



For more information:

Michelle Prater, President & CEO
North Georgia Community Foundation
615 F Oak Street, Suite 1300
Gainesville, GA 30501
E-mail: mprater@ngcf.org
Phone: 770-535-7880

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

North Georgia Community Foundation Announces 2017 Community Impact Grant Recipients

GAINESVILLE, Ga. – The North Georgia Community Foundation (NGCF) recently awarded more than \$46,950 in grants to fund 16 programs at nonprofit organizations across the North Georgia region that are engaged in smart, innovative work to strengthen the community.

“We believe one of the best ways to improve the community is to invest in nonprofits working on projects that support and improve the North Georgia region,” said Michelle Prater, NGCF president & CEO. “Each of the selected projects will make a positive impact on meeting the important needs of our community.”

Community Impact Grants are awarded annually through a competitive process to nonprofit organizations located in the Foundation’s 15-county North Georgia service area. Recipients of funding through the 2017 grant cycle include the following organizations:

Hall County

- ***Action Ministries*** to support three different programs that will provide stable housing for homeless families.
- ***The Way Homeless Ministry*** to provide basic tangible needs for the homeless community.
- ***The Guest House*** to provide fresh quality and balanced meals for their senior guests.
- ***Rape Response*** programs to work collaboratively with school systems to provide ‘Let’s Talk’ prevention education classes.

- ***Georgia Mountain Food Bank*** to expand outreach and provide prescription food boxes for low income oncology patients.
- ***Children Center for Hope & Healing*** programs to provide children between the ages of 3 and 17, who have been sexually abused, with counseling from licensed therapists.

Forsyth County

- ***Mentor Me*** to provide mentoring and tutoring through a school-based support system to students identified at risk to drop out of middle school and high school.

Jackson County

- ***Humane Society of Jackson County*** to provide spay and neuter services for pets of families living in low-income households.
- ***Atlanta Mission*** to provide transformational recovery programs for men residing in Jackson County.

Habersham County

- ***Prevent Child Abuse Habersham*** to provide supervised family visitation for children whose parents are going through parental substance abuse, family violence or domestic conflict.
- ***Volunteers for Literacy Habersham*** focus on teaching English and Civics to non-English speaking citizens in Habersham County.

Union County

- ***Whiskers Project*** to provide spay and neutering services for cats that are homeless or pets living with low income families.
- ***First Baptist Church of Blairsville*** to expand their Feed the Hungry program from one time a month to twice monthly.

Lumpkin County

- ***Georgia Forest Watch*** programs to engage and provide education for the public of North Georgia so that they may gain a greater understanding and appreciation for the last remaining unprotected forest.
- ***Holly Theatre*** to provide programs to enrich opportunities for local children and teens, 5 to 18 years old, so that they may cultivate future performers and audiences.
- ***Rainbow Children's Home*** to support the Beyond Basics program, which gives young ladies the resources to break free from the cycle of poverty and abuse.

As a funder of nonprofits, the North Georgia Community Foundation is committed to supporting local organizations working to make a difference for generations to come. NGCF's Community Impact Grant Program is possible through a community endowment established to ensure there will always be philanthropic resources available to meet the region's most pressing needs and opportunities.

To learn more about NGCF's Community Impact Endowment and Grant Program, visit www.ngcf.org.

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About the North Georgia Community Foundation

Founded in 1985 by Lou Fockele and other business leaders, the North Georgia Community Foundation supports nonprofit organizations and donors by building, distributing and preserving philanthropic assets. The Community Foundation serves Banks, Dawson, Fannin, Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham, Hall, Hart, Jackson, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union and White counties. To learn more, visit www.ngcf.org or call (770) 535-7880.