



Photo courtesy of Sorcha Augustine, provided by Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe.

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## Our Mission

Community Impact Powered by Philanthropy

## Our Work

We unite people and organizations to create opportunities for families across generations to improve their lives through cultural, educational, economic, and social support.

Every one of us has the potential to impact another person, a cause, a community.  
**Be The One.**



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## LETTER FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR AND PRESIDENT/CEO

Dear Friends:

We're living in a time of great listening. We've heard our neighbors, friends, and families recount stories of personal resilience and perseverance in the face of what one year ago was unthinkable hardship. Conversations (albeit "distanced" and with lots of Zooming) have brought us closer together.

Listening is the first step in philanthropy. It allows us to create spaces that give people permission to connect and be vulnerable without fear, bringing about genuine discussions and breakthroughs. By listening throughout this rewarding yet complex journey, we ensure everyone has a part in the ongoing conversation of our community's future, towards equity and unity.

We're now entering more than a year of reacting and recovering from the greatest challenges of our era. We've seen charitable individuals, families, and organizations across our region respond with an inspiring abundance of compassion, empathy, and action, guided by a conviction in humanity's potential.

While the path beyond our current crises has become clearer thanks to these efforts, our work at the Community Foundation of Sarasota County continues for the long-term, addressing the needs of tomorrow with the generosity of today. By helping people of all viewpoints and needs, charitable giving continues to be (and always has been) about welcoming more perspectives to the table, expanding access to opportunities, and making our community stronger by doing so.

We want to hear and center those voices, as you'll see in the stories throughout this issue.

You'll learn how digital access spearheaded by four local arts and cultural organizations set the stage for levels of engagement, inclusivity, and healing previously unseen among audiences and patrons (page 4). You'll hear sentiments and thoughts from our very own foundation family, reflecting on the bright spots of the past year and optimism for all that lies ahead (page 8). You'll meet Tom and Carol Beeler, who are building careers through philanthropy and mentoring, one student at a time (page 10). And, you'll glimpse how community members and past grant and scholarship recipients are enriching our funding decisions by sharing their life experiences (page 12).

We are honored and privileged to be a connector, convener, and uniter for these voices and the many others who call our community home. These stories remind us that when we come together, possibilities become reality.

*Always with an open heart and mind, we're listening, learning, and responding alongside you.*

Gratefully,



Nelle S. Miller, Board Chair



Roxanne G. Jerde, President and CEO

## COMMUNITY VOICES: ARTS & HEALING

### Digital access set the stage for levels of engagement and inclusivity previously unseen among audiences and patrons

**Editor's Note:** This article was inspired by the insights shared during a Spring 2021 session of "Community Voices," a series of virtual panel discussions that was created by our foundation to bring together experts from nonprofit and community organizations to discuss our community's evolving needs and opportunities. A recording of this program and other sessions are available at [www.cfsarasota.org/media-center/community-voices](http://www.cfsarasota.org/media-center/community-voices)

A yearlong intermission that impacted all our area's arts and cultural organizations has underscored the role these vital entities play in connecting, healing, and replenishing our spirits. While facing tremendous economic hardships brought on by the coronavirus pandemic, artistic-based nonprofit organizations have courageously taken centerstage in adapting and reimagining the experiences that enrich our lives as well as the physical, mental, and emotional health of our community.

The Community Foundation of Sarasota County cast this idea of how healing takes many forms through creative

pursuits during a virtual conversation with donors, community members, and local arts and cultural leaders providing arts-focused wellness efforts across generations. The discussion wove itself into nearly all facets of who we are, covering children and families, education, health, cultural relevancy, age, connectivity, and equity and access.

At the beginning of the conversation, each speaker was asked to share one word that they felt encapsulated how the arts community has responded to the last year. Their words captured the past and offered hope for our community's next act.

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### "Resilient"

**JULIE LEACH**, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
WESTCOAST BLACK THEATRE TROUPE

For 20 years, Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe (WBTT) has focused on building bridges across divisions through empathic storytelling, and that mission hasn't been cut from the casting call even during a global pandemic. In fact, the digital capabilities of Zoom have expanded its reach.

Budding actors, stagehands and playwrights continued attending its *Stage of Discovery* intensive summer program, providing much-needed social connections to middle and high schoolers who had just experienced a once-in-a-generation shift to remote learning last year. In the fall, WBTT continued its development of artistic understanding through the

theater's outreach program for Sarasota County high schoolers learning about Jazz's origins and evolution at various times in American history. Leach shared that technology has also offered ways to support hard-of-hearing populations by including closed captioning on all its performances, which the theater continued to offer throughout the year, both online and safely in-person outdoors at their downtown Sarasota building.

Notably, the stage remains set for artistic development at WBTT. Since going virtual, the theatre has employed and housed several new artists, as well as encouraged longstanding members to take time to develop their own personal projects. Many of these will explore culturally relevant and sensitive topics and join the national call for greater equity within underrepresented communities.

## “Inspiring”

**CHRISTOPHER HIRD**, EDUCATION DIRECTOR,  
THE SARASOTA BALLET

Practicing ballet introduces students to a beautiful art form and it teaches them life-skills such as time-management and discipline. So, when in-person lessons became unsafe at the onset of the pandemic, The Sarasota Ballet knew it had to swiftly leap into the digital world.

Through grant support made in part by the Community Foundation, The Sarasota Ballet was able to give every student part of its *Dance – The Next Generation* (DNG) program a tablet at no cost, which provided a window into enrichment opportunities – from touring universities to attending the orchestra – for building self-esteem and lifelong success. The significance of

this opportunity goes beyond just technology: DNG serves students grades 3-12 who are most at risk of dropping out of school and invites them to participate in a 10-year, full-scholarship program in dance that enables them to apply for scholarships at local colleges and universities.

Digital access wasn't just reserved for the younger students, either. Professionals working remotely could tap into the ballet's reservoir of classes, as could adults living with Parkinson's Disease at home alongside their caretakers through a partnership with Neuro Challenge Foundation. When asked what keeps his team going, Hird replied: “The chance to keep inspiring students.” And the Ballet continues to do so by creating a safe space where students of all backgrounds can feel comfortable to learn, experience, and develop for the future.



After months of digital classes, The Sarasota Ballet invited students back to dance and connect in-person while practicing social distancing. *Photo provided by The Sarasota Ballet.*





Arty the robot has facilitated connections between patients at Sarasota Memorial Hospital and the vast collections at The Ringling. The Ringling plans on continuing to grow their virtual tour program beyond the coronavirus pandemic. *Photo provided by The Ringling.*

## “Essential”

**LAURA STEEFEL-MOORE**, HEAD OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, THE RINGLING

How can the arts activate collections and performances to become essential? For The Ringling, innovative partnerships and approaches with technology are helping answer this question. Robots are virtually transporting patients at Sarasota Memorial Hospital – many of whom have endured months of isolation and longing for connection – into the museum’s collections alongside their own personal, mechanical tour guide. Doctors and nurses also partake in social-emotional trainings led by the museum’s education staff. The sessions are focused on honing observation skills, building teamwork, and cultivating empathy to see patients and fellow health care professionals in a new light, both in-person and on-screen.

Robots aside, virtual experiences are unlocking new opportunities for connection and conversation, as seen through the Ringling Reflections program serving people with dementia. Also, The Ringling is showcasing pieces normally not on display to museum goers and juxtaposing other works in digital galleries to encourage thinking through an equity lens. Key to the planning process is being conscious not only of what to showcase, but also who is viewing and how the artwork is being perceived.

## “Ever-Changing”

**KELLI MALDONADO**, EDUCATION DIRECTOR,  
VAN WEZEL PERFORMING ARTS HALL

Focused on a two-generation approach serving children and parents simultaneously, the Van Wezel shifted its educational curriculum and performances onto an online platform, aptly called “Arts Anywhere,” initially to mitigate summer learning loss and prepare students for the upcoming school year. Since then, “Arts Anywhere” has blossomed into an ever-evolving resource serving 38,000 students, parents, and teachers to date – 8,000 more than pre-pandemic audiences. Many of these connections are powered by partnerships with local organizations like Girls Inc. and Boys & Girls Clubs of Sarasota and DeSoto Counties, that bring the art activities seen in these videos to life through meaningful, in-person engagement safely held at their facilities.

Venturing off-stage, Maldonado shared how the Van Wezel is identifying and addressing needs and expanded access to the arts. One such way is its collaboration with Oak Park School that brings drama workshops, visiting artists, and connections with fellow students at Lakeview Elementary School. Combined, these efforts bring creativity and inspiration to more than 300 students of varying abilities.


Maldonado understood the eagerness to experience the lights going down and the stage lighting up again in-person, but she also stressed that cultural institutions have proven over the last year that we can and must reimagine ways to work together and ensure everyone can re-enter and re-live the magic of the theater.

“The arts have a shared responsibility to become and remain culturally relevant, sensitive, and inviting to artists and audiences of all backgrounds.”

## “Humanity Endures”

Throughout the discussion, common threads and intersections emerged. Although each panelist expressed their relationship with Zoom as love-hate at best, digital access set the stage for levels of engagement and inclusivity previously unseen among audiences and patrons. Barriers to access this year were alleviated by charitable support for programs reaching all ages, including individuals living with disabilities and those aging in place. And our national reckoning with racial injustice and calls for greater equity also took center stage at all institutions, with each speaker underlining the shared responsibility of ensuring the arts become and remain culturally

relevant, sensitive, and inviting to artists and audiences of all backgrounds.

As these programs vividly illustrate, artful approaches to healing are vital to our community’s recovery both during and beyond the coronavirus pandemic. If we reflect on the words chosen by our speakers – inspiring, resilient, ever-changing, and essential – you will see that our arts community is all of these things *and* a whole encore’s worth more. Because, as Steefel-Moore so astutely put: “Art reminds us that humanity endures and from tragedy comes things of great beauty and joy.” 

# ONE YEAR REFLECTIONS

## Balancing the past, present, and future during times of crisis

In the fall of 2019, the Community Foundation of Sarasota County marked its 40th anniversary with in-person celebrations and heartfelt optimism for the year – and decade – ahead. Just four months later, the coronavirus pandemic upended the world we knew and challenged all of us to reimagine how we live and connect with one another. Through it all, the Community Foundation's purpose – to positively impact our community through philanthropy – has never been clearer.

Like many individuals and organizations after a year of uncertainty, we took time this spring to reflect on the changes undertaken during this incredible moment in time and history. It was affirming to witness how the generous people who call our area home responded to emergency and short-term needs, while also offering expertise and resources to plan for long-term change for decades to come.

Of note, approximately \$28 million was provided by nearly 63,000 people through Season of Sharing (November 2019 – January 2021) and the 2020 Giving Challenge alone. Additional grants provided by fund holders, as well as legacy funds entrusted to the Community Foundation, worked in partnership alongside our Board of Directors' own commitments. Together, these and other initiatives were able to address immediate needs that have since placed our community in a far better position to meet our next moment of reinvention.

It's a complicated task, balancing the past, present, and future in the palm of crisis. And yet, we know philanthropy – driven to innovate, informed by data, and powered through equity – will help us get there.

In an article shared in March on our website, our President and CEO Roxie Jerde posed these



The Community Foundation Leadership Team.

thoughtful questions we are exploring both within the foundation, with donors and their trusted professional advisors, as well as with our nonprofit partners:

**ASK YOURSELF:** *What do you want to build? What possibilities beckon you? Are we listening, growing, and innovating? What can you become? What can our community become? This is a time to gaze through the looking glass and be seen for all we can become, even if it appears distant or nearly impossible.*

In the past year of reacting, responding, and recovering, we've come back to our foundational core: the trust we need to share with one another – between individuals, between organizations, between communities – is key to how we can adapt, innovate, and usher in the best our future can be and eventually become.

We have limitless capacity for healing and embracing change. It begins with one idea, one conversation, one person at a time. **Be the One.**



## Sentiments & Thoughts From Our Foundation Family

As most of our staff have continued working remotely this year, it was important that our foundation's culture of compassion, innovation, empowerment, and inclusiveness not be diminished. With a growing team of 32 dedicated individuals, we foster an atmosphere based on respect, trust, and passion for our work – virtually and in person.

Our leadership team shared notable bright spots of operational success at our bi-monthly All Staff meeting, which took place exactly one-year since transitioning to a hybrid workplace in mid-March 2021.

"Thank you, thank you, thank you," said Roxie Jerde during the session, which also included small-group Zoom breakout rooms of mixed departments to discuss individual perspectives amongst colleagues and friends. "How we've come together to support each other and allow everyone the opportunities to bring our best selves to work is a testament to every one of our team members. I hope everyone feels and knows you belong and your voice is heard."

Other leadership teams members offered special notes of thanks to their colleagues, including:

■ **LAURA SPENCER:** Throughout months of an abundance of giving, our Finance Department remained steadfast in ensuring accuracy in all grantmaking and processing gifts to help our community at the greatest speed possible.

■ **KIRSTEN RUSSELL:** Our Community Impact team adjusted our grant cycles in response to nonprofit needs while also welcoming new

coworkers who are passionate about making a difference where we all live.


■ **BETSY PENNEWILL:** The commitment to excellence in all we do in a new, remote setting was evident in all our teammates' actions. From setting up virtual professional and community update programs to making sure we were in touch with those who may not have social supports during a difficult time, everything was done with the utmost care.

■ **MISCHA KIRBY:** When the world felt disconnected and unsteady, it was a huge privilege – and responsibility – to be able to communicate through stories, reports, and thoughtful reflections how to make meaning of our current circumstances, and importantly, how people have been helping others.

■ **JAY YOUNG & RANATA REEDER:** Our newest vice presidents who joined the foundation in February and March 2021, respectively, shared appreciation for the passion our team has for our community. Learn more about these two professional leaders on page 15.

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Echoing everyone, Roxie closed the session in appreciation for the role the Community Foundation plays amongst our many neighbors.

**"I am so humbled and proud of this team. Each and every day, we are so honored to do what we do and work with many, many wonderful people and organizations,"** Jerde said. 

## Profile: Tom and Carol Beeler

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Tom (left) and Carol (right) Beeler are ensuring through their philanthropy that their values and commitment to young people continue to truly make a difference in their lives and the lives of future generations. *Photo provided by Tom and Carol Beeler.*

## BUILDING A MORE EQUITABLE SARASOTA WITH PHILANTHROPY AND MENTORING

Tom and Carol Beeler believe to invest in a more equitable community means more than just making charitable gifts. It means getting involved in the lives of young people who otherwise may struggle to achieve success.

Longtime patrons of the arts and education, the Beelers quite naturally gravitated to Sarasota with its vast array of arts offerings and multiple institutions of higher learning, when they approached retirement. But as they became more familiar with the community, they observed cultural and educational opportunities were beyond the reach of many youth and their families, especially minorities.

This observation inspired their philanthropic drive to fund educational programs that help low-income

students, with 50 percent of their funding directed to people who are racial minorities. The programs the Beelers support incorporate a diversity, equity, and inclusion philosophy paired with developing life skills.

“We want to make a difference,” Tom says. “We want the kids in Newtown and other lower income areas to have the opportunity to go to college and to partake in the arts.”

Providing scholarships and grants that enable students to develop their potential is a common way to address economic and educational disparities. But the Beelers have taken a step beyond typical philanthropy. By becoming involved in the lives of the students they assist, Tom and Carol develop personal relationships that grow over the years, resembling a

family relationship: attending students' school events, taking them to arts performances, or inviting them to their home for dinner.

"The money does make a difference," Carol says. "It enables them to sign up for a Circus Arts program or a State College of Florida degree. But what we found is that whenever we sponsor a student, when we ask what they need from us, it always goes beyond money for their education. One girl said, 'I'm so shy. I need to build up my confidence.' I said to her, 'We are going to go to this event and you watch me and do what I do.' I would extend my hand to someone and say, 'Hello, I'm Carol Beeler. I don't think I know you.' She would shrink back."

But the young woman caught on. Now she is a senior at USF, teaching classes to younger students. "She is so confident. She wants to be a teacher," Carol says. "Her mother says she can't believe the change."

Over the past decade, the Beelers have helped a dozen students, known as Beeler Scholars, pursue their dreams at institutions including Florida State University/Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training and the State College of Florida Music Excellence Program. Most who have graduated from college still keep in touch. The newest Beeler Scholar is graduating from State College of Florida this year and recently phoned the Beelers for advice on where he should continue his studies in education and music.

The Beelers plan to continue sponsoring and mentoring students as long as they are able, but they also want to assure that their efforts don't end when they pass away. While refining their estate plan, an advisor at Northern Trust introduced them to Betsy Pennewill, Corporate Counsel for the Community Foundation of Sarasota County, who helped the couple draft legal documents to carry their philanthropic goals well into the future. The Community Foundation also helped them identify nonprofits whose work dovetails with their mission.

In addition to their legacy plan, the Beelers rely on their Donor Advised Fund at the Community Foundation to support local organizations' arts and education programs such as summer camps at Circus Arts and Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe. Their Future Fund at

the Community Foundation will benefit the Booker High School Promise, Circus Arts Conservatory, New College of Florida, University of South Florida - Sarasota-Manatee, and Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe after the Beelers pass away. A similar fund at Gulf Coast Community Foundation will support programs at Florida Studio Theatre, Ringling College of Art and Design, State College of Florida, and Visible Men Academy.

"Future funds allow for innovative solutions to develop over decades, not just weeks and years," says Pennewill. "By strategically thinking about their legacy, the Beelers are entrusting us with their vision for a brighter future, giving our community the means necessary to truly make a difference. These are timeless gifts to the next generation."

Through philanthropy, the Beelers are ensuring that their values and commitment to young people continue to launch careers long into the future by connecting with other organizations, schools, and colleges. To foster that, they are funding and developing the Beeler Scholars IDEIL (Incorporate Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Leadership) Program at the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee Campus, with matching funds from the Community Foundation of Sarasota County alongside Gulf Coast Community Foundation.

The program will unite the concepts of diversity, equity, and inclusion paired with life skills learning through an arts-integrated, academic teaching. Their long-term vision is to improve the lives of low-income students and accelerate integration and equality. Currently, an online course is being developed and pilot-tested, and upon completion will be offered to arts organizations, colleges, and schools to enhance career development and student futures.

The Beelers welcome the participation of others in their ongoing effort to build a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive Sarasota through philanthropy and mentoring.

"We continually tell friends and contacts, 'You don't really need big bucks. You just need interest and time,'" Tom says. "It's time that's so valuable and that makes a difference." 🏡

*Editor's Note: Tom Beeler passed peacefully May 10, 2021.*



## ENRICHING DECISION-MAKING THROUGH VOICE, VISION, AND LIFE EXPERIENCE

At the Community Foundation of Sarasota County, our motto “Be the One” reflects a heartfelt philosophy that anyone can give back and enrich the community they call home. It’s a belief that we want to embody not just in words but in actions and opportunities, ensuring those lives we’ve touched are recognized and have a seat – and more importantly, voice – at the table.

We invite community members and past grant recipients to help inform our funding selections to ensure gifts made can make the greatest impact, whether that be for grants, scholarships, or how our long-term investments are guided. Every person exposes new perspectives by sharing their unique vision, voice, and life experience.

Here is how the Community Foundation continued to engage the community throughout a year of social distancing to bring people and ideas together.

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### Collaboration and Consensus in Grantmaking

In September 2020, the Community Foundation opened its inaugural Equity and Access competitive grant cycle to support local nonprofits working to create educational and health care equity for people facing systemic barriers in the community.

Angelica Hull, Manager of Grants, knew the realm of equity and access was broad and wanted to find committee members that represented multiple communities and backgrounds. After some searching, she compiled a committee that she felt was well-rounded and comprehensive in age, where they live in the area, as well as race and gender. In December, they set to work, digitally reviewing each application, talking through each project, and ultimately proposing funding decisions.

As they evaluated, the background of committee members came into play. A few proposed projects worked within the criminal justice system. Instead of wondering hypothetically if those programs would be effective, the committee was able to draw on the experiences of members who understood the system because they’d been through it before.

“That was a huge change for us,” Hull said. “That provided perspective that we would not have had without such a diverse committee.” Hull found that members were in sync on funding decisions.

“With a large committee, you rarely reach a full consensus,” she said. “This time was one of the unique grant moments where the entire committee came to a consensus on each and every funding decision.”



Angelica Hull

All told, the Community Foundation awarded almost \$130,000 to five local nonprofit organizations: the Center for Religious Tolerance with support from SRQ Strong, Family Promise of South Sarasota County, Forty Carrots Family Center, Suncoast Black Arts Collaborative, and Teen Court of Sarasota. Hull’s hopes to build on the first cycle’s success brought forth a second grant cycle taking place this past spring.

### Engaging and Celebrating Parents

Other Community Foundation initiatives bring together people impacted by our grants to create a unifying atmosphere of shared experiences. That’s how the Parent Advisory Council began — as the next iteration of the foundation’s two-generation (2Gen) Parent Success program with parents of children from four north Sarasota Title I Sarasota County public schools, and from Horizons Unlimited Christian Academy, an early learning center.



“The fact that these mothers who are committed to changing their lives and the lives of their families get a platform to speak and share their experiences, and possibly impact others, we feel like they’ve already succeeded. Once you get the group talking, I think everyone feels validated and seen.”

– Nicole Light, Education Officer, Community Foundation of Sarasota County

The 2Gen Parent Success Program aimed to help and support parents pursuing a postsecondary education path. But Nicole Light, Education Officer, and Deborah Chapman, Project Consultant, wanted to take it one step further by involving alumnae in a discussion group where they could share feedback and reflect on their experiences.

The group has become a wellspring of social capital for parents, and it’s taught Light and Chapman some unexpected values that inform the foundation’s understanding of the personal impacts of philanthropic endeavors. They knew that financial support was important to the parents’ success while they were pursuing their degrees, and soon also realized that parents thrived from connection with their peers.

After the first convening of the Parent Advisory Council, one mother was so inspired that she mustered the courage to apply for a promotion at her job. By the second meeting, her promotion was cause for group celebration.

And just like the parents need each other, they also need case management and a supportive network to rely on. “It’s more than just paying for a postsecondary path, it’s more than just a scholarship,” Light said. “They need a trusted person or network they can turn to.”

Up next, several of the parents in this group will play an even greater role in the Community Foundation’s work. Light plans on providing them the opportunity to serve on scholarship or grant review committees. “Our hope is that the connections these parents have made with each other will last a lifetime,” Lights says.


### “Their Stories Live On”

Of the three ways community voices are informing the Community Foundation, Tammi Cowan Peters’ experience is the one to truly come full circle. Peters is chair of the Father Connie Dougherty Memorial Scholarship Fund Review Committee, a scholarship she once received in 1991. Her work on the committee — meeting talented youth and hearing their stories — has been an honor, Peters says. Even after the students leave, she feels that there is always a little piece of them left with the committee. Their stories live on.

Peters sees her work as searching for the “Father Connie kid.” That is, an accomplished student who has good grades, good test scores, and a good work ethic, but it’s also someone focused on volunteerism and giving back to the community.

She doesn’t view her role on the scholarship committee as one of improvement. After all, she says, it’s not for them to improve. It’s their job to stay true to Father Connie’s legacy. “I think it takes great stamina and courage to say, ‘No, these are the guiding principles. This is how it was originally designed to be formed.’”

One thing has certainly stayed constant since Peters first received her award letter. The students who apply still want the same things, she says: “They simply want to believe and follow their dream.”

Since 1998, the Father Connie Dougherty Memorial Scholarship has been managed by the Community Foundation, awarding more than 200 “Father Connie Kids” with more than \$800,700 in scholarships. 

# LEADERSHIP

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(2020-2021)

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# NEW LEADERSHIP APPOINTMENTS

*Strengthening Our Commitment to Community Impact Powered by Philanthropy*



## Ranata Reeder, MA

*Vice President, Knowledge and Equity*

Ranata Reeder, MA, is a nonprofit leader with more than 14 years of experience leading initiatives to bring equitable outcomes to communities in the southeastern United States through arts, economic innovation, housing, and public health.

As a member of the leadership team, Ranata will rely on data and community input to guide efforts to build a thriving and equitable community in partnership with nonprofit, private, civic and government leaders. Ranata's team in the Knowledge and Equity Department will augment the foundation's long-term, multi-generational investments in human services, education, and cultural pursuits. Together with the Community Impact and Philanthropy teams, Ranata's department will also offer insights and knowledge to individuals and families who have a trusted partnership with the Community Foundation to advise on their philanthropic investment goals.

### CONNECT WITH RANATA

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## Jay Young

*Vice President, Philanthropy*

Jay has more than 20 years of experience in the financial services industry, providing solutions for investment management, employee retirement plans, and custodial needs. Jay most recently oversaw a regional team covering the state of Florida and portions of the Southeast at Fifth Third working with large for-profit and not-for-profit organizations. He previously held positions at Fidelity Investments and SunTrust Bank (now Truist).

As a member of the leadership team, Jay oversees all facets of the philanthropy team, working with prospective and current donors to connect them with the causes they are most passionate about to ensure their philanthropic investments make the greatest impact in our community.

### CONNECT WITH JAY

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