to live. Together, we help to make all of Atlanta thrive.

There will always be community needs, and there will always generous people like you stepping up to meet those needs. This issue celebrates and highlights the people and organizations that are creating opportunities for all Atlantans.

Read about how:
- **Goshen Valley Boys Ranch** fosters a sense of home for youth.
- **Three refugee-serving organizations** work smarter together.
- **Sudie Young at Harry Norman REALTORS** saw the power of partnership.
- **Empty Stocking Fund** evolves to fill empty backpacks.

Respectfully,

Alicia Philipp
President

GoATL Fund expands its impact in first year

The GoATL Fund for impact investing launched in 2018 and is now seeing the results of its initial investments. To date, $6.25 million has been deployed to boost programs that expand our region’s supply of affordable housing units, increase capacity for schools and help minority entrepreneurs start their businesses. GoATL was the first fund of its kind in Georgia and is part of a $12 trillion impact investing landscape globally.

Through GoATL, the Community Foundation deploys flexible loans that are expected to be paid back over time, creating a cycle of investment, impact and return. First-year GoATL investments sparked 321 multi-family affordable housing units, 25 affordable single-family homes, 15 small business loans and one new school that will grow to serve 650 students.

Interested in using your fund for social impact? The GoATL Fund is now open for donor co-investment. For details please contact Mark Crosswell, managing director, social impact strategy at 404.226.9681 or mcrosswell@cfgreateratlanta.org.

As you consider year-end additions to your fund and grants to nonprofits, we are here for you. Your philanthropic officer is eager to help you turn the season of giving into the gift of impact in our region. Turn to page 11 to learn more.

GoATL Fund

Invest. Impact. Repeat.

Unlike traditional philanthropy through grantmaking, GoATL’s investments are flexible, cost-effective loans that are expected to be paid back, recycling dollars to fund new initiatives.

GoATL Fund

1 school for 650 students
15 small business loans
25 single family housing units
321 multifamily housing units

$6.25M invested

How can we help you?

As you consider year-end additions to your fund and grants to nonprofits, we are here for you. Your philanthropic officer is eager to help you turn the season of giving into the gift of impact in our region. Turn to page 11 to learn more.
Wade Hembree has a new last name. At the age of 25, after four failed adoptions starting at the age of six, his adoption by his new mom and "pops" went through last December and he became a Hembree. Although his adoptive family is new, he’s had family for years through Goshen Valley, a nonprofit organization in Cherokee County that serves as a home for boys and young men in foster care.

Wade first came to Goshen when he was 10. He fondly remembers helping to build a dock and benches on the lake with donors and volunteers. As he cycled through the foster care system and potential adoptive families, he came back to Goshen three different times over a seven-year time period.

Goshen Valley recently celebrated its 20th anniversary. It is committed to creating an environment of love, safety and stability for foster youth with a family-based model of care and comprehensive preventative programs.

The population Goshen works with is one of the most vulnerable in our region and the organization has an excellent track record of providing high-quality services that yield successful outcomes for those served.

Wade’s future is bright. After a five-year stint in the Navy, including time in Guam where he met his girlfriend, Maria, he is back at Goshen Valley working as a contractor with Goshen Therapeutic Services. He is finishing up his degree in homeland security at Penn State. When he’s done, he wants to work for the Cherokee County sheriff’s office so he can give back to the community that helped raise him. For the children and teens that come here, Wade says “Goshen is forever in your life.”

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General Operating Support: Strengthening local nonprofits with flexible funding

General operating support is flexible funding, letting the organization decide how to use grant dollars. Organizations use these funds to invest in themselves – to pay staff salaries, facilities expenses and program supplies – all things that contribute to the organization’s impact. This year, the Foundation awarded a total of $1,903,000 to 21 organizations through the Foundation’s General Operating Support cycle. The Foundation receives over 200 eligible applicants to our General Operating Support cycle each year, and even more in unsolicited requests. These requests are rigorously reviewed, assessed for programming, management, finances and operations.

If you are interested in aligning your giving and providing general operating support to these organizations that the Foundation has already vetted, contact your philanthropic officer.

The Giving Life | 4

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Goshen Valley is one of this year’s General Operating Support recipients.

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149 youth served in 2018, most of whom reside in Cherokee, Cobb, and Bartow counties.

Nine high school graduates at Goshen Valley in 2019, seven of whom enrolled in college.

10-point grade average increase for children who spend at least six months living in a Goshen home.

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Home is where the heart is

Each of the 42 boys at Goshen have their own bedroom and bathroom. Each home has a family that lives there and cares for the boys. Wade’s future is bright. After a five-year stint in the Navy, including time in Guam where he met his girlfriend, Maria, he is back at Goshen Valley working as a contractor with Goshen Therapeutic Services. He is finishing up his degree in homeland security at Penn State. When he’s done, he wants to work for the Cherokee County sheriff’s office so he can give back to the community that helped raise him. For the children and teens that come here, Wade says “Goshen is forever in your life.”

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Funding for general operations will ensure that we continue important county-wide initiatives with highly qualified staff so that education programs and Gallery exhibits remain effectively strong.”

--Ani Clayton

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In an innovative partnership, three local refugee-serving organizations are working smarter together. Catholic Charities of Atlanta, International Rescue Committee and New American Pathways all serve international refugees coming to Atlanta, but with wide differences in approach and programmatic focus. However, each organization faces common logistical challenges tied to housing, securing in-kind donations and transportation.

With recent federal funding cutbacks, the three organizations were all faced with eliminating staff and logistical services—instead, they made the innovative decision to collaborate and combine them with the assistance of a strategic restructuring grant from the Community Foundation.

Now, the organizations partner on services and share key logistical staff and a comprehensive database of clients that tracks how families flow from one service to another. They even have a shared space for in-kind donations like coats, cookware and couches, with the donated items managed in a more efficient way, making them better stewards of resources.

The efficiency is felt by their clients through better, more holistic services. This year, the three organizations partnered to settle close to 1,000 refugees in Atlanta, with a focus on the city of Clarkston, and the new efficiencies will allow them to double that number in future years.

“I wonder now why we didn’t think about this before,” says Paedia Mixon, CEO of New American Pathways. “There is such possibility in working together. To me, the most exciting thing is that we can spend more time with our clients to make that first experience in the United States solid and supportive.”

“How can a Strategic Restructuring Grant Help Refugees? By Supporting Collaboration:

Catholic Charities of Atlanta + International Rescue Committee + New American Pathways = Improved International Refugee Resettlement

“Can you imagine what it is like to come into a country where you don’t know the language and don’t know anyone? Perhaps everything your family of four has is in two suitcases. In six months you are expected to be working and paying your own bills with your kids in school. Think about how overwhelming that would be. That’s where New American Pathways comes in. They have someone who speaks their language who can help them navigate this new place.”

—Paedia Mixon, CEO of New American Pathways
Harry Norman, REALTORS launches philanthropy fund

This summer, the Community Foundation launched a donor-advised fund with the luxury real estate firm, Harry Norman. Since its founding almost 90 years ago, the real estate icon has worked with nonprofits to uphold its values for community. But, as Harry Norman grew to more than 800 associates serving home-buyers in 16 counties, its desire to help nonprofits increased too.

Community Foundation Board member and Harry Norman agent Studie Young realized that the two organizations could partner to serve more Atlantans. Harry Norman sales associates contribute from each closing to the Fund, matched by the firm. At the end of the year, with support of Foundation staff expertise, each of the Harry Norman offices helps to identify and support the important charities in their hyper-local communities that make a real difference.

“Both of our iconic organizations owe our founding and our success to our mutual bottom-line commitment to serve all people who call this region home. This partnership launches an exciting new opportunity for Harry Norman and our agents to improve the quality of life in metro Atlanta, tapping the Community Foundation’s deep knowledge of the issues and organizations that make a difference in the region.”

~ Jenni Bonura, President and CEO, Harry Norman

Sparking change in Thomasville Heights

Since 2016, the Spark Opportunity Giving Circle has brought Community Foundation donors together to deepen their understanding and commitment to closing the stark income and opportunity disparities in our region. The Circle has focused its learning and philanthropic investments in Thomasville Heights and has recently reflected on the growth of the work done there. In its latest docket, the Circle has approved three grants:

THRIVE Thomasville Heights was granted $49,000 to support the second round of resident-driven grantmaking. The program will include leadership development and healing for residents and grants that support resident-led projects that identify and address neighborhood issues and priorities.

A $28,560 grant was given to Housing Justice League to support the relaunch and operations of the Forest Cove Tenants Association. This will cover the cost of a community organizer, an intensive fellowship program for five resident leaders, transportation, food and materials.

HABESHA, Inc. received a $20,000 grant to support the Urban Green Jobs Initiative. This training program will diversify its current focus areas to include urban agriculture, storm water management, green infrastructure, solar, zero waste and environmental justice.

Scholarships make a difference in students’ lives

If you decided to pursue a college education, did you apply for scholarships? Do you wish you had applied for more? For many students, a scholarship award can mean the difference between leaving school or being able to stay in school and achieve their dreams.

In fall 2019, $5 million in scholarships were distributed to over 2,000 students via the Community Foundation. One of those students is Marlyn Zuno. After coming to the United States to live with her grandparents in the 6th grade, Marlyn had to learn how to adapt to a new country and a new language while being separated from her parents. Now a freshman at University of California Berkeley, Marlyn’s goal is to pursue a degree in public policy or political science. After receiving her bachelor’s, she plans to attend law school and help other minority, low-income and non-English speaking families.

Marlyn is the recipient of the Jim Kennedy Scholarship Fund for Children of Cox Enterprise Employees, one of the scholarship funds the Community Foundation manages. You can help students achieve their education and career goals by supporting an existing scholarship or by designing and setting up a new scholarship fund through the Community Foundation. Speak with your philanthropic officer to help make a student’s dreams come true.

The Giving Life: In Memoriam

We remember these two great men and their gift of time and extraordinary talent to the Community Foundation and our region.

Isaiah Tidwell died August 4, 2019. Mr. Tidwell was Wachovia Bank's executive vice president and director of wealth management for Georgia. A member of the Community Foundation’s Board of Directors from 2007 to 2011, Tidwell completed his undergraduate degree from North Carolina Central University (NCCU) and his MBA from Wake Forest, returning to NCCU to establish an African American scholarship chair and become a member of the NCCU board of trustees.

Dan Williams passed away on July 4, 2019 after a courageous five-year battle with cancer. After graduating from the University of Texas, Dan Williams relocated to Atlanta for the American Cancer Society, where his priority to help became his vocation in both his personal and professional life. His giving spirit translated to his professional career, where he served in leadership roles at the American Cancer Society, United Way of Greater Atlanta and most recently as a program lead here at the Community Foundation.
On September 20, a group of Community Foundation staff volunteered at Open Hand. Staff members helped prepare and pack meals to be delivered to people with critical illnesses, the disabled and the homebound.

Our “Live your legacy: An evening with Bruce Feiler” event took place on October 22. Attendees were inspired by Bruce, who discussed his book “The Council of Dads,” and had the opportunity to tour the Foundation’s Philanthropy Store at the event venue, the Junior Achievement’s Discovery Center.

The “Between the World and Me” reading was followed by a panel called “A Courageous Conversation on Race,” which featured Lesley Grady, our senior vice president of community.

“Between the World and Me,” a staged reading of Ta-Nehisi Coates’ award-winning book adaptation of the same name, took place at Atlanta Symphony Hall on October 22. The show featured a roster of local celebrities, including Killer Mike, Pauletta Washington and Lynn Whitfield.

At the Community Foundation, we are all about connections. Connecting donors to each other for conversations and incredible experiences. Connecting professional advisors for shared philanthropic learning. Connecting ourselves to partners and knowledgeable community experts. It’s these connections that forge impact and enable us to better understand the issues and opportunities that our region is facing — and better serve you. Here are some of our recent connections and happenings.

“...I’m really pleased to have the opportunity to return to Georgia and help the Community Foundation’s donors and advisor community boost philanthropy in the region,” O’Carroll said. “It’s exciting to see that while the Atlanta region has grown as an international business hub and tourism center, at its heart the region is still locally focused and dedicated to helping our nonprofit sector to thrive.”

Alison is ready to help you with your gift planning needs — please reach out to her via acarroll@cfgreateratlanta.org.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT DONOR EVENTS? Visit cfgreateratlanta.org/events

LOOKING FOR SMART FUNDING IDEAS? Check out Donor Central for monthly funding opportunities from local nonprofit organizations.

Meet your new director and philanthropic counsel

Alison O’Carroll joined the Foundation in November as our new director and philanthropic counsel. We are thrilled to have her on board and wanted to tell you a little more about her.

Alison launched her professional career in Atlanta after graduating from the Emory University School of Law and the Goizueta Business School. After admission to the State Bar of Georgia, she practiced law at King & Spalding. She has recently returned to Atlanta after serving as executive director for the Office of Planned Giving at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, Washington.

Make an impact!

This season of giving, we encourage you to give generously to the causes you care about. Your fund at the Community Foundation makes that easy and impactful and we look forward to the opportunity to help you power your philanthropy. For guidelines on how to make your year-end charitable planning a smooth and timely process, visit cfgreateratlanta.org/2019EOY.

We are standing by to help you!

Erin Drury Boorn eboorn@cfgreateratlanta.org
Barrett Coker Krise bkrise@cfgreateratlanta.org
Kathleen Wagner kwagner@cfgreateratlanta.org

Year-end gift planning

During the season of giving, we are here to assist you with your gift planning needs. Please note that the Foundation will observe the following:

Monday, December 24 – Closed at noon
Tuesday, December 25 – Closed
Monday, December 31 – Open until 6 p.m., available via phone at 404.688.5525 until midnight
Tuesday, January 1 – Closed

See cfgreateratlanta.org/2019EOY for gifting deadlines.

Looking for smart funding ideas?

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From empty stockings to empty backpacks

Each holiday season, Empty Stocking Fund (ESF) sets up “Santa’s Village,” where Atlanta families that qualify for public assistance can shop for toys for their children. Recognizing that it had unutilized capacity in the non-holiday months, it began looking for ways to use its capabilities for greater impact year-round. In 2017, Empty Stocking Fund began subleasing the Atlanta Community Food Bank’s Kids In Need program space, which functioned as a free school supply store for teachers. Both organizations saw the potential for greater collaboration.

The organizations received a grant from the Community Foundation’s Strategic Restructuring Fund to assess partnership feasibility in 2018. The assessment highlighted the win-win benefits for both organizations of transferring the Food Banks’ Kids In Need program to the Empty Stocking Fund. In July 2019, Empty Stocking Fund officially absorbed the Kids In Need program with generous support from the Atlanta Community Food Bank through the transition process and a second grant from the Foundation’s Strategic Restructuring Fund.

With its expanded services, Empty Stocking Fund distributed 3,500 class kits and 6,000 backpacks to Atlanta Public School students this year and will provide 40,000 holiday gift packages this holiday season.