



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
November 8, 2023

Contact: Cindy Sanders  
(770) 832-1462 or [cindy@cfwg.net](mailto:cindy@cfwg.net)

## **Community Foundation of West Georgia Issues \$312,000 to 30 Local Nonprofit Organizations**

A total of 30 nonprofit organizations in Carroll, Haralson and Heard counties received \$312,000 today from the Community Foundation of West Georgia's Community Impact Fund and Innovation Grant programs.

"The Community Impact Fund is unrestricted in its power to unleash the potential of all kinds of agencies, causes and areas of interest here in our community," said Kim Jones, president of the Foundation. "The fund is made possible by many generous donors, and because the fund is endowed, every donation not only contributes once, but the contribution grows and continues to give forever."

Since the first grants were issued from the Community Impact Fund in 2004, more than \$5.3 million has been distributed to local organizations, including the Innovation Grants. Funds are distributed through an annual competitive grant process as six panels of local citizens consider requests, assist the Foundation in the review and analysis of the applications and make recommendations to the Foundation Board of Directors. Local nonprofit organizations, faith-based and government agencies are eligible to apply for grants, supporting art and culture, economic development, education, environmental, human services, medical and hospice.

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**Innovation Grants Program**

The Innovation Grants program is designed to inspire and support problem solving in the community. The selected grantees receive funds, renewable up to three years, to implement their project ideas, creating models of innovation for the entire community.

This year \$40,000 was given through the Innovation Grants program to three local nonprofit organizations.

The Carroll County Mental Health Advocates received a grant of \$5,000 for a data collection initiative and research study to assess overall community effectiveness of the project.

The University of West Georgia: Be Well, Be Free and Be You, Economic Education and Financial Literacy received a \$15,000 grant to provide financial wellness information designed for people who are precariously housed and financially insecure.

Your Haven Re-entry/Transitional Program in Haralson County received a \$20,000 grant for the development of support services such as GED classes, job placement services, marketing, volunteer development. A program with the Haralson County Sheriff's office and Haralson County jail will prepare inmates for their release with a recovery plan in place.

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**What the 2023 Community Impact Fund Grants Will Fund**

This year a total of \$312,000 was granted from the Community Impact Fund to 27 nonprofit organizations in Carroll, Haralson, and Heard Counties.

**Arts & Culture**

The Carrollton Center for the Arts will host The Arts Festival of Carrollton.

Sand Hill Elementary School will host an art show.

The Southeastern Quilt and Textile Museum will create a digital collection.

**Education**

Carroll County Economic Development Foundation and Carroll Tomorrow, through the Carroll County Junior Chamber will identify 28 emerging leaders in their junior year of high school who will participate in a once-per-month program to educate and prepare them as leaders who will strengthen Carroll County's future.

Ferst Readers of Carroll County and Ferst Readers of Haralson County will provide books for children who might not have access to reading material.

Friends of McIntosh Reserve will install signage at McIntosh Reserve Park to encourage exploration and give perspective on the environment and history of the park.

Heard County Community Partnership will provide a variety of rewards that students earn by reaching clearly defined goals at each Heard County school.

Learning Always Means Progress, Inc. (LAMP) will provide incentives for the Stay-in-School program for high, middle, and elementary students in Haralson County schools.

Temple Elementary School will establish and enhance its agricultural program with new equipment and supplies for a greenhouse and plant cultivation.

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TRU-LIIF C&M, Inc. will provide Beyond the Bell, an out-of-school program serving children from five to 10 years old in primarily low-income families, featuring a curriculum of STEAM, literacy, nature and community service.

West Georgia Regional Library System will create and facilitate West Georgia Entrepreneurship Hub, a regional committee of local partners who will act as a centralized organization to direct individuals to in-county resources in support of entrepreneurship and small business needs.

### **Environmental Improvement**

Keep Carroll Beautiful, Inc. will purchase a van to be used at recycling events.

Keep Haralson Beautiful will host an electronics recycling event.

### **Social Services**

Adell Foundation will purchase wellness and kitchen equipment, curriculum and software promoting healthy lifestyles.

AnotherWay Foundation will create and stock a resource room with hygiene products and gift cards for laundromat services as part of mental health support.

American Red Cross will provide disaster response and relief through financial assistance to local residents who do not have insurance.

Camp Twin Lakes Therapeutic will provide educational and recreational programs for five children with serious illnesses, disabilities, or other life challenges.

Circles of West Georgia will provide training, community support and resources to move people out of poverty.

Giving Hearts, Inc. will increase food resources for distribution to the elderly.

House of Cherith received funds will use its grant to provide 50 percent of the salary/benefits for a full-time program manager to oversee operations and ensure appropriate trauma-informed services.

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Impact International, Inc. will provide homelessness initiatives including HOPE Center, community outreach and the new emergency shelter.

Murphy-Harpst Children's Centers, Inc. will support Carroll County foster families and children through training, clothing and family activities not covered by the Department of Family and Children's Services.

The Salvation Army of Carrollton will provide utility assistance.

St. Vincent DePaul, Our Lady of Perpetual Help will serve struggling families by providing help with rent/housing, utilities, clothing, food, transportation, etc.

THS Emergency Shelter will pay for needs of families and individuals experiencing financial crises who are substantially impacted by medical conditions.

West Georgia's newest project, The Connector, also received Community Impact funding.

For more information about the Community Foundation of West Georgia, visit its website at [cfwg.net](http://cfwg.net) or contact Kim Jones at (770) 832-1462 or [kim@cfwg.net](mailto:kim@cfwg.net).

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**CAPTION**

A total of 30 nonprofit organizations in Carroll, Haralson and Heard counties received \$312,000 from the Community Foundation of West Georgia's Community Impact Fund and Innovation Grant programs on November 7. Funds are distributed through an annual competitive grant process. Local nonprofit organizations, faith-based and government agencies are eligible to apply for grants, supporting art and culture, economic development, education, environmental improvement, social services, medical and hospice.