



MID-SHORE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Report to the Community 2021

A community is built upon the strength and resolve of its people, the compassion of their spirit, and the generosity in their hearts. That community is our foundation. Our Foundation is that community.



As we close our 29th year, I am again reminded of the many ways our community is unique. The ‘born here’ and ‘come here’ share many interests – among them an interest in a more equitable world where opportunities to thrive are available to all. FY21 proved that our community came together on many issues, especially on providing for those in need.

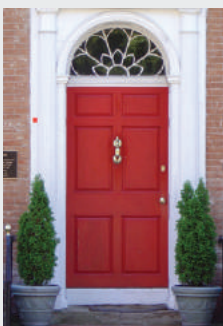
Each year brings unique challenges and opportunities, but in June of 1992, even those of us who believed in the community foundation concept could not have imagined all we would be able to do to support this community. Members of the founding board, the late Lloyd Beatty, Hugh Henry, and Charlie Wheeler, would be astounded by our FY21 activity.

From those early days of periodic meetings in borrowed spaces to the first paid staff hired in 2001, followed in 2002 by the donation of our permanent home in the historic Bullitt House in the heart of downtown Easton – the path has been immensely rewarding. In 1992, we were a board of five residents from Talbot County; today we are a board of 29 with diverse representation from the five Mid-Shore counties. By FY21, we had 491 active funds that distributed \$6,322,131 for grants, scholarships, and charitable program expenses. We are excited that 13 new funds were established to support a diversity of causes. We assisted fledgling organizations with their accounting and reporting practices so that they could focus on fulfilling their missions.

I could not be more proud of all that our outstanding donors, staff, and volunteers have done, and continue to do, to support our programs and our community, connecting private resources with public needs.



W. Moorhead Vermilye, Board Chairman



STAFF:

Robbin Hill

Heather Pickens

Francesca Wiseman

Dawn Mister

Behind the story of MSCF is a group of talented and committed volunteers. Volunteers make our grant and scholarship recommendations, oversee our finances and investments and work with us on an ongoing basis to guide the workings of the Foundation. Our small but mighty staff couldn't do nearly all they do without the support of our volunteers.



We appreciate that our donors and volunteers support our mission to improve the quality of life for residents of Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's and Talbot counties. Our scholarship and grants programs distributed more than \$6.3 million in FY21. Nearly \$3 million supported education and youth development programs, including grants to each of our five-county public school systems to support their herculean efforts to serve their students. Scholarships supported students headed to college, trades, vocational programs, and dual enrollment. Grants totaling more than \$1.9 million supported programs addressing basic human needs like food, shelter and health-related programs.

During the pandemic, 20 members of our volunteer Grants Committee tirelessly addressed requests to the Foundation's COVID-19 Response Fund every week. Donors of all levels generously contributed to funds that distributed \$1,573,883 to 99 Mid-Shore nonprofits before it closed on June 30, 2021. The impacts of these funds will be long-lasting in improving the quality of life of communities across the Mid-Shore. We are especially proud to have been an immediate source of funding to support local organizations, as they established best practices to continue to serve our friends and neighbors. We also supported local Chambers of Commerce while they worked to serve their constituents in the business community. MSCF distributed some of the first COVID relief funding to Easton businesses through our Easton Business Alliance/ Discover Easton Fund.

We thank you for your ongoing support as we continue to address the ever-changing needs of the Mid-Shore community.



W. W. "Buck" Duncan, President



**NEW
FUND**

CHOPTANK COMMUNITY TRANSPORT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Supporting causes close to its employees' hearts is what philanthropy looks like at Choptank Community Transport, a national third-party logistics firm headquartered on the Eastern Shore. The company believes in its corporate responsibility to give back to the community, contributing to charities connected to its employees and their families through monetary contributions, volunteerism, or both. In 2019, the fast-growing company decided to establish a foundation through MSCF to support the communities surrounding its corporate offices in Preston and now Easton, as well as its locations in Denver, Dallas, Tampa, Atlanta and Baltimore.

The business has established an annual community event, "10 Better than Par Charity Event," which over the years has included a golf tournament, cornhole tournament, live music, and food. The event helps support people in their everyday lives, from feeding food-insecure children, to coaching Junior Achievement classes, to packing boxes for military units overseas, to supporting first responders. During the pandemic, the company hosted "Free Lunch

Fiscal Sponsorship Funds support "grass roots" initiatives addressing needs in our community. Fiscal sponsorships can be long-term, project-focused, or short-term while an organization pursues independent 501(c)(3) tax status.



Fr Fridays" where Choptank Community Transport employees got a free lunch from the company and then donated what they would have spent on lunch to support the MSCF COVID-19 Response Fund. Through a community involvement committee, employees of the company have regular input on what charities the company wants to support.

"The foundation has been a tremendous asset towards these efforts, giving us advice on how to run the fundraisers, facilitating the donation transactions, and connecting us to good funds to meet the needs in our communities. Having a fund at MSCF is enabling Choptank to fund more events with greater reach and added success," Turner adds.

Choptank Community Transport's steadfast commitment to others in its communities reflects the company's overall core values to commit, adapt, grow and succeed.

"I have always believed that giving back is part of our duty to the community and as we've grown, establishing a formal foundation was the logical next step. We've built this company from six people to 400 employees. You can't build a company in a rural community without getting the buy-in of your employees and part of that buy-in is making sure that you are part of the community."

—GEOFF TURNER, PRESIDENT AND CEO,
CHOPTANK COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

JAMES A. JONES “I CAN, WE CAN” SCHOLARSHIP

DONALD D. CASSON CHARACTER COUNTS SCHOLARSHIP



Left to right, top to bottom and finishing with center: Sharon Smith-Lunn, Monique Odell-Pinelli, Lisa Jones, Peter Gates, Alma Hackett-White, Kim Briscoe-Moody, and center: Linda Hopkins

The James A. Jones I Can, We Can Scholarship honors a 19th century African-American resident of Kent County, Maryland, whose determination and ingenuity opened doors of opportunity in his community. In 1871, following the ratification of the 15th Amendment which extended voting rights to all citizens regardless of race, Jones acted to overcome Chestertown’s local election requirement that restricted voting to landowners by selling tiny parcels of land to local African-American men, thereby enabling them to vote.

At the 40th year class reunion of the Class of 1978 at Kent County High School, classmate Lisa Jones shared the history of her great-great-great-grandfather, James A. Jones with classmate Monique Odell-Pinelli. The heightened national awareness of racism and their class motto: “We are not here to see through each other...We are here to see each other through.” were the impetus for the scholarship.

“We believe that as we give financial support to young African American graduating students and support them and their families in their educational journey that we can all benefit from their successes,” comments Odell-Pinelli.

The scholarships are awarded to graduating African-American Kent County High School students, showing the same determination to overcome adversity in pursuit of their dreams, who are furthering their education at an eligible institute of technology, vocational or trade school, institute of creative arts, or college/university that awards academic degrees or professional certifications.



Donald Casson coached third graders at Easton Elementary School for the first 10 years of the Character Counts program. He was also one of the original businessmen that brought the program to Talbot County.

His overwhelming goal was for these fine young people to properly introduce and present themselves by standing tall, looking a person in the eye, and offering a firm handshake. The scholarship is for Talbot County high school seniors whose personal interactions with others embody the six pillars of character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, caring, fairness, and citizenship.

“Dad’s biggest judge of a person was their character. He felt character speaks louder than words and he really lived that in his own life,” comments his youngest son, Richard Casson, who originally conceived the scholarship to honor his father. His father often called him on the phone excited to share what he was teaching the children the next day. He loved finding things to give the children with each lesson and even helped one class set up savings accounts for themselves.

“He loved Talbot County and his country. He used to even dress in parts of his Navy uniform when he did lessons on citizenship in the classroom. This scholarship is a way for our family to continue to give back to the community even though he is gone.”

Scholarship Funds support Mid-Shore students furthering their education at 2- or 4-year colleges, technical schools, or certificate programs. Scholarship criteria may include the applicant’s place of residence, past or future attendance at a particular school, past or proposed course of study, etc.





NEW FUND

Organizational / Agency Endowment Funds are established by nonprofit organizations (NPO) to create or manage their long-term assets. The Fund is managed according to our endowment investment and spending policies. The NPO is the sole donor to the Fund and can, by vote of its board, make withdrawals it deems appropriate.



DORCHESTER SKIPJACK COMMITTEE FUND

The *Nathan of the Dorchester* is a 27-year-old skipjack built by the Dorchester Skipjack Committee and the last skipjack to be built on the Chesapeake Bay. The boat, one of the few skipjacks built from plans, was designed by marine architect Harold Ruark and built by volunteers under the guidance of master shipwright Robert S. “Bobby” Ruark from 1992 to 1994 consuming 10,000 man-hours. The Dorchester Skipjack Committee, the nonprofit which owns and operates the skipjack, recently set up a fund through MSCF to help the organization continue maintaining the boat into the future to attract tourism to and preserve the maritime heritage of the City of Cambridge and Dorchester County.

“Except for the paid captains, the organization continues to conduct its activities entirely through the dedication of its volunteers, including crew, docents, administration and maintenance. While the skipjack’s operations are funded through its activities, one of the most daunting tasks is maintaining and preserving the boat so that the public can continue to learn into the future about the way of life of the people on the Bay who lived here and oystered here,” states Pat Johnson, President of the Dorchester Skipjack Committee.

Although built as a dredge boat, the boat never dredged commercially. Instead, the *Nathan* has sailed as a Coast

“We have had several loyal passengers over the years. One passenger, who participated in activities on the boat with her friends for years, recently bequeathed us funds upon her death which will be restricted in our MSCF Endowment Fund to support the work of the Dorchester Skipjack Committee. This bequest will help us with future critical capital expenses for the boat, as well as growing opportunities for the boat in the future.”

—PAT JOHNSON, PRESIDENT OF THE DORCHESTER SKIPJACK COMMITTEE

Guard inspected passenger vessel out of Cambridge, Maryland, offering public sails and charters to 1500 people between May through October. The *Nathan’s* two-hour sail generally includes an oyster dredging demonstration, providing environmental education for its 20 passengers. The boat also provides private sales and summer camp experiences for local youth. The *Nathan of Dorchester’s* educational mission also offers extensive training for volunteers who wish to learn how to sail or maintain one of these unique vessels and donate their time to share the experience with others.

The skipjack was named after the Nathan family who established the Nathan Foundation, a local philanthropic organization that provided major funding for the boat’s construction and still offers support for some of its activities today.

VOLUNTEERS: DIVERSE BUT OF ONE MIND

“Although the MSCF Grants Committee members all come from different counties and backgrounds, we are all of one mind. Our priority is to provide essential services to the most vulnerable in the community around the issues of food, clothing, and shelter.”

— KATHY DEOUDS OF QUEENSTOWN, MSCF BOARD MEMBER AND QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY GRANTS COMMITTEE

The Mid-Shore Community Foundation (MSCF) is governed by a Board of Directors, consisting of 29 diverse individuals from throughout the Mid-Shore region and representing all five counties. All members are volunteers and together they represent a wide range of knowledge and experience. Serving a rural area, the Foundation utilizes individuals and organizations to step up to fill the gap in meeting a variety of community needs.

Education is important for MSCF volunteers. The Foundation provides valuable high-level training at no cost for its volunteers and local nonprofits to exchange information and support one another.



Kathy Deoudes

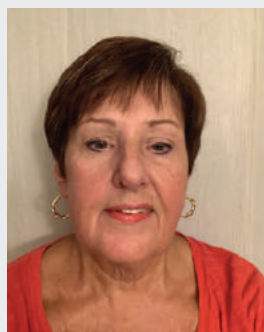
“MSCF is an excellent resource for the nonprofits in the community to do the good work that they do,” states **Kathy Deoudes of Queenstown**, MSCF Board member and Queen Anne’s County Grants Committee member.

Although the Foundation supports a diverse range of causes from animal rescue

organizations to hospice, this past year dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic focused the Foundation’s resources to help those most affected by the pandemic.

“Our priority is to provide essential services to the most vulnerable in the community around the issues of food, clothing, and shelter,” adds Deoudes.

“My experience has given me a more universal view of the nonprofits in our community — it has really broadened my understanding of what these organizations do across the Mid-Shore,” concludes Deoudes.

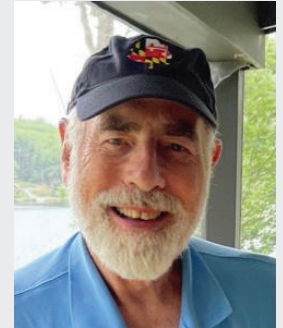


Becky Loukides

“We are a poor rural county with several health needs, including several food deserts and children on free and reduced meals. Because I served in public health for 30 years, including serving as Caroline County’s Deputy Health Officer, I am aware of these issues in Caroline County,” comments **Becky Loukides of Denton**, who serves on the Caroline Foundation Board and the MSCF Grants Committee.

“It is especially interesting to see how different ideas and viewpoints can come to a consensus and make decisions. I think that is because we all share that common focus of helping those in need.”

“I was impressed with MSCF’s response during COVID-19 with its COVID-19 Response Fund and how quickly the application process was set up and how responsive they were in processing the applications. The Fund made a dramatic impact on every community. They were right on the issues people were facing,” reflects **Charles Lerner of Chestertown**, a retired financial consultant who serves on the MSCF Investment Committee, Grants Committee, and Scholarship Committee.



Charles Lerner

“I also appreciate what MSCF gives back to the community and serves all five counties and that it makes sure each county gets its share of the resources. The organization is also very transparent. Every director can attend any committee meeting. It’s a very open organization which increases volunteerism and participation.”

Clairdean Black of Easton, who serves on the MSCF Scholarship Committee, retired from a career as a lifetime educator and administrator in the District of Columbia school system.



Clairdean Black

“Participating in the Scholarship Committee is important to me as I feel education is important to everyone’s needs. Being involved helps me keep my involvement with students. I also want to help in any way I can to give children of color opportunities, inspiring them and showing them how beneficial it is to have an education.”

Volunteers agree that their participation on MSCF Board enables them to meet other people and to learn more about the communities they represent.

Generosity

COVID-19 RESPONSE FUND

\$1,573,883 AWARDED!



- Food and Shelter **\$550,295**
- Community Support **\$403,860**
- Education/Youth Development **\$376,865**
- Vulnerable Populations **\$242,863**

On March 31, 2020, the MSCF established a COVID-19 Response Fund to rapidly deploy resources to community-based organizations at the frontline of the Coronavirus pandemic in Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Talbot counties. The Foundation made a leadership gift of \$100,000 and waived all administrative fees to the Fund. By June 30, 2021, more than 400 businesses and individuals had contributed to the Fund that provided \$1,573,883 to 99 local nonprofit organizations.

Resilience

“In times of crisis, community foundations are uniquely positioned to put their philanthropic leadership and deep, cross-sector relationships to work. The Foundation serves as a trusted community partner — connecting those who want to help with an established process of quickly distributing funds to the nonprofit organizations that are providing vital services to our community. Thank you to all who have contributed. Your efforts made a tremendous difference, and we are honored to provide our generous community members with a way to support those in need.” —FOUNDATION PRESIDENT, BUCK DUNCAN

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alice Ryan, *Chair*
Joe Anthony, *Vice Chair*
David Nagel, *Treasurer*
Andy Meehan, *Secretary*

Edward Allen
Jean Anthony
Heather Bacher
Kevin Cashen
Bill Christopher
David DeLuca
Kathy Deoudes
George Fox
Heather Guerieri
Clem Hathaway
Joe Holt
Charles Lerner
John Lewis
Becky Loukides
Harriette Lowery
Sandy McAllister
Greg Meekins
Fil Morrison
Peggy Rennels
Jenny Rhodes
Stephen Rideout
Tolbert Rowe
Charles Taylor
Tracy Tyler
Arraminta Ware



CONGRATULATIONS AWARD RECIPIENTS!

2020

Town Watch Awards

Presented to JoAnn Asparagus-Murray
 Presented to Childlene Brooks
 Presented to Anne Clucas and Debbie Molchan of
 ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
 Presented to Jeff Horstman of SHORERIVERS

J. McKenny Willis, Jr. Awards

Presented to Sandy Brown of MID-SHORE PRO BONO
 Presented to Megan Cook and Emily Moody of CAREPACKS
 Presented to Clay Washington of the KENNARD AFRICAN
 AMERICAN CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTER

Special Recognition Awards

Presented to Ruth Clendaniel of the
 DORCHESTER RETIRED EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION
 Presented to Cesar Gonzalez of
 CAMBRIDGE COMMUNITY RADIO
 Presented to Sara Rich of
 CHOPTANK COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEM
 Presented to Larry Wilson of SUMNER HALL

2021

Town Watch Awards

Presented to Judy Slaughter of the
 EASTERN SHORE HOSPITAL CENTER
 Presented to Mike Starling of
 CAMBRIDGE COMMUNITY RADIO (WHCP)

J. McKenny Willis, Jr. Award

Presented to Charles Thornton of the
 ACE MENTOR PROGRAM

Special Recognition Awards

Presented to Vic Pfeiffer of
 REBUILDING TOGETHER KENT COUNTY
 Presented to Leslie Bishop of
 MIDSHORE MEALS TIL MONDAY
 Presented to John Phillips of FOOD FOR LEARNING
 Presented to Jerry Cox and Missy Cannon Helgason,
 of the KELLEY PHILLIPS COX LEGACY FUND,
 in memory of Kelley Cox

FY21 GRANTS



Education

\$2,195,828



Human
Services

\$1,362,214



Youth
Development

\$764,565



Health/Disability

\$589,479



Historic
Preservation

\$465,421



Community
Development

\$430,493



Arts

\$253,131



Environment

\$175,099



Animals

\$85,900



Mid-Shore
Community Foundation

AUDITED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	FY21	FY20
ASSETS		
Cash	1,863,617	2,862,147
Investments	120,045,632	89,275,656
Property and Equipment	1,599,656	1,629,888
Prepaid Expenses	7,329	7,329
Estates Receivable	549,973	494,944
Gifts Receivable	913,818	798,324
Other Assets	21,289	19,840
	125,001,314	95,088,128
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Accounts Payable	124,439	161,667
Grants Payable	1,994,461	1,969,956
CGAs Payable	173,572	182,851
Agency Payable	7,479,165	5,573,630
Fund Balances	115,229,677	87,200,024
	125,001,314	95,088,128
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES		
SUPPORT AND REVENUE		
Contributions	4,351,359	9,444,287
Investment Results	30,887,484	2,704,292
Other Income	68,484	73,496
	35,307,327	12,222,075
GRANTS AND EXPENSES		
Grants and Scholarships	5,460,071	4,440,160
Fiscal Sponsorship Expenses	862,060	1,526,276
MSCF Operating Expenses	875,138	856,636
Bullitt House Expenses	80,405	79,529
	7,277,674	6,902,601