



## **THREE ARCHES FOUNDATION – *Year in Review***

2019 was another productive year for Three Arches Foundation as we continued to refine our operating infrastructure and most important, launch the inaugural grant cycle. This was a significant and exciting milestone for the Foundation and its board of directors as it marked the culmination of our organizational transition and repurposed mission to improve the health and well-being of people in Lakewood and surrounding communities.

We started off the year focused on developing and implementing a full-scale strategic grant making process that would not only meet the long-term needs of the Foundation, but allow applicants a user-friendly and seamless experience. Led by our Community Advancement Committee, this multi-phased process was well-received and generated numerous letters of inquiry (LOIs) from organizations that sought grant funding towards a wide range of worthy programs and services. While many of the requests did not align with the Foundation's geographic and priority area of focus, it was a privilege for us to learn about the efforts of various nonprofit organizations across the Greater Cleveland area.

Subsequently, the organizations with proposals that met the Foundation's qualifications for funding consideration and piqued our interest were formally invited to submit a grant application. The final phase of the process included onsite visits and further discussion that allowed our board of directors and CEO to obtain deeper knowledge of the work being done each day by these organizations, ensure alignment with our mission and focus area, and better understand how the Foundation's investment would be used. Seeing these efforts firsthand was truly inspiring and reaffirmed the diverse and critical spectrum of needs impacting access to care across our community.

At the end of November, the Foundation announced that 16 nonprofit organizations were selected to receive grant awards totaling over \$1.1 million. We are proud to make these funding investments in support of programs and services that will have a direct impact on the lives of people – both young and old – by addressing access to care opportunities and removing barriers. The information below provides a high-level overview on how several of our grant recipients will apply their investments throughout 2020 and beyond as they work to make it easier for people to navigate, understand, and use information and services to improve behavioral and physical health:

**Youth-Focused Behavioral Health** – *Applewood Centers, Bellefaire JCB and the Cleveland Clinic Mental Health Navigator at Lakewood High School are keeping this growing and critical need front and center every day, ensuring ease of access to their counseling programs where and when our youth need it most.*

**Intersection of Arts & Medicine** – *The Carolyn L. Farrell Foundation and Beck Center for the Arts recognize the benefits of offering access to programs such as creative/adapted arts therapies, activity-based experiences and music and arts enrichment for those impacted with dementia and other brain health issues.*

**Serving the Health & Well-Being Needs of Specific Populations** – *Grants funded include The Gathering Place and GiGi's Playhouse Cleveland. Both offer tailored programs and services that provide access to care in a welcoming, educational and supportive environment for those coping with cancer and Down syndrome respectively.*

**Community Collaboration** – *The grants awarded to Recovery Resources and the Domestic Violence and Child Advocacy Center will aid in their partnership with the Lakewood Courts to provide immediate, onsite assistance within the justice system – including linkages to treatment and community resources – for those accused of criminal behavior stemming from mental illness and/or addiction, as well as helping victims of, or at risk of domestic violence and child abuse.*

**Substance Abuse** – St. Vincent Charity Medical Center and The Centers for Families and Children will use their grants towards projects focused on breaking down barriers to receiving treatment for those impacted by addiction. This includes providing safe and reliable transportation to/from treatment programs, as well as bringing expanded access and enhanced services directly to the community.

### **Ready for the year ahead**

Thanks to the collective accomplishments and active engagement of our standing committees and CEO, we continue to make significant progress in further developing and refining the Foundation's infrastructure and operational efficiency. In particular, I would like to recognize the Investment Committee for their diligent efforts in identifying a new investment advisor for the Foundation after ten years with our former partner. Throughout the better part of the year, this committee was immersed in an RFP process that led them to select Clearstead, an institutional and private client advisory firm based in Cleveland. This company was chosen for their stellar reputation and extensive experience counseling clients similar in structure to the Foundation. Subsequent to their official hiring last August, the Investment Committee expeditiously completed the onboarding process and transfer of accounts. Clearstead is now working with the Investment Committee to oversee and advise the Foundation on its spending policy in order to maximize our investments for the greatest return, allowing us to continue to steward the assets with the highest amounts possible for grant funding.

Finally, we had the privilege of welcoming four new members to the Foundation's board of directors. Each brings tremendous insight and knowledge through their professional and personal experiences, and share in our commitment to making a difference in improving the health and well-being of people in our geographic area of focus.

Looking across the months ahead, plans are already underway for the next grant period currently slated to launch May 1st. We also know the Foundation's long-term impact is driven through greater knowledge and understanding of the issues and key unmet needs affecting access to care of health across our community. To that end, we will actively continue to identify opportunities for expanded dialogue and shared learnings with organizations and individuals whose work intersects with the Foundation's priority area of focus.

Reflecting on the past two years, we are proud of the many accomplishments realized in a short time that were instrumental to the successful launch of our grant making capabilities. We will continue to build on this momentum and are filled with optimism as the initial funding investments take root. Throughout the year, please be sure to visit the Three Arches Foundation web site for our latest news and "*Featured Grant Story*."

Thank you for your continued support and interest in Three Arches Foundation.

For more information on the 2019 grant awards, please visit [threearchesfoundation.org](http://threearchesfoundation.org) – and be sure to follow us on Twitter [@ThreeArchesFnd](https://twitter.com/ThreeArchesFnd) and connect to our company page on LinkedIn.