

FY2020 Annual Report

# TO OUR SUPPORTERS



I am pleased to present to our associates, clients and friends, the Bennett Thrasher Foundation FY 2020 Annual Report.

The goal of the BT Foundation is to focus on and give back to our community. The Foundation is funded with 0.5% of Bennett Thrasher LLP's annual gross revenue and is also supported by Bennett Thrasher associate donations. This funding has allowed us to make a direct impact on the Greater Atlanta Metropolitan area through monetary grants and volunteer projects. I am proud to report that to date the Foundation has given over \$2,600,000 to our community. In FY2020, we provided \$361,000 in grants to a variety of organizations, such as the Crossroads Community Ministry, Camp Twin Lakes and Pebble Tossers, among others.

The Foundation recognizes the importance of continuing to develop a culture of volunteerism within the firm, and our goal is to increase associate involvement in Foundation activities this fiscal year. In 2021, we plan to add more service projects, despite the difficulties that the Covid-19 pandemic presents in that regard and offer associates new ways to give back. We will continue to make the Foundation a valued part of every associates' experience with Bennett Thrasher, and carry on with our mission of making a lasting impact on the communities where our employees work and live.

#### - Joel Smith, BT Foundation President

Founded in 2003, The Bennett Thrasher Foundation was created to encourage all of our associates to give back to our community. The Foundation is led and managed by an elected all-associate board that is representative of Bennett Thrashers diverse employees. We have grown tenfold as our people and the firm have given their talents, gifts, and services to the many awe-inspiring charity organizations in our local community. Our Foundation leaders do an outstanding job working diligently to identify and assess charitable organizations to support through donations of volunteer hours and monetary grants. This work has been particularly important to us this year as many more people in our Atlanta community and around the world are in need.

We are grateful for our many blessings, and our firm is proud of the Foundations growth and work over the past 17 years. We look forward to the future and for more opportunities for our associates to continue to have a positive impact on people in need in our community.

#### - Ken Thrasher, BT Foundation Board Co-Founder

# INTRODUCTION

"Through the Bennett Thrasher Foundation, Bennett Thrasher's partners and associates give their talents, gifts and service to charitable organizations fostering the long-term development and success of individuals in the Greater Atlanta Metropolitan Community."

#### - Bennett Thrasher Foundation Mission Statement

For the past 17 years, the partners and associates of Bennett Thrasher have had the opportunity to serve the Greater Atlanta Metropolitan Community through the Bennett Thrasher Foundation. In that time, there has been over \$2,600,000 in grants given and thousands of hours served to various charitable organizations in the Greater Atlanta Metropolitan community as well as to national and international relief efforts.

Fostering a culture of volunteerism among all Bennett Thrasher associates has been a core objective of the Foundation since its inception in 2003. Bennett Thrasher provides each associate with 16 hours of paid time off per year to participate in volunteer service projects. This past year was a disappointing year for the Service Committee, one of the subcommittees of the BT Foundation Board, as the Covid-19 pandemic cancelled our all associate volunteer day that was to occur in May. The BT Foundation Board continually strives to find organizations that need volunteer help and fully expect a resurrection of volunteer efforts when the pandemic subsides. We are proud to list a few of the organizations we volunteered for this past year, including Canine Assistants, Hope Thru Soap and Clyde's Kitchen.

The second objective of the Foundation is to give cash grants to eligible non-profit organizations located primarily in the Greater Atlanta Metropolitan Community. Bennett Thrasher partners and associates submit grant requests on behalf of the charitable organizations. After grant request applications are received, they are reviewed by members of the Grants Committee, a subcommittee of the Foundation Board. After reviewing all requests, the Grants Committee presents their recommen- dations to the entire Foundation Board who in turn vote on each recommendation. A majority vote from the Foundation members determines which organizations, the Board considers factors such as the level of funding each will receive. In its deliberations, the Board considers factors such as the mission and purpose of the organization, the intended use of funds and the potential impact of our support. Additionally, the number and amount of grants awarded varies per year based on the number of grant requests received and the total amount of funding available for distribution.

The Bennett Thrasher Foundation is a Private Foundation and is tax-exempt under Title 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.





# BETTER TOGETHER



### Our FY2020 Grant Recipients Receiving a total of \$360,711

Listed below on the following two pages are the names of the non-profit organizations the Bennett Thrasher Foundation awarded grants to from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, by NTEE code. The National Taxonomy of Exempt Entities codes (NTEE) is the industry-wide standard for non-profit organizational classification.

Organization Name 🚽	NTEE Code - Classification	
Academy Alaya Inc.	Youth Development	
Angels Among Us Pet Rescue	Animal Protection & Welfare	
Arts Bridge Foundation	Arts, Culture & Humanities	
Atlanta Beagle Rescue	Animal Protection & Welfare	
Atlanta Center For Self Sufficiency (Samaritan House Atlanta)	Employment	
Atlanta Union Mission/Atlanta Mission	Housing & Shelter	
Atlanta Wild Animal Rescue Effort (AWARE)	Animal Protection & Welfare	
Atlanta Youth Academy	Education	
Automotive Training Center	Employment	
Balanced Motion	Youth Development	
Bearings Bike Shop	Youth Development	
Camp Twin Lakes	Youth Development	
Caron Treatment Center	Mental Health & Crisis Intervention	
Chris 180 (fka CHRIS Kids)	Youth Development	
Crossroads Community Ministries	Employment	
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, GA Chapter	Specifically Named Diseases	
Dad's Garage Theatre Company	Arts, Culture & Humanities	
Essential2Life	Youth Development	
Feel Beautiful Today	Diseases, Disorders & Medical Disciplines	
Gift of Adoption - Georgia	Human Services	
Good Samaritan Health Center	Health Care	
Helping Oppressed Mothers Endure (H.O.M.E.)	Human Services	
Home Repairs Ministries	Human Services	
Hope Thru Soap	Homeless Services/Centers	
Ignite Hope	Foster Care	
Interfaith Outreach Home	Housing & Shelter	
International Women's House	Human Services	
Make-A-Wish Georgia	Human Services	
McKenna Farms Therapy Service	Rehabilitative Medical Services	

# BETTER TOGETHER



### Our FY2020 Grant Recipients Receiving a total of \$360,711 (cont.)

Listed on the previous page and below are the names of the non-profit organizations the Bennett Thrasher Foundation awarded grants to from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, by NTEE code. The National Taxonomy of Exempt Entities codes (NTEE) is the industry-wide standard for non-profit organizational classification.

Organization Name	NTEE Code - Classification	
Most Valuable Kids	Youth Development	
Must Ministries	Human Services	
Nic's Kicks	Youth Development	
Nobis Works (Tommy Nobis Center)	Human Services	
Northside Hospital Foundation	Health Care	
Odyssey Atlanta	Education	
Pebble Tossers, Inc.	Youth Development	
PowerMyLearning	Education	
Ramah Darom	Youth Development	
Reimagine ATL	Arts, Culture & Humanities	
Savannah Music Festival	Youth Development	
Share the Magic Foundation	Education	
Shepherd Center Junior Committee	Health Care	
Skyland Trail	Mental Health & Crisis Intervention	
Soccer in the Streets	Youth Development	
Special Olympics	Recreation & Sports	
Susan G. Komen for the Cure - Atlanta	Diseases, Disorders & Medical Disciplines	
The Atlanta Children's Shelter	Housing & Shelter	
The Center For Family Resources	Human Services	
The Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation	Human Services	
The Kyle Pease Foundation	Philanthropy, Voluntarism & Grantmaking Foundations	
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society	Specifically Named Diseases	
The Packaged Good	Human Services	
The Sandy Springs Mission	Education	
Veterans Empowerment Organization	Public & Societal Benefit	
VOX Teen Communications	Youth Development	
Wholesome Wave Georgia	Food, Agriculture, Nutrition	
WINGS for Kids	Education	
W-Underdogs, Inc.	Youth Development	
Wylde Center, Inc.	Natural Resources Conservation	
Zoo Atlanta	Animal Protection & Welfare	

### FY2020 Financial Information



85,727 364

86,091

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86,091

Statement of Changes in Net Assets July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 - una	udited	Statement of Financial Position June 30, 2020 - unaudited
Income		Assets
Bennett Thrasher LLP Funding	290,885	Cash
BTWM Funding	29,812	Furniture & Equipment (net)
BT Associates	9,771	Total assets
Total Income	330,468	
		Liabilities
Expenses		Grants payable
Grants Provided	360,711	
Other expenses	3,707	Net Assets
Total expenses	364,418	
Change in net assets	(33,951)	
Net Assets, Beginning of Period	120,042	
Net Assets, End of Period	86,091	





# **GRANT SPOTLIGHT** Crossroads Community Ministry

#### www.crossroadsatlanta.org

Crossroads Community Ministries seeks to provide access to resources that empower people experiencing homelessness to progress on the road toward economic and personal stability. Last year, the staff and dedicated volunteers served over 4,200 men, women and children, primarily through their Renewal Project which consists of stabilization and job readiness training programs.

Their Connect program helps guests to a stable and sustainable future by identifying employment opportunities, providing job training and certification courses, access to a computer and basic computer skills training, resume building and interview techniques workshops, financial planning classes, basic banking and personal finance courses, and team work and time management development.





### GRANT SPOTLIGHT Camp Twin Lakes

#### www.camptwinlakes.org

Camp Twin Lakes provides year-round, fully accessible, and intentionally designed camp programs that teach campers to overcome obstacles while creating shared experiences with other children who face similar challenges. Before Camp Twin Lakes opened in 1993, special needs groups in Georgia lacked adequate facilities to support camp programs for children with serious illness, disabilities, and other life challenges. Camp Twin Lakes powers a vital network of over 60 closely aligned partner organizations.

After spending every other day of the year adapting to the world around them, for one week, camp adapts to them. The magic happens at their camp sites in Rutledge and Winder, Georgia, and through Camp-To-Go programs at children's hospitals and other locations throughout the state.

Camp Twin Lakes brings their proven expertise in therapeutic, adaptable programming, state-ofthe-art camp sites, health and kid-friendly food services customized to each camper's dietary needs, highly trained staff, and devoted volunteers.

The Bennett Thrasher Foundation's monetary support directly impacts camper scholarships.





## GRANT SPOTLIGHT Pebble Tossers

#### www.pebbletossers.org

Pebble Tossers is a youth development nonprofit with a mission to empower and equip youth to lead through service. Founded in 2008, Pebble Tossers has grown into the premier youth development non-profit in Atlanta.

By partnering with 60+ vetted non-profit partners across Metro Atlanta, Pebble Tossers creates pathways for youth to engage in age-appropriate volunteer activities in order to create real change in their communities and to develop leadership skills. Through the past 12 years, Pebble Tossers has engaged youth in over 45,000 volunteer service hours throughout Metro Atlanta.

The Bennett Thrasher Foundation's monetary grant will go towards Pebble Tosser's Teen Leadership Development program. Their revamped program will include 40 students from grades 7-12. This cohort of teens will meet regularly and will break into work teams to tackle pressing issues in the community. Program curriculum will focus on three core concepts: serve, lead, succeed. The program provides many benefits such as empowering teens through their volunteer experiences to learn about detailed aspects of various cause areas in order to take action and make a difference in their community; provides leadership opportunities to form connections with peers; and provides opportunities to make a contribution to their community.





# LOOKING AHEAD

Thanks to the continued growth of Bennett Thrasher LLP, and the outstanding involvement of our associates in their communities, the Foundation was able to set another record year for grants distributed in FY2020. Our goal for FY2021 is rather simple. We want to surpass our FY2020 figures both in terms of dollars and grant recipients. We are confident that we will do so because of the continued generosity of our associates and the firm, and the relationships we've developed with non-profit organization across Atlanta.

Of course, monetary support is but one part of what the Bennett Thrasher Foundation does; community service and volunteerism have always been, and will always be, our core objective. It's vital to the Foundation that all associates have opportunities to volunteer in efforts coordinated by the Foundation. As alluded to previously, the Covid-19 pandemic has made it challenging to coordinate anything of scale in regards to volunteering. With that said, we are very happy to report that our employees continue to volunteer individually. We will continue to find volunteer opportunities in this pandemic environment and resume our normal volunteer tradition when it subsides.

The Foundation is committed to helping the Atlanta community. We encourage employees to get out and make a difference in their community. Giving our time and resources to create positive change within our surrounding community is the cornerstone of everything the Foundation does.

"Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."

- Martin Luther King, Jr.





# SERVICE PROJECTS



Canine Assistants



Hope Thru Soap



Clyde's Kitchen





### **Board of Directors**

### OFFICERS

Richard Bartolanzo, Advisor Matt Grosvenor, Advisor Tigger Marshall, Advisor Ken Thrasher, Advisor Joel Smith, President Tate Yawn, Vice-President Zebekiah Bortner, Treasurer Leah Mumpower, Secretary

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Matt Grosvenor Suzanne Trimm Daniel Bart Rachel Cash Joel Smith

#### Communications

Ken Thrasher Kristin Ethridge Zebekiah Bortner

#### Grants/Giving

Tigger Marshall Daniel Bart Rachel Cash Leah Mumpower Brian Sengson Suzanne Trimm Kristin Ethridge Kelly Leu Patrick Butkus Thea Williams Ewa Sanborn



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