

WEXFORD FOUNDATION

2024 News Update



Habitat for Humanity

39 local charities were awarded grants from the Wexford Foundation

MAKING AN IMPACT

This year the Wexford Foundation awarded a record sum of \$406,000 to 39 local charities. These organizations inspire all of us as they work to end hunger, champion educational programs, support individuals in crisis, create housing, and much more.



Boys & Girls Club HHI



Operation Patriots FOB

IN OUR COMMUNITIES

While Hilton Head is known as an upscale community, we know that many of our neighbors do not have access to the help they need. The Foundation is proud to support our charity partners to create positive change. Together we are making a difference.

A Message from the Chair

I often hear the expression “The Fabric of our Lives” and think of a warm cotton shirt comforting me. When I consider the contribution the Wexford Foundation has achieved in the first twelve years, I like to hope the fabric of our lives stretches to the Fabric of our Community. It speaks to the opportunity for people to live a sound and safe life and achieve their potential. I envision this fabric of our community as a support system that allows individuals to live up to their promise and in the process, add value to the lives of others in the community.

Unfortunately, reality is also part of the fabric of our community and on occasion the fabric stains or tears or even burns and some individuals are at risk of falling through the fabric. The tear may be a family going hungry, a medical need not being treated, or a third-grade child getting discouraged when they don't learn how to read. Sometimes the tears in the fabric are heart-wrenching. A seven-year-old boy that gets abused or a veteran of the Afghanistan War that is desperate to get rid of the demon in their head. When you think of a parent living in their car and trying to care for children, it scares all of us.

The tear could be a victim of human trafficking or simply the need to provide money management skills to high school students. Tears could be the need for a ride or a break from being lonely. The tears that come to our community are continuous. They are visible when you really look. They are painful.

The key to remember is that these tears are repairable and, in some cases, preventable. We are so fortunate to live in an area that has many amazing charities. These organizations have dedicated & talented individuals that work everyday to strengthen the fabric of our community. The goal of the Wexford Foundation is to identify those charities that serve our targeted areas of Health, Hunger, Housing and Education and have demonstrated the ability to be fiscally responsible, socially effective and most of all a charity that we, the collective Foundation, can team with to get critical results.

OUR MISSION

We are an all-volunteer non-profit organization dedicated to supporting local health, housing, hunger & educational charities with financial resources.

Through the support of our many donors and volunteers, the Wexford Foundation will exceed the \$3,000,000 level of total grants later this year. With the design and effectiveness of our Grants Committee and the excellent guidance from many Trustees over the years, all those grants have proven in follow-up reports to have achieved exactly what was promised. Now, with our six corporate sponsors to cover overhead costs such as the Awards Luncheon, we are assured that 100% of every donation will be used for grants.

There is so much to be done. Please join us in our passion to protect and repair the Fabric of our Community. Please contact me or any of the Foundation Trustees if you can help.

Jim Hicks
Chairman & Founder
843-415-5730



2024 Grant Recipients



Arts Center of Coastal Carolina enriches the local community through live performances and educational programs. This grant supports their adaptive arts program for 149 Beaufort County students with disabilities & provides workshops for 25 teachers.

Backpack Buddies of Bluffton provides nutritious food and food vouchers to chronically hungry children in Bluffton and Hardeeville. This grant will be used to purchase fresh produce for their weekend & holiday food bags.

Bluffton Community Soup Kitchen delivers hot food to seniors, working poor, and homeless individuals in the Bluffton area. This grant will support their healthy food initiative by enabling them to purchase fresh dairy products and vegetables.

Bluffton Self Help assists neighbors in critical need of food, clothing, tutoring and financial assistance. This grant will support their four Learning and Literacy Centers in Bluffton, Hilton Head, and Hardeeville.

Born to Read visits new parents and provides resources to promote the importance of daily reading and communication with infants starting from birth. This grant will be used to buy tote bags and books to promote their early childhood literacy program.

Boys and Girls Club of Bluffton provides youth development programs enabling young people to reach their full potential and become responsible citizens. This grant will be used to purchase 8 new picnic tables for their outdoor area.

Boys and Girls Club of HHI provides programs to help young people reach their full potential as productive, caring, and responsible citizens. This grant will help fund their reading enrichment program for children 6-10 years of age.

Child Abuse Prevention Association (CAPA) promotes awareness of child abuse and keeping at-risk children safe from harm. This grant will supply 50 portable cribs and supplies to families in need.

The Children's Center provides affordable, high quality early education and childcare for working families. This grant will help fund their Tuition Assistance Program so eligible parents can work while their children are provided quality care.

Family Promise provides shelter, food, and support services to homeless families. This grant will be used to provide shelter for four families over an 8-week period.

First Tee provides programs for young people that build character, instill life-enhancing values, and promote healthy choices through the game of golf. This grant will be used for need-based scholarships to participate in their program.

Foundation for Educational Excellence supports the educational goals of students and teachers in Beaufort County. This grant will provide supplies to innovative teachers that support student enrichment.

Fresh Start Healing Heart provides safe housing, addresses immediate needs, and provides restorative services for survivors of human trafficking. This grant will be used to support their program & help meet the needs of survivors.

Habitat For Humanity partners with people in the community to help them build or improve a place they can call home. This grant will be used to fund home repairs for a family on Hilton Head Island.

Heroes of the Lowcountry provides college tuition assistance & mentorship to deserving minority students. This grant will be used for educational stipends.

Heroes On Horseback provides equine-assisted therapy to special needs children, adults, and veterans. This grant will be used to help fund their program.

HHI Deep Well Project helps people in emergency situations with rent, utility bills, food, clothing, furnishings, or home repairs. This grant will fund their Emergency Rent / Mortgage Assistance Program to enable people to stay in their homes.

HHI 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 provide need-based scholarships for their Learn to Swim program.

Hopeful Horizons provides safety, hope and healing to victims of child abuse, domestic violence, and sexual assault in southern Beaufort County. This grant will provide new laptop computers for 4 staff members.

Hospice of the Lowcountry provides compassionate end-of-life care to terminally ill patients and their families. This grant will be used to help purchase the contents of "comfort packs" that are given to each new patient.

Hunger Coalition of the Lowcountry focuses on individuals whose economic situation limits their ability to have adequate, healthy food. This grant will support a weekend hunger relief program for school children living on Hilton Head.

[Learn more at wexfordfoundation.com](https://www.wexfordfoundation.com)

2024 Grant Recipients



Low Country Autism Foundation provides programs that support families affected by autism. Because drowning is a significant cause of death in autistic kids - this grant will partially fund their swimming program.

Low Country Hope House provides residence assistance & support for adults recovering from addiction. This grant will help cover the intake fee for new residents.

Low Country Legal Volunteers provides free critical legal services to low-income individuals living below the poverty line. This grant will pay for client services in the Housing Protection Program.

Meals On Wheels delivers daily hot meals to the elderly, ill, disabled, and homebound individuals in the Lowcountry. This grant will be used to purchase 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 will be used to pay for 50 to 60 eye exams and prescription eyeglasses.

Memory Matters provides compassionate support for patients with cognitive decline. This grant will be used for fee assistance so patients can attend the Memory Day Care Program.

Mental Health America of the Low Country operates a rehabilitation program that helps adults with severe and persistent mental illness work on recovery. This grant will pay for a new floor in their commercial teaching kitchen.

NAMI offers education & support to those living with or affected by mental illness. This grant will be used by the organization's training volunteers to run support groups in our community.

Neighborhood Outreach Connection provides supplementary educational programs & technology to disadvantaged students. This grant will fund their Hilton Head after-school and summer program for 110 students, and enrichment programs for 80 students.

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 support monthly retreats on site for local veterans.

Programs for Exceptional People (PEP) promotes independence, social interaction, and employment opportunities for intellectually disabled adults. This grant will cover 200 free days of PEP Services.

Safe Harbour provides transportation and related services (e.g., medical appointments & shopping) so island residents can continue to reside in their homes. This grant will cover transportation costs for individuals who cannot drive.

Sandalwood Food Pantry provides fresh food & dignity to over 700 families annually. This grant will cover the cost of purchasing fresh fruits and vegetables.

Second Helpings rescues food and redistributes it to over 50 local food pantries. This grant will help support their Healthy Food initiative by funding the purchase of fresh produce, proteins, and dairy.

Sea Turtle Patrol sponsors educational programs focused on the conservation of Hilton Head's Sea turtle population. This grant will allow the purchase of an educational Travel Trunk which will be used to teach a set of STEM related short courses.

Special Olympics SC Area 8 provides year-round sports training and competition for special needs children and adults. This grant will help fund their Special Olympics Spring Games Day which will host over 10 schools.

Volunteers In Medicine Bluffton-Jasper County provides comprehensive medical care to the underserved and uninsured. This grant will be used to provide screening and treatment for patients with diabetic eye issues.

Volunteers In Medicine HHI provides comprehensive medical care to the underserved and uninsured. This grant provides funding for special patches which continually monitor glucose levels for insulin dependent patients.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS

