

Leader

 TheDallasFoundation

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Bridging Community

Strengthening Neighborhood-focused Nonprofits

About Leader

Leader offers information and updates on The Dallas Foundation's strategic priorities, highlights nonprofit and donor partners deeply engaged in the work alongside us, and showcases our leadership, expertise, and catalytic investments.

About the Foundation

The Dallas Foundation brings together people, ideas, and investments in Greater Dallas so individuals and families can reach their full potential. Working closely with our donor partners, we share our expertise, leadership, and the opportunity to co-invest in solutions that match their interests and make a meaningful difference. We also support programs that benefit children ages birth to 3 as well as the civic priorities of Dallas, and prioritize partnerships that reduce intergenerational poverty and meet today's pressing needs while positioning Greater Dallas for a brighter, more equitable tomorrow.

#HereforGood

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Leading Off

A Letter from Matthew Randazzo

Friends,

My colleagues will tell you that my word for 2022 is “contextualize.” I find it enormously useful to position our efforts alongside the organization’s history, our community’s needs, today’s environment, and the many factors that affect how we fulfill the mission of The Dallas Foundation. From our community impact strategy to donor services, context combined with active engagement allows us to connect opportunities to impactful solutions.

That focus on impact cuts across our internal values, our board-directed grantmaking, and our donor engagement strategy. At the same time, we are careful not to lose sight that our purpose is to serve as a bridge for this community. To link donors to the causes they care about and to inform them about Dallas’ greatest needs. To serve as a hub for like-minded institutional funders focusing on innovative solutions to our community’s most pressing challenges. To connect nonprofit organizations with resources to fulfill their missions. To bring together people, ideas, and investments so that individuals and families can reach their full potential.

The late Bishop Desmond Tutu said, “There comes a point where we need to stop just pulling people out of the river. We need to go upstream and find out why they’re falling in.” The “why”—the context in which Dallas’ most pressing issues came to be and persist to this day—are complex. Addressing them and identifying meaningful, measurable solutions requires relationships, trust, and enduring collaboration.

This issue spotlights four of the Foundation’s strategic partners, place-based organizations with whom we have, or are building, lasting relationships and whose work to empower their closest neighbors embodies the importance of trust and collaboration.

Convening around these issues provides unlimited opportunities to harness this community’s knowledge, its appetite for progress, and the resources born out of our city’s creative and entrepreneurial spirit. The path to tomorrow’s Dallas, one that is brighter and more equitable for future generations, can only be taken while considering the context.

With gratitude for your continued partnership,



Matthew Randazzo
President & CEO



Leadership

President & CEO

Matthew Randazzo

Executive Vice President & COO

Julie Diaz

Chief Financial Officer

Torrey Littleton

Chief Impact Officer

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TDF People

The Dallas Foundation's Board of Governors and staff has evolved over the past six months to match the developing needs of the Foundation and our community. We are excited to introduce our newest team members and share key leadership announcements.

To learn more about our team, visit dallasfoundation.org/who-we-are/team.

Meet Our Newest Board Members



Bobby Bisor

Susana Cordova

Jaimee Eddington

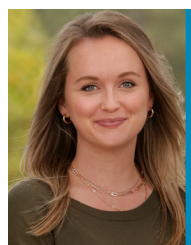
The Dallas Foundation is proud to announce the appointment of three new dynamic members to our Board of Governors: **Robert (Bobby) Bisor**, Principal with First Western Capital LLC, **Susana Cordova**, Deputy Superintendent of DISD, and **Jaimee Eddington**, Regional Leader for the Americas at Heidrick & Struggles.

The Board of Governors, currently chaired by Michael Sorrell, Ed.D., President of Paul Quinn College, plays a critical role in shaping the mission, vision, and future of The Dallas Foundation and is essential to cultivating the success and impact of our organization as we help individuals and families across our community. These added members hold collective experiences and strategic perspectives which will help propel our work towards a brighter and more equitable Dallas.

Staff Updates



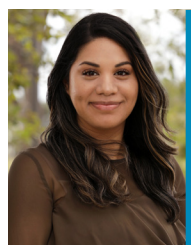
Effective January 2022, **Torrey Littleton** was promoted to Chief Financial Officer from his role as Vice President of Finance. He has worked with the Foundation for over 10 years, and oversees and directs the financial activities of the organization.



The Foundation is thrilled to welcome its new Office Manager, **Ashton Gary**. An experienced marketing, sales, and events manager, she serves as the first point of contact for the organization and manages the day-to-day operations of our office environment.



In August 2021, the Finance team welcomed **Lindsay Fountain** to their growing department. As the Investment and Treasury Analyst, she manages the daily operations and strategies of the Foundation's investments, treasury, and outside brokerage accounts.



Diana Guerrero started her role as Grants Processing Associate in August 2021. She performs due diligence and research for all grants made through the Foundation to ensure funds are doing their greatest good in the community.



Theresa Jones, Donor Services Manager, joined the Philanthropic Partnerships team in July 2021. She serves as the point-of-contact for fundholders, providing a range of services from adding funds to accounts to identifying giving opportunities.



As the Finance department expanded this past summer, **Zoey Ng** was added to the team as its Director of Financial Operations. She oversees the financial operations and procedures, the opening and closing of funds, and monitors fund balances and the budget.



from l to r:
Drexell Owusu, Assistant Principal
Norman McNeal, Principal Enrique
Rodriguez, Kezia Stegemoeller,
Theresa Jones, & Madalene Garcia
(photo by Michael Mulvey)

Dallas Foundation Fundholders Grant Local School Largest Gift To-Date

Students and teachers at C.A. Tatum Jr. Elementary received a generous grant of \$15,000 from The Elizabeth and Jeremy Lennox Fund at The Dallas Foundation. The gift was the largest awarded to the school to-date.

The Lennox family, owners of Harvey's Paint and Body in Dallas, contacted the Foundation to identify giving opportunities for the holidays, specifically to help students in Dallas. Theresa Jones, The Dallas Foundation's Donor Services Manager, suggested Tatum Elementary. She and other Foundation staff had recently visited the school after an introduction from Al Tatum, a long-time Dallas Foundation fundholder and for whose father the school is named. Jones described the school's needs to the family, and it proved to be a perfect fit for the Lennox's year-end charitable goals.

"Last year, The Dallas Foundation deployed \$80 million in total grants from our fundholders," said Drexell Owusu, Chief Impact Officer. "The Lennox Family's gift to Dallas ISD students in need is a perfect example of how we connect donors to what they care most about and how impactful those grants can truly be."

Tatum Elementary is a Dallas ISD school located in Pleasant Grove, a community in the southeast portion of the city. According to the school's principal, Enrique Rodriguez,

students walk to campus every day – even in inclement weather – and many of the children don't have coats or decent shoes. Principal Rodriguez has worked to secure donations from businesses in the area. However, that effort has been largely unsuccessful with many small businesses facing their own financial hardships in the wake of the pandemic.

Committed to making an impact, the Lennox Family also brought toys donated by employees of Harvey to the check presentation, which was held on the school grounds. "We are grateful for the grant from Elizabeth and Jeremy Lennox, and we thank the Lennox family wholeheartedly for supporting our school," Rodriguez said. The gift ensured that shoes and coats were provided to every child who needed one – a potential impact for 437 students.

Despite the challenges, Principal Rodriguez and his faculty have made great strides in improving the overall school rating from a D to a B in just four years. "Our foundation is built on the motto: every student, every day, no excuses," he said. Through the power of connection and the generosity of the Foundation's fundholders, the families and staff of Tatum Elementary can worry about one less thing and continue to focus on educating the future leaders of Dallas.

To learn more about giving opportunities, contact Theresa Jones, Donor Services Manager, at tjones@dallasfoundation.org.

An illustration on the left side of the page shows five hands of different skin tones (light skin, purple skin, orange skin, light green skin, and dark red skin) holding five interlocking puzzle pieces. The puzzle pieces are colored blue, orange, light green, light blue, and dark red. The hands are positioned as if they are about to place the pieces together.

Over the course of The Dallas Foundation's history, we've directed almost \$1 billion in charitable dollars to thousands of organizations. While our fundholders' generosity accounts for a large portion of the Foundation's grantmaking and is not bound by geographic limitations, our Board-directed investments—primarily from our Community Impact and Field of Interest Funds—have focused almost exclusively on Dallas County.

Bridging Community

Strengthening Neighborhood-focused Nonprofits

Moving the needle in a place the size of Dallas—both in population and geography—requires relationships, patience, and a strategic approach. One of the most successful tools in our tool kit has been an emphasis on place-based philanthropy.

Place-based philanthropy targets a specific location—be it a block, a neighborhood, or even a county—upon which to focus charitable resources and make a transformative impact.

By directing philanthropic assets to a particular neighborhood or defined geographic area and coordinating with local partners, funders can leverage financial capital, social networks, and expertise to:

- break down the complexities and tackle root cause(s) of an issue
- identify a comprehensive - perhaps even cross-sector - approach to tackling those issues
- generate lasting, transformative change within the local community

At The Dallas Foundation, our value in place-based social change programs is our staying power, ability to convene, and the capacity to leverage resources and relationships to sustain the momentum with the end-goal in mind. The result has the potential to affect change for generations to come.

A successful place-based philanthropy strategy requires:



Laser focus on systems change

For a problem as complex as poverty, for example, addressing it at the micro-level may be the best bet for creating transformative change. Understanding the local context and focusing on the specific needs of the community can help deploy a targeted, flexible, and comprehensive set of approaches to the problem at hand. The result is often a win-win combination of community anchored systems change.



Community listening and partnership

A place-based approach allows philanthropists to more readily leverage the conditions for meaningful listening and engagement with communities. Time and again, experts stress the necessity of community participation, buy-in, and trust for a philanthropic effort to be successful. Demonstrating a long-term commitment to an area is one way to build that trust and partner with communities.



Experimentation, learning, and innovation

The Foundation and its donors, together with the community, can innovate and experiment with bold solutions. Indeed, philanthropy's role is to be innovative, make mistakes, and to adapt and evolve. Funders can provide resources that are catalytic, risk-taking, and patient, but not permanent.

The Dallas Foundation is proud to invest in, partner with, and support several place-based organizations in Dallas who are successfully—and measurably—impacting the communities they serve with a place-based strategy.

Bachman Lake Together

Started in 2009 by a group of North Texas funders, including The Dallas Foundation, Bachman Lake Together (BLT) was founded to reverse the low rates of kindergarten readiness in Dallas' 75220 zip code, the zip code with the highest number of children under the age of five. The approach includes working with community partners to increase access to high-quality early childhood education and two-generation programming through a Family Center, a Prenatal-to-Three Working Group, and Early Education campaigns, with the end goal of connecting families to key resources so their children can thrive in and out of the classroom.

In fall 2021, BLT received a \$50,000 grant to support a video pilot series shared on social media, empowering parents to engage with their children in early learning with materials they already have around them and exposing them to other programs and resources that enhance what they learn in the video. Through BLT's parent engagement program, the Community Action Network (CAN), parents learn how to become community leaders and amplify their voices. After graduating from CAN, many parents take on leadership roles in local organizations, within their children's schools, and advocacy groups. BLT's Board of Trustees includes parent leaders, emphasizing the importance of centering community voice in fundamental conversations.

As a place-based organization, the team listens intently to the voices of their constituents, predominantly Hispanic mothers of infants and toddlers, who have surfaced important insights regarding the underlying obstacles to a nurturing relationship and key developmental activities. This feedback loop has not only cultivated ongoing dialogue and a cadre of active volunteers, but has also helped shape the Center's offerings. Advancing language justice, facilitating diverse community coalition meetings, and inviting community members to have a seat at every table are essential to empowering families and uplifting the entire community.

Bachman Lake Together





Southern Gateway Public Green Foundation
Community Park rendering

Bonton Farms

In 2012, residents of the South Dallas community of Bonton were facing challenging, poverty-related realities which needed long-term solutions. To address the lack of easy access to fresh food, Daron Babcock, along with community support, established a micro-urban farm and later transformed 10 blighted lots into what is now Bonton Farms.

To address the underlying issues facing the community, Bonton Farms leverages the “Human Essentials” of economic stability, health and wellness, transportation solutions, innovative housing, community building, education, and access to fair credit. By focusing on these, Bonton Farms has become much more than a farm. Over the past five years, the program has added a 40-acre extension farm, a Market/Café, the Bonton Farms Coffee Shop and Farmers Market—three social enterprises intended to create jobs, offer fresh, healthy food, and pour back into the community while allowing the farm to leverage philanthropy toward further community revitalization.

The organization has robust plans for adding more safe, affordable, sober living housing; a comprehensive health and wellness center; and tiny and innovative homes within the neighborhood to allow individuals and families to stairstep from homelessness and addiction into first-time homeownership.

For Oak Cliff

For Oak Cliff began as a Back-to-School Festival after its founder, Taylor Toynes, witnessed the children in his 4th grade classroom attending school without the supplies they needed to learn. In a few short years, the Festival expanded to include voter registration and an employment matching program.

Recognizing that the Festival only helped with resources, Taylor pivoted to address root causes, working with partner organizations, community members, and other invested leaders to build a community and family engagement infrastructure to expand and deepen impact in his home neighborhood. The community input, surveys, research, and needs/wants, led to a focus on a collective impact model with a dual-generation approach, which serves both students and their families.

Today, For Oak Cliff provides culturally responsive initiatives in South Oak Cliff to liberate the community from systemic oppression, create a culture of education, and increase social mobility and social capital.

Southern Gateway Public Green Foundation

Fifty years after the construction of Interstate 35E cut through the heart of the Tenth Street Neighborhood in southern Dallas, the Southern Gateway Public Green Foundation began working with the Texas Department of Transportation, the City of Dallas, community partners,



Bonton Farms



For Oak Cliff

► and stakeholders to leverage reconstruction of the highway as an opportunity to stitch the community together again.

The park, to be constructed over the highway and modeled after the infrastructure of downtown's Klyde Warren Park, will connect two of the lowest-income census tracts in Dallas, helping to address the lack of mobility for nearby residents while generating economic investment in the surrounding areas.

A year-long research and stakeholder engagement process harnessed the ideas and priorities of more than 500 area residents, community leaders, local businesses and nonprofit organizations to design an inclusive space that will be functional, welcoming, responsive, innovative, and reflective of the neighborhoods surrounding the park, expected to open in late 2023.



The Dallas Foundation is currently the fiscal sponsor of Bonton Farms, For Oak Cliff, and Southern Gateway.



Is a place-based approach right for your **charitable giving**?

Place-based philanthropy is an excellent option for those interested in creating systems change and supporting collective impact efforts at the community level. If you have a deep connection to a particular neighborhood or community and are willing to commit to an extended or multi-year engagement, a place-based approach might be the best option to fulfill your charitable goals. Since this method requires long-term, active engagement with local stakeholders, you should plan to live in, work with, or otherwise spend a significant amount of time within that community.

While financial assistance is always in need, there are other worthy contributions to consider. Your time, 'sweat equity,' or expertise can often be as valuable as monetary support in the pursuit of community-based objectives. Additionally, you can provide technical assistance and collaborate with key stakeholders and organizations to advance causes within your community of focus.

What if you don't have an existing connection to a neighborhood which might benefit from **philanthropic resources**?

The Dallas Foundation's Community Impact experts can offer up-to-the-minute insight on place-based organizations and initiatives that match your charitable interests.

To learn more about place-based philanthropy, contact a member of our Philanthropic Partnerships team today.

Ask An Expert

featuring

Gary W. Garcia

For over 20 years, **Gary W. Garcia**, Vice President of Philanthropic Partnerships, has helped donors meet their charitable goals. We asked him to answer three questions frequently asked by those embarking on their philanthropic journey.



1. What are the benefits of giving through a Donor Advised Fund instead of directly to an organization?

One of the best things about DAF's is that the charitable donation can be invested and has the ability to grow over time, potentially increasing the total amount available to grant to a qualified nonprofit organization. A donor can benefit from a tax deduction in a given year and then select a specific charity or charities to receive grants at a later date. Or in some cases a donor may want to contribute several years of donations into a DAF, called bunching, to take advantage of the charitable deduction in the current tax year and grant out to charities over multiple years. But most of all, the convenience of having one's philanthropy centralized in a DAF can be a useful tool to simplify record keeping, access to the expertise of The Dallas Foundation, and an opportunity to make an impact today and well into the future.

2. How do I know who to give to and how much will be impactful?

Any size gift in an issue area that's important to you is an investment. To make the greatest impact however, donors should establish a plan to support the causes they care about and determine which organizations would best use your charitable dollars, no matter how large or small. At The Dallas Foundation, we can help maximize donor impact by identifying organizations that align with your interests, performing due diligence prior to a grant award, and even creating a giving plan specifically for you and your family. With this framework, donors—no matter the giving level—are poised to give in a more targeted, impactful manner.

3. Why work with The Dallas Foundation? I've been responsible for my family's philanthropy for years. Why involve a community foundation?

There are many reasons to either work directly or partner with The Dallas Foundation. Tap into our broad philanthropic expertise in the community. Connect with others to learn, collaborate, and co-invest in causes important to you. Pass along your family values by educating and bringing the next generation into your philanthropy. Maintain anonymity when desired in your grantmaking.

Donate and receive the maximum charitable benefit from complex assets. Regardless of the reason, The Dallas Foundation is here to help make your philanthropic experience simple, meaningful, and joyful.

To learn more about working with The Dallas Foundation for your philanthropic needs, contact **Gary W. Garcia** at gwgarcia@dallasfoundation.org.

Upcoming Events

Visit dallasfoundation.org for additional information on upcoming events and activities.



March 28

Community Matters: Birth to Age 3

This first in a series of programming related to the Foundation's strategic priorities will focus on Dallas' progress and promising opportunities for children, Birth to Age 3.



April 8

Women and Wealth: The Changing Face of Philanthropy

Women are slated to control 2/3 of the wealth in the US by 2030. Hear insights from Luma Wealth Founder and CEO, Heather R. Ettinger, on the impact this shift will have on philanthropy.



May 5

Family Philanthropy Event

Join us to hear from a recognized leader in family governance, Tom Rogerson, President and CEO of Gen Leg Co., as he discusses how to successfully transition philanthropic assets from one generation to the next.

Looking Ahead: WPI 2022

The **Mary M. Jalonick Women's Philanthropy Institute (WPI)** is gearing up for another exceptional year of educating, inspiring, and empowering women philanthropists.

This year, WPI members will visit the four organizations below to learn more about their work to make a difference within the Dallas community.

April 27

Community Basket Mobile Farmers Market

June 22

Braswell Child Development Center

October 6

Mosaic Family Services

November 3

New Friends New Life

Visit dallasfoundation.org to learn more about the Site Visits and other WPI programming.

Invest in tomorrow's Dallas.

Join us in creating a brighter and more equitable future for Greater Dallas.

Since 1929, The Dallas Foundation has connected people to the causes they care about - improving and making progress you can see across North Texas. Through our **Community Impact Fund**, we support innovative and scalable solutions to our community's biggest challenges.

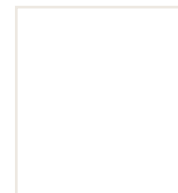
But we cannot do this work alone. Generous, forward-thinking individuals like you know that a gift made today can create meaningful change for generations to come. Together, we can be **here for good**.

Donate to the Community Impact Fund today.

Visit dallasfoundation.org to learn more.



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Together, we can **advance equity and inclusion** in Dallas.



Your zip code shouldn't dictate your outcome.

Yet, many Black and Hispanic residents in Dallas face that reality, experiencing systemic and persistent gaps in outcomes that affect nearly every step of life.

The **Racial Equity Fund** of The Dallas Foundation will strategically and purposefully support organizations that combat systemic inequities in our community.

Join a collective of like-minded donors who have already invested nearly \$1.5M in this fund to create a more inclusive Dallas for all of our neighbors.

Become a partner today.

Visit dallasfoundation.org or contact:

Kezia Stegemoeller

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