

Volunteering in America

More Americans volunteer during hard economic times.

The Corporation for National and Community Service last month released a report that showed a jump in volunteerism rates as the highest since the early 2000's. Instead of buckling under the pressure of a down economy, Americans are donating more "sweat equity." More than 63 million people devoted more than 8.1 billion hours of their personal time last year.

According to, Patrick Corvington, the corporation's CEO, "People are turning toward problems, working with their neighbors to find solutions."

The Community Foundation of Broward has always believed that in order to develop innovative solutions and create lasting change, people have to be involved in the causes that matter to them. From that core belief, civic engagement has become a key tenet of Foundation work.

A new leadership initiative of the Foundation called Re-Engage for Good is based on that tenet. Re-engage for Good will enrich lives in our community by encouraging retiring baby boomers to use the second half of their lives for social good. The program is designed to engage this generation as a civic resource and capitalize on the skills and experiences they have gained over the course of their life so far and use them to enrich the lives of others.

"Broward's baby boomers are an untapped resource of extraordinary proportions," noted Sheri S. Brown, vice president grants and initiatives of the Foundation. "They are the largest, healthiest, best-educated generation in history – and they can make an indelible difference in our community."

Read the Volunteering in America report at cfbroward.org/volunteer. Learn more about Re-engage for Good at cfbroward.org/engage or call Sheri Brown at 954-761-9503

Creative Approach Gives Youth Needed Help



Imagine turning 18 and having nowhere to go – no family, no car, no training on how to live independently, no one to talk to or lean on. Once the State stops providing financial support to foster families, the child they are caring for is often asked to leave. That's what more than 100 Broward kids face each year.

Today, there is new hope for a number of them thanks to a creative philanthropic solution offered to Community Foundation fundholders Nancy Bryant and Jerry Taylor.

Bryant and Taylor were looking for an innovative way to shed light on this issue. Their philanthropic advisors at the Foundation suggested a \$50,000 challenge grant, the Foster Success Challenge. In only five short weeks, the Foundation staff was able to turn \$50,000 into \$106,000 to help these vulnerable youth make the difficult transition to independence.

The quick success of the Foster Success Challenge is thanks to the generosity of 17 donors who were asked to contribute to the Challenge and wanted to make a difference. Twelve of them had never supported this cause before.

When asked to consider a gift, Jon and Elaine Krupnick, founding donors of the Foundation, were visiting family in Colorado. Still, they replied immediately via email, "We love this! We are sending a check and thank you for the opportunity to help these kids."

Today, former foster youth are engaged in more than 300 hours of GED tutoring, counseling and life skills classes; 44 youth are the recipients of one-year bus passes to eliminate obstacles to fulfilling school and work commitments and 15 are receiving a housing subsidy to ensure that they have a warm, safe place to call home, all thanks to the Challenge.

"The success of this Challenge will go a long way to making life better for these kids," said Linda Carter, president/CEO of the Foundation. "We remain committed to offering a hand up to young people, so they may become successful, independent adults."

Seeking a creative approach for your philanthropy? Call Barbara Witte at 954-761-9503.

Read more about the Foundation's work in this area at cfbroward.org/foster



Leadership Institute Launches

The recent Giving USA report shows nonprofits are being forced to develop new, more efficient ways of operating as the number of charitable gifts they receive decline.

This task of changing the way nonprofits operate is a critical one, and is not left to the CEO alone. Boards of directors are responsible for the governance and ultimate success of the organization on whose board they serve. In this economy, they find themselves faced with unprecedented challenges.

For fourteen years, the Community Foundation has operated the Nonprofit Resource Center, which was designed to build the capacity of the nonprofit sector. The Center was very successful and has always received the highest of reviews.

"We've seen over the past two years a greater need for strong leadership in our sector, as the economy continues to struggle," observed Jan Cummings, chairman of the Board of the Community Foundation. "New issues continue to arise as nonprofits struggle with how to best handle this decrease in revenue."

This year the Foundation has capitalized on the success of the Nonprofit Resource Center and re-structured it into the Leadership Institute. "We are making a significant investment in the development of effective leadership in Broward," continued Cummings.

"The Leadership Institute creates a pathway for increased innovation and accountability. It will help board members focus on critical issues. Which in turn allows organizations to be nimble, pro-active and create better, more effective solutions for all the residents of Broward," offers Corey Yugler, program manager for the Foundation and responsible for the Leadership Institute programming.

Learn more about the Leadership Institute at cfbroward.org/institute

Nancy Bryant and Jerry Taylor are Proud of Challenge



Jerry Taylor and Nancy Bryant

When Nancy Bryant and husband Jerry Taylor created their Fund at the Community Foundation, they wanted to gain a deeper understanding of local issues and invest in innovative solutions. Quickly sensing their conviction that children be given opportunities to succeed, their philanthropic advisors introduced them to work being done for foster youth who, taken from their families for their own protection as children, are released from the state's care at the young age of 18.

Nancy and Jerry were honored to take the lead in the recent Foster Success Challenge, (*see page two*) to increase awareness and support for a cause that is important to them and to our community.

"When we first learned about the plight of foster kids who must leave the state's care, we cringed at how hopeless and alone they must feel," said Byrant. "Working with the Community Foundation of Broward, we have now found innovative and constructive ways to help these youth overcome their misfortunes to carve a better path for their lives."

As a result of working together with our staff and community of philanthropists, the Jerry Taylor and Nancy Bryant Fund will change young lives ...*For Good. For Ever.*

Explore how a Fund in your name will fulfill your personal charitable goals, contact Barbara Witte at 954-761-9503 or visit cfbroward.org/Fund



1401 East Broward Boulevard, Suite 100
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
954-761-9503
cfbroward.org

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Good News and Bad News

Charitable giving drops for second consecutive year

Donations to charities that provide food, shelter and international aid went up

The recent release of Giving USA, an annual report on philanthropy that has been published since 1956, confirmed what the nonprofit sector has known for the past 18 months. Charitable giving is down 3.6% from 2008.

As Americans continue to struggle with recession fallout, charitable giving is among the first things to be cut from household budgets. Notably, religious organizations, which receive more than a third of all charitable dollars, saw its first drop since 1969. The arts, education and humanities also saw record declines.

"Frankly, things could have been worse overall for those who operate the charities," says Giving USA Foundation, who co-produces the report with The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University, Chair Edith H. Falk. "While overall giving declined, many donors - including individuals and foundations - made special efforts in 2009 to respond to greater humanitarian needs."

Nonprofits that provide food, shelter, job training, and health care saw increases in contributions; as did those that provide international aid - due to the earthquake in Haiti. These causes benefitted from 3% and 6% gains respectively.

The Community Foundation's giving in these areas also increased in 2009. Community Foundation grants to charities that provide food, shelter or job training received 10% more this year than last. And thanks to a lead gift by fundholders David Horvitz and Francie Bishop Good that was matched by The Kresge Foundation, more than \$40,000 has been invested in programs to benefit Haitian earthquake victims here in Broward.

The Giving USA report also shows a 24% decrease in bequests, largely attributable to the Walton and Croc estates that both closed last year. On the converse, the report showed an increase in donor advised funds, such as those offered by the Community Foundation.

"Donor advised Funds are a flexible way for donors to get the look and feel of a private foundation without the administrative obligations," noted Barbara Witte, vice president philanthropic services of the Community Foundation. "It's a strategic way to approach your philanthropy, especially in these times when there is more competition for fewer dollars."

Read more at cfbroward.org/givingusa

Visit cfbroward.org/Fund to learn more about donor advised Funds