

# The Outreach

September 2021

## We Flew Past our Two Million Milestone!

**28**

local organizations  
will receive 2021 CWO grants.  
(See page three for details.)

**\$290,230** dollars granted,  
thanks to your incredible generosity.

**70 percent**

of 2021 Grants will fund  
Educational, Health & Humanitarian Services.

**18**

conscientious women  
conducted site visits, evaluated proposals,  
and reviewed organization effectiveness  
to determine the destination  
of those Grants.

**135**

incredibly generous  
2021 donors made this possible.

**115**

wonderful dues-paying CWO members  
supported our outreach mission.

**Over \$2,180,000**

has been invested in Highlands-Cashiers  
non-profits and charities  
by CWO since its founding in 2006.

**Member Art & Estate Affair**

an astounding success  
thanks to member contributions  
of talent, treasures and time!

*“Fifteen years ago,  
our wings were formed.*

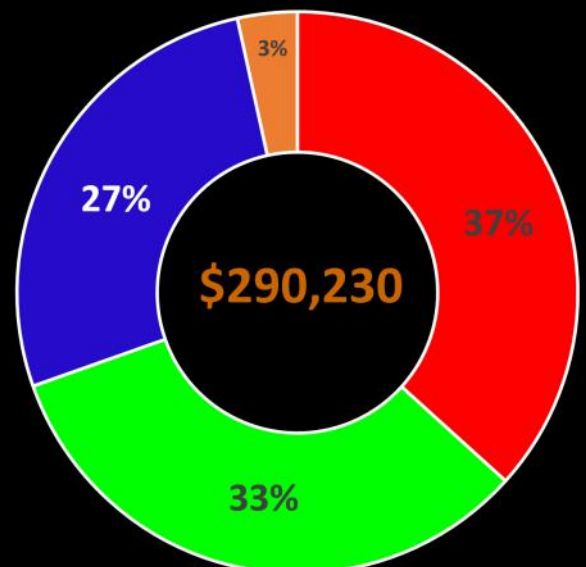
*My, how we have learned to fly!  
Through your incredible generosity,  
CWO has helped lift local  
organizations to new heights.*

*We raised the ceiling  
for outreach across the Plateau  
with our mission of bringing  
joy, hope and caring to our community.*

*Your generous hearts  
are worth more than gold.*

*Thank you.”*

**Cullasaja Women's Outreach  
Impact of 2021 Giving**



■ Health/Human Services ■ Education ■ Civic Vitality ■ Other

**Dedicated Believers in the Power of Positive Change \$15,000- \$25,000**

Jane and Andy Adams  
Leslie and Ron Ezerski

Kay and Bruce Johnson  
Marianne and E.G. Lassiter

**Beloved Benefactors \$10,000**

Elva and Tom Brady  
Colleen Flinn

Louree and Bill Greehey  
Nancy and Charles Harrison  
Cris and Jerry Hayes

Donna Philips  
Sharon Woods

**Prized Promoter \$7,500**

Sheila and Ken Cone

Lynne and John Darden

**Cherished Champions \$5,000**

Linda and Hines Brannan  
Lindy Colson Harrison and Robbie Harrison  
Anna and Thomas Guffey

Gail and Tim Hughes  
Jean and Edd Hyde  
Flossey and Tom Mobley

Linda and David Stetson  
Donna and Larry Thoele

**Incredible Investors \$2,500**

Marty and Dan Boone  
Margaret and Rick Eichman  
Berty and Victor Fransen  
Lynne and Howard Halpern

Anne Julian  
Sue and Steve Mendenhall  
Judy and Bill Petrie  
Linda and Bob Taylor

Cherry and Stephen Tyde  
Lisbeth Wilson

**Preeminent Partners \$1,000-\$2,000**

Joy Abney  
Emily Adkins and Ben Smith  
Lynda Alford  
London and Jerry Andes  
Harriet and Clarence Bauknight  
Judith and Ron Bobo  
Linda Brown  
Susan and Michael Buchanan  
Pam and Frank Burge  
Julienne and Phil Clowdus  
Ann and John Day  
Caroline and Frank Ellerbe  
Shana and Rick Elliott  
Bonnie and Ed Evans  
Mary Evelyn and Don Feibelman  
Terry and Dennis Fisher  
Lisa and David Floyd  
Jacquie and Joe Harris

Jo and Jack Hill  
Sonya and Jerry Honea  
Bettie Ingram  
Barbara and David Jay  
Lana Jordan  
Lynne and Chip Keener  
Cindy and Jack Kuykendall  
Margaret and John Lauletta  
Karen Leabo-Barry  
Jeri and Bill Mauldin  
Jackie and Lee Martino  
Ginny and Bob May  
Margie and Frank McComas  
Judy and Kent Mergler  
Berdina and Tommy Morgan  
Beth Moore and Wally Patzke  
Charlene and Tony Palmisano

Jan and Paul Pavlis  
Joan Payne  
Alice Quinif  
Mary Ann and Larry Ray  
Nelly and Brian Rice  
Anne and Mitty Schaeffer  
Debbie and Peter Sellars  
Faye and Irwin Siegel  
Sammy and D.R. Smith  
Esther and Jim Stokes  
Debbie and Jim Thompson  
Dawn and Bruce Van Fleet  
Peggy Pepper & Greg Wilkinson  
Jen and Mike Williams  
Donna and Hugh Woltzen

**Treasured Supporters \$750**

Lisa and Ken Carrig  
Ellen and Joseph Dunning

Rosemary Catanzaro & Tom Heaviside  
Teresa and Stephen James

Susan and Chris Mangum

**Very Best Friends \$500**

Joy Abney  
Meredith and Michael Baragona  
Anita and Mike Delamore  
Ginny and Elliott Dunwody  
Deb Kabinoff  
Joanne and Denny Landers  
Donna and Bill Lathem

Dorothy and Dan Lyles  
Frazer and Roy McCrorey  
Pam and Dan Merrill  
Susan and Dale Miller  
Jan and Bill Morrison  
Kay and Tom Neslage  
Dorianne and Drew Norwood

Bummie and Sid Nurkin  
Barbara and Gary Roberts  
Monica and Doug Treadwell  
Betsy and Wright Turner  
Laura and Bill Walker  
Mary and Ernie Wilding  
Ann and Morris Williams

**Best Friends \$250-\$400**

Melba and Larry Ainsworth  
Susan and John Bauknight  
Jonye and Deane Briggs  
Maureen and Kevin Browne  
Linda and Scott Calahan  
Vickie and Randy Carroll  
Tom Cooper  
Janie and Mickey Crews  
Claudia and Douglas Davenport  
Judi and Rick Davis

Becky and Ed Fielding  
Darcy and Jorge Giroud  
Toddie and Hensell Harris  
Deborah and Ed Hartman  
Angela Hill and Tom Iversen  
Sandy and Dennis Howard  
Jill and Jim Huston  
Eve and Alan Hyatt  
Jill and John Marshall  
Linnea and Phil McManamy

Brandly and Earl Monroe  
Jo Ellen and Tom Ross  
Jane and Flip Sheridan  
Phyllis and Mel Sherman  
Charles Shirk  
Joy Turner  
Peggy and Scott Turner  
Jill Wolfe



# 2021 Grant Recipients

**The Bascom \$15,000** to help fund need-based scholarships and to help cover costs of the after-school enrichment “S.T.E.A.M.” (science, technology, engineering, arts, math) project kits for local school children.

**Big Brothers, Big Sisters \$7,500** to support their aggressive Big Little match and programing growth goals, providing one-on-one tutoring support for at-risk children on the Highlands-Cashiers plateau.

**Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic \$15,000** to provide partial or full dentures for individuals with no means for paid dental care. With 11 volunteer dentists, the Clinic performed 1,211 emergency procedures in 2020, in addition to 459 restorative procedures, plus cleanings & exams.

**Boys and Girls of the Plateau \$12,000** to help provide salary support for a new staff coordinator for their teen program.

**Cashiers Highlands Humane Society \$10,000** to help defray cost for the local dog and cat spay and neuter program.

**Cashiers Historical Society \$10,000** to provide funding for needed electrical upgrades on the outside and interior of the historical property.

**Community Care Clinic Highlands-Cashiers \$20,000** to help five volunteer physicians provide medical services for the poor in the community, focusing on diabetes and “behavioral health,” as well as OB/GYN Board-certified care. Patients are individuals with family incomes well below Federal poverty levels. In a normal year, nearly 500 people are served.

**Counseling & Psychotherapy Center of Highlands \$15,000** to help subsidize therapists’ fees for individuals in need, able to pay on a sliding scale based on means. With no government subsidies and meager coverage for mental care, the Center brings much-needed services to local children, families and individuals on the Plateau.

**Fishes & Loaves Food Pantry \$7,500** to help supply food for 2,530 local households (over 7,750 people) living below the poverty level in the Macon/Jackson county area. During Covid, the Pantry experienced a 20 percent increase in need and has adapted its distribution dramatically. It is manned entirely by 12 local churches and volunteers.

**Friends of Albert Carlton Library \$7,500** to assist in covering the operating costs for this well-used Cashiers community center, which provides e-resources, as well as community internet access.

**Friends of Panthertown, Inc. \$7,500** to help fund a part-time stewardship assistant to help lead volunteers maintain hiking, cycling and equestrian trails in this 6,295-acre forestry treasure open to the public year-round.

**Highlands Biological Foundation \$5,000** to fund summer camp scholarships for local children in 2022, who otherwise could not afford to participate. The summer programs teach children to appreciate, live within, and to protect the eco-system of the Highlands Plateau.

**Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music \$10,000** to fund the 2022 Residency program—in which a Julliard quartet provides concerts and interaction with children in each of our local schools (Blue Ridge, Summit and Highlands), as well as performances at Chestnut Hill Retirement Home and free-to-the-public concerts at two local churches.

**Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust \$10,000** funding to support the continuation of the *Kids & Nature Program* in 2022, which builds children’s appreciation of our natural surroundings and the importance of conservation, reaching students from the local schools, the Gordon Center and Sunshine Centers, the Literacy Council and the Boys & Girls Club of the Plateau.

**Highlands-Cashiers Players \$6,900** to fund three upcoming local community theater productions.

**Highlands Community Child Development Center \$8,500** to purchase a new commercial freezer for the Center that provides high quality, safe and essential childcare for 74 local infants and toddlers.

**Highlands Emergency Council \$15,000** to provide heating assistance, by directly paying propane, oil, kerosene and wood bills for local people and families-in-need throughout the winter.

**Highlands Historical Society \$5,000** to provide museum-quality lighting for upgraded exhibits presented in collaboration with Western North Carolina University’s Museum Studies Program.

**Highlands Playhouse \$10,830** to purchase a new lighting console.

**Hudson Library \$10,000** to reconstruct the ceiling and lighting in the entrance, vestibule and lobby area of this popular community center.

**International Friendship Center (IFC) Food Pantry \$18,000** to provide groceries to supplement local workers/families facing hardship, as well funding for their Latino women’s initiative and services to assist the working poor navigate life and immigration documentation issues. Nearly 11,000 individuals are helped by this facility.

**Junior Appalachian Musicians of Blue Ridge \$6,000** To help fund this afterschool program giving children, particularly from the Blue Ridge and Summit Charter Schools, the opportunity to experience a sense of community through the joy of participating in traditional mountain music, teaching them to play the fiddle, banjo, mandolin or guitar in concert.

**Literacy Council of Highlands, Inc. \$20,000** to help fund general operating support for after-school enrichment, individual tutoring, GED preparation, English-as-a-Second Language classes and the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, serving 3,000 students of all ages free of charge.

**Performing Arts Center Youth Theater Program \$5,000** to help fund this excellent program for local middle and high school students interested in the Arts, many times as an alternative to athletics, exposing them to all aspects of theatrical production from scripting to costuming, performance, building sets, staging, lighting and sound.

**Peggy Crosby Center \$6,500** to purchase an HVAC Halo purification system for the center which houses non-profits and start-up organizations.

**Pisgah Legal Services \$7,500** to further the works of their newly established Highlands office, which provides access to pro bono legal services for low-income people living and working on the Plateau.

**Summit Charter School \$15,000** to help fund their *Step Up to Kindergarten* and *Moby Max ELA* programs for disadvantaged children, and to purchase music supplies for their new and expanding music program.

**Vision Cashiers-Ramble Story Walk Project \$4,000** to fund a changeable outdoor story-walk, a part of the revitalization of the Cashiers Greenway Ramble surrounding the Village Green, which engages young and old alike in a fun activity walk advancing both English and Spanish literacy.



**2021 Grants Committee:** Gail Hughes, Jean Hyde, Jan Pavlis, Kay Johnson, Bonnie Evans, Margaret Lauletta, Nelly Rice, Donna Woltzen, Anne Schaeffer and Debbie Thompson. *Seated:* Co-Chairs Nancy Harrison, Lindy Colson Harrison and Jo Hill, and Emily Adkins. *NOT PICTURED:* Margi Eichman, Marianne Lassiter, Linda Stetson and Dawn Van Fleet.



# AN AFFAIR to REMEMBER

On behalf of this year's *Art & Estate Affair* team—Meredith Baragona, Margi Eichman, Jill Huston, Barbara Jay, Jill Marshall and Sammy Smith—thank you to all who contributed and participated. Our elegant pop-up gallery on September 3<sup>rd</sup> was a resounding success!

Kudos to Steve Tyde and Dean Briggs, who manned our lucrative Fine Wine Roulette with a flair. Additional thanks to our conscientious accounting team headed by Dawn and Bruce Van Fleet, along with Dennis Fisher, Tom Cooper and CWO Treasurer Jane Adams, who counted every penny with a gracious smile. Bravo to our on-the-floor docents, including: Angie Hill, Eve Hyatt, Lana Jordan, Lynne Keener, Peggy Pepper, Jane Sheridan and Sherry Tyde, who added to the charm of our gallery...to Linda Brannan, who helped with set-up.

Merçi beaucoup to contributing artists and artisans: Christa Chain, Jeff Elzemeyer, Jacquie Harris, Nancy Harrison, Jo Hill, Jill Huston, Eve Hyatt, Marianne Lassiter and Jill Wolfe, who brought their one-of-a-kind touch to the event. Many thanks to our darling Rocky and Chef Marie for donating their talents for two private dinner parties. Thanks are also extended to Matt and Laura Schroeders, and to Alice Quinif, who once again, donated back a portion of proceeds from their fabulous jewelry sales.

Truly, everyone involved made our event a beautifully momentous afternoon affair to remember.



## Together, we have accomplished so much. Thank you.

Each summer season, we ask you to open your hearts and minds to the needs of the not-for-profits in our Highlands-Cashiers community. Each year, your response simply astounds. Your generosity this season allowed our Grants Committee to fulfill a record number of requests, allowing our Outreach, once again, to fund local safety-net services, projects and educational programs that elevate the very nature of the community around us.

Many local charities and non-profit organizations, we met with this year, were still reeling from the effects of 2020. Thanks to you, we stood as reassurance. The magnitude of our grants, *which your giving enabled*, speaks for itself, letting people—especially those in need—know that we care, moreover, that we are willing to stand behind the people and organizations there to help.

How can we say *thank you*, beyond letting you know that your generosity once again allowed us to exceed the humble requests of so many local organizations?

Together, we have been able to do so much. Please, accept our heartfelt thanks for your unceasing, unselfish, and absolutely unbelievable support.

*Margi Eichman Lindy Colson Harrison Nancy Harrison Jo Hill and Jane Adams, treasurer*