



## Mount Dora Community Trust 2021 Annual Report

# HAPPY 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY TO YOU!

Yes, congratulations to *you* - the citizens and community of Lake County, for reaching such a momentous milestone as we reflect with pride and appreciation on our collective accomplishments of the past year while launching a celebration of 50 years of "Living Here and Giving Here."

Little did we know back in 1972 that **Mr. Lawrence Williams'** challenge gift of \$10,000 to form the Mount Dora Community Trust, would grow to \$24,000,000+ today! This unprecedented success is due to your (the citizens') continued support, love, and charitable hearts. Only because of that has MDCT blossomed into the leading community foundation in Northeast Lake County.

Mr. Williams' dream was for MDCT to grow and become recognized as the broadest and most valuable charitable organization that was ever organized for the benefit of Mount Dora. Fifty years ago, it was his tremendous foresight to create a 501(c)(3) non-profit umbrella type of community trust, to serve the needs and dreams of our area. Fifty years ago, Mr. Williams and the community leaders who contributed money to create the Trust, recognized that we are better if we give locally.

The **COMMUNITY** in Mount Dora Community Trust is what we salute entering our Golden Anniversary Year. In 2022, as we celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we are thankful for all of those who



helped along the way. To your committee members, past and present, who have diligently made the decisions on grants and scholarships, to help make Mount Dora a better place to live, work and play; to the charitable fundholders, who with their generous giving provide legacy giving for the next 50 years; and to the previous staff, **Ed Brooks** and **Kevin Batliner**, who guided and shaped the Trust to the respected organization that it is today, we thank you all.

Within this 2021 annual report, you will find stories of success, proud history of achievement, and clear examples of exciting momentum. Together you have improved our quality of life while recognizing the most exciting accomplishments are yet to come. You have demonstrated that you are servants, wanting to create change and that you will stand together as you strive to make a better Mount Dora!

Happy 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to all of you.

In Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob English".

**Rob English**, Executive Director



## Forward from Pastor Bobby Rowe

*Distribution Committee Member*

**IMPACT:** to have a strong influence, and effect on someone or something.



Greetings Friends and Partners,

When I think of the Mount Dora Community Trust, the word **IMPACT**, comes to mind.

We are so thankful for the friendships, and relationships with the generous donors that give to the Mount Dora Community Trust. It is because of their generosity, we can impact people, communities, towns, cities, states, and nations, by awarding funds for educational scholarships, providing grants to nonprofit organizations, and meeting the needs of families that are faced with adversities. The Mount Dora Community Trust has been entrusted by their donors with the task of administrating and investing donor contributions; by effectively managing donor funding that will allow the Mount Dora Community Trust to have a greater impact and transform the lives of those that are the recipient of their services. We look forward to years ahead, because of the generosity of our donors.

As you read this annual report, will you consider in joining our efforts, continuing to impact the local community and beyond?

Blessings upon you,  
**Pastor Bobby D. Rowe**



### MDCT Distribution Committee

L-R: Bobby Rowe, Cathy Hoechst, Kim Stewart,  
Sam Sadler, Glenn Brown



### MDCT Staff

L-R: Sarah Herrick, Rob English,  
Kim Delvernois, Tabitha Moore

## Year in Review



**\$721,058**

in philanthropic grants paid out



**32**

philanthropic organizations granted money



**\$24**

million in assets under management



**89%**

performance rate, funds paid toward our charitable mission



**69**

scholarships given to local students



## COVID Can't Stop Us

Over a year after the World Health Organization officially declared the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) a global pandemic, the world is still struggling to recover and operating in what we have come to accept as the “new normal.” In 2020, MDCT staff and the committee did our best to react swiftly, directing emergency funds and large operational grants to organizations here on the ground who were thrown into the trenches, working through best practices and priorities, to better help the citizens they support face the myriad of challenges brought on by the pandemic. Through donors just like you giving to us over the years, COVID did not slow us down, but instead allowed us to help in a time of great need when the whole world was hurting.

We were able to provide (through community donations):

- **Cornerstone Hospice:** a grant of \$10,000 to the Children's Bereavement Program
- **Mount Dora Center for the Arts:** an operational grant of \$60,000 to keep them from closing their doors during the pandemic
- **We Care of Lake County:** medical equipment and assistance in doctor visits and operational funds of \$12,000
- **Early Learning Coalition:** a grant of \$20,000 (to be matched by the state) to assist in childcare assistance
- **American Legion Post 35:** a \$10,000 grant to assist with the mortgage payment
- **The Open Door:** \$10,000 in funding to assist in a program for the homeless
- **Camp Boggy Creek:** a \$5,000 grant for PPE and virtual camp equipment for terminally ill children



## American Legion

"Still Serving America" is the motto of **The American Legion**. Veterans continue their service to America by still serving their communities. Their involvement in the community creates and supports the feeling of camaraderie among wartime veterans.

We were honored to present the **American Legion Post 35** with \$10,000 to help save their post during these hard times. This will help with their mortgage while they are unable to meet in person and collect donations from members.



## The Mount Dora Center for the Arts



**The Mount Dora Center for the Arts** reached out to the Community Trust in desperation in mid-2020. After canceling the Mount Dora Art Festival and their annual gala to raise funds, they were unsure how they were going to continue operations and keep staff on without assistance, even with the reserves they had. No one knew when COVID was going to come to an end or if events would ever be able to resume, at that time. MDCT was honored that our Distribution Committee awarded the Center \$60,000 to continue operations.

The Mount Dora Center for the Arts is crucial to arts programs in our community and for keeping kids involved as well as exploring their creativity. We are proud to say they are doing fantastic and we hope they are in Mount Dora for a long time to come.

## Local Animal Welfare Organizations

MDCT established a fund under our umbrella titled the "Disaster Response Fund." We intend to use this fund when disasters occur that could use our support, and to act as a depository for the community to assist as they wish. During the pandemic, much like the other grants we facilitated in 2020, many animal organizations were struggling with operational dollars and many people were out of work and unable to donate. Our Distribution Committee dedicated \$10,000 to step in and help five local organizations dedicated to animal welfare:

- \$2,000 - **Hoffmeyer Animal Rescue**
- \$2,000- **Cat Protection Society Inc.**
- \$2,000 - **Misfit Clinic**
- \$2,000 - **Howey Horse Haven Rescue**
- \$2,000 - **Humane Society of Lake County**





## Early Learning Coalition - Child Care and School Readiness

**The Early Learning Coalition's** mission is to support and educate parents, early childhood professionals, and the community as they collaborate to provide the highest quality early learning programs for children in Lake County. The School Readiness Child Care Subsidy Program provides financial assistance to low-income families, providing childcare so families can become financially self-sufficient while their children can be successful in school. **The Florida Office of Early Learning** provides the opportunity for Early Learning Coalitions to garner \$1 for every dollar locally raised. MDCT was able to contribute \$20,000 to this program which was fully matched with state funds. This was needed in 2020 due to a lack of local fundraising for families. We hope many little ones received the care they needed.



## We Care of Lake County - Medical Assistance and Supplies

**We Care** works with free sliding scale clinics in Lake County, as well as volunteer doctors, to help individuals that require specialty medical care that goes beyond what the clinics can provide (cancer treatment/surgeries, etc.). The doctors they work with in the county provide these specialty services free of charge to Lake County residents that qualify, per the Department of Health.

The organization's "We Share" program provides durable medical equipment - from a cane to a hospital bed, and everything in-between - to anyone in need throughout Central Florida. MDCT provided We Care with a grant of \$12,000 to assist with operational costs during the pandemic when donations were scarce especially for medical crises.







## Golf Putting Green Grant

Mount Dora Community Trust was proud to sponsor **Mount Dora Golf Club's** new putting and chipping facility with a grant to the **Mount Dora Golf Association**. The new practice facility was added to broaden community service to junior golfers through the Little Linksters program and PGA Junior League existing clientele.



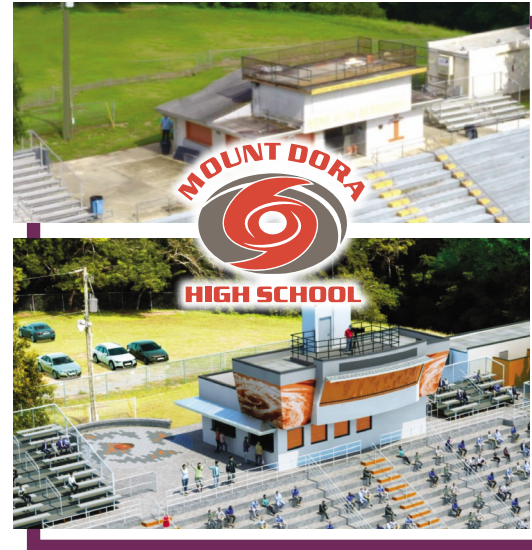
## LifeStream Behavioral Center

**LifeStream Behavioral Center** was awarded \$10,000 in support of **The Open Door**. The overarching goal of The Open Door is to assist individuals and families who find themselves at-risk of becoming homeless due to situational poverty, or those who are homeless or chronically homeless (by HUD standards), to increase their income through employment or available benefits, and to reintegrate into society.

## MDHS Stadium Improvement Fund

In August of 2021, the community began to rally around the fact that the **Mount Dora High School Stadium**, or "community bowl," as it was originally dubbed, was in dire need of repairs and upgrades. While this has been needed for a very long time and has been considered in the past, it has now become a priority due to continued decline of the facilities. The concessions are not up to health code to fully operate, the field floods, the plumbing is unusable, the press box is currently plywood on top of unstable flooring, and there are many other issues.

A committee consisting of high school staff, concerned parents, and alumni was formed and they came to MDCT to establish a charitable trust specifically for this project. MDCT has taken a special interest in bringing the community together once again, as they did in 1961 to build the bowl originally.



The three phases to this project are:

*Phase 1* – new buildings including concessions, bathrooms, and press box. Phase 1 will also include landscaping, painting, and ultimately an endowment fund for future maintenance. The goal is a total of \$1,000,000. *Phase 2* will be to install artificial turf to provide a sustainable surface with exponentially less maintenance requirements. This will give football and soccer teams another practice field for school population growth (the field currently cannot withstand practice on it, only games) and will help with ongoing aesthetics. Phase 2 will cost approximately \$800,000. *Phase 3* will be bringing the track back up to regulation to be able to hold meets. It will be rubberized and have expanded lanes. Phase 3 is an additional \$1,000,000.

Our Distribution Committee awarded the Stadium Improvement Fund a \$500,000 matching grant for Phase 1! This is the largest grant MDCT has ever awarded and we are proud to do so considering how many families this will touch in the next 50 years alone with Mount Dora High being the only public high school for Mount Dora residents.



This is an ongoing project until funds are raised.

As of December 1, 2021 the Stadium Committee has currently raised \$432,179.

*Donations are accepted at [www.MDHSStadium.com](http://www.MDHSStadium.com), as well as cash and checks made payable to the Stadium Improvement Fund. You can also send to the high school at 700 N. Highland Street, Mount Dora, FL 32757 or MDCT at 821 N. Donnelly Street, Mount Dora, FL 32757.*

# Giving





**Giving Week** is a grant contest for local non-profits. In 2020, 30 local organizations competed for more than \$50,000 in matching funds through MDCT.



## 2020 winners included:


### Over \$100,000+ Annual Revenue:

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place</b>  <p> <b>FORWARD PATHS</b>  <i>foundation</i> </p> <p>             Raised \$15,565.84              Receiving \$10,000.00 from MDCT         </p>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place</b>  <p> <b>SONNENTAG THEATRE</b>  <i>at the ICEHOUSE</i> </p> <p>             Raised \$10,123.98              Receiving \$5,000.00 from MDCT         </p>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place</b>  <p> <b>New Vision</b>              for              Independence         </p> <p>             Raised \$7,890.08              Receiving \$2,500.00 from MDCT         </p>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Place</b>  <p> <b>Lake Cares</b> </p> <p>             Raised \$6,655.77              Receiving \$1,663.94 from MDCT         </p>

### Under \$100,000+ Annual Revenue:

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	
	
Raised \$20,000 Receiving \$10,000.00 from MDCT	Raised \$20,000 Receiving \$10,000.00 from MDCT

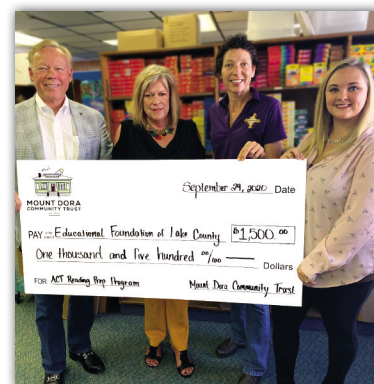
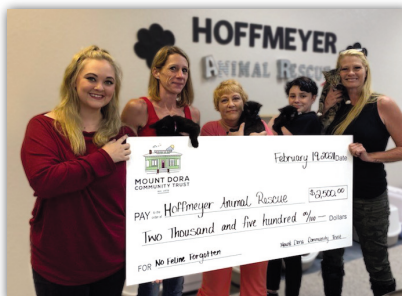
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	
	
Raised \$11,596.17 Receiving \$5,000.00 from MDCT	Raised \$5,355.93 Receiving \$2,500.00 from MDCT

4 <sup>th</sup> Place	
	
Raised \$4,198.25 Receiving \$1,049.56 from MDCT	

**Over \$100,000+ AR** | Cornerstone Hospice Foundation | Camp Boggy Creek | Golden Triangle YMCA Family Center | Habitat for Humanity of Lake & Sumter | Lake Cares Food Pantry | Haven of Lake & Sumter Counties, Inc | Easter Seals Florida, Inc | Education Foundation of Lake County, Inc | Forward Paths Foundation | Sonnentag Theatre at the Ice House | Mount Dora Center for the Arts | New Vision for Independence | Trout Lake Nature Center | We Care of Lake County, Inc. | Lake County Sheriff's Charities, Inc.

**Under \$100,000+ AR** | Leash, Inc. | Mount Dora Police Department Heroes Foundation | Mount Dora Lions Club Foundation | M.I.K.E. Endowment | Mount Dora Youth Football League | Kiwanis Club of Mount Dora | FIRST Robotics Team 1557 | American Association of University Women (AAUW) | Rich Critters | Mount Dora Lawn Bowling Club | American Legion Post 35, Inc. | East Lake County Community Foundation | Forward March Initiative | Highland Street Golf | Mount Dora Chamber Foundation





# Funds

## Existing Funds

A. Lee French Family Trust	Lakes & Hills Garden Club Fund
Aileen Joiner Scholarship Fund	Lefty's Hopes & Dreams Fund
Alice Edgar Memorial Fund	Lighthouse Walk Endowment Fund
The Robert & Linda Z. Armes Charitable Foundation	The John Liptak Basketball Scholarship Fund
The Bible Explorer Fund	Liveright Endowment for the Performing Arts Fund
Breast Diagnosis Fund/ Pink Tea	Liz Perrett Scholarship Fund
Brown Family Foundation	M.I.K.E Endowment Fund
Carey Baker Charitable Trust	Mack & Lavond Clayton Foundation
Chaplains Discretionary Fund	Maggie Evans Fund
Community Service Scholarship Fund	Martensen, Reid, and Gardner Fund
Cornerstone Hospice Fund	Mary E. Beacom Memorial Scholarship Fund
Dennis Family Junior Golf Fund	MDHS Stadium Improvement Fund
Disaster Response Fund	Mike Stone Memorial Scholarship Fund
Dr. Joel J. & Anna J. See Scholarship Fund	Mount Dora Chamber Foundation
Dunbar Rotary Scholarship Fund	Mound Dora Community Concert Foundation
Earhart Rotary Fund	Mount Dora Friends of the Environment
East Lake County Community Fund	Mount Dora Golf Association Endowment Fund
Edgerton Fountain Endowment	Mount Dora High School Class of 2017 Scholarship Fund
FBCU Crawford Scholarship Fund	Mount Dora Lawn Bowling Fund
First Peninsula Charitable Fund	Mount Dora Library Association
FIRST Robotics Team 1557	Mount Dora Teacher Legacy Endowment Fund
FNBMD Fund	Mount Dora Teacher Legacy Ops Fund
Forward March Initiative Fund	Natasha Arano Memorial Scholarship Fund
Frank Brown Youth Fund	Omega Lambda Gamma
General Philanthropic Fund	Powerone Technology Scholarship Fund
Glenn Arthur Christians Engineering Scholarship Fund	Rapid Response Fund
GNO Visual Art Fund	Rich Critters Fund
Guenther Family Foundation	Rleigh Hanson Journey Fund
Orval M. Hagerty Scholarship Fund	Robert Morton Endowment
Orval M. Hagerty Swim Fund	Round Lake Charter PTO Scholarship Fund
Harold & Janet Esch Endowment Fund	Samuel Lennardson Society
Highland Street Golf Endowment Fund	Schloot Rotary Scholarship Fund
Jane Austen Fest of Mount Dora	Serenity Park Fund
Janice J. and John. M. Cahill Vocational Scholarship Fund	Sister Cities Association Fund
JJST Charitable Fund	Sister Cities Association Fund 2
Kelly Bodnaruk Scholarship Fund	Susan Weinstock Memorial Scholarship Fund
Kim Y. Stewart Legacy Fund	Sylvanna Jandel King Scholarship
Lake Cares Community Fund	The Williams Fund
Lake County Animal Shelter Construction Fund	Touchstone Community First Foundation
	W.T. Bland Jr. Charitable Fund
	William A. Sievert Scholarship Fund



## New Funds

Brown Family Foundation  
FBCU Crawford Scholarship Fund  
Forward March Initiative  
MDHS Stadium Improvement Fund  
Mount Dora Chamber Foundation

## FBCU Crawford Scholarship Fund

The **First Baptist Church of Umatilla** established this fund to honor the legacy of the Crawford family to provide scholarships for primary, secondary, undergraduate, or trade school students, with a preference for Christian students who have been active members of a church in Lake County, FL.

## Forward March Initiative

**Forward March Initiative (FMI)** is on the way to becoming a prominent pillar in the community that will educate and enhance lives. This is intended to be a fund that will last for generations and will provide many programs that will benefit the underprivileged population of Mount Dora and Northeast Lake County. FMI plans to provide a variety of educational resources and programs for the less fortunate and immobile. This is the first of our funds with this specific mission and we are eager and excited to see it succeed.

## Mount Dora Community Chamber

The **Mount Dora Area Chamber of Commerce** created the MD Chamber to provide support and funding for capital improvements, operational expenses, event/tourism expenses, and economic development. The Chamber is dedicated to supporting and promoting the interests of the greater Mount Dora business community. The Chamber is the official Mount Dora Welcome Center interacting with thousands of visitors every year.

## William H. Klingbeil Fund

The late **Bill Klingbeil** moved to Mount Dora after a career with the Prudential Insurance Company, where he was an active volunteer and fundraiser. Bill will be remembered for his love of people, positive outlook on life and his contagious smile. He created the **William H. Klingbeil Fund** to help local charitable organizations and assist community needs in Mount Dora.





# Donors

## Donors Over \$1,000

AANSH LLC, Viva Liquor 1  
James M Anderson Masonry, Inc.  
Carey Baker Campaign Account  
The Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum  
Elizabeth Begin  
John and Linda Berry  
W. T. Bland Jr. Charitable Trust  
Gary Borders  
Brown Family Foundation  
Chantel Buck  
Denise Burry  
Chaplain's Discretionary Fund  
Jerry and Joan Cox  
Jill Croom  
DEO Construction, Inc.  
James P. Donnelly  
Frank Driggers  
Todd Faden  
FBCU Crawford Scholarship Fund  
FIRST  
Rebecca Fitzgerald  
G3 Development  
Jim Gillies  
Janice Gruber  
Douglas G. Halliday Foundation  
Carol Denise Holborn  
Hutto Enterprises, Inc.  
Darlin Kalmes  
Kevco Builders, Inc.  
Rebecca Kirton  
Colleen Kollmann  
Lake Cares, Inc.  
Greg Lewis  
Mark Lincoln- Charitable Foundation  
Stephen and Janice Lotz  
Bly Lucas  
Barbara Mann  
John Matusik  
Harold Maynard  
McLin Foundation  
New Covenant United Methodist Church  
Floyd and Elizabeth Perry  
PFLAG Lady Lake, Inc.  
Marie K. Rich Estate

Lauren Ritchie  
Donald Ross  
Janet Ross  
Sabra Schlagetter  
Kim Stewart  
Stupp Bros. Bridge & Iron Co. Foundation  
Walmart  
Waterman Village Communities Foundation Fund  
Robert F. Vason, Jr.  
Sheyla Zelaya  
Brian Smith  
Eric W. Benzing  
Hillcrest Agency, Inc.  
Joseph Ziler  
Marita Nierth  
Marjorie Laroe  
Mount Dora Heroes Foundation  
Randy Woods  
WTDI, LLC  
Wynn Odom



## Account Types Available

### Unrestricted Funds

Provides funding for an array of community needs. This type of account provides funding for requests from local non-profits, to provide assistance with community projects.

### Field-of-Interest Funds

Provides grants to non-profits working in key areas of concern such as: arts, youth activities, human services, animals, or the environment.

### Donor-Advised Funds

Enables living donors to recommend where their money is granted to. This is a great alternative to starting or continuing a private foundation.

### Scholarship Funds

Helps college or trade-specific students achieve their dreams.

### Designated Beneficiary Funds

Forever provides annual grants to specific organizations you name.

### Corporate Endowments

Corporate foundations (or company-sponsored foundations) are philanthropic organizations that are created and financially supported by a corporation. The foundation is created as a separate legal entity from the corporation, but with close ties to the corporation.

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## Scholarship Success

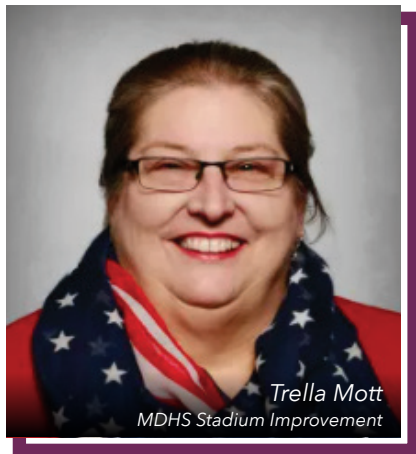
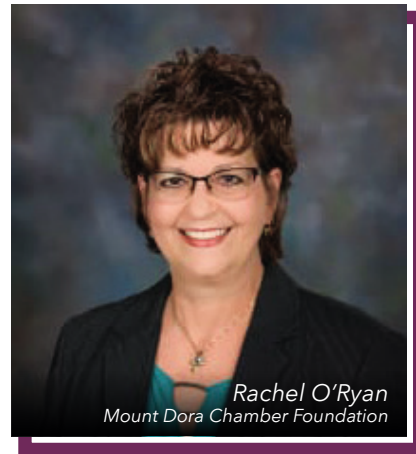


**Rico Nix** was an unemployed and homeless youth during high school. With the help and support from one of his high school teachers, he went on to graduate and play collegiate football, as well as finding a new home and being adopted.

School did not come easy for Rico. **Mrs. Gayle Minnig** mentored and tutored him, so he could graduate from high school. Rico was offered a football scholarship to play D1 junior college (JUCO) football for Hutchinson Community College in Hutchinson, KS. Through the support of the **Mount Dora Police Department's Heroes Foundation** and the **Mount Dora Community Trust** scholarship program, Rico was able to realize his dream of attending college.

Rico received an AA degree in General Studies from Hutchinson Community College and is playing NAIA collegiate football. Mount Dora Community Trust has supported Rico for 5 years and without their help, he would not be able to go to college financially.

# The Faces of Our New 2021 Accounts



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