PLANS

Communities Foundation of Texas

2010 ANNUAL REPORT
You have big plans.

You want to change the world. You want to make our communities better, safer, more equitable, livelier, greener. You want to help the sick, the elderly, the disadvantaged. You want to share your good fortune. You want to give.

CFT is nimble enough to respond quickly and effectively to humanitarian crises like the devastating earthquake in Haiti. At the request of President George W. Bush, we established the Clinton Bush Haiti Fund at CFT, part of an effort with the William J. Clinton Foundation to help a country restore its footing. Through this partnership, millions of dollars were dedicated towards supporting long-term relief and recovery efforts in Haiti.

BIG PLAN: Help a country back on its feet.
There are many nonprofit organizations in our community with big plans, as well. Plans to rebuild, expand, inspire, educate and provide more for those in need than ever before.

With the assistance of the W.W. Caruth, Jr. Foundation at CFT, six Dallas County agencies have created a model permanent supportive housing project called The Cottages at Hickory Crossing. This innovative project will provide permanent housing and intense on-site services to 50 chronically homeless individuals. The Caruth Foundation has committed $1 million for pre-development costs and a challenge grant of up to $2.5 million to support construction and resident services.
Communities Foundation of Texas helps bring together people and nonprofits whose plans go hand-in-hand.

CFT has big plans, too. It’s our intention to give you exemplary service, to provide wise stewardship of your resources, and to offer trustworthy guidance on how you can make the biggest philanthropic impact possible.

CFT has completed the restoration and renovation of the historic 150-year-old Caruth Family Homeplace. The renovation is our opportunity to preserve an important thread in the fabric of Dallas history and to honor a family that has been a significant benefactor to the community. The property also will provide office space for other philanthropic organizations focused on positive community impact, including the Hoblitzelle Foundation and the Summerlee Foundation.

BIG PLAN: Preserve history, renew a legacy.
Together, we turn big plans into meaningful realities.

BIG PLAN: Turn donor interests into great grants.

In 2010, CFT created a new Letter of Inquiry process to link nonprofit organizations’ greatest needs to donors’ greatest interests. Nonprofits tell us about initiatives and programs that require funding, we review them, and we bring solid grantmaking opportunities to the donors whose charitable interests match. Connecting donors to worthy nonprofits translates donors’ passions into community impact.
DEAR FRIENDS,

There’s a famous Japanese saying about vision without action being only a daydream.

Sometimes, there’s nothing wrong with a nice daydream. It can be a pleasant distraction, and who doesn’t need one of those from time to time? Daydreams may also give birth to a really important idea. But daydreams alone don’t accomplish anything. Accomplishment depends upon translating a dream into reality through a plan.

All of us at CFT have been working hard during the past year to carry out big plans. Many of them are still underway. They involve strengthening our value to you and include:

- Partnering more closely with donors through a new, dedicated Donor Services team;
- Finding new ways to match our knowledge of community needs with the interests of donors through donor-advised funds (like the Letters of Inquiry described on the previous page);
- Creating a better process for making grants through funds at CFT;
- Improving our operations by implementing an updated, unified service fee that is competitive and reasonable; and
- Becoming more effective stewards of how we use discretionary assets (unrestricted and field of interest funds) to focus those resources in strategic ways that return the biggest bang for the buck.

These plans are ultimately tied directly to you. They’re really about your plans, the kinds of change in our community that are important to you. They’re about how we best support and partner with you – your family’s charitable giving; your personal philanthropy; your nonprofit organization’s mission – through the relationship that we share.

A great example of where all our plans come together is the ongoing enhancement of DonorBridge, a 24/7 online resource available for you at www.donorbridgetx.org. DonorBridge enables you to easily link your interests with the needs of local nonprofits. Any time. From anywhere.

Our overall plan is simple: to enhance the experience and impact of giving through exemplary service, wise stewardship of resources, and the relationship that comes from being a trusted partner. That can’t be just a dream. It must be the reality we accomplish together.

Make it happen with us.

Joseph M. “Jody” Grant
Chairman of the Board

Brent Christopher
President and Chief Executive Officer
Who We Are

Why do donors, nonprofits and other community partners rely on CFT as a hub of effective philanthropy?

Wise Stewardship
To meet donor and community needs, CFT expertly administers the resources of a range of funds, including:

- Donor-Advised Funds
- Designated Funds
- Agency Funds
- Discretionary Funds
- Scholarship Funds
- W.W. Caruth, Jr. Foundation

Exemplary Service
CFT is committed to serving and informing donors and nonprofits through:

- Community Needs Assessments
- Letter of Inquiry Process
- Hosted Meetings
- DonorBridge

Trusted Partner
CFT’s deep community knowledge and ability to collaborate enable partnership initiatives, including:

- Texas High School Project
- Entrepreneurs for North Texas
- Caruth Homeplace
- Advisory Council
- Professional Seminars

To learn more about these initiatives and other ways CFT enhances the experience and impact of giving, visit cftexas.org.
Selected Grants

As part of the total $73 million in grants paid by CFT, funds awarded to the efforts below are a sampling of plans brought to fruition in fiscal year 2010. These projects transformed vision into action for the benefit our community.

**ARTS & CULTURE**

* Cultural Data Project
  $75,000 to bring the Cultural Data Project to Texas, through the creation of a task force to provide oversight and secure funding. The Cultural Data Project is an online management tool enabling arts and cultural organizations to strengthen their performance, grantmaking efficacy and advocacy efforts by allowing the tracking and benchmarking of financial and program data.

**SOCIAL SERVICES**

* Housing Crisis Center
  $20,000 to support a newly created development position focused on helping the organization secure new funding streams. The Housing Crisis Center works to prevent homelessness by providing affordable short- and long-term transitional shelter to families, the elderly and the disabled.

**EDUCATION**

* Zero to Five Funders Collaborative
  $150,000 to support language development and parental education programs for children in the Bachman Lake neighborhood. The Zero to Five Collaborative is a consortium of 19 Dallas-area funders whose mission is to equip, encourage and support parents and caregivers to prepare children ages 0 to 5 for success in school.

* St. Mark’s School of Texas
  $1,000,000 committed through highly structured grants from a donor-advised fund over ten years in strategic support of the institution’s financial aid program. The funds will contribute directly to on-campus quality of life and open doors of opportunity to boys in the Dallas area who otherwise could not attend St. Mark’s.

**HEALTH**

* American Heart Association
  $3,532,500 over two years from the W. W. Caruth, Jr. Foundation to establish an optimal response system for heart attack victims across Dallas County. Grant funds will be used by American Heart Association, in partnership with the medical community, to transform emergency care for heart attacks in order to dramatically improve patient outcomes.

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**PUBLIC SAFETY**

* Safer Dallas Better Dallas
  $4,195 from a donor-advised fund to Safer Dallas Better Dallas for the purchase of a narcotics dog for the Dallas Police Department. This grant responded to an urgent request to assist the DPD in acquiring an essential law enforcement tool for the Narcotics Division, contributing to the overall quality of life in the Dallas area.

**YOUTH**

* Big Brothers/Big Sisters
  $2,993,750 from the W. W. Caruth, Jr. Foundation to create the Caruth Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Initiative. This funding will enable Big Brothers/Big Sisters to design a model program to provide positive intervention in the lives of 1,000 at-risk youth at critical junctures in their lives to reduce levels of delinquency.
Financial Information

2010 Composition of Gifts

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Total gifts $73.5

2010 Composition of Assets

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Total assets $705.0

Total Contributions Received

Assets

INVESTMENT MANAGERS
Aberdeen Asset Management, PLC
Barrow, Hanley, Mewhinney & Strauss, Inc.
Burgundy Asset Management
Credit Suisse
Disciplined Growth Investors
Hotchkis and Wiley Capital Management
BNY Mellon Cash Investment Strategies
State Street Global Advisors
Western Asset Management Company

CUSTODIAN
BNY Mellon

LEGAL COUNSEL
K&L Gates LLP

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR
McCladey & Pully, LLP

INVESTMENT CONSULTANT
Rogerscusey

To review the annual independent audit report and the related audited consolidated financial statements with footnotes, please visit www.cftexas.org.
CFT stimulates creative solutions to key challenges in our community. We thoughtfully and effectively support our diverse donors and grantees by providing exemplary service and by demonstrating accountability. We improve lives through an unwavering commitment to lasting impact.