Discover the power of a strong Foundation.
Since 1988, The Community Foundation Martin-St. Lucie has inspired philanthropists to establish funds to impact communities in Martin and St. Lucie counties, throughout Florida, across the United States and around the globe.
Milestone anniversaries beg for celebration, reflection and forecasting. While we celebrate our founders and the early years, we think to the future and what it can bring.

As the Foundation turns 30 and approaches middle age, the struggles of the early years and the challenges of the second decade have become our solid foundation for expansive growth. Now, in that most productive season of life when the right mix of experience, energy, wisdom and hard work falls into place, the magic begins to happen.

Our numbers are up for all key indicators of growth and progress, as you will see in this annual report – but they tell only part of the story.

The power of the Community Foundation Martin-St. Lucie lies in the opportunities and causes that excite our fundholders. This year they helped bring the first ever Guggenheim exhibit to Florida. They funded Smithsonian environmental mobile labs for Title 1 classrooms, developed a series of advanced leadership training sessions for non-profit executives, and provided key funding for a breakthrough program that synergistically combines mental health support with vocational training. These are just a few of the innovative, bold initiatives that our fundholders have seeded and nurtured into existence.

The Community Foundation is ready to play a major role in this region as we bring fresh thinking to improving the environment, human health, education, arts and culture, job training and literacy: critical elements that are fundamental to a healthy, thriving community.

We’re here for good.

Elizabeth Barbella
President & CEO

“Our numbers are up for all key indicators of growth and progress.”
I’ve been around health care and non-profits for years – long enough to know that organizational progress usually evolves over time and milestones are achieved slowly. The Community Foundation Martin-St. Lucie is upending those assumptions and proving that inspired leaders can embrace change, be nimble and move quickly to seize opportunities.

This year, The Community Foundation embraced growth and progress at all levels. In one year we tripled our office space, changed our name, increased our donor funds by 25 percent and hit $20 million in assets. Not bad for a foundation just turning thirty.

These changes give us solid standing on a bigger stage, where we can begin to work with philanthropists to take on breakthrough projects such as youth violence prevention, scientific research on the human health effects of toxic algae, collaborations with art centers and renowned museums to fund innovative exhibits, and partnerships with international funders taking on the most fundamental issues facing humanity in the 21st century.

In the coming months, you’ll be reading more about Courage Investing, a trend in giving that supports philanthropists who prefer to make bold choices by supporting projects that attack old problems in new ways. We are encouraged that our fundholders, old and new, are engaged and informed. They also rightfully expect a solid return on their charitable giving – because at the end of the day, philanthropy is an investment in the greater good.

There is an old saw that says success comes when preparedness meets opportunity. It looks as if we are in that sweet spot.

I salute and thank the board of directors, committees, our fundholders and Elizabeth Barbella for the vision and courage to embrace change and be bold as we look to the next decade. Onward.

**Ellyn Stevenson, MSW, MBA**

Board Chair
A Look Back

Last year marked a sharp contrast to the steady but anemic growth and low volatility market conditions we’ve become accustomed to over the past decade. In contrast to 2017, when every single calendar month showed higher stock prices, the fourth quarter of 2018 concluded with an approximately 20 percent drop for stocks. This decline wiped out the modest gains in U.S. stocks, leaving domestic stocks down almost 5 percent for the year and international stocks down nearly 15 percent. Combined, global stocks declined roughly 10 percent.

Even broad diversification could not offer much assistance in 2018. For the first time in 45 years, not a single member of the major asset classes that encompass global stocks, bonds, real estate and commodities provided a return in excess of 5 percent during the year. It was truly a risk-off market, with few places to hide. We lament that few assets did well this year, but we know this is as seldom experienced as 2017’s smooth ride. Thankfully, rare events, both positive and negative, are fleeting.

On to 2019

Although investors can take some comfort in the historical patterns that support long-term investing, we are also clearly interested in the path of future returns and where relative risk and opportunities lie. It is here we focus on the intermediate time horizon - where we are in the business cycle and, specifically, the influence of four types of policy environments: monetary, fiscal, regulatory and trade policy.

Over much of the past decade, the combination of exceptionally low interest rates moderately tempered by tighter regulatory policy promoted a modest but stable economic growth environment. The result was an era of historically low volatility and a smaller range of outcomes, both positive and negative (2010-2017). With a new Federal Reserve chair behind monetary policy and a new administration driving fiscal, regulatory and trade policy following the 2016 elections, the relative calm and steady returns of the last 10 years are shifting.

In 2019, we believe the global economy will continue to grow, but at a slower pace. This is first dependent on more accommodative monetary policy. The market has signaled caution to the Fed on the pace of future rate increases, and recent comments seem to indicate the Fed is listening and willing to moderate. Second, trade and tariff negotiations represent a source of uncertainty, and uncertainty depresses business confidence. If an agreement can be reached by mid-summer, the continued stimulus effects of fiscal and regulatory policy may provide enough to overcome the more restrictive actions of monetary policy.

Against a backdrop of slowing global economic growth, these less synchronized policy actions may contribute to a wider range of outcomes and a return to more normal levels of volatility. Although painful at times, market volatility serves to remind us of the critical importance of considering our time horizons, ensuring adequate liquidity and establishing well diversified portfolios.
Performance in Perspective

Mathew R. Doyle
Senior Vice President/Financial Advisor - CAPTRUST
Independent Consultant - THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION MARTIN-ST. LUCIE

As consultant to The Community Foundation Martin-St. Lucie, we share a common goal with the Investment Committee. That goal is to grow, but also to preserve assets and ensure they are available when the community need is greatest. This fosters a preference for protecting assets in difficult environments. Unfortunately, nobody was immune to the downturn last year. The results of the Moderate Growth and Income model portfolio were no exception, returning -5.74 percent. By comparison, a nationally published survey by an institutional consulting firm that collects data from 147 community foundations reported that the average return from other community foundations in the $5M - $25M category was -7.7 percent. This performance, superior to that of the community foundation peer universe, validates the approach and hard work of the committee on your behalf.

“(Our) goal is to grow, but also to preserve assets and ensure they are available when the community need is greatest.”
Asset Allocation

Capital markets globally bended 2018 with broadly negative returns, particularly in the fourth quarter, when U.S. equity market performance was the worst since the third quarter of 2011. Our portfolios followed markets and had negative performance for the period (with a nice recovery to date in 2019). Our approach is to maintain a strategic asset allocation, constructed for the long term.

We are nevertheless examining our allocation and looking to add certain asset classes that we believe will reduce portfolio volatility as we move into 2019. We conduct this work through Committee resources, along with our fund consultant CAPTRUST, and are further informed by our strategic relationships with wealth managers. With the change to quantitative tightening, slower growth worldwide, the likely rise of real rates, geopolitical tensions and shifts from monetary to fiscal stimuli, the massive post-crisis tailwinds are over and we can anticipate lower but positive returns and higher volatility. Certainly, there will be pockets of opportunity for managers.

Finally, responsive to donor needs we have enhanced our short-term investment pool to include a Certificate of Deposit program, and are finalizing approvals, documentation and fiduciary processes for donors wishing to designate investment managers and allocations of their choice.
The Investment Committee of The Community Foundation Martin-St. Lucie is dedicated to providing a highly informed perspective with respect to our collective assets. The Foundation offers conservative, moderate and aggressive portfolio options to its fundholders. We work directly with donors and/or their wealth managers to help them select the portfolio that best aligns with their charitable giving plans.

Michael A. Kelly, Committee Chair, serves on the Foundation Board of Directors and is the Chairman of the Investment Committee. Mike is a principal with ArbCap Family Office in Sewall’s Point, where he runs personal assets in hedge funds and other investment strategies while also working as an advisor for a Scottsdale-based prime broker.
$1,000,000 Grants
Issued in 2018

16 New Funds
Established in 2018

210 Total Charities
Funded to Date

BY THE NUMBERS

Annual Balance
AT END OF FISCAL YEAR

$25,000,000
$20,000,000
$15,000,000
$10,000,000
$5,000,000
$0


6
Sectors
SUPPORTED BY FUNDHOLDERS

Education & Scholarships
Health & Wellbeing
Capacity Building
Faith Based
Human Services
Arts, Environment, Research & Advocacy
Beyond fiscal performance, beyond growth and grant making, there is a deeper story to tell.

It’s the story of a foundation that introduces promise to profound potential.

That nurtures meaningful initiatives at home and abroad.

That pairs motivated philanthropists with synergistic causes, bringing legacies to life.

Our Leadership is Our Greatest Asset

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ellyn Stevenson, MSW, MBA
CHAIR
Former Health Care Executive

W. Scott Wade
SECRETARY
Former COO

Joe Paskoski, CPA
TREASURER
CFO/VP of Administration, Quantum Foundation

Kenneth A. Norman, Esquire
IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR
McCarthy, Summers, Bobko, Wood, Norman, Bass & Melby, P.A.

Jack Forde
BOARD MEMBER
Retired Cable Industry Executive

Brian E. Foss
BOARD MEMBER
Strategic Consultant for Nonprofits

Kathleen M. Freihofer, CFA
BOARD MEMBER
Former Vice President, Northern Trust

Michael A. Kelly
BOARD MEMBER
Private Investor, ArbCap Family Office
Our Emeritus Board

Left to right: Evans Crary, Jr., Mike Crook, Bill Fowler, Bud Jordan and Tom Weber.

Nancy Crowder-McCoy, CPA
BOARD MEMBER
Carr, Riggs & Ingram, CPAs & Advisors

John C. Doody
BOARD MEMBER
Former CEO, Insurance Agency

Gythia Von Aldenbruck
BOARD MEMBER
Former First Vice President, Morgan Stanley

Theora “Bunny” Webb
BOARD MEMBER
Former Global Management Executive
Strategic Public Affairs Consultant

Elizabeth Barbella
PRESIDENT & CEO
The Community Foundation
Martin-St. Lucie

Robin A. Cartwright
OFFICE & GRANTS MANAGER
The Community Foundation
Martin-St. Lucie

Linda Overton
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
The Community Foundation
Martin-St. Lucie
Current Funds

Donor Advised Funds
Abernethy Family Fund
Minnow Fund
Cassidy Family Fund
Doody Family Fund
Mary Devlin Dorsey Fund
Jack Forde Fund
Furtwanger Family Fund
Good Fortune Fund
Guettler Brothers Fund
HLDA Donor Advised Fund
Hoke Hendry Fund
Andrew & Robin Hunt Philanthropic Fund
Bud & Marjie Jordan Fund
Beatrice & Michael McCallion Charitable Fund
McDowell Hall Fund
Mueller Family Fund
Paulsen Kelly Family Fund
Christen M. Price Memorial Fund
Ray & Ellyn Stevenson Fund
Stevenson Family Fund
Serenity Family Fund
Judith Thogersen Family Fund
Gythia Von Aldenbruck Fund
Wade Charitable Fund
We Are In This Together (W.A.I.T.)
Webb Family Fund
The Dick Wells Memorial Fund

Community Funds
The Frances Langford Fund for Martin County
Disaster Relief Fund
The Frances Langford Fund for Martin County
Beatrice M. Rais Merkle Community Fund
MCCF In Memoriam Fund

Designated Funds
Veronica A. Broome Fund
Beatrice M. Rais Merkle Designated Fund
The Jack H. Smouse Fund
GW Fund

Scholarship Funds
Hubert W. Bessey Scholarship Fund
Jared Blue Scholarship Fund
Mary J. Brogan Scholarship Fund
Treva Brogan Scholarship Fund
The Frank T. Cadaar MC Educational Fund
Katherine H. Dunscombe Fund
Copper Key Scholarship Fund
Hobe Sound Civic Association
Aaron Jason Memorial Fund
The Jack H. Smouse Scholarship Fund
Willoughby Foundation Scholarship Fund

Field of Interest Funds
In Memoriam of Meg Mortell & Molly Mehlich / Cancer
The Mary Catherine, Mary Elizabeth, and Joseph Carlin Fund
Disaster Relief Fund
John & Connie Doody Fund
Dorothy K. Geoghegan Fund
Impact 100 Martin
Impact 100 St. Lucie
Hank & Ellen Libby Health & Human Services Fund
The Community Foundation In Memoriam Fund
The Schroeder Fund
Ray & Ellyn Stevenson Health Fund
Ray & Ellyn Stevenson Social Justice Fund
The Story Express Fund
The Jonathan Swanson Project Fund
Treasure Coast Philanthropy Circle
The Waaler Fund
Willoughby Foundation Fund

Agency Funds
Historic Apollo School Preservation Fund
Catch the Wave of Hope Fund
The First Tee of The Treasure Coast Fund
Funded Charities

ACLU Foundation of Florida
Advocates for Victims of Assault
Alameda Health
All Saints Episcopal Church
Alzheimer’s Association - SE Florida
Alzheimer’s Community Care
America SCORES
American Cancer Society
American Cancer Society - Florida
American Cancer Society – Martin/ Okeechobee Unit
American Diabetes Association
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
American Friends of Magen David Adom
American Heart Association
American Heart Association - Florida Affiliate
American Lung Association – Southeast FL
American Red Cross – Martin County
American Red Cross – St. Lucie County
Arthritis Foundation – Mideastern Region
Artists 4 A Cause
Arts Council of Martin County
Atlantic Classical Orchestra
Audubon Society of Martin County
Banner Lake Club / BLAST
Berkeley-Carroll Street School
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Palm Beach and Martin Counties
Boston College
Boys & Girls Clubs of Martin County
Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach & Martin Counties
Boys & Girls Clubs St. Lucie County
Brianna Cooper Heavenly Smiles Foundation
Bridge Christian Outreach
Brooklyn Queens Conservatory of Music
Bullsugar Alliance, Inc.
Camp Boggy Creek
CARE
Caring Fields Animal Sanctuary
Catch the Wave of Hope
Celebrities Fore Kids
Center for Court Innovation/Fund for the City of New York
Children’s Craniofacial Association
Children’s Emergency Resources
Club Managers Assoc of America
Coastal Carolina University
College of Mount St. Vincent
Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin
Community Foundation of the Florida Keys
Convoys of Hope
Council on Aging of Martin County at the Kane Center
Cure Alzheimer’s Fund
Dept of Business & Prof Regulations
Divestment Student c/o Alliance for Global Justice Network
Dogs and Cats Forever
Dominican Sisters of Houston
Dominio’s Cat Rescue League, Inc.
E.N.D. IT! Corporation
Elliott Museum
Environmental Studies Council, Inc.
Episcopal Church of the Nativity
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Fistula Foundation
Florida Arts & Dance Company
Florida Atlantic University
Florida Oceanographic Society, Inc.
Florida Sheriff’s Youth Ranches, Inc.
Florida State University
Florida State University Foundation
Forkoze USA-CLM Project
Food Bank for New York City
Friends of Puerto Rico
Friends of the Martin County Library System
Gertrude Walden Child Care Center
Global Giving Foundation
Gold Coast Professional Schools
Grace Place
Graveline Little League
Greater Houston Community Foundation
Guardians for New Futures
Habitat for Humanity of Martin County, Inc.
Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute Foundation
Healthy Start Coalition of St. Lucie County
Heifer International
Helping People Succeed
Hibiscus Children’s Center
Historic Preservation Foundation of North Carolina
Historical Society of Martin County
Hobe Sound Animal Protection League, Inc.
Hobe Sound Childcare Center
Hobe Sound Early Learning Center
Hope Rural School
Hospital of Palm Beach County
House of Hope, Inc.
Humane Society of St. Lucie County
Humane Society of the Treasure Coast
Indian River State College
Indian River State College – Fire/EMT Scholarships
Indian River State College Foundation
Kamryn Kares
Laura Riding Jackson Foundation, Inc.
Lehigh University
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
Library Foundation of Martin County
LifeBuilders of the Treasure Coast, Inc.
Light of the World Charities
Lighthouse ArtCenter
Lighthouse Centers of America
Lighthouse for the Blind of the Palm Beaches
Lighthouse Foundation, Inc.
Literacy for Incarcerated Teens
Love And Hope In Action
Lungevity Foundation
Macalester College
Martin County Board of County Commissioners
Martin County Healthy Start Coalition
Martin Health Foundation
Martin Memorial Health Systems
Mary’s Shelter of the Treasure Coast
Medical Bridges
Memory Bridge
Molly’s House
Mutt Maddness
Nina Haven Scholarships, Inc.
Ocean Research & Conservation Association
The Ohio State University
Palm City Presbyterian Church
People for the American Way
Planned Parenthood
Planned Parenthood of South Florida & Treasure Coast
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Project L.I.F.T.
Puppies Behind Bars
Rainforest Foundation
Real Life Children’s Ranch
Redeem the Shadows
Rollins College
Ross University
Roundtable of St. Lucie County
Safe Space Foundation, Inc.
SafeSpace, Inc.
Saint Edwards School
Salvation Army of Martin County
Salvation Army of St. Lucie County
Samaritan Center for Young Boys & Families
Samaritan Ministry of Greater Washington
Sandy Hook Promise Foundation
Santa Fe Community College
Savannah College of Art & Design
Save the Children
Shriners Hospital for Children
Smithsonian Institution
Southern Poverty Law Center
Southwest Church of Christ
Special Operations Warrior Foundation
St. Joseph’s Catholic Church
St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital
St. Lucie County Hundred Club
St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church
St. Mary’s Episcopal Church
St. Vincent de Paul Society
StarStruck Theatre, Inc.
Steve Hirsch Memorial Fund
The Everglades Foundation
The First Tee - New Hampshire
The First Tee / Children’s Golf Foundation
The First Tee / CR Jrs Chip Inc
The Friends of the Lyric
The Heritage Foundation
The Hope Center for Autism
The Inner Truth Project
The Lyric Theatre
The Nature Conservancy - Florida Chapter
The Osborne Association
The Pine School
Treasure Coast Food Bank
Treasure Coast Hospice
Treasure Coast Manatee Foundation
Trinity College
Tykes & Teens
UNICEF
United Way of Martin County
United Way of Palm Beach County
University of Central Florida
University of Colorado Hospital
University of Florida
University of Florida
University of Miami
University of North Florida
University of South Florida
University of West Florida
US Fund for UNICEF
US Sailing Center
Valencia Community College
Variety Boys & Girls Club of Queens
Visiting Nurse Foundation
Volunteers in Medicine
Water 1st International
West Virginia Wesleyan College
Willingbough Foundation Scholarship Fund
Winston-Salem State University
Women Supporting the Arts
World Food Program USA
WQCS-NPR for the Treasure Coast
WXEL PBS for the Palm Beaches
YMCA of the Treasure Coast
THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
MARTIN-ST. LUCIE

INSPIRES PHILANTHROPISTS to establish funds to impact communities in Martin & St. Lucie Counties, throughout Florida, across the United States and around the globe.