

# Wexford Foundation 2023 News Update



**35 local charities benefited from the  
Wexford Foundation 2023 Grants!**

# A Letter from the Chair

Dear Neighbors & Friends of the Wexford Foundation,

Living in Wexford's idyllic and prosperous setting, it can be easy to overlook the fact that nearly 30 percent of our island residents live at or below the poverty level. When the Wexford Foundation was established in 2012, the mission was to address the health, housing, homelessness, and educational needs of the underserved in our local community. It was the right mission then and it continues to be the right mission today. Through your incredible generosity, the Foundation has been able to provide \$2.4 million since its inception to fund initiatives that help our less fortunate neighbors build better lives.

On February 7th, at our first Grant Luncheon since 2020, the Wexford Foundation awarded \$368,000 in this year's sustaining grants to 35 local non-profit organizations. Our donors and the recipient charities welcomed the opportunity to spend time together in such a positive and appreciative setting. The feedback from both groups was extremely complimentary. Our non-profit partners were able to personally offer their gratitude and explain the challenges they face in providing their mission-driven client services. Likewise, our donors were able to meet the dedicated professionals that lead the organizations we support and better understand the life-changing impact of our grants.

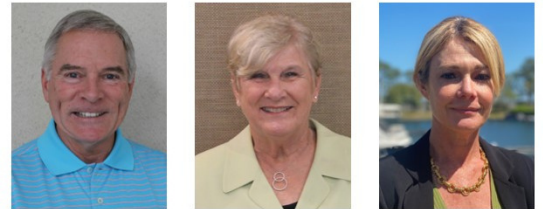
We learned, or perhaps relearned, that when we put our donors and charitable partners together in the same room, the discussions more clearly show that together we are making a difference. We recognize the need to create this setting more frequently and plan to arrange a few informational sessions in the upcoming months for both long-standing donors and Wexford newcomers.

We are committed to fulfilling the mission of our founders. If you would like to learn more about any facet of the Wexford Foundation, please contact me at [chair@wexfordfoundation.com](mailto:chair@wexfordfoundation.com) or reach out to any one of the Board Trustees.

Thank you for your generosity.

Warmest regards,  
Fred Noonan

# Board of Trustees



**TOP (L to R):** Kathy Alexander, Mark Brown, Cyndi Duvall  
**MIDDLE (L to R):** Kurt Grindstaff, Paul McEvoy  
**BOTTOM (L to R):** Fred Noonan, Andi Purple, Nancy Sturgis

## Become a Supporter

### BILL YOUR WEXFORD MEMBER ACCOUNT

Contact [accounting@wexfordhiltonhead.com](mailto:accounting@wexfordhiltonhead.com) to donate through your Wexford account.

### WRITE A CHECK

Payable to the Wexford Foundation, mailed to P.O. Box 4100, Hilton Head Island, SC 29938

### DONATE SHARES OF STOCK

Donate stock through our brokerage account at Fidelity Investments. Donors generally receive a tax deduction for the appreciated value of the shares donated.

### ESTATE PLANNING

Consider the Wexford Foundation in your estate plan and become a member of the Legacy Society.

### DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS

Speak with your Financial Advisor to learn more about setting up a donor-advised account.

### GIFT FROM IRA FUNDS

If you are subject to taking a Required Minimum Distribution from your IRA, consider giving to the Wexford Foundation. The transfer must be made directly from your IRA to the Foundation.

## Special thanks to our Corporate Sponsors



# 2023 Grant Recipients

**Arts Center of Coastal Carolina** enriches the local community through live performances and educational programs. This grant allows 50 disadvantaged students to participate in a visual arts program developed by the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

**Backpack Buddies of Bluffton** provides nutritious food and food vouchers to chronically hungry children in Bluffton and Hardeeville. This grant will provide a weekly lunch for 37 children for the whole school year.

**Bluffton Community Soup Kitchen** delivers hot food to seniors, working poor and homeless individuals in the Bluffton area. This grant will partially fund a new van to assist with meal deliveries.

**Bluffton Self Help** assists neighbors in critical need of food, clothing, tutoring and financial assistance. This grant will partially fund their Emergency Assistance program to assist low-income families with housing and utility expenses.

**Born to Read** visits new parents to advise the importance of daily reading and communication with infants starting from birth. This grant will provide books and infant literacy resource materials to 100 families with newborns.

**Boys and Girls Club HHI** enables young people to reach their full potential as productive, caring and responsible citizens. This grant will provide the majority of funding to remodel the Club's popular recreation room.

**Boys and Girls Club of Bluffton** provides youth development programs enabling young people to reach their full potential. This grant will purchase a Bookwork Vending machine and Scholastic Book Vending Bundles for 200 Bluffton youths aged 6 through 12.

**Child Abuse Prevention Association (CAPA)** promotes child abuse awareness and keeps at-risk children safe from harm. This grant will fund 40 "Welcome Bins" for each new resident during 2023.

**Family Promise** provides shelter, food and support services to homeless families. This grant will pay to lodge four homeless families for the first five weeks of Family Promise's Shelter Program.

**Foundation for Educational Excellence** supports the educational goals of students and teachers in Beaufort County. This grant will allow 300 local high school students to partake in the year-long Dave Ramsey Foundation Personal Finance Course.

**Habitat for Humanity** partners with underserved families to build homes they can afford. This grant will partially fund a home repair program that will enable 100 families to remain in their homes.

**Heroes of the Lowcountry** provides tuition assistance to deserving minority students through post-graduation. This grant will provide stipends to several dozen first-generation college students for incidentals above and beyond their tuition.

**Heroes on Horseback** provides equine-assisted therapy to special needs children, adults and veterans. This grant will provide partial funding for the equine therapy program for 30 disabled veterans and emergency responders.

**HHI Deep Well Project** helps people in emergency situations with rent, utility bills, food, clothing, furnishings, or home repairs. This grant will support their Livable Housing Repair and the Emergency Rent/Mortgage programs to aid 55-60 local families.

**Hilton Head Recreation Center** is dedicated to improving the quality of life for all ages with recreation programs, wellness activities and community events. This grant will be used to purchase outdoor equipment to support a new recreation program.

**Hope Haven/Hopeful Horizons** provides safety, hope and healing to victims of abuse, and sexual assault in southern Beaufort County. This grant allows 20 families to participate in a new Parent Child Interactive Therapy program via a telehealth portal.

**Hospice of the Low Country** provides compassionate end-of-life care to terminally ill patients and their families. This grant provides the technology for a new Palliative Care Program for individuals not quite ready for Hospice Care.

# 2023 Grant Recipients

**Hunger Coalition of the Lowcountry** focuses on children, families, and adults whose economic situation limits their ability to have an adequate supply of healthy food. This grant provides weekly food bags for 150 low-income families for eight weeks in the summer.

**Low Country Autism Foundation** enhances the lives of individuals with Autistic Spectrum Disorder and their families with individual advocacy and awareness programs. This grant provides 30 autistic children with two months of swim lessons.

**Low Country Hope House** provides residences for men and women over the age of 18 recovering from alcohol or drug addiction. This grant covers the intake cost for bringing 10 new residents into their alcohol and drug addiction recovery program.

**Lowcountry Legal Volunteers** provides free critical legal services to low-income individuals living below the poverty line. This grant will partially fund their Safety For Our Families Program to help those facing violence and abuse in their homes.

**Meals on Wheels** delivers daily hot meals to the elderly, ill, disabled and homebound individuals in the Lowcountry. This grant provides funding for 4,000 meals to be delivered by over 200 volunteers.

**Med-I-Assist** pays for eye exams and glasses for people living at or below the poverty level. This grant provides eye exams and glasses for 50 low-income Beaufort County residents.

**Memory Matters** provides compassionate support for patients with cognitive decline. This grant funds over 2,000 brain-healthy lunches for Memory Care participants with mild-to-moderate dementia.

**Mental Health America/The Island House** operates a rehabilitation program that helps adults with severe and persistent mental illness work on recovery. The grant covers the expense of one individual in a newly created Hispanic outpatient program.

**Neighborhood Outreach Connection** provides supplementary educational programs and technology to disadvantaged students. This grant will sustain the NOC Education Program for disadvantaged students at Island Lutheran and St. Lukes churches.

**Operation Patriots FOB** creates recreational peer-to-peer experiences for Veterans and first responders which help to provide them with a brighter outlook on their future. This grant will be used to host 15 wounded veterans at a major weekend retreat.

**Palmetto Project** identifies innovative strategies to address social and economic challenges facing our state. This grant provides books and teaching materials used in tutoring 135 Bluffton and Daufuski Island four-year-olds.

**Programs for Exceptional People (PEP)** promotes independence, social interaction and employment opportunities for intellectually disabled adults. This grant funds 200+ days of PEP services for low-income individuals.

**Safe Harbour** provides transportation and related services (e.g., medical appointments and shopping) so island residents can continue to reside in their homes. This grant provides transportation for six individuals for one year.

**Sandalwood Food Pantry** provides fresh nutritious food and dignity to 800 households in need twice a week. This grant provides weekly supermarket quality fruits and vegetables to 85-90 families throughout the year.

**Second Helpings** rescues food from supermarkets, restaurants, and stores for distribution to 14 local food pantries. This grant funds their Health Food Initiative with fresh produce and protein to supplement food rescued from other sources.

**Special Olympics SC Area 8** provides year-round sports training and competition for special needs children and adults. This grant will fund Special Olympics Spring Games at 10 local high schools with over 500 individuals participating.

**Volunteers in Medicine – Bluffton** provides free medical care to the underserved and uninsured of Bluffton and Jasper County. This grant funds ophthalmology exams and diabetic retinopathy treatments.

**Volunteers in Medicine – HHI** provides comprehensive medical and dental services to the underserved and uninsured. This grant will fund Freestyle Libra arm patches for 35 diabetic patients to monitor their glucose level.