



2021

# *Celebration of Philanthropy*

**Virtual Awards Ceremony  
Friday, November 5, 2021**

[www.cfaac.org](http://www.cfaac.org)

 **community foundation**  
of anne arundel county  
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2021

## *Celebration of Philanthropy*

Every year, for the past 21 years, the Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County (CFAAC) honors community philanthropists and volunteers, and every year I continue to be amazed by the generosity of our nominees and award winners. The meaningful contributions highlighted through the work of our awardees serve as examples of what makes Anne Arundel County the best place to live, work, and play. This year's Celebration of Philanthropy Awards are being live-streamed to all corners of Anne Arundel County and beyond, and we are so happy that you could join us!

The 2021 Celebration of Philanthropy Award winners drive transformational change in our county. Through their actions and their financial support, they show that they care about the future of our community and the next generation who will help determine that future. In ways both large and small, they look beyond themselves to make Anne Arundel County stronger for every resident.

We are exceptionally thankful to the many community-minded people and businesses who make this beloved event possible through their sponsorship - without them we would not be able to give the award recipients the tribute that they deserve.

CFAAC's Celebration of Philanthropy Awards recognize the commitment and selflessness of individuals and organizations by showcasing their kindness and encouraging others to follow - creating an ever-expanding circle of leaders who make a difference in the lives of others. Our community faces new challenges and pressures every day, and our award winners and local nonprofits are rising to meet those challenges. We are truly inspired by their stories.

Our mission to inspire and promote giving by connecting people who care with causes that matter continues to be the foundation of our daily work. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we remain optimistic about the future of Anne Arundel County and we envision a time when every resident can live a healthy and abundant life. You are helping us fulfill that vision, and for that, we are grateful. With your support, CFAAC continues to:

- Partner with our donors to determine and address critical needs.
- Distribute funding to nonprofits including nearly \$5 million through more than 831 grants and scholarships in 2020-21 through the collective generosity of CFAAC donors.
- Provide discretionary funding to strengthen local nonprofits while stewarding our donors' wishes, intentions, and investments.
- Initiate change through confident leadership, meaningful collaborations, and noteworthy generosity.
- Support a thriving nonprofit sector working to advance equity and inclusion in our county.

At the core of every great community are its people. As we continue our work to grow philanthropy and support and strengthen Anne Arundel County nonprofits and its citizens, we are thrilled to have you by our side.

Sincerely,

CFAAC President & CEO



# Virtual Event Program

## Welcome & Introductions

Mary Grace Folwell, Board Chair  
*Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County*

Mary Spencer, President & CEO  
*Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County*

## Messages of Support

Anne Arundel County Executive, Stuart Pittman

Maryland State Senator, Sarah Elfreth

Maryland Delegate, Dana Jones

## Award Presentations

Mary Spencer, President & CEO  
*Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County*

Amy Francis, Development Director  
*Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County*

Legacy Award for Planned Giving, Cindy Pond  
*Nominated by Susan Thomas, Anne Arundel County Food Bank*

Boots on the Ground Award, Janice Keating  
*Nominated by Martha Van Woerkem, Community Volunteer*

Young Volunteer of the Year, Ryan O'Connor  
*Nominated by Lori Fowler, Anne Arundel County Public Schools*

Volunteer of the Year, Townsend McNitt  
*Nominated by Deede Rivers, Community Volunteer*

Carroll H. Hynson, Jr. Award for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion in Philanthropy, Martha Blaxall  
*Nominated by Elaine Shanley, Anne Arundel Women Giving Together*

Carol Thompson Lifetime Achievement Award, Larry Griffin  
*Nominated by Trudy McFall, Homes for America*

Corporate Philanthropist of the Year, Hannon Armstrong  
*Nominated by John Rodenhausen, Chesapeake Bay Foundation*

Philanthropists of the Year, Jeff Harris and Joyce Pratt  
*Nominated by Edgar Herrera, Annapolis Symphony Orchestra*

## Closing Remarks

Mary Spencer, President & CEO  
*Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County*

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*Community Volunteer*

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**Dr. Lester Salamon** Director (d)

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### **Haley Cromwell**

*Philanthropic Services Assistant*

# CFAAC AT WORK IN 2021

**\$24.7M**  
**Total**  
**Assets**

**\$2.9M**  
**in Grants**  
**distributed to**  
**nonprofits**

  
11 New  
Donor Advised,  
Corporate Advised,  
Agency, &  
Legacy Funds

**100%**  
**Board &**  
**Staff**  
**Giving**



The *Fund for Anne Arundel*, granted \$192,250 to five nonprofits focused on healthy, thriving, successful children.



7 Scholarships  
to AACPS  
Seniors



Maintained accreditation of *The National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations*, which ensures organizational accountability and commitment to legal compliance, philanthropic best practices, and operational excellence.

All Figures as of October 2021

## TRANSFORM THE FUTURE

CFAAC philanthropic advisors are available to help you transform the future of Anne Arundel County and expand your charitable giving with estate and legacy planning. Through planned giving, you can support the causes you care about for generations to come while at the same time, reducing taxes for your heirs and your estate. There are numerous ways to organize your future giving that are mutually beneficial to you and your favorite charitable organizations. Several ways you can establish a planned gift include bequests, trusts, and beneficiary designations on retirement, brokerage, and bank accounts as well as life insurance policies. You can also fund your vision with appreciated assets such as stock or real estate.

Let us help you realize your philanthropic goals. Reach out to discuss your future charitable plan. We are available to work with you and your family, and with your professional advisors, to ensure your intentions are implemented as you envision. Whether you are an existing fund holder or are just beginning to explore your options to create a personal giving plan for you and your family, we are here to work with you. Ask about leaving a legacy today.

**Rosemary Calderalo, Director of Gift Planning**

Rosemary@cfaac.org

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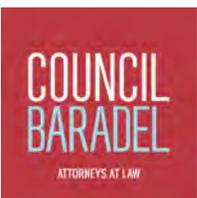
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## FRIENDS OF PHILANTHROPY

Annapolis Symphony Orchestra	Mary Grace Folwell & Jeff Riedle	Mary & Dale Spencer
Anne Arundel Community College Foundation	Anne & Warren Hamel	Greg & Trish Strott
Boatyard Bar & Grill	Bruce Hargus	Bill Thompson in memory of Carol Thompson
Kate & Harry Caldwell	Barb Kappel Nonprofit Advisor & Fundraising Coach	Karen M. Whaley
Tara Clifford		

## EVENT PARTNERS



David Trozzo Photography is the official photographer of the 2021 Celebration of Philanthropy.

CONGRATULATIONS

2021 CELEBRATION OF  
PHILANTHROPY AWARDEES



Thank you for helping to provide  
individuals of all ages with  
opportunities for a better education,  
a stronger family, a healthier life,  
and a more secure future.

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# Celebration of Philanthropy

## 2021 Award Descriptions

**Philanthropist of the Year Award:** Presented to an individual or family with a proven record of exceptional generosity who, through direct financial support, has demonstrated outstanding civic and philanthropic responsibility, exemplary leadership in advancing philanthropy, and whose generosity encourages others to become philanthropic leaders, particularly in Anne Arundel County.

**Corporate Philanthropist of the Year Award:** Presented to a local business/corporation that has a proven record of exceptional generosity and demonstrates outstanding civic and philanthropic responsibility through direct financial support to nonprofits located in Anne Arundel County. The local business/corporation encourages and motivates its employees to take leadership roles toward philanthropy and community involvement with local nonprofits.

**Volunteer of the Year Award:** Presented to an individual or team of volunteers with a proven record of volunteerism who, through the donations of time and talent has played a key role in helping local nonprofit organizations provide services to the community. They often make the difference in an organization being able to expand its services to a wider audience or move its programs to a higher level of service to the community.

**Young Volunteer of the Year Award:** Presented to an individual student or youth group (elementary through college age) who have demonstrated extraordinary commitment to the community through direct financial support, development of charitable programs, volunteering and/or leadership.

**Boots on the Ground Award:** Presented to an individual who has gone above and beyond to improve lives and meet community needs through their exceptional efforts - mobilizing resources for public benefit, leading by example, serving when they are called, advocating, and volunteering for those in our community who need help. Their efforts have a direct, real, tangible impact on our neighbors and our community.

**Legacy Award for Planned Giving:** Recognizes an individual donor/philanthropist who has made a significant contribution to one or more local nonprofits using a planned gift. A planned gift is any major gift, made in lifetime or at death as part of a donor's overall financial and/or estate planning.



**Carroll H. Hynson, Jr. Award for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Philanthropy:** This award is named in honor of Carroll H. Hynson, Jr., founding CFAAC Board Member and longest-running host of the Celebration of Philanthropy Awards Luncheon. Presented to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to philanthropy by building bridges, connecting people dedicated to diversity, equity, and inclusion, and championing the acceptance, respect, and inclusion of all.



**Carol Thompson Lifetime Achievement Award:** This award is named in honor of the late Carol Thompson, CFAAC Founder, and its first Executive Director. Presented to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to advancing philanthropy by demonstrating long-standing leadership, responding creatively to societal problems, and making a significant, positive impact on philanthropy in Anne Arundel County.



# *Celebration of Philanthropy*

## *Past Award Recipients*

### ***Philanthropists of the Year***

2001 Hillard & Karolyn Donner  
2002 Creston & Betty Jane Tate  
2003 Jim & Katherine Mandrin  
2004 Frank & Susan Chaney  
2005 Tom & Peggy Baldwin  
2006 Robert Pascal  
2007 Frederick A. Graul  
2008 Edward St. John  
2009 Phil & Meri Gibbs  
2010 Jim & Linda Humphrey  
2011 Patty McManus  
2012 James & Sylvia Earl  
2013 John & Cathy Belcher  
2014 John & Terri Hussman  
2015 JoAnn DeCesaris  
2016 Richard "Dick" Franyo  
2017 Jane Campbell Chambliss  
& Pete Chambliss  
2018 Beverly & Stephen Marcus  
2019 Kent and Sue McNew  
2020 John and Jan Magnolia

### ***Corporate Philanthropists of the Year***

2011 BankAnnapolis  
2011 Varuna Aveda Salon Spa  
2012 Severn Savings Bank  
2013 CPS Gumpert  
2014 Bank of Glen Burnie  
2015 Skyline Technology Solutions  
2016 Development Facilitators, Inc.  
2017 Buck Distributing Company, Inc.  
2018 The Brick Companies  
2019 Annapolis Cars  
2020 Crosby Marketing

### ***Foundations of the Year***

2011 Carol M. Jacobsohn Foundation  
2012 William J. and Dorothy K. O'Neill  
Foundation  
2013 Keith Campbell Foundation  
2014 South Anne Arundel County Rotary  
Foundation  
2015 TKF Foundation  
2016 Merrill Foundation  
2018 The Philip E. and Carol R. Ratcliffe  
Foundation  
2019 The Chaney Enterprises Foundation  
2020 AMFM Foundation

### ***Volunteers of the Year***

2003 Tricia Lehmann  
2004 Rob Cradle  
2005 Trudy McFall  
2006 Dennis Conti  
2007 Anna E. Greenberg  
2008 Tony & Penny Evans  
2009 Ellenor Alvarez  
2010 Deede Rivers  
2011 Bill & Terry Kuethe  
2012 Bobbie & Jerry Burnett  
2013 Fred Davis  
2014 Betty Mack  
2015 Penny Cantwell  
2016 Karen Smith  
2017 Karen Feldman & Helena Hunter  
2018 Tara Balfe Clifford  
2019 Bronwyn Belling  
2020 Vanessa Carter



# *Celebration of Philanthropy*

## *Past Award Recipients*

### ***Young Volunteers of the Year***

2007 Megan Skiles  
2008 Annie Bukowski  
2009 David Ensor  
2010 Meade High School Key Club  
2016 Maggie Crawford  
2017 Jason Cherry  
2018 Ben Nussbaumer  
2019 Grace Gallant  
2020 Haley Havard

### ***Celebration of Philanthropy Award***

2006 The Philip Merrill Family  
2013 Lisa Hillman  
2018 Elizabeth Kinney

### ***Legacy Award for Planned Giving***

2020 Cherie Loustaunau

### ***Boots on the Ground Award***

2020 Susana Cruz

### ***Carroll H. Hynson Jr. Award for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion in Philanthropy***

2020 Yevola Peters

### ***Carol Thompson Lifetime Achievement Award***

2020 Henry "Hank" Libby

### ***Community Collaborators Award***

2020 Banneker-Douglass Museum

### ***Emerging Philanthropist Award***

2020 Ellen Shiery

### ***Innovation Award***

2020 Creating Communities

### ***Leadership in Philanthropy Award***

2020 Taylor Pyles

### ***Nonprofit MVP Award***

2020 Kristina Mitchell

### ***Outstanding Nonprofit Award***

2020 Hope for All

### ***Outstanding Professional***

#### ***Fundraiser Award***

2020 Jan Wood

### ***Outstanding Small Business Award***

2020 Atlas Container, Paul Centenari

### ***Outstanding Volunteer Group Award***

2020 Anne Arundel Medical Center Auxiliary

### ***Outstanding Youth Group Award***

2020 Kid Changemakers

### ***Unsung Hero Award***

2020 Jan Atwood

Anne Arundel Medical Center



## *Congratulations, Honorees!*

Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center (AAMC) and the AAMC Foundation thank you for making an impact on our county. We applaud all that you do to make our community stronger and better.



Learn more at  
[LuminisHealth.org](https://LuminisHealth.org)



## Cindy Pond

### Legacy Award for Planned Giving

When Cindy Pond, a retired veterinarian, passed away in March of 2020, she left significant planned gifts to both the Anne Arundel County SPCA (AACSPCA) and the Anne Arundel County Food Bank (AACFB). Cindy loved animals and she was deeply concerned about the local population of Anne Arundel County residents who suffered from food insecurity. She was a committed volunteer and believed deeply in the mission of both organizations.

“Cindy would tell you, ‘If you have a cause that you care about – you don’t know when you’re going to die – so get it taken care of ahead of time.’ There’s a real benefit to that. That way, you know the causes you care about are going to be provided for,” said Christine Pokorny, Cindy Pond’s sister.

Cindy wanted to make a direct impact in the community by making sure that all county residents had access to healthy food. That’s why every week Cindy volunteered at the Food Bank along with her sister. “Through her work at the Food Bank, Cindy felt like she was doing something valuable and worthwhile, and it was something special she could do alongside her sister,” said Susan Thomas, Executive Director of AACFB. “Her great attention to detail made her the perfect volunteer.”

The Food Bank had always struggled to find workspace for its volunteers because most of the building was dedicated to storing food. However, there was one possibility – an area that had remnants of the old Crownsville Hospital cafeteria but removing the old equipment made it too expensive to build new offices.

Because of Cindy’s planned gift, the Anne Arundel County Food Bank was able to construct the new offices. The organization now has a place to welcome its volunteers and give them a comfortable space to do their work. The plaque outside the door of the new office pays tribute to the devoted volunteer and donor: “This office is lovingly dedicated to the memory of Anne Arundel County Food Bank Volunteer, Cindy Pond. A Giving Heart, a Gentle Soul, a Sunny Smile, Forever Our Friend.”

“We hope that all of the volunteers who enter the office will feel Cindy’s warmth and experience some of the joy she brought to the Food Bank’s staff and volunteers when we saw her coming in the door with that infectious welcoming smile,” said AACFB Operations Director Marta Jones. “We love our volunteers, and we loved Cindy, dearly; we are so proud to have this space to keep her legacy alive.”

The AACSPCA was equally grateful for Cindy’s gift to provide support for lifesaving programs and the shelter’s ability to reach more animals in dire need, said Kelly Brown, President, AACSPCA Board of Directors.



## Janice Keating

### Boots on the Ground Award

Janice Keating has the uncanny ability to be everywhere she needs to be for everyone who needs her. The inexhaustible volunteer has worked with countless organizations, advocating, and volunteering for those who need help, and making a direct, tangible impact on the community.

For example, five years ago, Janice began volunteering with Downtown Hope Church, a ministry in Annapolis that closely aligned with her values and philosophy of giving back to the Annapolis community. When Love Annapolis, an outreach organization was formed, Janice became its Director and developed positive relationships with the children and families living in public housing communities like Newtowne 20, Woodside Gardens, and Robinwood. She worked closely with community leaders to establish credibility and make impactful change, offering homework help, and organizing community dinners, holiday celebrations, and summer camps.

Todd Smith, an Elder at Downtown Hope in Annapolis, recalled, “When demolition of Newtowne 20 began and residents had to move out of their homes, Janice was there for them. She helped connect residents with advocates to make sure they understood their options and to assist with finding alternative housing.”

Through Love Annapolis, Janice became involved with the Benevolence Team, a coalition of local nonprofits that work closely with Title 1 Schools in Anne Arundel County, to identify and help families in need by offering a temporary helping hand with utilities, rent, medical expenses, etc.

When COVID-19 hit, Janice assisted the local Hispanic community by partnering with Center of Help and Our Lady of Guadalupe Ministries to organize weekly deliveries of clothing, food, and baby essentials to 300-400 families in Allen Apartments. The operation was subsequently moved to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and named West Annapolis Pantry, where it continues to serve 200-260 families every two weeks.

Janice’s reach extends beyond Anne Arundel County. “She weaves herself into the fabric of many communities,” said Todd, who described Janice as selfless.

Nominator and CFAAC Board Member, Martha Van Woerkom also has first-hand experience volunteering with Janice - starting back when both of their children were in elementary school. “When I think of somebody who exemplifies the true spirit of giving, the first person who comes to my mind is Janice,” said Martha. “Janice serves because Janice loves. She has that rare quality of making people feel seen and valued.”

In addition to the organizations already mentioned, Janice has worked with the Girl Scouts, Mission of Peace, Giving Back Linda’s Legacy, Benevolent Baskets of Catholic Charities, Patty Lee’s “Angels of Addiction,” and the Franciscan Center. As if that list isn’t extensive enough, for the last 12 years she has worked as a home hospital teacher for Anne Arundel County Public Schools, teaching high schoolers who are unable to go to school because of surgery, cancer, addiction, and other reasons.



The Jim & Linda Humphrey Foundation  
proudly commends the  
2021 Celebration of Philanthropy Awardees.

# CONGRATULATIONS 2021 AWARDEES

**THANK YOU FOR THE IMPACT YOU ARE  
MAKING THROUGHOUT OUR COMMUNITY!  
TOGETHER WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE.**





## Ryan O'Connor

### Young Volunteer of the Year

Ryan O'Connor's list of services and volunteer hours could fill a book – and she's only a teen. The prolific volunteer and recent Arundel High School (AHS) valedictorian has made an indelible impact on her community and beyond. Ryan has successfully run programs and volunteered with Happy Helpers for the Homeless, the Stanton Community Center, Kenya Connect, Crofton Middle School, Kennedy Krieger Institute for Autism and Related Disorders, Anne Arundel County Public School Summer Serve at Camp Mayo, The Talent Machine, St. Anne's Church, and countless other school and nonprofit organizations. During her high school career, Ryan was an active member of Best Buddies, and a leader in her high school's National Honor Society and National Math, Science, Social Studies, and Dance Honor Societies.

Ryan's earliest memory of a service project was when she was a fifth grader. Ryan and her sister planned a "play day" for the neighborhood children, charging a minimal fee to raise money for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. That experience was the beginning of Ryan's journey in service, said Lori Fowler, Ryan's nominator and Manager of Service Learning and Mentorships, Anne Arundel County Public Schools.

"Ryan is unbelievable. She's a phenomenal human being. From day one, she's always been available, all the while maintaining her grades," said Lori. "She has passion for service, she's committed to her academics and she has a plan for her future. She's a very unique student with a heart of gold."

As president of the Interact Club, Ryan got involved with Kenya Connect, a nonprofit organization with the mission of empowering and engaging teachers and students in rural Kenya to succeed in the 21st century. Ryan coordinated the Kenya Cup, an event involving students and the community, which raised nearly \$10,000 in two years for the Kenyan school. She also initiated and led the Interact Club through virtual events with the Kenyan sister school. This not only connected students from two vastly different parts of the world, but also educated and raised awareness about issues and challenges that students from developing nations face.

"Ryan is one of the most determined, organized and effective student leaders I have worked with in my career in higher education," said Executive Director of Kenya Connect Sharon Runge, Ph.D. "When she makes a commitment, she follows through, and despite setbacks, she finds ways to forge forward. Ryan is a young woman who will make a profound difference in the world. She is an engaged learner who believes in the power of bringing people together for the greater good while being committed to her studies. She is a global citizen in every sense of the word ... a future leader to watch."

Susan Stawas, Signature AHS Program Facilitator, agreed, "When Ryan identifies a problem, she immediately takes action to address it. She knows that the work to 'move things forward' can be slow, but she is ready to do what has to be done, again and again."

***OBXtek congratulates CFAAC for 21 years of inspiring and promoting philanthropy by connecting people who care with causes that matter.***

OBXtek is a relationship-driven diversified professional services and information technology company. Our core competencies include cybersecurity, enterprise IT service management, software, cloud and mobility, training and logistics, and acquisition and program management.

### ***OUR PEOPLE...OUR REPUTATION***

It's not just our slogan. OBXtek is known for delivering high-quality solutions that last. That means hiring the best people who are not only experts in their field but who also put our clients first.

### ***CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP***

Founded in 2009, OBXtek is a veteran-owned business built on the value of community. We strongly believe in supporting disabled veterans and the broader service community through targeted giving, scholarship, and employment opportunities.

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**OBXtek Inc.**  
*Our People...Our Reputation*



## Townsend McNitt

### Volunteer of the Year

When Townsend McNitt sees a need, she goes into action-mode. A long-time volunteer at the Stanton Community Center and Annapolis Elementary, the strategic consultant and dedicated education advocate has entrenched herself in the local volunteer landscape, armed with knowledge and expert advice. She's also a devoted volunteer at The Light House and St. Anne's Parish. However, Townsend's services extend beyond a physical presence at the nonprofits. She also contributes as a strategic advisor and manager to the organizations - helping to fill voids and directing funds to where they are needed.

For example, as Townsend volunteered at the Stanton Center, she saw that the city-funded children's program needed more financial support. With her friend, Lisa Itte, and former Stanton Center Director Archie Trader, they formed the Friends of the Stanton Center Youth Programs

Fund in 2015. The fund now finances educational and enrichment activities for teens as well as scholarships for neighborhood children to attend the summer camp.

In addition to volunteering for 12 years at the Stanton Center, Townsend has also worked 10 years with the Annapolis Elementary PTA to help coordinate Backpack Buddies, a program that provides weekly backpacks of food to children in need as well as holiday, emergency, and winter clothing support. With the help of St. Anne's, First Presbyterian, and others, the program feeds 50-80 children a week. "The combination of her heart and mind... are a huge contribution," said Deede Rivers, who nominated Townsend. "She truly is an amazing person."

Andrea Beckman, Anne Arundel County Public Schools School Counselor, said that when the pandemic hit, Townsend went above and beyond to strategize with community partners about how to best connect Annapolis families with the resources they needed. "Because of Townsend's commitment, we never had to turn a family away," she said.

Townsend served on The Light House Board of Directors for two terms and as the Governance Committee Chair, as a dependable and invaluable advisor, said Jo Ann Mattson, The Light House Executive Director. "I am deeply grateful for her years of service to The Light House and for the profound impact she has had on the individuals and families experiencing homelessness in our community," said Jo Ann. "The high level of volunteer work that Townsend provided was exemplary, and she exhibited kindness, compassion, and commitment at every turn."

The Reverend Manoj Mathew Zacharia, Ph.D., Rector of St. Anne's Parish, knows that commitment firsthand - not only through Townsend's work with Backpack Buddies and the Stanton Center but also because she serves on the church's board. "In all of these roles, Townsend brings the entirety of her being to selflessly serve the needs of others, particularly focusing on those who have been socio-economically at the margins," he said. "Townsend is deeply invested in the common good of Anne Arundel County. She is able to cultivate relationships in order to procure financial help as well as identify and retain volunteers for these projects. As a leader, she does not merely 'organize' volunteers and resources; she is down in the trenches leading those under her care with love and passion."



# WE ARE NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

Providing **shelter and hope** to individuals and families struggling with homelessness.

Together, we rise to the challenge.

The Light House has been consistently **servicing 40% more individuals and families** since the Covid-19 crisis began.

Despite the odds, we continue to serve a record number of neighbors in need.

Once this crisis ends **our work is still just beginning...**



## Crystal's Story

A native of the Eastern Shore and having lived and worked in Annapolis almost all her life, Crystal found her way to The Light House in the midst of a painful uphill battle. When Crystal first walked through our doors, she had been struggling with chronic homelessness primarily due to severe medical issues – moving in and out of hospitals during her numerous health setbacks. During this difficult time, Crystal suffered from a stroke, multiple sclerosis, asthma, and a speech disorder. Most of the loved ones who had made up Crystal's support network throughout her life had passed away years before and navigating her healthcare needs was simply not possible on her own.

Thankfully, The Light House was there to provide Crystal with a safe place to sleep, food, case management, and other vital wrap-around care. With the help of her Light House Client Advocate, Crystal now has her own apartment, assistance managing her medical appointments, and the other basic needs necessary to live a safe and stable life. Upon moving into her new apartment, when asked what The Light House meant to her, Crystal answered, "My Client Advocate, Monique, she is my heart. The Light House is a family and family is where people go when they need help."

Your support of The Light House ensures that we can continue to provide our neighbors, like Crystal, with the life-changing programs and services they need to find their path back home.



Light House

A HOMELESS PREVENTION  
SUPPORT CENTER

**GET INVOLVED:** [www.annapolislighthouse.org](http://www.annapolislighthouse.org)

410-349-5056 | [info@annapolislighthouse.org](mailto:info@annapolislighthouse.org) | [@annapolislighthouse](https://www.instagram.com/annapolislighthouse)



## Martha Blaxall

### Carroll H. Hynson Jr. Award in Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion in Philanthropy

Banneker-Douglass Museum (BDM)'s Executive Director, Chanel Compton, discovered just how dedicated Martha Blaxall was to the organization's vision when Martha selflessly devoted more than 200 hours to help plan and implement BDM's Anti-Racism Initiative Campaign. Chanel met Martha in early 2019, when they worked on planning BDM's Black Vote Mural Project VIP exhibit reception, and soon after that Martha was again in the trenches, this time taking the lead, along with Margaret Davis, on the museum's fundraising campaign. "The expertise and positivity that Martha brought to the campaign laid the groundwork for others to join," said Chanel.

The goal was to raise \$80,000 to hire a full-time Curator of Collections and support the museum's virtual anti-racism program series and training. In fiscal year 2021, with Martha's help, the museum exceed its goal, raising \$83,000. With the additional support, the museum was able to hire a full-time curator, build an anti-racism coalition, hold a three-part anti-racism training series, present more than nine virtual programs, a youth conference, and several virtual exhibitions.

During her many years of service, Martha has helped advance the work of a multitude of Anne Arundel County nonprofits. "Combining her background as an economist with a passion for making her community better, Martha has consistently invested her time and talents as a volunteer," said Elaine Shanley, AAWGT President and Martha's nominator.

Martha served two terms on the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra Board from 2008 to 2014, bringing her skills to the Finance Committee and successfully leading its Executive Director search. In 2014, she joined the Arts Council Board and is currently leading its Task Force on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA), where she is spearheading a major overhaul of grant activities to focus on DEIA priorities. "I have had the pleasure of working with Martha for seven years," said ACAAC Executive Director April Nyman. "It is evident that when Martha joins an organization, she is 'all in,' sharing her expertise and time."

Martha's knowledge of economics and desire to maximize community impact led to her serving on CFAAC's Board from 2008 to 2017. Martha continues to serve on CFAAC's Asset Management Committee and has been closely involved in editing the last three editions of CFAAC's Community Needs Assessment Report, *Poverty Amidst Plenty*. Over the years, her financial and strategic planning acumen have been sought by Arundel Lodge, the YWCA of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County, Scenic Rivers Land Trust, and the Anne Arundel County Library Foundation where she is on its Board of Directors. Martha has also served on the Maryland Federation of Arts Board for three years as treasurer.

"Martha is the epitome of a community leader and stellar volunteer," said Chanel. "She gives selflessly and is committed to community building and racial healing in Anne Arundel County. She is a blessing."



## Larry Griffin

### Carol Thompson Lifetime Achievement Award

Larry Griffin discovered his purpose and founded We Care and Friends in 1992, after 28 years of drug addiction and two years of homelessness. Once drug-free, Larry began to help addicts in Annapolis' poorest neighborhoods seek recovery - feeding them a meal, helping them find a rehab facility, and even offering up his home. It wasn't an easy road but by sharing his journey, Larry has assisted more than 200 people and has achieved 85% recovery success with them, said nominator Trudy McFall, Chair, Homes for America. "Larry is a true hero and legend to so many," she said.

Nearly 20 years later, We Care and Friends continues to respond to the needs of the community by providing food and shelter, homeless support, mentorship and tutoring, financial education, meals, and youth programs such as its School on the Water - which has served more than 500 children. Since its humble beginnings, We Care and Friends has

grown into a multi-staff organization that shares its time to serve as counselors and community supporters. As Larry did so many years ago, they start their work in the streets.

Dennis Conti first met Larry when he and a group of citizens came together to address the increasing crime situation in the Clay Street area of Annapolis. "I was instantly impressed with this man who devoted his adult life to helping those involved in the drug trade move from the streets to recovery," said Dennis. "The impact of Larry's efforts is reflected in the large number of individuals who transitioned from a life of drug dependency to self-sufficiency, as well as the hundreds of youths who were given experiences and activities that would not otherwise be available to them."

In the late 1990's, after beating addiction, Larry survived another obstacle - a diagnosis of mantle-cell lymphoma. Once healthy again, Larry came back to make We Care and Friends an even stronger organization.

Then in 2002, Larry co-founded the Annapolis nonprofit, Box of Rain. In the first few years operating Box of Rain, Larry identified kids from public housing and underserved Annapolis communities who would benefit from learning about the rivers and Bay and enjoy new activities such as sailing and fishing. Through the years, more than 400 local youth participated in Box of Rain. It is now part of the education programs at Annapolis Maritime Museum.

"Larry is one of the most fascinating and courageous people who I have encountered," said Box of Rain co-founder Anne Harrington. "He deserves recognition for his many years of service to helping people have better lives."

Larry is also well known for the large free holiday meals he organizes, helps cook and serve. Once a drummer with Mama Jama, a regional reggae band, Larry also knows how to have fun, said Trudy. "He is a talented and active musician bringing joy to many events around the area," she said. "To know or even just see Larry in passing is to have a moment of sunshine in your life. His wonderful smile, great hugs, warmth, and caring for all is magical."



## Hannon Armstrong

### Corporate Philanthropist of the Year



John Rodenhausen knows that when a need comes up, Hannon Armstrong will be there, asking what they can do to help. “They step right up, are part of the process, and are able to help us achieve our goals. We work together hand-in-glove,” said John, Maryland Director of Major Giving, Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF), who nominated the company.

“Hannon Armstrong’s tag line ‘Investing in Climate Solutions’ perfectly captures the mission alignment between our organizations,” said John. “We are fortunate to have the first U.S. publicly traded company on the New York Stock Exchange whose mission is solely dedicated to investments in climate solutions, located here, in Anne Arundel County.”

That mission led Hannon Armstrong to be the successful company it is and a notable partner in improving the county’s environment. The company has dedicated generous funding and volunteers to CBF’s mission to Save the Bay since 2005. Hannon Armstrong’s local impact goes beyond improving the environment. When they heard the YWCA of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County’s plan to weather the pandemic, the company contributed more than \$50K to the YWCA, with the trust and faith that the organization would direct those funds where most needed, said YWCA CEO Molly Knipe. As a result, the YWCA never closed its doors; it expanded its services.

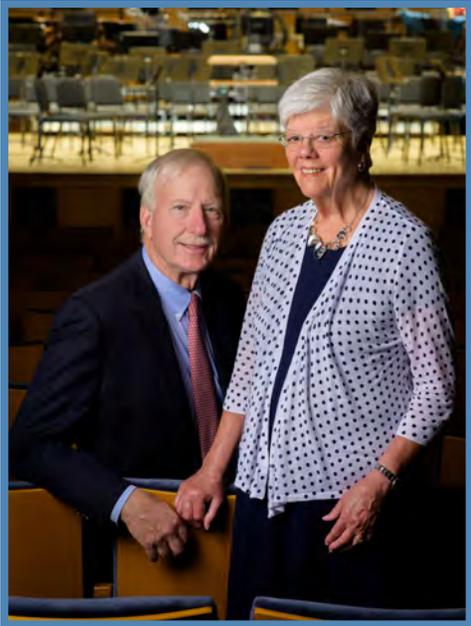
“Hannon Armstrong’s aid to both CBF and the YWCA of Anne Arundel County is impressive, but what really sets them apart,” said John, “was their willingness to significantly increase their support, when we needed them most – during the pandemic.” When CBF’s big fundraiser “Bands in the Sand,” had to be canceled because of the pandemic, Hannon Armstrong stepped up to be the title sponsor for a new virtual event; “Walk the Watershed.” The company’s financial support helped CBF generate more than \$175k in donations.

The YWCA ran into similar problems during the pandemic when its fundraising events also had to be canceled. “When Covid hit, Jeff Eckel, Hannon Armstrong Chairman and CEO, was one of the first calls I received to say, ‘What do you need?’” said Molly, adding that through the years, Hannon Armstrong senior team members – including Dan McMahon and Nate Rose – have been involved with the YWCA. “Mr. Eckel has made philanthropy part of the culture at Hannon Armstrong.”

As the pandemic eased in 2021, Hannon Armstrong continued to support CBF’s Maryland-based events while also adding a new partnership component. The firm is now the first corporate sponsor of CBF’s organic and regenerative Clagett Farm through which CBF is providing essential nutrition to Community Supported Agriculture members while donating more than 30,000 pounds of fresh vegetables annually to the Capital Area Food Bank.

“By reinforcing effective local partnerships through sponsorships and volunteering, Hannon Armstrong demonstrates that it is led by kind, conscientious, and generous people who are helping to ensure relationships like this can continue to benefit our community,” said John.

Molly echoed this sentiment. “The team at Hannon Armstrong is just kind. They are more than a corporate partner; they are friends,” she said. “They completely embody the term ‘partnership.’”



## *Jeffrey Harris & Joyce Pratt*

### Philanthropists of the Year

Jeffrey Harris and Joyce Pratt are ensuring a future for the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra (ASO) and future musicians. The long-time Annapolis philanthropists, who have given more than \$3.7 million in charitable donations, recently committed \$1 million to launch the ASO's Sounds of Impact Campaign, which has already generated donations and pledges totaling more than \$3 million. However, their gifts go beyond financial, said ASO Executive Director Edgar Herrera who explained that the philanthropists worked with key members of the ASO leadership team to craft a strategy for achieving the ASO's goal to be a premier 21st century American orchestra.

"They served as a sounding board to hone the symphony's thinking and convert ideas into actionable goals," said Edgar. "They were tough, but fair taskmasters and the result is a strategy that will propel the symphony forward artistically and educationally."

Many others echo Edgar's thoughts about Joyce and Jeff, including Joe Rubino, Chief Financial Officer of the U.S. Naval Academy, who has known the couple for 10 years. "The leadership of Jeff and Joyce has been truly transformative for ASO," he said. "This engaging philanthropic couple have almost single handedly ensured ongoing regional strength in performing arts, which will benefit the entire Anne Arundel community."

Three years ago, Jeff and Joyce also provided seed money to create a business plan for the ASO's newly envisioned Annapolis Symphony Academy. The Academy's mission was "change lives by providing a high-level musical education to students of all cultural and economic backgrounds, while addressing the under-representation of minority musicians in the classical music field."

"Jeff and Joyce believed in the Academy's mission," said Joe. "They also knew that the board needed a solid business plan to help convince them to launch this ambitious program. They gave seed money to create the business plan which converted doubters into believers. It also persuaded a lead donor to give the money to fund the first five years of operation. This investment continues to attract substantial donations that are allowing the Academy to expand even more rapidly than originally planned, opening new doors and changing young lives."

Netanel Draiblate, Founder and Director, Annapolis Symphony Academy & Concertmaster, couldn't agree more: "Joyce and Jeff imagined a bold future in which the Academy would become an important instrument to create more diverse orchestras on stage thereby attracting more diverse audiences," he said.

Jeff and Joyce also support many other organizations, locally and nationally, including Live Arts Maryland, Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts, Anne Arundel Medical Center, the American Heart Association, the Chesapeake Legal Alliance, and Jeff's alma mater, Rochester Institute of Technology. "Jeff and Joyce have cut a wide swath on the philanthropic landscape," said Edgar. "Their \$3.7 million in gifts to education, the arts, and science touches many lives and provides opportunities for young people of all backgrounds to achieve their dreams. They have clearly demonstrated their commitment to our community through their strategic vision for the future and philanthropy to enable it."



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*The AAEPC functions  
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Community Foundation  
of Anne Arundel County  
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The Anne Arundel Estate Planning Council (AAEPC) was created in 2012 by a group of tax, legal, insurance, and financial advisors to provide a forum for wealth planning professionals from various disciplines to exchange ideas and build relationships. AAEPC hosts four educational and four networking events each year, offering estate planning professionals the opportunity to gain knowledge and expertise, and expand their professional contact list. There are also educational opportunities throughout the year for Continuing Education Credits (CEC).

AAEPC offers a diverse membership including attorneys, accountants, bank and trust officers, financial planners, insurance agents, business valuation professionals and appraisers, planned giving specialists, and other wealth planning professionals.

[WWW.AAESTATEPLANNING.ORG](http://WWW.AAESTATEPLANNING.ORG)



# A SMARTER WAY TO GIVE

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*Contact Amy Francis, Director of Development at 410.280.1102 ext: 102*

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# WAYS TO GIVE

CFAAC assists donors in achieving their philanthropic goals through the creation of new funds and through increased contributions to existing funds; reflecting our mission to connect people who care to contribute to causes that matter. Donors have the ability to make gifts to CFAAC using a variety of assets including cash, appreciated stock, and life insurance, and receive the maximum allowable tax advantage.



## DONATE STOCK

Donating appreciated stock can reduce donors' capital gains while supporting the causes that matter to them. To make a donation of stock, please contact our Director of Finance & Operations, Kathy Luthcke, at [Kathy@CFAAC.org](mailto:Kathy@CFAAC.org) or call 410.280.1102 x105.



## CHECK

Please make your check payable to the Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County, and include the name of the fund to which you are donating on the memo line.



### **Mail your check to:**

Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County  
900 Bestgate Road, Suite 400, Annapolis, MD 21401



## WIRE TRANSFER

To make a wire transfer, please contact our Director of Finance & Operations, Kathy Luthcke, at [Kathy@CFAAC.org](mailto:Kathy@CFAAC.org) or call 410.280.1102 x105.

## CREDIT CARD

You can make a single or recurring gift to any of CFAAC's funds by making a secure credit card donation online at [www.cfaac.org](http://www.cfaac.org) or call CFAAC at 410.280.1102.

## CHARITABLE IRA ROLLOVER

If you are 70 ½ or older, the Charitable IRA Rollover provides a unique opportunity to use retirement plan assets to make a meaningful gift to a qualified nonprofit organization or to a qualified fund at CFAAC without receiving taxable income on the withdrawal.



## LEAVE A LEGACY

Partnering with CFAAC will ensure the causes that matter to you will be supported for future generations. There are many ways to make a planned gift to CFAAC: Bequests, Charitable Remainder Trusts, Charitable Lead Trusts, Life Insurance, Retirement Plans, and more. Contact our Director of Gift Planning, Rosemary Calderalo at [Rosemary@cfaac.org](mailto:Rosemary@cfaac.org) or 410-280-1102 ext. 103 to discuss your future charitable plan.



## ENDOW MARYLAND

A Maryland state tax credit called “Endow Maryland” rewards donors who help build permanent charitable funds for local communities across the state and in Anne Arundel County. Endow Maryland allows donors to establish or add to an existing endowed fund at CFAAC and qualify for a 25% state tax credit. CFAAC has a limited number of tax credits available, so contact us today.



## MEDALLION PROGRAM

CFAAC recognizes that the pooling of invested assets reduces administrative and investment-related expenses, allowing more money to go toward benefiting the social sector. A donor may wish to recommend that their contributed assets be invested outside of our pooled investments. For this reason, we have established certain guidelines, called the Medallion Program, for when a donor wishes to recommend a specific investment manager or management firm to manage their donated assets.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON WAYS TO GIVE CONTACT OUR DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT, AMY FRANCIS, AT [AMY@CFAAC.ORG](mailto:AMY@CFAAC.ORG) OR 410.280.1102 X102.**



## **COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY**

900 Bestgate Road, Suite 400, Annapolis, Maryland 21401

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### **CFAAC VISION**

We envision a vibrant and generous community that comes together to enhance the quality of life for all.

### **CFAAC MISSION**

Our mission is to inspire and promote giving in Anne Arundel County by connecting people who care with causes that matter.

### **OUR ROLE**

CFAAC's role is to promote philanthropy, help to identify critical needs in Anne Arundel County, partner with donors to help them meet their philanthropic and financial goals, and promote collaboration to help strengthen local nonprofits.