

# THE ARTHUR M. BLANK FAMILY FOUNDATION • 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Arthur Blank and his family have a bold vision for Atlanta. It's a vision of a community that holds promise for every child; of a city with a sense of place and potential; of vital neighborhoods, rich with vibrant cultural opportunities for all. This vision is not a Utopian dream. It's grounded in the belief that every individual can make a difference and that people of good will working together toward a common goal can make an even bigger difference.

In the past 12 months, The Blank Family Foundation – working with many nonprofit, civic and public partners – has made encouraging progress in turning this vision into reality.

Today, we are helping more children in Atlanta's toughest neighborhoods and poorest circumstances get a fair start in life, by funding early learning and family support services through our Better Beginnings program. With more information, more income and more confidence, young parents like Terri Phillips, whom you'll hear from in this annual report, have been able to make better choices for their children and families.

As a high school freshman, college was not on Jerry Green's radar. He had a low grade point average and was reading and writing well below grade level. But he made such an impression on the executive director at his internship site during his involvement with the Hands on Atlanta Summer Youth Fellows Program, that she began tutoring him throughout the school year. Through this Blank-sponsored internship, Jerry also met Mayor Shirley Franklin, the Chief of Police and several Atlanta City Council members. Those relationships led to subsequent internships at a prestigious law firm during the following two summers. Now a senior in Atlanta Public Schools, Jerry is reading at grade level, applying to colleges and planning to major in political science.

Through our Pathways to Success partnership with Atlanta Public Schools and The New Schools at Carver – a formerly underperforming school that has

been reinvented as five smaller centers of academic excellence – students like Jerry are gaining the skills and resources they need to go on to college and careers. New, innovative educational programs in Bluffton, South Carolina, and Phoenix, Arizona are having an equally positive impact on young lives in those communities, where we've brought together a wide range of partners all focused on the same goal.

Recognizing that every student must find his own passion and explore her own pathway to success, the foundation and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra have partnered to create the Youth Talent Development Program (TDP) to provide African American and Latino student musicians the opportunity to join major orchestras around the country. Today, after six years in the program, TDP alum Eric Thompson is studying double bass at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. He's among 71 students who have participated in TDP since its inception in 1993. For the Blank Foundation, the Art of Change is not only about changing the city landscape with a world-class new symphony hall, but about changing lives through the arts.

A city is people and place. Where they meet – whether in a neighborhood park, a sports stadium or a symphony hall – life's memorable moments happen. Through investments in the Atlanta BeltLine – a chain of parks and trails, transportation, affordable housing and commercial development that will encircle downtown and touch 45 in-town neighborhoods – the foundation is working to ensure that as Atlanta's density continues to grow, families will be able to enjoy well-designed parks and green space right in our urban center. If we're successful, and Atlanta's Emerald Necklace becomes a reality, the health and psychological benefits will be incalculable for generations to come.

Bill Dietz, Director of the Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity, at the Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention, reminds us that in the 1800s when diarrheal disease was a major public health problem, cities created the infrastructure necessary to produce potable water. Today, lack of physical activity has contributed to our new public health concerns – chronic diseases like obesity, diabetes and heart disease. So Dietz says, “investments in infrastructures to promote physical activity may be among the most important investments cities can make in public health. Said another way, the BeltLine may be the most important public health intervention in Atlanta since the advent of potable water.”

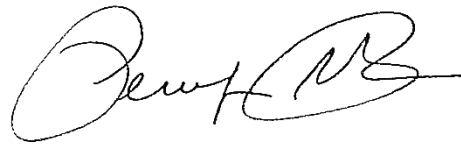
Through the Atlanta Falcons Youth Foundation, we’re exploring other innovative approaches to the fight against childhood obesity – an epidemic in Georgia. With an initial commitment of more than \$2 million, AFYF has launched and is now expanding Falcons Fitness Zones – where each day more than 4,000 kids in metro Atlanta have the chance to be physically active and learn about healthy living.

In all of these efforts, we rely on a cadre of strong nonprofit and public partners whose vision reaches far beyond the present to imagine the city we want for our

children and our children’s children. At this writing, the Atlanta metro region has reached a population of 5 million – a number that is expected to double in the next 20 years. It is certain that we are on our way to becoming a big city, but can we be great?

Great cities encourage public-private partnerships to achieve important social change. They foster learning opportunities and systems of care for children. They support great parks that serve as the nexus of our social connection. They build educational systems that motivate tomorrow’s leaders to pursue learning and encourage them to stay on track to succeed in life. And they are home to artistic experiences that refresh, while adding economic and cultural vibrancy.

Great cities are all these things. And foundations, through innovative grantmaking, best practices, and true community partnership, can be important catalysts toward achieving shared community goals. Working with our partners to transform vision into reality is a role we take seriously at the Blank Family Foundation. Together we can change lives one community at a time, and in doing so, make an impact that will last well into the future.



Penelope McPhee  
*President*

## INSPIRING SPACES

The Atlanta BeltLine has captured the imagination of a city. This proposed 22-mile loop of trails, transit, and parks promises not only to connect communities, spur development, mobilize residents, and increase green space, but to redefine and transform the City of Atlanta. It's a dream that can be realized through vision, leadership, and community action.

The Blank Foundation believes in the BeltLine, and what it will ultimately create: a system of great parks in Atlanta. Our early Inspiring Spaces investments led to the plan on which the dream is built. Subsequent investments in the BeltLine have supported land acquisition, trail development, park advocacy and park improvement. Our aim is to ensure that every Atlantian can easily access parks with the proper amenities, and enjoy the social, recreational and economic benefits they provide.

### Resources:

- Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) Beltline Corridor Details
- Urban Land Institute
- Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities
- Trees Atlanta
- Trust for Public Land's Center for City Park Excellence
- Park Pride, "Parks, Green Space and Atlanta Communities: A Research Report"
- City Parks Alliance

### The Benefits of Green Space

No major city in the nation has a smaller percentage of land dedicated to parks and green space than Atlanta. Each day the region loses another 54 acres of land to development. Critical tree coverage and wildlife habitat are affected. So are permeable surfaces that protect and purify natural drinking water. With a growing population that will likely double to seven million by 2030, it is increasingly important to plan and create the park space essential to our communities. This will not only preserve and protect land for public enjoyment. It will provide economic, environmental and health benefits that every resident needs.

The social connections parks provide are also invaluable and need to be available for adults and children all over metro Atlanta. Currently, too many neighborhoods don't have parks and other community spaces nearby. We are working to reshape this reality through our involvement in projects like the BeltLine; our partnerships with The City of Atlanta's Parks,

Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department; and park advocacy groups like Park Pride.

### Realizing the BeltLine Dream

Our involvement in the BeltLine's development is part of a larger community partnership effort to expand green space in Atlanta. As one of the initial funders of the Emerald Necklace Study, the Foundation has enthusiastically supported the BeltLine idea. We've since provided funds to help acquire land along the corridor, create trails that will connect the parks, and build advocacy groups who will maintain the parks in their neighborhoods.

With the full support of Atlanta's Mayor Shirley Franklin and the City Council, the BeltLine continues to gain momentum. The acquisition of the Bellwood quarry is a prime example. When converted into Westside Park, this property will become a mega-park totaling more than 350 acres of green space. The City has also purchased nearly 160 acres of other future park land along the BeltLine route. To date, 50 development projects totaling \$1.6 billion are already in progress along the BeltLine, pushing the city's projected tax base from \$110 million to approximately \$180 million.

Two entities are now working to develop the 25-year project. The newly established Atlanta BeltLine Inc., chartered through the Atlanta Development Authority, is charged with the overall implementation and management of the project. The BeltLine Partnership serves as the public-private arm, tasked with continuing to facilitate BeltLine advocacy and engage the private sector in fundraising efforts for Atlanta BeltLine Inc., the PATH Foundation, and the Trust for Public Land.

### Restoring and Improving Parks

As part of our strategy to increase public access and use of parks, we have helped fund improvements at six parks in close proximity to the BeltLine. Five are neighborhood parks in lower-income communities that already had unique momentum growing through the engagement of residents; and one is considered a regional park, offering recreational opportunities for all to enjoy.

Funds totaling \$850,000 were provided to Emma Millican Park, a 9.73 acre park in south Atlanta's Capitol View Manor neighborhood. The six-acre Chosewood Park in southeast Atlanta received \$385,000, while in the heart of the Vine City

community, \$550,000 in Foundation funds are being used to develop the new one-acre Vine City Park in a neighborhood currently deficient in park space.

We have also invested in the creation of trails in the 6.3-acre Adair I Park in Southwest Atlanta and in the 7.9-acre Daniel Stanton Park located south of Turner Field in Peopletown. Both parks will now offer easier access to the communities around them.

Piedmont Park is the preeminent park in our community. A vital and frequently used green space, it has become a central meeting space for walkers, runners, bicyclists, and concert-goers. The Piedmont Park Conservancy is dedicated to keeping the original vision for the park alive and beautiful through restoring, maintaining and reclaiming enjoyable parklands. A \$5 million challenge grant from the Foundation is helping to restore the park's lower meadow and Park Drive woodland areas, reclaiming 11 acres of land parallel to the proposed BeltLine.

### **Creating Park Advocates**

Parks don't thrive without people. Grassroots-level support – built through community advocates such as our partner, Park Pride – is essential to developing and restoring the city's smaller neighborhood parks. Throughout Atlanta, Park Pride is encouraging neighborhoods to form "Friends Of" groups to actively create the kinds of parks they want to enjoy with their children, families and friends, building an army of concerned and involved residents one neighborhood at a time. To date, more than ten parks are in some stage of re-development and 15 new "Friends Of" groups have been established. Park Pride also held a park design clinic in 2006 to help community residents determine the potential of their neighborhood park.

### **Connecting Communities**

The BeltLine project promises to connect 45 diverse communities with 22 miles of green space, trails and transit. Unifying a city with some disconnection along economic and racial lines, the project will bring inspiring spaces close to people who couldn't access them before. Trails will invite walking, running, and cycling throughout the neighborhoods' green spaces. In addition to promoting healthier lifestyles, they also promise to increase real estate values and help revitalize surrounding neighborhoods.

We have contributed \$1.5 million through the PATH Foundation to construct five new trail segments that will either connect residential areas and parks to the BeltLine or run along the corridor's right-of-way. PATH has constructed nearly 95 miles of trails in the metro Atlanta area since its founding in 1991. It is currently engaged in a joint campaign with The Trust for Public Land and The Beltline Partnership to raise funds to support the additional trails needed for the BeltLine loop.

## **BETTER BEGINNINGS**

Ideally, every child's early learning and development should flourish in a safe, nurturing environment. For the most vulnerable among us, our youngest residents, obstacles beyond their control often prevent that from happening. Too many children are challenged by lack of opportunity, lack of resources and distressed environments. These factors can contribute to poor birth outcomes, inadequate preparation for school and learning, and in some cases, violence or neglect at home. All affect a fragile child's chances for success in life.

Through Better Beginnings, we invest in partners that seek to strengthen the learning and caregiving environments for children from birth to age five, and help families build the financial resources they need to better provide for their children. Our focus is improving the effectiveness of services, and mobilizing local and state leaders through our involvement with policy driven efforts such as The Mayor's Taskforce on Early Care and Education; the Early Learning Commission and Voices for Georgia's Children.

### **Resources:**

- Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
- Grantmakers for Children, Youth and Families
- The Southern Education Foundation, "Pre-Kindergarten in the South: The Region's Comparative Advantage in Education"
- National Child Care Information Center
- Andrew Young School of Policy Studies' Educational Policy Group

## Quality Childcare is Critical

In Georgia, 20 percent of children live in poverty. Growing up in such environments can cause children to fall behind substantially in language and social skills, and suffer a higher risk of neglect and abuse when their families are facing financial and social obstacles. Because more than 400,000 Georgia children are in out-of-home care during the day, the early influence of programs that focus on the development of the skills and environments necessary for young children is critical to their long-term productivity in life. High-quality early learning programs are too few, and can serve only a small portion of children from disadvantaged backgrounds. But children who have quality child care are 26 percent more likely to graduate from high school and lead successful lives. Georgia has shown it believes in the importance of addressing these needs by leading the nation in introducing universal pre-K, a program that has been providing free access to preschool education through lottery funding since 1995. The state now has 56 percent of eligible four year olds enrolled. Every dollar invested in these kinds of early education programs can save the state up to \$17 in future remedial education, welfare and prison costs.

But quality care can't only be centered in child care centers and schools. Ninety percent of a child's brain development occurs before the age of three. It is important that a child's early care givers – parents, grandparents, and other family – have the information and resources to provide what every child needs. Families are our first line of defense. It is critical that they are supported in educating and advocating for children. Our partners continue to innovate and push the emergence of more opportunities to support our children, so they begin their lives with the tools they need to make a positive impact on our society.

## The Five Protective Factors

The Center for the Study of Social Policy has developed a promising approach to working with families through the early care and education environment. The Strengthening Families initiative reinforces existing childcare programs with strategies designed to help prevent abuse and promote optimal child development. The approach is based on five “protective factors” – supports and best practices that improve effective parenting, even for

families under stress. These affordable, doable, small-scale strategies enhance child development and family well-being.

We have led the charge to introduce Strengthening Families to Atlanta by incorporating the protective factors into our strategic plan; and bringing early childhood organizations and funders together to learn more about this innovative approach and explore ways to pursue our common interest.

In 2006, we invested \$450,000 to support mini-grants to a network of childcare providers implementing Strengthening Families and other program improvements. The funds will assist more than 30 programs with regular training opportunities and the latest information on best practices for child care. Through partnerships with the Georgia Children's Trust Fund Commission and Georgia Center for Children, participating organizations also receive additional professional development and expanded service. These efforts make Atlanta's Strengthening Families network the first of its kind, and a possible national model for other cities.

## Expanding Early Learning Opportunities

Every moment is a learning opportunity for a young child. That's the inspiration for Born Learning, a United Way campaign that helps turn everyday occurrences into learning experiences. In 2006, we provided a \$135,000 grant to assist the Black Child Development Institute (BCDI) in implementing Born Learning in the faith-based community, natural partners for strengthening family relationships. BCDI worked with local church and faith institution staff to create parenting workshops focused on increasing awareness and knowledge of early learning.

The Foundation also partnered with Jumpstart Atlanta, an organization that recruits and trains college students to mentor children. Our funding helped expand this innovative early education program to reach underserved communities in Vine City and West End. Jumpstart members will work with preschool children in small groups to improve language, literacy, social and emotional skills. The organization will also design training curriculum for the teaching staff in early education centers.

## Supporting Families

If parents and other caregivers have the knowledge, skills, and resources to care for children at their earliest stages in life, we have a better chance of giving them the vital nurturing and support they need. We are focused on environments that facilitate healthy growth and development for all children, in all types of families. The Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention's (G-CAPP) Doula Project aligns well with our goal. Doulas are extensively trained women from the community who support expectant teen mothers. Services provided by these paraprofessionals include stress management, life-skills and parenting training, prenatal support, and follow-up care for mother and baby. Our funding in 2006 helped expand the Doula project through increased funds for: marketing and outreach; Doula recruitment and hiring; expanded training; and long-term evaluation of clients and infants.

The Census Bureau's 2005 American Community Survey estimates that more than 93,000 grandparents in Georgia are raising grandchildren on their own. Often, they assume this responsibility due to the death, hospitalization, or incarceration of the child's parents. This is a specialized group with special needs. Project Healthy Grandparents (PHG), established at Georgia State University in 1995, provides health, social, and community services to this unique population. The Foundation's funding in 2006 assisted PHG in expanding its Early Childhood Intervention Program, which screens children from birth through age five for developmental delays. The program also provides monthly home visits by an Early Intervention Specialist who monitors progress and works with grandparents to build an environment that effectively supports each child's developmental needs.

## Increasing Family Resources

Poverty is the greatest threat to a child's well-being. For the average family, costs of housing, child care, health care, and transportation have been growing faster than their income. For families with lower incomes, life is a struggle to stay afloat. We believe that helping these families succeed in the workforce and optimize their financial resources can reduce poverty and nurture their children's success in life. Our strategy is to build assets for working families by connecting them with the resources and information

they deserve. Two web-based programs, EarnBenefits and One Economy, are leveraging our support.

EarnBenefits applies leading technology to help low-income families access available benefits such as free tax preparation, the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), Child/Dependent Care Credit, Food Stamps, and Medicaid through community providers. Our 2006 investment, along with Annie E. Casey Foundation funding, significantly expanded the program through a partnership with the Atlanta Workforce Development Agency. Now nearly 4,000 individuals can be screened for services, giving eligible families the financial assistance they need to build stable, better environments for their children. EarnBenefits is also available through the United Way of Atlanta, Sheltering Arms, the Center for Working Families, and two branches of the YMCA. Seedco (the Structured Employment Economic Development Corporation), a national nonprofit intermediary, created the EarnBenefits technology. Since it started Atlanta operations in 2004, over \$750,000 worth of benefits have been accessed by Atlanta clients.

We also invested in the launch of One Economy's Beehive Atlanta, a bilingual website that links area families to a wealth of local and national information. This single online destination includes financial, housing, employment, education, health, and child care information. The program also allows families to connect with many other Foundation partners. These include the Next Step program, Prevent Child Abuse Georgia, Atlanta Public Schools, the Atlanta Housing Authority, Quality Care for Children, and Smart Start. With content in English and Spanish, the virtual gathering place targets Atlanta neighborhoods with disproportionately high percentages of low-income families with young children. Funds also expanded the Digital Connectors program, providing computer assistance to neighborhood families through technically trained young people.

## PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

The divisions between black and white and rich and poor begin almost at birth in our country. Their persistence has created an achievement gap in American high schools that costs us a substantial social and economic price. Our youth, particularly in urban schools, are lagging behind in high school and college completion rates; standardized scores; and English and math skills. This low achievement in students

will eventually cause higher unemployment, lower earnings, and in some cases, an increased dependence on welfare and other social services. If we don't intervene, many students' dreams of moving on to college and entering the workforce will be narrowed, deferred, or even eliminated. We believe every young person deserves the kind of education that promises a future free from restriction. Providing all students the academic enrichment, preparation, and access they need is an essential investment that helps young people realize their full potential.

Pathways to Success is focused on expanding opportunity for youth in Atlanta, Georgia; Bluffton, South Carolina; and Phoenix, Arizona by supporting programs that give students the tools they need for success. Through investments in postsecondary readiness, we hope to be a catalyst for reducing the achievement gap and increasing high school and college graduation rates. Our goal is to help open the doors of opportunity to all young people.

#### **Resources:**

- Urban Institute, "A Statistical Portrait of Public High School Graduation, Class of 2001"
- The Gates Foundation, *Transforming High Schools*
- National Center on Education and the Economy, "Tough Choices or Tough Times"
- Atlanta Public Schools, High School Transformation Initiative
- Educational Testing Service, "America's Perfect Storm: Three Forces Changing Our Nations Future"

#### **Narrowing the Achievement Gap**

According to The National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education's latest report *Measuring Up 2006*, the likelihood of Georgia ninth graders enrolling in college has declined by 10 percent since 1992, a record that gives Georgia one of the worst rankings in the country. Recent test results from the National Assessment of Educational Progress show that only 35 percent of American 12th graders are proficient in reading and 23 percent are proficient in math. This is a level of underperformance in educating young people that could over time decrease our access to a competitive workforce and, ultimately, weaken Georgia's economy.

Even when students are successful in graduating and receive the financial aid available, the cost of sending a child to community college for a year is 49 percent of an average family's income, a challenge for low to moderate income students. This economic disparity also affects diversity at higher education

institutions, prohibiting young people from higher poverty levels from enjoying the academic opportunity they deserve. Slowly, Georgia is narrowing the substantial college enrollment gap between students. We must continue to look for ways to improve these numbers, and essentially, give every student a chance.

#### **Preparing Students for Life Beyond High School**

Preparing students for the rigor of college and career is critical. So is building the confidence to apply to schools and graduate with a degree. In Atlanta, we are participating with several higher education partners in supporting young people who attend The New Schools at Carver. Our grants help give students access to resources and services they need for life beyond high school.

A \$900,000 grant awarded to Emory University is supporting our postsecondary education goals through professional development for teachers; and academic enrichment and tutorial programs for students. Students in the School of Health Sciences and Research are gaining specialized learning experience in health research, internships, and mentoring opportunities. Students explore the collegiate environment first-hand and focus on critical thinking, biology, chemistry and calculus skills through participation in the Emory Preparatory Research Education Program, a six-week residential program.

A \$500,000 investment in the Georgia Institute of Technology's Center for Education Integrating Sciences, Math and Computing (CEISMC) created a partnership with The New Schools at Carver. As a result, students in Carver's Schools of Technology, Health Sciences and Research, and School of the Arts now benefit from academic tutorial, mentoring, and math and science themed clubs.

Through an \$181,000 grant, Georgia State University students serve as mentors and tutors to Carver's Early College students, offering assistance with pre-algebra, algebra and study skills. They also participate in chess and the Academic World Quest, an academic competition designed to increase awareness of international affairs.

#### **Increasing Graduation Rates**

With an emphasis on moving students toward high school graduation and college, Project GRAD has become one of Atlanta's most successful public-private partnerships. The organization is one of the Foundation's

lead partners in postsecondary readiness programming at The New Schools at Carver. Utilizing a grant of \$745,000, Project GRAD completed Phase II of the Keeping the Promise campaign, which provides support for postsecondary programs that include college tours, tutoring, and visiting professors.

Partners like Project Grad have helped increase the number of Carver students taking Advanced Placement courses, and the number of juniors and seniors passing required graduation exams.

### **Opening Doors to Higher Education**

College completion and retention rates remain uneven among students from different socio-economic backgrounds. Universities across the nation want to increase access to high quality education by identifying “non-traditional” students from diverse backgrounds. However, many schools using traditional evaluation methods continue to miss strong and capable students. Even when these students are recruited, the campus climate often feels foreign and unwelcoming. The Posse Foundation strives to open a collegiate world normally closed to such students. The program recruits, trains and awards scholarships to non-traditional young leaders. Based on a simple support team concept, student groups (or Poses) are sent to institutions ranked in the nation’s top 10 percent. The Poses are expected to support each other as they advance through the normal challenges of college life to graduation.

Posse, which began in 1989, has sites in Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, New York City and Washington, D.C. Our \$860,000 investment in the program has attracted funding from other local community resources to launch a new Posse site in Atlanta, increasing access and college enrollment for Atlanta Public School students.

### **Training Young People for Success**

The Atlanta Workforce Development Agency’s Youth Program provides internships, scholarships, and other training to assist students with college or certified technical training enrollment. A highlight of each program year is Mayor Shirley Franklin’s visit to each high school in the Atlanta Public School System to meet with seniors, personally recruiting program participants and discussing the importance of education past high school.

Throughout the program year, students are offered one-on-one sessions with the Mayor, SAT preparation, college fairs, workshops, and counseling for career and college. In addition, students receive job readiness training that includes resume writing and interviewing skills, ultimately placing 300 to 400 students at internships in local government, nonprofit, and corporate sectors annually.

Blank Family Foundation funding of \$350,400 supports these programs and services, equipping young people with the career training and continuing education opportunities that can help them gain greater success in life after high school.

### **Building a Support Structure**

We continue to fund Carl Hayden Community High School Pathways to Success programming in Phoenix, Arizona. The largest high school in the Pathways initiative, now famous for its national award winning robotics team, is majority Latino. Every program we fund at the school translates between two cultures. An intensive ESL (English as a Second Language) course is being offered during the summer months to help students strengthen their English skills. Chicanos por La Causa, a statewide community development corporation, creates internship opportunities for students based on their career interests. There is also a Family Resource Center, provided by the Arizona’s Children Association, for parents and guardians of Carl Hayden’s students, providing information ranging from standardized test registration and college preparation to adult ESL courses.

We continue our national partnership with the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) program to support the high school’s robotics team, teaching math and science principles as well as teamwork and leadership skills. Through a grant to Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation, Carl Hayden students are also offered the opportunity to earn college credit before their high school graduation through the ACE (Achieving a College Education) program.

### **Empowering a Community**

Our programming at Bluffton High School on the South Carolina coast, through funding to the Community Foundation of the Lowcountry, is directly connected to the needs in this relatively small community made up of a diverse student population. Here, we focus on

the social and emotional development of Bluffton students through out-of-school activities at the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Lowcountry designed around five core areas: character and leadership development, education and career development, health and life skills, the arts and sports, and fitness and recreation. We also partner with Strive to Excel to provide students with test preparation, essay writing, transitional support, college preparation, and trips to colleges and cultural institutions in South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia.

Students are encouraged to move to a higher education institution after high school through early connections to the local colleges in Bluffton. The University of South Carolina Beaufort gives interested students the opportunity to receive credit for the school's Early Childhood Education Bachelor of Arts degree program. The school also offers a Family University course that provides information on the college application and financial aid process to parents and guardians. The Technical College of the Lowcountry's Early College Credit Opportunity (ECCO) offers students up to 18 college credits toward a General Education Certificate. These programs not only give students a feel for college life, they also take some of the cost burden off of their families by reducing some of the credit hours needed to graduate.

## ART OF CHANGE

Imagine children with compelling, customized educational opportunities. Imagine a city bountiful in cultural experience and appreciation. Imagine a center rich with music and art as a catalyst for change.

The arts are an invaluable part of our human experience. They define who we are as people. They color our culture, our understanding, even our beliefs and values. But the arts also give us a sense of community and a broader education. And they can be the foundation for building a more vital and revitalized region, the stimulus for generating income, jobs, tax revenue, and greater visibility. A city is defined by its cultural vibrancy. Great cities have strong, diverse arts organizations and cultural opportunities.

Through our Art of Change initiative, we are focused on contributing to making the arts available to all Atlantans. Our first step is supporting the creation of a world-class center that will be the home of the Grammy-award winning Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. The space will serve as a venue for a wide range of music performances and a hub for music education.

### Resources:

- City of Atlanta Office of Cultural Affairs
- Arts Leadership League of Georgia
- Americans for the Arts
- Georgia Council for the Arts
- Metro Atlanta Arts and Culture Coalition (MAACC)
- Metropolitan Atlanta Arts Fund (MAAF)

### Advocating for the Arts

The arts can be used as a vehicle to revitalize and bond communities, giving people shared cultural experiences and addressing social issues. Cultural events and festivals, museums, and arts performances help us understand each other and connect with the world around us. Joining forces, we can build a community that supports, nurtures, and values the arts.

We are focused on being a catalyst in driving metro Atlanta's attention toward the arts. Foundation Chairman Arthur Blank chairs the ASO's capital campaign. President Penelope McPhee served as chair of the Mayor's Arts & Culture Funding Task Force, which recommended public funding mechanisms that might provide more support of the arts in Atlanta. Foundation trustees serve on various boards including the Woodruff Arts Center, the Alliance Theatre, the Metropolitan Atlanta Arts & Culture Coalition, and the Metropolitan Atlanta Arts Fund.

### Fostering New Talent

As an educational tool, the arts engage students and create new opportunities to make subject matter personally relevant. Students who use artistic approaches to school curriculum engage their analytical and evaluation skills; and develop more creative thinking. Including the arts as part of a school's educational curriculum improves academic and test performance, specifically increasing math, science and reading scores. Also, if students excel in an artistic form, the training they receive paves the way for career opportunities in the arts industry.

Our investment in The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra's Talent Development Program (TDP) is one way we are assisting students in their artistic development. One of the TDP's underlying goals is to enable the recruitment of more culturally diverse members for symphonies across the country. The program provides students with individual instruction, mentoring, and group activities to prepare them

for advanced study and eventually, future careers in music. The TDP also includes students and families in ASO events and performances in order to expand outreach. An example is the 2006 performance by TDP cellist Malcolm Parson in a post-concert reception honoring world-renowned pianist Andre Watts.

### **Envisioning a Symphony Center for Everyone**

The quality of life in a community automatically improves when there is an arts presence. Community development increases. Revenue is generated for businesses surrounding the arts venues, and these venues provide employment opportunities. The arts have been critical to revitalizing decaying communities in cities such as Philadelphia and Charleston, SC. In some cities, creating arts districts has become the centerpiece of combating crime and suburban flight. The arts are also increasingly important to businesses, both in terms of locating their companies and attracting key employees. Company heads recognize that the arts rank high in quality-of-life considerations.

Could a single building revitalize a community; increase revenue for the county, state and city; and create an estimated 6,200 jobs? Could a facility provide an acoustic venue that would make musicians around the world envious? Could it offer community indoor and outdoor performance spaces that draw audiences during the day and into the night? Create a Learning Center with distance learning technology, continuing education for teachers, and master classes by experienced artists? Designed by Santiago Calatrava, the ASO's proposed Symphony Center could. And in the process, it could jumpstart the Atlanta community in moving towards becoming a great city. To make this vision a reality, public dollars are needed. Our investment of \$35 million reinforces our belief in the project's importance to the Atlanta arts community, and the estimated \$4.1 billion it could generate for the city, county, and state.

### **ATLANTA FALCONS YOUTH FOUNDATION**

The Atlanta Falcons Youth Foundation awards approximately \$2 million in grants annually, making it one of the most active foundations in the National Football League.

Established in 1985 to serve as the philanthropic arm of the Atlanta Falcons, the foundation focuses on youth fitness and supports organizations serving youth throughout Georgia. Since Arthur Blank acquired the Atlanta Falcons in 2002, AFYF has grown to be the largest team-funded foundation in the National Football League, providing \$9.6 million in grants to nonprofit organizations across the state.

To address Georgia's high youth obesity rate, the AFYF launched the Falcons Fitness Zones in 2005, committing nearly \$3 million to the YMCA, YWCA and Boys and Girls Clubs in metro Atlanta and Gainesville, Georgia. Funding goes to programming that promotes physical fitness and healthy eating at 18 sites operating across five Fitness Zones, reaching nearly 12,000 youth. Several of the sites are located within a one-mile radius of the Georgia Dome.

### **MOUNTAIN SKY GUEST RANCH**

Led by staff, the Mountain Sky Guest Ranch Fund is focused on youth services, intercultural understanding, and the environment, needs identified as particularly important in Gallatin and Park counties in Montana. In 2005, the fund surpassed \$1 million in grants awarded since being formed in 2003.

## 2006 GRANTS

Listed below are \$23,273,793 in new grants approved during 2006 by the Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation. Some of these grants, as well as those approved in past years, are disbursed over a period of several years. The net effect of these past and future commitments is that during 2006 the foundation actually disbursed \$20,217,201.

### BETTER BEGINNINGS

#### Black Child Development Institute

Atlanta, GA

**\$135,000 over three years**

To increase early learning opportunities for children by implementing Born Learning in the faith-based community.

#### Center for the Study of Social Policy

Washington, DC

**\$450,000**

To improve early care and education in Atlanta by implementing the Strengthening Families approach which includes: mini-grants, technical assistance, training and mentoring for participating childcare programs.

#### Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention

Atlanta, GA

**\$250,000 over two years**

To increase access to high-quality parenting education and support programs for teen mothers by expanding the Doula Project.

#### Jumpstart

Atlanta, GA

**\$521,750 over three years**

To increase the number of children receiving Jumpstart programming and offer training to full-time classroom staff employed at participating centers.

#### One Economy Corporation

Atlanta, GA

**\$300,000 over three years**

To launch the Atlanta Beehive, an on-line site for local and national resources that benefit families.

#### Project Healthy Grandparents

Atlanta, GA

**\$175,000 over two years**

To expand the Early Childhood Intervention Program serving children ages 0-5 years who are at risk for developmental delays.

#### Seedco

New York, NY

**\$180,000**

For planning, start-up implementation and expansion of the EarnBenefits program in Atlanta.

#### Sheltering Arms

Atlanta, GA

**\$36,000**

To expand delivery of EarnBenefits to families with children enrolled in seven Sheltering Arms early education and family centers in the City of Atlanta and south Fulton County.

#### VOICES for Georgia's Children

Atlanta, GA

**\$75,000 over two years**

To develop a long-term policy agenda for Georgia children ages 0-5 and engage the public in advocating for its implementation.

#### ZERO TO THREE

Washington, DC

**\$20,000**

To enable one early childhood professional from the Atlanta area to participate in Zero to Three's next class of "Leaders for the 21st Century" fellowship.

### INSPIRING SPACES

#### City of Atlanta, Dept. of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs

Atlanta, GA

**\$2,950,000 over two years**

For park improvements and restoration at Adair I Park, Daniel Stanton, Emma Millican, Vine City, and Chosewood Parks.

#### Park Pride, Inc.

Atlanta, GA

**\$5,000**

For technical assistance.

**PATH Foundation**

Atlanta, GA

**\$1,500,000 over two years**

To develop five new trail segments that intersect or run directly along the Atlanta BeltLine corridor.

**Piedmont Park Conservancy**

Atlanta, GA

**\$5,000,000 over four years**

For phase one of Piedmont Park's capital campaign to expand and enhance the park.

**PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS****Atlanta Workforce Development Agency**

Atlanta, GA

**\$350,400 over four years**

For the Mayor's Youth Program, which provides scholarships and internships for senior high school students in Atlanta Public Schools.

**Communities in Schools of Atlanta, Inc.**

Atlanta, GA

**\$100,000 over two years**

To expand the Student Leadership Institute that provides Atlanta Public Schools' students with postsecondary training.

**Emory University**

Atlanta, GA

**\$900,000 over three years**

To provide mentoring, tutoring, postsecondary preparation, and career readiness opportunities for students at The New Schools at Carver; and to provide professional development support for teachers.

**FIRST**

Manchester, NH

**\$336,000 over two years**

To support The New Schools at Carver, Bluffton, and Carl Hayden Community High Schools' participation in the For Inspiration &amp; Recognition of Science &amp; Technology (FIRST) robotic competition programs; to provide robotic science workshops for Carver at Georgia Tech; and to support educational components of FIRST programs serving other schools in Atlanta and Phoenix.

**Georgia State University Foundation, Inc.**

Atlanta, GA

**\$181,000 over two years**

To implement the Early College High School Program at The New Schools at Carver, including teacher development and academic support programs for students.

**Georgia Tech Center for Education Integrating Sciences, Mathematics and Computing**

Atlanta, GA

**\$500,000 over two years**

For The Science, Math, Engineering, and Technology Program to work with students at The New Schools at Carver.

**One Economy Corporation**

Tempe, AZ

**\$100,000 over two years**

To expand the Digital Connector program at up to two sites in the city.

**Outward Bound Atlanta**

Clarkston, GA

**\$287,000 over two years**

To implement a comprehensive transition program for all freshmen; leadership programming and Outward Bound Expeditions for 84 sophomores and 12 juniors; and professional development for all faculty at The New Schools at Carver.

**Philliber Research Associates**

Accord, NY

**\$150,000 over two years**

To continue Pathways evaluation; track the efficiency of project implementation; measure student-level performance; and support the Foundation and its grantees in using evaluation to improve the effectiveness of the initiative.

**Posse Foundation**

New York, NY

**\$860,000 over three years**

To launch a Posse site in Atlanta and provide support for 60 Posse scholars.

**Project GRAD Atlanta, Inc.**

Atlanta, GA

**\$745,500 over two years**

For postsecondary readiness programs at The New Schools at Carver; to close GRAD's campaign; and to provide operating and scholarship support for the Atlanta Public Schools' Project GRAD High Schools.

**Urban Youth Harp Ensemble**

Atlanta, GA

**\$100,000 over two years**

To provide students in the School of the Arts with harp instruction, theory, study hall, ensemble opportunities, and scholarships to attend summer harp camp.

**DISCRETIONARY****Adaptive Learning Center**

Marietta, GA

**\$12,000 over three years**

For general operating support.

**American Jewish World Service**

New York, NY

**\$15,000**

For volunteer programs.

**Asian Women's Shelter**

San Francisco, CA

**\$1,500**

For general operating support.

**Atlanta Alliance on Developmental Disabilities**

Atlanta, GA

**\$5,000**

For general operating support.

**Atlanta International Book Festival**

Atlanta, GA

**\$100,000 over two years**

To develop an annual book festival in Atlanta.

**Atlanta Opera**

Atlanta, GA

**\$25,000**

For a campaign feasibility study and an internal assessment of the Opera's fundraising activities.

**Atlanta Workshop Players**

Alpharetta, GA

**\$3,000**

For scholarships to its performing arts camp.

**Ben Loeterman Productions**

Boston, MA

**\$5,000**

For "The People v. Leo Frank" documentary film project.

**Camp Seafarer**

Arapahoe, NC

**\$15,000 over three years**

For the capital campaign for its new Program Center.

**Chattahoochee Nature Center**

Roswell, GA

**\$10,000**

For a capital campaign.

**Children's Museum of Atlanta**

Atlanta, GA

**\$10,000**

For the "Access It!" program.

**The Cooper Institute**

Dallas, TX

**\$100,000 over two years**

To match the Ray Hunt challenge grant.

**Fighting Back Scholarship Program**

Devon, PA

**\$30,000 over three years**

For general operating support.

**Friends of Israel Defense Forces**

Atlanta, GA

**\$1,000**

For general operating support.

**Friends of the High Line**

New York, NY

**\$2,500**

For general operating support.

**GirlVentures**

San Francisco, CA

**\$9,600 over three years**

For the Dena Blank Scholarship.

**GirlVentures**

San Francisco, CA

**\$7,500**

For general operating support.

**Independent Media Artists of Georgia Etc., Inc.**

Atlanta, GA

**\$1,250**

For the 2006 IMAGE Film Awards Gala.

**International Development Exchange**

San Francisco, CA

**\$2,500**

For general operating support.

**International Fellowship of Christians and Jews**

Chicago, IL

**\$500**

For the On the Wings of Eagles program.

**Jewish Family & Career Services**

Atlanta, GA

**\$5,000**

For the annual capital campaign for the Ben Massell Dental Clinic.

**Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta**

Atlanta, GA

**\$700,000 over three years**

For the annual campaign and the Israel Crisis Fund.

**Magic Johnson Foundation**

Beverly Hills, CA

**\$5,000**

For the college scholarship program.

**Marcus Jewish Community Center**

Dunwoody, GA

**\$500,000 over three years**

For the annual campaign.

**Metropolitan Atlanta Arts Fund**

Atlanta, GA

**\$2,500**

For general operating support.

**Narika**

Berkeley, CA

**\$2,500**

For general operating support.

**New American Dream**

Takoma Park, MD

**\$10,000**

For general operating support.

**New York City Outward Bound**

Long Island City, NY

**\$110,000**

For general operating support.

**North Carolina Outward Bound School**

Asheville, NC

**\$126,000**

For general operating support.

**Outward Bound USA**

Garrison, NY

**\$1,726,000 over four years**

For general operating support and the Outward Bound Training Initiative.

**Pedestrians Educating Drivers on Safety**

Atlanta, GA

**\$20,000**

For general operating support.

**Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies**

Provincetown, MA

**\$5,000**

To provide whale rescue kits.

**Regional Atlanta Civic League**

Atlanta, GA

**\$5,000**

For general operating support.

**Save Darfur Coalition**

Washington, DC

**\$5,000**

For general operating support.

**Seed Savers Exchange**

Decorah, IA

**\$2,500**

For the Twin Valleys Capital Campaign.

**South County Senior Services**

Laguna Woods, CA

**\$5,000**

For general operating support.

**Southwest Autism Research & Resource Center**

Phoenix, AZ

**\$10,000**

For the Vocational and Life Skills Program.

**The Foundation Center - Atlanta**

Atlanta, GA

**\$40,000 over two years**

For general operating support.

**The Georgia Conservancy**

Atlanta, GA

**\$25,000 over two years**

For the Mothers & Others for Clean Air Campaign.

**The Global Fund for Children**

Washington, DC

**\$5,000**

For general operating support.

**The Global Fund for Women**

San Francisco, CA

**\$5,000**

For general operating support.

**The Link Counseling Center**

Atlanta, GA

**\$50,000**

For the Funds for the Future endowment.

**The QUEST for Public Education, Inc.**

Atlanta, GA

**\$3,000**

For the Strike Up the Band program.

**The Sandbox**

Hilton Head Island, SC

**\$3,000**

For a capital campaign.

**The William Breman Jewish Home**

Atlanta, GA

**\$5,000**

For general operating support.

**Thompson Island Outward Bound Education Center**

Boston, MA

**\$138,000**

For general operating support.

**Torah Day School of Atlanta**

Atlanta, GA

**\$7,500 over three years**

For scholarship support.

**Volunteers in Medicine Clinic**

Hilton Head Island, SC

**\$2,500**

For general operating support.

**Whitefoord Community Program**

Atlanta, GA

**\$10,000**

For general operating support.

**Woodruff Arts Center**

Atlanta, GA

**\$20,000**

For the 2006 annual campaign.

## **ATLANTA FALCONS YOUTH FOUNDATION**

### **A Friend's House**

McDonough, GA

**\$3,000**

For the fitness program; a new nutritional program; and fitness supplies for the new teen wing.

### **Agape Community Center**

Atlanta, GA

**\$8,000**

To offer physical fitness and health programs to Bolton community youth.

### **Aid to Children of Imprisoned Mothers, Inc.**

Atlanta, GA

**\$8,000**

To provide aerobics and dance classes to Camp AIM High kids.

### **America Atlanta SCORES**

Snellville, GA

**\$15,000**

For equipment, supplies, and travel for the after-school soccer program at four Atlanta Public Schools.

### **American Association of Adapted Sports Programs**

Atlanta, GA

**\$10,000**

For the 2006 Wheelchair football season.

### **Association of Black Cardiologists, Inc.**

Atlanta, GA

**\$15,000**

To implement 'The ABC's of Nutrition & Exercise' at YMCA extension/after-school program locations in DeKalb County.

### **Atlanta Youth Tennis Foundation**

Norcross, GA

**\$10,000**

For instruction and equipment for the Youth Development tennis program.

### **B.O.S. Fitness, Inc**

College Park, GA

**\$11,000**

For trainer and equipment needs for athletes attending North Clayton High School, and low income families in the community.

### **BlazeSports America**

Atlanta, GA

**\$7,500**

To improve fitness and nutrition of youth with physical disabilities / blindness / visual impairment through the 'BlazeSports Spectacular Fitness Festivals' and 'Active Youth Wheelchair Series'.

### **Boys & Girls Clubs of Athens**

Athens, GA

**\$3,465**

To support supplies for the 'Making Healthy Choices' program.

### **Boys & Girls Clubs of Augusta**

Augusta, GA

**\$21,644**

For training and equipment for the SPARK program.

### **Boys & Girls Clubs of Hall County**

Gainesville, GA

**\$1,081,000 over three years**

To launch and implement a new Falcons Fitness Zone in Hall County to provide physical fitness and healthy lifestyle activities at seven locations.

### **Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Atlanta**

Atlanta, GA

**\$15,583**

For the NFL/YET Center.

### **Boys & Girls Clubs of Mitchell County**

Camilla, GA

**\$3,500**

For the 'Commit To Be Fit' project within all four Camilla/ Mitchell County Clubs and the Pelham City School System.

### **Boys & Girls Clubs of Northwest Georgia**

Rome, GA

**\$14,000**

For training and equipment for the SPARK program.

### **Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeast Georgia**

Brunswick, GA

**\$22,640**

For equipment needs for club sports.

**Camp Kudzu**

Atlanta, GA

**\$8,000**

To allow children with Type I diabetes to participate in a week filled with sports, physical activity, and challenging endeavors.

**Camp Summer Spree**

Watkinsville, GA

**\$11,000**

For equipment needs for the physical fitness and nutrition program.

**CaringWorks, Inc.**

Decatur, GA

**\$3,000**

To purchase new recreational equipment for the Learning Link program.

**Center for the Visually Impaired, Inc.**

Atlanta, GA

**\$8,000**

To expand the recreation, fitness, and nutrition education programming of STARS.

**Center Helping Obesity in Children End Successfully, Inc.**

Kennesaw, GA

**\$12,500**

To support trainers, dieticians, and program activities and rewards.

**Chance for a Higher Level, Inc.**

Atlanta, GA

**\$5,000**

For trainer, nutritionist, and equipment needs to enhance the current education/recreational program.

**Chastain Horse Park, Ltd.**

Atlanta, GA

**\$3,500**

To partner with the City of Atlanta's Department of Parks & Recreation to conduct an after-school outreach riding program.

**CHRIS Kids, Inc.**

Atlanta, GA

**\$7,500**

For the Healthy Habits Program.

**Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta**

Atlanta, GA

**\$173,000 over three years**

To promote fitness and healthy living to youth residing in the Falcons Fitness Zones through the Falcons Neighborhood Fund.

**Cool Girls**

Atlanta, GA

**\$8,400**

For the GoGirlGo! physical fitness program.

**County Line Ruritan Club, Inc. / Hiram Hornets Youth Association**

Hiram, GA

**\$70,507**

To expand playing fields in California Park.

**Creating Pride, Inc.**

Atlanta, GA

**\$30,500**

To create murals that reflect the mission of the Atlanta Falcons Youth Foundation and support physical fitness and healthy eating awareness in Falcons Fitness Zone sites.

**DC Blazers**

Stone Mountain, GA

**\$6,000**

For equipment and uniforms.

**Devereux Foundation/Devereux Georgia Treatment Network**

Kennesaw, GA

**\$10,000**

To purchase a 20-station outdoor fitness system.

**Diabetes Association of Atlanta**

Atlanta, GA

**\$3,000**

For a registered dietician and physical fitness expert for the H2 (Healthy Habits) Youth Program.

**The Drake House**

Roswell, GA

**\$5,950**

To build a playground at the 16-unit apartment building in Roswell.

**East Lake Foundation, Inc.**

Atlanta, GA

**\$10,000**

For access and evaluation components of the First Tee of East Lake.

**East Point Velodrome Association, Inc.**

Atlanta, GA

**\$7,500**

To expand the youth cycling programs.

**Families of Children Under Stress, Inc.**

Atlanta, GA

**\$3,000**

For the "Under the Stars" weekend of sports and recreation for children and youth with disabilities.

**The First Tee of Atlanta**

Atlanta, GA

**\$10,000**

To increase access and provide equipment.

**First Tee of Columbus, GA, Inc.**

Columbus, GA

**\$9,385**

To increase access and provide equipment for the after-school program.

**Fit For Kids Foundation, Inc.**

Atlanta, GA

**\$2,500**

To provide a trainer and programming for overweight and inactive children.

**Future Foundation, Inc.**

East Point, GA

**\$12,000**

For the Fitness Unlocking Nutrition (F.U.N.) program.

**The Georgia Sports Hall of Fame Foundation, Inc.**

Macon, GA

**\$10,000**

For equipment and materials for the 'Steps for Life' program.

**Georgia Tennis Foundation**

Atlanta, GA

**\$7,000**

To provide an 8-week summer tennis program at 15 YMCA's in Metro Atlanta.

**Georgia Titans Basketball Club**

Lilburn, GA

**\$1,000**

To subsidize registration fees for the program.

**Georgia Youth Sports Association**

Stone Mountain, GA

**\$10,500**

To subsidize registration fees and provide equipment for the program.

**Glenwood Hills Youth Association**

Decatur, GA

**\$5,000**

To expand the NFL Youth Co-ed Flag Football League.

**Greater Columbus Sports & Events Council, Inc.**

Columbus, GA

**\$3,500**

For "Kids In Motion."

**Hall County YMCA, Inc.**

Gainesville, GA

**\$129,493**

To renovate Gainesville City School System's practice football field at Gainesville City High School.

**Hart Partners, Inc.**

Hartwell, GA

**\$15,000**

To purchase and install a fitness track with fitness stations and age-appropriate athletic equipment.

**Hayes Fundamental Camp**

Thomasville, GA

**\$3,500**

To add a midget (ages 10-12) and junior (ages 12-14) football and cheerleading program.

**HomeStretch**

Roswell, GA

**\$12,100**

To purchase and install a medium size commercial playground; and implement family fitness and nutrition life skills training.

**Horizons Atlanta Student Enrichment Program**

Atlanta, GA

**\$5,000**

To provide various sports, fitness and nutritional education activities.

**Inner Strength, Inc.**

Atlanta, GA

**\$8,000**

To support programming for 208 young men enrolled in the 'at risk' youth athletic, educational, and life skills program.

**Interfaith Outreach Home, Inc.**

Doraville, GA

**\$5,126**

To update the playground equipment.

**Kate's Club, Inc.**

Atlanta, GA

**\$2,000**

For the summer camp program at Camp Twinlakes.

**KIPP Foundation**

San Francisco, CA

**\$20,000**

To administer KIPP Sports in two KIPP charter schools in metro Atlanta: West Atlanta Young Scholars Academy and KIPP South Fulton Academy.

**Lowndes County Partnership for Health**

Valdosta, GA

**\$9,000**

For supplies and equipment for the Omega Soccer League.

**Lutheran Services of Georgia**

Savannah, GA

**\$15,000**

To implement the Spirit Kids Club program.

**Mark Trail Athletic Association, Inc.**

Lithonia, GA

**\$3,500**

To increase youth knowledge about the importance of maintaining a healthy diet through Track & Field and Cross Country programs.

**The Meriwether County Interagency/Family Connection, Inc.**

Greenville, GA

**\$100,000**

To complete the football field at Greenville High School as part of the recreation complex.

**The Mike Glenn Foundation**

Snellville, GA

**\$3,500**

For a basketball camp for the hearing impaired.

**Morehouse College National Youth Sports Program**

Atlanta, GA

**\$5,000**

For a five-week summer experience to expose youth to sport skill instruction and strong academic enhancements.

**National Kidney Foundation of Georgia**

Atlanta, GA

**\$3,000**

For Camp Independence.

**North Metro Miracle League**

Woodstock, GA

**\$19,000**

To expand and improve existing sports programs, test additional programs, and develop outreach initiatives for the community.

**P.A.S.S., Inc.**

Decatur, GA

**\$3,000**

To serve additional children in the football and cheerleading programs.

**Quest for Excellence**

Brunswick, GA

**\$5,000**

To expose underserved children in the community to the game of soccer through the Coastal Outreach Soccer Program.

**Reach Them 2 Teach Them Foundation**

Decatur, GA

**\$10,000**

For equipment and nutritional materials for the 'Being Healthy is NOT a Game' program.

**Richmond Hill Recreation Association**

Richmond Hill, GA

**\$3,500**

To purchase uniforms and necessary football equipment.

**Sandy Springs Youth Football & Cheerleading**

Atlanta, GA

**\$3,500**

For athletic programs that develop teamwork, physical conditioning, goal setting, sportsmanship, self-esteem, competitive spirit, and other positive attributes.

**Special Olympics Georgia**

Atlanta, GA

**\$14,000**

For equipment, transportation, and facility rental.

**St. Jude's Recovery Center, Inc.**

Atlanta, GA

**\$8,100**

For program supplies and transportation to insure regular physical fitness.

**Starlight Starbright Children's Foundation - Atlanta, Inc.**

Atlanta, GA

**\$7,500**

For the nutrition and sports activity program for chronically ill teens who are obese or at risk for obesity.

**Sumter Regional Hospital**

Americus, GA

**\$5,000**

For "Wild Cats are Fit Cats", a program designed to reduce the risk factors for cardiovascular disease and diabetes within Schley County.

**The Titans Track Club, Inc.**

Marietta, GA

**\$3,500**

To provide financial assistance to families whose children participate in track & field and cross country competitions.

**Thomas Area Soccer Association**

Thomasville, GA

**\$3,500**

To deliver Soccer Slam! free of charge to the youth of Thomasville and Thomas County.

**The University of Georgia Foundation**

Athens, GA

**\$11,000**

For supplies and transportation for the Healthy 4 Life project at Price Middle School.

**West Cobb Youth Athletic Association**

Hiram, GA

**\$25,000**

To engage inner city youth from Summer Hill, Grant Park, Peoplestown and Mechanicsville in a progressive developmental team sport initiative.

**WestCare Georgia, Inc.**

Stone Mountain, GA

**\$5,000**

For physical fitness equipment for the DeKalb Children's Center.

**Women's Sports Foundation**

East Meadow, NY

**\$40,000**

To implement the GoGirlGo! Atlanta program in all Falcons Fitness Zones.

**YMCA of Metro Atlanta**

Atlanta, GA

**\$636,000 over three years**

To launch and implement Falcons Fitness Zone programs at seven sites.

**MOUNTAIN SKY GUEST RANCH****American Red Cross of Montana**

Bozeman, MT

**\$1,000**

For the "Heroes Awards" Breakfast.

**Arrowhead Parent Teacher Organization**

Pray, MT

**\$2,025**

For the Missoula Children's Theatre Residency.

**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Gallatin County**

Bozeman, MT

\$20,175

For mentoring programs in Gallatin County.

**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Park County**

Livingston, MT

\$20,175

For mentoring programs in Park County.

**Big Sky Institute for the Advancement of Nonprofits**

Helena, MT

\$9,100

For the Park County Community Foundation Development Project.

**Big Sky Youth Empowerment Project, Inc.**

Bozeman, MT

\$15,000

For program expenses, and to provide capacity building opportunities.

**Child Care Connections, Inc.**

Bozeman, MT

\$5,000

For the School-age Technical Assistance, Resources and Training program.

**Children's Museum of Bozeman**

Bozeman, MT

\$10,000

For after-school programs at the museum.

**Community Mediation Center**

Bozeman, MT

\$11,675

For Peer Mediation programs in Gallatin and Park Counties.

**Corporation for the Northern Rockies**

Livingston, MT

\$3,000

For the Northern Rockies Sustainability Fair.

**Crazy Mountain Productions**

Livingston, MT

\$10,000

To build and sustain youth theatre programs, and expand the capacity of the organization.

**Equinox Theatre Company**

Bozeman, MT

\$12,000

To expand the youth program.

**Federation of Fly Fishers**

Livingston, MT

\$5,000

For the after-school watershed program for Park County 6th-8th graders.

**Gallatin Valley Independent Business Alliance**

Bozeman, MT

\$150

For the Montana Farm to Restaurant Campaign.

**Gardiner Food Pantry of Park County**

Gardiner, MT

\$1,100

To launch the back-pack program that sends needy children home with nutritional food each weekend.

**Greater Gallatin United Way**

Bozeman, MT

\$29,975

For the kidsLINK after-school program initiative and board development workshop.

**Headwaters Cooperative Recycling**

Helena, MT

\$1,200

To allow HCRI to place a recycling bin at a local transfer station.

**Headwaters Trail System**

Three Forks, MT

\$7,000

To construct a bridge over the Madison River that will connect the trail system in Three Forks to the trail system going to Missouri River Headwaters State Park.

**Hopa Mountain, Inc.**

Bozeman, MT

\$22,025

For a Youth Leadership Camp for underserved youth ages 10-15 in Gallatin County and Park County.

**Horse Medicine**

Livingston, MT

**\$10,000**

For the Children's Circle summer youth day camp targeting Livingston 'at risk' youth.

**Montana Nonprofit Association**

Helena, MT

**\$15,000 over three years**

For salary for the Member Services Director and associated work.

**Montana Outdoor Science School**

Bozeman, MT

**\$14,675**

For after-school and community programs, and the MOSS Scholarship Fund.

**Museum of the Rockies**

Bozeman, MT

**\$2,800**

To establish an educational programming scholarship fund for children of Park and Gallatin Counties.

**Park Conservation District**

Livingston, MT

**\$13,200**

For general operating support and capacity building.

**Park County Environmental Council (PCEC)**

Livingston, MT

**\$9,000**

To provide a resource for the community to engage in the understanding and protection of the natural and human environment.

**Philanthropy Northwest**

Seattle, WA

**\$5,000**

For the annual conference in Montana.

**Sonoran Institute**

Bozeman, MT

**\$10,000**

To build broad public support for a county-wide zoning and growth management initiative in Gallatin County.

**Southwest Chemical Dependency**

Livingston, MT

**\$14,175**

For the Youth Empowerment and Leadership Program in Park County.

**Three Rivers Wilderness Programs, Inc.**

Belgrade, MT

**\$3,250**

To expand the program.

**THRIVE**

Bozeman, MT

**\$15,000**

For the Partnership Project to strengthen families.

**Tri-County Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence**

Livingston, MT

**\$3,200**

For a children's area and office at the shelter as well as repairs to provide a safe and nurturing environment.

**Yellowstone Park Foundation**

Bozeman, MT

**\$7,000**

To deliver the Yellowstone program to upper elementary and middle school students.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT HIGHLIGHTS 2006

<b>Net Assets as of December 31, 2006</b>	<b>\$ 23,872,038</b>
<b>Total Revenues, net</b>	<b>\$ 13,497,668</b>
<b>Grant Expenditures:</b>	
Grants paid (see below)	\$ 20,217,201
Grants approved in 2006 for future payments	2,717,088
Grants revoked	(25,748)
<b>Total Grant Expenditures, net</b>	<b>\$ 22,908,541</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Operating expenses	\$ 2,639,639
Depreciation	89,840
Federal excise tax benefit	(3,118)
<b>Total Expenses, net</b>	<b>\$ 2,726,361</b>
<b>Detail of Grants Paid:</b>	
Grants paid through The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation	\$ 17,023,227
Grants paid through Direct Charitable Activities	129,273
Grants paid through Atlanta Falcons Youth Foundation (AFYF)	2,036,025
Grants paid through AFYF Events and Direct Charitable Activities	639,029
Grants paid through Mountain Sky Guest Ranch (MSGR) Fund	297,900
Grants paid through MSGR Fund Direct Charitable Activities	1,218
Grants paid through Philanthropic Memberships	90,529
<b>Total Grants Paid</b>	<b>\$ 20,217,201</b>