

# SUMMER 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. This includes seasonal goals and outreach, updates on our partners, and an overall pulse on research and philanthropy.

## And That's A Wrap!

June 30<sup>th</sup> is the Foundation's annual timeline for applicants to receive notification regarding the Board's grant decisions for the annual cycle, so we are excited to have finalized all communication with our 2023 applicants after a meaningful and productive board meeting in April.

This year we completed **79 total grants**,

including **16 new partnerships** and a total of **32 multiyear grantees**! Overall, our portfolio maintains its largest percentage of investments in Workforce Development at approximately 65%, with distributions in Creative Expression for Children and Mentorship contributing the remaining 23% and 13%, respectively.



We look forward to growing these relationships and following their successes throughout the year!

## At the Heart of It...

Last quarter we looked closer at the current definitions and examples of trust-based philanthropy, which consistently echoed: "Relationships [are] at the root of trust-based philanthropy." The 2023 grant season allowed the Holloway Family Foundation to continue to prove its commitment to this philosophy. As you know, this year was the first grant cycle that the Foundation transitioned away from mailing checks and implemented electronic bank transactions to distribute grant funding. We have received overwhelmingly positive feedback from our grantees regarding this change and look forward to future grant cycles in which this change will hopefully facilitate a faster and more efficient delivery of funds to our nonprofit partners.

While it was important for the Foundation to keep an open mind to different opportunities and technologies to improve the transactional part of the grantmaking, it was equally important to the Board of Directors to maintain the deep relational aspect of the grantmaking process. So, thanks to the Board's clear prioritization of this family value and for Valerie's personal dedication to writing individual award letters to each grantee, I am happy to report that this important element did not go unnoticed or undervalued by our partners. The responses we received from nonprofit leaders were emotional and full of gratitude, validating this personalized style of communication:

#### "I almost wanted to frame it on the wall because **it is just so meaningful and rare**"

#### "...best grant award letter EVER!"

"It was additionally a joy to read your letter... your ability to use words so passionately took me right where you were. Thank you for that."

"I wanted to tell you how much we appreciate you and **your thoughtful approach in communication** with us... from our entire team, **thank you**" It was a wonderful opportunity for HFF Board Members to meet our intern, **Yazmyn Carter**, in person at our Annual Board Meeting in April. Yazmyn began her 14-week internship with the Foundation in February thanks to our partnership with the Werthing Foundation's Light Up the World Mentoring Program. We are grateful for Yazmyn's administrative assistance, her inquisitive nature and valuable perspective that she shared with us throughout the internship.

If you were lucky enough to chat with Yazmyn for more than five minutes, then you also learned about her passion for the Japanese culture! We are happy to report that she is currently fulfilling her dream to visit Japan through her college study abroad program. Check out her pre-departure vlog and follow along her journey <u>here</u>!

Thank you, Yazmyn!



Above: Lunch at Bonton Farms. (Our only group photo from the HFF 2023 Annual Board Meeting! With our surprise guest :)

### Best Place for Working Parents National Summit

### BON VOYAGE!

Following the HFF Board Meeting in Dallas, Valerie and Jenny attended the <u>Best Place for</u> <u>Working Parents</u> (BP4WP) National Summit in Fort Worth, Texas. This initiative is in partnership with The Miles Foundation and was initially created as a strategy to engage local businesses in prioritizing the needs of working parents with family-friendly policies and boost the local economy. It has gained national attention, with employers from all over the country becoming 'Designated BP4WP Businesses.'



The annual summit convened executives from both for-profit and non-profit organizations, large employers and small business owners, as well as the local funding community. The Summit included speakers from Indeed, Tyson, Tulsa Remote, Antonelli's Cheese Shop and more, all gathered to share their stories of innovation and practical strategies that have allowed their employees and their bottom line to flourish.



[Reception at the Hotel Drover in Fort Worth for the BP4WP Summit.]

We were so grateful to hear how employers are engaging in workforce development and investing in their employees. We would love the opportunity to share this experience with any interested board members at the next BP4WP Summit in May 2024!



## A LOOK AHEAD: CONFERENCES & CONVENINGS

- October 17- 20 Philanthropy
  Southwest Annual Meeting
  Lost Pines Resort, TX
- April 16 -18, 2024 Asset Funders Network (AFN) Biennial Grantmaker Conference New Orleans, LA

If you are interested in attending or would like more information about any of the events listed above, please email jenny@hollowayfamilyfoundation.org.

## **HFF Summer Reading List**

Lost & Found by Kathryn Schulz

Between the Mountain & The Sky by Maggie Doyne

I Said What I Said: An Anthology of Black Women in Nonprofit by Errika Flood-Moultrie