

THE KOUNS FAMILY FOUNDATION

2025

Annual Impact Report



FAITH – CHARITY - EDUCATION

Message from our Executive Director

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on 2024, I am filled with gratitude for the incredible work we have accomplished together. The Kouns Family Foundation remains steadfast in its commitment to faith-based giving, veterans' and children's well-being, and the advancement of technology education. This year, through the generosity and dedication of our donors and partners, we have expanded our reach, increased our funding capacity, and strengthened our engagement with communities worldwide.

We have witnessed firsthand the positive impact of our grants in transforming lives. Whether it was providing scholarships to students in underserved communities, supporting veterans in their journey toward mental and physical well-being, or championing initiatives that promote responsible digital citizenship, your contributions have played a pivotal role in making a difference. We have also deepened our collaboration with grantees, ensuring that the support we provide is both meaningful and sustainable.

Looking ahead to 2025, we are committed to furthering this momentum. Our key goals include strengthening partnerships with grantees to maximize impact, expanding our grant programs to reach even more communities, and increasing our focus on fundraising efforts to support future initiatives. Additionally, we aim to enhance transparency and engagement by sharing more success stories, providing comprehensive grant impact reports, and fostering opportunities for donors to connect with the communities they support.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our donors, supporters, and partners for their unwavering commitment to our mission. Your generosity and dedication continue to drive meaningful change, and we are excited to embark on another year of growth and impact together.

With gratitude and appreciation,

Elizabeth Wilcox

Elizabeth Wilcox Executive Director

Kouns Family Foundation



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Major Accomplishments to Date

Since launching in 2022, the Kouns Family Foundation has made incredible strides in establishing itself as a trusted philanthropic organization. Some of our key milestones include:

- **Official Non-Profit Approval** – Successfully obtained 501(c)(3) status, enabling us to provide tax-deductible grants and expand our reach.
- **First Grants Awarded** – Since inception, we have funded 14 project-based grants, directly impacting communities across Florida, Kentucky, Italy, Africa, India, and the Dominican Republic.
- **Grantee Engagement** – Implemented a structured reporting system where grantees submit quarterly updates, including videos, photos, and testimonials, allowing us to witness the impact of our funding firsthand.
- **Expanding Community Involvement** – Established partnerships with various non-profits and encouraged volunteer opportunities, mission trips, and active participation in supported projects.
- **Website Launch** – Developed and launched www.kounsfamilyfoundation.org to provide information, accept grant applications, and engage with donors and non-profits. The site has been continuously improved to enhance accessibility and user experience.

These foundational achievements set the stage for our ongoing efforts to create meaningful change. As we build on this momentum, our focus will be on refining our grant-making strategy, expanding outreach efforts, and ensuring long-term sustainability for our partner organizations. Moving forward, our focus will shift to annual updates on grant distributions and specific program impacts.

Our Mission & Core Pillars

The Kouns Family Foundation is committed to transforming lives through targeted philanthropy, ensuring that individuals and communities receive the support they need to thrive. Our mission is built upon three fundamental pillars that define our approach and guide our efforts. These pillars allow us to focus our resources effectively, maximize our impact, and create lasting change. Through strategic partnerships and grant-making, we strive to uplift those in need, advocate for meaningful causes, and foster a more compassionate world.

1. **Faith-Based Giving** – We are dedicated to supporting organizations that spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ, protect the unborn, and reinforce Christian values. By investing in ministries, faith-based initiatives, and educational programs, we help sustain and grow communities rooted in faith and service.
2. **Veterans & Children's Well-Being** – Our foundation prioritizes the health, safety, and welfare of veterans and children. We provide funding to organizations that improve access to healthcare, offer vital resources, and create opportunities for personal and professional growth. Whether through direct assistance to families, support for mental health programs, or the development of veteran reintegration initiatives, we are committed to making a difference.
3. **Technology & Digital Citizenship** – In a rapidly evolving digital world, we champion responsible technology use and education, particularly for women and girls. Our initiatives support programs that empower young people to engage safely online, pursue careers in technology, and navigate the digital landscape responsibly. We believe that access to technological education and awareness fosters innovation and opportunity for future generations.

2024 Grant Recipients & Impact

In 2024, the Kouns Family Foundation provided grants to numerous organizations, making a significant impact in education, veteran support, and community development. These grants enabled access to quality education, enhanced mental health and career transition services for veterans, and supported housing initiatives for families in need. Below are some of the organizations the Kouns Family Foundation supported in 2024 and the tangible impact they achieved:

- **Faith Aid – Mustard Seed House:** A Christian ministry in Kenya providing care and support for families with sick children. The Mustard Seed House offers lodging and shares the gospel with patients and families who have no place to stay during hospital treatments.
- **First Coast Women’s Services:** A not-for-profit organization offering free pregnancy testing, limited ultrasounds, options counseling, and medical and community referrals. Their services are confidential and provided at no charge, supporting women in making informed decisions.
- **HorsePlay Therapy Center:** Through the Rise Up Veteran Program, this nonprofit enhances the quality of life for service members and their families by providing equine-assisted therapy. Located in St. Augustine, FL, the center offers a serene environment for veterans and wounded warriors to heal.
- **Just Our Soldiers' Helpers (JOSH):** Dedicated to boosting the morale of deployed U.S. service members across all military branches by sending care packages filled with name-brand items not readily available during deployment.
- **Southeastern Guide Dogs:** Offers help, healing, and hope to veterans by providing service dogs that assist with both physical and invisible wounds. Their therapy dogs also support patients and healthcare workers in military facilities, aiding in recovery from pain and distress.
- **The Christ School:** Partners with families to deliver academic excellence through a personalized, Christ-centered educational experience. Fully accredited, The Christ School emphasizes integrating faith and learning to develop well-rounded students.
- **Good News Church:** Engages in starting new churches as part of a movement to make disciples through church multiplication. Their global outreach efforts focus on spreading the teachings of Jesus and fostering community growth.
- **Veritas Classical School:** Provides classical PreK-12 Christian education in the greater St. John’s County region. The school emphasizes teaching students how to think critically within a faith-based framework, integrating Christian values across all areas of learning.
- **St. Gerard Campus:** A non-profit maternity home, pregnancy resource center, and high school committed to being a pro-life, faith-based organization. St. Gerard Campus empowers young parents through support, education, and healing, offering a place of hope for those in need.

These partnerships have enabled us to make a meaningful impact in various communities, aligning with our mission to support faith-based initiatives, veterans, and educational programs. *For more information on our grantees, please visit our [Grantees Page](#).*

Financial Highlights

The Kouns Family Foundation operates with a strong governance process in place to ensure that every dollar is allocated responsibly and ethically. Our board of directors oversees all financial decisions, ensuring transparency, accountability, and strategic deployment of funds to maximize impact. We are committed to maintaining high standards of fiscal responsibility while making a lasting difference in the communities we serve.

The primary focus of our foundation is to deploy its funds effectively to drive meaningful change. However, to expand our reach and sustain our efforts long into the future, we actively welcome donations. By diversifying our funding sources and curating impactful fundraising events, we strive to enhance the foundation's long-term sustainability. These efforts allow us to grow our grant-making capacity and support even more initiatives dedicated to faith-based giving, veteran assistance, and digital education.

- **Total Grants Distributed:** \$140,150.00
- **Number of Organizations Supported:** 21
- **Average Grant Size:** \$5,000.00

2024 Charity Events

2024 marked the launch of a newly implemented event strategy for the Kouns Family Foundation. Our focus was to introduce fundraising initiatives that would expand our impact and engage our community in a meaningful way. This year, we held our first-ever event, which laid the groundwork for future efforts.

Events play a vital role in advancing the Kouns Family Foundation's mission by fostering community engagement, strengthening partnerships, and expanding fundraising opportunities. As part of this new approach, the Kouns Family Foundation hosted its inaugural fundraising event, which served as an important milestone in our journey to increase outreach and financial sustainability.

Chip In for Veterans at Topgolf – This special event brought together supporters in **October 2024**, for an exciting day of golf, networking, and philanthropy. The event **proudly raised \$6,700 to support veteran initiatives**. Because of your generosity, we provided grants to the following nonprofit organizations, each working tirelessly to improve veterans' lives:

- **K9 for Warriors** – Determined to end Veteran suicide, K9s For Warriors provides highly trained Service Dogs to military Veterans suffering from PTSD, traumatic brain injury, and/or military sexual trauma. With most dogs being rescued, this innovative program allows the K9/Warrior team to build an unwavering bond that facilitates their collective healing and recovery.
- **Hope 4 Veterans** – Honors, recognizes, and empowers women veterans and their families. We assisted women with household goods, baby supplies, events, and more.
- **The Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic at Centerstone** – A nonprofit health system specializing in mental health and substance use disorder treatments for people of all ages, with specialized programs nationwide for the military community. Thank you for standing with us in supporting those who've served our country. Your continued support is crucial, and we're excited to announce the next TopGolf Charity Event, scheduled for October 5, 2025. Mark your calendars and let's make an even bigger difference together.

Impact Stories

Success Story 1: A veteran assisted by Rise Up Veteran Program secured long-term employment after completing their training, allowing them to support their family and reintegrate into civilian life.

Success Story 2: Through funding from the Kouns Family Foundation, Smile Faith Foundation provided dental care to over 500 veterans, many of whom had not seen a dentist in years.

Success Story 3: Scholarships provided to students at Veritas Classical School enabled 30 children from low-income backgrounds to receive a faith-based education.

Looking Ahead to 2025

Reflecting on 2024, we have gained valuable insights into the power of community-driven philanthropy, the importance of sustainable partnerships, and the impact of transparent grant-making. These lessons will guide our approach moving forward. As we move into the next year, we remain committed to:

- Expanding support to more faith-based initiatives.
- Increasing funding for veterans' well-being programs.
- Enhancing educational opportunities in technology for young women.

We thank our donors, partners, and grantees for making 2024 a year of meaningful impact. Together, we are making a difference.

The Kouns Family Foundation

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