

Simplified Charitable Giving



ADVISOR SPOTLIGHT

ETCF Launches First Regional Advisory Council in Gregg County

East Texas Communities Foundation (ETCF), which provides philanthropic services in a 32-county area of northeast Texas, has recently initiated the creation of a Gregg County Regional Advisory Council.

"The creation of the Gregg County Regional Advisory Council demonstrates our commitment to serving the needs of our entire region," said Kyle Penney, ETCF President. "Each community in East Texas has strengths and challenges. The Gregg County advisory council will help ETCF understand and appropriately address the philanthropic landscape that is unique to Gregg County."

The creation of regional advisory councils is a direct outcome of ETCF's strategic planning process which focuses on meeting the diverse philanthropic needs of the 32-county service area.

Members of the advisory council will include local representatives from a variety of fields including attorneys, CPAs and wealth advisors, as well as com-

munity and philanthropic leaders.

Advisory council members will meet two times a year to discuss important issues in their community and advise Foundation staff on local issues. Council members will be selected based on their interest in philanthropy. Participation on the council will provide members with opportunities to actively promote philanthropy as well.

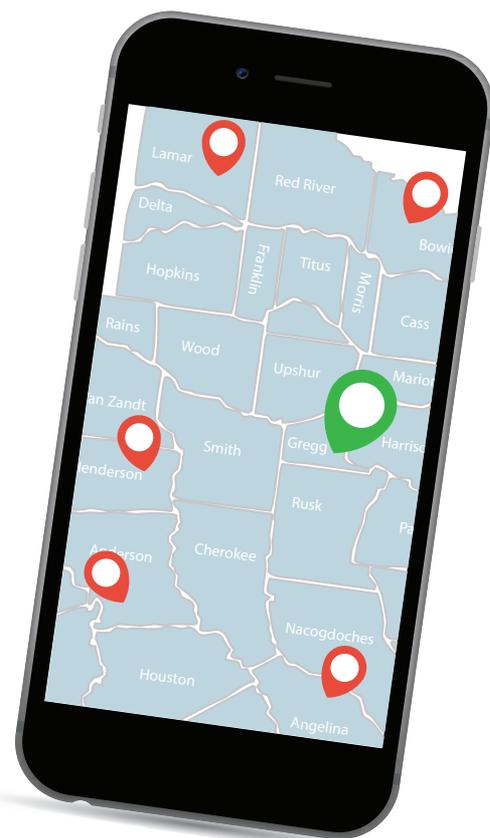
"Advisory council members will come together to hear speakers, exchange ideas and learn about the Foundation," said Penney. "It is our goal at the end of each meeting to know more about what each region needs and for the council members to be ambassadors of philanthropy."

ETCF currently has four board members from the Gregg County area. "Longview was the logical launching ground for our first advisory council thanks in part to our strong partnership with leaders in the community," said Penney. "The council in Gregg County will serve as a model for other regions in our service area that want to see philanthropy flourish."

The Foundation will announce

appointments to the council and have member information available later in the fall at www.ETCF.org.

If you would like more information on regional advisory councils, please contact Holly McFarlin at hmcfarlin@etcf.org.



Confirmed in Compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations

Strategies for Charitable Giving in 2018

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act could influence the way taxpayers give to charity in 2018. Below are a few strategies to get the most out of your charitable giving. A fund at ETCF could serve as an ideal vehicle to enable tax smart charitable giving. Consult with your advisor to see what would work best for you:

1. IRA Charitable Rollover

One of the tools that is being widely recommended for eligible taxpayers is the IRA Charitable Rollover, which allows an individual (age 70 ½ or older) to make a direct distribution from their IRA to a charity. The distribution is not counted as taxable income to the donor, but it does count towards the donor's required minimum distributions. Donor-Advised funds are not eligible for such distributions but scholarships and designated funds are.

2. Stacking Gifts

Also known as "bunching" or "lumping," stacking involves making more than one year's worth of charitable gifts in a single year so you can exceed the threshold to itemize your deductions. In off-years (or "skip-years"), donors are then able to take the standard deduction. Using this strategy, fund holders contribute multiple years' worth of their charita-

ble giving in one year to receive a greater deduction. By placing that money in a donor-advised fund, the donor creates a cache of available funds to continue their regular yearly support to charities. A donor-advised fund has the opportunity to earn income tax-free while it is waiting to be distributed, so you could end up giving away more than you first put in the fund.

3. Take advantage of increased AGI limits

Did you experience a windfall this year? Sell a business? The new tax law increases the AGI limit on cash charitable contributions from 50% to 60%. These changes mean donors can receive a greater deduction for greater giving. Creating a donor-advised fund after a windfall allows a donor to have charitable dollars available that can support their giving in years of less income and take advantage of increased AGI limits today.

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Gifts of real estate can fund your legacy

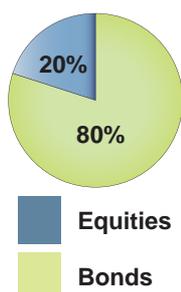
For many donors, real estate assets represent a significant portion of their wealth. Sadly, many donors are unaware that a charitable gift of real estate can present significant tax-advantages. Fortunately, professional advisors can team up with ETCF to tackle these obstacles and maximize a clients' philanthropic power.

One such gift of real estate was recently given to the Foundation. With the guidance of the donor's estate attorney, just over 1,000 acres of improved pasture land in Upshur county was gifted to ETCF through the donor's estate. Proceeds from the sale created three scholarships that will benefit students across East Texas forever.

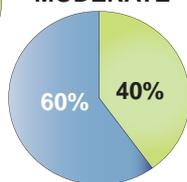
Gifts of real estate are on the rise at ETCF, thanks in large part to professional advisors. Ad advisors and donors discuss charitable giving, don't forget to consider real property assets as another way to maximize tax benefits and philanthropic impact.



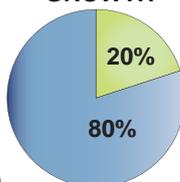
CONSERVATIVE



MODERATE



GROWTH



INVESTMENT RETURNS- As of May 31, 2018

PORTFOLIO	Year-To-Date	3 Year	5 Years	Since Inception
Conservative	-0.40%	3.50%	3.70%	5.03% (02/03)
Moderate	-0.20%	5.60%	6.70%	6.15% (02/03)
Moderate-ETF	-0.10%	5.30%	6.70%	8.52% (09/11)
Growth	0.20%	6.20%	8.30%	7.78% (02/03)
Growth-ETF	1.10%	NA	NA	12.29% (03/16)

Additional information available at www.etcf.org. Returns shown are net of fees paid to money managers.



ETCF President Kyle Penney presented a check from the annual Shine Your Light Campaign in the amount of \$15,479 to staff and supporters of Hiway 80 Rescue Mission, Gateway to Hope, a day resource center for those in need in Tyler.

Pictured left to right: Dr. Sasha Vukelja, Don Warren, Kyle Penney, Holly McFarlin and Dawn Moltzan.

GRANTS

MAKING AN IMPACT +

Take a look at what is happening around East Texas. The pictures below represent just a few of the ways donors are investing in our communities through ETCF.

The East Texas Youth Orchestra received funding from the Gladys and Thomas "T.B." Stewart Community Education Fund. The grant helped with the cost of professional musicians to coach students and allow technical training in an orchestra setting.



1.

Education: The Malakoff Education Foundation (MEF) was a recipient of a grant from the Edwin A. "Blue" and Janice Owen Miller Charitable Fund at ETCF. Grant funds were used to bring the "Creature Teacher" to Malakoff Elementary School where students interacted with animals they had previously studied in Science class.

Youth Development: Gregg County fund holders supported the Longview Lobo Tennis Booster Club by recommending a grant to assist with the cost of resurfacing the school's tennis courts.



3.

Youth Development: Thanks in-part to the generosity of donors at East Texas Communities Foundation, Discovery Science Place in Tyler welcomes the "Return of the Dinosaurs." The anamatornic dinosaurs exhibit will be open through August 19th and is being held in conjunction with the museum's 25th anniversary. Pictured left to right: Joyce Buford and Marilyn Abegg.



2.



4.

Religion: Cross Brand Cowboy Church received a grant to continue their arena ministry program. Cross Brand Cowboy Church is located along Pine Springs Road in northern Smith County. Cowboy churches share the gospel of Jesus Christ while embracing a culture of western heritage.

Save The Date!

East Texas Giving Day 2019 Kick-Off Party & Best Practices Seminar

Thursday, November 29th

2:00-4:00 p.m.

Tyler, Texas



315 N. Broadway, Suite 210
Tyler, Texas 75702

www.etcf.org



facebook.com/SimplifiedGiving

For more information about ETCF, please contact us
at 866-533-3823 or info@etcf.org

EAST TEXAS COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION

REGIONAL NON-PROFIT EDUCATION SERIES

Our regional fall seminars are coming to a neighborhood near you, and are a great way to learn strategies to help your organization achieve it's mission! These seminars typically last one hour and include discussion around best practices, provide networking opportunities and, best of all, are free for you, staff and board members to attend.

Please RSVP by calling 903-533-0208 or drop an email to RSVP@etcf.org.

PARIS

What are Donor-Advised Funds? A Guide for Nonprofits

Wednesday, August 8th

3:00-4:00 p.m.

United Way of Lamar County, 2340 Lamar Ave, Paris

LUFKIN

End-of-Year Giving Strategies for Small Nonprofits

Wednesday, August 29th

3:00-4:00 p.m.

Kurth Memorial Library • 706 S Raguet St, Lufkin

LONGVIEW

What are Donor-Advised Funds? A Guide for Nonprofits

Wednesday, September 12th

3:00-4:00 p.m.

Longview Public Library • 222 W Cotton Street

ATHENS

End-of-Year Giving Strategies for Small Nonprofits

Wednesday, September 19th

Noon-1:00 p.m.

Athens Partnership Center • 201 W. Corsicana St.

TYLER

Planned Giving for Small Nonprofits

Wednesday, September 26th

3:00-4:00 p.m.

The Genecov Room of the Tyler Chamber of Commerce • 315 N. Broadway, Tyler