

Our mission is the sacred work of fostering healing and wholeness for vulnerable populations through strategic investing, philanthropy, and advocacy.



2019

Annual Report

A MESSAGE FROM

KRISTEN KEELY-DINGER, PRESIDENT & CEO

As we wind down 2019 and look to 2020, I've been reflecting on a word that is in both our name and our mission, **healing**. This year found us digging into what that word means and the context that it has for us. A decade ago, we would have defined healing as the goal of healthcare. Now, we understand healing as a process that involves honesty, intentional relationship-building, and collaborative problem-solving (when appropriate).

In the spirit of learning and healing, we asked for feedback from our grantees. We know that there is an inherent power dynamic that exists between funder and grantee, so we asked for anonymous feedback through a third party. Our grantees told us what us what they most valued about us and what they need more (and less of) in the assessment from the Center for Effective Philanthropy.

We also engaged a public affairs firm and learned about the internal capacity and skill of our current team and built connections within the community. We dipped our toes into advocacy. . .then our legs. . .and, eventually started to swim right next to our grantees to work on health access and ACE mitigation through trauma informed schools.

We've been thinking about healing and racial equity. A deeper examination of our shared history of racial injustice calls us to consider how we heal from historical trauma and the hate and bigotry that continues to exist. We engaged OpenSource Leadership Strategies to dive deeper into those topics and to explore what it could look like for us to have a racial equity lens. This engagement pushed us into deep conversations with one another, staff and board, and held up a mirror to our own lives and culture that some of us had never seen.

Although 2019 is coming to an end, our curiosity, our desire to learn from and with our partners, and our work on equity will continue. We will continue to engage OpenSource to further explore how we show up in the community and to learn how we can be a more intentionally diverse, inclusive, and equity-informed funder. We will continue to use and support peacemaking circles to foster deep, but necessary, conversations. Derived from aboriginal and native traditions, peacemaking circle is a practice that we use as a team and with our community leaders to promote peer support, healing, and relationship development. We also will continue to advocate with our grantee partners on health access and ACE mitigation and will support efforts to ensure maximum participation in the 2020 census. Thank you to our partners for being on this learning and healing journey with us.

In service,



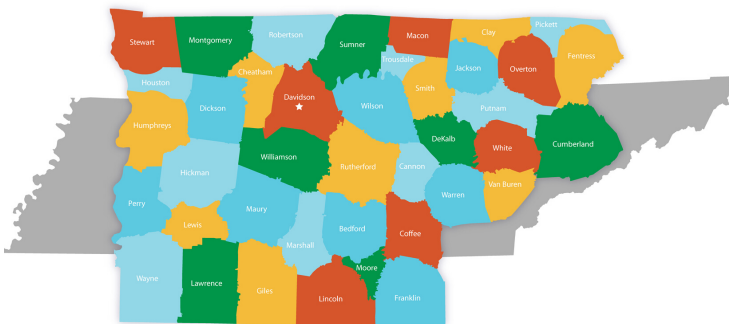
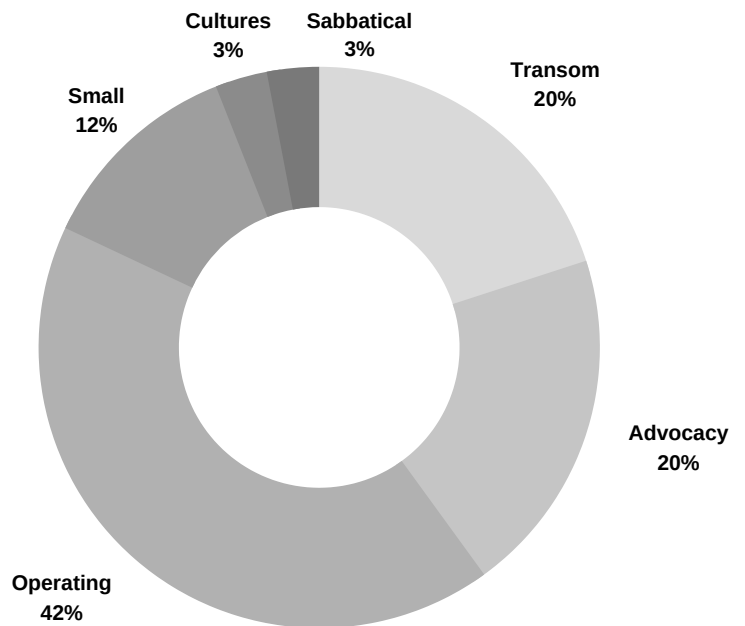
Kristen Keely-Dinger, LAPSW



OUR GIVING IN 2019

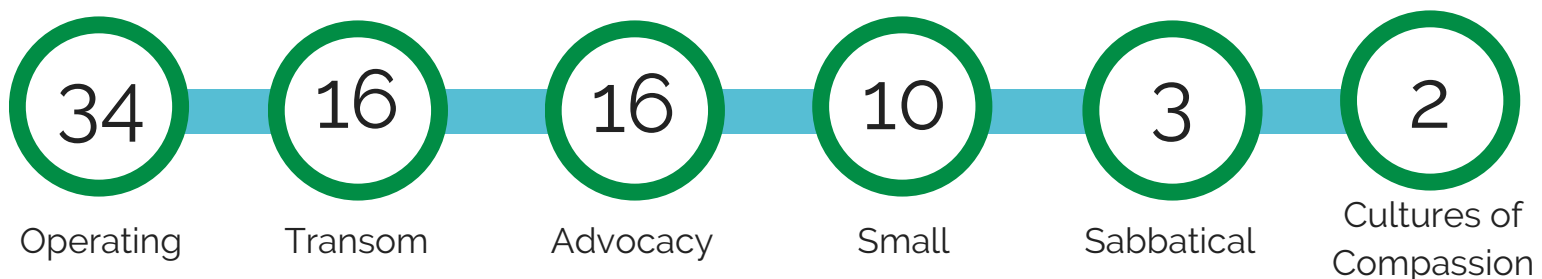
In 2019, we awarded 81 grants and donations to 80 nonprofits. We also distributed \$2,535,000 in previously awarded multi-year grants, bringing our grantmaking to \$4,934,000. Our total giving since 2003 now surpasses \$93 million dollars.

The majority of our grant dollars were awarded as unrestricted funding in the form of an Operating or Advocacy grant.



Our board and staff attended 42 site visits to our grantees across Middle Tennessee. Our giving stretches to all 40 counties through our grantees' services.

GRANTS AWARDED BY TYPE



BEYOND GRANTMAKING

Providing compassionate care is both rewarding and challenging. We believe caregivers need support beyond grantmaking. That's why we offer free retreats, awards, leadership programs, and internships to support and celebrate our grantees and future nonprofit professionals.

In 2019...



- We had 3 paid graduate interns in our office learning from and supporting our work.
- Our interns completed more than 1,100 hours on projects at The Trust.



- We gave \$40,000 to 6 nonprofits as part of the Salute to Excellence nonprofit awards.
- We awarded The Arc Tennessee with our Catalyst for Change Award.
- We awarded Bridges for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing with our Compassionate Care Award.



- We hosted 10 Healing for the Healer retreats at our office.
- 177 helping professionals attended a Healing for the Healer retreat.
- We created 3 free self-care resources to guide organizations and individuals in the development of their own retreat.



- We hosted 6 technical assistance workshops for 163 attendees on topics such as power mapping, program evaluation, and messaging.
- We facilitated 2 Introduction workshops to equip more than 76 potential grantees to be competitive in our grants program.



- Thirty-four organizations hosted meetings in our office free of charge.
- Three Peer Circle leadership cohorts met monthly in our office cost free, collectively hosting 32 circles.



WEAVING INTO THE COMMUNITY TAPESTRY

Our staff prioritizes participation in the Middle Tennessee community through collaboration, partnership, and collective impact initiatives.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

- All Children Excel (ACE) Nashville, Policy Advocacy Workgroup
- Center for Nonprofit Management (CNM) Consultant
- Collective Impact Learning Community
- Great State Health Access Coalition
- Metro Nashville Public School Board Meetings
- Nashville Emerging Leaders, Board of Directors
- Nashville Organized for Action and Hope (NOAH)
- Nashville Public Education Foundation/Office of the Mayor's Parent Cabinet
- Network of Social Work Management Chair
- Rotary Club of Nashville, Board of Directors
- Sycamore Institute, Board Member
- We CARE, Rutherford County

We are honored to be celebrated by **Mental Health America of the Midsouth** with their **Collaborative Nonprofit Partner award**.

COLLABORATION IN THE PHILANTHROPIC COMMUNITY

FUNDER COLLABORATIVES

- Initiated the development of common application questions to be used by Middle Tennessee funders
- Pooled funding with other Middle Tennessee grantmakers for 2020 census outreach to be distributed using participatory methods
- Pooled funding with other Middle Tennessee grantmakers for Trauma-Informed director position at Metro Nashville Public Schools
- Participated in planning of racial equity training for nonprofits at Center for Nonprofit Mangement

PHILANTHROPIC PARTICIPATION

- Middle Tennessee Donors Forum, Co-Chair
- Office of Criminal Justice Programs Grant Review, Panel Participant
- Philanthropic Program Professionals (PPP)
- Rotary Club of Nashville Grantmaking Committee, Chair
- Southeastern Council of Foundations (SECF) Public Policy Committee

CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

- Center for Effective Philanthropy
- Communications Network
- Grantmakers in Health
- Grantmakers for Southern Progress
- Southeastern Council of Foundations
- Frank Gathering

LIVING FROM OUR VALUES

We are dedicated to **improved healthcare** for vulnerable populations in collaboration with partners.

We operate with a mind-body-spirit approach that encourages **holistic practices** among our nonprofit partners.

We practice **accountable innovation** and **thoughtful risk-taking**.

We are **faith-guided**, individually and organizationally.

We practice **stewardship** and **strategic investing** for the benefit of generations to come.

USING OUR VOICE

1,106

The number of new email and newsletter **subscribers**

214

The number of new **Facebook** page followers we acquired

134

The number of new **Twitter** followers we gained

29

The number of **targeted emails** we sent to our subscribers

18

The number of **policymakers** and **commissioners we** met

15

The number of **speaking engagements** staff held

9

The number of times The Trust was mentioned **in the news**

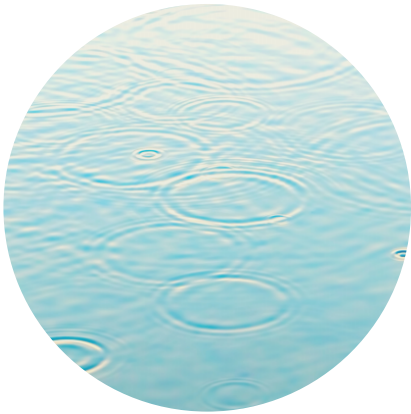
8

The number of published **blog posts** written by the team

Data through November 2019

TOP PERFORMERS IN 2019

Our team contributes to the blog to humanize ourselves and provide helpful resources to our grantees. These are our top viewed blog posts in 2019.



Plan a Day of Self-Care With These Free Resources

By: Atarah Abdullah-Muhammed & Abby Siegel Hyman

"Regular self-care can also help prevent burnout and compassion fatigue. We recognize the significance of self-care for everyone and have created resources to help you on your self-care journey."



Success with Succession Planning: 4 Steps to Take Right Now

By: Meredith Benton

"This year, however, we saw a consistent theme for outcomes not being met – staff turnover. As a result, grantees did not meet their outcomes, and more importantly, clients did not receive services during the turnover."



Lessons Learned: How Sabbatical Shaped Me Personally and Professionally

By: Jennifer Oldham

"While I value the work that I do and the people that I work with, I know that there is life outside of the office, and I need to take time to more fully experience it. My personal development is just as important as my professional life and play is just as important as rest."

THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE GIVING

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

58% of our board members are under the age of 50, 42% identify as non-white, and 21% live outside of Davidson County. Additionally, 42% identify as male and 58% identify as female.

Mark Bacurin, Partner, MileMark Partners

Megan Bader, Community Volunteer

Dr. Stephanie Bailey, Senior Associate Dean for Public Health Practice,
Meharry Medical College

Gail Carr-Williams, Associate. Director of Community Engagement,
Vanderbilt Office of Neighborhood and Government Relations

Tom Curtis, Managing Director, SunTrust

Mark Fioravanti, President & CFO, Ryman Hospitality Properties

José Gonzalez, Professor, Belmont University

Aileen Katcher, Principal, Katcher Strategic Communications

Sumita Keller (Chair), Director of Statewide Partnerships,
Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth

Matia Powell, Executive Director, Civic TN

Baylor Bone Swindell, Owner, The Baylor Company

Steve Taylor, Vice-President of Human Resources, Operations and Service Line Support, HCA

Kim Thomason, CEO, Kim Thomason Financial

John Wilson, CEO, AbilisHealth, LLC

Luther Wright Jr., Attorney, Ogletree Deakins

COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Dr. Hana Ali, Sumner County Democratic Party Chair, Healthcare Professional

Rev. Jennifer Bailey Helderman, Founder and Executive Director, Faith Matters Network

Magi Curtis, Independent Consultant

Anders Hall, Vice Chancellor for Investments and Chief Investment Officer, Vanderbilt University

OUR TEAM

Kristen Keely-Dinger, President and CEO

Casey McCormick, Operations Manager

Jennifer Oldham, Program and Communications Officer

Catherine Smith, Program Associate

Meredith Sullivan Benton, Senior Program Officer

Amy Maden, Outsourced CPA

INTERNS

Atarah Abdullah-Muhammad, Fall 2018 - Spring 2019

Jamie Means, Fall 2019 - Spring 2020

Abby Siegel Hyman, Fall 2018 - Spring 2020



We thank
our grantees
for making our work
meaningful.

We thank **our Board**
for making our work
possible.

