



MARY BLACK
FOUNDATION



BUILDING BRIGHT SPOTS

2022 Annual Report

CONTENTS

01

Letter from Leadership

03

Bright Spots

Engaging Youth through Local Food
Using Innovation to Improve Child Outcomes
Bringing Access to a Food Desert
Meeting Demands for Behavioral Health Care

11

Foundation Initiatives

Spartanburg Healthy Schools Initiative -
Phase II
Healthy Families Initiative

15

Grants Paid

20

Financials

23

Staff and Board

VISION

Spartanburg County is a welcoming and connected community where all residents can achieve health and wellbeing.

MISSION

To increase opportunities for health and wellbeing through strategic investments in the people and communities of Spartanburg County.

VALUES

Impact
Collaboration
Accountability
Respect
Equity

LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP

Welcome to the Mary Black Foundation 2022 Annual Report!

2022 marked a year of big changes and big wins for the Mary Black Foundation. Some of our favorite highlights from the past year were:

- Engaging with the Board of Trustees and staff members in developing a strategic plan that matches our vision for the community: "Spartanburg County is a welcoming and connected community where all residents can achieve health and wellbeing."
- Investing in the development of a full-service grocery store in the City of Spartanburg's Southside community. Piggly Wiggly opened on South Church Street in August 2022.



- Receiving an unprecedented \$8 million unrestricted gift from philanthropist MacKenzie Scott to fuel a new strategic initiative within the Foundation.
- Welcoming three new team members: Cassidy Reynolds, Communications and Events Manager; Mary Kathryn Snead, CFO; and Rochelle Williams, Vice President for Strategy and Programs; and supporting two long-time employees, Keisha Gray and Kim Stravolo, as they pursued new career opportunities.

- Recognizing Ms. Nora Curiel, Program Manager with PASOs Spartanburg, as the Foundation's inaugural *Dr. George Newby, Jr. Health Equity Leadership Award* recipient. Nora was honored at our annual Grantee Celebration for her outstanding contributions to Spartanburg County.
- Celebrating the amazing nonprofit organizations which we were fortunate to work with throughout the year. In 2022, we supported the nonprofit sector in Spartanburg County with over \$2.5 million in grants. The investment brought our total grantmaking since 1996 to over \$65 million!

Throughout 2022, we asked ourselves "What is working well and how might we support our colleagues and partners to do more of it?" Like all communities, Spartanburg has its challenges. At the same time, there is much that is going well in our community.

The 2022 Annual Report, *Building Bright Spots*, highlights a few examples of Spartanburg at its best.

We hope these bright spots inspire you to create more success stories! We look forward to partnering with others in 2023 to create a healthy and vibrant Spartanburg County.

Molly Talbot-Metz

Molly Talbot-Metz
President/CEO

Gregg Wade

Gregg Wade
2022 Board Chair



BRIGHT SPOTS

"We Rise by Lifting Others"
-Robert Ingersoll

There is great momentum and excitement in Spartanburg County due to the unprecedented growth and investment in our community. Our nonprofit and social service sectors aren't always recognized for the role they play in that growth, but they are critical in creating the social and community conditions that make Spartanburg an attractive place for investment. The Mary Black Foundation strives to lift up those who are doing incredible work to make Spartanburg a place where all residents can achieve health and wellbeing. We are building and highlighting bright spots through our work, and we are excited to share a few examples on the following pages.



ENGAGING YOUTH THROUGH LOCAL FOOD

Hub City Farmers Market (HCFM) envisions a healthy Spartanburg where everyone has equal access to local food. Two programs are focused on Spartanburg's youth.

SEED TO TABLE

The Seed to Table enrichment program partners with area schools to provide programming to younger students. Seed to Table seeks to bridge the gap in understanding where our food comes from before it reaches the grocery store shelves. Students learn about gardening, healthy eating, local foods, nutrition, and other science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) concepts through experiential and problem-based learning. USDA Farm to School, MyPlate, and State Plan guidelines inform the curriculum. Students increase their consumption of healthy, locally grown foods and learn concepts like regenerative agriculture and carbon offset at an early, impactful age.

During 2022, HCFM served **1,476 students** through Seed to Table.



YOUTH CREW AT THE FARM

Youth Crew at the Farm is a paid internship program designed to develop employable agricultural skills. Youth Crew cultivates HCFM's Urban Farm, located within the City of Spartanburg's Northside neighborhood. The quarter-acre Farm is comprised of 29 raised beds, built by students, as well as a 30-foot-by-50-foot greenhouse. Students enjoy hands-on activities as well as classroom learning.



In addition to education about agriculture Youth Crew provides a carbon offset and critical and in-demand knowledge about STEM concepts, which create strong connections between students and the workforce. HCFM graduated eight local high school students from the eight-week summer internship program in 2022. Three of the students attended HCFM's Fall Leadership Program. As youth leaders, these students will return to the program in summer 2023. Youth Crew is facilitated by several partners, including Carolina Foothills Federal Credit Union and the Northside Development Group.

USING INNOVATION TO IMPROVE CHILD OUTCOMES

January 2022 marked the launch of the Hello Family initiative. This bold initiative's goal is to radically improve early childhood outcomes and ensure every child in the City of Spartanburg has the opportunity for success in school and in life.

BUILDING ON A CHILD'S EARLY YEARS WHEN BRAIN DEVELOPMENT IS CRITICAL

Through Hello Family, local partners seek to improve birth outcomes and early childhood health and development, reduce avoidable emergency room visits, reduce incidences of child abuse and neglect, and increase school readiness.

Hello Family is providing, expanding, and coordinating a comprehensive set of services for families with young children to include a variety of prenatal supports, home visitation, parent education, and high-quality childcare.

Over 1,000 children and families received services through the first year of the Hello Family initiative.



PAYING FOR SUCCESS

Along with other local and regional funders, much of this initiative is funded through a Pay for Success transaction. This model pairs traditional philanthropy and government funding with a private investor. The private investor, Maycomb Capital, will receive a modest return on its investment if initially agreed upon outcomes are achieved.

While Hello Family is an innovative idea in and of itself, the funding mechanism and level of partnership across sectors are what motivated us at the Mary Black Foundation to provide a \$1 million grant to help launch the initiative.

FIRST YEAR OF IMPACT

Services are offered from four direct service providers - BirthMatters, Family Connects, Quality Counts, and Triple P.

In addition to providing direct service to families through providers, Hello Family operates a hotline. The hotline is designed to connect families to other services and supports outside of the formal service providers mentioned above. In 2022, 95 families were connected to these additional supports.

COLLABORATION IS KEY

Hello Family is a shining example of collaboration. These kinds of innovative ideas to address systemic community challenges can only come to fruition when we work together. This collaboration took more than five years to develop with many challenges to overcome, but there was always a commitment to create a model to better serve families in our community. That commitment, along with the trust and relationships that we built through the project, are what led to the successful launch of Hello Family in January 2022.



Doula services for prenatal and postpartum care and support

- *57 mothers* were served, and *28 babies* were born within city zip codes
- 82% of babies were born at a *healthy weight* and were *breastfed at birth*
- 85% of births *did not* result in a NICU admission



QualityCounts
recognizing excellence in early care & education

Star rating system to assess quality in child development centers

- 8 Hello Family centers within Quality Counts (caring for approximately *400 children*)
- Teachers and assistants received *hands-on coaching* throughout the year



Parenting support, tools, and resources

- *382 families* received Triple P services including families with children in foster care as well as those transitioning in and out of *foster care*



Home visits for moms & babies

- *334 participants* enrolled (67.2% of eligible residents)
- 236 completed *home visits* (70.7% of program enrollees)

BRINGING ACCESS TO A FOOD DESERT

When the Save-A-Lot grocery store on South Church Street closed in August 2019, it left an entire community without easy access to food and other household necessities. In fact, the U.S. Department of Agriculture classified the City of Spartanburg's Southside community as a food desert, an urban area where it is difficult to buy affordable, fresh food.

Many families with low income live in food deserts. A consumer market study of households within a 10-minute drive of the newly closed location found that 17.3% of residents had an annual income below \$10,000. Making access to healthy foods even more difficult is that many residents relied on public transportation, which could make a quick trip to the grocery store an all-day outing.

RESPONDING TO COMMUNITY NEEDS

Immediately after the closing of the Save-A-Lot, residents, city staff, and other community partners began looking for ways to bring a full-service grocery store back to the South Church Street location.



Photo by Spartanburg Herald-Journal

In the meantime, local partners like Hub City Farmers Market's Mobile Market, Ruth's Gleanings' FoodShare program, and Mount Moriah Baptist Church's food pantry filled the gap. Bringing healthy foods to residents in the Southside community through these programs was a short-term fix but an essential lifeline for many residents, especially the older residents with limited transportation options.

Seeking a new grocery store franchise, owner, and operator, while also working through an effective business model, was a difficult undertaking. At times it seemed like a long-term solution would not be possible. The Mary Black Foundation approached the City of Spartanburg to see if there was a way that we could help.

“We had heard from community members about the need, and it aligned with our focus on healthy eating and active living,” said Molly Talbot-Metz, President and CEO of the Mary Black Foundation. “We thought the Foundation might be able to serve as a catalyst to get the project, which seemed stuck, moving again.”

INVESTING FOR IMPACT AND SUCCESS

Piggly Wiggly opened on South Church Street in August 2022. The Mary Black Foundation provided loans totaling \$900,000 to Spartanburg Development Corporation to open the full-service grocery store. Our support was driven by our mission to invest in people and communities for improved health and wellbeing, as well as by the voices of neighborhood residents who made a new grocery store in the Southside a top priority.

James Talley, who was mayor of Spartanburg from 1993 to 2001 and who served on the Mary Black Foundation Board of Trustees from 1996 to 2003, said the store will have a tremendous impact on the community, especially for those who lack transportation to travel outside the neighborhood to buy groceries.

In addition to serving shoppers from the Southside, downtown, and nearby neighborhoods, Piggly Wiggly has offered opportunities for local employment. When Piggly Wiggly opened, it provided approximately 30 jobs filled through local job fairs.



Photo by Spartanburg Herald-Journal

MEETING DEMANDS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE

Through funding from the Mary Black Foundation, a pilot project between Spartanburg Area Mental Health Center and EMERGE Family Therapy Center & Teaching Clinic was developed and expanded. The collaboration was designed to reduce the stigma of seeking behavioral health services and increase services and outreach to underserved communities, including Black and Latino communities.

SUCCESS THROUGH COLLABORATION

The first component of the project was to increase access to services including individual therapy, support groups, and the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline. Early on, the two organizations began providing outreach and services through community organizations serving the target populations including Access Health, Angels Charge Ministry, City of Spartanburg, Northside Development Group, PASOs, Spartanburg's Interfaith Initiative, and The Bethlehem Center.





BUILDING A PIPELINE THROUGH SYSTEMS CHANGE

The second component was to build a more diverse pipeline of mental health providers, including interpreters and Spanish-speaking clinicians. Spartanburg Area Mental Health Center had experience working with interpreters and their deaf clients, and it expanded its capacity to use interpreters through the Foundation's grant funding. The collaboration to recruit and retain clinicians and interpreters grew to include Converse University, USC Upstate's El Centro, Wofford College, Loyola University, College of Charleston, and Capella University.

The partnership between EMERGE and Spartanburg Area Mental Health Center has served as a model for other behavioral health providers across South Carolina and the U.S. In fact, Spartanburg Area Mental Health Center was recently awarded an \$11 million System of Care grant from the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Seeded by the Foundation's early funding, this is the largest System of Care grant the state has ever received and is a reflection of the tireless work of many, including EMERGE and Spartanburg Mental Health Center.

FOUNDATION INITIATIVES

In 2016, the Foundation launched the Spartanburg Healthy Schools Initiative, followed by the Healthy Families Initiative in 2017. The Board of Trustees approved significant funding and our staff devoted considerable resources to supporting these two initiatives.

Together, these two efforts have impacted thousands of families throughout Spartanburg County. The Healthy Families Initiative gave way to Hello Family and the Spartanburg Healthy Schools Initiative has moved into a second phase. More information about the success of these two efforts supported by the Mary Black Foundation is shared in this report.



SPARTANBURG HEALTHY SCHOOLS INITIATIVE - PHASE II

The Spartanburg Healthy Schools Initiative (SHSI) is a partnership established to create and sustain healthier school environments where students, especially those in greatest need, can learn and flourish. Phase II seeks to build on the initiative's first phase from 2016 to 2020. SHSI Phase II is currently focused on Spartanburg School District 7 and is coordinated by PAL: Play. Advocate. Live Well.

Two of the new partnerships developed in Phase II are with United Way of the Piedmont and PASOs. Their models of Community Resource Coordinator (United Way) and Community Health Worker (PASOs) were merged for Phase II into a new role of a Community Health and Resource Coordinator (CHRC). The goal of the CHRC is to comprehensively support students so they can learn and flourish. The CHRCs connect families to resources for financial stability and physical and mental health.



Selena Smith and Myrna Gutierrez serve as CHRCs and support families at five Spartanburg School District 7 schools. From April to December 2022, they provided *521 hours of case management*, covering topics that included budgeting, finding quality childcare, employment, housing resources, rental and mortgage assistance, transportation to school and work, and more.



HEALTHY FAMILIES INITIATIVE

In 2017, the Mary Black Foundation envisioned the Healthy Families Initiative (HFI), a five-year effort to support and strengthen families across Spartanburg County through the expansion of an evidence-based parenting intervention called the Positive Parenting Program (Triple P). We convened a variety of partners representing different sectors (medical, education, faith community) to increase outreach and services to families.

FOUNDATION INVESTMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

Our most important partners were the local organizations that agreed to provide Triple P programming to the families they serve. These implementing agencies ensured access to programming across the county and in various settings. They served families with children from prenatal through age 18, utilizing different Triple P curricula with age-appropriate interventions.



The implementing agencies include:

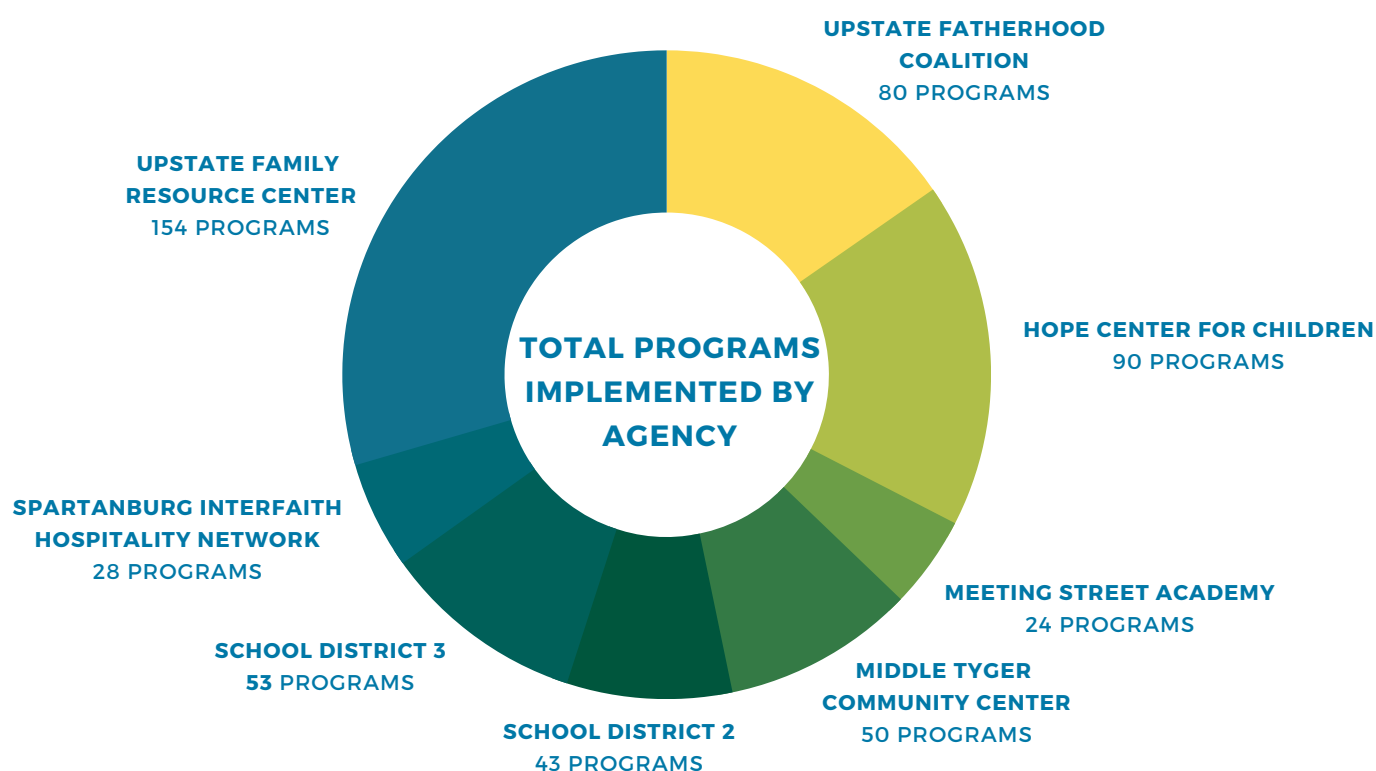
- Hope Center for Children
- Meeting Street Academy
- Middle Tyger Community Center
- Spartanburg Interfaith Hospitality Network
- Spartanburg School Districts 2 and 3
- Upstate Fatherhood Coalition
- Upstate Family Resource

From 2017 to 2022, the Foundation provided \$913,000 in grants to the coordinating agency, Hope Center for Children, and the implementing agencies to provide Triple P services throughout Spartanburg County. Additionally, the Foundation invested over \$200,000 in training, evaluation, and a countywide marketing campaign to support effective implementation.



IMPACT

Through this initiative, **1,628 parents and caregivers** participated in nearly **550 opportunities** to build skills and competencies through 3,375 in-person seminars, discussion groups, and one-on-one sessions with trained Triple P practitioners.



NEXT STEPS

In the final years of the initiative, significant efforts have been made to reinforce relationships and ensure the infrastructure needed to sustain the programming is in place. These efforts garnered additional funding through the newly launched Hello Family Pay-for-Success project and the Children's Trust of South Carolina's statewide Triple P expansion project. The combination of these two resources will enable the Foundation's investment to continue for many years to come. We look forward to seeing the positive impact this investment will yield for children and families across the county.

GRANTS PAID

In 2022, the Foundation awarded over \$2.5 million in grants to increase opportunities for health and wellbeing through strategic investments in the people and communities of Spartanburg County.

\$1,284,523

**EARLY CHILDHOOD
DEVELOPMENT**

\$909,789

**HEALTHY EATING
ACTIVE LIVING**

\$369,130

**COMMUNITY
HEALTH FUND**



EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

BirthMatters	\$92,648	For the second year of a two-year general operating support grant to provide community-based doula services to vulnerable, expectant mothers and their families.
City of Spartanburg	\$200,000	For the second year of a five-year grant to support the development and implementation of Hello Family, a comprehensive array of services for families with young children.
Hope Center for Children	\$10,000	To provide marketing and incentives for the Positive Parenting Program (Triple P).
	\$142,000	In general operating support to build healthy and stable families.
Institute for Child Success	\$106,250	In general operating support that leads to systems-level changes to improve early childhood development outcomes.
Middle Tyger Community Center	\$50,000	To support This Is My Child, a high-quality preschool program that serves children, ages 6 weeks through 4 years, in Spartanburg School District 5.
Northside Development Group	\$20,000	To support The Franklin School Staff Retention Program.
	\$50,000	To support operations of The Franklin School in partnership with Spartanburg County First Steps.
Spartanburg County First Steps	\$47,250	For the first year of a three-year grant to build its capacity to expand Quality Counts and support the Hello Family initiative.
	\$50,000	To support operations of The Franklin School in partnership with Northside Development Group.
	\$145,000	In general operating support to help all children in Spartanburg County arrive at school prepared to be successful learners.

Spartanburg School District 3	\$107,625	For the first year of a three-year grant to support the implementation of a three-year-old kindergarten program in Pacolet.
Spartanburg Regional Foundation	\$93,000	For the first year of a three-year grant to address maternal and infant health outcomes through the Nurse Family Partnership program.
The Children's Museum of the Upstate	\$65,000	To support a Mobile Museum for the purpose of delivering educational programs directly to children in underserved communities.
Upstate Family Resource Center	\$105,750	General operating support to continue family development programming and work with PASOs Spartanburg.

HEALTHY EATING | ACTIVE LIVING

Ballet Spartanburg	\$3,910	To support West African dance classes that are free to the community.
Cancer Association of Spartanburg and Cherokee Counties	\$5,000	To distribute healthy food to its clients through FoodShare Boxes in partnership with Ruth's Gleanings.
Forest Park Neighborhood Association	\$5,000	To support the Express Lane AAU Jr. Olympic Track and Field Team.
Girls on the Run Upstate SC	\$12,000	For the last year of a two-year grant to support the participation of at least 90 girls in the evidence-based after-school program.
Hub City Farmers Market	\$95,000	For the second year of a three-year general operating support grant to increase access to affordable, healthy foods through a local market, a mobile market, and SNAP outreach.
PAL – Play. Advocate. Live Well.	\$39,500	For the second year of a three-year grant to lead the planning, implementation, and technical assistance for Phase II of the Spartanburg Healthy Schools Initiative.

	\$125,000	In general operating support to fund efforts to decrease childhood obesity, increase access to trails and parks, and ensure safe access to walking and biking for everyone.
	\$366,666	For the fourth year of a five-year grant to support "The Dan," Spartanburg's Urban Trail System.
Ruth's Gleanings	\$100,000	For the first year of a two-year grant to support general operating expenses related to the Gleanings program and FoodShare, a fresh food box program.
Spartanburg County Foundation	\$3,000	To support Leadership Spartanburg in creating an outdoor garden and learning space at Mary H. Wright Elementary and Carver Middle Schools.
The Alliance for a Healthier Generation	\$21,750	For the second year of a three-year grant to implement the Healthy Schools Program and Resilience in School Environments (RISE) Index as part of Phase II of the Spartanburg Healthy Schools Initiative.
The Cleveland Opportunity Foundation	\$1,000	To support the Cleveland Tiger Fun Run.
United Way of the Piedmont	\$99,125	For the second year of a three-year grant to support two Community Health and Resource Coordinator positions for Phase II of the Spartanburg Healthy Schools Initiative.
Upstate Family Resource Center	\$7,838	To support Spartanburg Healthy Schools Initiative Phase II.
Upstate Forever	\$25,000	To develop a master plan for the Tyger River Confluence Park and Blueway Project.

COMMUNITY HEALTH FUND

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Upstate	\$15,000	To build the organization's capacity to address IT and cyber security concerns.
Children's Advocacy Center of Spartanburg	\$46,980	For the last year of a two-year general operating support grant to provide services for children and families who have been affected by sexual or physical abuse.

Community Works	\$30,000	To support residents in need of affordable housing through financial education, coaching, and down payment assistance.
Evans Training Center	\$5,000	To support training and development for board and staff.
	\$15,000	To provide a comprehensive array of program services, including residential housing, to men battling addiction.
CoForth Recovery	\$15,000	To provide clients access to therapists with specific addiction, trauma, behavioral, and family counseling skills.
Healthy Smiles of Spartanburg	\$30,000	To provide dental screenings, prevention, and restorative care to children in need without access.
Homes of Hope	\$126,000	In grant funds to assist in the development of affordable rental housing units in the City of Spartanburg's Southside. The Foundation also provided a loan to Homes of Hope as part of the development project.
JUMPSTART	\$15,000	To provide services that address the educational, employment, healthcare, housing, and family relationship needs of previously incarcerated residents.
Anemia Foundation	\$2,500	In general operating support to improve the health and quality of life for those impacted by sickle cell anemia.
Servants for Sight	\$20,000	To provide essential eye care, including glasses and surgery when needed, for residents who face barriers in accessing care, including transportation.
Spartanburg Area Mental Health	\$43,650	To continue its work in addressing the mental health needs of underserved communities in Spartanburg.
Upstate Carolina Adaptive Golf	\$5,000	To offer adaptive golf opportunities for Spartanburg County youth with disabilities.

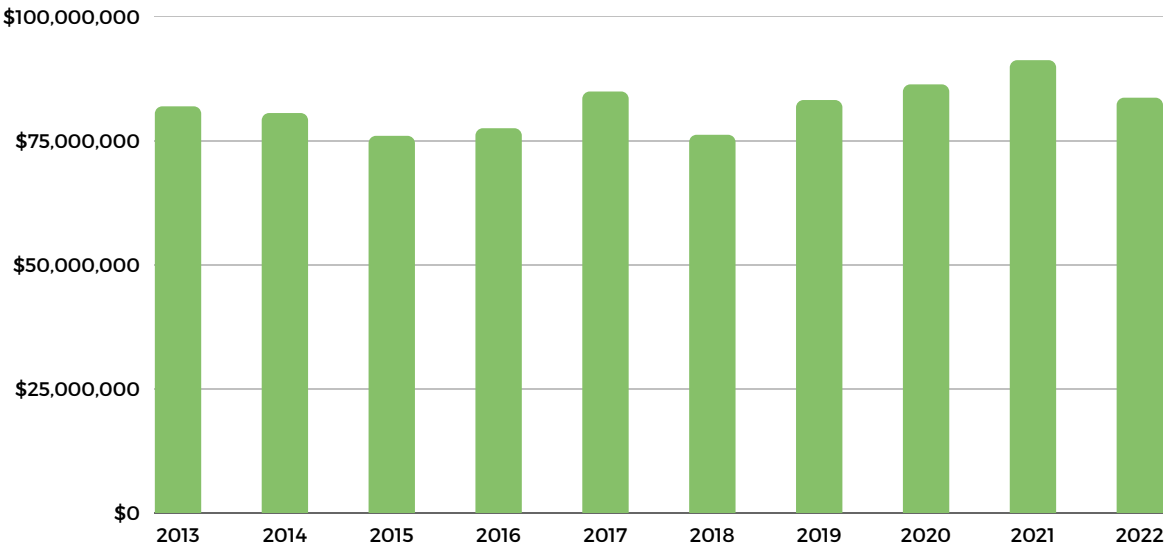
FINANCIALS

Since the Mary Black Foundation was established, total assets have grown from \$62 million in 1996 to \$83.5 million on December 31, 2022. During that same period, \$65.9 million was distributed in grants.

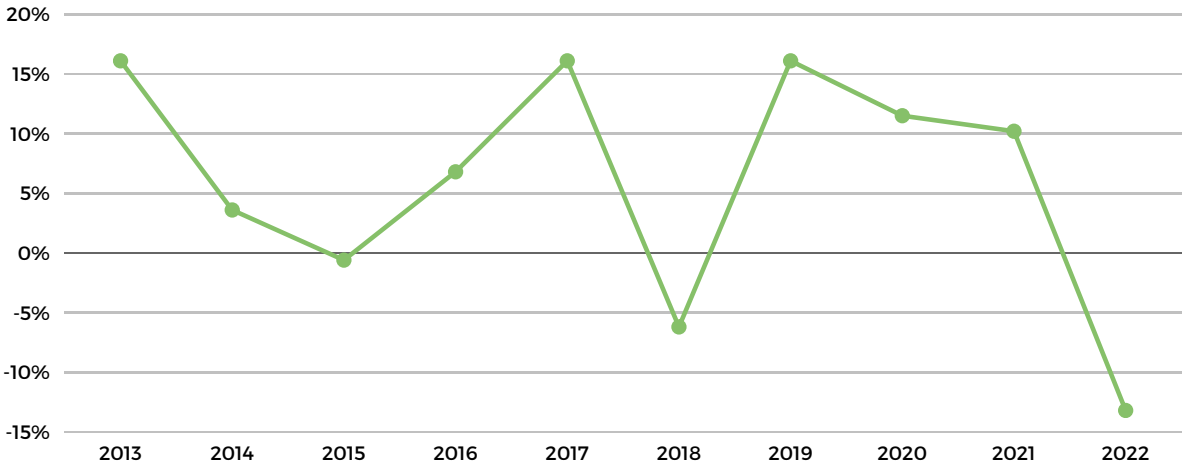
In November 2022, the Foundation received an \$8 million gift from MacKenzie Scott, an American novelist and global philanthropist. The Board of Trustees is in the process of developing a strategy for how to use the gift to advance our mission of making strategic investments in the people and communities of Spartanburg County.



TOTAL ASSETS OF FOUNDATION

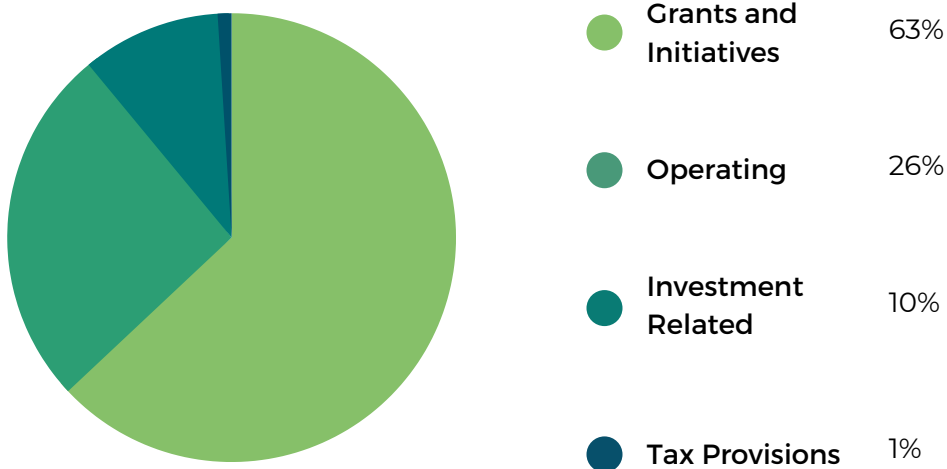


10 YEAR INVESTMENT RETURNS



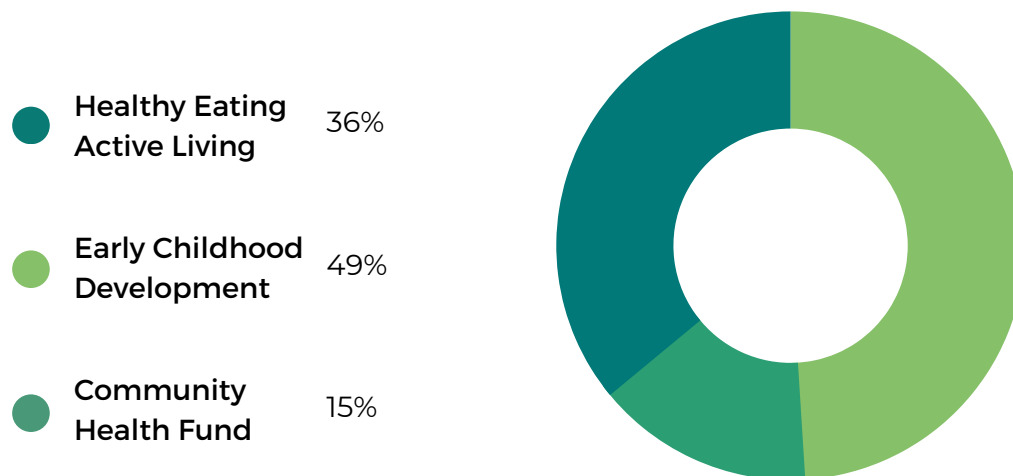
GRANTMAKING AND EXPENSE ALLOCATION

2022



LIFETIME GRANTS BY PRIORITY AREAS

2003-2022



STAFF & BOARD



From left to right

Amy Page | Grants Manager

Cassidy Reynolds | Communications & Events Manager

Ureka Wright | Administrative Assistant

Haley Wicker | Program Director, Early Childhood Development

Linda Smith | Office Manager

Mary Kathryn Snead | Chief Financial Officer

Natalia Valenzuela Swanson | Program Director, Healthy Eating & Active Living

Denny Boll | Accounting Assistant

Rochelle Williams | Vice President for Strategy & Programs

Molly Talbot-Metz | President & CEO

We'd like to acknowledge the work of two former team members, Keisha Gray and Kim Stravolo (not pictured), who contributed much to our work in 2022.

From left to right

Dr. Nayef Samhat | President, Wofford College

Dr. Kofi Appiah | Nephrologist, Spartanburg Nephrology Associates

Rev. Scott Neely | Minister, Unitarian Universalist Church of Spartanburg

Bernard Wheeler | VP/Community Relationship Manager, United Community Bank - *elected in 2022*

Anna Converse | Owner, Habis Designs

Sloan Evans | Owner, Cedar Avenue, LLC

Gregory Wade | Owner, Palmetto Advisory & Investment Co.

Ethan Burroughs | VP of Economic Advancement, Spartanburg Community College

Ed Memmott | Retired, City of Spartanburg

Dr. Laura Barbas-Rhoden | Professor of Modern Languages, Literatures & Cultures, Wofford College

Not pictured:

Dr. Russell Booker | CEO, Spartanburg Academic Movement

Karen Calhoun | Principal & VP of Business Development, McMillan Pazdan Smith Architecture

Karen Knuckles | Owner, Express Employment Professionals

Hope Blackley | Owner, Hope Consulting, LLC - *retired from the board in December 2022*





MARY BLACK
FOUNDATION

INVEST · PARTNER · IMPACT

for a healthier Spartanburg