



The Organization

The Healing Trust supports nonprofits that provide health services in Middle Tennessee by providing grants, retreats, leadership programs, and engaging in advocacy. It was formed from the sale of Baptist Hospital to Ascension Health/St. Thomas Health Services in 2002 with the goal of continuing Baptist Hospital's health-related community outreach and partnerships. The Trust's whole purpose is to facilitate access to compassionate healthcare services for the most vulnerable people in Middle Tennessee.

The Healing Trust awards grants quarterly and, to date, has awarded around \$90 million to almost 400 health-related agencies in Middle Tennessee. In 2018, The Trust awarded \$4.2M, and the average sizes of its grants are between \$34,000 and \$45,000.

In addition to providing grants, The Trust also provides resources for health-related nonprofits and other service agencies including complimentary space for board meetings, trainings, and retreats, grant-writing workshops, self-care retreats, leadership programs, awards, and sabbatical grants to help these critical nonprofits operate and serve their communities.

Grant Recipients

All of The Trust's nonprofit grant recipients offer and support health-related services in Middle Tennessee. Nonprofits receive funding for specific programs or projects, advocacy programs, leadership training and staff development, and operating costs. Grants are awarded to agencies focused on sustaining essential health programs and growing vital programs where rising need is documented, (e.g. child advocacy centers, federally qualified health centers, domestic violence shelters, mental health organizations, etc.). To view a list of its grant recipients, visit <https://www.healingtrust.org/our-grant-programs/recipients/>.

Leadership Team

The Healing Trust is an independent, self-funding nonprofit with five employees involved in grant selection, program direction and administrative duties. Its leadership team includes:

- **President and CEO, Kristen Keely-Dinger, LAPSW.** Kristen has been with The Trust since 2003, beginning as an intern and then as the first program officer. Before she joined The Trust, she started her career in AmeriCorps and later worked for another nonprofit as their program coordinator. She is a graduate of the 2011 Nashville Emerging Leaders class.
- **Senior Program Officer, Meredith Benton, MPA.** Meredith leads the program team and directly manages grant programs. Her career highlights include serving in the office of a U.S. Senator, two Governor's administrations and for a former President's international organization. She has led state and local nonprofit advocacy efforts in Tennessee and 20 other states. She joined The Healing Trust in October of 2016.