

A stylized graphic of grass blades in various shades of green, positioned on the left side of the page. The blades are elongated and pointed, creating a sense of movement and texture.

FOR GOOD + FOREVER

THE COMMUNITIES OF COASTAL GEORGIA FOUNDATION + YOU

STRENGTHENING
OUR COMMUNITIES
THROUGH ENGAGED
PHILANTHROPY

Our mission statement is just six words. Yet within the simplicity of our purpose resides the promise of a profound and open-ended embracing of all the good that can happen when the generosity of today enriches and benefits the generations of tomorrow.

COMMUNITIES OF COASTAL GEORGIA FOUNDATION

In 2005, a cadre of some 70 families and foundations gathered their visions and their personal resources to establish the Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation. The group forged a public philanthropic organization, thoughtfully devoted to facilitating private giving that sustains and improves the quality of life here in Coastal Georgia.

Today, joined by a growing number of like-minded individuals, families and organizations, their vision lives and breathes, directly benefiting the citizens of Glynn, McIntosh and Camden counties and beyond. Our Founders, Board members and Fundholders are all deeply committed to making a difference. We invite you to meet them at the Foundation's website.

The Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation is one of 750 such foundations across the nation. Broadly defined, community foundations serve to bring a wide range of philanthropic interests together—individuals, families, businesses and organizations—to promote civic and community betterment through collective, strategic and solution-focused philanthropy.



The community foundation idea is simple: a **proactive, cost-efficient and tax-effective way for citizens to invest in their philanthropic passions and the future well-being of local communities.**

While there are currently twenty community foundations in Georgia, the Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation is one of only seven to receive accreditation by the national Council on Foundations, signifying our compliance with the highest standards of regulatory, ethical, accounting and governance practices.



THUMBPRINTS + BLUEPRINTS

In the actions we take today and in the legacy we leave for tomorrow, we all have the desire to make our mark.
Make an impact. Make a difference.

That difference finds voice in the word philanthropy.
By definition, a noun.

Yet philanthropy can be the most active of verbs,
energized when placed in motion as people
become truly connected to their community and
connect their passions with a purpose.

The thumbprint is yours alone.
The blueprint that brings it to life is what we do together.

CONNECTING PEOPLE WHO CARE WITH CAUSES THAT MATTER.

The Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation is many things: researcher, educator, funding counselor and community steward. And yes, grantmaker. More importantly, we serve as thoughtful matchmakers between the philanthropic desires of our donors and areas of need from local to global.

This engaged matchmaking is the product of the exhaustive research and keen understanding that intimately aligns donors with recipients.

While the Foundation seeks to evaluate and address local community needs, we are equally skilled at fulfilling the wishes of donors who desire to support specific fields or organizations for which they have a personal interest, even if they exist well beyond our region.

Our mission is founded on partnering with donors to make a measurable and meaningful impact on a community and on the lives of those who live there.

The beginning point is not vast wealth. It's simply your desire to make a difference.

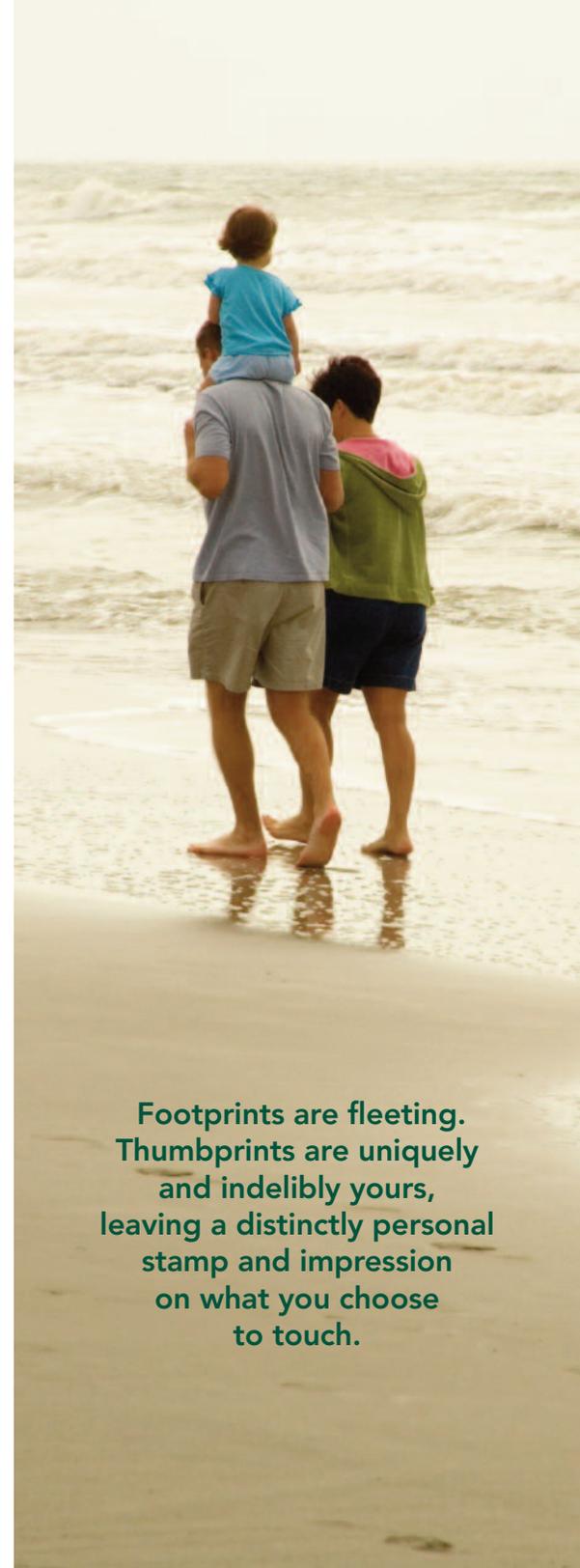
THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CHARITY AND PHILANTHROPY.

The distinction is important. While charity responds, **philanthropy anticipates**; charity is emotional, **philanthropy is intellectual**; charity seeks to solve, **philanthropy seeks to prevent**; charity is short-term, **philanthropy is long-term**; charity is about today, **philanthropy is about tomorrow**.

The Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation is a hybrid. While the financial base of private foundations comes from a single source, we derive our support from an array of donors. And where most non-profit charities focus on a single issue or area of interest, we work with donors to invest in a variety of issues and promote a full range of community interests.

YOU DON'T GIVE TO US. YOU GIVE THROUGH US.

The Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation is not the beneficiary of donor donations. We are a conduit, a community-focused catalyst, a portal and a launch point for strategic and sustained philanthropy that serves the greater good.



**Footprints are fleeting.
Thumbprints are uniquely
and indelibly yours,
leaving a distinctly personal
stamp and impression
on what you choose
to touch.**



CONSTANT IN MISSION. FLEXIBLE IN SCOPE.
WE ARE SHAPED BY DONOR
INTERESTS AND PASSIONS.

We believe that the well-being of each person is connected to that of every other person. Effective philanthropy can add immeasurably by enriching us all.

Giving generously, intelligently and strategically enables you to share your resources, communicate your values, perpetuate the work of institutions and organizations that have touched your life and leave your mark, your thumbprint on the future.

Yet giving intelligently isn't always easy. Multiple charities vie regularly for your support of special causes and annual fundraisers, while charitable giving laws have become complex. Effective philanthropy has become more difficult and challenging.

The Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation builds its resources through an exceptionally broad cross-section of the public in supporting community needs. As our regional area evolves with new challenges, the Foundation, in partnership with its donors' wishes, is poised to respond to those changes.

The Foundation's primary assets come from a collection of permanent funds donated by area residents, families, businesses and organizations who desire to provide long-term support for their communities and their causes.

These funds, managed by investment professionals, are pooled and invested together to generate sustained resources.

Whether you wish to continue to support a charitable entity that you have been involved with for years, or would like to learn about new programs and initiatives that are making a real difference in our communities, the Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation is here to serve you, your passions and your vision.

The Foundation seeks an enlightened, informed and enthusiastic partnership with our donors and the future we see and shape together.

Through administrative support, guidance, investment management, innovative thinking and intensive community knowledge, we open the door to inspired, effective and impactful philanthropy.

The Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation is composed of endowed and non-endowed funds, established by those who wish to create a charitable legacy that benefits causes they care about most in our region. Endowments are permanent funds created when a gift is made and invested. The income is used now and in the future for charitable grantmaking. Through endowments, legacies are created.

A gift to the Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation can be expected to grow and provide for community needs well into the future. While we don't know what tomorrow's challenges may be, we do know that endowments built at the Foundation will continue to exist to help meet those needs. Each year, through donor funds and a competitive grants process, the Foundation invests approximately half a million dollars in worthwhile causes that strengthen communities.

We can help you establish any of the following different types of funds as well as many others. Each provide for significant tax advantages in the present with the certainty of long-term philanthropy.

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

This is the Foundation's most flexible and popular fund allowing the donor to make grant recommendations to a broad range of charities. Donors work with the Foundation staff to identify ways to use monies from their funds to address the community needs they care about most.

In addition, the funds can be passed on to successor advisors for an unlimited time period, allowing future generations to be involved in funding decisions.

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Local and regional recipient charities are named at the establishment of the fund. This may be a good option for those who wish to contribute to several specific charities through one gift.

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Donating to the Foundation's general fund allows the donor to give back to the community in a general way, rather than supporting a particular organization or cause. The funds meet ever-changing community needs and support the Foundation's broader grantmaking initiatives. As worthy needs or emergencies arise, these funds ensure that financial resources are available.

FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS

This type of fund allows the donor to designate funds to a particular charitable cause to meet a particular need. Areas of interest such as education, youth services, health and human services, arts and culture, faith-based initiatives, the environment and animal welfare are defined by donor priorities.

To establish these funds, the Foundation accepts various types of assets, including cash and appreciated property, publically traded stock, closely held stock and/or real estate. The Foundation also accepts deferred or planned charitable gifts including bequests, life insurance, trusts, annuities, retirement accounts, life estates and other options. At your direction, we are pleased to work on your behalf with your attorney, tax professional and/or financial advisor to carry out your wishes.

Q+A

FREQUENTLY ASKED
QUESTIONS ABOUT HOW
THE FOUNDATION WORKS
TO SERVE DONORS.

Q: Why is the Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation a better way to accomplish my philanthropic and charitable-giving goals?

A: There are three main benefits to partnering with the Foundation:

1) Service: The Foundation staff works intimately with all donors in providing highly personalized and goal-sensitive attention. Let us know your wishes and leave the paperwork to us. If you are interested in learning more about grantmaking with an impact, we have a deep knowledge of community needs and organizational capabilities. Our job is to make it easy for you to engage in successful, strategic and personally rewarding philanthropy.

2) Cost Effectiveness: For the donor, fund administration is simple and efficient. Our fees and earnings are comparable to those of financial institutions with the added benefits of maximum tax advantage and tangible community engagement.

3) Fund Management and Performance: The Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation will manage all financial aspects of your fund, including contributions, distributions, regular financial statements and an annual independent audit. We are supported by seasoned foundation financial management professionals and we work with nationally known investment advisors. Fundholders have a role in selecting their investment preferences and, in certain instances, may select their own investment advisors.

Q: When is a good time to establish a fund with the Coastal Georgia Foundation?

A: Community needs are constant, yet donor funding desires are based on many variables that affect timing. Foundation donors have typically elected to establish a fund based on such factors as their age and income, a desire to establish a family legacy, the sale of appreciated assets, or other financially or tax-based inducements for themselves or their heirs. We invite you to begin a confidential

conversation with us to explore how best to match up your financial plans with your immediate and long-term philanthropic goals.

Q: Is there a minimum giving level?

A: The Foundation accepts gifts at any level throughout the year. A named, Donor Advised Fund can be established with as little as \$10,000. And, donors can add to their fund balances gradually, over time, or at any point it helps them achieve their financial and philanthropic goals.

Q: What are the tax benefits?

A: Gifts to the Foundation are 100% tax deductible at the time given, offering the maximum tax advantage allowed by Federal tax regulations. In fact, you may be entitled to a greater tax deduction for your Foundation fund contribution than for the same gift to a private foundation. We provide donors with the tax documentation needed for reporting to the IRS. Donors need not collect receipt letters from charities for grants made from their funds.

Q: What types of assets can I use to establish a fund and add to it later?

A: There are many options available to you in establishing a fund, including cash, publically-traded securities, closely-held stocks, insurance policies, property and retirement plans.

Q: I can't afford to part with assets or income right now. Are there funding options for me?

A: Yes. Through deferred giving options (charitable remainder trusts, annuity trusts, gift annuities and life insurance) you can create a fund that meets your future philanthropic goals while receiving immediate tax benefits. You can also make a bequest to establish a fund through your will.

Q: I want to establish a fund, but don't have the time or skills to management it. What now?

A: Once a fund is established, the Foundation takes care of everything. From professional investment management of funds, to the detailed record-keeping and reporting that keeps donors fully informed of grants made, investment performance and more, we serve as a single-source for comprehensive fund stewardship. Free of any administrative duties on your part, the causes you care about are supported. In short, you enjoy the "halo without the hassles."

Q: Can my fund support charities and causes that are located outside the local area?

A: Yes. There are no geographical restrictions on where donors may choose to direct their gifts. From charities in your distant hometown to financial support of your college alma mater, the Foundation can help you give to causes regardless of their location.

Q: How are grants determined and made?

A: The Foundation constantly researches and evaluates community needs – both expected and emerging – while managing an annual competitive grant cycle. Donor advised fundholders may contact us anytime to recommend grants to any number or type of charitable causes. To make a grant recommendation, a donor completes a simple form provided by the Foundation. We check the non-profit status of the organization and send the grant check and a transmittal letter to the organization. Other donors, through unrestricted or field of interest funds, look to the Foundation to make grant decisions based on demonstrated community needs.

Q: May I recommend multi-year grants from my fund?

A: Yes. At the time of your grant recommendation, you may indicate that the grants are to be made in increments. The Foundation will administer the grant schedule accordingly.

Q: Can I choose to remain anonymous with the grants made from my fund?

A: Yes. A donor's desire for anonymity, whether at the time of establishment of the fund or on a gift-by-gift basis, is strictly honored.

Q: There are many ways to give. How do I decide on what's best for me?

A: The Foundation recommends that you consult with your professional financial, tax or estate planning advisor. We can assist with that conversation. Supporting that counsel is the Foundation's ability to, in turn, design and manage funds that serve the causes you desire.

Q: What are some examples of charities and causes supported by Foundation donors?

A: Over the years, the grants made by the Foundation have spanned support for an exceptionally broad diversity of worthy charitable causes across our coastal region and beyond.

Through both one-time grants, unrestricted funds and endowments, these have included: health and human services, crisis centers, early childhood literacy, adult counseling, education initiatives, workforce development, scholarship funds, youth services, arts and culture, animal welfare services and many more causes that are having a positive impact on the lives of area citizens.

These, along with the grants from numerous donor advised funds to other causes reflect the Foundation's mission to meet a community's needs and our donors' desire to give back.

For the latest information on the Foundation's financial status and grantmaking, contact our offices or visit coastalgeorgiafoundation.org.

Q: I'm ready to get started. How do I make a gift or establish my fund?

A: The Foundation makes philanthropy an easy and fulfilling processing. Here are the basic steps:

Step One: Contact the Foundation to set-up an initial consultation to discuss your philanthropic goals. We will listen carefully to your wishes and needs and make recommendations for a fund design or giving strategy that is highly personal. If you wish, we also are happy to meet with your attorney, tax professional and/or financial advisor.

Step Two: You determine the type and amount of assets that will comprise your initial gift or fund. Grants will be made according to fund design and structure.

Step Three: If establishing a fund, the Foundation will draft and submit to you an agreement reflecting its name and structure. Simply sign the agreement and return it to the Foundation.

Step Four: The Foundation signs and accepts the agreement with a fully executed copy returned to you for your records. For all gifts, an acknowledgement letter will be sent to you for tax purposes.

Step Five: If you wish, the Foundation will set up a donor orientation session. This meeting will confirm your fund plan, review its structure and provide you with additional Foundation services that can accommodate your current and future philanthropic goals. When you desire, the Foundation will engage your family as well.

We welcome your specific questions.

Philanthropy is the art of matching answers that come from funding to questions that come from real needs. The Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation invites you to contact us for a personal Q&A session, at info@coastalgeorgiafoundation.org or 912.268.4442.

The Foundation is governed and guided by a Board of Directors.

Individually, they are business professionals and community leaders residing in Glynn, Camden and McIntosh counties.

Collectively, they share a common passion and intense focus on the stewarding of engaged philanthropy that improves life in our communities.

To learn more about our current Board members, staff, Founders and Fundholders whose vision makes what we do today possible, visit our website: coastalgeorgiafoundation.org

Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation 2014 Board Officers and Members

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VICE CHAIR/SECRETARY

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Ellen Post
GRANTS/OPERATIONS MANAGER

FOR GOOD. FOREVER. TOGETHER.

The Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation invites you to contact us about how engaged philanthropy strengthens our communities and you.

Your goal is to give in ways that make a difference.

Ours is to help you make it happen.



Communities of

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The Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) public charity incorporated in the State of Georgia.
A copy of the Foundation's 990 and our most recent Annual Report are available on our website.