



Strengthening Our Communities Through Engaged Philanthropy

UPDATE FROM THE FOUNDATION



Since July, the Foundation has had a flurry of activity with a transition to a new CEO and planning for the Foundation's Tenth Anniversary celebration in 2015. A wide range of new initiatives are underway, in preparation for a spring event honoring the Founders, highlighting a very successful decade of philanthropy and setting the stage for the next ten years of community-building.

After three months of assessment and listening, the Board of Directors convened a work session to develop a three-year strategic plan designed to stabilize and grow the organization with the overarching goals of sustainability, scope and scale, and significance. The plan was approved at the December board meeting. [\(click here\)](#)

The Foundation welcomes two new board members for 2015: Jack Kilgore, retiring president of the Consumer Brands Division and co-leader of the U.S. Canada region of Rich Products Corporation, and Janet Shirley, who practices in the areas of estate planning and fiduciary law at Atwood Choate P.C. They will replace Martha Brumley Ellis, one of the Foundation's founding members, and Mark Bedner. A warm thank you to Martha and Mark for their service.

The Executive Committee for the 2015 term will be Rees Sumerford, Chair; Art Lucas, Vice-Chair; Jeff Barker, Treasurer; and Claude Booker, Jeanne Manning, and Bonney Shuman, At-Large Members.

Please enjoy our new brochure: *(click on the picture)*



Community Impact Grants

The Foundation's process for grantmaking has been simplified and streamlined, requiring only one application and a shorter timeline. The grant cycle will open on January 5, 2015, with applications due in mid-February. Awards will be made in early June. Check the Foundation's website in early January for the announcement and instructions.

Requests of up to \$5,000 will be accepted and some amount of matching support must be documented. Grant proposals should be focused in one of the following program areas:

- Programs serving at-risk youth (to include education services, early childhood literacy, workforce development and/or family support)
- Initiatives which support arts, history and cultural programs and/or heritage tourism.



Coastal Georgia Honor Flight

The foundation became the sponsoring organization for the "Coastal Georgia Honor Flight," a community initiative that is seeking to fly WWII veteran heroes from the Coastal region to Washington, D.C. to reflect at their national memorial for a one-day visit.



Coastal Georgia Honor Flight plans to travel with veterans, guardians and other volunteers. Click on the logo to join us for the journey - and lend your financial support if possible.

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