



# for BETTER

a publication of the North Georgia Community Foundation

## Making An Impact

**Community Impact Grant Application Period: April 15-May 31**  
**Eligible Applicants: Nonprofit organizations serving our 15-county impact area**

Through our Community Impact Grants, each year NGCF awards funding to nonprofits meeting needs in our 15-county service area. This competitive grant making program is a permanent pool of funds built by contributions from those who want to see North Georgia thrive.

Applications will be accepted from April 15-May 31.

For more information on this grant program, visit [ngcf.org/nonprofits/community-impact-grants](http://ngcf.org/nonprofits/community-impact-grants) or contact Margaux Dolenc at [mdolenc@ngcf.org](mailto:mdolenc@ngcf.org) or 770-535-7880.



provides a pet shelter for victims of domestic violence

## Nurturing Growth through Community Impact Grants

We enjoy seeing the fruits of previous years' Community Impact Grants that were given all around our region. Just a few examples of organizations the grants helped in 2018 were: Jubilee Farms, Off the Chain, No One Alone, and Circle of Hope. To see a full list of previous Community Impact Grants, visit

As our Community Impact Grant fund grows through the generous gifts of donors, the impact in our region grows. This whole process also provides a wonderful opportunity for our donors to learn more about the true needs in our community and fund projects they know have undergone rigorous review by our program committee. We invest and steward the funds made to our endowment, and encourage donors to explore this way to partner with us to build a flourishing North Georgia.

To learn more about ways to partner with NGCF for your philanthropic giving, contact Michelle Prater at [mprater@ngcf.org](mailto:mprater@ngcf.org) or call 770-535-7880.



creates storage space for homeless shelters



grows fresh food for the homeless

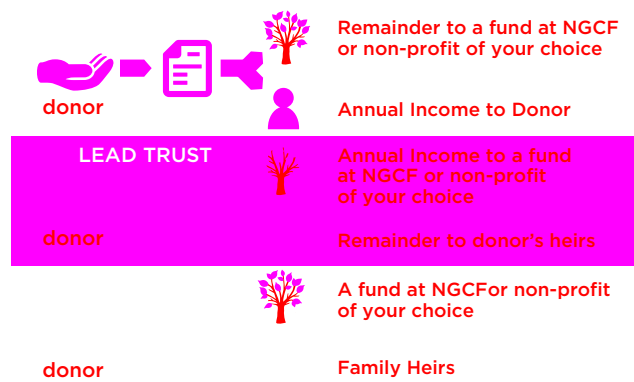


provides fencing materials for chained dogs, plus education for pet owners



# Blooms of Tomorrow are **Planted Today**

This year our pool of grant dollars available from the Community Impact Endowment Fund increased because of the foresight of a generous donor to leave a planned or "legacy" gift. Investing in the North Georgia Community Foundation through a legacy gift enables you to continue to help others in your community long after your lifetime. By adding to an existing fund, creating a new fund, or contributing to the NGCF For.Good.For.Ever Endowment through a planned gift, we can be your partner in establishing your legacy.



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## Taxes on the **Brain**

With the grey days of winter gone and the warming weather indicating spring's arrival, one can sense new opportunities blooming, even in routine tasks like doing taxes. As you think about your taxes, consider that you may be able to reduce your taxable income and make a greater impact in your community. Did you know that if you are over 70½ instead of taking your required distribution from your individual retirement account (IRA) and handling your charitable contributions separately, you can make a qualified charitable distribution from your IRA of up to \$100,000? Taking advantage of this opportunity allows you to directly transfer the money to the nonprofit of your choice, counts toward satisfying your required minimum distribution, and the amount sent to a nonprofit organization is excluded from your taxable income. You could also put the money in to a fund with NGCF (with the exception of a Donor Advised Fund), so you can benefit a nonprofit you choose in the future. Whether this process is beneficial to you depends on a number of factors, and we encourage you to have a conversation with your CPA. Once you've done that, we stand ready to help you learn about all the charities that would benefit from your contribution. **Contact us at 770-535-7880. We care about connecting donors with the causes that matter to them.**

## Our Team Is **Growing**



Abi was raised in Jackson County and attended the University of North Georgia, where she earned a bachelor's in business administration. Abi worked at Gainesville law firm Whelchel, Dunlap, Jarrard and Walker before transitioning to the nonprofit sector where she was VP of Operations and Finance at United Way of Hall County. Abi will be our Systems Administrator, where she will work with our data and grant management systems, as well as oversee scholarship funds. She and her husband live in Hall County with their young daughter. Abi's experience in the nonprofit sector and deep roots in the community help her appreciate NGCF's mission to enhance the spirit of community and the quality of life in our region.

Stephanie joins the team with an extensive background in real estate law and banking. She attended Lanier Technical College and the University of North Georgia and gained much of her real estate knowledge by working with Gainesville law firms O'Kelley & Sorohan and Stewart, Melvin & Frost, LLP. Most recently she worked with McMichael and Gray, Attorneys at Law. Her role at the Foundation is to support the President & CEO and Foundation strategies as Executive and Grants Assistant. She and her husband live in Jackson County with their teenage son. Stephanie brings a passion for giving back to the community and is excited to work in the nonprofit sector to have a hand in bettering the region.



**MICHELLE R. PRATER**, President & CEO  
**LISA WARWICK**, VP, Finance | **MEGAN MARTIN**, VP, Marketing & Development  
**MARGAUX DOLENC**, Director, Grants & Community Partnerships | **STEPHANIE GIBBS**, Executive Assistant  
**TAMMY PAUL**, Finance Administration | **ABIGAIL CARTER**, Systems Administrator



**FOR GOOD. FOR EVER.**