



THE FIGGERS
FOUNDATION

IMPACT REPORT

2019 - 2020



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CONNECTEDNESS

One thing leads to another
often in unexpected ways



INTRODUCTION



As a foundation created to serve its community, we are a transformative partner, aligning systems, sectors and structures. We bring people, resources and organizations together to tackle important challenges in Florida and across the United States.

We have set out to answer some key questions about how to make our work more impactful. Namely, we wanted to challenge ourselves to uncover what factors are present in grantmaking strategies that lead to the most transformative, durable change.

Our hope is that by codifying what we've learned over the past two years as a new foundation, the work we do moving forward will inspire other philanthropists to achieve their goals and join us. The Figgers Foundation has made several meaningful grants, those investments coalesced around a clearly defined set of goals and social problems worth solving.

We've honed in on five factors that we believe led to the biggest impact: equity, collaboration, systems transformation, influence & advocacy and continuous learning. What follows are our reflections on those factors and highlights from our FY 2019-2020 work that best exemplify them. We created this report to share our successes and to build trust with funders, supporters and beneficiaries.

We have embraced a vision for a more just and inclusive society and a mission to achieve it. We've begun the process of refining our core strategies as we've learned more deeply from research, community leaders and our grantees and partners.

These are complex times. Inequities are clear, the status quo is being challenged, and authenticity, candor, and action are celebrated. It's also a time when the gap between the haves and have-nots may feel paralyzing, due to the level of investment needed to turn the tides.

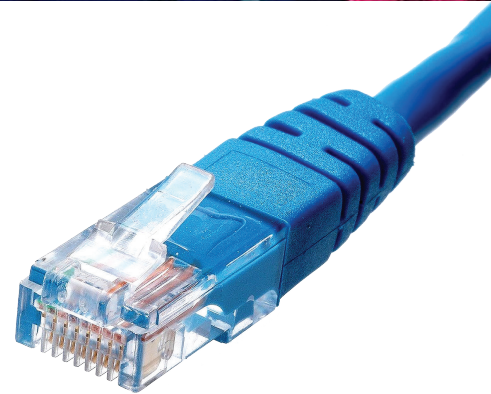
There is much more work to be done. We need bold actions, diverse voices and inclusive solutions. We need to think differently. We need to collaborate more. As we charge forward through FY 2021, the Figgers Foundation will continue to pursue and promote opportunities wherever they arise and do our part to be problem solvers and solution leaders.





40%

of schools lack broadband
as do 60% of healthcare
facilities outside
metropolitan areas



ACHIEVING IMPACT

A Message from the Chairman of the Board

We can only look back from where we stand: in the midst of the COVID-19 global pandemic which in some way is affecting every single person. As we compile this report over 400,000 Americans have lost their lives. We must heal as a nation and continue to address long-standing disparities in income, educational opportunities and outcomes, digital access and access to healthcare. America has held out the promise that everyone has the same opportunities for success but that promise has been unfulfilled for too many and the economic, structural and legal barriers make equity and inclusion hard to attain.

We need to empower our community leaders to contribute more to their local economies. We need to inspire the next generation of leaders and entrepreneurs. We need to build that together. We can meet the future on our own terms by investing in our children and ensure that what and how students are learning is relevant and connected to the world of today.

Now more than ever, we must all strive to close the digital divide, and most importantly we need to build purposeful partnerships in communities, organizations schools and neighborhoods. It is our steadfast belief that with your generous support, we can fulfill our shared goals of a better today and a brighter future.

Freddie Lee Figgers



"What is a life lived, if you've never helped someone who couldn't help himself?...Unfulfilled."

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Freddie Lee Figgers". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.





WHAT'S TO COME

Executive Director's Remarks

As the Foundation's first Executive Director, I'm both excited for what's on the horizon and proud of everything we've done to build a solid foundation for the future. In 2021, we'll embark on a new strategy and development process to identify how we can further address the systemic inequities people face. We will continue to sharpen our focus and bring an equity lens to all of our existing work.

We'll expand our investments in the tools and resources that generate more equitable outcomes in society. We'll also explore new programmatic and grant opportunities as the Foundation's budget continues to grow. The Foundation has been around for a few years and has made several meaningful grants. Those investments now coalesce around a clearly defined set of goals and social problems to solve. Nationally and in communities across our country, 2020 was marked by deepening divisions and a retreat from the core values that most of us hold dear. Yet, I have been continually inspired by our partners and our leader, Freddie Figgers, to respond to those challenges with firm resolve to improve the lives of all people.

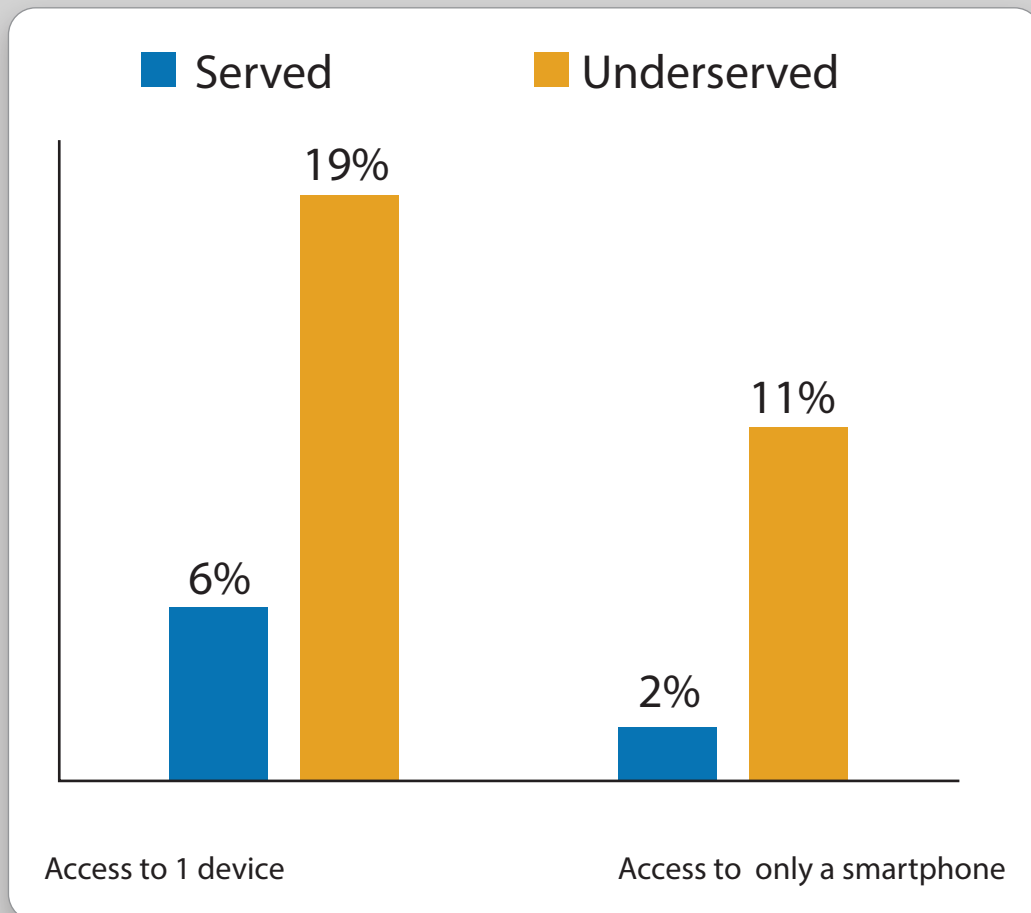
I knew I had an incredible opportunity, as well as an important responsibility and when asked about my new position, I describe the Foundation's evolution as a journey that I am proud to help chart. It's been an immense honor to work closely with people who so authentically embrace the famous adage that "to whom much is given, much is required."

Carolyn J Newman



BRIDGING THE NEW DIGITAL DIVIDE

0% of students' access at home to one device, including only a smartphone, by "served/underserved" status



ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY IS ESSENTIAL TO EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS AS WELL AS WORKFORCE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT. HOWEVER, GEOGRAPHICAL, INCOME-BASED, AND RACIAL/ETHNIC DISPARITIES IN TECHNOLOGY ACCESS PERSIST.

2020 - 2021 GOALS

EQUITY

We believe that equity must be at the center of any impactful grantmaking strategy because we've seen that when systems can capably respond to those most affected by a problem, they are well-equipped to better serve everyone's needs. By helping those who are most affected by a problem, or those least well-served by a system, we can achieve impact faster and begin to build the more equitable, just world we want to see.

COLLABORATION

Effective collaboration and partnership are crucial components of lasting, transformative change. We will always strive to bring together impacted communities, government, businesses, nonprofits and other philanthropic organizations to solve problems. We join tables where civic conversations are taking place, and if none exist, we work with our partners and communities to build new tables. As grantmakers, we're only successful when we listen to people in the community, work to bring together as many stakeholders as possible and help everyone align around a shared set of goals.

INFLUENCE & ADVOCACY

Systemic change requires much more than grants —we must build coalitions, use our voice to advocate for change and lift the voices of others. For us, that starts with creating a bridge to stakeholders in our communities to listen, learn and work together across our differences.

SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION

We believe in long-term, systemic changes over quick fixes and silver bullets. The most critical challenges we face in society, from inequitable education outcomes to chronic homelessness, are the products of complex systems. We believe the best way to generate long-lasting change is to transform those systems so that they create better outcomes for everyone, rather than reproduce historic inequities.

CONTINUOUS LEARNING

Our society faces significant challenges today, both new and enduring. Impactful grantmaking requires us to always be learning and adapting our approach to these challenges. Changing dynamics surrounding our work requires strategies to best meet new challenges. Philanthropy must continuously integrate new research and insights from communities to ensure the work we do together reflects current realities in our society. We believe in supporting our grantees to learn and grow. We invest in our grantees and partners so that they can improve their own capacity to lead and adapt as new challenges emerge in their work.





COVID-19 SUPPLIES
**FOR OUR FRONTLINE
HEROES**
ALL ACROSS AMERICA

SPOTLIGHT:

EQUITY

Health Equity in a Pandemic

The Foundation's investment in equity means we must respond to evolving societal challenges. Our goal was to support organizations, healthcare facilities and initiatives focused on addressing the COVID-19 pandemic and support of underserved populations. This immediate need aligned with the mission of the Figgers Foundation to the broader equity issues in the communities we serve.

Project	Detail	Outcome
Covid 19 Response	Recognizing the limitations of federal support available to address PPE needs in the beginning of the pandemic, the Foundation identified & distributed masks, gloves and gowns to hotspots and underserved/rural hospitals throughout the U.S.	2.6 million Personal Protective Equipment distributed to our most vulnerable hospitals and communities.
Telehealth Platform for COVID-19	Coronavirus patients were quarantined and not allowed to have visitors while in hospitals/ senior facilities. The Foundation along with Figg Health and the Doctor Now Telehealth platform was adjusted to allow users to connect with family and friends through video calls, with a simplified interface for the less technologically savvy, all for free.	Donated in-kind access to Telepersonal interface across 250 facilities.

FIGGERS FOUNDATION

FAITH INITIATIVE

"WHEN PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITIES ARE IN NEED OF LOVE AND A HELPING HAND, WE WILLINGLY RISE TO THE OCCASION." WE WANT TO SHOW PEOPLE WHO MAY HAVE LOST HOPE THAT THEY ARE IMPORTANT AND DESERVE A CHANCE TO LIVE A DIGNIFIED LIFE. WITH CARE AND UNDERSTANDING, WE DO OUR PART DURING THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY TO MAYBE HELP SOMEONE FORGET FOR JUST A MOMENT LIFE'S TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS. "

RISE BY LIFTING OTHERS



SPOTLIGHT:

COLLABORATION

**"More than ever before in human history,
we share a common destiny.
We can master it only if we face it
together..." – Kofi Annan**

We must look to non-profit organizations for their expertise and join together and make even bigger strides in bettering the community and improving the world. Our goal was to initiate support to organizations that address homelessness in a concerted effort to further partnerships that address the changing workforce needs, and food scarcity.

Project	Detail	Outcome
Homelessness: Broward Partnership and Camillus House	Provided food, PPE and hygiene items to local shelters and temporary housing facilities.	1,200 individuals received food & assistance.
Food Scarcity: Faith and the Figgers Initiative	Provided Thanksgiving turkeys to underserved communities in Gadsden, Leon, Miami-Dade Counties, City of Jacksonville and Bradenton, Fl.	5,300 individuals received food & assistance.
Foster Care Youth: Bike Dreams Community Partner: Together We Rise	Bicycles will be donated to foster and adopted youth residing throughout the U.S.	200 bikes delivered FY 2020, 300 bikes delivered FY 2021.




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SPOTLIGHT:

SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION

The Internet is not a luxury, it is a necessity. It is dangerously destabilizing to have half of our children on the cutting edge of technology while the other half struggles on the bare edge of survival. We are committed to helping end the digital divide.

Philanthropists can play a unique role in helping to transform systems. Government often can't act quickly to generate innovative solutions, and the private sector lacks an incentive to engage until there is a clear path to profit. As grantmakers, we can provide the funding to fill missing gaps in data and pilot new approaches, making the path toward collaboration with government, the private sector and community clearer and less risky for all.

Project	Detail	Outcome
Golden Aya Students (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics)	Donated Figgers F3 phones to send to Tanzania to expose students to STEM- Based Applications.	The technology provided by the Figgers Foundation gave our partner the ability to launch its first After School English + STEM Program
Apalachee Ridge Technology Center, Tallahassee, Fl.	The Apalachee Ridge Tech Center is a learning environment where children can discover the power of science, technology, engineering, art, and math, learn new skills and get better jobs.	Donation of new computers, access to internet, technology resources and training gives children and young adults a path forward.

THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

INEQUALITY IN THE DIGITAL ERA

*Collaboration with philanthropists, policy makers
and the business community*



SPOTLIGHT:

INFLUENCE & ADVOCACY

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." -Margaret Mead

We continue to use our voices and resources to focus philanthropists, policymakers and business leaders on equity and justice for the most marginalized in our society. From spotlighting the challenges that young people face, to calling on the education system to advance racial equity, to urging the private sector to recognize its role in promoting social justice and bringing that same message to Washington D.C., we are working to build bridges and help as many people as we can understand that we all have a role in working toward a more just and equitable world.

Project

Detail

Outcome

Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act *

Support the creation of a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem through CTE (Career & Technical Education)

Potential increase in the number of opportunities available to underrepresented populations.

***Support Tallahassee Community College's application for funding under the Advancing Career and Technical Education (CTE) through Entrepreneurship Education and Training (EET) Grant to develop and administer services to high school students in Gadsden County, through a partnership with the Gadsden County School Board.**

Together, we are dedicated to ensuring that CTE students in Gadsden County, the only county in Florida with a majority minority population, are introduced to the socio-emotional skills and overall awareness of how to become a successful entrepreneur with the capacity for successful business management and ownership.



15 OUTSTANDING

RECIPIENTS

HIDDEN FIGGERS

SCHOLARSHIPS

SPOTLIGHT:

CONTINUOUS LEARNING

**"Impact a child today and that child will
impact a better tomorrow..."**
- Freddie Figgers

We focused on the power of young people and we believe in the boundless potential of young people to change the world. By acknowledging the humanity in every young person and ensuring systems work for those who have been most marginalized, all young people will be able reach their full potential.

Project	Detail	Outcome
Hidden Figgers Scholarships	Award scholarships to outstanding H.S. students to help them achieve their dreams of going to college	15 - \$1,000 grants awarded to students with high academic achievement and community involvement.
Brooke Jenkins Dream 360 Dream Center	Support programs that reach youth through self- discovery enriched programs & curriculums that offer mentorship, guidance and resources.	\$5,000 grant awarded. Children enrolled in before and after-school academic programs

COMMUNITY PARTNERS & GRANT RECIPIENTS



GRANTS AND IN-KIND DONATIONS

Our grantees and partners pushed the boundaries of their fields and left us feeling more inspired than ever. We continued to pursue our core strategies in education, youth, expanded learning opportunities and impact-driven philanthropy, all while preparing for some big shifts internally and exploring potential new areas of focus for the year ahead.

2019 - 2020

MORE THAN \$116,620 IN GRANTS



MORE THAN \$1,690,248.00 IN-KIND

In-kind gifts include: computers, software, televisions, F-Buds, F-speakers, F3 phones and phone service.



VOLUNTEERS & SUPPORTERS

We witness every day the power of partnerships and support of our mission from the countless volunteers that have donated their valuable time and considerable capabilities to the Figgers Foundation. We are so fortunate to have a team of community leaders all over the U.S. embrace our mission and make it their own.

Faith and the Figgers Thanksgiving Initiative



Reverend Gregory James



Corporate Partner
PORTER
LAW FIRM



COVID-19 We thank all the leaders and volunteers across the U.S.



HELPING HANDS

We are dedicated to extending a helping hand anywhere to anyone in need throughout the state of Florida. The Foundation provides financial grants to reduce the hardships of everyday people and their immediate families. Foundation assistance for individuals is intended for those qualified recipients who have experienced true emergencies, disasters, medical crises, or other personal hardships and tragedies which require a measure of temporary financial relief.

The Foundation's Everyday People hardship grants are not intended to provide long-term, continuous relief. Based upon the available information provided, the Foundation Board of Trustees or their designee(s) will determine the grant amount and will make every effort within its resources to assist those who are in dire need, however, unfortunately we cannot help all who request assistance. Every case depends on the facts and circumstances peculiar to that case, and is defined by the totality of the circumstances.





EVERYDAY PEOPLE

ANYWHERE ANYONE IN NEED

A FIGGERS FOUNDATION COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE CAMPAIGN FOR FLORIDA

FOSTER CARE IN THE U.S.



Hundreds of thousands of children currently in the U.S. foster care system.

Median age of children in the foster care system.



Percent of children reside in a foster care home rather than a relative or grandparent.

2-3 PLACEMENTS

2-3 Placements - 37% of children in foster care find themselves in 2-3 different foster home placements

**BIKE DREAMS INITIATIVE
FOR FOSTER CARE YOUTH**

BIKE DREAMS INITIATIVE

FOR FOSTER YOUTH

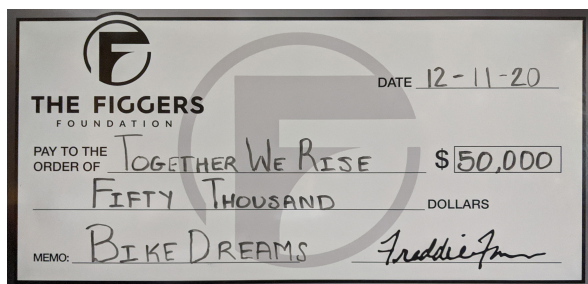
Our goal is to provide 500 bicycles to youth in foster care across the United States starting Christmas FY 2020 - FY 2021. Through our partnerships, we will be able to ensure that children experience the childhood memories of learning to ride their first bike, regardless of their financial background and lack of family support.

We believe older youth receiving bicycles will provide them with a safe and reliable form of transportation to school or work, allowing them to pursue their educational goals while earning a steady income.

Every dollar given goes towards fulfilling the wishes of a foster youth. We know that one positive action creates many more and we hope that you will become partners with us in such a worthy cause.



We have the unique ability to change a foster child's trajectory in life with simple acts of kindness and support



OUR MISSION

To provide essential resources that will help to propel those in need toward a better tomorrow.

OUR VISION

To make available any and all resources that will ensure success in the areas of education, self-sufficiency and wellness.



OUR COMMITMENT

Our partnership with different organizations across the United States and the world, is to proffer solution to pivotal human challenges. Our programs and support focus on improving the quality of education in our schools as well as provide adequate support for weak and susceptible families and children in the United States. We dedicate resources to focus on global development by providing poorest communities around the globe accessibility to effective technology and health products and services.

We support programs and services that focus on lessening inequities through the introduction of new approaches and utilizing modern instruments to tackle our most pressing challenges. To achieve these programs and services, we commit ourselves to collaborate with big organizations, leverage our innovative ideas, and take the promising risk to get outstanding results.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Freddie L. Figgers
Chairman of the Board



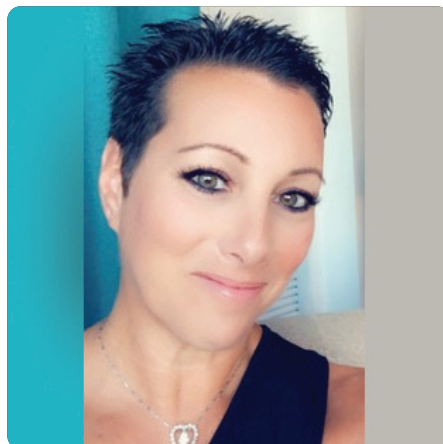
Joycelyn Brown, Esq.
Secretary



Natlie G. Figgers, Esq.
Treasurer



Walter "Mickey" Presha Sr.
Member



Carolyn I. Newman
Executive Director

RISE BY LIFTING OTHERS

We are guided by the belief that we rise by lifting others. Our grants work to help all people lead healthy, productive lives. The Figgers Foundation seeks to ensure that all people—especially those with the fewest resources— have access to the opportunities they need to succeed in health, education and life.

HOW WE MEASURE IMPACT

The Figgers Foundation measures impact through a combination of written testimonials, partner surveys that gauge the satisfaction of our corporate partners and data reports which measure program benchmarks such as the number of children or adults served, agencies we engage with and the volume of resources delivered.



THE FIGGERS
FOUNDATION

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