

Building a Better Community Through Philanthropic Giving

Suffolk Foundation

2008 Annual Report

2009 Annual Report : Charitable Giving In Action



Last year, the Foundation granted \$4,000 to the Suffolk YMCA to provide scholarships to low-income families so their children could attend an after-school care program during the school year. The story of a mother helped by the Suffolk Foundation was conveyed to the Foundation by a “Y” employee. “One mother broke down in tears when she received after-school financial assistance offered under last year’s grant from the Suffolk Foundation. She was on the verge of losing her home in foreclosure. The reduction in after-school expense played a big part in helping her pay the mortgage and keep her home. She is extremely grateful. Her son had been held back in school (twice) but is now making significant progress with help from the YMCA homework coordinator. The Foundation’s most recent contribution will make more of these stories possible.

Message from the President



Whitney G. Saunders, President

Committee Assignments: Executive, Distribution, and Investment

When the Suffolk Foundation was incorporated in 2006 none of us dreamed that mortgage backed securities, the banking crises, rampant foreclosures, massive job losses and a sovereign debt debacle were lurking around the corner. The good times we were experiencing led to the optimism that we believed was necessary if the community foundation serving Suffolk and the surrounding area was to grow and thrive.... or so we thought.

As fortune would have it, soon after our inception the financial fortunes of the entire globe reversed and the Suffolk Foundation has benefited not from increased donations but from the opportunity to fulfill its purpose. 2008 brought a horrific tornado and the establishment of our Tornado Relief Fund in response. In that year, the fledgling Foundation made grants of over \$200,000.00 in disaster relief, annual awards, and donor-advised gifts to nonprofits.

In 2009 the Foundation placed its focus on basic human service needs as a result of the struggles experienced by our friends and neighbors in a year of severe

recession. Distributions in excess of \$193,000.00, which included donor-advised grants, have been made in an effort to address a part of the great need which confronts our community.

This year past makes us even more thankful for those donors who have made the work of the Foundation possible. It seems that their charitable action could not have occurred at a better time to benefit our neighbors in need.

Whitney G. Saunders

History

The Suffolk Foundation was incorporated on November 9, 2006; however, the Foundation did not become fully operational until it received its 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt status from the IRS on October 4, 2007. Mr. William N. Hill, former Suffolk Public Schools administrator, was selected by the Board to serve as the Foundation's first Executive Director. The Foundation office was originally located at 1514 Holland Road, which shared office space with the Obici Healthcare Foundation. Later, through the generosity of Mr. Angus I. Hines, Jr., one of the Founding Members, the Foundation established its current office at 1426 Holland Road.

The Foundation is a tax-exempt organization and is a non-profit, autonomous, publicly-supported, nonsectarian, philanthropic institution with a long-term goal of receiving and managing funds which benefit the citizens of Suffolk perpetually. These funds have been and will be established by many separate donors for the broad-based charitable needs of Suffolk and the surrounding area. The Suffolk Foundation accepts contributions from individuals, businesses, foundations, and other non-profit organizations. These funds are held in trust and pooled together for investment purposes. The income earned on these funds is distributed annually in the form of grants to nonprofit agencies, enhancing the quality of life for area citizens.

The Foundation distributed its first grants after a devastating tornado in April, 2008 damaged numerous homes and businesses throughout Suffolk. Through the generosity of many individuals and organizations, over \$185,000 was donated to the Foundation to support the victims and establish a \$75,000 Disaster Relief Fund to be used for victims of possible future disasters. Victims of the tornado received immediate assistance from organizations, such as the Salvation Army, Mercy Chefs, God's Pit Crew, Samaritan's Purse, Suffolk's Open Door Church, and the Economic Development Authority's Matching Grant Façade Program. All of these 501(c) (3) organizations received grants from the Suffolk Foundation's Tornado Relief Fund to assist in supporting their efforts.

The first scheduled grant distribution was the presentation of the \$2,500 Howard Mast Memorial Scholarship, which went to Juan Lascano, a senior at Nansemond River High School. The Foundation received almost \$40,000 in 2009 to manage its second scholarship. The Colonel Fred V. Cherry Scholarship will be awarded in 2010 to a deserving senior in one of Suffolk's high schools. The first grant application cycle was completed in December, 2008, with the Foundation distributing \$41,500 to nine nonprofits. Including awarding grants from Donor-Advised Funds, the Foundation awarded over \$200,000 to nonprofits during 2008. During the second grant cycle in December, 2009, the Foundation distributed \$43,800 to eleven nonprofits. Throughout 2009, the Foundation was able to distribute to nonprofit agencies more than \$194,500, which included donor-advised grants. At the end of 2009, the Foundation was honored to have the family of R. Curtis Saunders, Jr. designate contributions in his memory to establish an administrative fund to help support the ongoing work of the Foundation.

The Founding Member campaign, which requires a pledge of \$100,000 over a three-year period, has been very successful. Through the generosity of these Founding Members and other individual donations, the Foundation currently has assets and pledges of over \$2.6 million. The Foundation continues to seek Founding members who desire to improve the quality of life for the City of Suffolk and surrounding areas through philanthropic giving. If you would like to become a Founding member, please contact one of the Board members or Mr. William Hill, Executive Director of the Suffolk Foundation.

Suffolk Foundation's Named Funds

The Suffolk Foundation acted as the fiscal agent for Suffolk Sister Cities to support their efforts in sending selected band and choral students from Suffolk's public and private high schools on a European tour.



SISTER CITIES COMBINED CHORUS PERFORMS IN ENGLAND

Unrestricted

- George Y. and Sue B. Birdsong
- Thomas H., III and Constance Birdsong
- Butler Paper Recycling, Inc.
- George T. Everett Memorial Fund
- Harry L. Cross, III and Lisa Cross and Family
- Haas Family
- Descendants of Angus Henderson Hines
- R. Curtis, Jr. and Martha G. Saunders and Whitney G. and Ellen H. Saunders

- Jim and Elizabeth Turner
- The White Family Fund

Donor-Advised

- Carr/Kennedy Family Fund
- Fluter Fund
- The Harrell Fund
- Dwight and Jane Schaubach Fund

Designated

- Butler Paper Recycling, Inc. Fund
- Disaster Relief Fund

Administrative

- R. Curtis Saunders, Jr. Memorial Fund

Scholarship

- Colonel Fred V. Cherry Scholarship
- Howard D. Mast Memorial Scholarship

2009 Annual Grant Cycle



RYAN HARRELL, ALONG WITH FOUNDATION PRESIDENT, WHITNEY

SAUNDERS, AWARDS GRANT TO JEFF ZIEGLER WITH THE CHILDREN'S CENTER

For Kids\$7,000

- Funding to help with the cost of salaries and benefits for children's services staff from loss of state funding.

Western Tidewater Free Clinic\$6,000

- Funding will help with the purchase of a Piccolo Express Chemistry Analyzer to aid physicians in the on site point of care testing of patients at the clinic.

Suffolk YMCA Shelter\$5,000

- Funding will address the growing childcare crisis in Suffolk. \$4,000 will be allocated to 35 low-income children to attend after-school programs during the 38-week school year. \$1,000 will provide 10 children with the opportunity to attend summer camp.

Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters\$5,000

- Funding will support The Child Abuse Program which provides critical medical, mental health, and forensic services to children who are suspected of being abused and neglected.

Suffolk Salvation Army Corps\$5,000

- Funding will provide basic services of food, shelter, and energy for individuals in Suffolk, Isle of Wight, Surry, Smithfield, and Franklin.

Tidewater Youth Services Foundation\$3,500

- Funding will help provide Gang Intervention Services for youth referred by the Suffolk Court Service Unit.

Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia Area-wide Model Program\$3,000

- Funds will be used to provide 250 trips to medical appointments for Suffolk residents sixty years of age and older and adults with disabilities.

Edmarc Hospice for Children\$3,000

- Funding will help to provide services – home health care, pain management, counseling for siblings, bereavement support and other vital care to families coping with children facing life-limiting illnesses.

Access College Foundation\$2,500

- Funding will provide SAT Preparatory Workshops for 150 Suffolk Public High School students.

Suffolk Literacy Council\$2,000

- Funding will be used to employ a part-time Tutor Coordinator and make current and relevant supplementary reading materials available to tutors and their students.

The Children’s Center\$1,800

- Funding will provide 40 new car seats to help transport children in the Early Head Start and Early Intervention Programs.

Total \$43,800

The Foundation’s Impact on the Community

“IN THE FACE OF THE GRINDING RECESSION THAT HAS FRUSTRATED NON-PROFITS AROUND THE COUNTRY, THE FOUNDATION MADE GOOD ITS COMMITMENT TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR THE PEOPLE LIVING IN AND AROUND SUFFOLK.” (Suffolk News Herald Dec., 2009)



CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL OF THE KING’S DAUGHTERS CHILD ABUSE PROGRAM

This year the Foundation granted \$5,000 to the Children’s Hospital of the King’s Daughters for its child abuse program. Dr.Susan Starling, child abuse pediatrician and the program’s medical director stated, “The children I see daily need a variety of medical and mental health services to help them recover from tragic events. Support from the community allows us to deliver services to needy children that are unavailable elsewhere in the community. We are truly grateful for the Suffolk Foundation’s commitment to our program.” Approximately 50 Suffolk patients received assistance in 2009.



MR. BILL PEACHY, CHAIRMAN OF THE HOWARD D. MAST MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE, WITH THE 2009 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT,DARIA GODUNOVA, A NANSEMOND RIVER HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR.

Donor-Advised Grants \$64,100

Scholarships \$3,500

Tornado Relief Grants \$35,998

Sister Cities Grant \$47,181.19

Total Grant Value 2009 \$194,579.19

[Financial Summary \(/PDF/SUF Financial Position 2009.pdf\)](#)

[Board of Directors and Staff \(http://suffolkfoundation.org/board-members-and-staff.html\)](http://suffolkfoundation.org/board-members-and-staff.html)

Funding Opportunities Available to You

The Foundation asks you to consider the many benefits of giving to a community foundation. Gifts to the Suffolk Foundation are an appealing, accommodating, and a cost-effective way to achieve your charitable goals. If you consider starting your own private foundation, you must assume the following responsibilities:

1. Structure the foundation
2. Formulate the policies
3. Oversee investment of assets
4. File all necessary tax forms
5. Monitor grantee activities

If you select the Suffolk Foundation to manage your charitable gifts, all of the above will become the responsibility of the Foundation

The Foundation will work with each donor individually to choose or combine any of the following funds to meet his/her charitable giving needs:

Unrestricted Funds are appropriate for donors who want their charitable giving to accomplish the most for the quality of life in Suffolk and the surrounding areas but recognize that the community needs can change over time. Perhaps the most important of all foundation assets, Unrestricted Funds enable the Distribution Committee to respond to changing community needs as they arise. The distribution of these funds will usually take place annually after the Board of Directors reviews applications from area non-profits. THERE IS NO MINIMUM GIFT REQUIREMENT UNLESS THE FUND IS TO BE NAMED. A NAMED FUND REQUIRES A \$10,000 MINIMUM GIFT.*

Field of Interest Funds support programs and/or organizations in a field specified by the donor. This fund is appropriate for donors interested in addressing specific issues in a particular category, such as: Arts, Culture and Humanities; Human Needs; Education; Youth; Disabled; Elderly; Human Services; Environment; Animal Welfare. The fund allows a donor to support a particular field of interest but does not require a commitment to one organization. The distribution of these funds will take place annually after the Board of Directors reviews applications from area non-profits. The Distribution Committee is bound to follow your broad guidance.

A MINIMUM GIFT OF \$10,000 IS REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH A NAMED FUND.*

Donor-Advised Funds allow the donor to make recommendations as to how the income from the fund is spent. This fund is appropriate for donors who would like to take advantage of charitable giving but would like to be able to make suggestions on which charities should be supported. The Distribution Committee welcomes the donor's input but is obligated to follow the IRS guidelines. The Foundation expects its grant distributions from donor-advised funds for the year to equal or exceed 5% of its average net assets. The Foundation's Board of Directors has final approval of the recommendations made by the Distribution Committee. A MINIMUM GIFT OF \$25,000 IS REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH A NAMED FUND. *

Designated Funds support a specific nonprofit organization or program selected by the donor. This fund is appropriate for donors who want to designate a specific nonprofit organization(s) or program(s) to receive annual gifts even after his/her lifetime. . A MINIMUM GIFT OF \$10,000 IS REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH A NAMED FUND.*

Scholarship Funds are appropriate for donors who want to support deserving students. This type of fund is used when the donor would like to establish named scholarship(s) so deserving students may have the opportunity to acquire an education they might not otherwise be able to receive. The scholarship may be for any level of education the donor specifies. . Donors have much flexibility and may define the guidelines for the candidate selection or designate a field of study or college/university to be attended. The Foundation currently has two established scholarships, the Colonel Fred V. Cherry Memorial Scholarship and the Howard D. Mast Memorial Scholarship. A MINIMUM GIFT OF \$25,000 IS REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH A NAMED FUND.*

Memorial Funds are appropriate for donors saddened by the death of a dear and valued friend or family member. The fund becomes a permanent living memorial that will be meaningful throughout the years. The Memorial Fund is usually either unrestricted or dedicated to a field of interest important to the deceased. A MINIMUM GIFT OF \$10,000 IS REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH A NAMED FUND. *

Agency (Special) Funds are appropriate for organizations in the local community who desire the Foundation to act as a repository of gifts in their names.

Administrative Funds are appropriate for donors who want to support the ongoing work of the Suffolk Foundation and assure its ability to serve Suffolk and surrounding communities. An administrative fund is used to offset operating expenses, thereby increasing the amount available for charitable distribution.

*Any established fund may be added to, but there are minimum gift requirements to establish a named fund.