



# HOLLOWAY FAMILY FOUNDATION

## 2023 NEWSLETTER

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!

Happy New Year! But...

Before we jump into the exciting opportunities that come with the start of a new year, let's first share about some of the memorable events from our last quarter of 2022!

November was a busy month, starting with a short, but full, visit to Nashville, TN. Val & Jenny spent a weekend meeting with five of our nonprofit partners, including attending the fabulous "Sneaker Ball" fundraiser for [Creative Girls Rock](#), led by a previous Relay Grant recipient and current grantee, Charmin Bates. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet more of the CGR team and realize the far-reaching impact the organization is making in the community and beyond.



[Left: Jenny LaForest, Charmin Bates, & Valerie Skinner at the CGR Annual Sneaker Ball in Nashville, TN]

However, the highlight of the trip was a fantastic lunch hosted by previous board member, Beth Heimburger, and family. Thank you, Beth!

In mid-November, Morgan joined Val and Jenny in Washington, D.C., to attend the [Workforce Matters Further Together Conference](#). It gathered workforce development funders, nonprofit leaders, and policy experts in a meaningful 3-day event. It provided opportunities for candid conversation among funders and nonprofits, as well as federal policy updates from local leaders regarding their interest in private partnerships to further the federal dollars, specifically in terms of providing support services for the projects, identifying the workforce for such projects, and highlighting local apprenticeships and other effective

community programs that are already established in those regions.

Jenny represented the foundation as a panelist for the session on **‘Sharing Power: Equitable Grantmaking in Practice.’** During this important conversation, she was able to share about HFF’s equity journey thus far, specifically highlighting the launch and success of the HFF Relay Grant initiative. The idea of an equity- and trust-based relay grant to promote inclusivity and expand a foundation’s grantee network was received with enthusiasm and support. We look forward to seeing what other organizations might develop to adopt or expand this idea.



[ ‘Sharing Power’ Panel at Workforce Matters Further Together Conference in D.C. Left to Right: [Claire Minson](#), Founder of Sandra Grace Consulting; Anthony Venable, Youth Grantmaker at [Baltimore’s Promise](#); Monica Munn, Managing Director of Philanthropy at [World Education Services](#); & Jenny LaForest, HFF.]

This was the first national convening for Workforce Matters, but certainly not the last! The feedback from the conference has been overwhelmingly positive and we look forward to attending future events supporting workforce development funders.

The trip concluded with a delicious dinner and delightful company with board member, Ellen Ward!



[Morgan Jordan, Valerie Skinner, Jenny LaForest & Ellen Ward in Washington, D.C.]

The month ended with the North Texas Asset Funders Network (NTXAFN) 10-Year Anniversary Celebration at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas in Dallas, Texas. It was a commemorative event looking back at the chapter’s accomplishments and partnerships over the last decade, as well as a look ahead to their new goals and initiatives.



Valerie was invited to announce NTXAFN’s newest initiative: **Equity in Asset Building Relay Grants!** This idea was inspired by HFF’s Relay Grant, so it was extra special for Valerie to share about HFF’s equity journey and the origins of our relay grants. Once again, it was received with resounding positivity.

One woman who was sitting at our table during Valerie’s speech, leaned over with tears in her eyes and said, “As a Black woman... really, just thank you.” It was so powerful to know that our (some might even say small) initiative was so meaningful to this one person; and emphasizes the power of intention when building and implementing equity-driven initiatives. This kind of peer support fuels the fire to continue this work in any way we can.

[AFN](#) is also known for their many special topic briefs aimed at educating the funding community and highlighting nonprofits doing innovative work in their communities and beyond. One such primer was released in November titled, “**Realizing Economic Justice: Confronting Racial Bias in Asset Building Philanthropy.**” Valerie and Jenny were peer reviewers for the project, and are proud of the final document AFN has created to support funders in advancing their understanding of racial justice in philanthropy. [Read the primer.](#)

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## NOW, A LOOK AHEAD

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2023 is already full of promise as we look forward to several key events in the months to come:

- Staying apprised of the policy conversation happening in Austin, TX (thanks to [Philanthropy Advocates](#)) in preparation for the 88<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session
- The launch of our Spring Internship
- The HFF Annual Board Meeting (see details below)



We are so excited to welcome Yazmyn Carter to the team as HFF’s Intern for Spring 2023!

Our part-time, paid internship continues to be possible through our partnership with the [Light Up the World Mentorship Program](#) at the Werthing Foundation.

*“First generation college student seeking an engaging internship where I can apply and further develop my customer service skills and develop my HR skills. In addition, [this internship] would leverage my interpersonal and organizational skills with the intended goal to obtain critical experience that will aid in the start of my professional career.”*  
-Yazmyn Carter

Yazmyn is currently a Junior at University of North Texas in Denton, TX, studying Business, Communications, Japanese and International Studies. We are already impressed with her enthusiasm, professionalism, and organizational skills. She officially joins the team on February 6<sup>th</sup> and will be with us through May. Welcome, Yazmyn!

# 2023 Holloway Family Foundation Annual Board Meeting

April 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>

| [The W Hotel](#)

| Dallas, Texas

## Grantee Spotlight:



The beautiful welcome sign above was created by our partners at [MHMR Foundation](#) in preparation for Valerie's site visit on January 10<sup>th</sup>.

Through their Supported Employment program, they have launched *Career Connections* to support people with disabilities who currently work at the ABG Packaging location. ABG is now a training site for people who want work placements in the community.

Thank you, MHMR, for your continued commitment to equitable work solutions in Tarrant County!



## HFF Book RECOMMENDATIONS

[Color of Law](#) by Richard Rothstein

[Lost & Found](#) by Kathryn Shulz