



HOLLOWAY FAMILY FOUNDATION

FALL 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.



From the triple digit temperatures in Texas to the first snow-covered mountains in North Carolina, there have been plenty of changes occurring since July—and not just in the weather! The Holloway Family Foundation's leadership transition is in full swing as Valerie leans into retirement as Chair of the Board and Jenny begins her role as Executive Director. It is a season full of new rhythms and exciting updates to share.

First and foremost, we are thrilled to announce that we have a new member of the Holloway

family joining the HFF Board! **Betsy Heimburger** has been interested in joining the Foundation for several years and we are so happy that the timing is finally right for her to serve as our newest next generation Board Member. She will be onboarding over the next year and will get to see everyone at our Annual Board Meeting in the spring. Although some of you know her like a sister (wink, wink), we wanted to be sure to share her valuable personal and professional experience as well as her contagious enthusiasm with the rest of the Board. Therefore, Betsy has generously provided the following introduction:

Hello Holloway Foundation family,

I am honored to finally join the board this year! I'm the daughter of former board member, Beth Heimburger, and sister to current board member, Susan West. In June, I graduated with an MFA in Arts Leadership from Seattle University and am now working at Seattle Opera as part of their administrative staff. I spend my free time sewing, playing music with friends, planning events, baking, and trying to remain upright in ballet class. I've also lived with Type 1 Diabetes for nearly 16 years! I look forward to finding ways that I can bring my arts

perspective to the foundation board, as well as learning as much as I can about being a board member.

I have long considered art (of all shapes and sizes) to be one of the most important forms of education a person can experience, both in and out of the classroom. However, there are many in this world who are not able to access art and art education as easily as others. Art classes and supplies are often expensive, the United States does not value art as highly as many other developed countries do, and art is often the first thing to be cut from curricula when school budgets are tight. But participating in the arts through all stages of life can affect many benefits: outside-the-box thinking, better focus, increased respect of self and others, boosted confidence, reduced stress, and so many others.

Through my work as an arts leader, I strive to provide all people with equal access to the arts, no matter their race, age, socioeconomic background, or any other quality they may possess. I want to inspire people to create art, to enable arts students to continue studying art for as long as they desire, and to cultivate a love of and participation in the arts from birth to death. Rather than be an extracurricular for the privileged, the arts should be an integral part of every stage of life for all people.

As a Holloway Family Foundation board member, I look forward to bringing my passion for the arts and equity to my role. As an arts leader, I look forward to connecting with foundation-funded organizations around the country. And as a member of the family, I look forward to connecting regularly with my Holloway relatives!

- Betsy Heimburger



Welcome,
Betsy!

Fall Roundup

It has been a busy start to the fall season with site visits, conferences, and convenings. As Valerie continues to serve as the Co-Chair for the [Funders' Roundtable on Education \(FRE\)](#) for the remainder of 2023, the September meeting focused on the topic of parent/family engagement. It highlighted several local initiatives and resources that target different aspects of family engagement in schools and out of school, including the [Tarrant To & Through Partnership](#), [Best Place for Kids Parent Pass App](#), and [Help me Grow North Texas](#). The presentations led to a robust discussion among funders regarding what success looks like with these models, unique strategies to target different ages and demographics, as well as potential gaps in services.

The next quarterly meeting will take place in December and provide an update on [Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief \(ESSER\)](#) funding in Tarrant County school districts and potentially help identify philanthropy's role as these federal funds are set to expire in 2024.



The end of September marked Jenny's inaugural visit to Dallas as ED to meet with HFF partners and attend site visits. During this trip, Valerie and Jenny were invited to *A Celebration of Best Buddies* with the organization's founder, Anthony Kennedy Shriver. The highlight of the event was meeting two participants of the Best Buddies Texas Jobs Project, Anne Marie and Fran. Anne Marie is a BB Ambassador and spoke to the audience about how starting a Best Buddies chapter in her Highland Park high school "changed her life."

Fran Sheinberg was named the *2023 Best Buddies Employee of the Year* thanks to her part-time job as a teacher's assistant. Fran is also well-known for her rapping abilities, not only among the Best Buddies community but also from her social media presence ([@flavafran](#)), so she performed a rap that she had written for the special occasion. No words can do it justice, but I will say that it was equal parts exceptionally entertaining and deeply heartfelt. The immense gratitude she feels towards the Jobs Project and the Best Buddies team for helping her find her "dream job" emanates from everything she says and does.

We feel incredibly lucky that HFF gets to be a small part of the life-changing work that the Best Buddies Jobs Project is doing in Texas!

September's visit also included the distribution of the *2023 HFF Visionary Leadership Award and Relay Grant*. **Linda Kordek-Milton, State Director of Best Buddies**, (pictured at left) was surprised and humbled by the Visionary Leadership Award. She is excited to consider investing in professional development for her team members as part of her succession plan, but also excited to potentially use this unrestricted award for some much needed and deserved respite. We hope she finds exactly what she is looking for!

The 2023 HFF Relay Grant was delivered to **Kimberly Williams, CEO of Interfaith Family Services**. This annual relay grant aims to recognize female, BIPOC nonprofit leaders of excellence and provide the opportunity for those leaders to 'relay' their award to another colleague of their choosing. Kim was not only grateful to receive her award, but also very excited to lift up another leader in this space. She already has several deserving leaders in mind for her relay grant, so we look forward to discovering who she nominates, and then who the final recipient will be after that. Stay tuned!

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT:



We heard from our very own Beth Heimbürger first, that **Corner to Corner** received the **Champion of Hope** Award at the Hope Summit at Belmont University in Nashville earlier this month! This is a huge honor. C2C co-founder, Will Acuff, recently wrote about the experience:

"When I first found out about getting an invite to the Champion of Hope event to receive our award, I was super shocked!

Our nonprofit has come quite a long way since it was just me and Shana running things. Now, we're part of a team of nearly 20 other dedicated individuals, and our programs have boomed in growth.

In fact, we're celebrating our 1,000th Black entrepreneur graduating from The Academy this November 14th - you should 100% join us for the celebration!

Anyway, alongside my surprise, I also felt deeply encouraged - it means a lot to me and our team to know that the work we've been doing steadily since 2011 is being recognized by Belmont, which is such a stalwart leader in our community here in Nashville.

It's a huge honor to know that Belmont views us as ambassadors of hope in our community, that they see we are carrying a message of joy! They see the work we do to co-create opportunities for our neighbors to flourish.

They see that the heartbeat of what we are doing is hope, and that's huge."

Congrats, Shana & Will!



A LOOK AHEAD: CONFERENCES & CONVENINGS

- April 2 – 4, 2024 **Workforce Matters Further Together Convening**
[Alexandria, VA](#)
- April 16 – 18, 2024 **Asset Funders Network (AFN) Biennial Grantmaker Conference**
[New Orleans, LA](#)
- May 8 – 10, 2024 **Best Place for Working Parents National Summit**
[Nashville, TN](#)

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



In mid-October, Valerie and Jenny attended the [Philanthropy Southwest](#) (PSW) Annual Meeting outside of Austin, TX. This was the first time HFF

has attended this conference, after years of following their regional offerings and speaking with members of this philanthropy-serving organization. The agenda included guest speaker, Ms. Opal Lee, the “grandmother of Juneteenth,” and inspirational speaker/artist [Phil Hansen](#).

We also heard from **Daron Babcock, founder of Bonton Farms** (pictured above with Valerie & Jenny), about their model, why it has worked, and why succession planning was the critical next step (you may remember meeting the new President, Gabe Madison, at our site visit last spring).

Some of the other session highlights included maximizing funder impact through systems change, empowering the Hispanic/Latino community, and catalyzing change with the business community. In addition to relevant content, the agenda also provided fireside chats and other networking opportunities. We look forward to staying apprised of future PSW local convenings.

SAVE THE DATE

APRIL 25TH – 28TH | OMNI FORT WORTH

2024 HFF ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

HFF Fall Reading List

Wealth Supremacy
by Marjorie Kelly

The Vanishing Half
by Brit Bennett

Ending on a High [Fashion] Note!



Valerie supported HFF partner, **Attitudes & Attire**, at their annual Luncheon & Fashion Show on October 13th, 2023.

[Above: Attitudes & Attire Founder, Lyn Berman, with Valerie Skinner]