



HOLLOWAY FAMILY FOUNDATION

WINTER 2019/2020 NEWSLETTER

January 2020

Welcome to our foundation newsletter! We hope to engage you, as members of the Board, in the foundation's latest efforts, news, and accomplishments including seasonal goals and outreach, updates on our partners, and an overall pulse on research and philanthropy. Enjoy!

A Year in Review

The last quarter of 2019 for the Holloway Family Foundation included attending a national conference in California, continuing local racial equity training in Dallas, and cultivating new connections in public policy and other organizations in order to better support and advocate for our nonprofit community and the populations they serve.

While attending the [Philanthropy Roundtable Annual Meeting](#) at the end of October, Valerie and Jenny were able to connect with a speaker from the Texas Public Policy Foundation (TPPF). Continued conversations have led to a deeper understanding of state-wide initiatives related to

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SAVE THE DATE

2020 ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

MAY 29TH-31ST

One of the most exciting things about the start of a new year is planning for the HFF Annual Board Meeting!

We are very excited to announce that this year the meeting will be in

Nashville, Tennessee from **May 29 – May 31, 2020**. And we are even more excited to report that (as of now) ALL board members will be in attendance!

We will be meeting at **The Bobby Hotel** located at 230 4th Ave North, Nashville, TN 37219.

www.bobbyhotel.com

As a reminder, it is recommended that trustees arrive on Thursday (May 28th) if possible, in order to allow for a full agenda on Friday and Saturday, with return travel on Sunday. We are looking forward to a fun and meaningful weekend with everyone! Please do not hesitate to email Jenny with any questions.

workforce development and career, college & military readiness in Texas. This initiated a collective tour of the Arlington ISD Dan Dipert Career & Technical Center which is an incredibly successful, innovative and impressive model of how to best implement career readiness and opportunity at the high school level. Many students graduate with job-specific certifications and several have accepted positions at Lockheed Martin upon graduating!



[Above: At the Dan Dipert Career & Technical Center in Arlington, TX. From left: Andrew Brown with TPPF, Valerie Skinner, Dan Dipert, Steven Rowe with TPPF, and Jenny LaForest.]

We have also been invited to attend the Texas Public Policy Foundation's Policy Orientation in Austin, Texas, on January 22nd- January 24th. We are looking forward to it and excited to report back on lessons learned, questions raised, and action items moving forward.

In another presentation, we learned about the "Success Sequence" and its implementation into schools to promote positive life choices for student success. The champion of this effort, Ian Rowe, states that *"schools have a moral obligation to make sure that children growing up in poverty or at risk of falling into it are at least aware of the Success Sequence formula."* We invite you to learn more about this initiative, including data and outcome measures, by reading an excerpt from his essay [here](#).

The Philanthropy Roundtable also offered sessions discussing the future of work and the emphasis that will be placed on "human skills," such as character and leadership. Although some jobs will be lost to the technological advances of the future, such as artificial intelligence (AI), the argument is that there will be new jobs created as well, that will be more focused on human values which technology cannot replicate. Characteristics such as empathy, moral courage, and social responsibility are key components of ethical leadership. A speaker on the topic connected us with Patrick Sweeney from the Allegacy Center for Leadership & Character at the School of Business at Wake Forest University, whose research focuses on developing ethical leaders and organizations. As a result, we are now inquiring about these topics during site visits with our partners in workforce development/training programs in order to see if they are interested in or already incorporating leadership and character development into their courses. We also have an open invitation for a tour of the Allegacy Center for Leadership & Character at Wake Forest, so if any board member is interested in that opportunity, please reach out to Jenny (jenny@hollowayfamilyfoundation.org).

Our gender and racial equity training continued in November at 'Journeys to Equity,' a seminar hosted by Exponent Philanthropy and Philanthropy Southwest in Dallas, TX. This training delved deeper into understanding equity versus equality, diversity versus inclusion, microaggression, power and privilege, philanthropy's role and how it can influence societal and organizational cultures. We look forward to further sharing and discussing this

important topic at the entire board at the annual meeting in May.

In addition to public policy and equity, another growing interest of the foundation includes **social and emotional learning (SEL)**. Through our connection to many successful and impactful creative expression programs for children in need, we began to seek out information regarding how these programs might be scaled through incorporation into public school curriculum. A recurring theme from these conversations in the community was SEL, and specifically, a research-based organization in the field called CASEL – the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (www.casel.org). And as it turns out, this national organization is based in Chicago! So we were able to connect Chicago-based board member, Jake Skinner, with CASEL to learn more about the necessary steps for a school district to take in order to successfully implement SEL into the curriculum, as well as optimal data and assessment tools. We have since discovered CASEL is already working in partnership with one of HFF's long-standing grantees, Big Thought, and Dallas ISD to progress this model in the schools. We are enjoying learning more about SEL in relation to the work our nonprofit partners are doing and look forward to hearing more about Jake's visit with CASEL at the board meeting!

A Look Ahead...

One of the most exciting culminations from 2019 is the response that the Holloway Family Foundation has received from the community regarding the importance of philanthropy to stay apprised of local and current legislation in order

to better serve in our roles as funders. Therefore, we are thrilled to announce that HFF will be hosting its inaugural **Fort Worth Funders' Policy Convening** on March 2nd, 2020. We have solidified experts in the policy arena to speak to 15- 20 foundations in the Fort Worth community regarding the latest legislation in four key areas: *transportation, housing, childcare, and workforce development*. We believe the people being served by the organizations we support are consistently affected by these specific areas. Our confirmed speakers for each topic are as follows:

2020 CONFERENCES

Exponent Philanthropy Annual Conference **October 6-8**
Anaheim, CA

The Philanthropy Roundtable 2020 Annual Meeting **October 14-16**
Naples, FL

CASEL 2020 SEL Exchange
October 14-16 *Chicago, IL*

Philanthropy Southwest Annual Meeting **October 20-23**
Lost Pines, TX

Interested in Attending? Email Jenny@hollowayfamilyfoundation.org for details.

(Transportation) Rebecca Young Montgomery – Senior Vice President, Advocacy, at the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce

(Housing) Mary-Margaret Lemons – President, Fort Worth Housing Solutions

(Childcare) Carol Klocek – CEO, Center for Transforming Lives

(Workforce Development) Ron Simmons – Director, Right on Work, at the Texas Public Policy Foundation

We cannot wait to hear from each of these experts and share what we learn with you. Wish us luck!

Also, with the recent majority vote by the board, we are excited to move forward with membership of [Texas Education Grantmakers Advocacy Consortium \(TEGAC\)](#). TEGAC is a state-wide collaboration focused on unifying grantmakers “to change public education policy in Texas and, maybe even more importantly, changing how philanthropy more broadly approaches public policy.” TEGAC facilitates policy ‘work groups’ during the interim to focus on several key areas building up to the next legislative session (which occurs every two years in Texas, with the next beginning January 2021). We will look forward to following closely along the career readiness and workforce development work group(s). As Valerie mentioned, TEGAC also coordinates ‘District Days,’ which allows members the opportunity to meet and connect with their region’s state legislators. We will look forward to deepening relationships in our “home” districts during the 2020 District Days. As promised, there will be more details to share in May. (www.tegac.org)

Lastly, Jenny was nominated and elected to join the [Workforce Matters Steering Committee](#) for the two-year term beginning 2021. Workforce Matters is a network for funders that “*draws on expert and practitioner knowledge to strengthen workforce development philanthropy and advance equitable access to quality education and employment for young people and adults.*” It has, and continues to be, a valuable resource for the foundation to stay abreast of the latest news, research, and current events in workforce development and Jenny is extremely honored and excited to become more involved with this organization. We invite you to learn more about it at www.workforce-matters.org or via their app, which is hosted on Mobilize.io and is an excellent way to stay connected.

ACTION ITEMS for the Board

LOOK HERE FOR ITEMS THAT REQUIRE YOUR FEEDBACK AND/OR INPUT REGARDING UPCOMING FOUNDATION DECISIONS... AND THANK YOU, IN ADVANCE!

- ❖ **UPDATE on 2019 HFF Visionary Leadership Awards:** Valerie was able to meet with Chad Houser, Executive Chef and Founder of Café Momentum in November in Dallas, TX. He was very surprised and extremely grateful for the award. In related news, Café Momentum has made national connections, including in Nashville, TN! Hopefully, we will have more to report on that in the coming months—stay tuned!

[{Click here to read the Award Letter}](#)

HFF Book Club

In an effort to stay in touch with the latest narrative regarding philanthropy, the workforce, socioeconomic issues and other relevant topics pertaining to our work, we created this— completely informal— space to share what we have found enlightening and welcome any and all to engage. Recommendation for this season:

“The Years That Matter Most: How College Makes or Breaks Us” by Paul Tough

The following book (displayed in pdf form) was written by Joseph Vincelli, CEO and Director of Programs at The Artist Outreach, one of our grantees in the area of creative expression for low-income children. They are doing innovative work in public schools with their programs, and so it felt appropriate to highlight them here. Enjoy!

["The Art of Tone"](#) by Joseph Vincelli.

We would also love to hear from other trustees and highlight any recommendations here! Feel free to send any titles/authors you would like to share to Jenny@hollowayfamilyfoundation.org to be included in the subsequent newsletter.