PHILANTHROPIC COLLABORATION NEARLY TRIPLES SANTIKOS GIFT

Community collaboration is important to the San Antonio Area Foundation. It is a vital way to maximize economic support to better meet the needs of our growing population. This synergy will not take place, however, without the generosity of our donors.

In August, an Area Foundation donor created that synergy by providing vital funding to seven nonprofits. The seven were semifinalists for $3 million in capital naming rights grants. Harvey E. Najim, understanding the vast need in our community, used his donor-advised fund to grant $4,050,000 to the eight nonprofits, who thought their opportunity for funding had ended.

“I asked the Area Foundation for applicants to their grant process who represented unmet needs for children and youth in our community,” said Najim. “I wanted to take strong business practices and apply them to philanthropy by identifying how my fund could collaboratively magnify the impact made,” he added.

In addition, Valero Energy Foundation provided an additional $2 million gift to another nonprofit on the list. As a result, instead of only a handful of nonprofits receiving a total of $3 million, a total of 14 nonprofits received nearly $9 million in funding for capital projects.

“We’ve created an intentional strategy to inform our fund advisors like Harvey of unmet needs and how they can magnify their giving,” said Rebecca “Becca” Brune, president and chief operating officer for the San Antonio Area Foundation. “The strategic effort to share our knowledge of the nonprofit ecosystem resulted in our original $3 million in capital funding being nearly tripled by Harvey Najim and the Valero Energy Foundation,” Brune added.

For a full list of recipients and projects, visit the News section of saafdn.org/news. If you’d like to learn more about community collaborative opportunities, contact your relationship manager.
Change to GE Spectrum
To make your gift-giving easier and fund information more accessible, the Area Foundation will move to GE Spectrum as its new donor portal in 2019.

New features include seamless grant recommendation capabilities, a flexible and easy to understand user interface, simple password reset, information about unmet needs of nonprofits to help you with your gift-making decisions, and much more.

Your relationship managers will be in touch later this year with information about the new system as well as training dates and times for 2019.

Portraits of Courage
On Sept. 19, the Area Foundation honored Visionary Circle members who have included the community foundation in their estate plans.

These members and other guests were treated to “Portraits of Courage: A Commander in Chief’s Tribute to America’s Warriors.” The exhibit featured 66 full-color portraits and a four-panel mural painted by former President George W. Bush to honor service men and women who served our nation with honor since 9/11.

Brad Parman, a Visionary Circle member and an Area Foundation Board member, opened the evening with a warm welcome. Nearly 80 people attended the event hosted by the Development and Donor Services team.

Renaissance with the Stars
The San Antonio Area African American Community Fund awarded 10 nonprofits a total of $50,000 during this year’s Renaissance with the Stars fundraising event. The funding, in large part, was courtesy of the John L. Santikos Charitable Foundation, a supporting organization of the Area Foundation. The Rev. James P. Amerson, pastor, St. Paul United Methodist Church was this year’s dancing champion.

The 2018 SAAAACF grant recipients are:
- Alamo Colleges Foundation Project – MEN mentoring program
- Beyond the Light Outreach Project – Food pantry and clothes closet
- The Carver Development Board, Inc. – Youth Matinees Series
- Communities in Schools of SA – XY-Zone program at Sam Houston High School
- Hallmark University, Inc. – Eastside Cyberforce Prime program
- Latched Support – In-home breastfeeding assistance
- Life’s Little Miracles Corp. – Infant products and family services
- San Antonio City Wide NSBE Jr. Chapter – Mathcounts
- San Antonio IVY Educational Fund, Inc. – Mahogany Brain Challenge
- Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., SA Chapter – STEM-A Youth program for science, technology, engineering and math with an emphasis on aviation.

REMINDER: YEAR-END GIVING
December is almost here and that means tax time will soon follow. According to IRS guidelines, your year-end gift will qualify for a 2018 deduction if the gift is made before Dec. 31. To ensure your gift meets this deadline, the Area Foundation requests:

1. Year-End Gifts must be postmarked by Dec. 31 to qualify for the 2018 deduction.

2. Year-End Securities Gifts can only be accepted for 2018 if the transfer is received no later than Dec. 31 with complete instructions. Gifts of stock, mutual funds, and securities will NOT be accepted without complete instructions. Contact your relationship manager with questions.

3. Year-End Grant Requests must be made no later than Dec. 15 to allow time for the necessary processing. Please note that grant requests over $50,000 will need additional processing time.