



This year has been monumental for the Community Foundation of Abilene. We hosted our first ever Abilene Gives day; we broke ground on our new building downtown; and we continue to invest and grow our assets that provide ways for donors to continue to impact the causes they care about through the grant-making from their funds.



Thank you for being a part of this success and we look forward to what this next year has in store for the Foundation and for Abilene!

KATIE ALFORD, *President and CEO*

# 2017 Foundation NEWSLETTER

Philanthropy that enriches our community.



Community Foundation  
of Abilene

## GRANT-MAKING *Building Strength to* BEAT CANCER

A grant from our Spring 2017 Discretionary Cycle is supporting the Cancer Foundation for Life's FitSteps for Life program here in Abilene. FitSteps is an individualized exercise and nutrition program to improve the quality of life for people living with cancer, free of charge. The program is designed to assist cancer survivors in achieving and maintaining as much functional mobility and endurance as possible during their cancer experience. See video impact stories in the news and events section of [cfabilene.org](http://cfabilene.org).



*"I just love it. It has been an answered prayer in my life."*

-Stephanie Phelps



*"This place takes you out of that diagnosis just a little bit, and it's very helpful."*

-Dr. Peter Norton



# Women EMPOWERING Women



*"I am very happy,"* refugee Phisty says of her experience planring with new friends in Abilene.



The Foundation's new Women's Fund for Health and Empowerment made its first grant this year, thanks to money raised at the annual Perfect Fit for Giving Style Show. We partnered with Casa Authentique for the second annual style show in March, raising around \$10,000 for the Women's Fund. Money from the fund was used to support the

"plarning" program at Eternal Threads.

The program provides a small stipend for Nepalese women refugees who make mats out of plastic bags and distribute them to homeless shelters. The homeless use the mats to have a soft place to sit or lay.

***Learn about other grants we made over the past year at [cfabilene.org](http://cfabilene.org).***

— ABILENE —  
**GIVES** ★  
— [abilenegives.org](http://abilenegives.org) —

## Save the Date!

The second annual Abilene Gives will be May 1, 2018, so mark your calendars and get ready to give where you live!



**WE HOSTED ABILENE'S FIRST 24-HOUR OF GIVING**  
It was a great success for local philanthropy



# ACHIEVEMENT SNAPSHOT - 2017



## FINANCIAL GROWTH

### Assets

The Community Foundation of Abilene's total assets have grown to nearly \$112.7 million, up from nearly \$102.9 million at the beginning of our fiscal year on July 1, 2016. This growth gives us greater capacity for grant-making in our community.

## LOCAL IMPACT

### Grants

We granted more than \$653,000 to local nonprofit organizations during our three grant cycles in FY 2017. More than \$284k was granted during the Fall 2016 Discretionary Cycle, \$295k during the Spring 2017 Discretionary Cycle, and nearly \$74k during the Future Fund 2017 Cycle.



## EDUCATION

### Scholarships

We awarded more than \$300,000 in college scholarships to students in the Big Country. 118 students received scholarships from 72 funds managed by the Community Foundation of Abilene.

# OPEN ROAD concert series

BENEFITING FUTURE FUND

Future Fund members Sam Vinson and Taylor Sturgis developed the idea for this Americana summer concert series on the rooftop of The Grace Museum. Proceeds benefit our Future Fund, funding from which supports local organizations that help children and youth.

**SEASON TICKETS FOR THE FOUR MONTHLY CONCERTS  
FEATURING TOP-NOTCH PERFORMERS SOLD OUT QUICKLY!**

*Learn more about Future Fund at [cfabilene.org/future-fund](http://cfabilene.org/future-fund).*



**ONLINE CHARITABLE GIVING DAY, ABILENE GIVES, ON MAY 2.**  
Property, raising more than \$468,000 for 113 local nonprofits.







Community Foundation  
of Abilene

*Philanthropy that enriches our community.*

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# Restoring the Past TO INVEST IN THE FUTURE

On May 23rd, we officially broke ground on our new home at 850 N. 1st Street in Downtown Abilene. Renovation of the long-standing building is under way, and we anticipate moving into our new space in early 2018. Follow the progress at [cfabilene.org](http://cfabilene.org) and on our Facebook page!



THE FUTURE LOOKS  
*bright*

## Dates to Remember

**Field of Interest Grant Cycle**

**Proposals Deadline - July 28**

**Friends of the Community Foundation  
of Abilene Breakfast - August 17**

**Fall Discretionary Grant Cycle**

**Letters of Intent Deadline - August 25**

**Community Foundation of Abilene Annual  
Luncheon - November 9**