

# COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

of GREATER JACKSON

# Giving

SPRING 2008

Connecting people  
who give with needs  
that matter.

For good. Forever.



■ Longtime Jackson residents Asoka and Seetha Srinivasan recently established the Asoka and Seetha Srinivasan Charitable Fund. Asok, a professor at Tougaloo College since 1969, and Seetha, who has been with the University Press of Mississippi since 1979, share the same philosophy about why it is important to set up a fund. “You don’t have to be a millionaire to give back to your community,” he explained. She agrees, “Anybody can give back; it’s a question of wanting to give back. Asoka and Seetha Srinivasan are shown with their sons, Gautam (left) and Arjun (right) and their wives and children.

## INSIDE:

- “All things to all people?” – CFGJ evaluates its grants program.
- Golden Key Society formed.
- Grants received from The Phil Hardin Foundation and Foundation for the Mid South
- “Celebration of Women II”

# Connecting



**Taking a step back.** In March of 2007, as the Community Foundation completed its thirteenth year, we decided to examine our grant making over the years. Since our first grant cycle in 1995, we had granted out nearly \$600,000 from the Community Trust Fund and other funds for which decisions are in the hands of our Board and volunteers. Had our grants made a difference? Was our process truly serving our community? Given the relatively small amount of money we have to grant, should we consider focusing in one area?

We asked a group of past and current Trustees to study these questions. Gwen Taylor, current chairman of the Grants Committee, agreed to chair the effort and worked alongside Director of Programs Ellen Collins. The committee decided we needed a more clear vision of the role of CFGJ and our goals as a grant maker. A recent article in Foundation News & Commentary stated “Consciously or not, community foundations have embraced a concept of effectiveness that leads them to try to be all things to all people. The problem stems from the nature of the community foundation’s mission, which is to benefit the community as a whole. When a foundation tries to solve every problem that confronts the community, it finds itself involved in a wide range of projects and the public becomes uncertain about what the foundation does.”

Keeping this in mind, the Board decided to focus on the youth in our community and embarked on an effort to find out what we could do with our limited resources that might have a significant impact. Local businessman and consultant Dr. Bill Cooley led focus groups in Jackson and Canton of young people, parents and other adults, and nonprofit leaders who serve young people to ascertain what problems our youth face in their daily lives. We learned a lot about their hopes, dreams and fears. Next, we convened a larger group of leaders of a wide variety of nonprofit organizations from the Jackson area and Canton to discuss our findings and to ask them to consider collaborating with each other to help our youth. While we’re just starting this journey, we are excited about the possibility of making fewer, but more meaningful grants over the next three years. We hope to have measurable success and we’ll keep you informed about the results.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda Montzoumy".



■ Shown at left are friends of the Foundation who enjoyed a lunch presentation by Richard Courtney, an attorney specializing in issues of importance to "classic" citizens. Left to right: Jerald Beasley, Elta Livingston, Jane Emling, Eleanor Weaver, Kathryn Wiener, Rebecca Boswell, Harriet Kuykendall, Earle Jones, Grace Meadows, and Janice Tinnin.

# People who give



■ The Community Foundation of Greater Jackson recently established the Golden Key Society to recognize professional advisors whose clients have established funds at the Foundation. Pictured above are (left to right) Ronny Loeb, Jimmy Young, Lynne Green, John Shows, Jay Travis, Martin Willoughby, Nancy Anderson, Hogan Allen, and Roger Muns. Not pictured: Alex Alston, Fred Banks, Cecil Brown, Larry Bryan, George Butler, James Dossett, Sharon Maloney, Rick Fountain, David Grishman, Eddie Guillot, Len Martin, Tim Medley, Bill Painter, Larry Peebles, Bobby VanDevender, Paul Varner, Pat Vivier, James Wood.

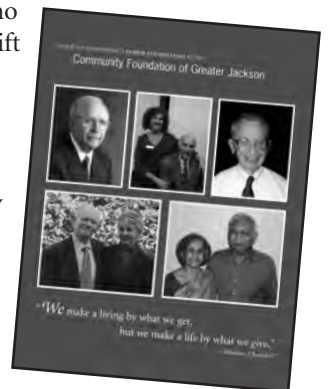
**Leave a Legacy.** Our Legacy Society recognizes donors who have named the Foundation as the beneficiary of a deferred gift or bequest or who have already established endowed funds at CFGJ. Members have established funds for the perpetual benefit of charities they currently support, funds to support a particular charitable field, permanent scholarship funds, or unrestricted funds. The ways one can benefit our community after death are varied and many, and we'd love to talk to you about them. Please give us a call at 601-974-6044.

To join the Legacy Society:

1. Arrange your estate to leave a gift to the Community Foundation of Greater Jackson through
  - a. Bequest through your will or trust
  - b. IRA/401K designation
  - c. Life insurance policy beneficiary designation
  - d. Charitable Trusts (life income arrangements)

Note: We recommend that you discuss these options with your family and with your attorney, accountant, insurance agent or financial planner as may be appropriate.

2. Inform the Community Foundation of Greater Jackson of your plans.



# Needs that matter

Photo by Steven E. Purcell



## ■ CFGJ Grantee Receives National Recognition

As part of their Hurricane Katrina grants programs, CFGJ and the Women's Fund provided funding to the Lynn Meadows Discovery Center for Children, which created the WINGS performing arts program, a vehicle for helping Gulf Coast students develop important life skills. Recently, the program was recognized as one of 18 youth arts and humanities programs to receive the prestigious 2007 Coming Up Taller Award. First Lady Laura Bush is shown above at the White House with National Endowment for Humanities and WINGS representatives displaying the award for outstanding after-school hours programs in the arts and humanities.

## Phil Hardin Foundation Names CFGJ to Hold Fund for Parents for Public Schools

Since the formation of the Community Foundation of Greater Jackson in 1994, The Phil Hardin Foundation of Meridian and its long-time Executive Director Tom Wacaster believed that the Foundation was the logical vehicle to hold and invest endowed funds for the benefit of various nonprofit organizations in the central Mississippi area. The Hardin Foundation's most recent gift to the Foundation was the endowed portion of a \$500,000 challenge grant to Parents for Public Schools ("PPS") National and PPS Mississippi. Entitled the Mississippi Endowment for Parent Organizing, Leadership and Advocacy, the gift reflects PPS's belief that parent and citizen involvement in the public schools can make a profound difference in student performance, in the overall quality and security of public schools, and in the wealth and well-being of the urban neighborhoods and rural communities where students, their parents, and their allies live. Grants from the Fund will provide a permanent source of capital to "support effective parent organizing and parent leadership for improved public schools, improved public school programs and increased student success in Mississippi." CFGJ will invest the Hardin gift with similar funds and provide an annual payout of a portion of the earnings. The corpus of the Fund will never be invaded.

### It's not too late!

Our fiscal year ends March 31. Please consider supporting the operations of the Foundation by becoming a Member. Your gift is greatly appreciated. And we take credit cards!

**CFGJ thanks those who "Partner" with us, providing significant operating support each year!**



## Second "Celebration of Women" a great success!

Following last February's very successful fundraiser, *A Celebration of Women* tribute book and luncheon, the Women's Fund decided to repeat the project again this year. Proceeds from the two books and luncheons will help the Women's Fund raise \$250,000 to meet a challenge from The Phil Hardin Foundation of Meridian to create the Better Futures Endowment for the Education of Young Children. At press time, over \$205,000 had been raised toward the challenge.

Presented by BankPlus, the 2008 luncheon honored local physicians Helen Barnes and Jeanette Pullen, who dedicated their life's work to the health of women and children, respectively. The keynote speaker was Chris Grumm, CEO of the Women's Funding Network of California, an international collaboration of funds and foundations that make grants to women and girls across the globe.



*Claudia Hauberg, Allison Fisackerly, Holly Lange and Geraldine Kears Brookins*



*Sherry Greener and Betsy Greener*



*GeeGee Patridge, Carol Penick, Chris Grumm and Jane Crater Hiatt*



*Maggie Wade, Chris Grumm and Geraldine Kears Brookins*



*Maggie Wade, LoRose Hunter and Candace Simmons*



*Sara Ray and Leigh Reeves*



*The Women's Fund was recently awarded a grant from the Foundation for the Mid South to be used for a youth philanthropy project, a conference on women's philanthropy, and general operating support. Pictured are Claudia Hauberg, WF chair-elect, Geraldine Brookins, 2007-08 WF chair, Ivey Allen, president of the Foundation for the Mid South and Carol Penick, WF director.*

# COMMUNITY FOUNDATION of GREATER JACKSON

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*CFGJ is a nonprofit, community corporation created by and for the people of Hinds, Rankin and Madison Counties. We help charitable donors establish permanent giving funds that reflect individual philanthropic interests while also making a long-term, positive impact on our community.*

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# Giving



**Board members recently attended the 2008 CFGJ Board retreat. Pictured in the center is Chanda Reeves, who attended with her father, Carlton Reeves, as part of Bryam Middle School's "Job Shadowing Day." Also shown are Trustees Asoka Srinivasan, far left, and Jane Hiatt, far right.**

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