



The Black Belt Community Foundation

DATA IMPACT CENTER

The Black Belt Bulletin

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Community Grants: BBCF's Commitment to "Trust-Based Philanthropy" Approach

BBCF has long awarded Community Grants throughout the Black Belt to address a wide variety of community needs. The money provided has had an unquestionable impact on the citizens of the counties receiving these awards. In 2023, BBCF adopted a new and even more responsive model of giving based on the practice known as "Trust-Based Philanthropy". This approach centers on equity, humility, and transparency, by redistributing power so those closest to the issues determine the appropriate solutions. Trust-based philanthropy utilizes honesty, trust, respect, and anti-racist policies to centralize power over resources and outcomes in the community.

BBCF has developed 10 grantmaking principles and guidelines to assure the tenets of Trust-Based Philanthropy are fully actualized. Grantmaking decisions must align with the mission and vision of BBCF, while acting on the values of the community and collaborating with partners to seek and select solutions. In the process, the grants must expand community engagement while meeting and impacting genuine community needs. Projects chosen are funded at a level to ensure intended outcomes can be achieved. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are additionally measured by promotion of anti-racist behaviors. The entire grantmaking process must be performed with integrity and transparency. By utilizing BBCF Local Grant Committees in each county, decisions are made by those closest to the issues voiced by their community. Local Grant Committees score applications from their county based on community needs, proposed delivery of services, potential of project to change the community, how the project will be evaluated, and the results of those evaluations disseminated, and finally, the requested budget for the project. The BBCF expects the principles, guidelines, and process, to enhance the impact of the already successful Community Grants program.

Source: Trust-Based Philanthropy Project: trustbasedphilanthropy.org (2020-2024)

IMPACT ON ALABAMA

BBCF is proud to fund 54 projects this year, totaling \$181,821. From community festivals to summer reading programs to health and wellness initiatives, this funding makes a **significant impact** in our communities, touching the lives of 26,356 individuals living in the Alabama Black Belt.



54

BLACK BELT GRANTEE ORGANIZATIONS



\$181K

DISTRIBUTED TO BLACK BELT ORGANIZATIONS



26,356

INDIVIDUALS IMPACTED BY GRANT FUNDED PROJECTS

— 2023 Community Grant Recipients —

We congratulate the 2023 Community Grant recipients and commend them for the incredible work they are engaged in across the Black Belt region.

Bullock County

- » Bullock County SummerFest – Christian Leaders of USA, Inc.
- » CAMO Kids Annual Bullock County Fishing Derby – CAMO Kids of Bullock County Social Justice Foundation
- » 2023 Bullock County Humane Society Spay & Neuter Program – Bullock County Humane Society
- » Perote Heritage Festival – Perote Colored Cemetery
- » Storage for Equipment for Longevity – Bullock County High School Beehive Booster Club



Choctaw County

- » Operation Save the Children – Operation Save the Children
- » Commercial Drivers License Program – U Matter
- » The Last Caboose For Good – SAIASI Foundation
- » A Healthier YOU – Community Awareness & Prevention Programs
- » Healthy Endeavors: "Hands for Better Health" – Harvest Ministries
- » Mental Health & Substance Abuse Awareness Community Workshop Luncheon – WR McGrew Outreach Development & Education Program

Dallas County

- » Wellspring Counseling Program – AGES CDC
- » Learning Grade-Level Promotion Literacy Skills Through Culturally Relevant Books – Women and Youth Services of Selma AL, Inc.
- » Creating Activity Centers in the New Special Education Classroom at McRae Learning Center – McRae Learning Center
- » S.L.I.P. – Something Better Lifestyle Improvement Project
- » Selma PAL Youth Mentoring Program – Selma Police Athletic League
- » Dallas County Family Resource Center – Dallas County Family Resource Center



Greene County

- » Sow Beyond – Beyond the Brink
- » Seasoned Seniors – Eutaw Housing Authority Enrichment Program
- » Your Health is Your Wealth Project Phase II – Boy Scout Troop 945
- » CFRD Fall After-School Tutorial Program – Center For Rural Family Development
- » Still We Rise: Preparing Youth for Leadership – Society of Folk Arts and Culture
- » "Igniting A Change In Our Community" – United Purposes, Inc.
- » Lending a Hand Continues – Greene County Human Rights Commission

Hale County

- » Hale County Youth Mental Health Summit – Healing Steps Movement, Inc.
- » Reading & Learning Together is Fun! – Newbern Library, Inc.

Lowndes County

- » Purchase Trauma Bag Supplies and Train First Responders on Proper Usage – Burkville Volunteer Fire Department
- » Story Telling for Summer Reading – Hayneville/Lowndes County Public Library

Macon County

- » BABI Presents: The Macon County Summer Mentorship Arts Program - Pre-K to PhD: What Does Art Mean to Me – Babi-Bibs and Blankets International
- » Cultivating Cultures in Our Community - We Are Better Together! – Too Good for Drugs Photojournalism
- » Abstractions by Jah Jah's Enrichment Camp – Abstractions by Jah Jah

Marengo County

- » Healthy Eating Project (HEP) – Marengo BBCF Distribution
- » Education with Focus on Computer Literacy – Friends of Theo Ratliff Activity Center
- » Meet-Up Indoor Walking and Blood Pressure Monitoring Program – Eastern Star Baptist Church, Inc.
- » Growing the Number of Entrepreneurs and Job Creators in the Black Belt – Rural Business & Training Center, Inc.
- » Renovation & Modernization of Existing Community Facility – Toney Nixon Music
- » "Elderly Empowerment: Building Collaborative Alliances" – Braxton Senior Care
- » Marengo County Youth Leadership/Foster Parent Recruitment and Training – Marengo Co. Foster Parent Assoc.

Perry County

- » CHOICE Youth CE² (Civic Education & Career Exploration) – C.H.O.I.C.E



Pickens County

- » Summer Camp STEM Math – Tranquility 2020
- » Reaching New Knowledge – Awareness Spoken Outreach Organization
- » Harvest Outreach Ministries – Harvest Outreach Ministries

Sumter County

- » Monthly Summit/Summer Camp – Divine Girls Coalition
- » Morning Star Senior Citizens – Morning Star Baptist Church Senior Citizens
- » Morning Star Community Center Development Board – Morning Star Community Center Development Board
- » Panola Outreach Back to School Community Family Festival – Panola Outreach
- » Annual Back to School Supply Give Away and Fun Day – Gainesville Youth Outreach Project
- » Memorial Legacy Project – Federation of Southern Cooperative
- » Marcus Campbell Future Start Basketball Camp and Boys to Men Mentoring Project – Young Men Building for the Future



Wilcox County

- » Promoting Outdoor Play (P.O.P) – Bessie W. Munden Recreational Park Inc.
- » A Child Will Lead Them – Build A Better Community
- » Community Extravaganza – Partners in Progress
- » Community-Wide Fun Day – Camden Community Youth Development Center
- » Snow Hill & Furman Community Self-Empowerment Efforts – Snow Hill Furman Volunteer Fire Department

Photos sourced from public social media sites of grantee organizations.



Prepared by BBCF Communications Team

For more information, visit us online: blackbeltfound.org or contact us via phone: (334) 874-1126 or email: info@blackbeltfound.org