

2018-19

ANNUAL REPORT



give help. give hope. give well.



Excellence. Accountability. Impact.™

A LETTER FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR AND PRESIDENT/CEO



Jeffrey G. Cox Sr.
Board Chair



Terry W. Simmers
President/CEO

Dear fundholders and community partners,

We are pleased to share with you the GiveWell Community Foundation's 2018-19 Annual Report. This report highlights the impact made through GWCF throughout our community of Polk, Hardee, and Highlands counties over the last fiscal year, between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019.

Thanks to our generous fundholders, we awarded more grants this fiscal year than ever before! More than one thousand grants were awarded, totaling over \$15 million, and 92% of those grants were awarded locally. This brings us to a total of \$182 million granted since our inception in 1997, and we look forward to going beyond the \$200 million mark very soon.

On behalf of the board of directors and staff at the GiveWell Community Foundation, we are honored to be your philanthropic stewards and partners in building a better community.

Thank you for your continued support of our wonderful community and the GiveWell Community Foundation.

ABOUT GWCF

GiveWell Community Foundation (GWCF) works with individuals, families, businesses, and nonprofits to build a stronger community throughout Polk, Hardee, and Highlands county and beyond through charitable funds and competitive grant cycles. The Foundation is home to more than 300 charitable funds and the Impact Polk and Empower Polk grant cycles.

Our Mission

To champion charitable giving to improve the quality of life in the areas we serve, both now and for future generations.



2018-19 Fiscal Year Highlights

GRANTMAKING

\$15M

Total amount granted
in 2018-19

1,002

Total grants awarded
in 2018-19

92%

Grants awarded within
Polk, Hardee, Highlands

\$182M

Total amount granted
since inception (1997)

FUNDS

318

Total funds as
of June 30, 2019

22

New funds were
established in 2018-19

GIFTS

\$20M

Total new gifts
received in 2018-19

ASSETS

\$192M

Total assets as
of June 30, 2019

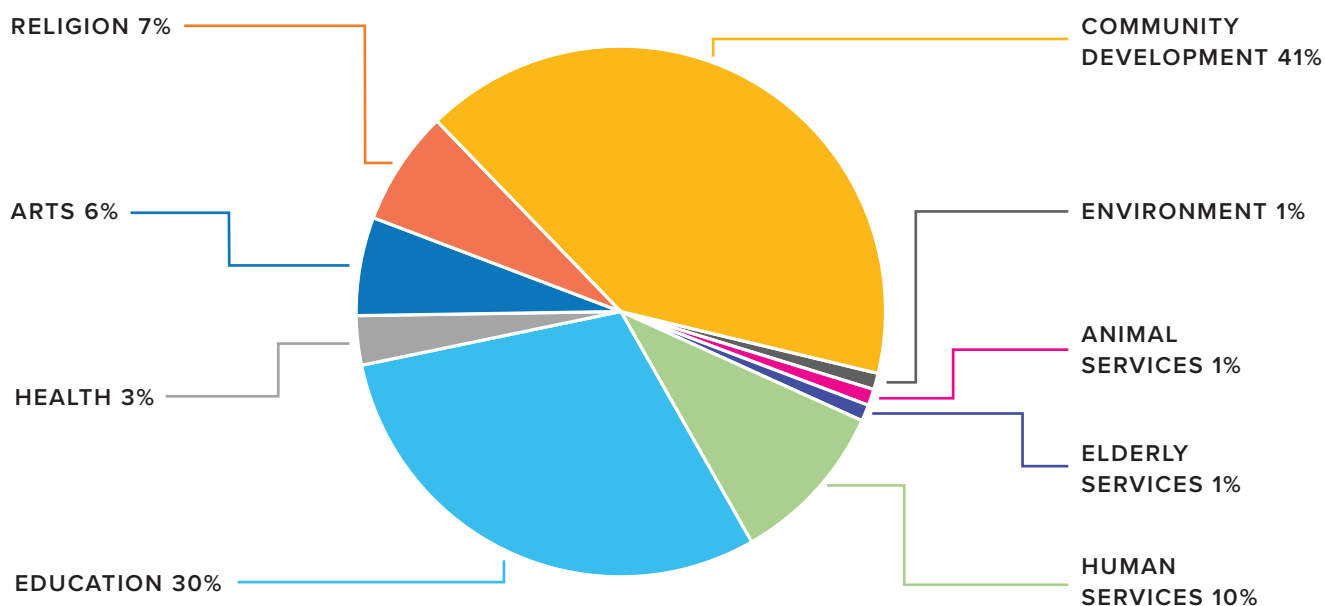
GIVECF.ORG

GWCF launched
an improved, mobile-
friendly givecf.org
website in January 2019.

GRANTMAKING

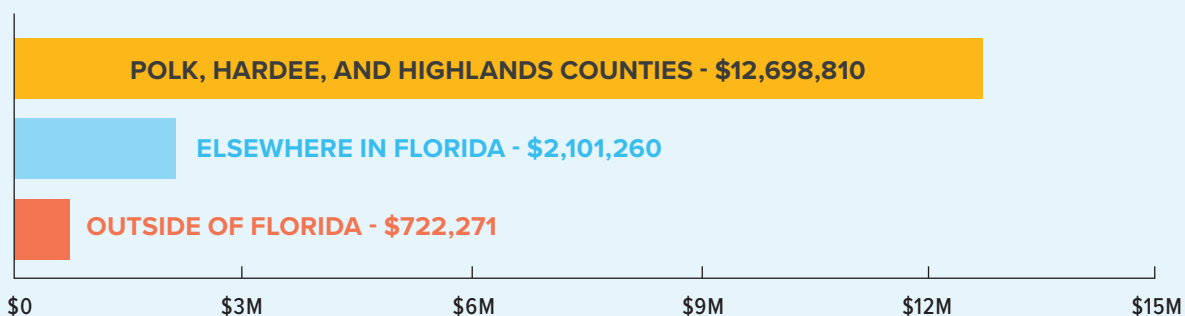
Grants Distribution

Information for July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019



WHERE GWCF GRANTS WENT IN 2018-19

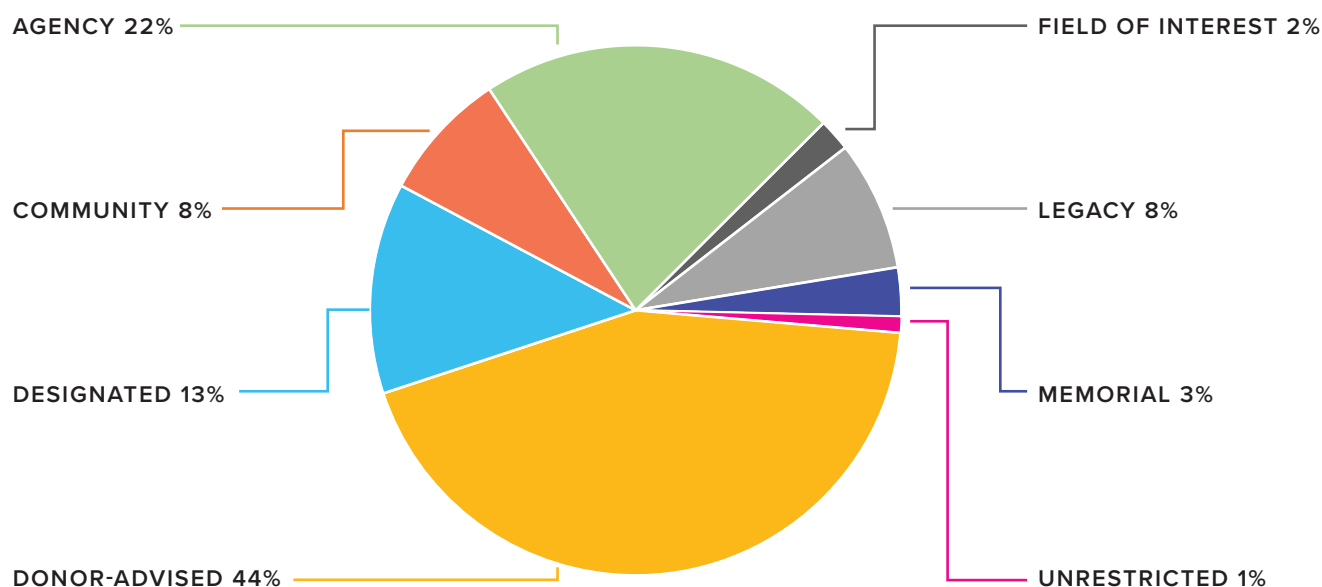
While GWCF's focus is Polk, Hardee, and Highlands counties, our donor-advised fundholders may use their funds to support organizations and causes they care about throughout the state of Florida and beyond. Here's where charitable distributions went in 2018-19:



FUNDS AT GWCF

Funds by Type

Information for July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019



TYPES OF FUNDS AT GIVEWELL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

- **Agency Funds** are created by nonprofits to protect and invest their assets for the future of their work and mission.
- **Community Funds** allow local service clubs and community groups to improve quality of life of our area.
- **Designated Funds** are established to benefit a particular organization or project.
- **Donor-Advised Funds** are established by donors who retain the right to recommend grants to nonprofit organizations.
- **Field of Interest Funds** create a permanent resource to target an area of interest to the donor.
- **Legacy Funds** ensure that a donor's philanthropic vision lives on, building a legacy that will grow for generations to come.
- **Memorial Funds** forever honor a loved one by supporting causes or nonprofits which would have pleased that person.
- **Unrestricted Funds** enable GWCF with the flexibility to address current community needs.

EMPOWER POLK 2019

Capacity-building grant cycle for GWCF agency fundholders

Ask any nonprofit origination what their greatest need is and most of them will give you a similar answer. Unrestricted funding, or funding that is not designated specifically for the services or programming that they provide to the community, can allow nonprofits to address the greatest needs within their organizations. It can also allow them to look beyond the day-to-day operations and focus on their future.

In 2018, the GiveWell Community Foundation launched the Empower Polk annual grant cycle, using contributions to GWCF's Unrestricted Fund to address this need and help improve the sustainability of nonprofit organizations in our community. Due to limited funding, only organizations with an established agency fund at the GiveWell Community Foundation are currently eligible to apply for Empower Polk funding. A grant committee made up of community leaders from around Polk County review the applications and select Empower Polk's grant recipients. GWCF staff will follow up with the organizations, ensuring that Empower Polk funding is used properly.

We have been so encouraged by Empower Polk that we created a YouTube channel to help share success stories! Visit givecf.org/YouTube to see first-hand how these grants are empowering nonprofits.

Want to see the Empower Polk grant cycle grow? *So do we!* We invite you to contribute to the GWCF's Unrestricted Fund and help us continue empowering more local nonprofits. Donor-advised fundholders can recommend grants from their fund, and anyone can make online donations to the Empower Polk grant cycle at givecf.org/donate. 100% of contributions go directly towards empowering local nonprofits through meaningful grantmaking.

EMPOWER POLK 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

\$96,558.17

Total granted through
Empower Polk 2019

25

Organizations granted
through Empower Polk



*A look behind the scenes as GWCF Grants Manager, Johnna Martinez (left) interviews **Lakeland Community Theatre's** (LCT) Director of Education, Maureen McGowan. An Empower Polk 2019 grant allowed LCT to improve and expand their programs through the purchase of a portable electronic keyboard.*

Our YouTube channel is full of inspiring stories of how GWCF grants like this are making a difference in our community. Visit givecf.org/YouTube to learn more.

Cornerstone Hospice was able to acquire important medical equipment (two CADD pumps) thanks to an Empower Polk 2019 grant. In addition to relieving patients' pain, providing hands-on training will allow Cornerstone Hospice to recruit and retain more nurses than before.

Visit our YouTube channel to learn more: givecf.org/YouTube



Empower Polk 2019 grants helped fund projects and improvements that will have a lasting impact on 25 local nonprofit organizations. A total of \$96,558.17 was awarded to the following organizations:

\$3,000

Achievement Academy

for additional school safety officers

\$5,000

Alliance for Independence

for computer upgrades

\$2,521

Bonnet Springs Park

for CRM software

\$5,000

Central Florida Speech and

Hearing Center

for computer upgrades

\$2,066.50

Circle of Friends Ministry

for strategic planning

\$5,000

Cornerstone Hospice

Foundation

for medical training hardware

\$1,500

Family Literacy Academy at
Lake Wales

to continue progress of previous
Empower Polk 2018 grant

\$4,000

Gospel Inc.

for marketing and fundraising

\$3,000

Imperial Symphony Orchestra

for brand / marketing strategy

\$5,000

InnerAct Alliance

for improvements to infrastructure
and processes

\$2,500

Lakeland Choral Society

for a chorus business manager

\$4,000

Lakeland Community Theatre

for keyboard and accessories

\$3,000

Lakeland Volunteers in Medicine

for strategic planning

\$4,868

Learning Resource Center of
Polk County

for computer and software
upgrades

\$3,500

Lighthouse Ministries

for marketing strategy

\$3,977.67

Meals on Wheels of Polk County

for training and marketing

\$5,000

Parker Street Ministries

for onsite security upgrades

\$4,000

Peace River Center

for outreach / awareness campaign

\$2,625

Polk Education Foundation

for development audit

\$5,000

SPCA Florida

for computer and software
upgrades

\$5,000

Talbot House Ministries

to engage a grant writer

\$3,500

Theatre Winter Haven

for marketing / rebranding

\$3,000

Volunteers in Service to the
Elderly

for strategic planning

\$5,000

Women's Resource Center

for computer and marketing
upgrades

\$5,000

YMCA of West Central Florida

for upgraded background
screening



*Kindergarten Learn to Swim is a two-week, interactive water safety and education program by the **YMCA of West Central Florida**. The program's goal is to teach kindergartners how to stay safe in and around water and to swim independently. Kindergarten Learn to Swim is funded in-part by an Impact Polk grant through the George W. Jenkins Fund within the GiveWell Community Foundation.*

IMPACT POLK 2019

Community competitive grant cycle

Impact Polk is an annual competitive, donor-directed grant program of the GiveWell Community Foundation. Grants are awarded by specific donors with the goal of addressing community needs throughout Polk County. Organizations must serve Polk County and be recognized by the IRS as described in the IRS Code Section 501(c)(3) as eligible for tax-exempt status to be eligible for grant funding.

Through Impact Polk 2019, 69 nonprofits were awarded a total of nearly \$500,000 from the George W. Jenkins Fund within the GiveWell Community Foundation.

“The Impact Polk grant cycle does just that – it impacts Polk County,” said Terry Simmers, GWCF’s president and CEO. “Nonprofits provide so many invaluable services to residents of Polk County, and Impact Polk grants help these organizations address important community needs.”

GiveWell Community Foundation is grateful for ongoing community support provided by the George W. Jenkins Fund through the Impact Polk grant cycle.

IMPACT POLK 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

\$499,647

Total granted through
Impact Polk 2019

69

Organizations awarded
Impact Polk 2019 funding

FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP

GWCF Board of Directors

Jeffrey G. Cox Sr.
Board Chair

Jack Hollis
Vice Chair

Anne Furr
Secretary

John "Jay" Gray Jr.
Treasurer

Suzanne H. Moraco
Immediate Past Chair

Ed Grossman
Audit Committee Chair

Jim Chaffin
Investment Committee Chair

Bill Dorman
Leadership Council Chair

Barney Barnett

Wesley Barnett

Jean Bostick

Kimberly Elmhurst

Roger Ingley

Sarah McKay

Tom Oldt

Bonnie Parker

Lyle Philipson

Renée Pobjecky

Thomas "Tim" Putnam

Linda Rich

Rick Stephens

Mark Turner

John Vreeland

STAFF MEMBERS

Terry W. Simmers
President / CEO

Angela Baragona, CPA
Controller

Brittany Graham
Receptionist

Johnna Martinez
Grants Manager

Lori Martini
Chief Philanthropic Officer

Rhonda Todd
Community Engagement Specialist

Christy Vreeland
Office Manager

Dave Walter
Communications Manager



Outgoing GWCF board members (from left): John Vreeland, Bonnie Parker, Sarah McKay, Lyle Philipson, and Jean Bostick (not pictured).

GWCF would like to thank the outgoing board members who brought so much to our organization for so many years.

Joining GWCF's Board of Directors next fiscal year are Bo Boyte, Bruce Davis, Doug McPherson, Sandra Sheets, and Jillian Spangler.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

ASSETS

	<i>As of June 30, 2019</i>	<i>As of June 30, 2018</i>
Cash	\$6,575,751	\$4,345,928
Investments	\$182,629,866	\$170,072,282
Other Assets	\$3,287,513	\$3,569,972
Total Assets	\$192,493,130	\$177,988,182

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities	\$4,320,760	\$5,206,940
Funds Held as Agency Endowments	\$14,118,486	\$12,243,320
Foundation Net Assets	\$174,053,884	\$160,537,922
Total Assets	\$192,143,130	\$177,988,182

REVENUE AND SUPPORT

Gifts Received	\$19,190,722	\$22,249,003
Net Investment Returns	\$10,739,928	\$11,033,063
Total Revenue and Support	\$29,930,650	\$33,282,066

GRANTS AND EXPENSES

Grants Awarded and Programs	\$15,524,341	\$21,029,505
Support Services	\$890,349	\$840,269
Total Grants and Expenses	\$16,414,690	\$21,869,774

NET ASSET SUMMARY

Change in Net Assets	\$13,515,960	\$11,412,292
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$160,537,922	\$149,125,630
Total Net Assets	\$174,053,882	\$160,537,922



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