



## Greetings from our Incoming Board Chair



**Tim Darrah**  
2019 Board Chair

The start of a new year is a good time to reflect on where we have been and where we want to go. As we look at the turns this past year has taken, we also eye the road ahead with hope and increased vision for the North Georgia Community Foundation's impact in our region.

Through a generous gift, our board-directed Community Impact Fund will be able to fulfill even more needs throughout our community, as we commit to expanding the Community Impact Grant process. As good stewards of the community's philanthropic giving, we will be diligent in granting dollars through our existing grant program to nonprofits, meeting needs and making a real difference. Last year, we took a new path with our nonprofit education programs to inten-

tionally focus on helping nonprofit leaders enhance the skills needed to make their organizations more effective. We launched Growing Roots of Wisdom (G.R.O.W.), through which we offer executive coaching seminars of varying lengths, providing guidance and tools necessary for organization and personal development.

The steepest part to the road before us continues to be sharing the good news of the Foundation's work and potential impact in our community. With our board demographics now covering 11 of the 15 counties in Northeast Georgia that are part of our franchise, we have expertise in how to impact representative areas in more efficient and lasting ways. While we have seen a marked increase in new funds invested, we ask all stakeholders to continue to be outstanding stewards, helping us to better share our knowledge, financial support, and the quest to be ever mindful of others.

*You are making the road less of an uphill challenge for so many in our community, and we thank you for partnering with us.*

## Welcome New Board Members

We are pleased to announce the addition of eight new board members to our team in 2019.



**Chad Black** has worked in Fire and Emergency Services for the past 34 years, currently serving as Director for Habersham

County Emergency Services. As an active member of the community, Chad serves on several volunteer and professional boards, so he keeps a pulse on the needs of our area. His insights will be a great asset to our board.



**Randall Frost** is the managing partner of the Gainesville law firm Stewart, Melvin, and Frost, LLP. Active in the Hall County community,

he is keenly aware of the area's most critical issues and enjoys serving in a capacity where he can affect change. His extensive community knowledge, coupled with his legal expertise, make him a wonderful addition to our board.

*Continued on back...*



North Georgia  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

## New Board Members Continued



**Linda Hughes Hardie's** education career has ranged from teaching in Forsyth County to being an administrator of an early education federal research and

development program in Pickens County to serving with our state Education Department of Curriculum Services. Now returning to her hometown of Cumming from Louisiana, Linda brings a multi-state perspective regarding opportunities in education as well as other needs in her community.



**Bob Prim** is an ordained minister currently serving at Nacoochee Presbyterian Church in Sautee Nacoochee. He sits on the Board of Visitors

for Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School and is active in Habitat for Humanity, Court Appointed Special Advisors, and the local Community Association. Bob's relationships in White County and his work there helps highlight NGCF's impact in our region.



**Robert Shippey** is Associate Vice President for Development at Brenau University and the senior administrator for the Business Incubator at Brenau. He also teaches business ethics and fundraising and grant writing classes in the College of Business and Mass Communications. With Robert's extensive background in education and his philanthropic proficiency, we are excited to welcome him to our board.



**Brian Steines** is the Chief Financial Officer of Northeast Georgia Health System. Prior to that, he served in similar roles in Missouri and Arizona. His accounting background combined with his executive leadership skills will help maintain our board's commitment to financial stability and transparency.



**Brian Tam** and his wife Kelly own and operate local restaurants, Tam's Backstage and Tam's Tupelo, and Bluegrass Foods, a catering service. He is an active member of the community with a heart for public service, having served on the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners for 12 years. His leadership

abilities and involvement in Forsyth County and our region will be an important component of his work on our board.



**Natalie Teston** is a family law attorney and partner at Coleman, Chambers, and Rogers, LLP. She has served as the co-chair of the Elachee Nature Center's Starlight Auction

in addition to volunteering in many positions with the Northeastern Bar Association and actively participating in the End Distracted Driving Campaign. Natalie's fresh perspective will be important to attracting the next generation of philanthropists.

THE NORTH  
GEORGIA  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION  
SUPPORTS  
NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATIONS  
AND DONORS  
BY BUILDING,  
DISTRIBUTING  
AND PRESERVING  
PHILANTHROPIC  
ASSETS TO  
ENHANCE THE  
SPIRIT OF  
COMMUNITY AND  
QUALITY OF LIFE  
IN THE NORTH  
GEORGIA REGION.

## New Nonprofit Educational Opportunities



**G.R.O.W.**  
Growing Roots Of Wisdom

A program of North Georgia Community Foundation

The Growing Roots of Wisdom (G.R.O.W.) program is the educational opportunity center of our foundation and houses three programs— a monthly luncheon series, twice-a-year half-day learning sessions and an application only seminar series. Our seminar series is comprised of a 12-month program (Lead Forward) designed for executives of nonprofit organizations and a 6-month program (You Lead) that helps develop leaders in nonprofits. The schedule of each program may be viewed online at [ngcf.org/grow](http://ngcf.org/grow).

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**LISA WARWICK**, VP, Finance | **MEGAN MARTIN**, VP, Marketing & Development  
**MARGAUX DOLENC**, Director, Grants & Community Partnerships  
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